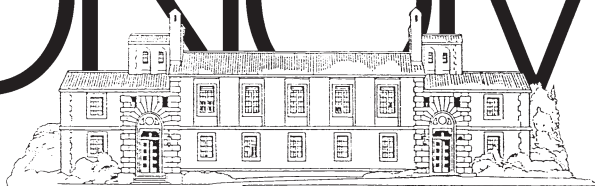


ECONOMICS



DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER • UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER • FALL 2006

A Report from the Chair

Nicholas Flores

Dear Alumni and Friends

Since last year's newsletter, we have had a changing of the guard in the Department of Economics. Professor Keith Maskus's term as department chair ended at the beginning of the summer while I began a new four-year term as chair. On behalf of alumni, students, staff, and faculty, I express thanks for Keith's leadership. Despite some difficult times for the University of Colorado during Keith's term, the department prospered and continues to do so. Thanks to a university faculty fellowship, Keith will devote the 2006–2007 academic year to scholarly pursuit at CESifo (Joint Initiative of the University of Munich's Center for Economic Studies and the Ifo Institute of Economic Research) and, as usual, he will be hopping the globe presenting his research. I also want to thank Professor Yongmin Chen for his service as associate chair of graduate studies and Professor Ann Carlos for her service as associate chair of undergraduate studies. Professor Donald Waldman takes over as associate chair of graduate studies and Professor Jeffrey Zax takes over as associate chair of undergraduate studies.

News Highlights

In the spring of 2006, the department successfully recruited three new faculty members. Håle Utar will join economics and the International Affairs Program this fall from the graduate program at Penn State University. While Håle's primary research field is industrial organization, her work also intersects with macroeconomics, international trade, and development economics. Drawing on theoretical, statistical, and computational skills, Håle's dissertation work develops and estimates several models of industrial evolution. In one paper Håle investigates the effects of foreign competition on job creation/destruction for Columbian metal product producers. In a second paper she explores the effects of volatile macroeconomic environments on industrial evolution for Columbian apparel producers.



Nicholas Flores

This year Håle will teach courses in international policy and industrial organization.

Ufuk Devrim Demirel joins the economics department this year from the graduate program at the University of Virginia. Devrim is a macroeconomist whose research emphasizes the nature of macroeconomic policy in a variety of contexts. Drawing on theoretical macroeconomic modeling skills, Devrim provides a sound theoretical justification for the procyclical monetary and fiscal policies that are observed in middle- and low-income emerging market countries. Other research considers monetary policy in cases where governments must rely on seigniorage to finance public services, how the size of government influences macroeconomic stability, and how optimal fiscal policy is affected by exchange rate policy. Devrim will teach graduate and undergraduate macroeconomic theory.

Our final spring 2006 recruit is Stephen Yeaple, who will join the economics department in the fall of 2007 as an associate professor. Considered among the very best young international trade economists in the world, Stephen leaves the University of Pennsylvania to further strengthen our international trade

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FACULTY NOTES

Lee Alston recently published the following papers: "Pork for Policy: Executive and Legislative Exchange in Brazil" (with Bernardo Mueller), *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization* 22, Number 1, Spring 2006: 87–114; "Career Mobility in Agriculture, 1890–1938" (with Joseph Ferrie), *Journal of Economic History*, December 2005: 1058–1081.

Lee has made the following keynote addresses: at the Sorbonne, University of Paris, Invited Lecture Series, Paris, France, May 2006; at the European Society for the New Institutional Economics, Invited Lecture, Corsica, France, May 2006; and at the 15th Congress of International Land Registrars, Fortaleza, Brazil, November 2005.

During the past year Lee attended seminars and made presentations at the following events: Economic History Association Annual Meeting, Toronto, Canada, September 2005; International Society for the New Institutional Economics, Annual Meeting, Barcelona, Spain, September 2005; Latin American and Caribbean Economics Association, Paris, France, October 2005; 15th Congress of International Land Registrars, Fortaleza, Brazil, November 2005; Harvard University, Research Group on Political Institutions and Economic Policy, Cambridge, MA, Dec 2005; The Sorbonne, University of

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FACULTY NOTES *(cont.)*

Paris, ATOM Seminar, Paris, France, May 2006; American University in Paris, Seminar, Paris, France, May 2006; University of Carlos III, Seminar, Madrid, Spain, May 2006; University of Illinois, Program in Law and Economics, Invited Workshop; "The Future of the Commons and AntiCommons," Chicago, IL, June 2006.



Ann M. Carlos presented three papers at the XIV International Economic History Conference held in Helsinki, Finland, August 2006. This international conference is held every four years. Also, Ann is the recipient of the 2006 Boulder Faculty Award, Excellence in Service. Faculty service is defined as all of those professional activities other than teaching and research that are performed by faculty members as part of their university and departmental responsibilities or as community outreach. In addition, Ann has accepted the appointment of the faculty director of the Sewall Residential Academic Program effective August 2006. The Sewall Program is for first- and second-year students interested in the American West and a liberal arts education. Finally, in September 2006, Ann was elected vice president of the Economic History Association.



Nicholas Flores hosted the 7th Annual CU Environmental and Resource Economics Workshop on September 23 and 24, 2005 in Vail, Colorado. He has served as the 2006–2007 program committee chair for the Association of Environmental and Resource Economics; on the Ford Foundation Minority Fellowship Selection Panel, which is administered by the National Research Council, March 2006; and as a grant

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CU-Boulder Economist Wins Fulbright Fellowship for Vietnam Project

Robert McNown has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship for a project to help train and better equip Vietnamese economists. He will be in Vietnam from September through January to teach econometrics at Hanoi National Economics University. Econometrics is the statistical modeling of economic phenomena, such as growth or recession.

"Over the years I have developed computer-based instructional materials for econometrics," Robert said. "For my Fulbright project in Vietnam, I will be adapting these materials to open-source programs that are available on the Internet to make econometric tools accessible to researchers who are unable to purchase expensive proprietary software."

Robert's 2006 Fulbright award is the second of his career. From 1979 to 1981, he was a Fulbright lecturer in Nepal, teaching econometrics to students who had only primitive calculators. Four of his Nepalese students and

colleagues followed him back to CU-Boulder and eventually earned doctoral degrees.

Robert has also been a visiting professor at the University of Sydney and the People's University in Beijing, and a faculty member for Semester at Sea. "I like to challenge my world view, learn from different cultures and get new perspectives on my American life and the American economic system," he said.

The Fulbright Scholar Program is sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State. Established in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the program's purpose is to build mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries. Recipients are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement and because they have demonstrated extraordinary leadership potential in their fields.

From the Chair, *continued from page 1*

group. Stephen has made significant contributions in trade theory, the statistical estimation of foreign direct investment models, and technology transfer. Stephen is a faculty research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research and associate editor of the *Journal of International Economics*. For the 2006–2007 academic year, Stephen will be visiting Princeton University on the Peter B. Kenen Fellowship. Once on campus, Stephen will teach courses in international trade.

Turning to news highlights for current faculty, Professor Robert McNown was awarded a prestigious Fulbright Fellowship (see story in this newsletter) and will spend time away this academic year teaching econometrics in Vietnam, with other visits planned to Thailand and Norway. This year Professor Murat Iyigun became a research fellow at both the Institute for the Study of Labor in Bonn, Germany, and the Center for International Development in the Kennedy School at Harvard University. Murat will spend much of the spring at the Center for International Development. In September 2006, Professor Ann Carlos was elected vice president of the Economic History Association. Finally, Professor Mushfiq Mobarak will be a visiting professor in the economics department at Yale University for fall 2006.

Alumni and Friends Financial Support

We appreciate the generous contributions made in the past year to the Faculty

Enhancement Fund and other programs in the economics department. Your contributions help maintain the department's tradition of excellence. Information on giving to the department is provided in the newsletter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Celebrating 50 Years

Plans are now in place for our department's 50th year celebration. Festivities will begin the evening of Friday, October 27, 2006, with a reception at the Koenig Alumni Center on campus. On Saturday, October 28, there will be several economics panel discussions during the day and a celebration dinner that evening at the Hotel Boulderado. The guest speaker for Saturday evening is economics department alumnus Don Grusin. Don has worked in many aspects of the music business as a musician, arranger, producer, and composer. Don will treat us to music and a special talk about how CU economics training and the University of Colorado so profoundly influenced his life. Invitations have been mailed. If you have not received yours, please call 303-735-5500 or e-mail annmarie.ladd@colorado.edu to request one. Additional information is posted on the department's website at www.colorado.edu/economics. Please mark your calendar for this special celebration.

Nicholas Flores

Why Do So Many People in Poor Countries Marry Their First Cousin?

A. Mushfiq Mobarak

The topic of marriage between cousins usually produces a response among Americans that varies between a facial cringe and an “Eeeww!” Most Americans are surprised to discover that over 50 percent of all marriages in Pakistan are between first cousins.

Geneticists have long pointed out the biological risks to the offspring of first cousin unions, and if we are to believe the numbers produced by population geneticists, there is a 4.4 percentage point increased risk of mortality for such children. Even in a high infant-mortality environment like Pakistan, this increases the baseline risk of infant death by as much as 50 percent. This makes it quite puzzling that so many people in the developing world would continue to marry their biological relatives, a practice referred to as consanguinity. The high rates of reported consanguinity and of mortality make it equally puzzling why Pakistan has not already experienced some sort of genetic implosion.

Pointing to a lack of understanding of the biological risks is by itself not a satisfactory answer, since even cultures with no knowledge of genetics could have probabilistically observed the greater incidence of mortality or genetic deformities among consanguineous progeny over centuries, and could have reacted in response. Indeed, many Western societies and the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches long ago developed social prejudices, religious taboos, or laws to prohibit marriages between close relatives. We therefore might expect similar norms to develop across all cultures, but somehow they have not.

These and other puzzles led a research team comprised of Dr. Mushfiq Mobarak and Dr. Murat Iyigun from the CU-Boulder Department of Economics, Dr. Nizam Khan from the CU-Boulder Institute of Behavioral Science, and Dr. Alan Bittles from the Centre for Human Genetics in Perth, Australia, to ask the following question in a project that is funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation:

Are there countervailing socioeconomic benefits of consanguineous unions that, despite their biological risks, help to sustain the incidence of such marriages?

Understanding both the reasons behind consanguinity and its true biological risks are important, especially in view of the large influx of immigrants into the U.S. from

regions of the world where this practice is common. Recently, a British member of Parliament representing Bradford, an area where many immigrants of Pakistani origin reside, proposed a ban on consanguineous marriage citing the possibility that the presumed genetic diseases associated with the practice have the potential to stress the British medical system. Without a better understanding of the socioeconomic origins of this practice, it is not easy to judge whether such a ban is called for, and also, it may not be an enforceable ban if the community has strong enough reasons to continue the practice. This research project aims to inform such policy debates by gaining a deeper understanding of the social, economic, and biological forces at play in the decision to marry a biological relative.

Also, in spite of the reported numbers on the adverse effects of consanguinity, it is actually not clear how large the negative effects really are. This is because all the numbers that are currently cited are based on comparisons of the health of children of first cousin unions against children from other families. Such raw comparisons do not take into account the possibility that the families selecting into consanguineous unions may have other characteristics that independently predispose them toward higher mortality and morbidity rates. For example, if families whose daughters are more likely to marry a relative have, on average, less understanding of proper nutrition and sanitation practices, then their mortality/morbidity rates may be amplified relative to other families, and if we fail to take this into account, we could wrongly attribute the adverse health effect to consanguinity.

Using data collected in rural Bangladesh, this research project explicitly recognizes the problem family characteristics that are independent of consanguinity poses for measuring the adverse effects of consanguinity. The availability or unavailability of a suitable cousin for marriage provides a statistical control that allows the researchers to separately measure the effects of family characteristics and consanguinity on mortality/morbidity rates.

For more information about this project, please feel free to contact Professor Mushfiq Mobarak, mobarak@colorado.edu.

FACULTY NOTES (cont.)

selection panelist for the National Science Foundation. Also, Nicholas was a participant at the North American THORPEX Societal and Economic Research and Applications Workshop, August 2006. He presented papers at seminars at the Colorado School of Mines, the National Center for Atmospheric Research, and the University of Minnesota.



▼
Frank Hsiao attended the 2006 Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA) Annual Meeting in Boston, and served as a discussant at a session on economic development sponsored by the Association of Indian Economic Studies (AIES). In July he presented a paper on “FDI, Exports, and Growth in East and Southeast Asia—Evidence from Time-Series and Panel Data Causality Analyses” (with Mei-Chu W. Hsiao) at the 2006 International Conference on Korea and the World Economy V at the Korea University in Seoul, South Korea. After the Korean conference, he was invited to speak at the Asia Program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, where he talked about Taiwan’s foreign direct investment in China and Taiwan–China trade relations. Currently, he is an invited member of the U.S. Student Fulbright National Screening Committee East Asia Program of the Institute of International Education, New York. His previous paper, “‘Miracle Growth’ in the Twentieth Century—International Comparisons of East Asian Development” (with Mei-Chu W. Hsiao), originally published in *World Development*, February 2003, 31 (2), pages 227–257, was in the Elsevier’s ScienceDirect TOP25 (12th) Hottest Articles for World Development. The TOP25 Hottest
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FACULTY NOTES (cont.)

Articles are determined quarterly and based on downloads from the preceding quarter. The paper can be downloaded free of charge from http://top25.sciencedirect.com/index.php?cat_id=6&subject_area_id=23&journal_id=0305750X.



Murat Iygun became a fellow of the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn, Germany, last academic year. He also became a research fellow at the Center for International Development (CID) at the Kennedy School of Harvard University. He will spend spring 2007 at Harvard and will receive \$22K as a fellowship stipend. Murat presented or will present papers at the following venues: NYU, Columbia, Northwestern, USC, Queen's University (Canada), Sabanci University (Turkey), AEA 2006, AEA 2007, Society for Economic Dynamics Meetings, Vancouver, Canada, 2006, Economic History Association Meetings, Pittsburgh, 2006.

The following is a list of his recently published papers: "Adaptive Skills, Technological Progress, and Growth" (with Ann L. Owen), *European Economic Review*, 2006, 50:3, April, 565–79; "Clusters of Invention, Life Cycle of Technologies, and Endogenous Growth," *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, 2006, 30:4, April, 687–719; "Geography, Demography, and Early Development," *Journal of Population Economics*, 2005, 18:2, June, 301–21.

Murat also published a book chapter in an MIT Press publication on growth: "On the Efficacy of Reforms: Policy Tinkering, Institutional Change, and Entrepreneurship" (with Dani Rodrik), in *Institutions and Growth*, T. Eicher and C. G. Penalosa, eds., MIT Press, December 2005.

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"We Shall Overcome!"

John Meinen

She sits on a straw mat inside a mud hut. Two plastic, cherry-colored bangles hang from her wrist, the only jewelry she owns. Her black hair is pulled back beneath her emerald-green sari, which, like the hundred taka note she presses beneath her thin, delicate fingers, was colorful once upon a time. Although her clothes have worn and faded, her smile has not. She is poor, as are the 40 other women seated beside her. But she sits tall and proud. And that smile!

Sunlight pours through the holes in the tin roof above us and children peer through cracks in the mud walls. Outside, indignation conflates with laughter as the older, much stronger kids push the younger ones aside, all of them vying for a view of the white-skinned stranger sitting with their mothers on the dirt floor.

Just yesterday, I found myself in a similar setting, only this time it was children who sat cross-legged indoors, their parents busy toiling underneath the hot, Bangladeshi sun. The teacher and the students of this small, one-room school are thrilled to have a visitor, and the children are asked to sing him a song. They rise from their seats on the floor, the taller ones having to duck to avoid the mobiles hanging from the ceiling. They look at each other nervously, not knowing what song to sing or when to start. Sensing their apprehension, the teacher prods them along. "Sing your favorite song," she says. "You know which one." The students nod in agreement. An inaudible three-count ticks off in their heads, and they begin. A friend translates for me, whispering beneath the harmony:

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
We shall overcome someday;
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We shall overcome someday.

"We shall overcome!" Looking at the woman now before me, these three words float to my memory and ring in my ears. Everything about this woman—her washed out clothes, her back erect and head held high, her wrinkled hands and face, her smile—speaks silently to me a tale of happiness and hardship, a life beset by incredible obstacles and the joy and liberation that comes when they've been crossed. Just looking at her, I know she has overcome.

But she has yet to tell her story. And I don't even know her name. "What is it?" I ask her. "And why are you here, sitting with these other women inside a small, humid hut?"

Her name is Mumtaz. At a very young age, a dowry was paid and Mumtaz found herself in bed with a stranger; a teenage virgin becomes a wife. Nearly nine months later, a baby boy was born. Three more children followed—another strapping son and two beautiful daughters.

Shortly after the birth of her fourth child, Mumtaz's husband unexpectedly died. In Bangladesh, where purdah keeps millions of women indoors and at the margins of society, the death of a husband is a mortal blow to his wife and to his children. Most women in rural Bangladesh have never studied beyond primary school and are forbidden from working outside of the home. Therefore, when the grim reaper robs a woman of her husband, he takes the family's breadwinner with him; and the husband's family often takes what little is left behind. Indeed, a poor Bangladeshi wife like Mumtaz can easily become a homeless, penniless widow overnight.

Such was Mumtaz's fate; that is, until she discovered Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC)—or, more aptly, BRAC discovered her. BRAC, which humbly began as a small relief organization in the wake of Bangladesh's war for independence, has since grown to become the largest, private development organization in the world. As part of its holistic approach to poverty alleviation, BRAC provides small loans to landless, assetless women without any collateral required. The only condition is that women form small groups of five and attend the village organization's weekly meetings where they deposit a few taka into their savings account. In addition, they must make 18 promises including a promise to use sanitary water, send their children to school, be honest, and fight corruption and injustice.

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New! Electronic Communications

The department is exploring the possibility of enhancing delivery of the newsletter and other department communications using e-mail in addition to regular mail. If you would like to receive electronic communications, please complete the "Let Us Hear From You" form in this newsletter. Be sure to provide/update your e-mail address. Or, e-mail the information to annmarie.ladd@colorado.edu.

After joining a small group and attending a week-long orientation, Mumtaz was welcomed into the village organization. Every Wednesday for the past three years, Mumtaz has attended the weekly meeting, deposited Tk 10 into her savings, and made the 18 promises. Within her first month as a member, Mumtaz was eligible for her first loan: Tk 4,000 (\$58). Mumtaz used the money to purchase some shoes, which she sold at the local market. Her business fared well, thanks to her drive and the help of her two sons, who dropped out of high school to help with the business. After a year, Mumtaz was eligible for an even greater loan: Tk 6,000. A year after that, she was able to manage a Tk 10,000 loan. Her business is doing great and the profits are being pumped back into the household: a brand new tube well, sanitary latrines, new clothes for the kids, and her proudest investment, her daughters' school tuition.

"My dream," she says with a sparkle in those large, walnut eyes, "is that my daughters get a good education. I don't want them to marry early. I want them to become doctors or teachers. Already, my daughters are reading at grade 10." There it is again, that indelible smile. In a country where nearly 69 percent of all adult women are illiterate, she has good reason to. Thanks to BRAC and, more impor-

tantly, thanks to her own courage and resolve, her daughters will likely be able to stand up and sing, "We have overcome."

John Meinen (BA '04) wrote this essay while spending three months in Dhaka and in rural Bangladesh interning with Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee's (BRAC) microcredit division. His honors thesis, written under the supervision of Professor A. Mushfiq Mobarak, combined household survey data with regional electoral data from Nigeria to statistically examine the political economy consideration in the allocation of health services across Nigerian districts. After graduation, John worked as an Americorps VISTA volunteer in a nonprofit business development center set up to foster entrepreneurship in the impoverished West Contra Costa County in California. As a student he was passionate to learn more about microcredit programs as a development and poverty eradication strategy, a concept he was introduced to in a development economics course taken at CU-Boulder. In 2006 he sought out an internship with BRAC, one of the world's largest development-oriented NGOs. BRAC is also the local collaborator for two of Professor Mobarak's field research projects in Bangladesh (on the consequences of indoor air pollution and on constraints to new technology adoption).

A Professional Journey

Josh Wimpey, (MA '04)

On a recent trip back to Colorado from my home in Washington, D.C., I enriched my rigorous schedule of mountain biking, hiking, and reconnecting with old buddies with an important meeting—with my former CU graduate economics department advisor, Nick Flores. After all, I couldn't just hang out my whole vacation; I had to have a little intellectual stimulation, too.

While Nick and I caught up on the two eventful years I'd had post graduation, he asked if I might write a piece about my professional journey for this newsletter. Perhaps I could give my younger peers a glimpse into what they can expect next spring after they receive their diplomas. I chuckled a bit at this thought, since graduating might've been the last thing on my mind the fall of my second year! (I was more concerned about getting through macro.)

As I surveyed the job landscape that spring of 2004, it immediately became clear I would have infinite job possibilities if I moved back to my hometown, Washington, D.C. After sev-

eral months of networking and resumé-building, I was fortunate to land at the World Bank headquarters.

For nearly two years now, I have been working as a consultant at the bank in an independent evaluations group, performing analysis that ultimately informs bank policy. My days are largely spent analyzing data, attending meetings to discuss policy implications related to this analysis, stopping in on the most interesting of the guest lecturers (most notably Tom Friedman of the *New York Times*), and catching seminars on all aspects of development and occasional speeches from former bank president James Wolfenson and his successor Paul Wolfowitz.

So how did I get here, working for the largest development institution in the world?

I am reminded of a lecture by CU's own Phil Graves about choosing a place to live when you graduate. The moral of the lecture was that having unique tastes relative to others in

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FACULTY NOTES *(cont.)*

Wolfgang Keller started a new research project for which firms in the Mexican detergent industry were interviewed. Sponsored by the World Bank, the project aims at a better understanding of how NAFTA's trade and foreign direct investment liberalization interacted with the entry of Wal-Mart into Mexico in reshaping the industrial landscape in this market.



James Markusen presented papers in many international cities: Kiel, Germany; Copenhagen, Denmark; Stockholm, Sweden; and Dublin, Ireland. He also gave a keynote address at a conference in Dunedin, New Zealand, in March 2006. Jim plans to continue his travels this fall presenting papers in Copenhagen, Brussels, London, Stockholm, and Tokyo.



Keith Maskus was awarded a faculty fellowship by CU-Boulder, which funds a full-year sabbatical to undertake research on the general issue of the economics of intellectual property for basic science. During his sabbatical, Keith will spend September and October 2006 as visiting professor at the University of Munich, February through April 2007 as visiting professor at the University of Beijing, and May 2007 as visiting professor at the University of Adelaide.



A. Mushfiq Mobarak is the principal investigator for the following grants: National Science Foundation (NSF), "Materials Use: Science, Engineering and Society Grant," 2006–10, \$1,100,000, John Spear, co-principal investigator; and CU/NICHD Population Center Pilot, \$10,000, **Tania Barham**, co-principal investigator. Mushfiq also has secured grants

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for research on indoor air pollution in Bangladesh; Hewlett Foundation Travel Grant, \$2500; Environmental Ventures Program, Woods Institute for the Environment Grant, \$150,000, 2006, Grant Miller, co-principal investigator; and Walter Shorensetin Asia-Pacific Research Center Pilot Grant, \$30,000, 2006, Grant Miller, co-principal investigator.



Anna Rubinchik-Pessach has presented her paper "Contests with Heterogeneous Agents" (co-authored with S. O. Parreiras) at the Micro (Economic) Theory Seminar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (seminar jointly sponsored with Duke University), September 2005; at the Microeconomics Seminar at Queen's University, Kingston, Canada, October 2005; at the 2006 North American Summer Meeting of The Econometric Society, Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 2006; and at the 17th International Conference on Game Theory at Stony Brook University, July 2006.

Anna also presented the paper "Intergenerational Equity and the Discount Rate for Cost Benefit Analysis" (with J-F. Mertens) at a faculty seminar at Stony Brook University, New York, in March 2006; at CORE, Université Catholique de Louvain Conference on Intergenerational Equity in Climate Negotiations, Overlapping Generations Models and Social Welfare, in April 2006; and at the 2006 North American summer meeting of the Econometric Society, Minneapolis, Minnesota, June 2006.



Thomas Rutherford recently published the following: "The Economic Effects of Border Measures in Sub-global Climate Agreements" (with Mustafa H. Babiker), *The Energy Journal*, continued on page 7

Alumni Notes

Peter J. Bonfante (BA '00)

received his Juris Doctorate at Loyola Law School in May 2004. He is currently employed as an attorney at Paul Hastings, Janofsky & Walker Associates in Los Angeles.

Arnoldo Rosenberg Borestein (PhD '69)

is a professor of economics and finance, and main researcher at Centrum (the graduate business school), at Pontificia Universidad Catolica del Peru, www.centrum.pucp.edu.pe. Arnoldo was awarded a U.S. Fulbright Grant to study at the University of Colorado at Boulder from July 1965 to August 1968. His advisor was John (Jack) Powelson. Arnoldo also holds a BA ('65) and Economist title ('65), both from UNMSM, Lima, Peru.

Jeffery H. Burton (BA '74)

received his master of science degree in economic history at the London School of Economics in 1975, and his juris doctorate at George Washington University in 1982. He is currently employed as the general counsel of operations at Norfolk Southern Corporation in Virginia.

Shuichi Inada (MA '84)

is currently the director of the Radio Policy Division in the Telecommunications Bureau at the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications in Tokyo, Japan. He also holds a bachelor's ('77) and a master's ('79) degree in engineering from Kyushu University.

Kristin Klopfenstein (PhD '99)

was promoted to associate professor with tenure in the Department of Economics at Texas Christian University in May 2005. Kristin also conducts research in the economics of education as a faculty research fellow at the Texas Schools Project, housed at the University of Texas at Dallas. Her son, Dillon, will be one year old this November.

Denise E. Konan (PhD '93)

is the interim chancellor at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Prior to this appointment, Denise was a professor and chair of the UH Mānoa Department of Economics and previously served for three years as interim assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Jose-Antonio Lopez (MA '96)

is currently employed in the strategy department with Electricite de France in Paris. Normally based in London (with EDF Energy, the United Kingdom arm of EDF), he is on an extended expatriation assignment in Paris due to an internal promotion as the director of the department.

Geetha Rajaram (PhD '04)

has a new position in southern California at Whittier College. Whittier College is a four-year independent residential liberal arts college distinguished by its small size, nationally recognized liberal arts curriculum, and innovative interdisciplinary programs.

W. Douglass Shaw (PhD '85)

is a professor at Texas A&M University, in College Station, Texas. He teaches one undergraduate and one graduate course per year in environmental and resource economics. His current research focuses on connections between risk and uncertainty and the environment and he is currently the principal investigator on grants from the U.S. EPA and the National Science Foundation. He and his wife, Lynn Stuart (PhD '85), have three girls (a 14-year-old and 11-year-old twins).

Sara E. Gorton Slattery (BA '03)

was the winner of the women's elite race of the Bolder Boulder on May 26, 2006. She

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Journey, *continued from page 5*

your locale creates the opportunity for you to enjoy a subset of amenities without having them factored into your rent/cost of living.

So, I started thinking, "What amenities am I uniquely amicable toward here?" Certainly it isn't the heavy traffic or relatively high price of goods and services. And, although I am intermittently amused and saddened by politics and politicians, governmental proximity doesn't get a check in the "plus" column. Proximity to my friends and family, however, does get a big check in the uniquely enjoyed column. (Not that everyone else in Virginia doesn't enjoy close proximity to my friends and family; they simply don't enjoy it nearly as much as I do.)

Another unique amenity has to do with my job title: consultant. Those three syllables convey job insecurity, quarterly estimated tax payments, and for me, blessed flexibility. The thrifty habits honed during my extended academic journey have allowed me to easily swallow the insecurity of my tenure and avoid quarterly percussive cash shocks when taxes are due. And flexibility, the remaining job characteristic, is the amenity that can be uniquely afforded through wealth or through thrift, the latter of which recent graduates have a distinct advantage in.

Heck, I'll put up with a little insecurity if it means lengthy vacations to Colorado when I feel like taking off, not when I've earned the days.

clinched the title in a dramatic victory, winning by one second. Slattery is a two-time NCAA track champion.

Aaron Strong (PhD '04)

has taken a position at Arizona State University. He is a post-doctoral fellow working with V. Kerry Smith. His research projects include: resiliency of the economy in the face of supply shocks due to terrorist attacks and natural disasters; the role of climate change, urban heat island effect, and air pollution on housing choice; and invasive species and their effects on public lands and rivers.

Remembrance

John J Korbel (PhD '74)

died on June 10, 2004, of complications from pneumonia. He was born Dec. 13, 1918, in Havana, Cuba. Although John was American, he was raised primarily in Europe. He graduated from Harvard in 1939 and later earned an MBA and a PhD, also from Harvard. During World War II he served in the Navy. He taught economics at the University of Wisconsin and the University of New Hampshire in the Whittemore School of Business, from which he retired. His wife, Isobel Albrecht, died in 1998. He is survived by four children and two grandchildren.

In the past year, the department has suffered two tragedies. Last summer, **Valeriy Gauzshtein** (MA '97, PhD '03) was killed in an automobile accident in Kazakhstan. Valerie was a public economist whose dissertation introduced several innovations into the empirical analysis of local government behavior. He

Undergraduate News

Two undergraduate economics majors, Noah Johnson and Ali Pasha, have won National Security Education Program scholarships. The NSEP scholarships, funded by a federal program, are designed to encourage undergraduate study in areas of the world critical to national security. The scholars then commit to seek work in the federal government after their studies. Noah, a senior economics and political science double-major, will study in China. Ali, a senior economics and journalism double-major, will study in Jordan. The awards are for the academic year. These prestigious scholarships are very difficult to win. Three CU-Boulder students won \$20,000 NSEP scholarships this year. We are proud that two of the three are economics majors.

was a professional of great promise, as well as a warm and thoughtful individual. He was a professor of economics at KIMEP. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

James George Lynch (MA '90, PhD '98), of Arlington, Virginia, died of cancer this past July. Jim was a labor economist whose dissertation uncovered several novel effects of prizes in tournaments. His work has been published in the *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization* and the *Journal of Sports Economics*. Jim had embarked on a career in public service at the U.S. Department of Labor. Moreover, he was a good friend and a cheerful colleague. He is survived by his wife, **Christine McDaniel** (PhD '99), and one son.

FACULTY NOTES (cont.)

26(4):101-128, 2005; "Trade and Direct Investment in Producer Services and the Domestic Market for Expertise" (with **James R. Markusen** and David Tarr), *The Canadian Journal of Economics*, 38(3):758-777, 2005; "Review of Economic Models of Climate Change: A Critique by Stephen J. DeCanio," *The Journal of Economic Literature* 43(2), 2005; "Equity and Efficiency Costs of Raising Tax Revenue in Columbia" (with Miles Light, PhD '01), *In Fiscal Reform in Columbia, Problems and Prospects*, R.M.Bird, J.M.Poterba, and J. Slemrod, editors, MIT Press, 2005.

▼
Carol Shuie has been asked by Gary Libecap, president of the Economic History Association, to award the Alexander Gerschenkron prize for the best dissertation on a non-U.S. topic at the association's 2006 meeting in Pittsburgh. She was a finalist for this prize herself in 1999.

Also, Carol has been invited to join the prestigious London-based research network Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) to continue her work on economic history and international trade.



Department of Economics 2005–06 Seminar Series

08/26/05

Raymond Fisman, Columbia University
“Privatization and Commitment – Evidence from the Indian Electoral Surprise”

08/30/05

Michael Greenstone, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
“Does Hazardous Waste Matter? Evidence from the Housing Market and the Superfund Program”

09/01/05

Scott Savage, University of Colorado at Boulder
“Regulated Prices with Competition and Heterogeneous Consumers”

09/08/05

Anna Rubinchik-Pessach, University of Colorado at Boulder
“Asymmetric Contests with Incomplete Information: the N-player Case”

09/16/05

Joseph Harrington, Johns Hopkins University
“Optimal Corporate Leniency Programs”

09/23/05

Luis Cabral, New York University
“The Dynamics of Seller Reputation: Theory and Evidence from eBay”

09/30/05

Lee Ohanian, University of California at Los Angeles
“The International Great Depression: A Productivity Puzzle”

10/07/05

Stephen Redding, London School of Economics
“The Costs of Remoteness: Evidence from German Division and Reunification”

10/17/05

Frank Stähler, University of Otago
“Partial Ownership and Cross-Border Mergers”

10/21/05

Robert Pollak, Washington University
“Efficiency in Family Bargaining: Living Arrangements and Caregiving Decisions of Adult Children and Disabled Elderly Parents”

10/28/05

Pol Antràs, Harvard University
“Contracts and the Division of Labor”

11/04/05

Simon P. Anderson, University of Virginia
“Media Mergers and Media Bias with Rational Consumers”

11/10/05

Martha Bailey, University of Michigan
“More Power to the Pill: The Impact of Contraceptive Freedom on Women’s Labor Supply”

11/11/05

Antonio Merlo, University of Pennsylvania
“Political Careers or Career Politicians?”

11/14/05

Sumner LaCroix, University of Hawaii
“Company Colonies, Property Rights, and the Extent of Settlement: A Case Study of Dutch South Africa, 1652-1795”

11/18/05

Wolfram Schlenker, Columbia University
“The Impact of Global Warming on U.S. Agriculture: An Econometric Analysis of Optimal Growing Conditions”

12/02/05

Zvi Eckstein, Tel Aviv University
“From Farmers to Merchants, Voluntary Conversions and Diaspora: A Human Capital Interpretation of Jewish History”

12/08/05

Kyle Bagwell, Columbia University
“Trust, Reciprocity and Favors in Cooperative Relationships”

01/17/06

Fang (Annie) Yang, University of Minnesota
“Consumption Along the Life Cycle: How Different Is Housing”

01/20/06

Gunjan Sharma, University of Maryland
“Competing or Collaborating Siblings? Industrial and Trade Policies in India”

01/23/06

Devrim Demirel, University of Virginia
“Macroeconomic Stabilization in Emerging Market Economies: The Role of Risk Premium”

01/25/06

Latika Chaudhary, University of California at Los Angeles
“Social Divisions and Public Goods Provision: Evidence from Colonial India”

01/26/06

Anthony Landry, Boston University
“Expectations and Exchange Rate Dynamics: A State-Dependent Pricing Approach”

01/30/06

Stephen Yeaple, University of Pennsylvania
“How do Multinational Firms Sort?”

02/03/06

Håle Utar, Pennsylvania State University
“Employment Dynamics and Import Competition”

02/07/06

Vasco Curdia, Princeton University
“Monetary Policy under Sudden Stops”

Department of Economics

2005–2006 Awards

02/16/06

Edward Balistreri, Colorado School of Mines
“Dis-economies of Money and Optimal Inflation”

02/24/06

Anna Rubinchik-Pessach, University of Colorado at Boulder
“Intergenerational Equity and the Discount Rate for
Cost-benefit Analysis”

03/03/06

Sam Bucovetsky, York University
“Preventing Public Input Competition”

03/09/06

Richard Dusansky, University of Texas
“On the Microeconomics of the Demand for Housing”

03/10/06

Marius Schwartz, Georgetown University
“Compatibility Incentives of a Large Network Facing
Multiple Rivals”

03/17/06

Dan Akerberg, University of Arizona
“Structural Identification of Production Functions”

03/22/06

Patrick Kehoe, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
and University of Minnesota
“Time-Varying Risk, Interest Rates, and Exchange Rates in
General Equilibrium”

04/03/06

Josep M. Vilarrubia, Bank of Spain
“Neighborhood Effects in Economic Growth”

04/07/06

Scott Stern, Northwestern University
“Do Formal Intellectual Property Rights Hinder the Free
Flow of Scientific Knowledge? An Empirical Test of the Anti-
Commons Hypothesis”

04/14/06

Phil Graves, University of Colorado at Boulder
“On the Valuation of Pure Public Goods”

05/01/06

Nisvan Erkal, University of Melbourne
“Optimal Sharing Strategies in Dynamic Games of Research
and Development”

05/05/06

Alessandra Casella, Columbia University
“A Simple Scheme to Improve the Efficiency of Referenda”

Stanford Calderwood Faculty Teaching Award
Keith Maskus

Stanford Calderwood Student Teaching Award
Denni Purbasari

Graduate Award for Public Policy Research
Megan Harrod

Reuben A. Zubrow Fellowship in Economics
Jason Percy and Eric Stuen

James C. Campbell Graduate Fellowship
Stephen Billings and Joshua Sidon

Morris E. Garnsey Fellowship
Yiting An and Molly Lipscomb

**Leslie Whittington Memorial Prize for
Excellence in Economics**
Samuel Raisanen

Leslie Whittington Endowed Fellowship in Economics
Christina Peters

Yordon Prize in Microeconomics
Tianle Zhang

George W. Zinke Fellowship in Economics
Jessica Vechbanyongratana

Best Published Faculty Paper in Public Policy
Terra McKinnish

“Importing the Poor: Welfare Magnetism and
Cross-Border Welfare Migration”
Journal of Human Resources, Winter 2005.

**Val B. and Helen W. Fischer Scholarship for Academic
Superiority in the Social Sciences**

Economics	Roman Yavich
Sociology	Danielle Maren Gaudin
Political Science	Brittany Perry
Anthropology	Diana Zucco

2006 Graduate Student Placement

Alpna Bhatia

instructor, University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center and at Boulder

Vahram Ghushchyan

professional research assistant, University of Colorado and Health Sciences Center

Bradley Graham

assistant professor, Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa

Denni P. Purbasari

assistant professor, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia

Katherine Sauer

assistant professor, University of Southern Indiana, Evansville, Indiana

Kiyoshi Yonemoto

assistant instructor/researcher, Tohoku University, Japan



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Thank You!

Department of Economics 2005 Graduates

PhD

J. Ulyses Balderas

Xiaoyang Chen

KyooHong Cho

Devon Paul Lynch

Stephanie Martin

Anwar Alazmi
Stephen Billings
Said Boakye
Yen-Heng Chen

Namsuk Choi
Seoung Chung
Khai Dinh

Megan Harrod
James Holladay
Shiyun Jin

Molly Lipscomb
David Pinto
Amery Pore

Michael Snipes
Bridget Strand
Tianle Zhang

Master of Arts

Bachelor of Arts

Matthew Adkins
Nathan Adler
Thomas Allen
Cindy Anderson
Nathan Archuleta
Erin Arnason
Maria Atencio
Deborah Baker
summa cum laude
Roger Bandelier
Eric Baulesh
Kristopher Becker
Adam Bell
Logan Belz
Elizabeth Bernhard
Scott Bernstein
Matthew Bickmore
Brynmar Bland
Christopher Blatchley
Jesse Blum
Daniel Boccia
Matthew Bohlmann
Tahir Bokhari
Ashley Boyd
Amanda Brotzman
Jacob Cabral
Sean Cahill
Peter Carlton
Vincent Catalano
Eric Chamberlin
Chi Myong Chong
Joseph Cox
Jonathan Curry
Shaun Davies
Christina Davis
summa cum laude
with distinction
Matthew Debus
Sam Denny
Brandon Dill
Sean Dillon
Ronald Dion
Barrett Dobos
Mario Dominguez
Nathaniel Edwards
Taylor Erdman
Brendon J. Ericson
Ben Feller
Beth Felsen
Robert Findlay
Kristin Fleischer
Andreja Fornazario
Aaron Fox-Collis

Kellen Friedlander
Aaron Gaby
Charles Garabedian
Philip Garrison
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with distinction
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Douglas Greenspan
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with distinction
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Aaron Hafliger
John Hancock
Daniel Harder
Matthew Harlow
John-Paul Henry
Jehda Honculada
Paul Hoi Ming Hui
Luke Humecky
Adam Intagliata
Thomas Jepsen
Nicholas Jesaitis
Chad Johnson
Kristin Johnson
magna cum laude
with distinction
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Paul Kim
Nathalie Kjellstrom
cum laude
with distinction
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summa cum laude
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Marisa Lechner

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Joshua Lehner
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Emily Mayer
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with distinction
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Timothy Rochholz
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with distinction
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