Dear Friends and Alumni of the Economics Program:

A somewhat belated greetings from the Ph.D. Program in Economics.

Much has happened since the last Newsletter, which delayed the current one. We welcomed our eighteen new incoming students in Fall 2014 and placed our graduates in academic, corporate and governmental positions. We organized two colloquia, several seminars with eminent scholars, two alumni day events with a round-table discussion on ACA and a GC Keynote event with Paul Krugman and Jeffrey Sachs, co-sponsored activities with various organizations and established a professional development series. We prepared this newsletter with our Assistant Program Officer, Diana Santiago, and a third year student, Alev Yildirim.

Seven of our students graduated during the commencement ceremonies at the Lincoln Center in May 2014 and nine graduated in May 2015. Among both cohorts, five of them accepted tenure-track positions in academia at home, Queens College, CUNY, University of Bridgeport, and Iona College, and abroad, Sophia University, Japan, and Javeriana University, Colombia, while several took positions as economists at ADP, IBM, Freddie Mac, Piper Jaffray and at Urban Institute, FDIC and IRS. You can find further information about our graduates, their job placement and their dissertations on the Economics Program’s Graduate Center Website www.gc.cuny.edu/economics.

Our students continue receiving major national awards and honors as well as Graduate Center awards, publishing their work in academic journals and presenting them in conferences. Thanks to your generous contributions, we are now able to offer prizes for best papers and fellowships to help them with their studies. More information about these news are on page 11-12.

Please help us keep our list up to date by sending us any changes in your professional life and keep in touch by sharing with us major events in your lives. You can email any new information to me (muctum@gc.cuny.edu) or Diana (dsantiago@gc.cuny.edu).

I hope you enjoy reading this review.

Merih Uctum
Professor and Executive Officer
Ph.D. Program in Economics
Our activities:

Admissions and fellowships
Our eighteen incoming students are coming to us from four U.S. states and ten different countries. Eight of the incoming students received the improved Graduate Center Fellowships and the remaining students obtained tuition fellowships, which allows us to fully or partially fund all of the incoming class of 2015.

Faculty and student activities and academic recognition
Since 2014, our students received several fellowships and grants and published articles. Three of our students were awarded the prestigious Graduate Center Dissertation Fellowship: Jesse Margolis for his work on “Merit Pay and Intrinsic Motivation: The Persistent Effect of the New York City Teacher Bonus”, Zhendong Zhao for his work on “The Effect of Expected Longevity on Retirement and Social Security Claiming” and Ruirui Sun on her work on “Effect of Electronic Medical Record on Hospital Cost, Efficiency and Inpatient Safety”. Ruirui was also awarded a grant by the Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy to support her dissertation research together with an Eli Ginzberg Award from the foundation. We are very proud of Morgan C. Williams who was just offered a pre-doctoral fellowship in the Economics Department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) for the academic year 2015-2016 for his dissertation research ‘the economics of mass incarceration and crime’. Congratulations to Orkideh Gharehgozli and Thomas Hauner for receiving the interdisciplinary ARC (Advance Research Collaborative) award of the Graduate Center for their research in inequality. Steve O’Connell and Tzuhao Huang published their work in Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Geography and Regional Studies (Steve) and Eastern Economics Journal (Tzuhao). Several students were invited to conferences and seminars to discuss their research.

Our faculty and students remain very active in research. Highlights of their achievements are on page 11 of this newsletter.

We take great pride in the accomplishments of our alumni who are the face of our program. They have been active in the corporate world as well as academia. The list of the names of those who contributed to this Newsletter and summary of their achievements are on page 13.
Student Spotlight

**Morgan C. Williams** received pre-doctoral fellowship in the Economics Department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) for the academic year 2015-2016 for his dissertation research on ‘The Economics of Mass Incarceration and Crime’. The fellowship provides a 12 month appointment with no teaching requirement, a $50,000 stipend, office area, library privileges, and access to faculty.

Morgan’s dissertation research addresses an important gap in the economics of crime literature—namely the social welfare implications of mass incarceration. Despite being home to only five percent of the world population, the United States accounts for approximately one quarter of the global inmate population. U.S. incarceration rates grew exponentially after 1975 and by 2001 nearly 5.6 million U.S. residents spent some time in prison according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Morgan’s first essay examines how incarceration policies influence marriage markets and subsequently the intrahousehold allocation of total resources within the U.S. The second essay assesses the implications of mass incarceration policies for societal learning and criminal behavior. The third essay of his dissertation examines how “ban-the-box policies,” designed to reduce employment discrimination towards workers with criminal records, influence employer beliefs concerning the productivity of ex-convict workers and their incentives for recidivist behavior.

**Ruirui Sun** was awarded a grant of $7,500 by the Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy to support her dissertation research. Ruirui will also receive an Eli Ginzberg Award of $1,500 from the foundation.

Ruirui’s dissertation, “The Effect of Health Information Technology on Hospital Efficiency and Quality of Care,” examines the effects of IT system implementation on U.S. hospitals, focusing on issues such as length of patient stays, inpatient mortality rate, and avoidable hospital readmissions. The federal government currently provides $25.9 billion in subsidies to support IT implementation in hospitals. She presented one of her dissertation papers at the 2014 annual Workshop on Health IT & Economics (WHITE) in Washington. She plans to present results from two other dissertation papers at this year’s Academy Health Annual Research Meeting in Minneapolis.
2014 Economics Ph.D. Recipients

The Commencement ceremonies at Lincoln Center, May, 2014 with Kyle Bauser, David Lempert and Takuya Hasebe

Kyle Bauser
“Sovereign Debt and Tax Collection Dynamics in Argentina”
Equity Research Associate, Piper Jaffray & Co., New York, NY

Andrew Bossie
“The Effects of Fiscal Policy on Savings and Investment”
Term Assistant Professor, Barnard College, New York, NY

Yan Feng
“The Trading Efficiency on Options Market: Essays on Stock Option Market”
Credit Guarantee Analytics Sr., Freddie Mac, Washington, D.C.

Pallavi J. Govil
“Fiscal Decentralization: Does the Source of Revenue Matter?”
Director, Prime Minister’s Office, Government Administration, New Delhi, India

Takuya Hasebe
“Essays in Labor Economics and Econometrics: Applications of the Copula Method”
Assistant Professor, Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan

Emily Johnson
“Essays on Financial Market Volatility: Applications of Time-varying Dynamics”
Economist, Center for Financial Research, FDIC, Washington, D.C.

David Lempert
“The Economic Causes and Consequences of Overweight and Obesity in the United States”
Senior Economist, Internal Revenue Service, New York, NY
2015 Economics Ph.D. Recipients

The Commencement ceremonies at Lincoln Center, May, 2015 with Jang Wook Lee and Hyungju Cha

Hyunju Cha
“Committee Decision Making in Monetary Policy”
Adjunct Professor, William Paterson University
Wayne, New Jersey

Luz M. Salas
“Essays on Savings Behavior of Low-Income Households in Colombia”
Assistant Professor, Javeriana University
Bogotá, Colombia

Damir Cosic
“Three Essays on Income and Wealth Inequality”
Research Associate, Urban Institute
Washington, D.C.

Suleyman Taspinar
“Essays on Robust Estimators for Non-Indentically Distributed Observstions in Spatial Econometric and Time Series Models”
Assistant Professor of Economics, Queens College, CUNY,
Queens, NY

Osman Dogan
“Essays on Spatial Econometrics: Estimation Methods and Applications”
Economist, Istanbul Ulasim A.S.
Istanbul, Turkey

Hsinrong Wei
Instructor of Business and Information System Department,
Bronx Community College

Benjamin Zweig
“Essays on the Economics and Methodology of Social Mobility”
Senior Strategy Consultant, Business Performance Service at IBM,
Armonk, NY

Joanne Guo
“Essays on the Impact s of Quantatative Easing on Financial Markets”
Assistant Professor of Economics/Finance
University of Bridgeport, Ernest c. Trefz School of Business,
Bridgeport, CT

Jang Wook Lee
“The Effect Of Income on Health After Hurricane Katrina”
Senior Research Support Specialist, Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government,
Albany, NY
Academic Activity, Alumni Day, and Other Events

The 2014 Alumni Day began with a reception where many alumni, students and faculty got together in a festive atmosphere. This was followed by the Award Ceremony that included the CIT grants by the CIT Bank in partnership with Ray Quinlan ('07) as well as three other awards. Jennifer Armstrong, SV President at CIT, presented this award to Jin Chung, Alev Yildirim and Moon Young Jung. Merih Uctum, the EO, congratulated Hiroshi Morita, the recipient of the Salih Neftc Flyt Memorial Award, Luz Salas, the recipient of NY Women Economists award, and Leon Sorkin, the recipient of the Nadia Doytch ('07) Award.

The evening was topped by a stimulating round-table discussion on Obama’s Affordable Care Act “The ACA and its critiques: the good, the bad and the ugly” with participation of three accomplished scholars and experts in this subject: Shoshanna Sofaer, Baruch College, Dahlia Remler, Baruch College and Alan Monheit ('75), Rutgers University. The discussion was moderated by Tami Luhby from CNN Money.

You can watch the event here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YZkugYrqmk
The 2015 Alumni Day, our annual celebration of the ending the current academic year, took place on May 4th, 2015. This year the reception was short but brimming with excitement and anticipation with a large number of alumni and student participants.

The award ceremony started with the coveted Sallie Mae awards in partnership with Ray Quinlan ('07) who himself honored us with his presence to distribute the awards and meet our Ph.D students.

Ray presented the Sallie Mae Fellowship awards to Orkideh Gharehgozli, Richard Nugent, Georgios Koimisis, Gunnar Yanez and Raul Segura, and the Sallie Mae Travel Awards to Aboozar Hadavand, Steve O’Connell and Moon Young Jung.

We were also lucky to have the presence of Nadia Doytch ('07) who congratulated Evan Warshaw for the best paper in International Macro and Finance, and Ahu Yilmaz ('97) who presented the Salih Neftci memorial award to the best paper in applied macro and financial economics to Biwei Chen. Ahu wrote her dissertation with Salih Neftci.

You can watch The Alumni Day event here: http://videostreaming.gc.cuny.edu/videos/video/3464/
Globalization, Technological Change and Inequality: Jeffrey Sachs and Paul Krugman in Conversation

Soon after the award ceremony, the guests were directed to the Proshansky Hall for what was traditionally our round-table discussion, which became a sold-out Graduate Center Keynote event.

The discussion with Jeffrey Sachs, director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, a senior UN advisor, and Paul Krugman, Princeton University, Nobel Prize laureate, New York Time columnist and our future faculty, was moderated by Gillian Tett of the Financial Times. The full-house event was live streamed to the public.

You can watch the Krugman Sachs event here: https://youtu.be/K_GtNgUxIJQ

Alumni Days are made possible by your generous contributions and your involvement with the program. We are grateful to you for your continued support.
This Spring we were lucky to highly inspiring seminar series organized by Yochanan Shachmurove from City College and the GC, brought to us in April world renowned economists. Among which were two Nobel prize laureates, Robert Solow and Chris Sims.

Sims presented his work on “Coordinating monetary and fiscal policy to exit the zero lower bound” and discussed the difficulties of policy at the zero lower bound and the dilemmas faced by the European Monetary Union. You can follow Sims’ seminar here: [http://videostreaming.gc.cuny.edu/videos/video/3307/](http://videostreaming.gc.cuny.edu/videos/video/3307/)

In his talk entitled “Wage Stagnation” Solow stated that in violation of the economic theory we have been observing a divergence between productivity and wages. He argued that this decoupling can be explained by the fact that rents are being divided increasingly favoring capital, instead of labor.

**Macro Colloquium**

Last Fall the program’s fourth GC-CUNY Macroeconomics and Finance Colloquium organized by George Vachadze (College of Staten Island) brought together faculty from four campuses to discuss their research: Eleni Gousgounis (Stevens Institute of Technology), Eva de Francisco (Lehman College), Lin Peng (Baruch College and the Graduate Center) and Inas Rashad Kelly (Queens College and the Graduate Center). The event was well attended by faculty, students and alumni, and presentations covered a wide array of subjects reflecting the extensive research interests of faculty. You can find more information on the program here: [http://tinyurl.com/puejngv](http://tinyurl.com/puejngv)

**Development Economics Colloquium**

Karna Basu and Jonathan Conning (Hunter College) were the organizers of the program’s inaugural GC-CUNY Development Economics Colloquium with participation by faculty from four campuses and Ph.D. candidates: Prabal De (City College), George Vachadze (College of Staten Island), Suleyman Taspinar (Queens College), Stephen O’Connell (Graduate Center PhD candidate), Onur Altindag (Graduate Center PhD candidate), Karna Basu (Hunter College). Participants presented their work on various issues pertaining to development, followed by a lively discussion with the audience. You can find more information on the program here: [http://tinyurl.com/obgyjda](http://tinyurl.com/obgyjda)
Other Events

OPEN HOUSE EVENTS
During the 2014-2015 academic year we organized two Open House events for the applicants. The first Open House took place to host a group of 40 students and faculty from Universidad Autónoma Chapingo, Mexico. Julio Huato (’07) from St Francis College was their guide at the Graduate Center and NYC. Our visitors also had a chance to attend the Tuesday seminar that day.

In the second Open House over 25 prospective students visited us. In a convivial atmosphere, faculty and students welcomed them and provided them valuable information about the program, life in New York City and the program’s success in placing its graduates. Many of these visitors applied to our program to be enrolled this coming Fall and several got accepted.

JOB MARKET SEMINARS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
To prepare our students for their job search and finding one, the program several activities were organized. Since last Fall, the current academic job market candidates attended Job Market Seminars regularly, where they learned about the steps that they need to accomplish before and during the interviews at the American Economic Association Meetings in January, the campus visits and the follow up stage.

For students interested in the non-academic positions, we established Career Days events with the invaluable help and participation by our alumni and faculty. Ellen Dulberger (’86) gave an informative talk on “Careers at IBM”, Ahu Yildirmaz (’97) spoke about “Careers at ADP”, Henry Mo (’07), AIG discussed “Career as a Wall Street Economist” and Alexander Reisz presented “Opportunities with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency”. Students benefited from the interaction with the alumni, learned about non-academic job market opportunities and how to use their Ph.D. to develop fulfilling careers in a different environment. We are grateful to Ellen, Ahu and Henri who have been tirelessly mentoring, hiring and placing our graduates.
The Economics Program also hosted and collaborated with INET Institute for New Economics Thinking Young Scholars Initiative (YSI) Workshop in NYC during Feb. 24-26, 2015.

The Economics Program in cooperation with Baruch College continued the two weeks **Quantitative Boot Camp** at the start of the Fall semester. The goal is to prepare the incoming students for their first year in the program and refresh their knowledge in mathematics, statistics and programming. The training of students continues throughout the year in labs that complement the classroom teaching. A similar training program is planned for the 2015-1016 academic year.

---

Our APO, **Diana Santiago** was invited to speak on the topics of art and video games at IndieCade East, an independent video game festival hosted by the Museum of The Moving Image in Astoria, NY on February 14, 2014. She has created artwork for a video game that will be released later this year.
FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS 2013-2015

GRADUATE CENTER FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

Graduate Center Dissertation Fellowship

Jesse Margolis: “Merit Pay and Intrinsic Motivation: The Persistent Effect of the New York City Teacher Bonus”

Zhendong Zhao: “The Effect of Expected Longevity on Retirement and Social Security Claiming”

Ruirui Sun: “Effect of Electronic Medical Record on Hospital Cost, Efficiency and Inpatient Safety”

Doctoral Students Research Grants

Markus Gehrsitz: “Speeding, Punishment, and Recidivism – Evidence from a Regression Discontinuity Design”

Moon Young Jung: “Financial Development and Economic Growth: Evidence from South Korea”

Georgios Koimissis: “City Size Distribution: Empirical Evidence from Emerging and Developing Asia”

Gowun Park: “Whose Sin is That? Inequality and Unequal Opportunity”

Ruirui Sun: “The Impact of Health Information Technology on Treatment Quality”


ARC (Advanced Research Collaborative) Fellowship

Orkideh Gharehgozli: "Trends in Income Growth, and Income Allocations Among 15 Classes of Income in Iran, 2001-2012"

Thomas Hauner: “Income Inequality in NYC and Stop and Frisk Tactics”
We are very appreciative of our Alumni participants in our departmental grants and fellowships. On behalf of the Economic Program I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for supporting our students. We hope that more of you will support existing funds, and establish new funds that will help our students and academic activities in our department. Although our students enjoy more generous fellowships than most of you did when you were enrolled at the GC, few have stipends and many have to take substantial time from their studies to finance their education. None of the fellowships cover any expenses incurred for conferences and research, which are absolutely essential for them to succeed in today’s highly competitive job market. Generous grants such as the Sallie Mae Bank awards allow them to concentrate on their studies, and contribute to their academic achievement.

In addition to helping students, it is our goal to add additional activities to revitalize the academic environment in the program with colloquia and lectures, visiting scholars, invited speakers for which funding by the GC is very limited.

For more information about making contributions to the Economics Program, please see page 18 of this newsletter.

Esin Cakan ('08) received her tenure and is promoted to Associate Professor of Economics at the University of New Haven, College of Business Economics Department in September 2014. She co-authored with Allen Sack and A. McComas in the work 'The Revival of Multiyear Scholarships in the Twenty-First Century: Which Universities Supported and Opposed this Legislation and Why?' in the Journal of Issues in Intercollegiate Athletics. She presented her co-authored work with Nadia Doytch ('07) and Kamal Upadhyaya titled 'Do US macroeconomic news make emerging markets riskier?' at the World Finance Conference in Venice, Italy and her work with Aram Balagyozyan ('08) and Utku Demir 'Hedge Funds, Markets and Causality: Evidence from the US' at the 40th Eastern Economic Association (EEA) Meeting in Boston.

Sanjukta Chaudhuri ('08) published their work with Shahnaz Abdullah titled 'Women’s Education, Work Outside Home, and Marital Violence: The case of Bangladesh' in International Journal of Public Policy in 2014, volume 10. She also published 'A Life Course Model of Rights Realization, Female Empowerment, and Gender Inequality in India' in the World Development. She also had a baby girl on May 28, 2014. Her name is Chandrima Hein.

Dhaval Dave ('03) was awarded the Georgescu-Roegen Prize with Henry Saffer ('77) for their article 'Impact of Direct-to-Consumer Advertising on Pharmaceutical Prices and Demand' which was published in volume 79 of the Southern Economic Journal. The Georgescu-Roegen Prize is awarded each year by the Southern Economic Association for the best academic article published in the Southern Economic Journal. He also coauthored with Henry Saffer ('77), Michael Grossman, and Leigh Ann Leung ('12) in the work 'Racial, Ethnic, and Gender Differences in Physical Activity' that was published in the Journal of Human Capital.

Feng Guo ('05) accepted the position as the Chief Representative and Chief China Economist at the IIF Asian Representative Office in Beijing.

Alex Yi Hou Huang ('06) is now Associate Professor at the National Chiao Tung University in Hsinchu, Taiwan, in the Graduate Institute of Finance.
Leigh Ann Leung (’12) coauthored with Michael Grossman, Dhaval Dave (’03), and Henry Saffer (’77) in the work 'Racial, Ethnic, and Gender Differences in Physical Activity' that was published in the Journal of Human Capital.

Henry Saffer (’77) was awarded the Georgescu-Roegen Prize with Dhaval Dave (’03) for their article 'Impact of Direct-to-Consumer Advertising on Pharmaceutical Prices and Demand' which was published in volume 79 of the Southern Economic Journal. The Georgescu-Roegen Prize is awarded each year by the Southern Economic Association for the best academic article published in the journal. He also coauthored with Michael Grossman, Dhaval Dave (’03), and Leigh Ann Leung (’12) in the work 'Racial, Ethnic, and Gender Differences in Physical Activity' that was published in the Journal of Human Capital.

Jasmina Spasojevic (’03) accepted a new position as Special Projects Analyst, Bureau of Vital Statistics, at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.


FACULTY NEWS (2014)


Michael Grossman published his work with Erdal Tekin and Roy Wada 'Food Prices and Body Fatness among Youths' in Economics and Human Biology, volume 12. He also (cont’d)
Coauthored with **Henry Saffer** ('77), **Dhaval Dave** ('03), and **Leigh Ann Leung** ('12) 'Racial, Ethnic, and Gender Differences in Physical Activity', published in the *Journal of Human Capital*. Furthermore, he presented his work 'Moral Hazard and Less Invasive Medical Treatment for Coronary Artery Disease: The Case of Cigarette Smoking' at the Ohio State University, the University of Connecticut, and at the Spring meeting of the National Bureau of Economic Research Health Economics Program, Cambridge, MA.

**Theodore Joyce** published several papers during 2013-2014 academic year. He coauthored with Silvie Colman and Thomas Dee in 'Do Parental Involvement Laws Deter Risky Teen Sex?' in *Journal of Health Economics*, volume 32. He also coauthored 'Abortion Before and After Roe' in the same journal with **Ruoding Tan** ('13) and **Yuxiu Zhang** ('11). Furthermore, he published his work 'How Important Was the Pill to Women’s Economic Well-Being' in *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, volume 32. Ted received Collaborative Incentive Research Grant Program Round 20 grant of $25,260 as Principle Investigator for the work 'A Randomized Field Experiment of a Hybrid versus Traditional Economics Lecture'.

**Charlotte Muller** advised students in Prof. Wim Vijverberg's research writing course concerning improvements in their writing skills and in the presentation of their work. She also agreed to participate in the program planned for the spring 2015 semester to help students achieve publishable papers.

**Yochanan Shachmurove** published his paper joint with M. Lakicevic and M. Vulanovic ('10) “Institutional changes of specified purpose acquisition companies” in the North American Journal of Economics and Finance, and his paper with T. Kowalski “The reaction of the US and the EMU to recent global financial crises” in the Global Finance Journal. He was a member of the International Organizational Committee of the IV International Conference on Entrepreneurship and Innovations as Precondition for Economic Development, in Podgorica, Montenegro, and he was a Senior Fulbright Scholar at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kiev. He presented papers at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco; at the 77th International Atlantic Economic Conference, Madrid; at Odessa National Mechnikov University, Ukraine; at Lviv National Polytechnic University, Ukraine; at the National Forestry University of Ukraine; at the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ukraine; at the 12th International Conference of Numerical Analysis and Applied Mathematics (ICNAAM), Rhodes, Greece; and at Uniglobel College, Pokhara University, Nepal; and he gave a keynote speech at the IV International Conference on “Entrepreneurship and innovations as Precondition for economic development,” Podgorica, Montenegro.

**Simone A. Wegge** co-authored with Sonia Cancian in their work 'Exploring the Digitizing Immigrant Letters Project as a Teaching Tool' in the *Journal of American Ethnic History* volume 33. They also signed a contract with ABC-CLIO/Greenwood/Praeger as editors for an encyclopedia ‘Immigration and the American Dream: An Economic Encyclopedia’. She co-authored with Carolyn Tuttle in the work ‘Regulating Child Labor: European Experience’ in Greif, A., L. Kiesling, and *(cont’d)*
J. Nye (eds.) *Institutions, Innovation, and Industrialization: Essays in Economic History and Development*. Simone presented a paper at the annual Social Science History Association meetings in Toronto, Canada in November 2014. She was recently appointed to the Program Committee for the 2015 Social Science History Association meetings, which regularly facilitates over 280 sessions for its conference program.


---

**STUDENT NEWS (2014)**

**Alice Zulkarnain** had her National Bureau of Economic Research’s Pre-doctoral Fellowship for the 2014–15 academic year renewed for 2015-2016. The fellowship was awarded to Alice for her research on "The Effects of the Dutch Delayed Retirement Credit (Doorwerkbonus)." The award was granted to three other students, two from Harvard and one from UC Berkeley. The NBER provides winners with a $25,000 stipend as well as tuition payment of up to $12,000.

**Aparna Anand** received the Provost’s Pre-Dissertation Summer Research Award for $4,000.00 in recognition of her academic interests and achievements to help support her upcoming research activities.

**Jin Chung** received a 5 year fellowship with stipend as a Graduate A at Hunter college. The official title is the Assistant Director position at the Hunter Social Sciences Lab.

**Tzuhao Huang** published his work with Dene Hurley and Angela Lebbon titled 'Nonlinear Panel Data Analysis of Non-fatal Occupational Injuries and Illnesses among Female Hispanic Workers across U.S. States' in *Eastern Economic Journal*. He also presented this work in EEA Annual Meeting in Boston.

**Shankar Narayanan** accepted the position as the head of Systematic Quantitative Research with Macquarie Electronic trading lab (largest Australian investment bank). While working full-time, he started his dissertation: 'Essays on Market Microstructure' under the guidance of Ling Peng at Baruch College.

**Steve O’Connell** published several papers on his research on India joint with Ejaz Ghani and William Kerr: ‘Political reservations and women’s entrepreneurship in India’, *Journal of (cont’d)*
Development Economics 108, 2014; ‘Local industrial structures and female entrepreneurship in India’, Journal of Economic Geography 13.6, 2013. Their paper ‘Spatial determinants of entrepreneurship in India’, Regional Studies 48:6, 2013 was the winner of the FPD Academy Award for Best World Bank Research in Finance and Private Sector Development. Steve has also been ranked among the top 100 young economists out of 7156 whose first publication is 5 or fewer years.

Ruirui Sun was awarded a grant of $7,500 by the Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy to support her dissertation research “The Effect of Health Information Technology on Hospital Efficiency and Quality of Care”. Sun will also receive an Eli Ginzberg Award of $1,500 from the foundation. She will present results from two other dissertation papers at this year’s Academy Health Annual Research Meeting in Minneapolis.

Morgan C. Williams received pre-doctoral fellowship in the Economics Department of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) for the academic year 2015-2016 for his dissertation research on ‘The Economics of Mass Incarceration and Crime’. The fellowship provides a 12 month appointment with no teaching requirement, a $50,000 stipend, office area, library privileges, and access to faculty.

**ADDITIONS TO OUR FAMILY!**

- Federico Buenaventura-Salas
  - 4/25/14

- Gabriela Neve Poppe
  - 11/22/2014

- Barry Ayzenberg
  - 6/24/14

- Chandrima Hein
  - 4/28/14

- Mariam Kapanadze
  - 12/25/14

- Isabel Lily Indriana Lober
  - 8/1/14

Welcome to the Economics Ph.D. Program!
Supporting the Economics Program

To make your tax-deductible gift, please visit us online. Simply click the Graduate Center Web site (or click https://community.gc.cuny.edu/program_funds) and follow these steps:

❖ For unrestricted donations to the Economics Program
   1. First, under “Donation Information” select the amount of your gift.
   2. Next, under the “Designation” box, select “Economics” from the drop down menu
      Note: unless you select “Economics” designation, your gift will be directed to support general (not program-specific) expenditures of the Graduate Center and will not come to the Program.
   3. Complete the “Billing” and “Payment Information” sections.
   4. Click “Donate now” to complete.
      You will receive an email verifying your gift as well as a receipt in the mail.

❖ For targeted donations to the Economics Program
   If you would like your gift to go towards a particular fund, such as the Salih Neftci fellowship fund, the Nadia Doytch International Macroeconomics and Finance award, please follow the steps 1 and 2 above and indicate the funds in the “Comments” box under “Additional Information”.

❖ For establishing a new fund, or make your gift through the mail
   Please contact me either by email or phone; I will be delighted to give you further details about how we fund activities in our program with your gift. If you choose to send your gift by mail, please make your check payable to the Graduate Center Foundation, indicate on it where specifically you would like to target your donation and mail it to the address below.

Thank you for your support and involvement.

Merih Uctum
Executive Officer
Program in Economics
365 Fifth Avenue, Suite 5313
New York, NY 10016-4309
Tel: 212-817-8256
Email: muctum@gc.cuny.edu
Just a reminder, if you have not done so already, please come and join us on the web, we are waiting for you!!

our LinkedIn page at CUNY Graduate Center Economics

and Facebook page at CUNY GC Economics Department