Table of Contents
Table of Contents
# Table of Contents

Letter from the Editor  
*Julie Dusek*  
Page 4

Reflections on the Economics Program  
*Dr. Robert M. Leekley*  
Page 5

## From the Economics Department

“Alumni Notes”  
*James Morris*  
Page 7

“The Class of 2001”  
*Alison Oliver*  
Page 10

“Alumni Profile: An Interview with Mark Israel”  
*James Morris*  
Page 12

“Eckley Brings Experience to the Student Investor”  
*J. Wesley Dyke*  
Page 15

“The Economic Department Brings Another Professor Aboard”  
*Kory Blumer*  
Page 17

“Exploring the Boundaries”  
*Jamie Davenport*  
Page 18

## Articles

“The Possibility and Feasibility of a 100% Reserve Gold Standard”  
*David Rasho*  
Page 19

“A Case of the Philips Curve in the Formation of a Monetary Union: A Glimpse at High Inflation Countries of the EMU”  
*Yuet Wen Wan*  
Page 29

“Wage Differentials Between the States: The Effect of Region and Unionization”  
*Amanda Watson*  
Page 38

“Income Distribution and Health: A Worldwide Analysis”  
*Ketan Amin*  
Page 45

“The Family Gap: Do Mothers Earn Less?”  
*Alicia Lange*  
Page 53

“Professional Sports Attendance as a Proxy for New Stadium Spillover Benefits”  
*Ken Perry*  
Page 62

“Neighborhood Effects and the Acquisition of Human Capital”  
*Amber Munday*  
Page 71

“Government Debt”  
*Jeremy Sandford*  
Page 78

“Before and After the FDICIA: A Look into Commercial Banking Risk Behavior and Profit”  
*Lisa Birr*  
Page 83

“Influences on the Stock Market: An Examination of the Effect of Economic Variables on the S&P 500”  
*Nathan Taulbee*  
Page 91