

UR ECON NEWSLETTER

February 2024



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, Anihšînāpêk, 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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FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Noha Razek received a Mitacs Research Grant for her project "The Economic Importance of Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage (CCUS) Technologies in Relation to Blue Hydrogen, and the Economic Impact on Saskatchewan." See the details below



Principal Investigator: Dr. Saqib Khan (School of Business, University of Regina)

Co-Investigator: Dr. Noha Razek (Department of Economics, University of Regina)

Amount: CAD 270,000 (24 months)

Organizations: Petroleum Technology Research Centre (PTRC) of the University of Regina and Mitacs

Dr. Safoura Moeeni received SSHRC Insight Development Grant for her project "Do Partial Unemployment Insurance Programs Work? Evidence from the Canadian Working While on Claim Pilot Project" See the details below.



Principal Investigator: Dr. Safoura Moeeni

Co-Investigators: Adam Lavecchia, Miguel Olivo Villabrille, and Arezou Zaresani

Amount: CAD 54,740 (12 months)

Organization: SSHRC Insight Development Grant

Congratulations, Noha and Safoura!

We would also like to congratulate and extend our best wishes to Dr. Safoura Moeeni on joining the University of Manitoba's Department of Economics in January 2024. We wish her every success in her future endeavours. Safoura, you will be greatly missed!

PROMOTIONS



Congratulations to Dr. Monika Çule and Dr. Stuart Wilson for being promoted to the rank of Professor.

RETIREMENT

The Department congratulates its long-standing member, Dr. Carmen Dybwad, who retired in June 2023. Carmen started her journey with the Economics Department, first as an alumna of the Department, earning her BA and MA in Economics with great distinction and then as a lecturer. Within our Department, her impact has been profound, encompassing roles such as teaching and active participation in activities designed for prospective students and engaging in social events. Dr. Dybwad also has significant public service contributions to various organizations, including the Government of Saskatchewan, SaskPower, and the Energy Council Board of Canada.



We express our sincere gratitude for the manifold ways Carmen has enriched our Department over the years. Thank you, Carmen, for your invaluable contributions and congratulations on a well-deserved retirement!

UR ECON IN MEDIA

Dr. Brett Dolter wrote an opinion piece for CBC Saskatchewan about his views on climate change policy.

[For the Sake of Our Children, the Global Carbon Budget is the Most Important one to Balance](#); CBC News, March 23, 2023.



In 2023, Dr. Jason Childs launched his podcast "Talking about Teaching Economics", which can be found here: <https://www.pearson.com/ca/en/campaigns/talking-about-teaching-economics-podcast.html>

He also made numerous appearances in media throughout the year, discussing topics such as the provincial and federal budget. Some of his many media appearances can be found here:

- [Opinion: Upcoming Budget Should Heed Lessons from Sask History](#). *Saskatoon Star Phoenix* March 3, 2023.
- [Breaking Down the Federal Budget with Jason Childs](#). *Global News Saskatoon*, March 23, 2023

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS (2023)

1. **Jason Childs** & MacDonald, C. (2023). Dimensions of competition in Urban Cannabis Markets. *Canadian Public Administration*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/capa.12537>
2. **Brett Dolter**, Seattle, M. & McPherson, M. (2023). When the Sun Sets on Net Metering: How the cancellation of Net Metering Impacted the Potential Adoption of Residential Rooftop Solar Photovoltaics in Regina, Saskatchewan. *Challenges in Sustainability*. 10(1): 47-76. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.12924/cis2023.10010047>
3. Winter, J., **Brett Dolter**, & Fellows, K.G. (2023). Carbon Pricing Costs for Households and the Progressivity of Revenue Cycling Options in Canada. *Canadian Public Policy*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3138/cpp.2022-036>
4. **Samuel Gamtessa**. (2023). Determinants of GHG emission intensity in Canadian industries. *Environmental Economics and Policy Studies*.26: 31-48.DOI: 10.1007/s10018-023-00372-2
5. **Samuel Gamtessa** & **Harminder Guliani**. (2023). Tobacco Prevalence and Economic Growth: Evidence from Low and Lower-Middle-Income Countries. *The Journal of Developing Areas* 57(4): 201-219. muse.jhu.edu/article/908653.
6. **Safoura Moeeni** & Tanaka, A. (2023). The effects of labor market opportunities on education: The case of a female hiring ceiling in Iran. *Journal of Public Economics*, Volume 224, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpubeco.2023.104896>
7. **Noha Razek**, Galvani, V., Rajan, S., & McQuinn, B. (2023). Can U.S. strategic petroleum reserves calm a tight market exacerbated by the Russia-Ukraine conflict? *Resources Policy*, 86: 104062. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.resourpol.2023.104062>
8. Hasanov, J. & **Noha Razek**. (2023). Oil and Non-Oil Determinants of Saudi Arabia's International Competitiveness: Historical Analysis and Policy Simulations. *Sustainability* 15(11): 9011. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su15119011>
9. Michieka, N., **Noha Razek**, and Gearhart, R. (2023). Modeling the Impact of Oil Price Changes and Investment Decisions on Construction Wages in the U.S. *Construction Management and Economics*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01446193.2023.2167219>

FGSR UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARD

Our Economics honours student, Calum Donaldson, received the FGSR Undergraduate Research Award. He worked under the supervision of Dr. Brett Dolter on a project titled "Competitiveness in Canadian Manufacturing."

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

The Department was pleased to host four Honours students' presentations in 2023.

Presenter: Jacob Smith

Topic: A Study Assessing the Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Impulsive and Compulsive Buying Behaviour in Canadian Consumers.

Date: April 18, 2023

Presenter: Sam Rayner

Topic: The Effects of Remittances on Out-of-Pocket Healthcare Expenditure in Low-Income and Low-Middle-Income Countries.

Date: April 18, 2023

Presenter: Milto Mekonen

Topic: The Socio-Economic Impact of Covid-19 in four African Countries: Ethiopia, Malawi, Nigeria, and Uganda.

Date: October 2, 2023

Presenter: Lisa Okudi

Topic: Vaping in Canada

Date: October 2, 2023

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to all ECON students who received academic awards in 2023. We are so proud of your accomplishments!!

- **Economics Honours Entrance Scholarship:** Deborah Uwagboi, Tajmia Tarin
 - **Schmeiser Family Honours Economics Scholarship:** Deborah Uwagboi
 - **Economics Honours Scholarship:** Calum Donaldson, Milto Mekonen, Lisa Okudi, Samuel Rayner,
 - **Economic Honours Research Fellowship:** Milto Mekonen, Lisa Okudi
 - **Dr. David L. Beattie Memorial Scholarship:** Michael Stevenson
 - **Dr. Peter Woroby Memorial Scholarship in Economics:** Umair Munir
 - **Art and Jane Hillabold Memorial Scholarship:** Bradley Beecher
 - **Alex Kelly Undergraduate Economics Essay Prize:** Samuel Rayner
 - **Intermediate Economics Award:** Tajmia Tarin (301), Deborah Uwagboi (302)
 - **Dr. Jack Boan Medal in Economics:** Samuel Rayner
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UPDATE FROM UR ECONOMICS STUDENT ASSOCIATION

As we embark on the new 2024 semester, significant changes have occurred within our organization. We bid farewell and extend out best wishes to our former President Ethan Ernst, and VP of events Ridhi Chugh, who successfully graduated in the fall 2023 semester.

In welcoming both new and returning members, we anticipate the continued growth of our association and look forward to encountering fresh faces in the coming weeks.

Highlighting our recent events, “Drinks with Profs” a reoccurring event hosted by the Student Association where students and professors get together for beverages at the Lazy Owl drew a moderate turnout. Additionally, we took the opportunity to bid farewell to two esteemed professors during the 2023 year – Professor Carmen Dybwad and Dr. Safoura Moeeni.

For Professor Carmen Dybwad we hosted a Farewell event at the Lazy Owl in the Winter 2023 Semester with a very big turnout. In the Fall 2023 semester, we hosted a Grad Panel with Dr. Safoura Moeeni, Dr Jason Childs and Dr Omid Mirzaei. Where students were given the opportunity to gain insight into Grad school and hear about each professor’s experience. Dr. Moeeni was gifted a farewell present on behalf of the student’s association and at the end of the panel students were given the opportunity to say their farewells and well wishes to her on her new Academic journey.

Looking ahead we are please to announce the continuation of reoccurring events such as “Drinks with the Professors”, and Monopoly night. Communication for future events will be communicated through email, in person and posters so keep an eye out for events happening throughout the upcoming semesters.

We are always open to students joining the Economic Student Association, so please don’t hesitate to reach out to one of our members. Follow Us on Instagram uofrecon.

Leslie Lerat – EconSA member – Temporary President
Bradley Beecher – EconSA member – Temporary Vice President
Marina Sandragaylo – VP of Media
Milto Mekenon – VP of Events
Lisa Okudi – VP of Outreach

