



NEWSLETTER

Wellesley College Department of Economics

June 2016

Dear Alumnae, Graduating Seniors, Former Faculty, and Friends of Economics at Wellesley:

We are wrapping up another excellent academic year in the Wellesley Economics Department. It was a year marked by strong enrollments in a rigorous and diverse set of Economics classes, interesting research by both faculty and students, and a fantastic line-up of speakers giving well-attended public lectures.

This year was the 23rd Annual Goldman Lecture, supported by a generous gift from Marshall Goldman and family. Before I describe that lecture, I want to point out that last year's Goldman Lecture was given by Professor Angus Deaton (Princeton University), who, just about a year after his talk at Wellesley, was awarded the 2015 Nobel Prize in Economics¹. (I'm trying to start the rumor that there is a causal link.)

This year's Goldman lecture was given by Professor Alan Krueger (Princeton University), who, in addition to his influential body of research, has held important policy positions including Chair of the President's Council of Economic Advisors (2011-2013), and Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy and Chief Economist of the U.S. Department of the Treasury (2009-2010). Professor Krueger's talk was "Work in the Sharing Economy;" he focused on the evolving notion of who is

an "employee" in the "gig" economy, and examined how public policy also needs to evolve to keep pace with these changes.

We were also delighted to host the Calderwood lecture in the Spring, made possible by a generous gift from Stanford Calderwood. This year's lecture was entitled "Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation," and was given by Professor Heidi Williams (MIT). The talk was drawn from her work on how rules around intellectual property (drug patents, for example) may affect the quality of innovations in medical care; her work has important implications for cancer research, among other topics. Professor Williams is a 2015 MacArthur "genius" grant recipient, and she also has the very good sense to be married to Professor Dan Fetter in Wellesley's Economics Department. (I think we should feel free to add this information to further the rumor that speaking at Wellesley is causally related to winning really important prizes, even though, technically, the prize came before the lecture in this case).

Our students' accomplishments are too numerous to mention, but I will highlight a few in the area of academic Economics. Ten students wrote honors theses in Economics this year. Two of these, Hannah Ruebeck and Amy Wickett, won Schiff fellowships -- competitive fellowships across the College - - to support their research. Amy and Hannah are going to work as full-time research assistants for economists at Princeton and Harvard, respectively. Our students continue to do well in the

¹ Technically, the "Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel."

increasingly competitive world of Economics PhD programs; Sharon Shiao (W'16), YeJi Kee (W'13) and Sookyo Jeong (W'14) will all be starting the program at Stanford. Helen Willis (W'14) will be starting the PhD program at Berkeley. Emily Cuddy (W'12) is in the PhD program at Princeton and is the recipient of a 2016 National Science Foundation graduate fellowship. I am also delighted to note that Former Economics Majors (FEMs) continue to come out the other end of PhD programs to do interesting things. Small liberal arts colleges are benefiting from our alumnae: Tammy McGavock (W'08) is finishing her PhD at Cornell and will begin a tenure-track position at Grinnell in the Fall. Emily Conover (W'98) received tenure at Hamilton College. Research universities (especially in Texas!) are getting a share too: Elaine Liu (W'03) is an associate professor at the University of Houston, Elira Kuka (W'09) is an assistant professor at SMU, Nitya Nayar (W'07) will be starting a faculty position at UT-Austin. The "new economy" is also getting some of our FEMs with Mahnaz Islam (W'07) and Iuliana Pascu (W'07) joining Amazon and Twitter, respectively, after finishing their PhDs at Harvard and MIT, respectively. And really, I could go on! Perhaps I will: Olga Shurchkov (W'01) received tenure at Wellesley College!

There is news on the faculty front as well. We are saying good-bye this year to Brett Danaher, who will be joining the faculty at Chapman University, and Eunice Han who will be joining the faculty at the University of Utah. I thank them both for their work here at Wellesley and wish them well in their new positions! Faculty at Wellesley continue to balance teaching, research, and service in ways that make me very proud to be their colleague. Please see the individual faculty entries for more details, but I will highlight a few accomplishments here. David Lindauer has spearheaded curricular innovation with the Calderwood Seminars in Public Writing, a suite of courses across departments that is modeled after his

Economic Journalism course. Joe Joyce has been named the M. Margaret Ball Chair in International Relations. He is stepping down from leading the Albright Institute, having created a program that will leave a lasting legacy at Wellesley. Ann Velenchik and Sue Skeath have a soon-to-be released intermediate micro textbook. Ann is balancing this work with being Dean of Academic Affairs. Akila Weerapana is heading the PLTC and has injected some much-needed, and highly-valued, rigorous data analysis into College-wide discussions of the shadow grading policy, potential changes to the schedule and the like. Phil Levine continues to help make Wellesley a leader in national discussions of college affordability with his [My inTuition](#) program. Casey Rothschild heads the Social Science Summer Research Program for the College and the Department's new Case Summer Fellows program – both programs aim to involve students in faculty research during the summer months. Dan Sichel, after years of experience at the Federal Reserve, has quickly become a go-to faculty member for College leadership on finance and budget issues. Courtney Coile is the director of the Knapp Social Science Center, providing leadership for social science initiatives on campus, and Patrick McEwan is the new director of the Latin American Studies program. And, of course, our faculty members continue to maintain a rich and diverse research program. I will highlight a few of the new projects and those recently making their way through the publication process: Baafra Abeberese presented exciting work-in-progress in the Department "brown bag" series, "Formal Sector Incentives and the Formalization of Firms." Dan Fetter has a fascinating new paper: "Government Old-Age Support and Labor Supply: Evidence from the Old Age Assistance Program." Eric Hilt has a paper (Lily Zhou (W'11) is one of the co-authors) forthcoming in the *Journal of Political Economy*: "Economic Effects of Runs on Early 'Shadow Banks': Trust Companies and the Impact of the Panic of 1907." Robin McKnight has a paper forthcoming in the

American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, “Controlling Health Care Costs Through Limited Network Insurance Plans: Evidence from Massachusetts State Employees.” Pinar Keskin and Kartini Shastry wrote a paper with Helen Willis (W’14) entitled “Water Quality Awareness and Breastfeeding: Evidence of Health Behavior Change in Bangladesh” that was accepted at the *Review of Economics and Statistics*. Seth Neumuller published “Inter-industry Wage Differentials Revisited: Wage Volatility and the Option Value of Mobility” in the *Journal of Monetary Economics*. And our newest tenure-track faculty member, Kyung Park, has had his paper the “Impact of Judicial Elections on the Sentencing of Black Crime” accepted by the *Journal of Human Resources*, while also launching several exciting new projects with Suzanne K. Barth (W’16), NaYoung Rim (W’05), and Kristin F. Butcher (W’86©). I forecast a strong future for Wellesley Economics!

Finally, Pat Sjostedt – our incomparably competent lead administrative assistant in Economics – is retiring at the end of June. Pat has been with the College for over 25 years and has served it with intelligence, humor, and patience (lots!). We will miss her a great deal. The Department will continue to be in good hands with Sheila Datz, our other excellent administrative assistant.

I hope we see many of you at reunion – our reception will be from 3:30-4:30 on Saturday, June 4th in the Pendleton East knuckle on the 2nd floor. It is my 30th reunion, so I will be there wearing two hats (but both will be purple). Best wishes to all for a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

Sincerely,
Kristin F. Butcher, Chair
Marshall I. Goldman Professor of Economics

P.S. Late breaking news! At commencement this year, Casey Rothschild was announced as one of this year’s Pinanski Teaching Prize winners. Congrats, Casey!

The joint Williams/Amherst/Wesleyan/Wellesley College cocktail reception at the American Economics Association meetings in San Francisco, January 3-5, 2016 was well attended, bringing together alumnae, former faculty, and current faculty. Next year’s meetings will be held in Chicago on January 6-8, 2016. Please follow this link to learn more about the annual meeting: <https://www.aeaweb.org/conference/>

This year, the Economics Department’s Annual Senior Dinner was held on Thursday, April 28, 2016 in the Alumnae Hall ballroom with 74 of our 96 majors in attendance. Award winners for 2016 were announced at the dinner.

2016 Economics Department **Award Winners**

The Wall Street Journal Award:

Taylor Cranor, Hannah Ruebeck, Amy Wickett

The Peggy Howard Fellowship:

Tejaswi Velayudhan ‘10

The Natalie Bolton Faculty Prize in Economics (Best 200-level Paper):

Qi (Helen) Jin ’17 and Vickey Ngo ‘17

The Natalie Bolton Faculty Prize in Econometrics:

Clio Flikkema ’17, Leigh Hunt ’17 and Ivonne Marmolejo ‘17

The Natalie Bolton Faculty Prize in Economics (Best 300-level Papers):

Shruti Tadepalli, Evelyn Taylor-McGregor

The Natalie Bolton Faculty Prize in Theoretical Economics:

Wing Yan (Sharon) Shiao

The Natalie Bolton Faculty Prize in Applied Economics:

Hui Li

The Joseph Lambie Economic History Prize:

Dorothy Ren, Frances Grace Howland, and Melanie Chen

The Natalie Bolton Student Prize:

Taylor Cranor and Hannah Ruebeck

2015-2016 ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT FACULTY AND THEIR ACTIVITIES

Ama Baaфра Abeberese '04 enjoyed teaching international trade theory, development economics and principles of macroeconomics this past year. It was her third time teaching the trade and macroeconomics courses and she hopes the third time was the charm. She was excited to start two new research projects this year. One project uses data from India to study the impact of providing incentives to formal firms on the decision of informal firms to formalize. The second project, funded by the International Growth Centre, involves data collection from Ghanaian firms to analyze the strategies used by firms to cope with electricity shortages and their productivity implications. She looks forward to continuing her work on these projects.

Kristin Butcher '86 had an interesting and enjoyable third year as Chair of the Economics Department. She taught two sections of Econometrics in the Fall, which continues to be her favorite course to teach. The students never fail to come up with interesting and important projects, and seeing them go from not knowing how to

write such a piece of research to the final product is always satisfying. It was rewarding to innovate in that established course by bringing the principles of the Maurer Public Speaking program to it. In addition to teaching and being Chair, Kristin did quite a bit of reviewing this year. She was on a National Science Foundation review panel and on three External Review Committees for Economics Departments at other institutions. On the research front, Kristin presented new work with Kyung Park (Wellesley) and Anne Morrison Piehl (Rutgers University) titled "Comparing Apples to Oranges: Differences in Women's and Men's Incarceration and Sentencing Outcomes," at invited seminars at Amherst College and UC-Merced. She is really looking forward to a summer of research on this and other topics! Finally, she is delighted to report that she has been elected Chair of the Economics Department for a second 3-year term. It is gratifying and humbling to have the support of such wonderful colleagues.

Courtney Coile had an enjoyable 16th year at Wellesley. She taught Econ 101 and 203, where she got to know great first-year students and received some terrific econometrics papers. She continues to direct the Knapp Social Science Center, bringing economist Anne Piehl here to speak about criminal justice issues and managing the construction impacts of the Pendleton West renovation on Pendleton East. Next year she hopes not to have to email anyone to tell them that their office is going to be noisy, smelly, or cold! She began a three-year term on the College committee that makes tenure and faculty appointment decisions, which is very interesting and rewarding work. On the research front, her work on a National Academy of Sciences panel wrapped up with the publication of *The Growing Gap in Life Expectancy by Income*, which highlights the (depressing) fact that gains in longevity are accruing only to those in the top half of the income distribution and explores the implications for public policy. She presented this work and her research on the Veterans'

Affairs Disability Compensation program and on our capacity to work longer at (perhaps too) many conferences and seminars, traveling to San Francisco, New York, Washington D.C., Paris, and China (first trip to Asia!) while also visiting three Wellesley clubs. At home, teenage son Nathaniel and tween daughter Meredith keep her busy with questions like whether he is finally old enough to get a cell phone (yes) and whether she can pierce her ears (not yet).

Dan Fetter's first child, a boy, arrived last June and in the fall Dan was on parental leave. In the spring he returned to teaching and taught Principles of Micro and Advanced Econometrics. In his research he continues to study the New Deal era and the growth of Social Security. It will assuredly shock Dan's former micro students to hear that in spite of the little guy's genes, last year's prediction has proven false: he has thus far exhibited no liking for peaches, despite his parents' many attempts!

Eric Hilt was glad to be back at Wellesley, after spending last year visiting the economics department at Yale. As usual, he taught courses in economic history and finance, and next year he'll also be leading the Economics Research Seminar (ERS) for students writing theses. He continues to work on a number of research projects related to economic and financial history, including some on early financial crises, which fascinate him. He also delights in spending time with his daughter, who is now 2 years old.

Joe Joyce This year marks Joe Joyce's 35th year as a member of the Economics Department of Wellesley College. He has spent his sabbatical year engaged in research projects. He has been investigating the impact of a country's external assets and liabilities on its economic performance. He presented his work at conferences in Brussels last June and in Halle, Germany, in September. This June he will participate in a faculty exchange program with Pompeu

Fabra Univeristat in Barcelona. Joe served again as Faculty Director for the Madeleine Korbel Institute for Global Affairs, which held its seventh program in January. This was followed by the Institute's first Reunion/Global Symposium on global inequality. The participants included Secretary Madeleine Albright (Wellesley '59), Managing Director Christine Lagarde of the IMF, Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer of the World Bank Group, Mark Malloch-Brown, former head of the United Nations Development Program, and the discussion was moderated by Heather Long (Wellesley '04) of CNN Money.

Pinar Keskin had an amazing fifth year as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics at Wellesley. She spent the fall semester working on a new and intriguing research project with her coauthors David Glick and Sheetal Sekhri on the physical and cognitive impacts of chronic fluoride exposure on children in India; she also taught two sections of Introductory Microeconomics. The spring semester had a more exciting start than any other term! Pinar, her husband and their 3-year old daughter Maya welcomed a new addition to their family: Baby Arya. Pinar spent the rest of the semester on maternity leave while overseeing the progress of her field project in Rajasthan.

Phil Levine spent half the year in the classroom and half the year on leave. In the fall, he taught his standard Intro Stats class (Econ 103) along with his Economic Analysis of Social Policy Class (Econ 318). The Social Policy class appears to be receiving more interest given the growing attention being paid to income inequality and the lack of social mobility these days. These problems and others are solved (OK, maybe addressed!) in this class. Phil's research leave in the spring was dedicated to related questions. He and his frequent coauthor, Melissa Kearney, completed one paper on the educational consequences of income inequality for those who grow up at

the bottom of the distribution. They found that they are more likely to drop out of high school, perhaps because of limited perceptions of subsequent economic success. He also continued his work on [My inTuition](#), the simplified financial aid calculator he originally developed for Wellesley College. It has now been adopted by Williams College and the University of Virginia. Phil has been working hard to expand its use to a much broader set of schools. On the home front, Phil is now an empty-nester as his younger son, Noah, headed off to Middlebury College; his older son, Jake, is graduating from Brown University this spring. He and his wife, Heidi, are in the process of downsizing, moving to a newly constructed, smaller house this summer.

David Lindauer taught Econ 214, Trade Policy, last fall. His students continue to write great research papers on U.S. trade disputes. Because these cases are subject to five year Sunset Reviews, David got to revisit disputes on catfish, tow-behind lawn groomers and other products former students had once investigated. David continues to direct the Calderwood Seminars in Public Writing, a program modeled after his Economic Journalism course. In the past three years, 16 departments and programs have introduced Calderwood Seminars; about 15 percent of students complete one before graduating. David enjoys working with faculty across the campus on this initiative and is delighted by the enthusiasm students have for these seminars. In January, David completed 70 semesters of teaching at Wellesley College, which sounds like a lot more than the 35 years he has been on the faculty. Also in January, David began his last sabbatical leave. In addition to directing the Calderwood program he is working on the next edition of the textbook he co-authors, *Economics of Development* (W.W. Norton).

Julie Matthaei This year, Julie Matthaei taught [Feminist Economics](#) and [The Political Economy of Gender, Race and](#)

[Class](#) to a wonderful group of future alums. Her students' final projects this year included trying to set up textbook sharing, revitalize Fossil Free, educate about feminist economics, and diversify the economics department student body; reports are available on the [Wellesley Solidarity Economy website](#). In 2015-2016, Julie spoke on her research on the emerging solidarity economy to the Wellesley College Democrats, and at MIT, The New School, and the North American Forum for the Social Solidarity Economy. Julie will be on sabbatical for 2016-2017, and hopes to finish her book-in-progress, *From Inequality to Solidarity: A New Economics for the 21st Century*. The book views capitalism as a transitional stage between the inequality and solidarity paradigms of economic life. The first half of the book presents a framework for understanding and participating in this shift, by identifying the inequality processes which construct and reconstruct race, gender, class, and human/nature inequality, as well as the solidarity processes which are transforming and transcending them. The second half examines emergent solidarity economy values, practices, and institutions and best practices from around the world. Julie wrote a [short summary](#) of the book for a forthcoming radical economics reader. Julie served on the college's Diversity Coalition, and helped organize the second "Class Awareness and Worker Appreciation Week" in April. In February, she organized and participated in a panel "Is Voting Hillary the Feminist Thing to Do?" and helped bring Susan Sarandon to campus to speak in support of Bernie Sanders, sponsored by the Shakespeare Society.

Patrick McEwan taught two sections of 101 during Fall. In Spring, he taught Advanced Economics of Education and Latin American Development. In Fall 2016, he will direct the interdisciplinary major in Latin American Studies. He continues to do research on Latin American education and social policy,

including projects in Chile, Honduras, and Venezuela.

Robin McKnight enjoyed guiding this year's group of ten economics thesis writers through the thesis process. Through their theses, she learned about a fascinating array of topics ranging from iron-deficiency anemia to annuity markets to the racial wealth gap. In addition to working with the thesis-writers, Robin enjoyed teaching statistics as usual. On the research front, she published a paper in *American Economic Review: Economic Policy* this year, and is getting some new research projects underway just in time for a productive sabbatical during the coming fall semester. When she isn't working, she is usually cheering on her kids at their soccer games and Irish dance competitions.

Seth Neumuller had a very busy year! This past summer, he gave invited talks at the Central Bank of Chile and the WU Gutmann Center in Vienna. In the fall, Seth taught two sections of intermediate macroeconomics and, on Halloween, he and his wife Jessica welcomed their first child into the world – a baby girl named Emma Jo. While on parental leave during the spring semester, Seth could not stop thinking about economics... He continued to co-advise two senior theses (Hui Li and Hero Ashman) and had his paper entitled “Learning and the Dynamics of Consumer Unsecured Debt and Bankruptcies” (joint with Matthew N. Luzzetti) published in the *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*. As a result, although Emma Jo is not yet able to talk, Seth believes that she is already developing an expertise in dynamic programming. Next year, Seth looks forward to continuing his research into the micro-foundations of financial sophistication (joint with Casey Rothschild) and studying the resulting implications for retirement planning and wealth accumulation over the life cycle.

Kyung Park had a memorable year 2 at Wellesley. A particularly fond highlight was baby Yejin's first words. It wasn't "Basketball", "Kalbi", or "Equilibrium" as dad/abba expected, but instead "Uhhhhhhhh-Ohhhhhhhh". In addition to chasing her around, on the research side, Kyung's paper "The Impact of Judicial Elections in the Sentencing of Black Crime" was accepted at *Journal of Human Resources*. In addition, Kyung worked with senior thesis student Suzanne Barth to study voter discrimination in democratic elections using all of the learned tools in Econ 201 and 203. Speaking of, in the classroom, Kyung taught Econ 201, 203, and 327 this year. Just as in year 1, Kyung was super impressed by the dedication and sharpness of Wellesley students. Now on to year 3!

Casey Rothschild returned to Wellesley after spending a productive sabbatical year at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. Shortly before returning in the fall, he welcomed his third daughter, Loretta, and he spent much of the year trying to figure out how to work her into his problem set questions for Strategy and Information and Micro Analysis—alongside her big sisters (Mabel, 3 and Adele, 6). His paper “Optimal Taxation with Rent Seeking” was accepted at *The Review of Economic Studies*, and he continued to work on several tax-related research projects. He also continued to pursue his other main research interest—insurance economics—in part by working closely with two seniors, Sharon Shiao and Hui Li on their honors theses, respectively “Insurance markets with interdependent risks” and “Financial sophistication, insurer default risk and the annuity puzzle”.

Kartini Shastry had a wonderful seventh year at Wellesley College. In the fall semester of 2015, she reprised her 300-level seminar, Development Economics, after a few years of various leaves. She was reminded once again how engaged and proactive Wellesley students are: the unit on randomized controlled trials and a research proposal for a final paper inspired her

students to cold-call an NGO in Mali to discuss development projects. In the Spring Semester of 2016, Kartini taught two sections of Econometrics and continued to rant against correlations disseminated as causal relationships, interspersed with cute pictures of her children. On the research side, Kartini advised Hannah Ruebeck on her senior thesis on the impact of a government-implemented iron supplementation program in India. A joint paper with fellow economics faculty member, Pinar Keskin, and a former student, Helen Willis '14, regarding breastfeeding responses to information about water quality in Bangladesh was accepted for publication at the Review of Economics and Statistics. Kartini continues her other work on financial literacy in South Africa and Singapore and anemia prevention in Orissa, India.

Olga Shurchkov '01 had an absolutely tremendous year which was marked by the most significant event in her academic career: she was granted tenure! Even though getting tenure was exciting, it didn't change Olga's very busy schedule of teaching and research. As usual, Olga taught introductory and intermediate economics and her 300-level course on behavioral economics. Olga presented her new work on gender differences in incentive provision and the evaluation of male and female managers at the American Economic Association meetings in San Francisco. Two of her research papers were published in academic journals: "The Effect of Information Provision on Public Consensus about Climate Change" (co-authored with Tatyana Deryugina) in *PLOS ONE* and "Public Announcements and Coordination in Dynamic Global Games: Experimental Evidence" in the *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics*. Outside of Wellesley, Olga enjoyed giving talks to Wellesley alumnae and students on "How women compete and win in business." She, her husband Mike, and her son Evan (2) are settling into a new home in Wellesley and are looking forward to a great year ahead!

Dan Sichel had a great year. In the fall, he taught a section of 102 and his 300-level seminar on U.S. macroeconomic policy. In the spring, Dan taught two sections of 202. The economy and financial markets continue to perform in interesting(!) ways, and there's been no shortage of material for macro classes. Now that he's been at Wellesley for a few years, Dan really enjoyed seeing students in his seminar and in 202 whom he'd taught in prior classes. On the research front, Dan's paper on measuring semiconductor prices is churning through the publication process, and was featured by the National Bureau of Economic Research in their *Digest*. This line of work identifying likely biases in official price measures for high-tech products has gotten some traction, and Dan is working on papers focusing on prices of PCs, tablets, and cell phones. He also has started a project looking at cloud computing, including work with a thesis student. In addition, Dan's paper on planning lags for commercial construction projects is just about to be published. Dan will be on leave next year, and he's looking forward to pushing ahead on research. Outside of Wellesley, Dan's family is just about to add a new black lab puppy, a perfect complement to their 5-year old chocolate lab.

Susan Skeath (van Mulbregt) enjoyed the chance to teach Advanced Micro Theory (Econ 301) to nine talented students this spring for the first time since 2010. She also taught Games of Strategy (Econ 222) both semesters and Intermediate Micro (Econ 201) in the fall. Her *Intermediate Microeconomics* text, co-authored with colleague Ann Velenchik, is a chapter short of completion and nearing the editing stage. She is also continuing her research on information transmission in public goods games and learning in beauty contest games. For those of you who follow their lives here, Sue's kids are now 21 and 19. Emily just finished her junior year at Ursinus College where she is a biology and environmental studies double major; she will be doing an

animal behavior research internship at the St. Louis Zoo this summer. Pierce has finished his first year at Dickinson College, where he is studying physics and chemistry and actually managed to start a new men's volleyball club; he is also spending the summer away from home as a counselor at Camp Pinnacle in North Carolina, where he will cross paths with the 10-year old twin sons of Wellesley alum and econ major, Carole Thompson Hord '93. It's a small world!

Ann Velenchik moved into the Provost's Office as Dean of Academic Affairs in July 2015. The work is 70% extremely pleasurable, 25% onerous, and 5% horrifying, and she figures that at those ratios she can manage for the two more years she has promised. The worst part about the job is that there is no teaching involved -- she really misses daily contact with students. Her kids are continuing to grow (Nate, almost 19, is finishing his freshman year at Northwestern, where he is majoring in math because Economics "is not rigorous enough," and Becca, 15, is a HS freshman obsessed with soccer).

Akila Weerapana had econ-withdrawal symptoms this Spring because he moved his office out of the Econ Department to the PLTC in Clapp Library, where he completed his second year as Faculty Director, working with new faculty to help them transition to teaching at the college and doing data-driven evaluation of various academic initiatives such as shadow-grading. Not having me around, however, probably served as a positive productivity shock for all my colleagues whose offices I would frequent in search of idle chit-chat on weekday afternoons. Rumor has it that chocolate inventories in the department are also at an all-time high in my absence. The other highlight of my year was the opportunity to serve on several key search committees at the college. I am looking forward to the next few years working with a new President, a new head of the CWS and a new head of the Office of

Institutional Research, all resulting from these searches.

On the home front, the kids refuse to stop growing. Anya will be entering 4th grade next year, and continues to show signs of personality, athletic ability, and fashion sense that clearly distinguish herself from her father. Kiran will be entering second grade and he too shows signs of speed, soccer prowess, interest in robots and skill in building things that show that the optimization problems of children are subject to their own constraints rather than their parents. He loves playing chess and it takes all of my ability to inflict character-building, soul crushing defeats on him. The over-under for when that trend will reverse is about 3 months.

I continued to visit Wellesley alumnae clubs, and in June will be headed to London for my first overseas visit. I am looking forward to seeing the Reunion Classes from 2001, 2006 and 2011 on campus and will say goodbye sadly but with pride to the fantastic Class of 2016. Because the PLTC position has limited the number of classes I teach, I will know fewer students on campus this upcoming Fall than at any time since the Fall of 1999, when I first arrived here. But this is also a good opportunity to reflect on how much I have enjoyed in my time here and the memories of all of you that I carry with me every day.

FACULTY EMERITI

Karl (Chip) Case Chip continues to attend Red Sox home games and is eager to keep in touch with friends, colleagues, and students. He can be reached at his home phone.

Marshall Goldman and his wife, Merle, now spend most of their time in Cambridge. They spend time with friends, their four children and twelve grandchildren. He welcomes letters from students and friends.

Ann Dryden Witte On the research front,

the University of Chicago team that Ann has been working with to analyze the 2012 National Survey of Early and School-age Care (NSECE) completed their [analyses](#) and released [data](#) for secondary analysis. Ann is also running a financial and economic consulting firm ([ADW Consultants, LLC](#)) that provides financial advice & financial education. Last fall, Ann worked with Wellesley IT staff to produce a seven week [MOOC on personal finance](#). The MOOC ran during the spring of 2016 and was very well received and “attended” (15,000 students from 190 countries). All materials are available in what edX.org call archive mode; so, feel free to look through them. On the personal front, Ann’s grandson Basil Dryden Witte is now five and his little brother, Cyril, is one-year-old. Ann is a very active member of Wellesley Alums Palm Beach Book Club. Highlight for this year were T.C Boyle’s [World’s End](#) and [Gertrude Bell: Queen of the Desert](#).

ALUMNAE NEWS

Anne Cody '85 is an analyst for Blueshift Research. Her work involves issues related to financial service and taxation. Her daughter is a member of the Wellesley class of 2019.

Rajul Pandya-Lorch '85 is Chief of Staff in the Director General's Office of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). She chaired a panel at the Albright Symposium last January.

Victoria Nelson Calisch '03 graduated magna cum laude from University of Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business with a Master's in Non-Profit Administration. She lives in Coronado, California with her husband and two children.

Laurie Stempler '03 is a lawyer in New York City, where she works for Desmarais

Heather Long '04 is CNNMoney's senior markets and economy writer. She chaired a

panel at the Albright Symposium last January.

Tamira Gunzburg '07 works in Brussels for an anti-poverty advocacy group, the ONE campaign.

Chanda Wong '09 graduated from Wharton and now works for Microsoft in Seattle.

Esther Sun Jang '09 is head of strategy and business operations for Venmo in San Francisco. She and her team are responsible for scoping out new initiatives, potential products and features.

Elira Kuka '09 completed her PhD in economics at UC-Davis last summer and is now working as an assistant professor of economics at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX.

Jackie Valentine '09 is finishing her first year in the MBA program at the Harvard Business School.

Lisa Abraham '10 is completing the 2nd year of an economics PhD program at Harvard.

Catherine Charles '10 lives in Tampa, Florida. She is a credit analyst for Raymond James.

Hilary Gran '10 has been working in Manila for Rare, an NGO, on its sustainable development team. Next fall she will enter the MBA program at Sloan.

Kerry Scanlon '10 is a Senior Associate for Markets Transformation at the Rainforest Alliance. She focuses on growing the market for Rainforest Alliance Certified cocoa and coffee.

Ketty Yakupova '10 lives in Seattle, WA, with her husband and daughter. She works for London Economics International LLC.

Samantha Chu '11 will begin the joint MBA/MPP program at the University of Michigan this fall.

Tess DeLean '11 works for the Lending Club in San Francisco as part of the Business Operations/Strategy team.

Allison Kwan '11 is finishing her first year in the MBA program at the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan, which included a placement at Facebook. This summer she will be working at Nestle in Oakland, CA.

Alexis Liu '11 is a second year associate at Sidley Austin, and lives with her husband in NYC.

Madeline Weeks '11 will be starting a PhD in Geography at UC Davis in the fall, working on a MacArthur Foundation project related to the impacts of ethical cacao-chocolate commodity chains on biodiversity conservation, crop genetic diversity, and livelihoods.

Erica Augustine '12 works as a legislative correspondent for U.S. Senator Tammy

Alex Curatolo '12 continues to work at Horst Frisch in Washington DC, a consulting firm specializing in transfer pricing.

Samantha Malambo '12 will begin her studies in the master's program in economics and finance at the University of Lusaka in Zambia.

Irem Yoruk '12 is living in Istanbul, working for Shell as a retail analyst, and pursuing a master's degree in brand management.

C. Bonner Campbell '13, is Senior Financial Analyst at Netflix Streaming in Los Angeles.

Devin Elliott '13 is a Digital Product Manager for CVS in Boston.

Alexa Jackson '13 is enrolled in the Chemical Biology PhD program at Harvard

Marguerite Sulmon '13 is the co-founder of Landwise, a Boston-area firm that offers advisory services in land use planning and economics.

Cristina Ferlauto '14 is working at Cornerstone Research in Boston.

Soomi Kim '14 will be starting a PhD at the MIT Sloan School of Management in the fall.

Emma Rackstraw '14 is a Policy Associate with J-PAL North America.

Neha Doshi '15 is a Research Assistant for a groundwater project in Gujarat through J-PAL South Asia.

Isabella Dougherty '15 is an analyst at Charles River Associates in Boston.

Allison Leow '15 is working at EMILY's List in Washington, DC.