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### *Economics at OU: Be in Demand*

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## Report From the Chair

*Gary A. Hoover, Department of Economics*

Welcome to our latest installation of the OU Department of Economics Newsletter. On our website (<http://ou.edu/cas/economics/>), you can find old editions of this newsletter to help you stay informed about the happenings in the department.

I want to share with you some of the exciting news going on around the department. The most obvious to anyone walking the halls is our amazing growth. We continue to be the fastest growing major in the college. This growth is being fueled by great teaching from an energetic faculty and some simply amazing ambassadors from our Econ Club.



Speaking of the Econ Club, they held an amazing event last fall when they invited an alumna of this program, Jill Castilla, back to be the featured speaker at a packed room. Both the deans of the Price College of Business and the College of Arts and Sciences were in attendance. This event was organized and financed completely by the Econ Club. I cannot express enough how proud I am of these students.

In the fall of 2017, we offered a new course on the “Economics of Education.” It was met with tremendous demand from students all over campus and especially from students in the Jeannine Rainbolt College of Education. It is so popular that we will be offering it again this spring. The instructor, Dr. Tyler Ransom, has just arrived on campus and has already made a name for himself with this course.

The department was able to hire a new academic adviser, Ms. Corey Quiett. She has been a great addition and is helping to manage our growth and to ensure that students are on track to graduate in a timely fashion. That is no small task given our size and complexity.

In addition, the department received a \$25,000 gift to begin helping our deserving undergraduate economics majors with the Joe W. Shary Endowed Scholarship in Economics. In a day of increasing financial pressures put upon institutions, such as ours, it is so gratifying to see alumni like you stepping in to help. It is noted and appreciated.

We still have our T-shirt challenge going on. Contact the economics department with a small gift so that we can send you one of our Econ Club designed shirts. Take it with you as you travel, and snap a photo so that we can see how many exciting locations our graduates are finding themselves.

Also, Dr. William Clark retired in the fall. I cannot thank you all enough for your support and donations that allowed us to offer the William M. Clark Endowed Scholarship to a bright young major. At our annual Fall Open House, we presented this scholarship along with the Alexander Holmes Scholarship. It was a real treat. Keep it up.

If you're ever in Norman, please stop by to visit. You really have to see with your own eyes how exciting things are.

- Gary “Hoov” Hoover

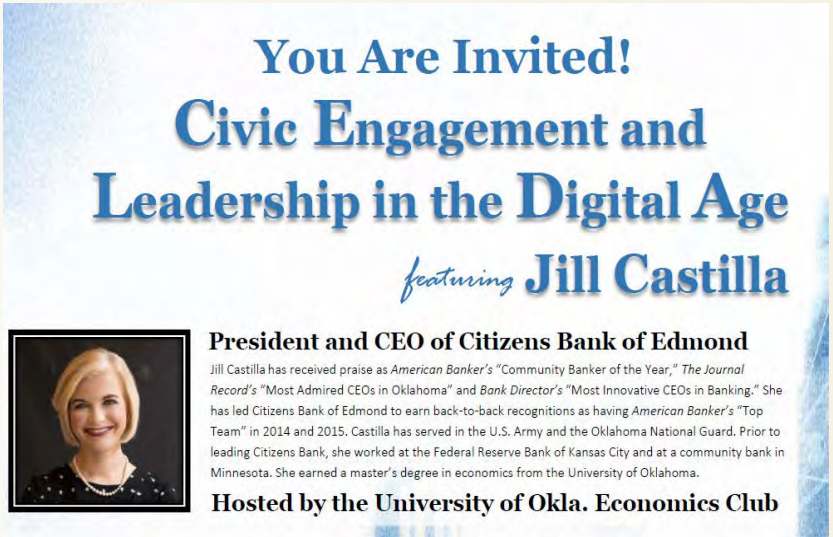
## Economics Club Events

### Economics Club Hosts Special Program

On September 20, the OU Econ club hosted a special program featuring speaker Jill Castilla, President and CEO of Citizens Bank of Edmond. The event was attended by about 40 people and took place in Oklahoma Memorial Union.

Following remarks by Dr. Daniel Pullin, dean of the Price College of Business, Dr. David Wrobel, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Dr. Gary Hoover, chair of the Economics Department, Castilla spoke about her life story, career, and the decision-making process involved in taking over the direction of the Citizens Bank of Edmond, including a focus on engaging the community.

Econ Club President Alex McClintic explained, "The overall event was useful in helping bridge economics at OU across the College of Arts and Sciences and the Price College of Business, which was one of our goals in putting this event together."



**You Are Invited!**  
**Civic Engagement and Leadership in the Digital Age**  
*featuring* **Jill Castilla**

**President and CEO of Citizens Bank of Edmond**

Jill Castilla has received praise as *American Banker's* "Community Banker of the Year," *The Journal Record's* "Most Admired CEOs in Oklahoma" and *Bank Director's* "Most Innovative CEOs in Banking." She has led Citizens Bank of Edmond to earn back-to-back recognitions as having *American Banker's* "Top Team" in 2014 and 2015. Castilla has served in the U.S. Army and the Oklahoma National Guard. Prior to leading Citizens Bank, she worked at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and at a community bank in Minnesota. She earned a master's degree in economics from the University of Oklahoma.

**Hosted by the University of Okla. Economics Club**

*Below: Econ Club with special guest speaker Jill Castilla*



## 2017 Department News and Notables

### Fall 2017 Economics Scholarship Winners

**John Slay**  
Holmes Scholarship  
\$500



**Heather Legan**  
Holmes Scholarship  
\$500



**Matthew L. Johnson**  
Clark Scholarship  
\$500



### New Academic Counselor

**Corey Quiett** is the new undergraduate academic counselor for the Department of Economics. Originally from Tulsa, Ms. Quiett earned her bachelor's degree from Oklahoma State University and master's degree from East Central University. She previously held the position of registrar at Seminole State College. She currently resides in Seminole with her husband and two dogs.



**Jia Wang** (OU Econ PhD 2015) got a [second paper](#) from her dissertation published, and has started a tenure track assistant professor position at the University of Dayton.

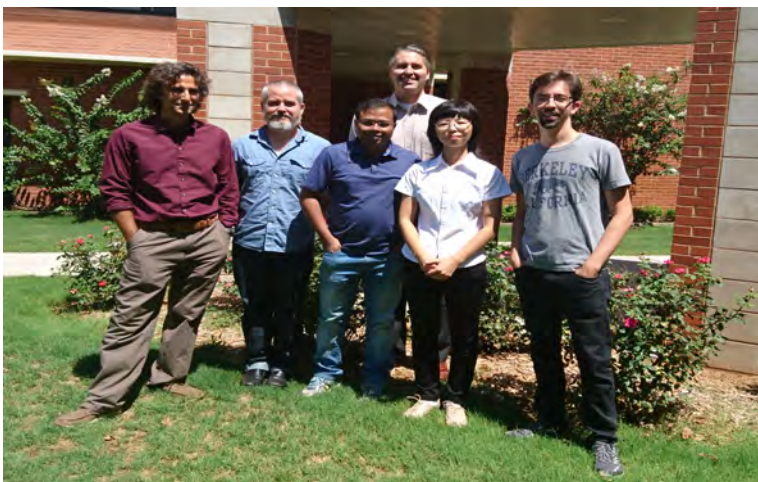


**Dr. Qihong Liu** gave a talk on merger at the Workshop on Antitrust and Industrial Organization in Shanghai during the summer of 2017. He is also guest editing special issues of the *China Economic Review* and the *Journal of Economics, Race and Policy*. His paper entitled "Competing with Complementors: An Empirical Look at Amazon.com" received a second revision request at the *Strategic Management Journal*.



"Punching out of One's Weight Class? Cross Agreement Retaliation in the WTO" by **Dr. James Hartigan** is forthcoming in the *International Review of Economics and Finance* (Elsevier). Since he became editor of the *Journal of International Trade Law and Policy* (Emerald) for the 2015 volume, annual submissions have increased by more than 50 percent. The Journal has been admitted to the Emerging Sources Citation Index of Thomson Reuters, a precursor to listing in the Social Science Citation Index. He has also become a citizen of Ireland.

### Ph.D. Student Yi Duan Finishes Dissertation Defense, Begins New Position



L to R: Dr. Firat Demir, Dr. John Harris, Dr. Pallab Ghosh, Dr. Gregory Burge, Yi Duan, Dr. Daniel Hicks

**Yi Duan** finished her dissertation defense for a doctorate in Economics from OU in August 2017. She is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor at Valparaiso University in Indiana.

"My research interests focus on economic development, applied macroeconomics and spatial analysis. I have a paper (coauthored with my adviser Dr. Firat Demir) forthcoming at *World Development*. My job market paper investigates the effects of foreign aid on economic growth in Sub-Saharan Africa at local level. The project based on GIS (geographic information systems) and spatial analysis of this paper won the third prize of graduate student poster presentation at the Geospatial Information Sciences (GIS) Day at OU in 2016.

"At OU, I have taught four independent courses and 12 discussion sections, also worked as teaching assistant for both intro-level and upper-level undergraduate courses.

"I was the winner of both Chong Liew Outstanding Graduate Student Award (in 2013) and Chong Liew Summer Research Award (in 2016) from the Department of Economics at OU. I was also a Bullard graduate fellow (in 2016) of the Graduate School at OU."

## 2017 Department News and Notables

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In August 2017, **Dr. Tyler Ransom** was appointed as a research affiliate at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA) in Bonn, Germany. IZA is a research network of about 1,500 scholars who conduct empirical studies in the fields of labor economics, public economics, urban economics, political economy, and the economics of education. The institute's objective is to use its research to better inform political decision-making.

**Dr. Saleh S. Tabrizy** has a [forthcoming paper](#) in the *International Review of Applied Economics* titled "Is 'No News' Really 'Good News'? Country Visibility and the Location Choice in Foreign Direct Investment." This paper is coauthored by Laurel Adams and Rebecca Neumann.

**Dr. Gregory Burge** [coauthored an article](#) that was presented by The Conversation, titled "Want to Fix America's Infrastructure? Build in the Places that Need Help the Most."



**Dr. Georgia Kosmopoulou** is serving as the Associate Dean for Research and liaison to the Natural Sciences and Mathematics in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Her recent NSF-funded research (Award \$76,141), used to support a graduate student in Economics, focuses on strategic network formation among firms who repeatedly interact in a competitive setting and subcontract out part of their business. Her focus is on firms competing for contracts from the Department of Transportation, and studies the impact of networks on the probability of small businesses winning contracts, as well as the effects of networks on firm survival.

Her recent research on subcontracting and the survival of firms has been published in the *Journal of Industrial Organization* (Reference: D. De Silva, G. Kosmopoulou and C. Lamarche, "Subcontracting and the Survival of Plants in the Road Construction Industry: A Panel Quantile Regression Analysis," *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 137, 2017, p. 113-131).

### OU ECONOMICS FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: WILLIAM CLARK

After more than 40 years of dedicated service to the University of Oklahoma and the Department of Economics, Dr. William Clark retired at the end of 2017 and stepped into his new role as professor emeritus. Clark began his academic career in OU's Department of Economics, where he had earned a Bachelor's Degree in 1971 and a Master's Degree in 1973. He went on to earn a doctorate in Economics from the University of Virginia. In 1977, he returned to OU as a member of the economics department faculty. He has been a valuable colleague ever since.

Considered a leading expert in the areas of economic history and forensic economics, Dr. Clark's research was published in prestigious outlets, including *The Journal of Economics*, *The Journal of Forensic Economics*, *The Journal of Economic Education*, and the *Journal of Law and Economics*.

Dr. Clark is best known for being one of OU's true "Master-Teachers." Energetically leading countless large lecture classes of principles of economics, Clark positively impacted the lives of thousands of OU students. It is not uncommon to hear Clark mentioned by students as a "favorite" or "best" instructor. He has been recognized with numerous teaching awards (too numerous to list exhaustively), including the OU Associates Award for Exceptional Teaching and the Sigma Delta Pi Award for Teaching Excellence.

The economics department is proud to honor Dr. Clark's distinguished service by establishing and awarding the William M. Clark Endowed Scholarship. Through this scholarship, Clark will continue to positively impact future generations of OU economics students.

Dr. Clark's day-to-day presence, his quick wit, and quiet dignity will be missed by his colleagues and by the students he served with distinction.



## OU Research Seminar Series

Fall 2017 - Coordinator: Dan Hicks

**Georgia Kosmopoulou, University of Oklahoma**  
*Dealer Networks in the World of Art*

**Taeyoung Doh, Fed. Reserve Bank of Kansas City**  
*Trend and Uncertainty in the Long-term Real Interest Rate: Bayesian Exponential Tilting with Survey Data*

**Olga Timoshenko, George Washington University**  
*The EMG Distribution and Trade Elasticities*

**Joan Hamory Hicks, UC Berkeley CEQA**  
*Does Mass Deworming Affect Child Nutrition? Meta-Analysis, Cost-Effectiveness, and Statistical Power*

**David Van Der Goes, University of New Mexico**  
*Determinants of Private Health Insurance Coverage Among Mexican American Women 2012-2015*

**Drew Creal, University of Chicago**  
*Multi-horizon Currency Returns and Purchasing Power Parity*

**Mark Rosenzweig, Yale University**  
*Are There Too Many Farms in the World? Labor-Market Transaction Costs, Machine Capacities and Optimal Farm Size*

**Madeline Zavodny, University of North Florida**  
*Hispanics in the U.S. Labor Market: A Tale of Three Generations*

**Thomas Jeitschko, Michigan State University**  
*Welfare Effects of Certification Under Latent Adverse Selection*

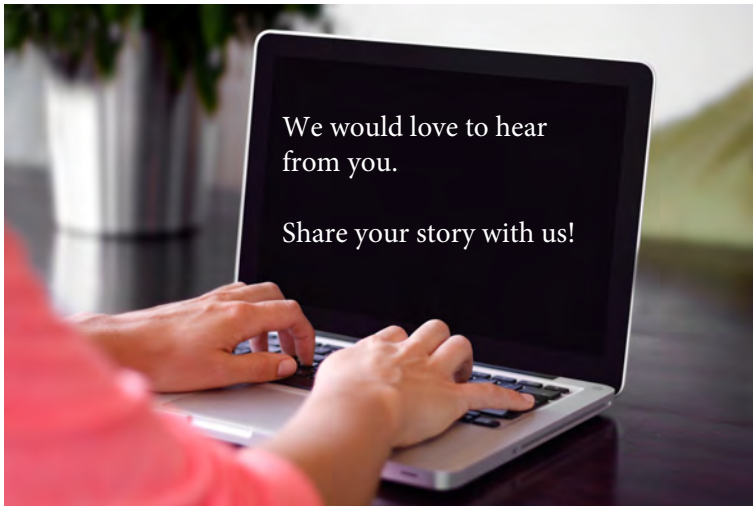
**Anthony Dukes, University of Southern California**  
*Personalized Pricing with Superior Information on Consumers' Valuations*

## OU Economics Faculty Research Interests

<p><b>Gary A. Hoover</b> Public Policy Analysis Public Finance Income Distribution Labor Economics</p>	<p><b>Gregory Burge</b> Urban Economics Public Economics</p>	<p><b>Will Clark</b> Public Finance Economic Development</p>
<p><b>Firat Demir</b> International Finance Development Econ.</p>	<p><b>Pallab Ghosh</b> Labor Economics Econometrics</p>	<p><b>Daniel Hicks</b> Economic Development Macroeconomics</p>
<p><b>Alexander Holmes</b> Human Resources Public Finance Local Econ. Development</p>	<p><b>James Hartigan</b> International Trade International Finance Industrial Organization</p>	<p><b>Jaeho Kim</b> Empirical Macro Bayesian Econometrics</p>
<p><b>Georgia Kosmopoulou</b> Microeconomic Theory Industrial Organization</p>	<p><b>Benjamin Keen</b> Monetary Economics Macroeconomics Applied Time Series Econometrics</p>	<p><b>Myongjin Kim</b> Industrial Organization Applied Econometrics</p>
<p><b>Daniel Nedelescu</b> Industrial Organization Labor Economics Behavioral Economics Experimental Economics</p>	<p><b>Qihong Liu</b> Industrial Organization Applied Micro</p>	<p><b>Aparna Mitra</b> Labor Economics Development Economics</p>
<p><b>Chunbei Wang</b> Labor Economics Entrepreneurship</p>	<p><b>Cynthia Rogers</b> Urban Economics Public Economics Public Policy</p>	<p><b>Saleh S. Tabrizy</b> International Trade International Finance Development, Growth, Innovation</p>
<p><b>Tyler Ransom</b> Labor Economics Urban Economics Economics of Education</p>	<p><b>Le Wang</b> Econometrics Labor &amp; Develop. Econ. Applied Microeconomics Chinese Economy</p>	<p><b>Ariel Weinberger</b> International Trade Macroeconomics Aggregate Productivity Fluctuations</p>

## Stay Connected to OU Economics

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Please send us updates to be included in the next newsletter. You can send news, announcements, photos and more by sending an email to [cquiett@ou.edu](mailto:cquiett@ou.edu).

You also may participate with OU Economics by mentoring a student, recommending an internship or sharing how you've used your economics degree with our student organization. Please contact Corey Quiett at [cquiett@ou.edu](mailto:cquiett@ou.edu) or (405) 325-4307.

The power of an Economics degree from the University of Oklahoma helps our graduates "Be in Demand."

Support our department's efforts to provide an outstanding foundation for success.

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