Randy Albelda

Professor Randy Albelda served as Graduate Program Director for the MA in Applied Economics program, which saw nine students graduate in June 2019. Professor Albelda published a co-authored article with Professor Emily Wiemers (and others) on the relationship between paid leave, financial burden, and patient-reported outcomes among employed patients who have undergone bone marrow transplantation. Harry Konstantindis, recent Applied Economics MA graduate Aimee Bell-Pasht, and Professor Albelda presented their paper “Gender and Precarious Work in the United States” at the International Association for Feminist Economics Conference in Glasgow, UK in June. Professor Albelda was awarded this year’s Chancellor’s Distinguished Service Award for her department, university, professional and public service contributions over the last three decades at UMass Boston.

Michael Carr

Professor Michael Carr continued his joint work on economic mobility, inequality, and earnings instability with Professor Emily Wiemers. Some of this work was presented at the Brookings Institution in a joint session on understanding trends in long-run employment outcomes in the U.S. He also continued work with Professor Randy Albelda on the interrelationship earnings changes and receipt of public benefits such as childcare subsidies. He also continued work with MassBudget on understanding the potential impacts of minimum wage changes on family income in Massachusetts.
Anne Fitzpatrick

Professor Fitzpatrick had a busy year, teaching two new classes- ECON 480/680 (Health Economics) and Econ 110G: Economic Ideas, a First Year Seminar course. She also continued work on several ongoing research projects. In one of her projects, she is part of a team evaluating a remedial education program for primary school students in Ghana, conducted in partnership with the Ghanaian Ministry of Education. She is also part of a team evaluating a remedial instruction program for secondary school students in Odisha, India. Both studies will conclude later this year. She also presented ongoing work showing that the Affordable Care Act’s Medicaid expansion resulted in decreases for fringe banking services (i.e., pawn shops, payday loans, and check-cashing outlets) at the Society for Labor Economists annual meeting. In addition, Professor Fitzpatrick supervised MA student Magaly Saenz’s capstone on rural non-farm income.

Keren Horn

Professor Keren Horn has been working on a set of new research projects this year. She was awarded money from the Dean’s Research Fund to begin an investigation of how gentrification impacts labor market outcomes for incumbent residents. She has been working with Dania Francis and master's student Mariana Ronchini to study patterns of school integration in both public and private schools in the US. She is also working on a new proposal to examine how dimensions of place, such as housing prices and economic inequality shape the ability of workers to re-integrate into the labor market after they have been laid off.
Marlene Kim

Professor Marlene Kim received the Hazel Dayton Gunn Golden Pencil Award from the *Review of Radical Political Economics* (RRPE) for her work in heading the RRPE collective's RRPE 50th Anniversary Special Issue (fall 2018, volume 50, no 3). She continued to head this collective during the academic year, writing the “Introduction to Comments on the Special Issue of RRPE, ‘URPE at 50,’” which is to be published in the fall of 2019, and editing other submissions. She presented, “Gendered Racism: The Intersection of Race and Gender in the Earnings of African American and Asian American Women in the US,” at the Association for Heterodox Conference in Leicester, England. She taught Economics 476, Internship in Economics, where one student received a job. She is the President of the Faculty Staff Union at UMass Boston.

Yun Kim

Professor Yun Kim has been working on his research program that focuses on household debt and macroeconomy especially in connection to induced technological change, the labor market and barging power, and comparative capitalism (Varieties of Capitalism). One of the papers (Political aspects of household finance: debt, wage bargaining, and macroeconomic (in)stability, coauthored with Gilberto Tadeu Lima and Mark Setterfield) was recently published by the *Journal of Post Keynesian Economics*; other ongoing research works are currently at their final stages. He gave talks on his new paper at the 22nd Conference of the Research Network Macroeconomics and Macroeconomic Policies, Berlin, Germany. He also gave an invited seminar at Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan. Michael Cauvel (a PhD student from American University), whom he was working with as dissertation committee member, has successfully finished his dissertation and became a tenure track Assistant Professor at Ithaca College. Nicholas Avola, a student in our BA/MA joint MA program, has also successfully completed his Master’s capstone on happiness from macroeconomic perspectives and graduated with honors. (Congratulations to both!) Leo, Professor Kim’s son, is now 3 years and 4 months as of June 2019. He is growing fast and very active. Although he has become very bossy and demanding, Leo gives the very best days to his parents!
Harry Konstantinidis

Professor Harry Konstantinidis co-authored a report on the impact of austerity on the food and agricultural system of Greece titled “Democracy not for sale: The struggle for food sovereignty in the age of austerity in Greece” and participated in the report launch in Brussels in November 2018, along the former UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food and Members of the European Parliament. He was also invited to present his research at the University of Glasgow in September 2018, at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in October 2018, and at Nichols College in February 2019. He also presented his research at two conferences: the International Initiative for the Promotion Political Economy Conference in Croatia in September 2018, and at the Eastern Economic Association Conference in New York in March 2019.

Adugna Lemi

Professor Lemi has taught one section of the international trade (Econ 334) course both in fall and spring semesters. In addition to the usual administrative duties as a chair of the department, he has served as dissertation committee member for six PhD students in the Global Governance program in the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies, two of them defended their dissertations and graduated this year. He presented his co-authored paper on Trade and Climate Change at the Development and Sustainability conference organized by the University of Michigan in November. Currently he is working on a paper that analyzes the location decision of Chinese and US firms investing in African countries, and a book proposal on empirical findings from trade, poverty and productivity studies in Africa. He will be presenting a revised version of his paper on “Trade mis-invoicing and capital flight in Ethiopia” at the annual international conference organized by the Ethiopian Economic Association in July.
Sripad Motiram

During the summer break, Professor Motiram visited India to work on urban issues, and presented a paper at the Human Development and Capabilities Association Annual Conference in Buenos Aires. In Fall, Professor Motiram co-organized a panel on urban issues at the 50th anniversary conference of URPE. During the winter break, he helped organize a conference in Mumbai on the political economy of India and presented a paper on inequality in Indian cities. In Spring, he presented his papers at the seminar in economic development at the University of Southern California, South Asia Institute at Harvard University, and inaugural Asian Political Economy conference at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. During the year, he published an article on Inequality of Opportunity in India and made progress on several articles and a book proposal.

Guy Numa

During his fourth year at UMass Boston, Professor Numa organized a four-paper session on the reappraisal of Léon Walras’s economics at the 2019 annual conference of the American Economic Association in Atlanta. His research on the political economy of Jean-Baptiste Say has been very productive. An article about Say’s views on hoarding and money holdings was accepted for publication. A second article on the ideas of John Maynard Keynes and Say’s contribution is forthcoming in the Journal of Economic Perspectives, one of the top 5 journals with the highest impact in the economics profession. During the year, Professor Numa taught two new courses, a 300-level course on the History of Economic Thought, and a Public Finance course offered to graduate students.
David Timmons

Professor Timmons returned from sabbatical in Mauritius for the 2018-19 academic year and taught undergraduate and graduate classes that examined the economics of renewable energy. Many popular-press articles suggest that fully renewable electricity systems are not feasible, but Professor Timmons’ research shows that this view is incorrect. In Mauritius, an optimum renewable portfolio includes sources such as wind and sun, which are complements (since the wind often blows when the sun does not shine), and battery storage or dispatchable sources such as biomass and hydropower, which are substitutes (any electricity available on demand can be substituted for any similar source). A literature review indicates that similar patterns hold in most places, including the United States. Replacing legacy fossil fuels with renewable sources is feasible and is needed to control climate change.

Emily Wiemers

This year, Professor Wiemers was on research leave in the fall and taught Microeconomic Theory in the spring semester. During her research leave she started a new project on the role of access to paid sick leave on long-run employment outcomes and benefit receipt and attended several academic conferences and meetings. Next year, Professor Wiemers will be on leave at the Aging Studies Institute at Syracuse University.