



Colorado State University

THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Greetings from the Colorado State University Department of Economics! The academic year that recently concluded was exceptionally busy and productive for us. Here are a few highlights:

- We hired two new assistant professors, which was a huge step forward after years of a hiring freeze. **Elisa Belfiori** received her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota with specializations in macroeconomics, public economics, and environmental economics. **Cher Li** received her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin with specializations in public economics and applied microeconomics. Both of them should be terrific additions to our department community.
- Professors **Anita Pena, Ramaa Vasudevan, and Sammy Zahran** received tenure and were each promoted to the rank of associate professor.
- We were able to increase support for our graduate students by creating two new dissertation fellowships (\$8,000 each) and one new graduate research fellowship (\$4,000). The first winners of these annual awards are **Liesel Hans, Chris Sloodmaker, and Josh Hess**. In addition, **Huong Le** won the **L.S. and Chuen-mei Fan Graduate Student Scholarship** (\$1,500), and **Jose Galvez** won the **Terry Ozawa Graduate Student Scholarship**. **Chris Hannum** won the **Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award** (\$250) and **Liesel Hans** won the **Outstanding Graduate Student Teaching Award** (\$250).

Economics graduate students who were selected as the **College of Liberal Arts Global Sustainability Leadership Fellows** include **Tessa Conroy** and **Liesel Hans**.

- Undergraduate award winners include **April Wymann Allen (Alok Mehta 9-11 Scholarship** for \$500), **Jake Tilleman (Ed Hewett Memorial Scholarship** for \$2,000), **Rashed Albinali** and **Daniel Biondi (Alumni Scholarship** for \$1,000 each), **Kellen Wittkop (Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award** for \$250), and **Breanna Barrier, Linh Do, and Thao Doan (ODE Best Term Paper Award** for \$100 each). We deeply appreciate the support of our alumni and friends who have made all of these awards possible.
- **Professor Stephan Weiler** was an invited speaker at the Federal Reserve Board Conference on Rebuilding for Low-Income Communities. The event, sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, featured top economists from universities and financial institutions across the country. Keynote speaker was Ben Bernanke, chairman of the Federal Reserve and one of the most influential economists in the world.
- **Professor Sammy Zahran** started a prestigious two-year fellowship at Columbia University, awarded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.
- **Professor Bob Kling** continued his leadership of the joint degree program we offer with Foreign Trade University in Vietnam. Other faculty members who taught at FTU last year include **Professors Daniele Tavani, Karen Gebhardt, and Bob Keller**. About 40 FTU undergraduates studied at

CSU, and several FTU faculty members visited with us as well.

- **Professor Terry Iverson** received funding for an iPad teaching project that engages students with economic games available on the Internet.
- Our faculty members published numerous articles on a wide variety of topics in well-known journals such as *Ecological Economics*, *Applied Economics*, *Environmental Research*, *Risk Analysis*, *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics*, *Review of Political Economy*, and *Environmental Pollution*, among others.

The goal of the Department of Economics is to create a learning community that supports the intellectual development and professional aspirations of students and faculty. We do economics "as if people mattered." You can stay in touch with us through our website at economics.colostate.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!

Please Keep in Touch!

Send your name, graduation year, address, phone number, and e-mail address – along with news you'd like to share about your current employer, degrees, awards, births, etc. – to the address below, or e-mail Jenifer.Davis@colostate.edu.

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Faculty highlight: Professor David Mushinski



Professor David Mushinski is a widely admired teacher and researcher. His scholarship has focused on economic development, regional economics and, most recently, health economics. He has published studies of the economics of American Indian reservations, employer-sponsored health care in small businesses, microcredit, welfare reform, geographic interdependencies, and culture and income inequality. He is a demanding yet supportive teacher who has made a variety of contributions to both the undergraduate and graduate programs. He teaches graduate courses in econometrics, microeconomics, and public economics, and undergraduate courses on microeconomics, health economics, and law and economics. Before going to graduate school at the University of Wisconsin, Professor Mushinski was an attorney. We are very glad that he decided that the legal profession was not for him!

Selected Publications

- D. Mushinski, M. Shields, and L. Davis. 2012. "Provision of Employer-Sponsored Health Care in Small Businesses: Does Rural Matter?" *Review of Regional Studies*.
- D. Mushinski and D. Nichols. 2011. "Identifying the Export Component of Industries that Produce Partly for Local Consumption." *Annals of Regional Science*.
- Mushinski, David and Kathleen Pickering (2007). "Heterogeneity in Informal Sector Mitigation of Micro-Enterprise Credit Rationing." *Journal of International Development*.
- Kathleen Pickering, Mark Harvey, Gene Summers, and David Mushinski. 2006. *Welfare Reform in Persistent Rural Poverty: Dreams, Disenchantments and Diversity*. The Pennsylvania State University Press: University Park, Pennsylvania.

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