

# UR ECON NEWSLETTER

January 2022



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, Anihšînāpēk, 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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## WELCOMING A NEW MEMBER



The Department of Economics welcomes Mr. Ron Styles, who joined the department as a lecturer in December 2021 on a three-year part-time term. Ron received his MA from the University of Regina, and his research interests are in Public Finance, Behavioural Economics and Public Policy, and Federal/Provincial Fiscal Relationships. Welcome aboard Ron!

## FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

The department would like to congratulate the following members on their achievements in 2021.

**Dr. Harvey King** was named an Honorary Lifetime Member of the Canadian Association for University Continuing Education in May 2021.



Dr. King also held a 4-week Zoom course for the Lifelong Learning Centre at the University of Regina on "The Economics of Current Social Issues," which covered the current situation and COVID-19; economic inequality and poverty; FAANG+: the tech giants; and the long-run effects of COVID-19.

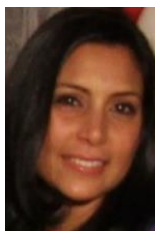
**Dr. Omid Mirzaei** was granted the Mitacs Accelerate Award of \$30,000 for his project "Mapping Indigenous Business in the Agriculture/Agri-food Sector in Canada."



**Dr. Safoura Moeeni's** paper "The Intergenerational Effects of Economic Sanctions" was awarded the fourth prize in the Canadian Labour Economics Forum's 2021 Best Young-Researcher Paper Award contest.



**Dr. Noha Razek** was awarded the Tri-Agency Cohort Program Award in Winter 2021, the President's Publication Fund Grant and the Faculty of Arts Publication Fund grant in Spring/ Summer 2021.



**Dr. Stuart Wilson** was elected and appointed Head of the Department of Justice Studies at the University of Regina from June 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.



Dr. Wilson was also granted the Arts Dean's Research Award of \$5,000 for his project "The Economics of Post-Traumatic Stress Injuries and Workers Compensation."

## FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES (2021)

1. **Childs, Jason** and **Poirier, Angèle**. Implications of Marijuana Purchase Task Based Demand Functions for Optimal Legal Pricing of Cannabis. *International Journal of Drug Policy*. (Vol. 95, September 2021). <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0955395921001754?dgcid=author>
2. **Dolter, Brett**. Greening the Saskatchewan grid: A case study in deliberative energy modelling. *Ecological Economics* (Vol. 183, March 2021). <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0921800921000240>
3. **Guliani, Harminder**, Hadjistavropoulos, T, Jin, S and Lix, L. Pain-related health care costs for long-term care residents. *BMC Geriatrics*, (Vol, 21, October 2021). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12877-021-02424-2>
4. **Mirzaei, Omid**, Natcher, DC, and Micheels, ET. A Spatial Model of Investment Behaviour for First Nation Governments. *Spatial Economic Analysis*. (Vol. 16, May 2021.). <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/17421772.2021.1921833>
5. **Mirzaei, Omid** and Natcher, DC. An Empirical Analysis of Food Expenditures by First Nation Households in Canada: Factors Affecting Household Food Security. *Food Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal* (Vol.11, June 2021). [https://cgscholar.com/bookstore/works/an-empirical-analysis-of-food-expenditures-by-first-nation-households-in-canada?category\\_id=cgrn&path=cgrn%2F219%2F220](https://cgscholar.com/bookstore/works/an-empirical-analysis-of-food-expenditures-by-first-nation-households-in-canada?category_id=cgrn&path=cgrn%2F219%2F220)
6. **Mirzaei, Omid**, Natcher, DC, and Micheels, ET. Estimating the Economic Impacts of Specific Claims Settlements in Canada: The Case of Little Red River Cree Nation. *Canadian Public Policy*. (Vol. 47, December 2021). <https://www.utpjournals.press/doi/full/10.3138/cpp.2020-118>
7. **Moeeni, Safoura**. Married Women's Labor Force Participation and Intra-household Bargaining Power. *Empirical Economics* (Vol.60, March 2021) <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00181-019-01800-7>
8. **Moeeni, Safoura**. The Intergenerational Effects of Economic Sanctions. *The World Bank Economic Review*, <https://doi.org/10.1093/wber/lhab024>
9. **Razek, Noha**. Saudi Arabia's Currency Misalignment and International Competitiveness, Accounting for Geopolitical Risks and the Super-Contango Oil Market. *Resources Policy* (Vol. 72, August 2021). <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S030142072100074X>

10. Michieka, N, **Razek, Noha** and Gearhart, R. The Relationships between Climate Factors, Hydropower Production and Economic Growth in Ethiopia: A Nonlinear and Asymmetric Approach. *The Journal of Developing Areas*.(Vol.55, Summer 2021) [doi:10.1353/jda.2021.0066](https://doi.org/10.1353/jda.2021.0066)..
11. **Wilson Stuart**, and Lemoine J. Methods of Calculating the Marginal Cost of Incarceration: A Scoping Review. *Criminal Justice Policy Review* (SAGE, with open access license). December 2021 <https://doi.org/10.1177/08874034211060336>.
12. Wright, KD, Kim, J, Ratcliffe, CRD, Walker, KL, Sharpe, D, **Wilson, Stuart**, and Raazi, M. Pilot examination of the efficacy of the Internet-delivered, preoperative, preparation program (I-PPP). *Journal of Clinical Psychology in Medical Settings*. (Vol. 28, September 2021). <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33247796/>

### **POLICY BRIEFS/ REPORTS/ BOOK CHAPTERS (2021)**

1. **Çule, Monika** and Gray, Richard. Canada Grain Act Review and Industry Goods: Lessons from Australia. <https://www.schoolofpublicpolicy.sk.ca/research/publications/policy-brief/canada-grain-act-review-and-industry-goods.php>
2. **Razek Noha**, Silva E., Michieka NM. The Oil-Price Threshold Effect on External Balances in Saudi Arabia, Russia, and Canada: Accounting for Geopolitics and Environmental Sustainability. In: Belaïd F, Cretì A. (eds) *Energy Transition, Climate Change, and COVID-19*. Springer, Cham. [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-79713-3\\_11](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-79713-3_11)
3. **Wilson, Stuart**. Crime Rates and the Influence of Economic and Demographic Differences across Police Jurisdictions – A Census-Based Approach. The Changing Economy and Demography of Saskatchewan and its Impact on Crime and Policing Phase V Report, Collaborative Centre for Justice and Safety, February 2021. Available at <https://www.justiceandsafety.ca/centre-initiatives/austerity-policing.html>.

### **OPINION EDITORIALS (2021)**

1. **Dolter, Brett**. COVID-19 offers lessons on the challenge of tackling climate change. *CBC News Online*. October 31, 2021. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatchewan/opinion-brett-dolter-climate-change-covid-lessons-1.6230127>.
2. **Dolter, Brett**. We need to respond to the ‘red alert’ on climate change. *LeaderPost*. August 13, 2021. <https://leaderpost.com/opinion/opinion-we-need-to-respond-to-the-red-alert-on-climate-change>.
3. **Dolter, Brett**, Jennifer Winter, G. Kent Fellows. Carbon pricing is here to stay in Sask. So how should the province use the money? *CBC News Online*. April 12, 2021.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatchewan/opinion-how-sask-use-carbon-tax-money-1.5982386>.

4. **Dolter, Brett**, Blake Shaffer, G. Kent Fellows, Nicholas Rivers. Why Canada should invest in 'macrogrids' for greener, more reliable electricity. *The Conversation*. February 24, 2021. <https://theconversation.com/why-canada-should-invest-in-macrogrids-for-greener-more-reliable-electricity-155713>.
5. **Razek, Noha**. As the World Moves Away from Fossil Fuels, Canada's Energy Security May Be at Risk. *The Conversation*. November 11, 2021. <https://theconversation.com/as-the-world-moves-away-from-fossil-fuels-canadas-energy-security-may-be-at-risk-169794>

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## UR ECON IN MEDIA

Dr. Brett Dolter had several media appearances this past year, notably on CBC's *What on Earth* radio program, where he spoke about the value of building new, continental-scale, electricity transmission grids to encourage sustainability and ensure resilience against extreme weather. He also made several other media appearances (see below) in the past year. Visit the hyperlinks for more details.



- The Economic Impacts of Climate Change. *Prairie Dog*. December 17, 2021.
- [How can Sask contribute to international agreements to reduce methane emissions and coal use?](#) *Saskatoon Mornings – CBC Radio*. November 9, 2021.
- [COVID-19 offers lessons on the challenge of tackling climate change.](#) *CBC Afternoon Edition*. November 1, 2021.
- [Power failure, future shock.](#) *Winnipeg Free Press*. May 28, 2021.
- [A one-stop shop: New U of R hub connecting clean energy research and real-world application.](#) *LeaderPost*. May 10, 2021.
- [Sask. minister faults feds for moving goalposts on emissions target.](#) *LeaderPost*. April 22, 2021.
- [U of R professor examines ways to use carbon tax money](#) *CBC Morning Edition*. April 12, 2021.
- [Saskatchewan's proposed EV fee slammed as 'regressive'](#) *LeaderPost*. April 7, 2021.
- [The bottom line: U of R economics prof, consumers weigh in on carbon tax ruling.](#) *CJME*. March 25, 2021.
- [Climate change could cripple Canada's power grids. Here's what we can learn from Texas/Greening the Grid.](#) *What on Earth – CBC podcast and web article*. March 19, 2021.
- [Sask. Chamber report envisions low carbon future.](#) *StarPhoenix*. March 16, 2021.
- [What can Saskatchewan learn from the recent disaster in Texas?](#) *CBC Afternoon Edition on Radio 1*. March 2, 2021.

Dr. Jason Childs research covers a wide range of topics related to experimental economics, behavioural economics, market structures, and consumer behaviour and the economics of cannabis legalization. Jason has made numerous media appearances throughout the year, including GlobalTV Regina, CBC Radio, and CJME.



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## ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

**Presenter:** Dr. Monika Çule

**Event:** Canada Grain Commission –April 14, 2021(Invited Seminar)

**Topic:** Wheat Quality Management in a Post Single-Desk Era: Lessons from Australia

**Presenter:** Dr. Harminder Guliani and Dr. Samuel Gamtessa

**Event:** Canadian Economics Association – Virtual Congress June 03 – June 05, 2021

**Topic:** Tobacco Smoking and labour productivity: Evidence from low-income countries

**Presenter:** Dr. Stuart Wilson

**Event:** Western Economic Association International – Virtual Sessions June 27 – July 1, 2021

**Topic:** Marginal Cost Estimates for Sentenced and Remanded Inmates in the Canadian Prairie Provinces

**Presenter:** Dr. Monika Çule and Dr. Harminder Guliani

**Event:** International Health Economics Association – Virtual Congress July 12 – July 15, 2021

**Topic:** Determinants of Physical Activity in Albania: Evidence from Demographic and Health Surveys

**Presenter:** Dr. Omid Mirzaei

**Event:** 2021 Symposium on Indigenous Economies

**Topic:** An Empirical Analysis of Food Expenditures by First Nation Households in Canada: Factors Affecting Household Food Security

**Presenter:** Dr. Noha Razek

**Event:** Western Economic Association International (WEAI) Conference, March 2021

**Topic:** Saudi Arabia's International Competitiveness, Accounting for Geopolitical Risks and the Super-Contango Oil Market (with Brian McQuinn – University of Regina)

**Event:** International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE) Conference, June 2021

**Topic:** OPEC+'s "Reasonable Oil Price Level" Notion and the External Breakeven in Saudi Arabia, Russia and Canada: Accounting for Economic Cycles and Pipeline Politics" (with Silva, Emilson – University of Alberta, and Michieka, Nyakundi – California State University, Bakersfield)

## NON-ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

**Presenter:** Dr. Harvey King

**Event:** Presentation for the Lifelong Learning Centre at the University of Regina, May 27, 2021

**Topic:** Bitcoin and Gamestop Explained

**Event:** Presentation at the Gyro Club, Richmond, B.C.

**Topic:** The Economic Impacts of COVID: Current and Long-Term

**Presenter:** Dr. Stuart Wilson

**Event:** Presentation to Integrated Justice Services, Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections Policing and Public Safety and Ministry of Justice, September 7, 2021.

**Topic:** Marginal Cost Estimates for Inmates in Saskatchewan (2010-2018)

**Presenter:** Dr. Harminder Guliani

**Event:** Saskatchewan Health Research Showcase, November 16, 2021.

**Topic:** Cost-effectiveness of Transdiagnostic Internet-delivered Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: Evidence from a Randomized Controlled Trial

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## MITACS GLOBALINK SUMMER 2022 STUDENTS

In Summer 2022, the Department of Economics is scheduled to host three international students, matched to successfully funded faculty research proposals by the Mitacs Globalink Research Internship program.

- **Project Title:** The Economics of Post-Traumatic Stress Injuries (PI: Stuart Wilson; CI: Harminder Guliani)

Student: Sarah Mangeolle, Master of Social Science (evaluation and management of social policies), Universite Grenoble-Alpes.

- **Project Title:** Growth in pre-trial custody: an international comparison (PI: Stuart Wilson)

Students: Marilia Baracat Lapenta Janzantti, Bachelor of Laws, State University of Londrina, Londrina, Parana Brazil

Dariia Melnykova, Bachelor of International Law, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine

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## ECONOMICS SEMINAR SERIES

In 2021, the department hosted the following seminars via Zoom.

- **January 29:** Dr. Mevlüde Akbulut Yüksel, Dalhousie University  
**Presentation Title:** Expressway to Power: Infrastructure Projects and Political Support
- **February 16:** Dr. Dana Andersen, University of Alberta  
**Presentation Title:** Do Environmental Regulations Kill Jobs? New Methods and Results
- **March 26:** Alexander Siebert, PhD Candidate at Tulane University (University of Regina Alumni)  
**Presentation Title:** The Effect of Progressive Taxation on Wage Growth and Unemployment: A Test of the Union Bargaining Model
- **April 9:** Dr. Umut Oguzoglu, University of Manitoba  
**Presentation Title:** Intergenerational Transfers of Health
- **October 21:** Dr. Chi Man Yip, Hong Kong Polytechnic University  
**Presentation Title:** The Ins and Outs of Employment: Labour Market Adjustments to Carbon Taxes
- **October 29:** Dr. Elisabet Llorian, University of British Columbia  
**Presentation Title:** Productivity Loss Among People with Early Multiple Sclerosis: A Canadian Study
- **November 5:** Mr. Alexander Fritsche, Regional Director at the Bank of Canada  
**Presentation Title:** October Monetary Policy Report

The department was pleased to host four Honours students' presentations via Zoom in 2021.

- **Adeoluwa Adebajji:** A Hedonic Approach on the Impacts of Crime on Housing Prices in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan: A Pilot Study (2005-2017)  
*Faculty Supervisors: Dr. Stuart Wilson and Dr. Samuel Gamtessa*
- **Immanuella Owate:** Infrastructure and Economic Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa  
*Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Samuel Gamtessa; Second Reader: Dr. Harminder Guliani*
- **Alfred Adenuga:** The Relationship Between Population Aging and Economic Growth: An Empirical Analysis of Canada, Japan & France  
*Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Stuart Wilson; Second Reader: Dr. Noha Razek*
- **Liam Zwarych:** Does the Yearly Average Concentration of PM2.5 Motivate Canadians to Improve their Air Quality?  
*Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Brett Dolter; Second Reader: Dr. Omid Mirzaei*

Thanks to Dr. Safoura Moeeni for organizing these seminars!



## SPECIAL CASE GRADUATE STUDENT

The department is pleased to share that Angèle Lucie Poirier, a special case Master student, is one of the ten finalists for the 2022 cycle of the National Policy Challenge. This competition is sponsored by the Canadian Research Data Centre Network (CRDCN), Statistics Canada, and the SAS Institute Canada and is designed to encourage student researchers to share their policy ideas using confidential microdata and develop innovative, evidence-driven policy solutions.



Angèle is working on the economic determinants of demand for illicit and legal recreational cannabis under the supervision of Dr. Jason Childs. She will be presenting her research findings for the final competition at the Government Analytics Leadership Forum on May 4, 2022 (in Ottawa).

Congratulations, Angèle, and good luck!!

Angèle has also written a piece for *MJBiz Daily* comparing Saskatchewan and Colorado's Cannabis Markets two years after legalization. <https://mjbizdaily.com/saskatchewan-versus-colorado-cannabis-markets-two-years-after-legalization/>

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## UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to all ECON students who received academic awards in 2021. We are so proud of your accomplishments!!

- **Economics Honours Entrance Scholarship:** Brayden Mytopher, Anna Lavrentyev, Bradley Beecher, Landon Kosteniuk
- **Schmeiser Family Honours Economics Scholarship:** Bradley Beecher
- **Economics Honours Scholarship:** Alfred Adenuga, Robin Little, Jacob Smith
- **Economic Honours Research Fellowship:** Alfred Adenuga
- **Dr. David L. Beattie Memorial Scholarship:** Anna Lavrentyev
- **Dr. Peter Woroby Memorial Scholarship in Economics:** Gregory Holowka
- **Art and Jane Hillabold Memorial Scholarship:** Jacob Smith
- **Alex Kelly Undergraduate Economics Essay Prize:** Alfred Adenuga
- **Intermediate Economics Award:** Elias Maze (ECON 301), Samuel Rayner (ECON 302)
- **Dr. Jack Boan Medal in Economics:** Elias Maze

- **Dr. Gary Tompkins Award for Distinguished Public Service and Academic Excellence:** Umair Munir
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## UPDATE FROM UR ECONOMICS STUDENT ASSOCIATION

2021 was a unique year for the Economics Students Association, and 2022 is shaping up to be similarly eventful.

In the past year, the Economics Students Association continued to pursue our mission “to cultivate a sense of community for all undergraduate students studying Economics at the University of Regina.” With the restrictions on gathering sizes in place for much of 2021, we were unable to host any in-person events as we would have liked. Instead, we did what everyone did in 2021 and moved online. In place of billiard nights and get-togethers at The Owl, we had online game nights featuring party games such as “Among Us” and “Jackbox.” In place of in-person study groups, students got together on our Discord server to study, chat, listen to music, share videos, articles, or anything else. The Discord server became the focal point of the ECONSA community.

We also produced an economics-themed facemask as a fundraiser early last year, and we have plans to offer a new line of ECONSA bunnyhugs and tuques in the coming semester. Follow us on Instagram and Facebook to be the first to see the latest designs when they land!

We have big plans for 2022, and not just in the sartorial department. With the return of in-person instruction, we are very excited to get back to meeting together in the real world once more. As soon as restrictions are lifted, plans are in the works for bowling nights, Beers with the Profs, etc.

We also intend to build on our success with our Discord economics community over the coming year. The historian Thomas Carlyle once called economics “the dismal science”, but we believe nothing could be further from the truth. Economics is the study of how we create prosperity, and there are few things in life more beautiful and ennobling than that. We are using our Discord to bring together a positive community of economics students, faculty and alumni united in enthusiasm for our field of study. People who love economic ideas and who want to explore them more deeply. To that end, we will soon launch an Austrian Economics Book Club, to be followed shortly by additional deep-dives into other hot topics in economics. If any of that sounds appealing to you, we’d love for you to join us at this link: <https://discord.gg/cNsETFVK57>

2022 is going to be a momentous year in economics, and we in the ECONSA look forward to experiencing it with all of you.

**Alex Norleen,**  
President, Economic Student Association  
**Marina Sandragaylo**  
Vice President of Media

**Spencer Boyle**  
Executive Vice President  
**Ridhi Chugh and Gregory Ly**  
Members-at-Large