Message from the Director, Jill J. McCluskey

Greetings from the School of Economic Sciences at Washington State University! This has been a challenging but exciting and productive year for the School. The pandemic persisted and our spring 2021 semester was entirely online. We appreciate the resilience of our students, faculty and staff in this difficult situation.

Still, there are many accomplishments to celebrate this year. We hired Dr. Xin Liu as an Assistant Professor with a focus on econometrics. She is a deeply knowledgeable econometrician whose skills will be highly valued.

Our new Master of Applied Economics degree was approved by the WSU Regents. This degree has more of a professional emphasis and can be completed in one year. It includes new courses in big data and machine learning for economists. We are accepting applications for our first class to start in Fall 2022.

We also initiated a mentorship program between current students and alumni. This was spearheaded by Hayley Hohman (B.S. '16). If you are interested in participating in the future, please contact Jaimie Dahl (jaimie@wsu.edu).

Many of our amazing students graduated this past year. We were unable to hold an in-person graduation. Instead, we held an outdoor barbeque for graduate students to celebrate their accomplishments.

We are currently searching for a tenure-track assistant professor in global health economics and a career-track faculty member with a focus on instruction.

In the October homecoming game, WSU defeated Oregon State University. For homecoming, we held the Annual School of Economic Sciences colloquium along with a virtual social hour and auction. The 2022 homecoming event is planned to be in person. I hope that each of you can attend.

Through your generous gifts, we were able to award scholarships and fellowships to several SES students. We very much appreciate all the assistance we receive. Your contributions support our students’ success and the many successes of the entire School. There are many ways to contribute and support SES, so please let us know if you would like to be involved in a larger role. If you are in Pullman, please come by and visit us in Hulbert Hall—we would love to catch up with you!

All of us in SES wish you and yours a happy and healthy Holiday Season and a peaceful, prosperous New Year.

GO COUGS!

Jill J. McCluskey
Xin Liu, New Assistant Professor in Econometrics

Dr. Xin Liu received her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Missouri in 2021. Her research focuses on identifying and estimating the causal effects on conditional percentiles of an outcome (e.g., wage) instead of just the effect on the mean. One of her dissertation research papers, combined with others’ work, produced a publication in Journal of Econometrics. This year, she is teaching undergraduate introductory econometrics and master’s level mathematical economics and she will teach a PhD field course in Econometrics next year. “I’m thrilled to join the SES family. I love both doing research in econometric methods and working with students in classes or on research projects, since I’m still learning a lot about each. I’m excited to move from Columbia MO to Pullman. I really enjoy the college-town lifestyle and I’m excited to explore the local communities and parks in Pullman when I’m not working.”

Salvador Ortigueira Named Chair of SES Graduate Studies

SES is pleased to welcome Salvador Ortigueira in this new role. The Graduate Studies Chair works with the Graduate Studies Committee to run the Master’s and Ph.D. programs. Its activities include admissions, the Students Seminar Series, evaluation of candidacies for the Teaching and Research Awards, and providing support to graduate students. Special gratitude to Dr. Felix Muñoz-García for his previous service in this capacity!

Jill McCluskey named Editor of the American Journal of Agricultural Economics (AJAE)

McCluskey is the newest editor of the AJAE, which is published by the Agricultural & Applied Economic Association (AAEA), the journal is a forum for scholarly work on the economics of agriculture and food, natural resources and the environment, and rural and community development throughout the world.

She is the AJAE’s first editor from WSU. “As editor, I will look for innovative, high-quality scholarship that generates broad interest and has impacts on thinking, research, and policy,” McCluskey said. Considered the top journal in its field internationally, AJAE receives more than 700 submissions per year, accepting roughly 10 percent. “I hope to encourage big ideas with major impacts on some of the major challenges of our times.”

McCluskey Gave Fellow’s Address at the Agricultural & Applied Economics Assoc. (AAEA) Annual Meeting

The Fellow’s Address is an annual plenary lecture at the AAEA national conference in Austin, TX. The invited speaker must be an AAEA Fellow to be eligible. McCluskey’s Fellow’s Address was entitled, “Nutrition Access, Income, and Race.” She presented research based on her work with Modhrurima Dey Amin (Ph.D. 2020), Syed Badruddoza (Ph.D. 2020), and Brandon Ware (Ph.D. 2014).
Ana Espinola-Arredondo was named Co-Editor of Environmental and Resource Economics

Congratulations to SES Associate Director Ana Espinola-Arredondo who was named Co-Editor of the Environmental and Resource Journal, the official journal of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists.

Mark Gibson won the R.M. Wade Teaching Excellence award

Gibson is Associate Professor (career track) and the Chair of Undergraduate Studies in SES. He also oversees the school’s Global Campus degree in Business Economics and advises graduate student instructors teaching both on campus and online. Born and raised in the Twin Cities area, he earned his B.S. and PhD degrees in economics from the University of Minnesota. Mark has been teaching at WSU since 2007. Mark has taught a wide range of courses from introductory undergraduate to doctoral field courses with primary interests in macroeconomics and international trade and finance. Mark’s main goal is for students to appreciate how economic analysis can be used to understand the world around them. Dr. Gibson’s research primarily focuses on modeling the effects of international trade and industrial policies when there are heterogeneous firms. Mark has advised 16 undergraduate independent study students, has served as advisor or evaluator for nine Honors Theses, advised Ignite students, and has advised or served on the committees of over 25 MS and PhD students. One of his nominators stated, “I don’t feel like I could praise Mark enough for his efforts in being the best teacher he can be. He is an outstanding teacher that prioritizes student achievement. His service goes above and beyond and demonstrates his dedication to student success by emphasizing active learning and engaging students both inside and outside of the classroom through the Econ Club and other SES functions.”

Ana Espinola-Arredondo and Felix Muñoz-García published the textbook Common Pool Resources: Strategic Behavior, Inefficiencies, and Incomplete Information

The textbook uses a game-theory approach to help readers understand the mathematical representation of how to find equilibrium behavior in CPRs, how to identify the socially optimal appropriation, and how to measure the inefficiencies that arise. Algebra and calculus steps are clearly explained, so students can more easily reproduce the analysis and apply it in their own research. The book also summarizes experimental studies that tested theoretical results in controlled environments, introducing readers to a literature that has expanded over the last decades, and provides references for further reading.

Pat Kuzyk Retiring

After teaching economics for 30 years with WSU, Pat Kuzyk is retiring at the end of the fall semester 2021. She started in the department of economics in 1991 when her husband Mark joined the physics faculty. Pat is an award-winning instructor, whose honors courses were especially loved by students. Pat will stay in Pullman. She is looking forward to spending time with her grandchildren Sawyer, Forest, and Skyla.
Joe Cook’s team awarded grant to conduct research on stormwater and water quality

Joe Cook was recently awarded a $270K grant from the Stormwater Action Monitoring program, a group of cities and counties in western Washington that jointly fund stormwater research. His team, which includes SES PhD student Wisnu Sugiarto, will examine the effectiveness of “social marketing” programs to change behavior related to stormwater or water quality such as natural yard care, picking up pet waste, or installing raingardens. Because jurisdictions in western Washington are now required under the Clean Water Act to implement and evaluate these programs, the grant will also support developing guidance for best practices and a nationwide website that will house published studies and a decision support tool. Other team members include Ani Jayakaran and Laurie Larson-Pugh at WSU Puyallup, and Aimee Navickis-Brasch of Osborn Consulting.

Yoder’s Water Research and Capacity Building

Jon Yoder, Distinguished Professor for Sustainable Development, is engaged in quite a bit of water research and capacity building. He is the WSU Lead in a USAID-funded effort to develop the Egyptian Center of Excellence for Water Research. In particular, he leads the effort to develop an effective governance and administrative structure for the Center that can provide a foundation for sustained productivity in the Egyptian context. He brings to this effort over eight years’ experience as the Director of the State of State of Washington Water Research Center, as a member of the Board of Directors of the National Institutes for Water Resources, as Past President of the Universities Council on Water Resources, and over a decade of economics research in Africa.

Marsh is a member of the Global Burden of Animal Disease Program Project

Tom’s participation in the Global Burden of Animal Diseases (GBAD) project focuses on estimating the economic impact of animal diseases. The end goal is to improve resource prioritization and provide resilient incomes to people and organizations involved in livestock food systems in developing countries. The Economic component of GBAD is three-fold: (i) identify and initiate an information platform—in collaboration with the Informatics Theme—using both private and public data, (ii) identify a modelling framework and consistent protocols to established standardized money metrics over time and space; and (iii) estimate the wider economic impacts for selected case/pilot studies and selected regions/countries. The wider economic impacts theme group will take as inputs in the assessment the production loss information and expenditure data, trade embargo outcomes, as well as other statistics and information generated by the project to generate money metric measure of the animal disease events. This project is led by Dr. Jonathan Rushton (University of Liverpool) and received funding of $7M from the Gates Foundation—World Organization for Animal Health.
Marsh participates on the USDA-funded project Enhancing Supply Chain Sustainability and Global Competitiveness for Pacific Northwest Hops

The project’s goal is to enhance the supply chain stability, market access, and global competitiveness of the Pacific Northwest (PNW) hop industry, which grows most of the hops produced in the U.S. (99%) and the World (39%). Within the U.S.–PNW hop industry there is a critical need to overcome non-tariff trade barriers in vital export markets and stabilize production factors along the supply chain. The project includes the long-term goal of using hop breeding and genetics to promote hop varieties that are resistant to biotic and abiotic stressors while maintaining/enhancing superior brewing quality. In the short- and medium-term the project aims to: (i) achieve cost minimization by identifying characteristics of production systems that consistently produce high quality crops, (ii) increase export market access by applying alternative pest management approaches to overcome MRL (minimal residual level) barriers, and (iii) achieve increased efficiency and sustainability by completing a life-cycle assessment and identify the factors of the supply chain that determine the environmental footprint of the industry. The project integrates social and economic analyses along with biological science activities to achieve a truly systems-based approach to hop production and marketing for a more profitable, sustainable, and resilient industry. This project is funded by the USDA-NIFA-Specialty Crop Research Initiative Program. The lead PI is Dr. Douglas Walsh of WSU and the total award is $4.8 million.

Karina Gallardo presented to the Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources of the National Academies of Sciences

The public webinar title was “Labor and Automation Effects on Social Sustainability and Resilience in U.S. Agriculture” and took place online June 29, 2021. The goal was to examine the complex issues at the intersection of labor and automation in U.S. agriculture. The series aim was to engage scholars and worker representatives with farmers, scientists, engineers, and other supply chain actors to assess existing research and identify knowledge gaps. Karina Gallardo presented “Trends, Drivers, and Experiences of Specialty Crop Producers in the Pursuit and Adoption of Mechanization and Automation in the Field.” The presentation concluded that contrary to the belief that agriculture automation will displace workers, automation will create better paying jobs requiring different sets of skills. Workers will have the opportunity to move up in the value chain with new job tasks such as managing fleets of robots or interpreting data rather than manual tasks such as spraying chemicals or detaching fruits from branches. For this to happen, training new and existing workers is essential to mitigate any possible risk for worker displacement. Automation technologies will lead to more detailed and higher quality information for decision making in specialty crops operations - with a very needed consideration of wider societal benefits such as environmental impacts.

Karina Gallardo and Suzette Galinato are team members in the USDA-funded grant project “A Systems-Based Approach to Enhance Quality, Safety, and Shelf Life of Organic Tree Fruit in the Pacific Northwest”

The quickly expanding Washington organic industry is possible due to the dry climate that keeps disease pressure low and enhances fruit quality. However, postharvest stakeholders lack effective tactics to maintain quality, safety, and mitigate postharvest decays which combined can result in considerable annual crop loss. Karina Gallardo teams with Suzette Galinato to assess the economic feasibility of various interdisciplinary approaches that bridge pre- and post-harvest practices that aim to limit fruit infections by postharvest and storage pathogens and define adequate harvest windows for enhanced fruit quality. The economic assessment will contribute to the outreach program to ensure effective technology transfer to both large and underrepresented organic stakeholders. The long-term goal is to support resilience of a quickly expanding industry to meet the increasing consumer demand for safe and high-quality produce. The project is led by Dr. Achour Amiri. The funding agency is the U.S. Department of Agriculture, NIFA, Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI).
Jeff Luckstead leads the USDA-funded grant project “Dairy Policies, Economies of Scale, and the Changing Structure of the U.S. Dairy Industry”

Many small and medium dairy farms have struggled to cope with the consistent financial losses arising from structural changes due to low milk prices, high feed costs, and demand fluctuations for milk products. Therefore, given the financial stress, foreclosures, and major shifts in dairy policies, the goal of this project is to comprehensively examine the impacts of the Farm Bill and insurance programs on the dairy industry at both a national and regional level using a wide range of econometric and counterfactual simulation techniques. Specifically, this project will examine the impact of dairy policies, such as Dairy Margin Coverage (which insures dairy farmers against downside market-margin risk) and the Dairy Revenue Protection insurance policy (which insures dairy farmers against downside revenue risk) on the profitability of small and medium dairies, structural transformation toward larger farms, and economies of scale in the dairy industry. The Co-PI is Stephen Devadoss of Texas Tech University, and the funding agency is the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agricultural, Agricultural and Food Research Initiative.

Shanthi Manian’s Research on Assertive Language was published in the journal Management Science

A person’s success often depends on whether others believe what they say, but growing evidence suggests that people are less likely to believe statements made by women rather than men. SES Assistant Professor Shanthi Manian studied whether assertive language is a mechanism for this gender gap. If women are punished for assertive language, then they have less access to an effective tool for increasing their credibility. Dr. Manian used an experiment to study whether assertive language affects subjects’ willingness to follow advice, whether subjects discriminate based on advisor gender, and whether subjects respond differently to assertive language from male versus female advisors. In the experiment, subjects were matched to either a male or female advisor and randomly assigned to different types of pre-scripted, increasingly assertive communication from the advisor. The subjects interacted with their advisors through an online interface, and the male and female advisor were identical except for gender. The study concluded that assertive language significantly increased advice following, but we found no evidence for gender discrimination. Although subjects saw assertive language as more “masculine,” it was effective for both male and female advisors. However, female subjects were still less likely to choose the most assertive language. The findings suggest that using more assertive language could be an effective strategy for women to increase their influence and credibility in the labor market.

Ben Cowan and Joshua Tibbitts’ research on opioids addiction featured in the Washington Post

SES Associate Professor Ben Cowan and Joshua Tibbitts (PhD ’21) who is Assistant Professor at Brigham Young University, Idaho, completed a study on the unintended negative effects—increase in the number of veteran suicides—of the Opioid Safety Initiative (OSI) launched in 2013 by the Department of Veteran Affairs to decrease the number of prescriptions of opioids to veterans. Their study found that the first year of reduced opioid prescriptions caused by the OSI, the rural veteran suicide rate rose markedly relative to other groups. The estimate an increase of 12 suicides per 100,000 rural veterans from 2013 to 2018. This was a jump of more than one-third in the average rural veteran suicide rate before the program’s introduction. For urban veterans the increase was of 5 suicides per 100,000 urban veterans. Findings suggest that policies that swiftly and significantly curtail opioid prescriptions should be approached with great caution!
**Transportation Research Group News**

The Transportation Research Group (TRG) has recently completed several research projects and the corresponding results are making their way into journal articles. A highlight is **Jia Yan**’s article in the *Journal of Econometrics* (May 2021) entitled “Vehicle Size Choice and Automobile Externalities: A Dynamic Analysis.”

Three USDA research projects are nearing completion, each focused on different transportation and supply-chain issues. These include:

1. Identifying Geographic Opportunities for Truck-Rail Modal Shifts for Ag. Shipments
2. Pacific Northwest Forest Transportation Efficiency Modeling

The TRG has also initiated several new research projects, including one study funded by the Brookings Institute, “Revitalizing a Nation: Competition and Innovation in the U.S. Transportation System”, led by Professor Jia Yan and another study funded by ERS, USDA, “Economic Effects of the Pandemic on Container Agriculture Exports” led by **Eric Jessup**.

**IMPACT Center News**

**Dr. Randy Fortenbery** and **Dr. Karina Gallardo** are co-Directors of the IMPACT Center, which has internationally recognized expertise in applied economic modeling, often works with multidisciplinary teams, and engages and collaborates with industry stakeholder groups. Over the past year, the IMPACT Center has completed projects related to cannabis, beef, and wheat. With BREXIT enacted and the UK no longer fitting under EU trade policy, the British have been negotiating new trade agreements. Members of the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development office have had conversations with IMPACT regarding the particulars and peculiarities of Washington Agriculture. Unfortunately, a large proposal focused on nuclear energy fell through, but a project in Grant County assessing the potential gains to agricultural output from expanded broadband availability looks to be moving forward. IMPACT published the 2021 edition of our annual report *Washington Agribusiness: Status and Outlook* and presented to five different legislative committees regarding the outlook of agriculture generally as well as the expectations for specific crop and animal markets. In addition, several presentations were made to various agricultural groups and community leaders, as well as press coverage on IMPACT work by NPR, Reuters, Capitol Press and several regional news outlets. The special focus of our 2022 Status and Outlook will likely address animal health and pulses. The IMPACT Center’s current and archived research may be accessed at [ses.wsu.edu/impact-center](http://ses.wsu.edu/impact-center).
Chelsea Pardini won the Harriett B. Rigas Outstanding Woman in Doctoral Studies Award, a WSU-wide Award

Congratulations to Chelsea Pardini, who was awarded the Harriett B. Rigas Outstanding Woman in Doctoral Studies Award. This award honors Dr. Harriett B. Rigas (1934–1989), an internationally renowned electrical engineer, WSU faculty member and chair, and strong advocate of advancement for women. “I am deeply honored to be associated with Dr. Rigas and the other inspiring women who have received this award,” Pardini said. “I hope that my future work is worthy of such recognition. For the brilliant and steadfast women at WSU, for their advocacy and work—thank you.” Chelsea studied economics, focusing on the fields of environmental and natural resource economics and agricultural economics. She is interested in environmental justice, the economics of settler colonialism, and health economics. Through her studies, Pardini works to support Indigenous peoples, women, and the environment. She is currently working as Economics Fellow for the New York University School of Law Institute for Policy Integrity.

*Continues*
## Graduate Student News

### Graduate Placement for Academic Year 2020–2021

This year, 13 of our PhD graduates were placed in various universities, private companies, and federal agencies.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>DISSERTATION/ADVISOR</th>
<th>PLACEMENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Ambrose</td>
<td>Three Essays on the Impacts of Recreational Marijuana Legalization/B. Cowan</td>
<td>Post-doctoral researcher, Murphy Institute, Tulane University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yenjae Chang</td>
<td>Three Essays on Market Power and Consumer Welfare/Jia Yan</td>
<td>Associate Research Fellow, Korea Energy Economics Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>Afrin Islam</td>
<td>Essays on Food Choices and Health Outcomes/J. McCluskey</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Instruction, Department of Economics, Temple University, Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jikhan Jeong</td>
<td>Business Economics of Artificial Intelligence and Big Data/A. Love</td>
<td>Visiting Assistant Professor of Data Science and Business Analytics, Florida Polytechnic University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samantha Johnson</td>
<td>Cause and Effect of Marketing Order Terminations/J. McCluskey and M. Brady</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Oklahoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Kappes</td>
<td>The Economics of Livestock Health, Disease, and Production/T. Marsh and S. Neibergs</td>
<td>Post-doctoral Researcher, Global Health Group, Washington State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashutosh Kumar</td>
<td>Three Essays in Health and Environmental Economics/B. Cowan</td>
<td>Post-doctoral researcher, Center for Disease Control and Prevention</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jugal Marfatia</td>
<td>Application of Machine Learning in Health Economics/J. McCluskey and M. Brady</td>
<td>Data Scientist, Facebook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chelsea Pardini</td>
<td>Three Applications of Game Theory to Environmental and Conflict Economics/A. Espinola-Arredondo</td>
<td>Post-doctoral Researcher, New York University, Institute for Policy Integrity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholas Potter</td>
<td>Essays in Climate and Resource Economics/M. Brady</td>
<td>Economist, USDA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mursaleen Shiraj</td>
<td>Applications of Causal Inference and Policy Analysis/R. Mittelhammer, J. McCluskey</td>
<td>Assistant Director-Research Moody’s Analytics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Tibbitts</td>
<td>The Economics of Pain/J. McCluskey and R. Mittelhammer</td>
<td>Assistant Professor, Brigham Young University, Idaho</td>
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### Master of Science Graduates 2020–2021

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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<tr>
<td>Vanessa De Oliveira</td>
<td>Wesley Blundell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Eisenbarth</td>
<td>Bidisha Mandal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miles Love (2020)</td>
<td>Felix Munoz-Garcia</td>
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Undergraduate Student News

SES undergraduate students received two CAHNRS-wide awards

Congratulations to Michelle Sikora who won the Family and Consumer Scientist of the Year Award. Michelle is a senior at WSU from San Diego and is pursuing a degree in Economics Policy and Law and minoring in Political Science. Michelle is President of the Pre-Law Society, a CAHNRS ambassador, a TA for the Human Development Department and has participated in several projects. Besides English, she speaks fluent Russian. She hopes to pursue a career as an attorney as well as become a professor in legal education.

Congratulations to Juliana LeClair, who won the Aggie of the Year Award. Juliana is a senior Honors student pursuing a degree in Agricultural and Food Business Economics with minors in Animal Science and Spanish. She is the president of the Honors Student Advisory Council, the Honors Mentor Program Chair, and a member of the CAHNRS Ambassador. Le Clair, who is from Mt. Vernon, WA, is looking forward to starting a career in June with Northwest Farm Credit Services as a Credit Officer Trainee.

Alumni News

Christopher Clarke Wins 2021 Media and Moving Images Teaching Award

Christopher Clarke (PhD, 2020) is an Instructional Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Houston. The Media and Moving Images (MMI) teaching award recognizes innovative use of media-related teaching adaptations to the teaching challenges posed by this year's shift to remote online, HyFlex and socially distanced learning. Dr. Clarke has a history of pursuing innovative teaching methods. In the Fall of 2019, he moved a large face-to-face Principles of Economics course to an asynchronous online format. His strategy to create video lectures involved employing high energy, complementary visual support coupled with fast-paced video editing. In the jury's own words: "bold foray into the sphere of social media captured the attention of 550 students in his Principles Macroeconomics Class. His TikTok channel is filled with videos in which he tackles such topics as How Does the EITC work? Marx’s Influence on Western Economics, Why is Lumber So Expensive? Each week, he presented three 20-minute videos that could be binge-watched in this asynchronous course. Plus, he held twice-weekly livestreams to address current events and student's questions. Congratulations Professor Clarke."
Alumni News

Modhurima Dey Amin (Ph.D. 2020) and Syed Badruddoza (Ph.D. 2020) were married in October 2021 in Lubbock, TX

The couple are both Tenure-Track Assistant Professors at Texas Tech University. SES Alumni who attended the wedding included Wai Yan Siu (MS 2016), Moses Luri (PhD ’20), and Chris Ambrose (PhD ’21). Congratulations to Modhurima and Syed!

Modhurima Dey Amin & Syed Badruddoza

Brady Horn (Ph.D. 2008) won the Georgescu-Roegen Prize

Horn is an Associate Professor and Associate Department Chair in the Department of Economics at the University of New Mexico. The Georgescu-Roegen Prize is awarded each year by the Southern Economic Association to the authors of the best academic article published in the Southern Economic Journal. Horn’s article “Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs, Opioid Abuse, and Crime” (co-authored with Dhaval Dave and Monica Deza) was selected as the winner for 2021.

Brady Horn
Alumni speakers at SES

Tim Graciano, Head of Data Science at Convoy, Inc.

Tim (PhD 2008) is Head of Data Science at Convoy, Inc which is a very new and innovative logistics company, headquartered in Seattle, WA. Their innovation is entirely related to how they leverage data science and information to dramatically improve logistical efficiency. They utilize real-time data of freight movements to mitigate potential disruptions such as traffic congestion or closures, thereby ensuring on-time delivery of products. Tim’s presentation to the EconS 351 class described the type of employees that excel in that environment and how statistical/data science skills are in high demand now for many companies.

Laci and Tim Graciano

Don Carrell, CEO, Kwik Lok Corporation

Don Carrell (BS ’89) lives in Yakima, WA and is CEO of the global plastics manufacturing company, Kwik Loc. He spoke to SES students about the career opportunities at his firm and how technology innovation is reshaping the skills needed to excel in the workplace. Thank you for interacting with our students!

Don Carrell

Sanatan Shreay (Ph.D. 2009) speaks at Homecoming career colloquium

Dr. Shreay is Executive Director and Head, Value Evidence at TG Therapeutics. He spoke to current SES students about his experience and career opportunities in health economics and analytics. Shreay has more than a decade of specialized experience in the health care industry supporting patient access to transformative therapies. He has extensive experience working on US and Global product launches in multiple disease areas. His emphasis is on clinical trial design. Thank you Sanatan for interacting with our students!

Sanatan Shreay

Mike Barnes, Head of Data Science and Analytics for Health Strategic Initiatives at Apple, visits SES

Mike Barnes (PhD, 2008) leads a team that works on Apple Watch features and apps designed to help people be healthier. His team works with partners in industry and government. Mike has had extensive private sector experience working at The Hartford, Microsoft, and Netflix before joining Apple. He spoke to a large group of PhD and Masters students about how his degree prepared him for his career, what skills are most important for economists who want to work in the tech industry, and what his job is like. It was a real treat to have Mike visit SES and to see another one of our former students doing noteworthy work with their degree.

Mike Barnes
Obituary: Herb Hinman

Herbert Robbins Hinman, Professor Emeritus & Extension Economist in Agricultural Economics at Washington State University, died peacefully at home Wednesday, Aug. 4, 2021. Herb received his B.S. (1965) and M.A. (1966) in Agricultural Economics from Washington State University. He received his Ph.D. (1969) in Agricultural Economics from Penn State University. He was employed by USDA (1969-1980), stationed at both Cornell University and Washington D.C., and then spending five years in Ghana, West Africa, working with the agricultural extension officers. Receiving an invitation to join the WSU faculty in 1980, Herb subsequently spent 28 years as professor before medical issues forced a retirement at age 65. Herb led the Farm and Ranch Management extension program until he retired in 2008. His research focused on production and finance, and environmental and resource economics. He prepared or supervised the production of many of the enterprise budgets for farm management. Herb died four days prior to the 32nd anniversary of his familial kidney transplant in 1989. His new kidney worked until the end, but the immunosuppressive agents required to prevent rejection took a toll on his body over the ensuing 30-plus years. Known for humorous poems, loving pranks and his persistence in whatever challenges came his way, he was definitely “a character like none other!” and “will be sorely missed by all.”
SES Friends Development Committee

The SES Friends Development Committee supports the programs of the School of Economic Sciences by leading fundraising efforts for privately donated endowments and development funds. The goal for this year is to raise $125,000 for the SES Excellence Fund and for scholarships and fellowships.

SES Friends Development Committee Members

Alexander Smith, Chair, Tableau, ’13 B.S. Economic Sciences
Tristan Hanon, University of California, Chair elect, ’14 BS Economic Sciences
Don Carrell, Kwik Lok Corporation, ’89 B.S. Agricultural Economics
Hayley Hohman, Nordstrom, ’16 B.S. Economic Sciences
Monte Marti, Snohomish Conservation District (retired), ’80 BS, ’82 MA Agricultural Economics
Michael McCullough, California Polytechnic State University, ’08 PhD Economics
Madison Moore, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, ’16 BS Economics
Bruce Prenguber, Globalwise Inc., ’73 B.S. Agricultural Economics
Michael Stolp, NW Farm Credit Services, ’96 B.S. Agricultural Economics
Pitchayaporn (Peach) Tantihkarnchana, Pennsylvania State University, ’16 Ph.D. Economics
Jadrian Wooten, Pennsylvania State University, ’14 Ph.D. Economics
Robert Thayer, ’76 M.A., Agricultural Economics
Mark Brandon, ’76 B.S. Agricultural Economics
Lindsay Schilperoort, ’19 B.S. Economics

How can you most help the School of Economic Sciences through your gift? Create your own scholarship—It’s easy! Or contribute to:

The SES Friends Development Committee has set scholarships and fellowships as its highest fundraising priority. Why? Graduate tuition now costs $11,722 and total student costs approach $29,000 per academic year.

If you wish to support our many activities through a financial contribution, please use this link: go.wsu.edu/supportSES or mail your check to the address on the front cover.