

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

NOVEMBER 2018

IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Chair

by Juan Carlos Conesa

Greetings from the Department of Economics in the College of Arts and Sciences at Stony Brook University! Since the beginning of the spring semester, we've celebrated several accomplishments of both students and faculty alike. I'd also like to tell you of what's to come in the near future.

The beginning of a new academic year is always a very exciting time for our students, but also is the moment to see many of our students move on. Seven of our PhD students, seven MA students, and 323 of our undergraduate students graduated last semester. Congratulations to all of them! We wish you the best in your plans for the future!

During the last academic year, we continued to provide a dynamic research environment. We had weekly Department Seminars, and also held weekly Student Workshops in the three major research areas (Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Applied Economics). The summer continues to be a very active time of the year, with the 29th Stony Brook International Conference on Game Theory. By the way, the Game Theory Center was recently awarded NSF funding to continue supporting its activities, and the 30th Conference will be organized by Nobel laureate Eric Maskin and our recent appointment, Mihai Manea.

Regarding news for the 2018-19 academic year, we are very excited to announce our new faculty Mihai Manea, Juan Pantano and Bora Yunn. Professor Manea joins SBU after being at MIT and Stanford. He specializes in the analysis of networks, bilateral trade and bargaining. Professor Pantano joins us after Washington University in St Louis and University of Chicago. He specializes in the empirical analysis of Health Economics and Demographics. We also welcome Dr. Bora Yunn, who joins the Economics Department in Fall 2018 as a new Lecturer. Bora's research interests are Macroeconomics and International Economics. We are really looking forward to their interaction with both students and faculty alike.

Finally, a special mention goes to our beloved Professor Warren Sanderson, who has decided to concentrate in his research agenda and has accepted the John S. Toll Professorship. The students will certainly miss him but I am sure he will continue collaborating actively in all departmental activities for many years to come.

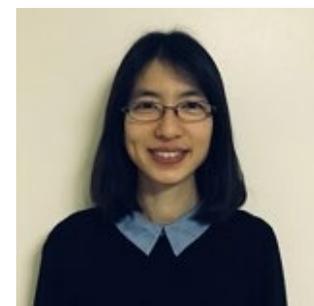
Warm regards,
Juan Carlos Conesa



New faculty, Juan Pantano



New faculty, Mihai Manea



New faculty, Bora Yunn



Stony Brook University
College of Arts and Sciences

Graduates

PhD & MA degrees

*The U.S. News Ranks Stony Brook #63
"Best Graduate" Track in Economics!*

This past year, seven of our PhD students completed their degrees and many have started exciting professional careers; **Tilsa Ore Monago** specializes in Industrial Organization, and moved to DC to work for the World Bank as a consultant, and for American University as an adjunct. **Bo Li** specializes in Macroeconomics, and moved to Peking University as an Assistant Professor. **Zhicheng Li** specializes in Empirical Finance, and has moved to Hunan University. **Zahra Ebrahimi** specializes in Public Finance, and is still exploring her options. **Miguel Poblete** specializes in Demographics, and will be moving to a post-doctoral position at the World Population Program in the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), in Austria. **Caixuan Sun** specializes in Game Theory and is still exploring her options. **Siyu Ma** specializes in Game Theory and has moved on to a post-doctoral position at the



From left, Zhicheng Li, Juan Carlos Conesa, Tilsa Ore Monago, Sandro Brusco, Bo Li, and Caixuan Sun.

Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) in Israel. Additionally, we had seven MA students graduating this year, many going on to promising careers in economics.

Congratulations and we wish them all a successful future!

We similarly wish to congratulate **Camilo Rubbini**, for receiving the well-deserved 2018 President's Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student.

Finally, we offer a warm welcome to all of our incoming graduate students entering the 2018-19 academic year (*see list below*).

NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS 2018

PhD students:

- ⇒ Claveria Mayol, Marc
- ⇒ Jain, Kamini
- ⇒ Kaur, Harneet
- ⇒ Lee, Taek Keun
- ⇒ Li, Su
- ⇒ Moriya, Takahiro
- ⇒ Pradhan, Baran
- ⇒ Shelkov, Roman
- ⇒ Xuan, Yang

MA students:

- ⇒ Arora, Aneesh
- ⇒ Jiang, Xinyue
- ⇒ Li, Yuanzi
- ⇒ Liang, Shouyi
- ⇒ Ma, Pengkun
- ⇒ Qin, Shuhuai
- ⇒ Wen, Jiaheng
- ⇒ Wu, Di
- ⇒ Xu, Mengyao
- ⇒ Zeng, Rui
- ⇒ Zhu, Yuming



Camilo Rubbini, Economics PhD candidate, Recipient of President's Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student

ACTIVITIES

Seminar Series

Seminars are held in the Social & Behavioral Sciences Building on campus in Room N-603. We welcome Economists from around the world to share their research and knowledge with our faculty and students. For information visit our webpage:

<http://www.stonybrook.edu/economics>

Economics Honor Society

The SBU Economics Club is a student-organized club that aims to foster interaction between economics majors. The club meets several times per semester to listen to presentations on economic research topics by faculty, to discuss hot economics topics currently in the news, to meet alumni and career development professionals, and to organize other activities. The club also serves as a portal through which students can join the national economics honor society **Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE)**. For the coming year, the club is organizing a visit to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and campus wide events such as debates on contemporary economic policy issues. It is also working on creating a network of past and current economics majors that could potentially be beneficial to both groups and would welcome any ideas or any other type of involvement by alumni. For additional information contact ugeconomics@stonybrook.edu

Current President (2018-2019): Diego Ruiz

diego.ruiz@stonybrook.edu

Past President (2017-2018): Jason Savisky

jason.savisky@stonybrook.edu

FAST FACTS

#80

In 2018, Stony Brook University was ranked # 80 among U.S. colleges and universities by U.S. News & World Report, the highest ranking in the university's history!

#9

Stony Brook University's Economics program ranks in Top 100 in the US and #9 in New York State. Data provided by www.economics-colleges.com.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

- ➔ Victoria Judd,
Undergraduate Program Coordinator
- ➔ Alexis Anagnostopoulos,
Undergraduate Program Director

Undergraduates in Economics

The major in economics has been one of the most popular majors on campus for several years and the academic year 2017-2018 was no exception with approximately 800 students enrolled in the major. For those students, as well as for a significant number of non-majors, we offered a total of 48 separate class sections with close to 4,500 seats for students. It goes without saying that all of these seats were promptly filled. In addition, for students that want to progress faster through their major, we have been offering the opportunity to take classes during both the winter and summer sessions. A large number of students took advantage of this opportunity this year resulting in 800 filled seats during those semesters. This large amount of instruction has been possible thanks to the dedication of our faculty to undergraduate education but also thanks to the help of our advanced graduate students who are enrolled in our PhD program.

The department has been able to accommodate a growing number of undergraduate students while at the same time raising the standards of the curriculum. In the last couple of years, we have increased the required level of mathematics and statistics required for our students to graduate and have added an econometrics requirement ensuring all of our graduates have experience in analyzing data using advanced methods and modern computer software. In addition to honing our students' technical skills, we have also introduced a class dedicated to reading economics articles and writing an economics paper, ensuring our graduates acquire much needed skills in writing and independent research. To keep up with new developments in the discipline, we have also introduced new classes in Experimental Economics as well as in US Economic Policy.

In the past year, thanks to the generosity of Robert Roth '77, we were able to offer for the first time the Robert S. Roth Endowed Scholarship in Economics, available for students with an exceptional academic record and demonstrated financial need. The scholarship was awarded in the fall to Sasha Nicholson and contributed towards the financing of his spring 2018 classes. This scholarship is based on the endowment created by Robert Roth and will be used to help promising students in the foreseeable

future. This year's iteration is already underway.

At this year's commencement ceremony on May 18, 2018, we celebrated 323 undergraduate students who successfully completed their BA degrees in Economics! We were pleased to welcome back alumni including **Robert Roth '77** who presented the endowed scholarship in his name, and **Caroline Ritter '97** who delivered the commencement address to our graduating class and their families. We wish to thank both Robert and Caroline for their inspiring speeches!

Some of the topics of study currently offered by the Department of Economics are:

- Microeconomic and Macroeconomic Theory
- Econometric Theory and Applied Econometrics
- Labor Economics
- Industrial Organization
- Corporate Finance/Financial Economics
- Economic Demography
- Development Economics
- Health Economics
- International Economics
- Public Finance
- Game Theory
- Experimental Economics



Bill Dawes, Caroline Ritter, (Commencement speaker) and Juan Carlos Conesa at the Commencement ceremony for Economics majors graduating class of 2018!

Center for Game Theory News

Since 1990, the Center has organized yearly Summer Festivals on Game Theory, which bring together prominent game theorists and many leading economists from around the world with the guidance of **Yair Tauman, Director** and **Pradeep Dubey, Co-Director**.

2018 SUMMER FESTIVAL

The 29th Stony Brook International Conference on Game Theory was held on JULY 16-20, 2018. The organization of the conference was entrusted to:

- [Marco Scarsini \(LUISS\)](#)
- [Eran Shmaya \(Northwestern University\)](#)



2018 Game Theory Summer Festival attendees

2018 SUMMER FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS

During the Summer Festivals, a one-week international conference is held, covering a broad spectrum of current research. The Center organizes two additional workshops on specific topics. This year's workshops were on:

- Stopping Time Problems in Game Theory, Economics and Finance
- Organizers:
 - Svetlana Boyarchenko (University of Texas at Austin)
 - Johannes Hörner (Yale University)
 - Jing Chen (Stony Brook University)



Yair Tauman

Save the date . . .

The 30th Stony Brook International Conference on Game Theory will be held on **JULY 15-19, 2019**.

The organization of the conference will be entrusted to Nobel laureate **Eric Maskin** and **Mihai Manea**, Stony Brook University.



Pradeep Dubey

FOR MORE INFORMATION

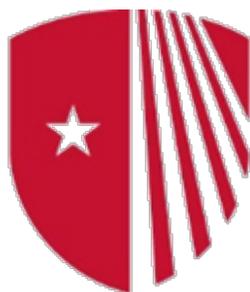
Stony Brook Center for Game Theory
Room N-649
Social and Behavioral Sciences Building, 6th fl
Stony Brook University

Email: organizers@gtcenter.org

Awards

The department's Graduate and Undergraduate Committees select the recipients for graduate and undergraduate awards. The awards are offered annually (spring semester) during Commencement and graduation ceremonies.

- The **William S. Dawes Outstanding Teaching Award** by a Graduate Instructor(s) in Economics. This award is given to PhD student(s) with the overall best performance as instructor since they joined the Economics program.
 - *Recipients: Tilsa Ore Monago and Wonho Yeon*
- The **Marty Weinbaum Award for Excellence in Economics**. This Outstanding Academic Achievement Award is provided to a **graduating PhD student(s)** in Economics with the best overall research productivity.
 - *Recipient: Bo Li*
- The **Marty Weinbaum Award for Excellence in Economics**. This Outstanding Academic Achievement Award is provided to **MA student(s)** with outstanding academic achievement in Economics classes.
 - *Recipient: Xianming Liu*
- The **Robert S. Roth Endowed Scholarship in Economics**. The Robert S. Roth Endowed Scholarship will allow the Department of Economics to award scholarship opportunities to undergraduate students. This scholarship will provide monetary support for undergraduate students enrolled as an Economics Major.
 - *Recipient: Sasha Nicholson*



AWARD RECIPIENTS



Tilsa Ore Monago and Bill Dawes



Steven Stern, Bo Li and Juan Carlos Conesa



Steven Stern, Wonho Yeon and Juan Carlos Conesa

Alumni news and updates

Welcome back. . .

This year we were honored to welcome back alumni **Robert Roth '77** who presented the endowed scholarship in his name, and **Caroline Ritter '97** who delivered the Commencement address to our graduating class and their families this year!

Thank you. . .

We are grateful to our alumni who have made generous contributions to our department over the years. Contributions from **Marty Weinbaum '87** have been providing students with scholarships every year since 2012. Our newest endowment is provided by **Robert S. Roth '77** for undergraduate students in economics. We thank you and hope other alumni will consider contributing to support both our students and department. For giving information, please visit our webpage at www.stonybrook.edu/economics

We appreciate your support!

Resources for faculty and students support and strengthen our diverse educational experience. The Department of Economics depends on our alumni and friends to support its weekly seminar series, where our students benefit from direct interaction with some of the best researchers in the world; to support the international visibility of our students and faculty alike through conferences and stays at other institutions, and a system of prizes to support our most talented students.

Your generosity, whether it's the renewal of your support or the decision to give for the first time, allows us to do what we do best – innovative, creative research and teaching that's the hallmark of a great public research university. I hope you'll consider investing in our students and faculty by making a [gift](#) today or speaking with the College's advancement representative, Assistant Dean Rebecca Bair, rebecca.bair@stonybrook.edu, or 631.632.6178.

Stay in touch. . .

If you wish to receive an electronic version or hard copy of this newsletter, please contact Domenica Tafuro (domenica.tafuro@stonybrook.edu) to be added to our mailing list.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Stony Brook University
100 Nicolls Road, SBS S601
Stony Brook, NY 11794-4384

Meet our Faculty



[Alexis Anagnostopoulos](#)

Associate Professor and *Undergraduate Program Director*

Ph.D., London Business School

Research Interests: Macroeconomics, Incomplete Markets, Optimal Taxation



[Marina Azzimonti](#)

Professor

Ph.D., University of Rochester

Research Interests: Macroeconomics, Political Economy



[Hugo Benitez-Silva](#)

Associate Professor

Ph.D., Yale University

Research Interests: Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics, Computational Economics, Public Finance



[Meta Brown](#)

Associate Professor

Ph.D., New York University

Research Interests: Public economics, Household finance, Labor economics



[Sandro Brusco](#)

Professor

Ph.D., Stanford Graduate School of Business

Research Interests: Mechanism Design, Auctions and Trading Mechanisms, Corporate Finance, Political Economy



[Eva Carceles-Poveda](#)

Associate Professor and *Graduate Program Director*

Ph.D., Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Research Interests: Macroeconomics, Financial Economics, Computational Economics



[Samuele Centorrino](#)

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Toulouse School of Economics

Research Interests: Econometric Theory, Non-parametric Statistics



[Juan Carlos Conesa](#)

Professor and *Chair of the Department of Economics*

Ph.D., University of Minnesota

Research Interests: Macroeconomics, Computational Economics



[William Dawes](#)

Associate Professor / John S. Toll Professorship

Ph.D., Purdue University

Research Interests: Econometrics, Economic History



[Pradeep Dubey](#)

Leading Professor

Ph.D., Cornell University

Research Interests: Game Theory, Mathematical Economics



[Ting Liu](#)

Assistant Professor

Ph.D., Boston University

Research Interests: Industrial Organization, Microeconomic Theory, Health Economics



[Mihai Manea](#)

Associate Professor

Ph.D., Harvard University

Research Interests: Game Theory, Social and Economic networks

**Gabriel Mihalache**

Assistant Professor
Ph.D., University of Rochester
Research Interests: International Macroeconomics

**Mark R. Montgomery**

Professor
Joint Appointment with the Population Council
Ph.D., University of Michigan
Research Interests: Economic Demography, Econometrics, Economic Development

**Juan Pantano**

Associate Professor
Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles
Research Interests: Health Economics, Labor Economics, Family Economics

**Núria Quella Isla**

Visiting Assistant Professor
Ph.D., New York University
Research Interests: Economic Growth, Productivity, Technological Change & Growth, Macroeconomics, Financial Economics

**Warren Sanderson**

Professor / John S. Toll Professorship
Joint with the Department of History
Ph.D., Stanford University
Research Interests: Economic Demography, Labor Economics, Economic History

**Steven Stern**

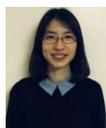
Professor
Ph.D., Yale University
Research Interests: Labor Economics, Econometrics, Economics of Aging and Disability

**Yair Tauman**

Leading Professor
Director of Stony Brook Center for Game Theory
Ph.D., Hebrew University
Research Interests: Game Theory, Imperfect Competition, Industrial Organization

**David Wiczer**

Assistant Professor
Ph.D., University of Minnesota
Research Interests: Macroeconomics, Labor economics, occupations and occupational choice

**Bora Yunn**

Lecturer
Ph.D., University of Minnesota
Research Interests: Macroeconomics, International Economics

**Yiyi Zhou**

Assistant Professor
Ph.D., University of Virginia
Research Interests: Industrial Organization, Applied Econometrics