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Letter from the Editor

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Letter from the Editor

Letter from the Editor

Welcome to the 2010 edition of *The Park Place Economist*. This volume is the eighteenth publication of one of the nation's few undergraduate economics journals. While *The Park Place Economist* has certainly changed over the last eighteen years, as staff have come and gone, the purpose has remained to publish the best economics research conducted by students at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Bank bailouts, sub-prime mortgages, and stimulus packages have dominated the economic headlines in recent times. As economics students, we take interest in these pressing issues. However, the diverse content of this edition of *The Park Place Economist* shows that the field of economics touches more than just these headlines. Amanda Clayton looks at the politically pertinent issue of the efficiency of the United States health care system. My own paper looks at the economic and social effects of urban decay and white flight in suburban Chicago. Importantly, Kelsey Hample takes a look at the status of second generation immigrants. Next, John Sacranie analyzes the complexities of the video game industry. Stefan Stoev looks at how the Fed's balance sheet size effects the level of the yield curve. Beth Talentowski analyzes Major League Baseball and managerial turnover, while Teodora Petrova looks at the effect of housing prices and the REIT index in Bulgaria. Pat Topf takes a look at the film industry and Nate Wheatley tests the relationship between fuel prices and automotive sales.

This edition of *The Park Place Economist* would not have been possible without the efforts of a number of people. First, I owe a great deal of thanks to the staff. Paige Maynard, the Assistant Editor-in-Chief, specifically deserves praise for all of her help. I also need to single out for thanks all of my fellow employees in the Econ Lab: Amanda Clayton, Kelsey Hample, Tian Mao, and Teodora Petrova. Next, I am thankful for Dr. Robert Leekley's excellent guidance, advice, and support over the course of the year. Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to Gary Schwartz and Illinois Wesleyan's Printing Services for handling the production of the journal.

I hope you enjoy this edition of *The Park Place Economist*!

Lindsey Haines
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. Written queries can be addressed to:

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