

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Honored Economics Faculty**
- **Economics Professor gets Tenure**
- **Learn what the Faculty has been working on**

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Russell Recognized by Risk and Insurance Association

The American Risk and Insurance Association presented Associate Professor Thomas Russell with the 2007 Mehr Award in recognition of the lasting impact of his research on the industry.

Professor Russell received the award for his 1997 article “Catastrophe Insurance, Capital Markets and Uninsurable Risks,” co-authored with

Dwight Jaffee (Professor of Finance and Real Estate, Walter A. Haas School of Business, U. C. Berkeley).

The Mehr Award acknowledges the *Journal of Risk and Insurance* article that has “best stood the test of time” and is given to researchers whose work of ten years prior has been influential on the industry and subsequent re-

searchers.

Professor Russell has published more than thirty articles in the *Journal of Economic Theory*, *American Economic Review*, the *Journal of International Money and Finance*, and the *Journal of Mathematical Economics*.



Father Coz Honored with Scholarship

Charles Barry Photo
SCU Archives



On Friday, January 25, 2008 *The San Jose Mercury News*

featured an article highlighting some of Professor Emeritus Richard Coz, S.J. accomplishments and his ongoing relationship with his students.

Father Coz attended his student’s parties, games, and

graduations. He gained fame for taking pictures around campus and of students’ events. His relationship with his students did not end when they left the campus. He officiated at many of their weddings and baptized their children.

To honor him, one of his students, Steve Erbst, started a scholarship in his name “The Pause for Coz Campaign.” Steve contacted some of his friends and word spread quickly. In a short time

\$150,000 was raised.

To date, more that \$230,000 has been raised. The inaugural scholarship celebration was held May 18 and two students received scholarships.

Father Coz taught at SCU from 1963 until 1995, and is now living in Los Gatos.

For more information on “The Pause for Coz”, visit www.pauseforcoz.com.

Shin granted Tenure and Promotion

The department is celebrating Dr. Dongsoo Shin.

Dr. Shin came to SCU in ’02 after receiving his PhD in Economics from the University of Washington. He also holds an MBA in Finance from USF and a B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering from Yonsei University in Korea.

Dr. Shin teaches courses in Microeconomics, Game Theory, and Industrial Organization.

Dr. Shin will be on sabbatical next year visiting the University of Mannheim in Germany, conducting research with the economics faculty in Industrial Organization.



His research interests include Agency Theory, Information Economics, and Industrial Organization.

Economics Faculty News



Michael Kevane is leading a team of Sudanese researchers, under an evaluation contract from U.S.

AID, to investigate the costs and benefits of fuel-efficient stoves used by displaced persons in Darfur in western Sudan. The conflict in Darfur has left more than two million persons homeless and dependent on large camps for food and shelter. Fuelwood is a major problem in these camps because the security situation remains very dangerous.

When camp residents- primarily women- venture out to collect fuelwood they risk assault, rape, and death. Improved stoves are promoted with international funding, but no studies have determined whether improvements in fuel efficiency in actual camp settings are as high as those achieved in the laboratory. Dr. Kevane was in Khartoum in March for a training and is now analyzing the data.



Kris Mitchener is spending his sabbatical year (2007-2008) from SCU as

Global Fellow at the International Institute at UCLA. In April, Professor Mitchener gave a talk on "Why did Countries Adopt the Gold Standard?" at Kobe University and at the Bank of Japan. Professor

Mitchener was appointed to the editorial board of the *Journal of Economic History*. In May, Dr. Mitchener presented a paper "Baring Crisis and the Largest Debt Crisis of the 19th Century" at a conference at Harvard Business School. Dr. Mitchener has written a piece describing research on trade and political arrangements on the policy website VOX. Read about it at <http://www.voxeu.com/index.php?q=node/1010>. His paper "Trade and Empire" is forthcoming in *The Economic Journal*.



Helen Popper traveled at the end of May to Hong Kong where she was a visiting Fellow at the Institute of Monetary

Research. Professor Popper presented a paper "Capital Flows, Capitalization, and Openness in Emerging East Asian Economies" (written with Alex Mandilaras from the University of Surrey) at the Global Liquidity Conference at the Santa Cruz Center for International Economics.



Dongsoo Shin was in Chicago in March presenting a paper "Granting an Exit Option to Con-

duct and Audit" at the Midwest Economic Association Conference. He also traveled to Washington, DC in May to give a talk at the International Industrial

Organization Conference about "Costly R&D and Wasteful Production." In July, Professor Shin will be in DC again to present a paper at the IEEE e-commerce Conference titled "Optimal Contracting Policy for E-Mall Services."



William Sundstrom has been serving as Associate Provost for Faculty Development

since Fall 2007. Dr. Sundstrom is a member of the National Science Foundation Economic Review Panel where he reviews NSF proposals and recommends which ones will get funded. One of Dr. Sundstrom's papers, "The Geography of Wage Discrimination in the Pre-Civil Rights South," was recently (June '07) published in *The Journal of Economic History*. The paper examines the pay gap between African-American and White workers in the South prior to the modern civil rights movement of the 1960s.



Homa Zarghamee is working on using thermal imaging to relate temperature to mood and the effect of

mood on public good and charitable giving. This work will give a psychological foundation to the results of the economic experiments she presented in her dissertation.

Our Professors are traveling and keeping up to date on their research

Social Science Research Network

Would you like more information about faculty research? Many of our faculty are taking advantage of the Social Science Research Network e-Library to post their abstracts and research papers. The main aim of the SSRN is the spread of research

in all areas of social sciences. You can download information, including forthcoming papers, at <http://www.ssrn.com>.

ERN is the Economics Research Network of the SSRN. You can learn about the latest announce-

ments and job postings in the area of economics as well as the most recent research and papers by top economists at: <http://www.ssrn.com/ern/index.html>

Graduation Party

What's even more fun than graduating? Going to Professor Belotti's graduation party of course!

On May 18, graduating seniors joined faculty and staff in the garden of Professor and Mrs. Belotti's home for the 43rd Annual Graduation Party. Everyone enjoyed great conversation and a delicious home-cooked meal. Asked if she enjoys cooking, Mrs. Belotti replied, "Oh yes!" and pointed to a button her children gave her: "What recipe? I don't need a recipe! I'm Italian!"

Among the guests were Charles and Barbara Hazel long time friends and benefactors of the department. Thanks to the Hazels, we are able to give an annual award to the top graduating senior.



Enjoying a relaxing afternoon, graduating students discuss future plans.

*Graduation
Events*

Hazel Award Winner

Stephanie Chun the 2008 Hazel Award recipient, sent us the following about her plans after graduation.

"As a student graduating with a double degree in Finance and Economics, I will be joining the San Jose based firm Novellus as a financial analyst in the Finance Rotational Program. I am very excited for the opportunity to

learn more about the different aspects of finance and to apply the theoretical concepts from my education at Santa Clara University in a real-world setting. After a few years of working in industry, I hope to go back to school for a masters degree in economics, and ultimately, I would love to join a microfinance organization."



Stephanie with Professor Kevane

Stata Research Group

Because of increased interest in applied empirical analysis, the Economics Department is planning to offer more research opportunities for undergraduate students.

The plan is to offer undergraduate students two opportunities to enable them to carry out more sophisticated tasks in their work as research assistants.

Stata Trainings

Two introductory training sessions in Stata, the standard software for statistical analysis in Economics, will be offered to students each year. A faculty

member will develop the training materials, using as a primary reference the recently published book, *A Gentle Introduction to Stata* by Alan C. Acock.

Econ 188: Economics Seminar

The department also plans to offer a research opportunity in the form of a class, Econ 188. The course will be an applied statistics research course, offering undergraduate students the opportunity to develop a research project over the course of their senior year. Students will be paired with an appropriate faculty mentor.

Timeline

Stata trainings will be offered every Fall and Winter. The first training will take place in Winter 2009. Econ 188 will be offered every Winter quarter beginning in 2009.

Participating faculty

Current users

Carolyn Evans, John Ifcher, Linda Kamas, Michael Kevane, Kris Mitchener, William Sundstrom, and Homa Zarghamee.

*Two new
opportunities
offered to
students*

Alumni Share Their News



Julio Rank, SCU alum, sent the following message:

"I graduated from SCU in 2000 as an Economics

major. After SCU, I attended Cornell University where I obtained my Masters in Community & Rural Development. I came back to my home country, El Salvador, where I have worked in local development, local economic development, participatory planning, municipal finance and other development issues both as technical project staff and as project manager for Inter-American Development Bank, World Bank and USAID funded projects. Last year I got my MSc. in Business & Enterprise from Oxford Brookes University in England. I'm happily married

and expecting my first child, a future Santa Claran for sure!!"

Julio and his wife are now the proud parents of a baby girl, Greta, born last December. Julio is Acting Regional Director for RTI International, a US research and development institute working with development issues in the region. He also founded a family entertainment company and is director to a group of companies in the tourism, real estate and sugar industries. Lastly, Julio is a fellow in a program called Central American Leadership Initiative funded by the Aspen institute and Technoserve.



Alan Barreca graduated from SCU *summa cum laude* in 2000. He attended graduate school at the University of

California, Davis.

During the summer of 2006, Alan traveled to Kenya, where he collected data for an upcoming research project. Currently, he is finishing up his dissertation and enjoying life in bike-friendly Davis.

Alan was at a conference in New York earlier in May, presenting his job-market paper "The Long-Term Economic Impact of *In Utero* and Postnatal Exposure to Malaria." He is also finishing up his dissertation "The Economic Importance of Early-Life Health Conditions" and will be an Assistant Professor at Tulane University next year (2008-2009). His research and teaching interests include: labor, health, public, and development economics.

What have you been doing since graduating from SCU? Send brief biographical information and news updates, with a photo please, for possible use in a future issue of The SCU Economist.



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