

Newsletter

Summer 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Yet another year has flown by quickly and it seems to be a good time for us to take stock of some wonderful things our students and faculty did during this period. What you will hopefully see in this newsletter is not only stories of our accomplishments but also of the deep relationships that bind our students and faculty together.

On a personal note, I'd like to also convey my best wishes to Dr. Ed Kosack, who will be our next department Chair. A sincere thanks to our faculty, students, Advisory Board, Economics Club Officers and many others for all their support during my tenure as Chair. Having witnessed all the work that goes on behind-the-scenes, I've a better understanding of how invested our faculty and alumni are in our students and for that, I'm very grateful.

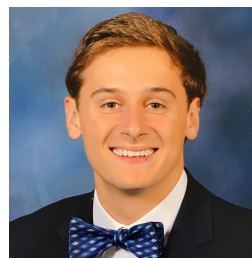
- Hasan Faruq

JOIN THE ECONOMICS CLUB!

President: Kasey Kirkhoff
Vice-President: Ryan Doyle
Secretary: Joel Lara
Treasurer: Alex Perkins
Faculty Advisor: Ellen Heekin

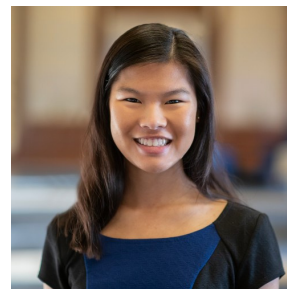
Join us on *OrgSync* and stay up-to-date with some fun events planned for the upcoming academic year.

STUDENT NEWS



Seniors **Gillian McMahan** and **John Fritz** were awarded the 2022 Department of Economics Award for excellence in the study of economic theory.

Seniors **Leona Ullery** and **William Anderson** were awarded the 2022 Craig Menderson Award for demonstrating excellence in the classroom and outstanding leadership potential.



GROUP PHOTO ABOVE: Students in Professor Justin Roush's *Environmental Economics* course visited the Cincinnati Natural History Museum in Spring '23. Students listened to Molly Robertshaw (*City of Cincinnati Office of Environment and Sustainability*) discuss the recently passed Green Cincinnati Plan and Dr. Brenda Hunda on how economic policy influence carbon emissions and climate change. Professor Roush received a *Cintas Ethics Experiential Learning Grant* to fund the trip.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

In Spring '23, Professor Rachael Behr led a group of Xavier students to the *Humanomics Symposium* in Creighton University, which included 60-80 students from different universities to discuss a set of shared readings (on topics such as “Economic and Political Freedom”) and listen to keynote talks/faculty panels.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Alton Jenkins, Emily Branca, Kasey Kirkhoff, Kennedy Weigel, Nick Jebson, Juan Patino and Professor Rachael Behr.



Senior economics majors presented their capstone research projects to economics faculty at the end of each semester. For these projects, students work closely with a faculty to examine an economic issue of their choice by using relevant data.

The faculty supervisors for the capstone projects were Professors Ed Kosack (Fall '22), Thomas Lebesmuehlbacher (Fall '22), Kan Yue (Spring '23) and Justin Roush (Spring '23) respectively.

Xavier's economics department started two new traditions last year:

[1] a **“coffee and donuts”** hour with economics majors and faculty every semester and

[2] an **“economics mini-library”** (which can be seen in the background of the photo). The mini-library consists of economics-related non-fiction and fiction books, as well as copies of *The Economist* magazine and capstone papers written by students/alumni. Any member of the Xavier community is welcome to sign-out a book for free.



ECONOMICS FACULTY-STUDENT BOWLING



An annual tradition within the Xavier economics department has been to host a bowling party for economics seniors and faculty after the finals are completed. The bowling parties were paused during the pandemic; so, we were glad to resume this fun tradition this year.



ECONOMICS FACULTY NEWS



Professor **Nancy Bertaux** retired from Xavier in May '23, after teaching at Xavier for 38 years. At Xavier, she served as the Director of the *Economics, Sustainability and Society* program and received a Fulbright Scholarship to teach at Eichstaett University in Germany. We wish her the best for the next chapter of her life.



Congratulations to Professor **Thomas Lebesmuehlbacher** and **Jae Hoon Choi** on being granted tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor of Economics!

Professor Lebesmuehlbacher was also appointed as the Associate Dean of the Williams College of Business at Xavier in January 2023.



Congratulations to Professor **David Yi** on being recognized as Xavier's 2022-23 *Executive MBA Professor of the Year!*



Professor **Rachael Behr** was recognized with the *Wheeler Award* from Xavier and the *Acton Institute Award* to develop a first-year seminar course on *Markets and Morality*.



Congratulations to Professor **Justin Roush** on being awarded a *Faculty Development Leave* for Fall '23 and on being named as the incoming director of the *Economics, Sustainability and Society* program!



Congratulations to Professor **Kan Yue** on being awarded the *O'Connor Research Fellowship!*



Please welcome Professor **Sierra Arnold**, who received her PhD from the University of Pittsburgh and will be joining the economics department at Xavier in Fall '23 as Assistant Professor.

XAVIER ECONOMICS ADVISORY BOARD

Our Advisory Board represents a group of business leaders from diverse backgrounds with a special focus on professions that typically employ economics graduates. Board meetings tend to consist of presentations by students on their research projects (for example, seniors Gillian McMahan and Noelle Ullery presented their research in the Fall '22 and Spring '23 Board meetings), updates from the Economics Club officers and discussions about various initiatives (such as internships). Below are some photos from our recent Board meetings. More information about our Advisory Board members are available [here](#).



RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY ECONOMICS FACULTY

- **Behr, Rachael** and Virgil H. Storr, "Understanding Pandemic Entrepreneurship as a Unique Form of Crisis Entrepreneurship," *Journal of Entrepreneurship and Public Policy*.
- **Lebesmuehlbacher, Thomas** and Palmer, Alex (Xavier undergraduate), "Immigration and Trade: Evidence from the 1920's Quota Acts," *Economics Bulletin*.
- Collier, Trevor, Cotten, Stephen and **Roush, Justin**, "Using Pandemic Behavior to Test the External Validity of Laboratory Measurements of Risk Aversion and Guilt," *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*.
- Balyeat, Brian, Cagle, Julie and **Sen, Amit**, "Student Evaluation Instruments: Online versus Paper," *Journal of International Business and Economics*.
- **Yue, Kan**. "Non-tariff Measures and Duration of Trade," *Applied Economics Letters*.

*NOTE: Names of Xavier faculty are in **bold**. Last names of authors are arranged alphabetically above, consistent with the norm in the economics profession.*