

# QED



## A Good Year for the QED

by James G. MacKinnon



Since the last *QED Newsletter* appeared about a year ago, the Queen's Economics Department has had a pretty good year, one that was much better than the average over the past decade. With luck, even better years lie ahead.

Three new, full-time faculty members were hired this year, the largest number in some time. **Jan Zabochnik** joined us from the Marshall School at USC as an Associate Professor. Jan is a Cornell PhD whose first academic position was here at Queen's. He works in applied microeconomics and labour economics, and it is great to have him back. **Susumu Imai** joined us from Concordia as an Assistant Professor. He is a Minnesota PhD whose work on estimating structural models is well-known to a number of QED faculty members and graduate students. Finally, **Marie-Louise Vierø** joined us as an Assistant Professor directly from the PhD program at Cornell. She works on microeconomic theory, especially decision theory. We are delighted to have these three scholars join us. Unfortunately, not all changes in the faculty complement were in the right direction, as **Shannon Seitz** re-

signed to accept a position at Boston College.

There were three well-deserved promotions last year. **Huw Lloyd-Ellis** (PhD 1994) was promoted to Professor, and both **Ian Keay** (BAH 1992) and **Sumon Majumdar** were promoted to Associate Professor. Congratulations to all three of them, and also to past Appointments Committees, who evidently did a great job when Huw, Ian, and Sumon were hired. Serving on the Appointments Committee, incidentally, is one of the most demanding, and one of the most important, administrative assignments in the QED. Those who have done so over the years have a lot to be proud of. As Head, I chair the Committee, and I see how much hard work my colleagues who have served on it during the past few years have put in.

Kudos also to **Gregor Smith**, who finished his term as President of the Canadian Economics Association and was awarded the prestigious Bank of Canada Research Fellowship; see the story on page 3. Many QED faculty members and students won awards, both internal and external, in 2006; see the stories on page 7. In particular, this year marks the first award of the **Scarthingmoor Prize** for an outstanding MA Essay, which was made possible by the great generosity of **John Weatherall**.

We are continuing our efforts to fill the David Chadwick Smith Chair, which has been made possible by the many friends of David Smith and the many dedicated QED alumni who have contributed so generously to this project. This will be the first appointment we have made at the full professor level since **Frank Milne** was hired in 1991. Hiring senior academics often takes time. At time of writing, unfortunately, there is nothing that I can report about the search proc-

ess. In next year's *QED Newsletter*, I hope to be able to say that we have filled the Chair and to showcase the holder's research.

While on the subject of fundraising, I urge you to read the back page of this newsletter. Financial support for the QED, which plays an absolutely vital role in every aspect of the Department's activities, comes mainly from its alumni. Financial support from large corporations is very hard to obtain and, in most cases, surprisingly modest. Since I have been Head, individual donations have always greatly surpassed corporate donations. Over the years, by far the largest contributor to the Department, in real terms, was the late Sir Edward Peacock (BAH 1894). This year, I am happy to report that an anonymous QED alumnus has made a very generous donation to help the Department rebuild over the next few years. These funds will be very, very valuable. But, as you can see by reading the back page, we need your help in many other areas as well.

This edition of the *QED Newsletter* contains many interesting stories by and about our students and faculty members. I urge you to read them. As usual, we continue to have great students at all levels, who are doing a remarkable variety of interesting things. Some of their stories may be found inside, on pages 5 and 7.

Many people contributed to this issue of the *QED Newsletter*. These include the faculty and students who wrote most of the articles, along with **Sharon Sullivan**, **Theresa Brennan**, **Juanita Dennie**, and **Jennine Ball**. We hope you enjoy reading the newsletter, and we hope you keep in touch. To find out how, see the back page. I look forward to meeting many of you in person in 2007 at upcoming QED alumni receptions.

# A Day in Washington

By Charles M. Beach

The past year has seen a major policy debate about immigration into the United States. The U.S. Senate is actively considering bringing in a point system similar to the one in Canada. This system is used to screen Economic or Independent class immigrants on the basis of their broad skills, their ability to contribute to the Canadian economy, and their adaptability to the Canadian labour market. Along with Alan Green of the QED and Chris Worswick, a QED graduate now at Carleton, I recently wrote a paper evaluating the effectiveness of the Canadian Point System. This paper has been well received in Canadian policy circles. As a result, I was invited to testify as a witness on September 14, 2006, before the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, or HELP, for a hearing on "Employment-Based Permanent Immigration: Examining the Value of a Skill-Based Point System".

The morning of the hearing, I hopped a cab to the Dirksen Senate Office Building a block or so from the Capitol. Each major Senate committee has its own hearing room. The HELP Committee is on the fourth floor. It is a little over twice the size of the Dunning Hall conference room, about two stories high, with fine wood paneling and wall sconces the size of adults. At the front of the room, on a raised dais arranged in a semi-circle, are the desks of the nineteen senators on the committee, with space behind them for about forty lawyers and staffers. The seats are arranged in strict seniority, with the ranking majority and minority senators in the middle and those with least seniority (e.g., Senator Hillary Clinton) at the ends of the semi-circle. Appropriately, Republicans are to the chair's right and Democrats to the chair's left.

Facing the senators on the hearing room floor behind a massive oak table sat the four witnesses: Professor George Borjas, an im-

migration expert from the Kennedy School at Harvard, a senior sociology professor from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton, a senior spokesman for a small-business association, and myself. Behind the witnesses were about two hundred chairs, since all congressional hearings are public. At the top front corners of the room were very bright television lights (although I saw no TV cameras) focused down on the witnesses and the senators. In the well between the witness table and the raised dais were staffers taking



Photo: Stephen Wild, Queen's Gazette

minutes on old-fashioned typing machines and taking photographs with digital cameras. Just before the hearing began, a staffer gave me a twelve page list of questions I could expect to face, prepared by the majority counsel, which differed from the list I had been given the night before.

The gavel came down at exactly 10:30 a.m., and the Chair (the ranking majority member, in this case Senator Jeffrey Sessions of Alabama) called the hearing to order. He spoke briefly about how immigration policy is important and then read brief biographies of each of the four witnesses. This was done alphabetically, so my bio was read before that of George Borjas. While the Chair evidently had immense social skills and experience, he twice stumbled over the word "econometrics" while reading my bio. It is evidently not a word he frequently encounters!

At this point, I should come clean. Of the nineteen senators on the HELP Committee, the total number who showed up for this hearing was just two! After introducing the witnesses, the Chair excused himself to attend the full Justice Committee (which was meeting simultaneously) and handed the gavel over to the one remaining committee member, Senator Michael Enzi of Wyoming. Immigration policy may be important, but, in the big scheme of things, I guess it is not that important.

The Deputy Chair invited each witness to present their brief initial statements, of less than five minutes each, again done alphabetically. He then asked some of the questions the majority staff had prepared for him, but in a folksy fashion, often linking the questions with his own experiences or people he had met. He was always polite, but he sometimes shifted into cross-examination mode in order to pursue issues to his satisfaction. The witnesses who drew most attention and questions were Prof. Borjas, because of his reputation and expertise, and the

sociologist, because he was the minority witness. The majority counsel had tracked down a questionable article the latter had recently written for the Cato Institute and tried to skewer the sociologist with some quotes from it.

After the hearing ended, at about 12:45 p.m., I tried to retrace my steps to leave, but I ended up getting confused in the huge building. I found an office door that was open, went in, and said "I have lost my way and want to get out". A middle aged clerk put his head back and guffawed loudly, saying "I've worked here for ten years and have been waiting for someone to say just that". Clear instructions were provided, and within fifteen minutes I was having a beer in Washington Union Station amid the streams of tourists.

## Gregor Smith Wins Top Research Award

Gregor Smith is the 2006 recipient of the Bank of Canada Research Fellowship, one of the country's most prestigious awards in Economics. This Fellowship was established in 2002 to encourage leading-edge research and to develop expertise in Canada in a number of areas critical to the Bank's mandate: macroeconomics, monetary economics, international finance, as well as the economics of financial markets and institutions, including their financial stability. The five-year fellowship, valued at \$500,000, has been given to only four other Canadian economists since its introduction in 2003.



"Professor Smith is an outstanding economist who continues to make an important contribution to leading-edge research", said Bank of Canada Governor David Dodge in making the announcement. "The Bank is proud to support an economist of his calibre who has had such a far-reaching impact as a researcher, teacher, and leader in the field of economics in Canada."

The Sixth QED Public Economics Workshop was held on Friday, November 3, 2006. This workshop, organized annually by Robin Boadway, features a program of six papers and draws faculty and graduate students from numerous other universities in Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime provinces. Presenters came from Tokyo University, the University of Calgary, Université du Québec à Montréal, University of Western Ontario, York University, and Carleton University. Among the authors of papers presented were QED alumni Jean-François Wen, Nicolas Marceau, and Steeve Mongrain, as well as former faculty member Walter Hettich. As usual, many QED alumni attended, including Ugurhan Berkok, Stefan Dodds, Jack Leach, Laurence McDonough, Yukihiro Nishimura, Jean-François Tremblay, and Marianne Vigneault.

"This is wonderful news for the Queen's Economics Department", said department head James MacKinnon. "Gregor Smith is one of Canada's leading macroeconomists. He eminently deserves the honour of a Bank of Canada Fellowship. We hope to use part of the funds that accompany this award to improve our already very strong graduate program."

Dr. Smith's fields of research are macroeconomics and international finance. His current studies

include the economic effects of war reparations, the history of price deflation, the links between inflation and unemployment, and trying to explain patterns in Japanese interest rates. The Bank of Canada Fellowship will enable him to pursue work on statistical models of the economy in which current decisions depend on expectations of future economic outcomes. (For example, this year's wage contracts may depend on the inflation rate expected for next year.)

"I'm looking forward immensely to the opportunities provided by the Fellowship", says Professor Smith. "At the same time, I'm conscious of my debt to my co-authors, students, and colleagues. We have a very strong group in macroeconomics and finance in the Economics Department at Queen's."

The first two recipients of Bank of Canada Fellowships also have close ties with the QED. Michael Devereux (UBC) received his PhD at Queen's and was on faculty for a number of years, while Shouyong Shi (University of Toronto) taught at Queen's from 1994 to 2001.

## QED Research Prize

The QED Research Prize, normally awarded annually, recognizes the research achievements of QED faculty members over the previous two years. The fifth winner of this prize was Allen Head. Previous winners were Robin Boadway, Huw Lloyd-Ellis, Ruqu Wang, and Shouyong Shi.

## Econ Grad is Acting Superintendent of OSFI

In June 2006, Julie Dickson (MA 1981) was appointed as Acting Superintendent of the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI) while it searches for a permanent successor to Nick LePan. OSFI is Canada's top regulator of the financial industry.

## Economist Wins Good Family Visiting Faculty Research Fellowship

Congratulations to Dr. Andrei Bazhanov (Far Eastern National University, Russia), who was awarded the second Good Family Visiting Faculty Research Fellowship. Dr. Bazhanov is working on a collaborative research project with John Hartwick for a one-year period (August 2006 – July 2007). This fellowship encourages research that informs the societal concerns of social justice, social and physical well-being, community and/or the environment. The eligible disciplines are Biology, Economics, Environmental Studies, History, Physical and Health Education, Political Studies, and Psychology.

## Staff News

On May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006, Ellen McKay retired from the Economics Department. Family, friends, and colleagues gathered to celebrate her 38-year career at a reception that day. Congratulations. We miss you!

Congratulations to Elaine Constant on her appointment as the new Head's Administrative Secretary.

Congratulations to Jill Hodgson on her appointment as Administrative Secretary.

We welcome Brittany Lovelock to the QED. Brittany joined the staff in September, 2006.

# Faculty News

On October 6, 2006, **Charles Beach** was quoted in the *Ottawa Citizen*, Montreal's *The Gazette*, *The Kingston Whig-Standard*, and Queen's University's *Newswire* for his findings that Canada attracts a higher percentage of skilled workers among immigrants than the United States. His co-authors are **Alan Green** of the QED and **Christopher Worswick** of Carleton University, who is a QED graduate. This research has captured the attention of U.S. immigration officials. Beach was invited to testify as a witness on September 14, 2006 before the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions for a hearing on "Employment-Based Permanent Immigration: Examining the Value of a Skill-Based Point System". See the article on page 2.

In April, **John Hartwick** gave an invited talk on the economics of biodiversity conservation in Oaxaca, Mexico to a group of government and academic people. The environment group of the OECD in Paris organized the conference. Since then, Oaxaca, a traditional tourist stop, has become a no-go area because of civil strife, sometimes violent. John's talk is not thought to be responsible.

As part of his sabbatical leave, **Frank Milne** was invited to be an Erskine Fellow at the Economics Department of the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand for March 2006. He gave seminars on the theory of the firm and financial stability. He was also invited to present a joint paper (with one of his PhD students) on liquidity and strategic asset trading at the Reserve Bank of New Zealand. In mid February, he visited Canberra, Australia to discuss economic policy with senior government officials.

In June, Frank was invited to teach a one-week intensive course on Financial Risk Management at the Bank of England in London. During the time at the Bank, he had discussions with senior researchers and policy makers on the latest research in financial stability. The Bank is recognized as one of the leading central banks in this research area.

In early October, Frank was invited to present a paper on transaction costs and

taxation in financial markets at a conference on Mathematical Finance at the University of Maryland. The proceedings will appear in a conference volume.

At the Northern Finance Association Meetings in September, Frank's joint paper with Anita Anand and Lynnette Purda, "Voluntary Adoption of Corporate Governance Mechanisms", was named "The Best Paper in Managerial Finance".

**Gregor Smith** gave the Presidential Address at the 2006 Canadian Economics Association Meetings. His talk was entitled "The Spectre of Deflation". It appeared in the November 2006 issue of the *Canadian Journal of Economics*.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the publication of **Dan Usher's** *The Economic Prerequisite to Democracy* was the occasion for an enthusiastic column by Neil Reynolds in the *Globe and Mail*. Written during the latter years of the Cold War, the book was an attempt to explain why democratic government is to be found only in countries with a substantial degree of private ownership of the means of production, never in countries where the entire means of production are owned and operated by the state. Much of the book was devoted to the question of how far governments might go in redistributing income, providing public services, and regulating the economy without undermining democratic government.

A second column was devoted to Usher's recent textbook, *Political Economy*, an attempt to introduce economics within the context of a democratic society. The book begins with a brief summary of world progress in life expectancy and prosperity. It includes chapters on the distinction between productive and predatory activity, on voting, and on law, in addition to the more standard analysis of the workings of the competitive economy.

## Congratulations!

On September 25, 2006, George Hood, Vice Principal (Advancement), announced that **James MacKinnon**, Head of the Department, is the 2006 winner of the T. Geoffrey Flynn Advancement Champion Award. This award

recognizes a faculty member who promotes the academic mission of Queen's University by championing advancement. The award was formally presented to James by Principal Karen Hitchcock at Senate on November 30, 2006.

On September 14, 2006, Professors **Allen Head** and **Katsumi Shimotsu** were appointed Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) Faculty Fellows in the Department of Economics. The RBC Faculty Fellowships recognize strong performance by researchers in fields related to financial economics. Their terms run until June 30, 2011.

## QED Congratulates

### Faculty/Staff/Student Congratulations

Salem Nechi (PhD candidate) and his wife Houda would like to announce the birth of their first child, Miriam Nechi, weighing 3.555 kgs. and born on January 24, 2006. Salem and Houda reside in Kingston while Salem is finishing his PhD.

Congratulations to Ian Keay (BAH 1992) and Cherie Metcalf (BAH 1990) on the birth of their son, Patrick. The little bundle of joy was born at approximately 11:00 pm on April 5, 2006, weighing 6 lbs., 7 ozs. A baby brother for Hannah!

### Alumni Congratulations

Yasir Syed (MA 2000) and his wife Shabhi were blessed with a healthy baby girl on September 16, 2006. Lamiah Syed was born at the Ottawa Civic Hospital weighing 6 lbs. 4 ozs. A little sister for Humzah.

Jahanara (MA 1992; PhD 1998) and Ansar Zaman are happy to announce the birth of their third child, Shuborno Zaman, weighing 6 lbs. 1 oz. on October 12, 2005. A new little sister for Labonno (9) and Anonto (5). The Zamans reside in Fairfax Station, Virginia.

Former faculty member Patrick Francois and Siwan Anderson are happy to announce the birth of their son, Viv James Anderson-Francois, born on December 4, 2006 weighing 7 lbs. Patrick teaches in the Economics Department at UBC.

## QED Students Lead AMS in 06–07

By James Macmillan and Ian Black

This year, Economics students James Macmillan and Ian Black hold two of the top three executive positions at the Alma Mater Society.

James and Ian both arrived at Queen's in 2003, from Ottawa and Calgary, respectively. In first year, James applied to work at the AMS with the Walkhome Service, which introduced him to the world of student government, and Ian became involved as an Orientation Week leader. He then went on to be on the Orientation Committee for the Faculty of Arts and Science. They met in a second year mathematical economics course (ECON 255). In 2005, they both became



*Meghan Teuber, Ian Black, and James Macmillan*

involved in an AMS election campaign as volunteers, which piqued their interest in the AMS. The next year, they decided to put together a team to run in the Winter AMS elections and recruited Meghan Teuber, Comm '08, to run with them.

As the Vice President Operations, Ian is chiefly responsible for the financial aspects of the AMS as well as the running of the 14 AMS services. As President and Chief Executive, James is the external representative of all undergraduate students at Queen's. He oversees both the Government and Corporate side of the AMS. Together with Meghan,

James and Ian run a \$12 million dollar operation and represent over 13,000 students.

Although classes have been put on the back burner for this year, both Ian and James value their experiences within the Department of Economics and the people they have met through the program. They are both in the process of deciding what their future holds. Ian is looking for a position in the consulting industry, with the long-term goal of continued education. James is currently deciding whether to continue for a final year at Queen's or pursue other options away from Kingston.

## QED Students Attend Model WTO

By Jennifer Raffoul and Anita Paniak

Support from the Economics Department helped us to participate in a Model WTO symposium in Switzerland. This Model WTO, the only one in the world, is a mock symposium of international trade negotiations. Students learn about decision-making within the WTO by direct participation in mock negotiations. Similar to a Model UN, it was hosted by a sustainable development organization called *oikos international*.

There were about 70 participants from around the world, and we were the only students from North America. Most of the others came from Europe and Brazil, and a small number came from Africa and Asia.

There were 10 countries represented: USA, EU, Switzerland, Japan, China, India, Brazil, Mexico, Burkina Faso, and Kenya. Each country had one representative on each of

the five Committees (Agriculture, Non-Agricultural Market Access, Development, Trade Negotiations, and TRIPS) where negotiations took place. Each country also had a Head Delegate to coordinate the actions of their committee representatives and to facilitate log-rolling. Anita acted as the Burkina Faso delegate in the Development Committee, and Jennifer acted as the Head Delegate of the United States.

The MWTO ran from Monday June 12 to Friday June 16. For the first four days, the negotiations took place at the University of St. Gallen. There were also daily lectures on the prospects for the WTO given by professors or NGO representatives. The final day's proceedings took place at the actual WTO headquarters in Geneva, where each of the committees met with experts from the WTO and UNCTAD, who commented and advised us on the final agreements made. We were addressed by Pascal Lamy and were able to ask him questions.

Getting feedback from the WTO and UNCTAD advisors was the most surprising and illuminating part of the symposium. We thought that the agreements we had negotiated had been progressive and beneficial for

developing countries, but the advisors explained to us that some of the ostensibly favourable agreements could have negative impacts for them. They explained to us about the ATPSM model, which they use to predict the quantitative effects of agreements, although they admitted that the model itself has limitations because it is only a static model and does not incorporate potential long-run effects like the growth of competitive industries in developing countries.

Participating in the Model WTO was a great experience to learn more about international trade (and to realise what you don't know). It exposed us to a range of detailed information about international trade issues, and it has fuelled our desires to work for trade justice.

Jennifer is tentatively planning the first Model WTO to be held in Trinidad and Tobago in June 2007. If you are interested in participating in Switzerland or Trinidad, check out [www.model-wto.org](http://www.model-wto.org). If you would like to find out more about the ATPSM model, information is available at [www.unctad.org/tab/atpsm](http://www.unctad.org/tab/atpsm).

*Jennifer Raffoul (BAH 2006 APEC/POLS) and Anita Paniak (BAH 2006 ECON/DEVS)*

## Queen's Research Data Centre (QRDC)

The Queen's Research Data Centre (QRDC) opened in August 2005. Located in Stauffer Library, the QRDC is part of the national network of Statistics Canada RDCs, which includes 13 RDCs and several branch operations. The Academic Director is **Chris Ferrall** of the QED.

The purpose of these centres is to provide researchers access to data from longitudinal surveys conducted by Statistics Canada. Many cross-sectional surveys are available in public use files which can be distributed freely on campus through the Data Liberation Initiative of ten years ago. (**Charles Beach** played a major role in this initiative). However, Statistics Canada will not create public use versions of longitudinal surveys due to strict concerns for confidentiality. Thus, new and important data sets were essentially inaccessible to academic researchers.

An RDC is a secure statistical laboratory in which the confidential versions of many surveys are available for research use. Each RDC is staffed by a Statistics Canada employee (the data analyst) who is responsible for, among other things, vetting output generated within the centre.

Queen's was not involved in the first round of RDCs, which began operation in 2000. The effort to create one here began in late 2001. Startup costs of the QRDC were covered primarily by the office of the Vice-Principal (Research) and by several faculties. As of this year, Queen's is part of the second round of funding for the RDC Network, which resulted in a five-year joint grant from SSHRC and CIHR at over \$1 million per year. In addition, the RDC network was just awarded a \$4 million grant from CFI's Leading Edge Fund. This level of funding is justified by the astonishing growth in RDC activity. From 13 projects in late 2000, the number of projects carried out in RDCs recently topped one thousand. Thus the RDC network is one of the largest social science programs in Canada in terms of funding, activity, and impact on public policy.

The QRDC is unique within the network in several respects. First, it was created as a half-time RDC, which means it is open only

17 hours per week. This costs half as much in terms of the service fee paid to Statistics Canada. This arrangement is very efficient for the first few years of an RDC, since it takes quite a while for researchers to respond to its presence. Its part-time status has another benefit: The QRDC data analyst, **Casey Warman**, has time to participate in research and teaching. Casey received his PhD in economics from Carleton in 2005. He is teaching courses in both Economics and Policy Studies and is conducting research with several faculty members and graduate students.

As is true of most RDCs, Economics is a major beneficiary and supporter of the QRDC. Last year, four MA students wrote their research essays using the QRDC. In terms of relevance to Canadian public policy, the paper titles below speak for themselves. These projects would not have been feasible without the QRDC. In the past, the students would have turned to American data or less comprehensive data sources for their projects.

### 2006 MA Essays Using the QRDC

"Maternal Employment and Overweight Children in Canada" by Konrad Zmitrowicz (currently at the Bank of Canada).

"Canadian Parental Leave Policies and Wage Profiles" by Bernice Lau (currently at Industry Canada).

"Country of Origin and Immigrant Earnings in Canada: A Panel Data Investigation" by Jakob Uziak.

"A Comparison Study between Immigrant and Canadian Born University Graduates in their Transition to Work" by Ying Shang (currently a QED PhD student).

### Numerically Intensive Economic Policy Analysis V

The fifth workshop on Numerically Intensive Economic Policy Analysis organized by **Chris Ferrall** was held May 12-13, 2006. It received financial support from the John Deutsch Institute, the Faculty of Arts and Science, the *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, and several QED faculty SSHRC grants.

Since the first NIEPA was held in 2000, these workshops have discussed a broad range of

work unified by three related principles: 1) that neither theory nor data should be neglected when analyzing economic policy; 2) that balancing theory and inference from data usually requires sophisticated computations; and 3) that young researchers face a special challenge in this area, given the time-consuming nature and lack of formal training in computational methods at all levels of most economics programs.

PhD students play an important role in NIEPA workshops. Many of the full presentations are made by students or first-year professors. In addition, the last two workshops have included electronic poster sessions where students present their work in progress.

## Public Lectures

**Daron Acemoglu**, the Charles P. Kindleberger Professor of Applied Economics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), presented the fourth W. Edmund Clark Distinguished Lecture on October 26, 2006. Professor Acemoglu's talk was entitled "Rethinking the Wealth of Nations".

**Michael Woodford**, the John Bates Clark Professor of Political Economy at Columbia University, presented the 2006 W.A. Mackintosh Lecture on October 17, 2006. Professor Woodford's talk was entitled "Does Money Matter for the Conduct of Monetary Policy?"

**Eric L. Jones**, of the University of Melbourne, presented the 2006 Chancellor Dunning Trust Lecture on October 4, 2006. Professor Jones's talk was entitled "Cultural Nationalism: The Last Refuge of Scoundrels". He is the author of *The European Miracle* and *Cultures Merging*.



## ***withinsight* 2007: Canada's Building Momentum January 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in Ottawa**

Against the striking backdrop of the Fairmont Chateau Laurier and Parliament Hill, 160 student leaders joined together to find solutions today for the problems of tomorrow. Led by fourth year Honours Economics student **Erik Sloane**, the conference aimed to engage students in key Canadian issues and inspire them to create change in their own communities. As the National Director for the conference, Erik was responsible for coordinating the National Executive Team, creating a vision for the 2007 event, and ensuring that it continues to influence future leaders in the years to come.

Since its inception in 1997, *withinsight* has grown to become a national event. The 2007 event marks the inaugural session for the *withinsight* National Executive team.

This year's conference was proud to welcome world-renowned economist and best-selling author Dr. David Foot, who headlined opening round discussions on Canada's demographic imbalance, while other leaders in the field faced off in a debate over the future of Canada's controversial health care system. In addition, attendees received practical advice from experts on the ins and outs of human resource management, networking, and what tomorrow's job market is looking for. Throughout the conference, delegates had the opportunity to voice their opinions during multiple interactive breakout sessions, and these voices will continue to resonate in the Policy Paper that will be submitted to the Privy Council Office of Canada and to corporate partners. The QED supported the conference itself and also helped fund several economics students to attend.

## **Student Awards for 2006**

### **Departmental Medalist**

In-Gu Kevin Khang

### **Prince of Wales Prize**

(for the best academic record among BA Honours graduates in the Faculty of Arts and Science)

In-Gu Kevin Khang

### **The Chancellor C.A. Dunning Prizes in Economics**

Joanna Jeon (Best Thesis)

In-Gu Kevin Khang (Medalist)

### **Medial Medalist in Political Science and Economics**

Gordon McGuire

### **Medial Medalist in History and Economics**

Brian Gottheil

### **Douglas D. Purvis Prize in Economics**

(for best 400-level seminar paper)

Helen Ma

### **The James Bocking Prize in Economics**

(for the highest standing in ECON 445 Industrial Organization)

Wei An

## **Annual Fourth- Year Dinner**

The Fourth Annual Fourth-Year Economics Dinner was held on Monday November 20th, with special guest speaker Heather Conway (BA 1984), Executive VP, Marketing, Creative Services & Public Affairs, Alliance-Atlantis. This year's event was held at the Donald Gordon Centre and was attended by 85 students and faculty members.

## **In Memoriam**

George Teves, who managed the Queen's University Club for 17 years, passed away on March 25, 2006. He was 47. George was born in Kingston to a family with strong Queen's ties. He graduated from Queen's with an honours degree in Economics in 1982 and played on the varsity soccer team all four years. George worked at food-service jobs at Queen's throughout high school and university. Before being hired as manager of the University Club in May 1989, he was a manager in food services at Queen's. George is survived by his wife Lucy, children Jessica and Michael, brothers Armando and Victor, parents Maria and Manuel, and a large, extended family.

## **QED Graduates Win Prizes**

The 2006 Scarthingmoor Prize for an outstanding MA Essay went to **Nicolas-Guillaume Martineau**, a current PhD student. This prize has been made possible through the generosity of John Weatherall. The title of the essay is "Road-Tolling in the Presence of an Untolled Alternative: An Analysis of Highway 407". His supervisor was Robin Boadway.

The Harry Johnson Prize for the best paper in the *Canadian Journal of Economics* in 2005 went to **Christopher Auld** (MA 1993, PhD 1999). The paper was entitled "Causal Effect of Early Initiation on Adolescent Smoking Patterns".

The John Vanderkamp Prize for the best paper in *Canadian Public Policy* in 2005 went to **Paul Grootendorst** (MA, 1990) and **Michael Veall**. The paper was entitled "National Catastrophic Drug Insurance Revisited: Who Would Benefit from Senator Kirby's Recommendations".

The 2006 C.A. Curtis 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) was awarded to **Andrew Leach** for his thesis "Three Papers on the Economics of Climate Change". His supervisor was Chris Ferrall.

## QED Receptions

On May 17, 2006, the QED held its first ever alumni reception in Kingston, at the University Club. Although attendance was on a smaller scale than for previous receptions, those who were there had a great time. One of our most senior and distinguished alumni, the Honourable **John R. Matheson** (BAH 1940), attended with his wife Edith. In 2007, we will go back to larger cities. We hope to hold receptions in Montreal in May and in Toronto in the fall.

## Donations to the QED

The wonderful generosity of many QED alumni has been enormously valuable over the years. In particular, the **Economics Trust** plays a key role in the Department, funding a variety of student and faculty initiatives for which there would otherwise be no money in our budget. Donations to the Economics Trust are always very welcome.

Please remember that all gifts to Queen's University can always be directed to any project of your choice. The net cost of giving cash to Queen's is only 54 cents on the dollar for an Ontario resident in any tax bracket. But it can be as little as 31 cents on the dollar if you give securities on which there are large, unrealized capital gains. Giving securities is surprisingly easy. Just ask **Juanita Dennie** for the form to give to your broker.

In addition to the Economics Trust, we have a number of other, more focused, fundraising projects. Three of these are described below. For more information about any of them, or to make a gift, please contact **Juanita Dennie** or **James MacKinnon**.

## The Don Wood Fund for Undergraduate Scholarships in Economics

This new fund was established in honour of the late **Don Wood** by a very generous gift at the end of 2005 (just too late to make it into last year's *QED Newsletter*) and is well on its way to becoming the largest single fund for undergraduate awards in Economics. It allows us to supplement existing merit-based awards (some of which are embarrassingly small) and to give additional awards based on overall merit to students entering the second, third, or fourth years of their programs. The number of students

in our undergraduate program has increased greatly over the past decade or two, but the number and value of awards has not kept pace. We hope that alumni will support the Don Wood Fund, because it provides a wonderful way to recognize the ability and hard work of our many great students.

## The Douglas D. Purvis Professorship

**Doug Purvis** was a remarkable colleague, teacher, and friend who died tragically in January of 1993 after an accident. 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 far less than the 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.

## 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 until his death in late 2002, although he nominally retired in 1979. In keeping with Mac's long-held belief that economic theory is the key to understanding many aspects of the world, the Malcolm Urquhart Memorial Fund is intended to support courses in the broad area of economic theory. We hope that many of Mac's friends and former students 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.

## 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 hires economists, you want to hire the best. That means you want to interview QED graduates. The best way to get in touch with them is directly through us. If you have a job posting which you would like circulated to our current students and/or recent alumni, please send it to **Juanita Dennie** (full contact information below).

## 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 be listed, just fill out our consent form: <http://www.econ.queensu.ca/alumni/consentform.php> and mail/fax it to **Juanita Dennie**.

## 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.

You've seen her name all over this page. Now here is Juanita's contact information:

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**Google us!** Just type "Queen's Economics" into Google, and the QED home page comes up first. "QED Economics" also works. Visit our home page and see what has been happening in the QED.