

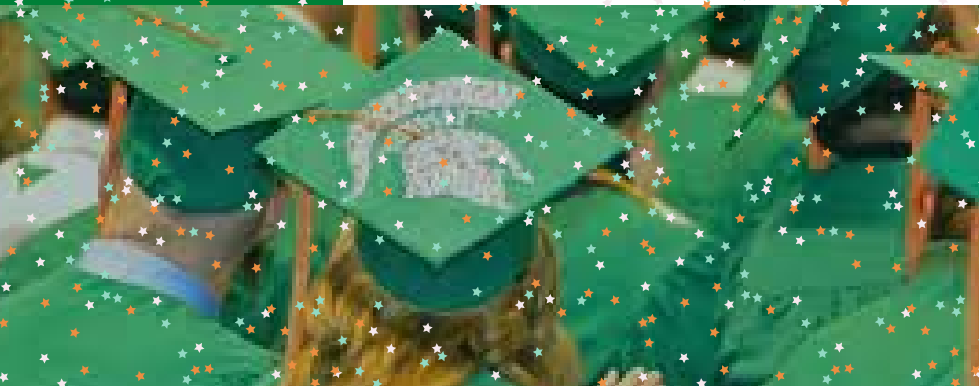
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DEPARTMENT OF
ECONOMICS
NEWSLETTER
MSU



ECONOMICS

MAY 2023



THIS ISSUE

- Congratulations Graduates
- Important Dates
- Credit-No Credit information
- Faculty Spotlight
- EC Alumni Spotlight
- CSN & Campus Events

IMPORTANT DATES

- Finals Week May 1st-5th
- Commencement at the Breslin Center May 6th 8:30 AM
- Grades will be available to view May 10th
- Credit/No-Credit Selection Period May 10th-17th
 - Decisions are final and must be completed before 11:59 PM May 17th
- Minimum Summer 2023 Tuition Payment Due May 12th
- Summer Session 1/Full-term classes begin May 15th

CONGRATULATIONS

2023 Graduates!

THE 2023 UNDERGRADUATE ECONOMICS AWARD WINNERS AND ECON SCHOLARS:

*Department Award recipients listed below

Nick Balesky
 Nick Beekman
 Trevor Cawley
 *Sean Cottrell
 Nick Donovan
 *Matt DiRisio
 Sloane Fisher

Peter Fu Chen
 Brendan Grant
 *Ailan Kiambuthi
 Lian Martin
 Jack Metty
 *Calder Moore
 *Carrie Nielsen

*Elizabeth Pauley
 *Sarah Pilewski
 Kosta Sarinopoulos
 *Jay Stansberry
 Nicholas Stoll
 Jeremy Valencia
 Kate Wills

QUESTIONS ABOUT ENROLLMENT?

Schedule an Advising Appointment
student.msu.edu

Please watch for an email containing more information related to Credit-No Credit

- University FAQ on Credit-No Credit
- Please create a plan before/during the selection period of May 10th-17th

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: CHUN (SUSAN) ZHU

- Could you please give students insight into what they will learn in EC 340?

Students will learn why countries trade with each other, the impact of trade on wages, and welfare implications of trade policies. Students will also learn foreign exchange markets and how exchange rates are related to interest rates and goods price.

- What is your teaching style or philosophy?

I like to ask questions to get my students engaged in my class. I also like to incorporate articles from the Economist and other sources into my lectures to illustrate the link between real-world issues and economic models.

- Please highlight an interesting fact from your research.

My research shows that trade liberalization increases the matching between more skilled workers and better-paid firms.

- Please share an interesting fact, favorite hobby, or something else fun about yourself.

I have lived in three of the four largest countries by area.

EC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: PHILIP VALTADOROS

- What is your job title and what do you do?

I'm a research assistant for economist Timothy Layton in Harvard Medical School's Health Care Policy department. I work on projects in public finance, managed care, and consumer behavior in US social health insurance programs. My department has the universe of Medicaid and Medicare claims so most of my work is a wrestling match between my team and these gnarly datasets. I also do some exploratory work with smaller survey data and some of the administrative work preceding submission. I have really enjoyed this position, but I am leaving this summer! I will enroll in an Economics PhD program at the University of Texas Austin next fall!

- How does your Economics Education help you succeed in your job?

I work on someone else's research projects and use a lot of the skills I developed in EC 499. I use a lot of the econometric methods we learn in EC 421 and the quantitative skills I learned in classes like probability and linear algebra. I'm pretty sure most of those courses are optional, but that's the cool part about the economics department and field! Its students have a lot of freedom to choose what their curriculum looks like. I was interested in the more quantitative side of economics, so I pursued it.

- What are challenging/rewarding parts of your job?

Research requires a lot of patience. There are weeks when I make very little progress on a small problem; I might spend a lot of time trying a handful of different solutions and none work. It can be disappointing and feel a little futile. Perseverance is the only option and that works for me because I am stubborn. The rewarding part of my job comes in the moments when we successfully remedy the problem and get to start on the next one. Even better is helping a coworker who is facing a problem I have faced, and I get to share (a little bit) of knowledge.

- What would you encourage all EC students to do before finishing their program?

Students cannot be told this enough: talk to your professors and advisors! It's hard to overstate how helpful this can be for you. The potential benefits are immense, and the costs are small. These people have a lot of knowledge and are extremely willing to share it. The real things I have accomplished are products of my conversations/meetings with the faculty and advising staff of the economics department. I worked on a couple research projects, learned a lot about the job market for economics undergrads, figured out how I should prepare to pursue a graduate degree in the field. I learned about jobs like my current one through a grad student I worked with in the help room.

CAREER SERVICES

NETWORK

OPPORTUNITIES

- Make the Most of Your Summer: Volunteering, Jobs, and New Skills May 16th 11:00-11:45 AM
- Writing Resumes and Cover Letters May 23rd 11:30 AM-12:30 PM
- CSN options for the summer:
 - Resume/Cover Letter review
 - Career Advising appointments

COUNSELING &

PSYCHIATRIC

SERVICES (CAPS)

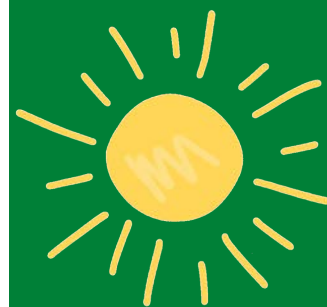
[HTTPS://CAPS.MSU.](https://caps.msu.edu/)

[EDU/](https://caps.msu.edu/)

OFFICE OF CULTURAL &

ACADEMIC

TRANSITIONS (OCAT)



WE HOPE YOU

HAVE A GREAT

Summer