



Economics Newsletter

Orfalea College of Business
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA

Letter from the Chair

Dear Alumni, Former Faculty, and Friends of the Cal Poly Economics Department:

As Chair of the Economics Department at Cal Poly's Orfalea College of Business, I would like to welcome you to our inaugural newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to help maintain systematic ties with our alumni and other friends and provide a focal point for conveying department news about our former students and faculty. I hope you will find something that interests you in this first issue, and even more importantly, I hope that after reading this newsletter, you will take the opportunity to send some news of your own that we can include in our next issue.



**Steve Hamilton,
Professor and Chair**

For this first issue, there is much about the department that will be news to some alumni -- especially those who graduated decades ago. For alumni who have been out of touch for a while and want to learn more about the Economics Department and the Economics major today at Cal Poly, I suggest beginning with the department's website: <http://www.calpoly.edu/~econ>. You can find information on our website about the Economics faculty (in many cases with links to their personal homepages and downloads of their latest papers), course schedules and syllabi for recent quarters, and much more. If it has been some years since your last visit to campus, you may wonder about the new photo on the Economics Department homepage. It shows the entrance to the Orfalea College of Business, as seen from California Boulevard near Mustang Stadium. Much of our building has been upgraded including state-of-the-art classrooms with overhead projectors, student study rooms, computer resources, and classrooms with networked computers and wireless ports.

In 2007-08, we introduced several new faculty members to economics students at Cal Poly. The department's latest recruitment attracted recent Ph.D.'s from UC Davis and the University of Colorado, along with distinguished scholars from Ohio State University, Suffolk University, and Notre Dame. Among our many accomplishments this year, department faculty members [published articles](#) in some of the most prestigious journals in the economics profession, and Mike Marlow received Cal Poly's prestigious "Distinguished Scholarship Award." In 2008-09, many great things will be happening at Cal Poly Economics! We plan to open a new experimental lab in the College to involve students in faculty research, and we are getting set to launch a new MS in Economics program.

At Cal Poly, we are always eager to hear from you, and I hope this newsletter encourages you to keep in touch.



**Mike Marlow
Professor**

Economics Professor Michael L. Marlow Receives University's Distinguished Scholarship Award

Selected from 83 nominations and seven finalists, economics professor Michael Marlow was honored at our spring commencement for his research accomplishments in economics and public policy. Dr. Marlow's investigations combine theory and application to better understand government policies as they pertain to public education, health economics, fiscal federalism and tax policy. In addition to publishing numerous articles and a public finance textbook, Marlow has published over 60 refereed articles.

Dr. Marlow is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the George Washington University where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics in 1975. In 1978, he received his Ph.D. in Economics from Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Dr. Marlow began teaching at Cal Poly in 1988. He previously was an Associate Professor of Economics at George Washington University and a Senior Financial Economist at the U.S. Treasury Department.

Median Salary for ECON Grads is \$51K

With a median annual salary of \$51,000, Orfalea College of Business ECON graduates occupy such roles as research analyst, assurance associate, project engineer, credit analyst, and account executive in the business world of economics, finance, and real estate.

Sherwin Williams, Comerica Bank, Deloitte & Touche, Sperry Van Ness Commercial Real Estate, Morgan Stanley, and PricewaterhouseCoopers are just a few of the companies who have recently hired our ECON students.

In addition, some of our graduates have embarked on a road leading to a postgraduate degree.

Alum Voices

With each edition of our newsletter, we would like to showcase the thoughts and experiences of our alums with regard to their education at Cal Poly and their respective career paths.

Jeff Little – 2005 – *“I graduated and began working for Morgan Stanley in the San Luis Obispo branch in 2005. The education I received in the Economics program while at Cal Poly has proved to be invaluable in my experience as a Financial Advisor. I spend much of my time bringing clients up to speed on the current economic environment and how it relates to their investments. Fortunately for me, it was a very natural transition in terms of the technical learning curve, and the best part is that I've been able to do it without leaving beautiful San Luis Obispo!”*

“The education I received in the Economics program while at Cal Poly has proved to be invaluable in my experience as a Financial Advisor.”

Economics Office & Faculty

The Economics office is located in the Orfalea College of Business - building 003 in room 407.

Office Phone: 805.756.2783

Department Chair:

Steve Hamilton

Faculty:

Eric Fisher, Sanjiv Jaggia, Jason Lepore, Michael Marlow, Kathryn Marshall, Aric Shafran, Dan Villegas, and Eduardo Zambrano

Lecturers:

Clare Battista, Susan Jones, and Solina Lindahl



Calendar

Sept 22 - Fall Quarter Begins

Nov 7 - Honored Alumni Awards & Grand Reunion Banquet, Chumash Auditorium, 5:30 p.m.

Nov 8 - Homecoming! Cal Poly Mustangs vs North Carolina Central University Eagles, 4:00 p.m., Spanos Stadium

Dec 13 - Fall Quarter Commencement