Dear Alumni, Former Faculty, and Friends of the Brandeis Economics Department,

Welcome to the fifth edition of the Economics Department Alumni Newsletter. Brandeis starts the new academic year with a number of changes. We have a new President, a new Provost, a new Dean of Arts and Sciences, and a new Chair of the Economics Department. I took over from Gary Jefferson on July 1st, and I hope to serve the department well.

The Economics Department is prospering, as are our alumni. We look forward to the addition of two new faculty and the return to the department of Adam Jaffe, after completing his time as Dean of Arts and Sciences. Many of our recent alumni have accepted jobs in consulting, finance, the government sector, or are attending graduate school. Our older alumni are also thriving. True to the Brandeis tradition, they are employed in a broad range of fields, from public sector jobs and NGOs to investment banking.

As in the past, this newsletter contains information about the department, alumni, and faculty that you probably won’t find anywhere else. Enjoy the news, and if you have information that should be included, or would simply like to be added to the department’s mailing list, please contact us. We very much hope that you stay in touch!

Best wishes,

Kathryn Graddy, Chair
The technical requirements for the major, namely the econometrics requirement and the focus on calculus for the intermediate-level courses, appear to be well-received, both by students and by future employers. The feedback from graduating seniors is that employers take note of the econometrics requirement and more generally appreciate strong analytical skills in their new employees.

**GRADUATION 2011**

*Rachel McCulloch*, Rosen Family Professor of International Finance and former chair, was the faculty speaker at this year's Economics Department commencement. As the Economics commencement was held jointly with the first Business Program commencement, she chose to focus on the commonality of the two subjects, especially with regards to the importance of incentives. Her important message was that economics provides an important way of thinking, both for business problems and more widely for achieving real-world goals, such as breaking the cycle of poverty.

Professor *H. Michael Coiner* presented departmental prizes for outstanding academic achievement to three 2011 graduates. These were:

- **Morris and Anna Feldberg Prize:** *Brian Lucking*
- **Sidney S. Cohen Award:** *Chiaki Fujiwara*
- **Carol Ann Steinfeld Memorial Prize:** *Carly Greenberg*

For photos from the Econ mini-commencement (as well as the IBS mini), see Graduation 2011.

**NEW GRAD PLANS**

In April, Meredith Robitaille, our department’s Academic Administrator, surveyed Econ seniors to learn about their post-graduation plans. At that point many students were still job-hunting, but among those responding with definite plans, a substantial number were heading for positions in the private sector, mainly finance, banking, and consulting. These included *Sofya Bronshvag* (Actuarial Analyst, Towers Watson), *Eric Cina* (Server Systems Engineer, Epic Systems Corporation), *Yoanna Freedman* (Associate Portfolio Analyst, Liberty Mutil), *Tejas Kumar* (Analyst, Citigroup, Inc), *Michael Laderman* (Research Associate, Economics Incorporated), *Aaron Louison* (Sales/Recruiting Consultant, Brine Group), *Lisa Qi* (Analyst, Goldman Sachs), *Jordan Roher* (Trader, T3 Trading), *Nicole Smith* (Account Coordinator, McCarthy Mambro Bertino), *Mark Sweder* (Portfolio Analyst, Liberty Mutual), *Minh Tran* (Risk Management Analyst, Citigroup, Inc), *Josh Waizer* (Consultant, Bates White), *Jordan Warsoff* (Sales Support Team Member, Cambridge Computer Services).

Outside the corporate world, *Sophia DeVito* will be a Teaching Fellow for Citizen Schools. *Brian Lucking* (Research Associate, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco) moved to a public-policy position, and *Judah Marans* will be working as an Investigative Intern at the Criminal Justice Clinic at Georgetown University’s Law Center.

Eleven students reported that they would be continuing their education next year. Those intending to complete an MAief in the Brandeis International Business School next year include *Nicole Cordero, Naomi Kling,*
Mathew Urbach and Jing Xu. Others continuing their study of economics and related subjects include Tom Almog, who will enter the M.A. program in Economics at Boston University and Rachel Koffer, who will be studying environmental economics and politics at Duke University.

As usual, we have a few graduates who will be attending graduate school outside the economics discipline. Robert Culver (Syracuse University College of Law) and Darren Sandler (University of Pennsylvania) will both be enrolling in JD programs. Seth Meltzer will enter the MD program at Tufts University School of Medicine.

FACULTY NEWS

For more information about the professional activities of our current faculty members, please visit the Econ homepage and click on Faculty. However, here are a few highlights.

Oeconomia, a new journal on the history, methodology and philosophy of economic thought, has devoted its first issue to Professor Anne Carter's work. A short biography of her life has recently been published in the Munich Personal RePEC archive, available here.

Professor Adam Jaffe returns to the Economics Department this year after completing six years as Dean of Arts and Sciences. We are very much looking forward to having him back!

In the last year, Professor Catherine Mann has been working on a variety of projects, including U.S. venture capital abroad, the outcome of U.S. Treasury auctions during booms, busts, and quantitative easing, and the Great Trade Collapse of 2009. In her 'free time', she has investigated the state of the economy at close range with a start-up with her husband -- www.dabblersconcord.com. They have hobbies ranging from encaustic painting to fused glass to the AR Drone. Classes, workshops, and demos, too. Check it out!

Professor Rachel McCulloch will spend her last year at Brandeis before her retirement working on a book tentatively titled "The United States in the World Economy: Theory and Policy," to be published by World Scientific. She will also be frequently travelling to Washington D.C. increasing her activities at the Peterson Institute for International Markets, continuing her long-time collaboration with Chad Bown, and visiting her four grandchildren.

In the spring of 2011, Professor Dan Tortorice will take a well-earned sabbatical. During his sabbatical, he will be working on two very topical subjects: unemployment and house prices. He also plans to spend time at the Boston Federal Reserve.

NEW FACULTY

This fall the Economics Department welcomes Davide Pettenuzzo, Assistant Professor of Economics. Having completed his Ph.D. at Bocconi University, Professor Pettenuzzo has recently worked at the economic consultancy Bates, White, while simultaneously publishing important research in the field of time-series econometrics. We are delighted to welcome Professor Pettenuzzo, who will be teaching two sections of Econometrics (184b) in the spring.

Ben Shiller, a 2004 Brandeis Economics Department graduate, was hired as an Assistant Professor of Economics. He will
spend the coming year at the National Bureau of Economic Research on a prestigious post-doctoral fellowship attached to the Economics of Digitization and Copyright Initiative and will join the department in the fall of 2012.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Alumni returning to campus often want to visit the faculty members they knew while they were students—including some who are no longer at Brandeis. Here is information about some past faculty members (see earlier issues for many more):

Barbara Alexander (1990-1997) is beginning her second year as visiting faculty at Babson College. She continues to work in antitrust consulting, with her firm, Arguendo.

Chad Bown (2005-2009) is a Senior Economist in the World Bank's Development Research Group, Trade and International Integration (DECTI) in Washington, DC.

Laarni Bulan (2001-2011) has joined Cornerstone Research in Boston.

Can Erbil, (2000-2011) has left the economics department to move across campus as a Senior Scientist and Senior Lecturer at the Heller School.

Randy Filer (1978-1996) is chair of the International Faculty Advisory committee for the International School of Economics at Tbilisi State University (ISET) in Georgia, the Central European coordinator for the Global Development Network, and the President of the CERGE-EI Foundation, which supports economics education in the post-communist countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

Stefan Gerlach is Professor of Monetary Economics at the Institute for Monetary and Financial Stability, University of Frankfurt, Germany

Paroma Sanyal (2001 -2010) will be a Senior Economist at the Federal Communication Commission in Washington, DC beginning this fall.

Miguel Villaneuva is the Vice President and Senior Quantitative Research Analyst at State Street Global Advisors in Boston.

Please feel free to suggest other former Econ faculty members you would like to read about in our next issue. If we don’t know where they are, we’ll do our best to track them down!

ALUMNI NEWS

Mary Huff Stevenson ’66 retired from her position as Professor of Economics at the University of Massachusetts Boston but continues to teach her urban economics course there on a part-time post-retirement basis. Her urban policy textbook, co-authored with Barry Bluestone and Russell Williams, The Urban Experience: Economics, Society, and Public Policy (Oxford University Press, 2008) has been well-received.

Omar Khasru ’76 attended Georgetown and Berkeley after Brandeis. He works as the Special Assistant to the Vice Chancellor (President) at North South University (NSU), the first private university in Bangladesh.

Bob Russman Halperin ’77 has launched Alumni Forum Services, an initiative that brings business school alumni together for
confidential peer discussions of important professional and personal issues.

**Rachel Ex Connelly '79** is the Bion R. Cram Professor of Economics at Bowdoin College. Her newest book, *Professor Mommy: Finding Work/Family Balance in Academia* (Rowman and Littlefield Press) will be out at the end of July.

**Michael Klein '80** will continue to serve as Chief Economist in the Office of International Affairs in the US Treasury while on leave from the Fletcher School at Tufts University through the end of 2011. (He began this position in June 2010). His novel, *Something for Nothing*, will be published in August 2011.

**Michael Mayer '94, MA '95** is a film director and head of an entertainment marketing company. He and his wife, Sasha, welcomed their second son, Cole, on May 28. Cole and his older brother, Jackson, are getting along great!

**Navin Kartik '99** is Associate Professor of Economics at Columbia University.

**David Dagan '02** recently completed the first year of a political science PhD program at Johns Hopkins University. He was previously a reporter for a business newspaper in Pennsylvania and continues to work as a freelance journalist.

**Ashwin Pai ‘02** is Vice President at Jefferies International, Healthcare Investment Banking in London.

**Matthew Schwartz ‘03** just completed his second year at the University of Chicago Law School and is spending the summer as a summer associate at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP.

**Shaw Lupton ‘04, MA ‘05** was promoted to the role of Senior Real Estate Economist at PPR (a CoStar Company), where he advises institutional clients on their commercial real estate investment strategies.

**Ariella Stober ‘04** and her husband, Jonathan David, recently welcomed their first child Evan Mitchell David, on February 19, 2011.

**Rachael (Oppenheimer) Granby ‘05** just completed her M.S. in Economics and is a Senior Editor at an investment website, *Seeking Alpha*. She lives in Israel with her husband, Jonny, and son, Gabriel; baby #2 is expected in August.

**Donnie Phillips ‘05, MA ‘06** is going back to school for his MBA at The University of Chicago Booth School of Business after five years in investment banking and private equity at *Evercore Partners*, *Sun Capital Partners*, and *MidOcean Partners*.

**Anna Rakhman ‘05** has recently earned her Ph.D. in economics from George Washington University. She will soon be joining the Analysis Group in Boston, MA as an Associate.

**Gloria Sheu ‘05** is now an Economist for the Economic Analysis Group, Antitrust Division, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

**Andrew Katz ‘06, MA ‘07** is engaged to **Sarah Passarelli ‘07** and the couple plan to get married in June of 2012. They live in New York City with their dog, Jack.

**Khayam Allen ‘07** is working in Afghanistan on Emergency Response programs for a French NGO.
Dmitriy Arkannikov '07 enlisted into the Army National Guard in February of 2011 and after finishing basic training will start Officer Candidate School in March of 2012.

Adam Breiterman '07 moved to Singapore and works for Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Asia Pacific as a Business Relationship Manager.

Aaron Gaynor '07 will enter his last year at Cardozo School of Law this fall.

David Glick '07 is beginning Ph.D. coursework in Economics at Brown University this September.

Mai Le '07 is will be finishing her MBA from Hitotsubashi University in Japan in August 2011. After that, she will return to Vietnam to continue her wedding planning business which she founded with Brandeis alum (Yen Thieu, Heller School '07). She will also be managing her family's travel business Eviva Tour Vietnam, which caters to travelers visiting Vietnam.

David Weiss '07 is a Ph.D. student in economics at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dave White '07 just moved to New York after 4 years in London and Hong Kong. He continues in real estate doing special situations with Deutsche Bank.

Samuel Ackerman '08 is working as a Research Assistant at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors on the Survey of Consumer Finances. He is also working on finishing his MS in Statistics at GWU. He recently attended and presented at the Interface 2011 Symposium on Statistical, Machine Learning, and Visualization Algorithms.

Nikhil Agarwal '08 is beginning his fourth year in the Economics Ph.D. program at Harvard. His thesis is focused on the efficiency of the national residency matching program.

Chanont Banterghansa '08 is beginning his second year in the Economics Ph.D. program at the University of Chicago. He is working with Nobel Laureate James Heckman on a project involving education and the GED tests.

Cristina Cabarcos 08' is working as a press manager for CHANEL Latin America.

Mary Casady '08 is at JP Morgan, working as a sales analyst for institutional clients within the asset management group. She is based in New York City where she has been living since graduation.

John Farr '08 is working in economic consulting at Analysis Group in Washington, DC and is about to start studying for the GMAT.

Matt Rosen '08 just successfully completed his first year at Rutgers-Newark School of Law.

Zach Seeskin '08 will begin a PhD program in Statistics at Northwestern University this fall.

Felicia Bacall '09 is an Associate at Price Waterhouse Coopers in Washington, DC.

Erik Blutinger '09 completed his first year at George Washington Medical School, spent this summer in India and Bhutan working on projects dealing with global health.

Santana Lopez ‘09 received her M.S. in Journalism from Northwestern University
this past December. She currently lives in New York City working in luxury fashion public relations.

Arun Narayanan ’10 recently left his Customer Development Manager position at PepsiCo and will move to Los Angeles in August to join the MFA Film Production program at the University of Southern California School of Cinematic Arts.

Ben Sacks ’10 has completed his first year as a Teach-For-America corps member in Philadelphia.

Please send your own news to the Academic Administrator of the Economics Department, Meredith Robitaille:

mrobitai@brandeis.edu

We will publish your news in next year’s alumni newsletter. We also welcome suggestions for the kind of information you would like to see in future issues of the newsletter. If you did not receive this newsletter directly from the Economics Department, please contact Meredith to add your name, year, and contact information to our e-mail list.