



Decision Sciences and Economics Newsletter - Spring 2016



Dr. Marilyn Spencer, Chair of DSEC Department
Departmental news & Welcome from the Chair

I am the new chair for the Department of Decision Sciences and Economics, though I've been teaching economics in the College of Business for over 12 years. I've been teaching Principles of Macroeconomics, Principles of Microeconomics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Public Finance and Managerial Economics.

Dr. Jim Lee, our recent department chair, is now Executive Director of the South Texas Center for Economic Development, dedicating the time he used to spend as department chair to working in the community and in researching local and regional trends and new developments. If you are a new major or minor in our two disciplines, welcome! I know you'll learn a lot from your classmates and faculty. We believe in using group projects and interactive learning to help you succeed. And we are not disappointed.

Many of you are planning to take jobs after college, and others of you are planning to enroll in graduate and professional schools. Please let your faculty help you succeed in either. Get to know us, and let us get to know you. Ask our advice, and ask for our help.

Recently, the MISY faculty began curriculum revision to make the courses more useful for graduates seeking to work with big data. New software has been purchased and incorporated; existing software is being updated. We want our MISY students to be competitive in the job market.

In ECON, the faculty have developed our own Economics Exit Exam, which will be required for graduation. Your performance on this exam will indicate to us how well we're doing in helping you learn the most important economics concepts.

The Student Economics Association has planned a mixture of fun and thought-provoking events. The Management Information Systems Association has invited guest speakers and discussions related to careers, internships, and resumes. The student leaders are excited to have anyone interested in MISY attend their upcoming events.

The faculty and I are impressed by you! We see your hard work, self-discipline and enthusiasm in our classes.

Best wishes for the rest of this term and the remainder of your undergrad time here at TAMUCC!

Student Clubs



Management Information System Association (MIS Association) at Texas A&M University Corpus Christi is a professional student association that focus on broadening student's understanding and knowledge of the Management Information System (MIS) profession through networking events, professional meetings and associations. Main activities are supporting TAMUCC students who are interested in business management, information technology, career advice, cutting edge resources and preparing for the job after graduation.

For more information:
 Brandon Reeves – President
breeves@islander.tamucc.edu
 Tim Klaus – Faculty Advisor
tim.klaus@tamucc.edu



Student Economics Association Meetings:

- Wednesday, February 10 at 1 pm.
- Wednesday, March 9 at 1 pm.
- Wednesday, April 6 at 1 pm.
- Wednesday, May 4 at 1 pm (elections).

Please contact the President of SEA Mathew Long at m-long2@islander.tamucc.edu, or Faculty Advisor Dr. Hudgins at david.hudgins@tamucc.edu

The SEA hosted Bob McNab on January 29, 2016. Dr. McNab talked about Corruption and Economic Growth.

Careers, Jobs, Salaries, and Awards

Management Information Systems

The demand for MIS graduates is increasing faster than the general demand for other fields of study. Because of the great variety of MIS application areas and technical specialties, numerous career choices are available. Two typical career paths for MIS majors:

- Management path: enter the organization as business or systems analyst, progressing into technical management and after significant management experience, potentially into Chief Information Officer (CIO). The primary duties of a CIO are strategic business palling, acquisition assessment, asset management, e Business, capital planning and investment, business

Economics

Information Sessions

Wednesday, March 23, 2016 1:00 PM (OCNR 135)

Tuesday, March 29, 2016 12:30 PM (OCNR 135)

- Explore career possibilities with an ECONOMICS degree (minor or major). Feel free to contact to Dr. Gevrek for more information on majoring and minoring in economics at deniz.gevrek@tamucc.edu
- One of the highest salary among all **business disciplines**.
- The highest salary among all **liberal arts disciplines**.
- Higher incomes than **most** majors.

process and change management decision making.

- Technical path: enter the organization as developer, progress to senior developer and after significant technical and management experience, into Chief Technology Officer (CTO). The primary duties of a CTO are overall architecture and technical standards creation, systems engineering (the overall design of applications), network security, test and evaluation, data management.

These choices of an MIS major include:

- Business of systems analyst
- IT consultant
- Application of system developer
- Project manager
- Security analyst
- Quality assurance
- E Business enterprise

Other MIS Information

- MIS majors received the highest average starting salary among class of 2015

Management information systems (MIS) majors received the highest average starting salary among Class of 2015 bachelor's degree business graduates and marketing majors were the top business earners at the master's level, according to results of NACE's January 2015 Salary Survey

Among the bachelor's graduates, MIS majors earned starting salaries that average nearly \$56,000. Logistics/supply chain, finance, and accounting majors also earned top average salaries among business majors

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Figure 1: Top-paid business majors at the bachelor's level

Major	Average Starting Salary
Management information systems	\$55,843
Logistics/supply chain	\$53,024
Finance	\$52,788
Accounting	\$51,475
Business administration/management	\$51,196
Sales	\$50,200
Marketing	\$49,419

Source: January 2015 Salary Survey, National Association of Colleges and Employers

Source:

<http://money.cnn.com/2012/01/12/pf/college/salaries/index.htm>

- **FACT:** Economics is the only major you can earn through two colleges at the TAMU-CC! Either via College of Business or College of Liberal Arts!
- So you like your current major? How about adding Economics as a minor?
- You are up for a challenge? How about adding Economics to pursue a double-major!
- Adding Economics either as a minor or as a major will set you apart from those other students, or Economists would say, "It will differentiate your product!"
- Get ready for government jobs, private sector jobs, graduate school, MBA and law school and many more post-graduation opportunities.

Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE) Alpha Delta Chapter of Texas The International Honor Society for Economics



Did you know that TAMU-CC economics program is the home of Alpha Delta chapter of the ODE, International Honor Society for Economics?

- "Omicron Delta Epsilon is one of the world's largest academic honor societies.
- Currently, Omicron Delta Epsilon has 681 [chapters](#) located in the United States, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Puerto Rico, South Africa, Egypt, France, Kazakhstan, and United Arab Emirates. Source:

<http://www.naceweb.org/s02182015/top-paid-business-majors-2015.aspx#sthash.Xfo5OF2I.dpuf>

- Dream Spark

All students enrolled in a MISY course are eligible to download and use FREE Microsoft software. This will help improve learning and teaching and to adapt to the evolving demands of the global economy. To download the software, go to mis.tamucc.edu and click on "Free Microsoft Software."

For further information:

Palfreyman, Christopher- IT manager
Christopher.Palfreyman@tamucc.edu

<http://www.omicrondeltaepsilon.org/index.html>

- For more information on our campus chapter and membership requirements please contact to faculty advisor, Dr. Gevrek at deniz.gevrek@tamucc.edu
- Every Spring Economics faculty honor ODE inductees

Awards:

American Bank Award Outstanding Senior

BBA: Valentinas Rudys

STEDC Award Outstanding Senior BBA

Runner up: Amy Villarreal

CVS award Outstanding Senior BBA,

Runners up: Danny Berry & Natasha Scott

Bob McMinn Junior Award Outstanding

Junior BBA: Brandon Fox

Wells Fargo Award Outstanding Senior

BA: Sean Perkins

Faculty Economics Minor Award

Outstanding Minor: Jay Paulson

Distinguished Speaker at ODE banquet:



Alumna Robin Elliott, BA Econ `12

SOUTH TEXAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTER



One of the goals for our College of Business and the University is to promote economic and business development in our South Texas region. The Center has provided us—professors and students alike—with opportunities to engage with our community and to serve the public and local stakeholders such as government officials and business developers. I am pleased to report that the Center has become a research hub for our Business faculty, especially in economics, to apply their expertise to real-world issues. In my opinion, the best part of this Center is that we now can put what we learn from economic classes into practice. Our priority for hiring research assistants is to employ economics majors. My first student assistant, Kuangyi Liu, graduated with a BBA degree in Economics and then completed his MBA program here. In addition to research work year-round, my student assistants have been helpful especially in our annual publication, the Aqua Book. You can easily find the footprint of our students' work everywhere. And I hope I will also see your involvement with the Center as well as our local Community.



Jim Lee
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South Texas Economic Development Center
<http://stedc.tamucc.edu/>

