Letter from the Chair - Pitt Day of Giving
Announcing Special Economics Department Giving Incentive

During these unprecedented times, I want to share that the Department of Economics has been steadfast in terms of continuing to deliver excellent courses remotely and in person, and forging ahead with groundbreaking research by faculty and students. In this issue, we spotlight Professor Stefania Albanesi's research on why women have lost more jobs in the pandemic, and doctoral student, Marissa Leper's research on human behavior and decision making.

We also have undergraduate and master students share their experiences at Pitt. We have much to be grateful in the department and we look to our alumni for their continued support.

You've probably been hearing that the Pitt Day of Giving is coming up on February 23. The department is focusing our fundraising efforts toward providing funding for undergraduate research opportunities in Economics. Engaging with faculty on research projects is one of the best ways for students to learn, not just economics, but also learn how to approach complex problems, think analytically, and write effectively. Employers and graduate schools recognize this and, as a result, students who have engaged in research as undergraduates tend to place better in graduate schools and in the job market.

I hope you will join me in supporting our Pitt Day of Giving campaign on February 23. Together, our gifts can make a great difference for our students. Because of the dean’s challenge, if you would prefer to make your Pitt Day of Giving gift early, you can do so by making a gift here: http://pi.tt/pdog.

Thank you for your support of our department.

David Huffman
Chair of Economics
University of Pittsburgh
Faculty Spotlight - Stefania Albanesi

*Why Women Lost More Jobs in the Pandemic*

How will the 2020 coronavirus pandemic affect the US labor market? The emergence of the virus has led to a decline in economic activity, which has primarily affected service occupations with high customer contact and little ability to work remotely. The transition to a work-at-home, curbside-pickup lifestyle has changed the structure of employment, with uneven effects on workers.

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**What is the Undergraduate Economics Club?**

The purpose of the Undergraduate Economics Society (UES) is to foster interest in all areas of economics. The intent of UES is not only to aid students in their academic and professional needs but also to communicate the impact of the field to students with an interest in economics. UES aims to serve as a resource for economics majors, minors, and the student body. UES will provide opportunities for students to connect with academic research, professional experience, and other economics students.

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MQE Student - Mason Putt

Meet Mason Putt, the first applicant and enrollee to the MQE program. Mason will be graduating on May 1, 2021 with the first cohort of MQE graduates.

Mason shares his experiences with the program and his goals for the future.

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PhD Candidate - Marissa Lepper

Marissa's research interests stem from her desire to understand the world around her, in particular human behavior and decision making. This curiosity has led her to study behavioral economics and to incorporate psychological principles into economic questions.

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Alumni - Share Your Story

We want to reconnect with you. We are interested in learning about how you are doing and what is new and exciting in your life. Update us on career advancements, educational accomplishments, activities, honors, and awards. We also would love to hear how you would like to stay connected and involved with the department.

Connect

New MS in Quantitative Economics (MQE) program.

Learn More

Connect with Pitt alumni and current students with Pitt Commons.

Learn More

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