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### Letter from the Editor

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## Letter from the Editor

# Letter from the Editor

Welcome to the 2004-2005 edition of the *Park Place Economist*! As many of you know, the *Park Place Economist* is one in only a few of undergraduate economics journals in the country. This year's staff worked hard to maintain our tradition of high quality journals, and we hope you enjoy our current edition.

We start with our traditional news article. As is customary, we have Dr. Seeborg's reflection on the Economics program. We follow with an interesting interview to Nimish Adhia'03. His experience working at a think-tank in his native India is quite interesting. We also have the Alumni Notes and Class of 2005 articles. Adrien Gatesman writes about the department's new project, the Undergraduate Review Journal (UER), the online compliment to the *Park Place Economist*. Alexis Manning'04 writes to us from Nicaragua, describing her experience as a Peace Corps volunteer. Finally, Nick Holland interviews Dr. Osella-Durbal and Dr. Seeborg, regarding Dr. Durbal's newly appointed tenure position.

This year we received many high quality articles dealing with a wide array of topics. Are you a baseball fan? Even if you aren't, I'd encourage you to read Andrew Tarman and Adam Houser's papers. Tarman measures the impact of monopsony power on baseball players with less than six years of experience while Houser focuses his research on the relationship between a team's payroll and its productivity measures. Were you inspired by the 2004 Athens Olympics? Well, so was Xun Bian, and in his paper he researches the relationship between a country's Olympic medal counts and its economy. Ever wondered the impact of your college major on your current earnings? Take a look at Amanda Thorson's paper, which examines this topic. Elizabeth Planas and Grant Dodds look at the topic of immigration. Planas looks at language proficiency and earnings while Dodds examines the difference in the rates of education for immigrant and native men. In the international economics area, Ana María Romero compares the determinants of foreign reserves in China and India. And if you ever wondered why foreign cars are gaining market share in the US market, I suggest you read Adrien Gatesman's paper, which explores that phenomenon. John Haugen writes about the regional variations in the UK, a topic he explored during his semester abroad. Finally, Sean Moran discusses the role of risk in determining the liberalization of trade.

I'd like to take this opportunity to give a special thanks to all the *Park Place Economist* staff, especially John Haugen and Adam Gray. Their help putting this journal together has been invaluable. I would also thank Alexis Manning for taking the time to write an article while in Nicaragua. Thanks also to Dr. Leekley, our faculty advisor, for his advice and guidance. Finally, I wish John Haugen and Adam Gray the best of luck in editing next year's journal, I'm sure they'll put an excellent journal together.

Please enjoy the thirteenth edition of the *Park Place Economist*!



**Ana María Romero A.**  
**Editor-in-Chief**

## General Information:

Submissions to the *Park Place Economist* are always welcome, and we encourage students to participate in the creation of the journal. If you are interested in submitting an article or becoming a member of the staff please contact Dr. Robert Leekley, the faculty advisor, at (309) 556-3178 or at [bleekley@iwu.edu](mailto:bleekley@iwu.edu) or John Haugen, next year's Editor-in-Chief, at [jhaugen@iwu.edu](mailto:jhaugen@iwu.edu). Written queries can be addressed to:

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