

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS OF THE FACULTY IN 2003

Sherrilyn Billger "Variations in the Rewards for a Teacher's Performance," *Developments in School Finance*, 2001-2002, 2003, National Center for Education Statistics.

Bengte Evenson "Local Variation in Land Use Regulations," with William C. Wheaton, *Brookings-Wharton Papers on Urban Affairs*, 2003.

Rajeev K. Goel "Rent Seeking in Research Markets," *Journal of Technology Transfer*, 28, 2003.
"A Market for Scientific Communication: A Comment," *Kyklos*, 2003.

David G. Loomis "Principles for Teaching Economic Forecasting," with James E. Cox, Jr., *International Review of Economics Education*, 2003, 1(2).

Hassan Mohammadi "Budget Deficits and Interest Rates: The British Experience," *International Journal of Applied Economics and Econometrics*, 11(1), January-March 2003.

"The Asian Currency Crisis—A Study of Contagion," with Syed M. Ahmed and Golam Mohammad, *International Journal of Applied Economics and Econometrics*, 11(2), April-June 2003.

James E. Payne "A Survey of the International Empirical Evidence on the Tax-Spend Debate," *Public Finance Review*, 31(3), May 2003.
"Post Stabilization Estimates of Money Demand in Croatia: Error Correction Model Using the Bounds Testing Approach," *Applied Economics*, 35(16), November 2003.

Rati Ram "Roles of Bilateral and Multilateral Aid in Economic Growth of Developing Countries," *Kyklos*, 56(1), 2003.
Book Review of *Global Market for Higher Education: Sustainable Competitive Strategies for the New Millennium* by Tim Mazzarol and Geoffrey Norman Soutar, *Economics of Education Review*, 22(6), December 2003.

Neil T. Skaggs "Thomas Tooke, Henry Thornton, and the Development of British Monetary Orthodoxy," *Journal of the History of Economic Thought*, 25, June 2003.
"H.D. Macleod and the Origins of the Theory of Finance in Economic Development," *History of Political Economy*, 35, Fall 2003.

Kevin H. Zhang "Does Globalization Affect Regional Inequality within a Developing Country? Evidence from China," with Xiabo Zhang, *Journal of Development Studies*, 2003, 39(4).
"How Does FDI Interact with Regional Economic Development in China?" with Shunfeng Song in *China's Economic Globalization through the WTO*, (Ashgate, United Kingdom), 2003.



Greetings from the chair

James E. Payne

As the new chair of the Department of Economics I would like to introduce the department's inaugural newsletter. We sincerely hope that the newsletter will provide a forum for sharing departmental news with alumni and serve as a venue for publicizing what you, our alumni, have been doing.

The department has entered a transition period, with a number of retirements and the addition of several new faculty and staff. Curricular changes at both the undergraduate and graduate levels are soon to come. Our goal is to maintain both the department's profile as one of the top non-Ph.D. departments in the country and the department's reputation for excellence in teaching. Despite the current budgetary problems facing universities in Illinois, the faculty remain committed to delivering first-rate undergraduate and graduate instruction. Moreover, the department continues to serve external constituencies through the Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies and the Stevenson Center for Community Economic Development.

This inaugural issue highlights the accomplishments of recent retirees and introduces you to the new faculty and staff in the department. It also provides news of faculty and student achievements. On behalf of the department I invite you to share your news and accomplishments with us so that we can share them with others in future issues of the newsletter. Just drop me an e-mail (jepayne@ilstu.edu) with "Alumni News" in the subject line, and we'll be happy to let other alumni know what you've been doing.

RETIREMENTS

John F. (Jack) Chizmar

Professor Jack Chizmar came to Illinois State University in August 1971, having received his Ph.D. from Boston College. In his career he taught a variety of courses but was (and is) best known for his classes in statistics and econometrics. Chizmar published widely in economics education and in 1999 was awarded the prestigious Henry H. Villard Research Award for outstanding research in the field. He also served in Illinois State University administration, beginning as assistant to the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences in 1981 and ending as associate vice president for business and finance, with a couple of other positions in between. After officially retiring in June 2002, he returned to teach a section of introductory statistics for the department in both semesters of 2002-2003.

David D. Ramsey

Associate Professor David Ramsey joined the department in August 1973, having taught the previous six years at the University of Missouri-Columbia. A University of Minnesota Ph.D., Ramsey taught public finance and macroeconomics and developed a new course on applied community economic development for the master's sequence of the same name. He published several highly regarded papers in public finance, one of which is regarded as a classic. Ramsey served as the depart-

ment chair from 1991-2002. He is now fully retired and, although he still lives in Bloomington, he and his wife, Judy, often are away visiting children and grandchildren.

Ram Das Singh

Professor Ram Das Singh joined the department in August 1981, after having taught at Purdue University the previous five years. He received his Ph.D. from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. Singh taught development economics, microeconomics, and macroeconomics. His voluminous research in economic development was based on extensive field work in several African and Latin American countries. Singh published multiple times in the top journals in his field. He and his wife still live in Normal, when it isn't too cold. They spend their winters in San Diego with their son.

Janice Pritchett

Janice Pritchett joined the Department as lead secretary in August 1992. She began working part time at Illinois State University in 1981 and left a full-time position in the College of Education to join the department. Pritchett has overseen the office staff, assisted the chair in a variety of ways, and done whatever else has been necessary to keep the department running smoothly. She and her husband, Val, continue to live in Normal, where they can see their two grandsons regularly.

STAFF NEWS

Debbie Harris

Debbie Harris has been with the department for five years. She began working with the Peace Corps Program (now the Stevenson Center for Community and Economic Development). She moved to the main office in January 2001 and became lead secretary this past July. Harris has two grown children: twins Matt and Amy, and a new daughter-in-law, Bethany. Central Illinois has been home to Harris for all but the nine years she lived in England.

April Myslinski

April Myslinski is the newest member of the Economics Department. She began her Illinois State University career in 2002 in the Curriculum and Instruction Department. She and her husband, Mike, are enjoying their country home after having lived in the north Chicago suburbs their entire lives. They have three daughters, Amy, Kim, and Amanda, and two grandchildren, Michael and Kylie. Myslinski enjoys spending time with family and friends and a menagerie of pets.

NEW CHAIR

Professor and Chair James Payne

Professor and Chair James Payne received his B.A. in economics from Berea College in 1985 followed by M.S. and Ph.D. (1989) degrees in economics from Florida State University. He has taught at Oakland University and Eastern Kentucky University and had visiting appointments at the University of Southern Mississippi, the Economics Institute, and the University of Ken-

tucky. In 2000, Payne visited the Institute of Economics in Zagreb, Croatia, as a Fulbright Scholar undertaking research in the area of macroeconomics. He has published extensively in a variety of areas and specializes in applied time series econometrics in the areas of macroeconomics and financial economics. In addition to his chair duties and maintaining an active research agenda, Payne is co-editor of the *Journal of Economics and Finance*.

NEW FACULTY

Assistant Professor Sherrilyn Billger

Assistant Professor Sherrilyn Billger returned to the plains of Illinois to begin teaching at Illinois State University in August 2002. After earning her A.B. in economics and human resources management from Muhlenberg College, summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa, the native of eastern Pennsylvania headed to Urbana-Champaign to work on a Ph.D. Billger then served for two years at Union College, Schenectady, New York, before joining the Illinois State University faculty. Billger's interests are labor economics and applied econometrics. Her research focuses on performance measurement, incentives, and compensation for K-12 teachers and administrators.

Assistant Professor Bengte Evenson

Assistant Professor Bengte Evenson joined the department in August 2002. She graduated from Brigham Young University as valedictorian of her undergraduate class and went on to graduate with a Ph.D. from MIT in 2002. At MIT, Evenson specialized in public economics and industrial organization. Her dissertation investigated how governmental regulation affects builders' decisions concerning how and when to construct houses. Other related research interests include investigating how urban economists might use new GIS planning data to investigate a variety of questions and examining the factors affecting the conversion of U.S. agricultural land to non-agricultural purposes.



New faculty in the Department of Economics. From left: Bengte Evenson, George Waters, and Sherrilyn Billger

Assistant Professor George Waters

Assistant Professor George Waters received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill in 2002. He also has B.A. and M.S. degrees in mathematics from Northwestern University and California State University-Hayward, respectively. He spent last year as visiting assistant professor at Washington and Lee University. His primary research interests are in macro/monetary economics, game theory, and models of learning. He is implementing evolutionary game theory in the examination of stock market bubbles, as well as studying optimal monetary policy when the economy is in danger of slipping into a recession.

DEPARTMENTAL TIDBITS

ECONOMICS MAJOR NAMED BONE SCHOLAR

Scott Savidan, a senior majoring in economics and finance, has been named a Robert G. Bone Scholar for the 2003-2004 academic year. This is the highest academic award granted to undergraduates by Illinois State University. Savidan has served as an undergraduate teaching assistant during the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 school years.

NON-TENURE-TRACK FACULTY MEMBER EARNS NATIONAL AWARD

Chris Mushrush, a bachelor's and master's graduate in economics, was the 2002 recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award given by the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students (NAGPS). Mushrush earned the award for his work at Illinois State University, where he held several offices, including president, and his work with the national organization as vice president and treasurer. Last year he served as the Midwest Regional Coordinator for NAGPS. In addition to teaching for the department, Mushrush is progressing toward a Ph.D. in the Department of Educational Administration and Foundations.

THANKS

We send a special thank-you to alumni who have made contributions to the Economic Department's Illinois State

University Foundation account. During ordinary times, our Foundation account allows us to engage in activities that are not funded by general revenues, such as bringing in speakers, offering awards to outstanding students, and taking advantage of unexpected opportunities to enrich the academic experience of our students. In these days of financial stress, the Foundation account is even more important, as it serves as an "insurance fund" that can be used to address small emergencies. Your gifts provide major benefits to the Economics faculty and to our students. We deeply appreciate your generosity.

RECRUITMENT SEASON SUCCESSFUL

We are pleased to announce Karie Barbour will be joining the Faculty this coming fall semester. Barbour will receive her Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee in May. We will tell you more about Karie in our next newsletter.

NEXT ISSUE

We would like to share news and accomplishments of alumni in our next newsletter. We also will include any words of congratulations you would like to offer Tony O. on his retirement. Send information to jepayne@ilstu.edu with "Alumni News" in the subject line.

Department of Economics Web page: www.econ.ilstu.edu



TONY O. RETIRING MAY 04

Professor Tony Ostrosky joined the department in August 1973, having just received his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. In his career at Illinois State University he has virtually taught the course catalog, but was best known for his large sections of "Principles of Economics", "Mathematical Economics", "Managerial Economics", and "Demographic Economics". His excellence in the classroom was recognized when he received the Outstanding University Teacher Award. Ostrosky has always been interested in the effectiveness of teaching strategies to enhance student learning. His interest in economic education is evident by his published research in the area. Not only the department, but the entire University will miss his energetic approach to teaching and his genuine concern for student learning.