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Letter from the Editor

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Letter from the Editor

Letter from the Editor

Hello! I am proud and honored to have served as the Editor-in-Chief of the twenty-first volume of The Park Place Economist for the 2012 to 2013 school year. This student-run publication still remains one of the few undergraduate economic journals in the nation. The increase in submissions has risen tenfold, as well as the size of editorial board. The Park Place Economist Staff has expanded to all years of students from diverse academic backgrounds who participate in the publishing process. In addition, the journal brings valuable insights and exposes all students to upper-level undergraduate research. One significant change in the journal's recent history is that the publication is now a registered as a Registered Student Organization (RSO). With the help of being a RSO, the publication of the journal will continue for many years to come because funding will be allocated by Student Senate. I would like to thank Derek Lindgren, this year's treasurer, for accompanying Mark Giannis, Assistant Editor-in-Chief, and I to the Student Senate financial advisory board meeting.

The journal continues to acknowledge students' economic research at Illinois Wesleyan University by publishing a variety of topic areas and methodologies used for empirical research. This year thirteen articles have been published from the Economics' Senior Seminar classes and other economic electives. Topics within the United States include assessing happiness, unemployment of minorities, crime rates, temporary immigrant labor, NASA funding, immigrant assimilation, and stock performance. Internationally, other articles examine developing countries such as India and Brazil, the determinants of growth in the Former Yugoslavia, and water quality and sanitation in Africa. We are also fortunate enough to publish an article in the field of environmental economics that conducted an experiment simulation on Illinois Wesleyan's campus.

The high caliber of this year's The Park Place Economist would not have been possible without every single contributor. Firstly, I would like to recognize and thank all of the authors who allowed their economic research to be published because without their work there ultimately would be no journal. Secondly, I would like to thank my staff for completing their tasks on their own outside time and meeting all of my demands. Thirdly, I would like to thank Mark Giannis and Elizabeth Liubicich for putting in many hard hours of work on this volume. Fourthly, I would like to thank Sijia Song, the Editor-in-Chief of the Undergraduate Economic Review, for his moral support. Lastly, I would like to thank Gary Schwartz for printing this year's publication and Professor Robert Leekley for his kind words of wisdom.

Please enjoy the twenty-first volume of The Park Place Economist!



Tara Gracer
Editor-in-Chief

