



4-1-2016

Letter from the Editor

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Recommended Citation

Bakke, Joseph (2016) "Letter from the Editor," *The Park Place Economist*: Vol. 24
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/parkplace/vol24/iss1/4>

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Letter from the Editor


Letter from the Editor

Welcome to the 24th edition of The Park Place Economist. As I reflect upon my experience at Illinois Wesleyan, I am immensely grateful to have attended an institution that places such considerable emphasis on producing quality undergraduate research. Specifically, within the economics program, students are both encouraged and inspired to conduct independent research as a culmination of their course work. In order to obtain the skill sets necessary to study specific interests in economics, students are offered multiple methods courses such as Applied Econometrics and Time Series Analysis. Senior economics majors are then given the invaluable opportunity to conduct individualized research projects one-on-one with professors. For me, this has been an inspirational experience that has profoundly deepened my interest in conducting econometric research. Finally, economics students are offered multiple avenues for exhibition of their work, such as publication in The Park Place Economist and presentation at the John Wesley Powell Research Conference. This wealth of educational and promotional resources is what makes IWU's economics program such an exemplary proponent of student research, and it is my privilege to be a part of publishing this work.

This year's edition of The Park Place Economist showcases the wide variety of interests represented in the IWU student body. These articles range from economic impact studies within Bloomington-Normal to international economic issues. For example, the work of Stephanie McAtee analyzes the effects of China's one-child policy on male and female immigrant earnings, and Max Leonard examines income mobility in the United States. Notable to this year's edition are the works of Tyler Stacy, Brendan McCann, Arica Williams, and Han Lu, who conducted economic impact studies within the Bloomington-Normal community. I hope you will find these articles informative on the economic contributions of our local organizations.

This publication would not have been possible without the invaluable contributions of many students and faculty. First, I must acknowledge our entire Editorial Staff, who have done a wonderful job of editing and improving upon the journal's content. In particular, I am especially grateful to our Assistant Editor-in-Chief, Karen Silverman, for her dedicated work on writing, editing, and organization. Many thanks are extended to Tess Johnson, our Graphic Designer and Technical Editor, who designed the cover photo for the last two editions. I would also like to thank Professor Ilaria Ossella-Durbal and our advisor, Professor Robert Leekley, for their support and guidance. Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to Gary Schwartz and Illinois Wesleyan Printing Services, as well as Student Senate for financing printing costs.

I hope you enjoy the 24th edition of The Park Place Economist.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, fluid 'B' shape with a long, sweeping underline that curves back up to the right.

Joseph Bakke
Editor-in-Chief