

QED NEWSLETTER



Queen's
UNIVERSITY

Message from the Head



I hope you enjoy this issue of the *QED Newsletter*, which is the third one since I became Head of the Department in 2003.

The last year has been a challenging one for me personally and for the Department. Despite a great deal of hard work by the Appointments Committee, we failed to hire anyone in 2005, and I am sorry to report the departure of Li Hao, who returned to the University of Toronto after only one year with us. More recently, however, there have been a number of positive developments.

Firstly, we are now attempting to fill the David Chadwick Smith Chair. If we succeed in appointing a leading economist, as we are working hard to do, the Smith Chair will be a unique achievement. It is the only Chair funded by a broad, public campaign in the

recent history of Queen's. All of us are very grateful to the many friends of David Smith and the many dedicated QED alumni who have contributed so generously to this project. Of course, further contributions remain very welcome and would be very valuable indeed. All contributions are still being matched dollar for dollar by the University.

Secondly, we have recently been given two additional positions to fill, which represents an important vote of confidence from the University. This means that, in addition to the Smith Chair, we are now trying to fill three positions, and many of us are working very hard to make some great appointments this year.

Thirdly, the Department continues to have great success in the annual competitions for SSHRC grants. In the most recent (2004-05) competition, for example, all six tenured and tenure-track QED faculty members who applied for these grants received them. At time of writing, no fewer than 18 members of the Department (precisely three out of four) hold SSHRC grants. Note that the overall success rate in these competitions is only about forty per cent, and many academic economists never apply at all.

The Department continues to have great students at all levels. Of course, this has been true for many years. As an illustration of this, the website <http://ideas.repec.org> has a list of the top academic economists in Canada, based on downloads, citations, and various

other criteria. In their November list (the latest at time of writing), no fewer than 11 of the top 80 had PhDs from Queen's. This is a remarkable statistic. Number 3 on the list, incidentally, was Robin Boadway. I have not checked where every economist on this list obtained their PhD, but I know many of them personally, and I am very confident that no other Canadian university comes anywhere close to Queen's. The total number of Queen's graduates on the list was substantially greater than 11, since quite a few of those on it have Bachelor's and/or Master's degrees from the QED.

I hope you enjoy reading this year's *QED Newsletter*, because publishing it is quite a task. A number of people, especially Sharon Sullivan, Juanita Dennie, and Jennine Ball, together with the authors of various articles, put a lot of effort into this issue. Although space is tight, we would love to publish more articles by and about alumni. Please contact me if you would like to contribute something.

James MacKinnon
jgm@econ.queensu.ca

Three QED Grads among Canada's Most Powerful Women

In late 2004, the Women's Executive Network chose 100 women to honour at Canada's Most Powerful Women Summit. Remarkably, three of them were graduates of the Queen's Economics Department. Here is what each of them says about their time at Queen's and how it affected the rest of their lives.

Deborah Alexander '73

I arrived at Queen's University in the fall of 1969 and became part of the class of Arts 1973. I decided to take an economics course in my first year, as I thought it would assist me in gaining admission to law school. I found the subject, which was completely new to me at the time, very interesting. As a result, I joined the Honours Economics program, but I decided to enter law school after my third year.



I remember my years at Queen's as being some of the best years of my life. All the experiences were new and exciting, with a growing sense of independence that made the experience even more rewarding. The professors were friendly and helpful, and I made many wonderful friends. For the first time in my life, I really wanted to succeed.

My economics training was extremely helpful after I graduated from law school and started to practice securities law. I was able to understand financial market issues and world financial issues and was more aware of the factors that would create both positive and adverse conditions for the financial markets. The international economics course prepared me for the impact that globalization would have on our Canadian economy and financial markets.

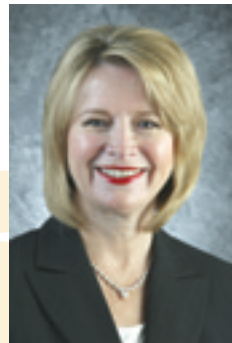
I practiced securities law at Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt for twenty-five years and had a very rewarding and successful career doing domestic and international corporate finan-

cial transactions. After much deliberation, I decided to leave Osler for The Bank of Nova Scotia, where I became an Executive Vice-President, General Counsel, and Secretary. I wanted another challenge – a second career in a new business environment. This new career is also very rewarding and interesting. The Bank has extensive international operations, and my responsibilities include overseeing global legal issues and worldwide compliance. I see daily the impact of foreign economies on our operations and the volatility of the various financial markets in which we operate. My studies in economics have made it easier for me to understand the implications of all of the factors on the Bank's business.

Deborah Alexander is Executive Vice-President, General Counsel, and Secretary of Scotiabank.

E. Gay Mitchell '84

For many people, their achievements in university help launch their career. In my case, I only had the chance to study at Queen's after I had already been with the Royal Bank for 10 years. But my time at Queen's was instrumental in contributing to my subsequent career success.



I was fortunate to receive a Royal Bank scholarship, which allowed me to take a leave of absence for four years to get a university education. Back then, I was a management officer in a large Royal Bank branch. Obviously, a university education was con-

sidered important to entering senior ranks at Royal Bank. I was accepted at several universities, but Queen's took it a step further and gave me academic advice that really strengthened my career opportunities.

Originally, I applied for a Commerce degree. After reviewing my goals, the University showed me how I could take an undergraduate degree in Economics in two years, followed by an MBA. Through this plan, I was able to upgrade my level of education, with only one downside...I had no social life! But what a life that academic foundation has given me. It has been a key ingredient in what I have accomplished at Royal Bank.

What did my studies offer me? A global perspective and a better discipline of critical thinking, both of which have been essential in my career. With my academic foundation and my practical experience, I have been better equipped to understand complex shifts and to shape strategy – necessary competencies for a whole range of challenges from growing our business to leading major organizational change to dealing with the financial impact of three recessions during my career.

Ultimately, my time at Queen's shaped my thinking and my life. I returned to Royal Bank with the grounding to become a senior leader with the perspective and skills to take on the challenges of today's global business environment.

E. Gay Mitchell is Executive Vice-President, Strategic Business Development of RBC Financial Group.

Barbara Palk '73

On a warm spring day in May 1971, shortly after writing my first year Economics exam, a stern, gravelly voice on the phone demanded, "Miss Palk, I would like to see you in my office!" Professor Dodge had been an engaging teacher and truly had piqued my interest in economics, but how I had struggled in his course! After all, I was at Queen's to major in English. With this call, I was sure that my worst fears would be realized.



Shockingly, Professor Dodge had wanted to commend me for receiving the highest mark on the exam, and he invited me to study economics as my major. From there, I never looked back.

I completed an Honours Economics degree. For me, economics delivered a broad overview of the interaction between business, government and the economy, both domestically and internationally. Concurrently, it delved into the more micro aspects of companies, econometrics, and statistics. It laid the groundwork early for me to appreciate the "big picture" – be it strategically or globally – throughout my career. Working largely in banking, brokerage, and investment management, this "macro" perspective proved to be most beneficial. Later in my career, I supplemented my technical skills with a CFA, an important competency for investment management.

But there was more to Queen's than my economics education. Queen's delivered a personal learning environment where I was encouraged to be involved in extracurricular activities like the ASUS, AMS, and numerous organizing committees. This Queen's tradition of "giving back" inspired me to be active in community service throughout my career. But, most of all, the friends and acquaintances I made at Queen's remain life long to this day – socially and professionally. And I occasionally lunch with Professor Dodge, now Governor of the Bank of Canada, and a special friend to Queen's and to me.

Barbara Palk is President, TD Asset Management Inc.

QED Students Study the Gender Gap for Recent Canadian Graduates

By Shannon Seitz

In the Fall of 2005, eighty third-year undergraduate students in Introductory Econometrics, along with instructor Shannon Seitz, used their newly acquired econometric skills to study a topic close to their hearts: trends in the gender gap for recent graduates in Canada.

The students studied data from 1986, 1990, and 1995 waves of the National Graduates Survey, a survey conducted by Statistics Canada that captures the short- to medium-term labour market outcomes of graduates from Canadian public university, community college and trade-vocational programs.

The goal of the research project was twofold. First, the students examined the trends in the gender composition of schooling attainments and made some interesting discoveries. Although the fraction of college graduates that were women was roughly constant at 50% between 1986 and 1995, the fraction of Bachelor's degrees awarded to women increased by 13 percentage points (from 53 to 66%) and the fraction of Master's degrees awarded to women increased by 10 percentage points (from 44 to 54%). Although men are much more likely to earn a doctoral degree than women, Canada also experienced a moderate increase in the frac-

tion of doctoral degrees awarded to women (from 28% to 33%). The data analyzed thus suggests that the gender gap in educational attainment has been closing over the time period in question.

The second goal of the research project was to study trends in the gender earnings gap for recent graduates. The students estimated models of earnings separately for graduates in trade schools, colleges, and undergraduate and graduate university programs. They found that the gender gap in earnings for graduates from trade schools and colleges *increased* over time while the opposite trend occurred for university graduates at all levels. Thus, it appears women may have substituted from college and trade schools to a university education as the returns to a university education, relative to men, increased.

The research project gave the students first hand experience in applying their knowledge to an important issue and raised some interesting questions that Shannon Seitz plans to pursue with next year's 351 students. Perhaps, through the work of each year's crop of new econometricians, we will eventually figure out what lies behind gender differences in schooling and labour outcomes!

Norman MacLeod Rogers Scholarship Awarded to QED Student

Gordon McGuire, BAH 2006, was awarded the prestigious Rector Norman MacLeod Rogers Scholarship. This award is granted to an individual judged to have the intellectual and other qualities to follow in the footsteps of Norman Rogers, who combined academic distinction with a

commitment to public life. In his third year of a BAH in Economics and Political Studies, Gord served as Municipal Affairs Commissioner of the AMS while maintaining first class academic standing.

Faculty News

During August 4-6, 2005, **Charles Beach** was an invited distinguished speaker at the Singapore Economic Review Conference 2005 in Singapore in celebration of singular anniversaries of the National University of Singapore and of its Economics Department. Charles gave a presentation entitled "Skills, Human Capital and Labour Market Flexibility in Canada".

Robin Boadway's research activities continue to involve collaborations with QED alumni. In February, he attended a meeting of the Academic Panel of the Fiscal Affairs Department of the IMF and presented a paper written with Jean-François Tremblay (aka J-F III) (PhD 2003) on fiscal imbalance. Members of the IMF in attendance included a former QED visiting professor, Michael Keen, as well as PhD grads, Dale Chua (MA 1987; PhD 1991) and Todd Mattina (BAH 1994; PhD 2002). A related paper with J-F was presented at the Workshop on Fiscal Federalism in Barcelona in May. Marianne Vigneault (MA 1989; PhD 1994) and Ann Cavlovic (MA 2000) also presented papers at that workshop. Also in May, Steeve Mongrain (PhD 1999) presented a paper written with Robin and Nicolas Marceau (PhD 1992) at the Canadian Public Economics Study Group meeting at McMaster, organized by Kate Cuff (BA 1993; BAH 1994; PhD 2000). In June, Robin and Nicolas both presented papers at a workshop on public economics at the University of Girona in Spain (home to Lance Armstrong, not a QED grad). Robin's paper was jointly written with Motohiro Sato (PhD 1998). Then in July, Robin presented a paper in Tokyo at a conference on tax reform in Asia organized by Motohiro. Masayoshi Hayashi (MA 1995; PhD 1998) also presented a paper at that conference, which was also attended by Yukihiro Nishimura (PhD 2002).

John Hartwick was a guest lecturer at the FEEM (Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei) summer workshop in Venice in July. He spoke about accumulating produced capital to compensate for running down natural capital and for dealing with population growth. He also took up the issue of how much technical progress one might need to

keep consumption levels from declining as natural capital is drawn down. On his return he dealt with these same matters in a seminar with environmental engineers at University College, University of London. The analysis is part of a collaborative paper with friends in Norway, Germany, Holland and the US.

Ian Keay and **Cherie Metcalf** (BAH 1990) (Faculty of Law) won the John Vanderkamp Prize for 2004 for their paper "Aboriginal Rights, Customary Law and Renewable Resource Exploitation". This prize is awarded annually for the best paper published in the journal *Canadian Public Policy*, a multi-disciplinary journal that focuses on issues of domestic policy relevance. The prize selection committee, chaired by Ken McKenzie (CPP Managing Editor and QED PhD 1990), was made up of five representatives from a selection of the disciplines that contribute to the journal.

In the paper, Keay and Metcalf investigate the economic foundations supporting the conservation rationale that is prominent in the Canadian court system's cautious approach to recognizing aboriginal rights guaranteeing access to natural resources. They conclude that the potentially catastrophic stock and industry outcomes feared by the courts are dependent on the assumptions made about aboriginal responses to their economic and regulatory environment. The typical neo-classical assumptions made by economists may be poor approximations of aboriginal behaviour.

James MacKinnon, the Sir Edward Peacock Professor of Econometrics and Head of the Department, visited Australia for the first time in September, 2005. He presented a keynote address entitled "Bootstrap Methods in Econometrics" at the 34th Annual Conference of Economists in Melbourne, and he also gave two other talks, one at the conference and one in Sydney at the University of New South Wales. James regrets that he did not have time to see more of Australia and hopes to return in the future.

Marvin McInnis, while in Australia to research the introduction to that country of large-scale irrigation by the Chaffey brothers of Kingston, Ontario, gave workshop presentations at the University of Adelaide, the University of South Australia and the University of Sydney.

Ruqu Wang spent his year of sabbatical leave mostly in Singapore and Boston. Based in Singapore, he traveled to Asian countries such as Thailand and Malaysia for the very first time. He found that the weather in Singapore is both very warm and very cold — very warm outside and very cold in office buildings. He had a hard time adapting to the food in the Mac-Corry Cafeteria when fresh and tasty lunches in Singapore cost only Canadian \$2. Ruqu worked on a few topics during his sabbatical year. It included jump bidding in auctions with Alan Gunderson (PhD 1997), switching costs in dynamic game with Bart Lipman from Boston University, formerly of the QED, and information and market design with Yongmin Chen from University of Colorado Boulder.

During 2005-06, **Gregor Smith** (the Douglas D. Purvis Professor) is serving as President of the Canadian Economics Association, to which many QED alumni in government, the private sector, and academia belong. The Association organizes a thriving annual conference. The 2005 conference, which Gregor organized, was held in Hamilton. The 2006 and 2007 conferences will be held in Montreal and Halifax, respectively. The CEA publishes two successful journals, the *Canadian Journal of Economics* and *Canadian Public Policy*. It also administers prizes for research work, hosts an employment exchange for PhD students, and publishes a membership directory and newsletter on the web at economics.ca.

The Association represents its members to granting agencies such as SSHRCC. This year, it also has become a financial sponsor of several academic study groups in Canada, including the Canadian Network for Economic History that met in 2005 at Queen's, the Canadian Employment Research Forum, and others.

Gregor reports that the most nerve-wracking part of the President's job is to introduce an important yet neglected economic topic for post-prandial discussion at the annual Past Presidents' dinner. He welcomes suggestions.

QED Student Defies Gravity

by Farron Blanc

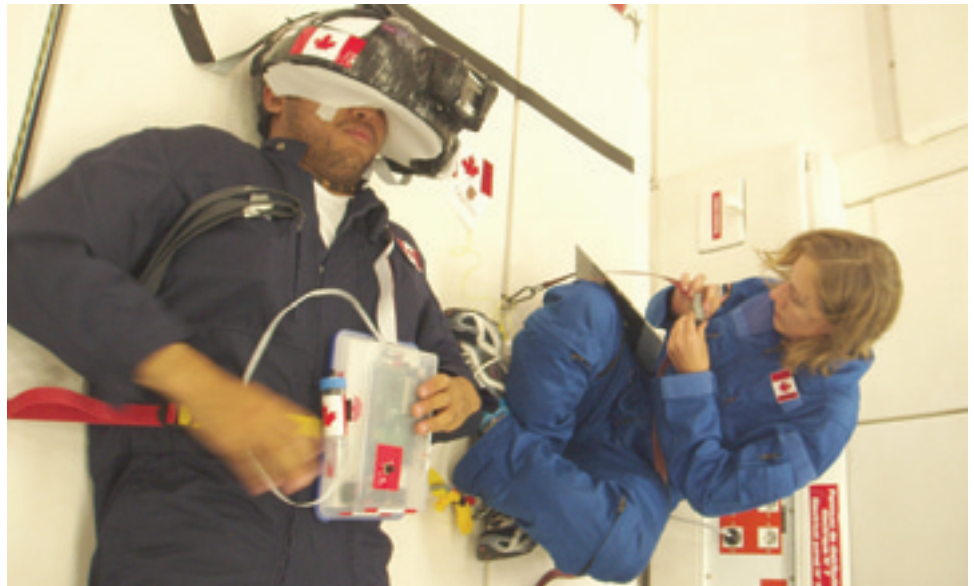
This past July, I was fortunate to do what most economists never get a chance to do, namely, experience sustained periods of weightlessness. How does a fourth-year QED student get such an opportunity?

I arrived at Queen's as an engineering student. After first year, I decided to pursue the Engineering Mathematics Program combined with a dual degree in Economics. Dual degrees are extremely popular at Queen's, especially for engineers who want to broaden their academic horizons.

After my third year at Queen's, I found that I had a deep interest in Economics and the social problems that it can solve. I decided that I wanted to pursue graduate work in economics and transferred out of engineering completely. Many of my courses in engineering math were counted towards my Applied Economics degree.

Now, back to weightlessness... The International Astronautical Congress is a yearly world summit of scientists, entrepreneurs, and politicians that are tuned into the 'space' business. In October, 2004, the IAC was held in Vancouver, and the Canadian Space Agency was kind enough to sponsor over 50 students to attend. I was selected and got to network with over 3000 individuals interested in space. There I met two medical students, from McGill and Alberta, and an electrical engineering student from Waterloo. We had heard about the European Space Agency's premiere outreach campaign, The Student Parabolic Flight Campaign. It uses a plane that flies in a rollercoaster pattern, pitching and diving 10,000 feet. During the descent, the entire cabin of the Airbus A300 is subject to 22 seconds of microgravity.

We decided to submit a proposal to look at the reduction of visual fields in zero gravity (0g). During 0g, the fluids in our bodies shift around. This causes increased ocular pressure, which should lead to a detectable reduction in visual fields, similar to the effects of glaucoma. We were selected and had just 4 months to prepare our experiment. This involved meeting with ESA scientists in Noordwijk, the Netherlands, design meet-



ings at MD Robotics (maker of the Canadarm) in Brampton, Ontario, and construction meetings at the University of Alberta's Medical laboratories, in Edmonton.

Along the way, we garnered media interest from CBC Radio, the Montreal Gazette, the Kingston Whig-Standard, and the National Post, which sent a reporter to do a five-day story on us. Interestingly enough, he was Arts 2001. We received sponsorships from many Canadian companies. Research in Motion was kind enough to provide us with free Blackberrys to stay in touch with our

geographically diverse team. The Queen's Economics Department was the quickest to respond, with financial aid that covered some of my travel and construction costs.

In October, 2005, I returned with my colleagues to present our scientific findings at the IAC, which was in Fukuoka, Japan. As for my future ambitions, I would love to get into consulting and perhaps down the road see if I can re-experience the awesome feeling of weightlessness.

Farron Blanc, BAH 2006 (Applied Economics)



Farron Blanc (right) experiences weightlessness

Awards

2005 C.A. Curtis Prize winner (a prize established by a group of colleagues, former students and family of the late Professor C.A. Curtis in his memory, awarded annually for the best doctoral thesis):

Stefan Dodds, "Economic Aspects of Privacy, Confidentiality, and Consent" (R. Boadway)

QED Research Prize

The Queen's Economics Research Prize recognizes the research achievements of QED faculty members. The fourth winner of this annual prize was Robin Boadway. Previous winners were Shouyong Shi, Ruqu Wang, and Huw Lloyd-Ellis.

Public Lectures

Bruce D. Meyer, the McCormick Tribune Professor at the Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago, presented the third W. Edmund Clark Distinguished Lecture on September 16, 2005. Professor Meyer's talk was entitled "Welfare Reform, Poverty, and Well-Being".



Bruce Meyer with Gregor Smith

Peter Howitt, the Lyn Crost Professor of Social Sciences at the Department of Economics, Brown University, presented the 2005 W.A. Mackintosh Lecture on October 27, 2005. Professor Howitt's talk was entitled "Policies for Economic Growth".

QED Alumni in Queensland

Philip Bodman (PhD 1997) and Harry Campbell (PhD 1973) are celebrating their 40th and 60th birthdays, respectively, with a round of golf, at the Hyatt Regency Coolum Golf Course, home of the Australia PGA Championship. They both work together at the School of Economics, University of Queensland, Brisbane Australia. Harry graduated along with Robin Boadway – the only two that year.

Student Awards for 2005

Departmental Medal

Aron Seal

Extra Medal

Jennifer Goodman (Econ-Math)

Jennifer also won the prestigious Prince of Wales Prize (Honourable Mention)

The James Bocking Prize in Economics

In-Gu (Kevin) Khang and Helen Ma

The Chancellor C.A. Dunning Prize in Economics

Aron Seal (medalist)

Douglas D. Purvis Prize in Economics

Aron Seal

The W.M.O. Lohead Prize

Jonathan Beauchamp

The Palmer Hoar Memorial Book Prize in Intermediate Micro Theory

Yufeng (Angela) Zhu

Annual Fourth-Year Dinner

The third annual Fourth-Year Dinner was held on November 7th. Guest speaker Don Drummond (MA 1977), Chief Economist of the TD Bank Financial Group, gave a lively and provocative talk entitled "Productivity: What We Know, What We Don't Know, and How We Can Improve Canada's Dismal Record". Close to 100 students and faculty attended. The DSC Executive did a great job of organizing this event. They were also successful in obtaining financial assistance from TD Waterhouse, the Bartlett Student Initiatives Fund, and several other donors, to reduce the cost to students.



John Deutsch Institute

Established in 1984 as the successor to the John Deutsch Memorial, the John Deutsch Institute for the Study of Economic Policy has emerged as one of Canada's pre-eminent university-based, economic policy institutes. The Institute's central purpose is to promote research and informed discussion of Canadian economic policy issues. The JDI's main activity has been to sponsor conferences on current economic policy issues with participants from government, academia, and the private sector. The JDI also publishes the proceedings of these conferences.

Since our last inclusion in the QED Newsletter, the JDI has been busy with conferences and publications. In 2003, the JDI held a conference on *The 2003 Federal Budget: Conflicting Tensions*, organized by Charles Beach and Thomas Wilson (University of Toronto); in 2004, they ran a conference on *Higher Education in Canada*, organized by Charles Beach, Robin Boadway and Marvin McInnis; and also *Current Directions in Financial Regulation*, organized by Frank Milne and Edwin Neave; and most recently on November 17-18, 2005, they held a conference here at Queen's on *Health Services Restructuring: New Evidence and New Directions*, organized by Charles Beach, Sam Shortt, Arthur Sweetman, and France St-Hilaire (IRPP).

In 2003, the JDI published two volumes: *Framing Financial Structure in an Information Environment*, Thomas Courchene and Edwin Neave (eds.); and *Canadian Immigration Policy for the 21st Century*, Charles Beach, Alan Green and Jeffrey Reitz (eds.). In 2004: *The 2003 Federal Budget: Conflicting Tensions*, Charles Beach and Thomas Wilson (eds.); and *Financial Services and Public Policy*, Christopher Waddell (ed.). In 2005: *Higher Education in Canada*, Charles Beach, Robin Boadway and Marvin McInnis (eds.); *Current Directions in Financial Regulation*, Frank Milne and Edwin Neave (eds.); and *A Challenge for Higher Education in Ontario*, Charles Beach (ed.).

QED Students Lead Queen's Debaters

A large number of QED students belong to the Queen's Debating Union, for which the Department has provided financial support, and many of these students have had great success at all levels. In particular, Laura Brazil (BAH 2007) and Robert Embree (BAH 2008) were the top team at the 2004-05 University of Guelph Novice Open, and Aron Seal (BAH 2005, MA 2006) and Jim Nicholson (BAH 2006) were the top team at the 2005-06 Central Canadian Championships.

QED Congratulates

FACULTY and STAFF CONGRATULATIONS

Mark and Lisa Babcock are pleased to announce the birth of their second child, Mackenzie Jane Elizabeth, born on Tuesday, May 17, 2005 weighing 8 lbs. 11 oz. A little sister for Jordan.

Thor Koeppel and Karin Van Ewijk are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Sophie Anouk, born on April 4, 2005 weighing 6 lbs.

ALUMNI CONGRATULATIONS

Births:

Joel Rodrigue (MA 2002) and his wife Tricia would like to announce the birth of their first child, Joel Daniel Joseph, weighing 7 lbs. 11 ozs. on July 22, 2005. Joel and Tricia reside in Kingston while Joel is finishing his PhD.

Marriages:

Ann Marie Hayward (MA 2003) and Myron Genyk were married on September 3, 2005. Ann Marie is an economist with the Ontario Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal. The Genyk's reside in Toronto, Ontario.

IN MEMORIAM

William (Bill) Furlong (PhD 1984) passed away on Saturday, April 30, 2005. Bill had been with the Economics Department at the University of Guelph since 1981. He leaves his two sons, Dylan and Liam.

The Apprentice at Queen's



Brandt Blimkie (left) and Omar Mawjee (right)

Modeled on the popular TV reality show, the first Queen's Apprentice competition was created by the Entrepreneurs' Society to promote entrepreneurship and offer students an extraordinary leadership development opportunity. The idea originated with Brandt Blimkie (MA 2005). He served throughout the process as the show's Executive Producer. "I thought the show would be a great vehicle to attract high-calibre students from various disciplines and challenge them to rise above the typical demands of their academic programs", he said. Eighteen students were selected from a pool of 75 applicants to participate. After weeks of elimination firings, the selected winner was Omar Mawjee (BAH 2005). Omar chose the cash over a one-week vacation for two and will spend a day shadowing both David Sculthorpe at Cadbury Adams Canada and Bryan Pearson at Air Miles. The entire competition was self-financed and run by a team of student volunteers, a feat that would likely impress even Donald Trump. Details of the competition are on the show's website at www.queensapprentice.com. For his achievements, Brandt Blimkie was presented

with the Agnes Benidickson Tricolour Award, "the highest tribute that can be paid to a student for valuable and distinguished service to the University in non-athletic, extra-curricular activities". Coincidentally, Omar Mawjee is a prior winner of this prestigious award, in part for his charity work Hockey 4 Heroes (www.hockey4heroes.com). "I remain very appreciative of the support I received from my family, friends, and from many of my Economics professors who were flexible and helpful. I feel very proud to have come out on top and in my last days at Queen's I was able to demonstrate the work ethic, creativity and leadership I knew I possessed. The final term was very memorable. I hope I have been a good ambassador for myself, my community, my faculty, and especially the Economics Department; and that my experiences will motivate other students to get involved and carry the torch onward." Omar is presently the Business Development Coordinator at Game Day International. Brandt is working as an Economist, Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy, Privy Council.

Ottawa and Toronto QED Receptions

The QED hosted two receptions in 2005, one in Ottawa on May 12th and one in Toronto on November 9th. Both were very enjoyable for us, and it was great to see so many old friends. The Ottawa reception, like previous ones, was held at the NAC. The Toronto reception was held in a spectacular venue at the top of the Royal Bank Plaza. It was very well attended, and most people really



Elizabeth Maynes (MA 1982; PhD 1989), James MacKinnon, Gay Mitchell (BA 1984), and Mary Ellen Gillespie (MA 1984)

seemed to have a good time, as evidenced by the fact that many of them stayed even after the bar closed.

We are tentatively planning to hold a reception here in Kingston in May, 2006. If you live in the Kingston area and like this idea, please contact Juanita Dennie (denniej@econ.queensu.ca), as we are trying to determine demand.

Donations to the QED

The wonderful generosity of many QED alumni has been enormously valuable over the years. We are always happy to accept donations to the Economics Trust, which funds a variety of student and faculty initiatives, or to any of our major fundraising projects, two of which are described below. Please remember that all gifts to Queen's University can always be directed to any project of your choice.

The Douglas D. Purvis Professorship

Doug Purvis was a remarkable colleague, teacher, and friend who died tragically in January of 1993 after an accident that occurred over the Christmas vacation. In his memory, the Department has established the Douglas D. Purvis Professorship. The first holder is Gregor Smith.

The amount of money in the Purvis fund is just a little more than half the minimum amount currently required to establish a professorship at Queen's. Thus, if the Purvis Professorship is to provide a proper memorial to Doug and help the Department in a substantial way, it needs a much larger endowment. For more information, or to make a contribution, please contact James MacKinnon or Juanita Dennie.

The Malcolm Urquhart Memorial Fund for Courses in Economic Theory

Malcolm Urquhart, known to his many friends as Mac, joined the QED in 1945 and remained in the Department until his death in late 2002, although he nominally retired in 1979. Mac made many contributions to Economics in Canada over a very long period of time. What is perhaps his most important book was published in 1993, when he was 79.

In keeping with Mac's long-held belief that economic theory is the key to understanding all sorts of real-world phenomena, the Malcolm Urquhart Memorial Fund is intended to support courses in the broad area of economic theory. Income generated by the fund will be used to help the QED offer more undergraduate courses in this area. We hope that many friends of the QED will join with us in commemorating the extraordinary contributions of Mac Urquhart to Queen's and to Economics in Canada by contributing to this fund. For more information, or to make a contribution, please contact James MacKinnon or Juanita Dennie.

Planned Gifts to the QED

Throughout the history of the University, bequests have done more to transform Queen's than any other acts of generosity. A well-planned gift can also reduce, or even eliminate, taxes, and it can substantially increase the donor's after-tax income. If you are interested in directing a bequest to the Economics Department, please contact the Office of Planned Giving by calling 1-800-267-7837 and asking to speak to Doug Puffer. Note that, if you so wish, any communication with him can be entirely in confidence.

Company Matching Gift Program

Many companies match charitable donations by their employees. Be sure to take advantage of this if yours does. See <http://giving.queensu.ca/matchinggifts/>.

Placement/Career Services

If you or your employer have a job posting which you would like circulated to our current students and/or alumni, please send it to:

Juanita Dennie
denniej@econ.queensu.ca

Join Our Alumni List!

Want to hear from former classmates or get in touch with a lost friend? Add your name to our Alumni Listings page: <http://www.econ.queensu.ca/alumni/alumlist.php> where others can contact you through email. To get listed, just fill out our consent form: <http://www.econ.queensu.ca/alumni/consentform.php> and mail/fax it to: Juanita Dennie, Alumni Coordinator, Department of Economics, Queen's University, Kingston ON K7L 3N6; fax 613-533-6668.

We Want to Hear from You

In each *QED Newsletter*, we publish a section on the activities of our graduates. If there has been a special event that you wish to share with your friends, or you would just like to let other alumni know what you have been up to, please drop us a line. We will try to include your item in our next issue.

Messages can be sent to:

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