Letter from the Editor

Julie Dusek '01
Welcome to the 2000-2001 edition of *The Park Place Economist*! This year marks Illinois Wesleyan University's 150th year and the ninth year of publication for this impressive undergraduate journal of student research in economics.

We are excited about featuring the work of ten scholars in the issue. The work included in this edition is diverse, interesting, and relevant to issues of today. Our first paper, written by Dave Rasho, investigates a monetary system consisting of a 100% reserve gold standard. Yuet Wen Wan's research focuses on the European Monetary Union, using the Phillips curve to look at the inflation rate and its effect on unemployment. Mandy Watson's paper looks at wage differentials among workers in the union south and workers in the non-south. Ketan Amin takes a look at income inequality and its relation to health. Alicia Lange examines the family pay gap and why mothers earn less than women without children. Ken Perry's paper examines the benefits that communities receive from the funding of sports stadiums by state and local governments. Amber Munday researched the effects that different neighborhoods have on IQ test scores in people of different races. Jeremy Sandford's paper probes the issue of government debt. Lisa Birr's paper analyzes the effectiveness of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991. Finally, Nate Taulbee's paper studies the impact that various economic factors have on the stock market.

Thanks to all the staff members who helped produce this year's journal. So many people worked to produce this journal it is impossible to thank them all individually. Yuet Wen Wan's technical expertise and Elizabeth Ramp's editorial skills are especially appreciated. I want to wish Katie Hampson the best of luck as she takes charge of *The Park Place Economist* next year as Editor-in-Chief.

Thanks to the Economics Department for the input and support throughout the past year. Also, thanks to Bob Aaron and the Public Relations Department for the continuous support over the years. Bob has recently taken a position at Illinois State University. Everyone at *The Park Place Economist* wishes him well in his new position. Thanks also go to Gary Schwartz who helped in the printing of the issue and Carrie Young who helped tremendously in the design of the cover.

Now, I invite you to enjoy the ninth edition of *The Park Place Economist*!

Julie Dusek
Editor-in-Chief

**General Information:**
Submissions to *The Park Place Economist* are always welcome. Students interested in assisting in future editions of the journal are also welcome. Those interested in submitting papers or becoming part of the editorial staff, and those with any comments or questions regarding *The Park Place Economist* should call (309) 556-3178 for more information. Written queries and responses can be addressed to bleekley@titan.iwu.edu through e-mail, or to:

*The Park Place Economist*
Attention: Dr. Robert Leekley
301 E. Beecher Street
Bloomington, IL 61701