

UR ECON NEWSLETTER

February 2025



University
of Regina

The Department of Economics would like to acknowledge that the University of Regina is situated on Treaty 4 lands with a presence in Treaty 6. These are the territories of the nêhiyawak, Anihšīnāpēk, Dakota, Lakota, and Nakoda, and the homeland of the Métis/Michif Nation. Today, these lands continue to be the shared Territory of many diverse peoples from near and far.

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TENURE and PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to Dr. Jason Childs for being promoted to the rank of *Full Professor* effective July 2024.



Congratulations to Dr. Brett Dolter on receiving *tenure* and being promoted to the rank of *Associate Professor* effective July 2024.

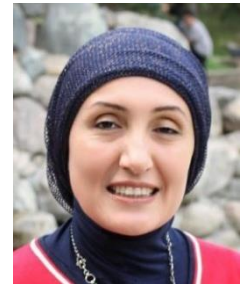


FAREWELL and WELCOME

In October, we bid farewell to Kim Henkel, our incredible Administrative Assistant. Kim's dedication, hard work, and positive spirit made a lasting impact on the department, and she will be deeply missed. Thank you, Kim, for everything you've contributed—we wish you all the best on your next adventure!



In December, the Department welcomes our new Administrative Assistant, Taghrid Elfayoumy. We're excited to have you on board and look forward to the contributions you will bring to our team. Welcome, Taghrid!



FACULTY PUBLICATIONS (2024)

1. **Jason Childs.** (2024) “The Effect of Government Debt on Economic Growth in the Canadian Provinces | Fraser Institute” The Fraser Institute.
2. **Brett Dolter.** (2024). “The Road to Net Zero Electricity in Saskatchewan.” Canadian Climate Institute, Ottawa, ON. <https://climateinstitute.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/The-Road-to-Net-Zero-Electricity-in-Saskatchewan.pdf>.
3. **Samuel Gamtessa and Harminder Guliani.** (2024). “Oil Price and Long-run Economic Growth in Oil-importing Developing Countries”. *Research in Economics*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rie.2024.101009>.
4. Michieka, N.M., Gearhart, R.S. and **Noha Razek (2024)**. “Oil Price Dynamics and Housing Demand in Oil Producing Counties in the U.S.” *Journal of Economics and Finance*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12197-024-09667-w>
5. Anthony, D., Pattison, D., Sulatisky, M., and **Noha Razek** (2023). Hydrogen Hub Potential: A Feasibility Study for the Regina-Moose Jaw Industrial Corridor. Transition Accelerator Reports Volume 6, Issue 1, Pg. 1-103. ISSN 2562-6264. Version 1. [Hydrogen Hub Potential - The Transition Accelerator](#)

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Brett Dolter's paper on “[Carbon Pricing Costs For Households And The Progressivity Of Revenue Recycling Options In Canada](#)” won the *Vanderkamp Prize* for best article published in 2023. The prize was presented at the 65th Annual meetings of the Canadian Economics Association, in Toronto in May 2024. The Vanderkamp Prize is awarded annually by *Canadian Public Policy* for the best paper in the preceding year. More information about the award can be found here: <https://www.economics.ca/cpp-vanderkamp>



Congratulations, Brett!

Dr. Harminder Guliani received the SHRF Align Grant for her project "Understanding the Influence of Urban Design on Healthcare Costs: Stakeholder Perspectives." See the details below



Principal Investigator: Dr. Harminder Guliani (University of Regina)

Co-Investigator: Katya Herman (U of R), Akram Mahani (U of R), Daniel Fuller (U of S), Tania Diener (SHA), and Kim Sare (City of Regina).

Amount: CAD 10,000

Organization: Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF)

ECON NIGHT

The department organized its first ever ECON NIGHT on April 2, 2024, showcasing departments programs and courses and engaging students with a fun-filled activity. Thanks to Dr. Omid Mirzaei and Dr. Brett Dolter for organizing a fun-filled and engaging market activity for students. Below are a few pictures from the event.



STUDENT ACHEIVEMENTS

- Our Honours student, Calum Donaldson, began the Master's program in Economics at the University of British Columbia in Fall 2024, with financial support through the CGS-M award. Congratulations, Calum! We wish you continued success and all the best in your graduate studies.
 - In Summer 2024, Umair Munir, one of our Economics students, joined the Bank of Canada's Department of Financial Stability in Ottawa as a Research Assistant. Umair graduated in Spring 2024 with a BA in Economics and Society and a minor in Computer Science.
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STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

The Department was pleased to host the following students' presentations in 2024.

Honour Thesis Defense Presenters

Presenter: Ridhi Chugh

Topic: Women Empowerment and Maternal Health Utilization In India'

Date: January 26, 2024

Presenter: Calum Donaldson

Topic: What is the impact of carbon pricing on the energy and GHG efficiency of the Canadian manufacturing industry?

Date: April 26, 2024

Presenter: Milto Mekenon

Topic: The relationship between interest rate and saving in Sub-Saharan African countries: the role of financial development.

Date: April 26, 2024

Presenter: Lisa Okudi

Topic: The Determinants of Import Demand: The role of foreign exchange constraints

Date: April 26, 2024

Economics Honours Research Fellowship Presenters

Presenter: Bradley Becher

Topic: Predicting Financial Intervention Outcomes for First Nations in Saskatchewan using Financial Ratios: A Machine Learning Approach.

Date: September 26, 2024

Presenter: Deborah Uwagboi

Topic: Air-Source Heat Pumps in Canada: Is the Transition Affordable for Each Province?

Date: September 26, 2024

FGSR's Undergraduate Research Award (UGRA) Presenter

Presenter: Vansh Bhura

Topic: Electric Vehicle Adoption in Canada

Date: September 26, 2024

Special Case Master Student in Economics

Presenter: Keegan Christ

Topic: Comparative Analysis of Cannabis Retailers in Canada: Government Versus Private

Date: September 26, 2024

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to all ECON students who received academic awards in 2024. We are so proud of your accomplishments!!

- **Economics Honours Entrance Scholarship:** Vansh Bhura, Greyson Li, Michael Adebisi, Michael Stevenson
- **Economics Honours Scholarship:** Bradley Beecher, Deborah Uwagboi, Milto Mekonen
- **Economic Honours Research Fellowship:** Bradley Beecher, Deborah Uwagboi
- **Dr. David L. Beattie Memorial Scholarship:** Caleb Gbinigie
- **Dr. Peter Woroby Memorial Scholarship in Economics:** Milto Mekonen
- **Art and Jane Hillbold Memorial Scholarship:** Devan Harrison
- **Alex Kelly Undergraduate Economics Essay Prize:** Brayden Mytopher
- **Intermediate Economics Award:** Michael Stevenson (ECON 301), Alisa Paul (ECON 302)
- **Dr. Jack Boan Medal in Economics:** Ethan Ernst
- **International Student Economics Scholarship:** Vansh Bhura, Chiemeka Offormezie
- **Economics Major Entrance Scholarship:** Callum Heerspink

FGSR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD (UGRA)

Four Econ students received the FGSR Undergraduate Research Award. See the details below:

1. Vansh Bhura: Electric Vehicle Adoption in Canada.
Supervisor: Dr. Brett Dolter
 2. Michael Adibisi: Comparison of Indigenous and non-Indigenous Census Farm Operations and Operators
Supervisor: Dr. Omid Mirzaei
 3. Milto Mekonen: Education Revenues and Expenditures in First Nations Communities in Saskatchewan
Supervisor: Dr. Omid Mirzaei
 4. Tajmia Tarin: Urban Sprawl and Healthcare Cost
Supervisor: Dr. Harminder Guliani
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UPDATE FROM UR ECONOMICS STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Over the past two semesters, our main focus has been reestablishing and growing the group. We hosted multiple board game nights and, in the Winter 2024 semester had the pleasure of organizing our Drinks with the Profs night and end of semester potluck. Fall 2024 semester was quieter, during which we hosted various board game nights and successfully filled some of the open executive positions. Hosting our groups annual election for new leaders we were able to plan for the future of the EconSA group.

Furthermore, the new executive team was elected in November 2024. We plan on revitalizing the student activities with more fun events, econ SA merch, educational activities, and mentorship activities with an aim to improve student engagement, support economic students, and encourage the pursuit of further knowledge in economics.

Here's what's officially planned for the Winter 2025:

1. **Economics Mentorship Program:** Relaunching this semester, the program connects students with experienced upper-years and alumni for academic and career guidance. So far, we have five students in the program. Three economics majors and two business majors who have their own student mentor.
2. **ESA Official Club Registration:** The association is in the process of becoming an officially registered student club under URSU, which will provide more resources and better opportunities for all members.
3. **Econ SA Freak Economics Book Club:** Featuring thought-provoking economic reads, beginning with *Freakonomics*, offering a space for discussion and intellectual engagement.

Social Events: Econ SA Horror Movie Night (January 17th): A spooky and fun gathering with snacks and friends.

Econ SA Freak Economics Cocktail Game Night: A mix of economic trivia, strategy games, and socializing.

Econ SA Book Club: We plan on starting a book club focused on economic issues. This will be officially registered under the URSU for more support and advertising

Econ SA Drinks with Professors: A relaxed event to interact with economics faculty outside the classroom.

Econ SA End-of-Semester Potluck & Game Night: A celebratory event featuring food, games, and prizes.

Econ SA laser tag/bowling night (Spring Event)

President: Deborah Uwagboi

Past President: Leslie Lerat

Vice President: Manjot Kaur

VP Finance: Vansh Bhura

VP Events: Greyson Li

VP Outreach/Marketing: Brian Mureverwi

