



THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL MEETING

*APRIL 6 - 7, 2006
THE WOODLANDS CONFERENCE CENTER
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA*

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM AS OF MARCH 15, 2006

Thursday, April 6 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

REGISTRATION

Thursday, April 6--- 1:00 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

**PLENARY SESSION: THE ECONOMIC OUTLOOK FOR THE NATION,
STATE, AND THE HAMPTON ROADS REGION**

Chair: David Brat, VAE President and Randolph-Macon College

National: Steve P. Peterson, Director of Research, Virginia Retirement System
Virginia Commonwealth University

State: Roy Pearson, College of William and Mary

Region : Gilbert Yochum, Vinod Agarwal and Mohammad Najand,
Old Dominion University

REFRESHMENTS: 2:45: p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 6, -- 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

SESSION A: TOPICS IN ECONOMICS

Chair: Ray Owens, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

1. “*A Price Index for Texas, 1837-1861*,” Dr. Clifford F. Thies
Eldon R. Lindsay Professor of Economics and Finance, Shenandoah University
2. “*Tax and Spend or Spend and Tax? Granger Causality Tests of Public Finance in the Eurozone*” Michelle A. Vachris and
George Zestos, Christopher Newport University
3. “*Economic Impact of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans: What We Have Learned: Reflections of an Economist*,” A. Odutola,
H.P. Singh-Sandhu, Virginia Union University
4. “*A Tale of Two Auctions*,” Edward Nik-Khah, Roanoke College
5. “*Omitted Variable Bias in Arthur Okun’s Formulation of the Relationship between Economic Growth and Employment*,” Nozar Hashemzadeh, Radford University

Discussants:

1. Anthony M. Carilli, Hampden-Sydney College
2. Robert Rycroft, University of Mary Washington
3. Dennis O’Toole, Virginia Commonwealth University
4. Eugene Gotwalt, Sweet Briar College
5. John Abell, Randolph –Macon Women’s College

Thursday, April 6—3:00 to 5:30 p.m.

SESSION B: ISSUES IN MICROECONOMICS

Chair: Garry Fleming Roanoke College

1. “*An Empirical Analysis of Child Custody Decisions: A Multinomial Logit Analysis of Cases Level U. S. Data*,” Susan Gardner and David Lehr, Longwood University
2. “*Do the Obese Respond to Adverse Health Events?: a Behavioral Approach*,”
Alice Louise Kassens, Roanoke College
3. “*Losing the Edge at the Final Frontier: A Relative Decline in Scientific Inputs and its Consequences*,” Atin Basu Choudhary, Virginia Military Institute,

Michael Reksulak, Georgia Southern University

4. “ *Industry Effect on Dividend Policy: A Study of Firms in the United Kingdom (UK)*,” Niazur Rahim, Christopher Newport University,”

Discussants:

1. Justin P. Isaacs, Hampden-Sydney College
 2. Steven D. Lang, Randolph-Macon College
 3. Ann Battle, Virginia Economic Development Partnership
 4. Aileen Watson, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
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Thursday, April 6 - 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Reception: 6:00 p.m. to 7: 00 p.m.
(Hors D’oeuvres and Cash Bar)

Dinner: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

WILLIAM A. SANDRIDGE LECTURE

Nobel Laureate Dr. Vernon Smith
winner of the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences (2002)
and Professor of Economics & Law at George Mason University

Social Time: 9:30 to 11:00 p.m.

Friday, April 7, --8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast: 8:00 to 8:30 a.m (For all participants).
Past-Presidents’ Breakfast: 8:00 to 8:30 a.m.

BUSINESS MEETING: 8:30 TO 9A.M.

REFRESHMENTS: 9:00 a.m. to 9:15a.m.

Friday, April 7-----9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

SESSION A: ECONOMIC EDUCATION SESSION

Chair: Michelle A. Vachris, Christopher Newport University

1. “*Class Attendance and Student Performance*,” Vinod Agarwal, Eric Anderson, Qian Sun and Gilbert Yochum, Old Dominion University
2. “*Teaching Philanthropy with Real Money*,” Robert S. Rycroft, University of Mary Washington
3. “*Virginia SOL’s: Are They Working?*” David Brat, Randolph-Macon College
4. “*The Costs and Benefits of Teaching Micro-Economics in another Country Without Knowing the Language*,” Marshall Booker, Christopher Newport University

Discussants:

1. Robert S. Rycroft, University of Mary Washington
2. Robert C. Winder, Christopher Newport University
3. Fletcher Mangum, Mangum Economic Consulting
4. John Abell, Randolph-Macon Women’s College

SESSION B: OTHER ECONOMIC TOPICS

Chair: Tim Kestner, Virginia Employment Commission

1. “*Revisiting the Impact of Targeted Community Investment in Six Richmond Neighborhoods*,” Raymond Owens, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
2. “*The Economics of Peace Agreements: The Case of Sri Lanka*,” Justin Isaacs and Gregory Dempster, Hampden-Sydney College
3. “*Growth Convergence in Virginia*,” Barry Pfitzner, and Steven Lang, Randolph-Macon College
4. “*What VELMA Can Do for You: Understanding the VEC’S New Online Data Base of Virginia Employment Data*,” Jeremy Deyo, Virginia Employment Commission

Discussants:

1. Dennis M. O'Toole, Virginia Commonwealth University
 2. Barry C. Pfitzner Randolph-Macon College
 3. Ray Owens, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
 4. Billy Kinsey, Virginia Commonwealth University
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Friday April 7—12:00 noon until dark—VAE Golf Tournament and Tennis
