



THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA MARCH 15 - 16, 2012

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Economists:

Please make plans to attend the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Virginia Association of Economists (VAE). This thirty-ninth Annual Meeting will be held on March 15 and 16 in Virginia Beach at the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront.

This meeting announcement includes a Call for Papers. This year, we will offer a VAE Best Paper Award. Details are described below. You may also choose to organize a session, chair a session, participate as a discussant, or simply attend to see some of the economic research being conducted by colleagues in the Commonwealth.

The VAE is interested in continuing to involve undergraduate students in the meeting and acknowledging their academic accomplishments in economics. Please consider urging promising students to submit abstracts based on senior projects, summer research, or other types of inquiry. Last year, we scheduled two sessions devoted to student papers, which drew students from several colleges and universities. Another opportunity for undergraduates is the BB&T Charitable Foundation's Student Essay Contest. First prize for the student contest will be a \$1000 cash award. Additional details are provided below.

In 1993, the Board of Directors established the VAE Distinguished Fellows Award. The recipient of the 2012 Distinguished Fellows Award will be announced at the conference. A recipient must be a current or past member of the Virginia Association of Economists and must have made significant contributions either to the VAE or to the field of economics. Please contact me if you would like to submit a nomination.

I would also like to remind you that VAE publishes the Virginia Economic Journal. The editorial board of the VEJ accepts manuscripts on a continuing basis. If you would like to have your research considered for publication, please see the information below. Previous editions of the VEJ may be purchased at a rate of \$10.00 per copy by contacting C. Barry Pfitzner. Keep in mind that all members who register for the annual meeting automatically receive a copy of the VEJ.

If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact me directly at epsizemore@randolphcollege.edu or (434)947-8504.

*Sincerely,
Elizabeth Perry-Sizemore*

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PAPER AWARD

Call for Papers: The Program Committee will consider a paper or a one-page abstract of your planned research on any economics related topic—theoretical or applied—and either national, regional, or local in scope. Papers may focus on any issue or industry or they may focus on methodology; the choice is yours. The Committee is also planning two sessions devoted to student research projects. A friendly reminder—anyone choosing to participate in a session is required to register for the meeting and to remit the registration fee.

If you are interested in presenting a paper or organizing a session please submit your paper, abstract, or session idea no later than January 9, 2012 to Program Committee Chair Francis Bush of Virginia Military Institute. Abstracts received from undergraduates should indicate that the author is an undergraduate. If you are willing to discuss a paper, please contact Francis and indicate your areas of specialization. If you have any questions, Francis can be reached by email at BushHF@vmi.edu.

Paper Award: If you wish for your work to be considered for the VAE's 2012 Best Paper Award, Francis must receive the full text of your paper via email no later than **March 1, 2012**.

STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

The BB&T Charitable Foundation will be sponsoring an undergraduate Student Essay Contest. The topic of the contest is the moral foundations of capitalism. First prize is a cash award of \$1000 which will be presented at the annual meeting to be held on March 15 and 16 in Virginia Beach. The contest is open to undergraduate students in schools where there are faculty who are members of VAE, and the deadline for submissions is February 15, 2012. (Previous winners are not eligible.) Essay must be no fewer than 800 and no more than 1,600 words in length, and double-spaced. Please submit essays electronically to Michelle Vachris, BB&T Professor for the Study of Capitalism at Christopher Newport University, mvachris@cnu.edu.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Suggestions for nominations for officers of the VAE (President-Elect and Members of the Board) are being solicited by the Nominating Committee. Please send your suggestions to Fletcher Mangum, Mangum Economic Consulting, LLC at fletcher@mangum-consulting.com.

VIRGINIA ECONOMIC JOURNAL (VEJ)

Selected papers may be published in the *Virginia Economic Journal*, a publication of the Association that is designed to encourage research in economics, business and allied fields. It is not limited, however, to Virginia related research or to Virginia scholars and researchers. Manuscripts for the 2012 edition should be submitted by August 15, 2012 in accordance with the *Guidelines for the Virginia Economic Journal*. A copy of the *Guidelines* is available online at www.VaEcon.org or from Barry Pfitzner, Department of Economics and Business, Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, VA 23005, (804) 752-7307 or bpfitzne@rmc.edu. Questions concerning manuscripts submitted for publication should also be addressed to Barry.

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Visit the VAE website at www.VaEcon.org.

Look for more news to come regarding the 39th Annual Meeting, including:

hotel and parking information, the tentative program, and
the announcement of our 2012 **William A. Sandridge** lecturer for

Thursday evening, March 15, 2012.