

***Virginia Association of Economists – 37th Annual Meeting
March 4 – 5, 2010***

**Lynchburg College
1501 Lakeside Drive, Lynchburg, Virginia**

Thursday, March 4 – 11:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.

REGISTRATION

Location: Schewel Hall, Lobby

Thursday, March 4 – 1:15 p.m. to 2:45 p.m.

PLENARY SESSION: A GLIMPSE AT VIRGINIA’S ECONOMIC FUTURE

Location: Schewel Hall, Sydnor Performance Hall

Chair: Fletcher Mangum, *Mangum Economic Consulting*

Presenters:

Ann Macheras, *Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond*, “Projected Economic Trends for Virginia and the U.S.”

Edward Murphy, *Congressional Research Service*, “The Financial Meltdown and its Aftermath”

James Regimbal, Jr., *Fiscal Analytics Ltd.*, “The Virginia Budget”

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

Schewel Hall, Lobby

Thursday, March 4 – 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

SESSION A: Topics in Health Economics

Location: Schewel Hall, Sydnor Performance Hall

Chair: Francis Bush, *Virginia Military Institute*

- 1) “An Econometric Investigation of the Determinants of Medical Malpractice Premiums: Insights into the Case for Tort Reform,” Joseph H. Turek, (Lynchburg College)
- 2) “Physician Ownership and the Provision of Uncompensated Care by Ambulatory Surgical Center: Evidence from California,” Xinliang (Albert) Liu (Virginia Commonwealth University)

Discussants:

- 1) Michelle Vachris
- 2) Joseph H. Turek

Thursday, March 4 – 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.

SESSION B: Topics in Macroeconomics

Location: Schewel Hall, Room 231

Chair: Steve Lang, *Randolph Macon College*

- 1) “Creative Destruction, Cyclical Depreciation and Growth,” Alexei G. Orlov (Radford University) and John Roufagalas (Troy University)
- 2) “The Recession of 2001: A Case Study in Monetary Policymaking,” Robert C. Winder (Christopher Newport University) and Nathaniel Pattison (Christopher Newport University)
- 3) “The Impact of Higher Education Institutions on a Local Community’s Economy,” HP Singh-Sandhu (Virginia Union University) and A. Odutola (Virginia Union University)

Discussants:

- 1) Gregory Dempster
- 2) Alexei Orlov
- 3) Fletcher Mangum

Thursday, March 4 – 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Reception: 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. (Hors d’oeuvres and bar)

Dinner: 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Memorial Ballroom in Hall Campus Center

Thursday, March 4 – 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

WILLIAM A. SANDRIDGE LECTURE

"The n things wrong (and the <n things right) with the Federal Budget."

Marvin Phaup, *George Washington University and Director of the Pew Charitable Trusts' Federal Budget Reform Initiative*

Location: Schewel Hall, Sydnor Performance Hall

Friday, March 5 – 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Continental Breakfast: 8:00 to 8:30 a.m.

Past-Presidents' Breakfast: 8:00 to 8:30 a.m.

BUSINESS MEETING: 8:30 to 9:00 a.m.

Location: Memorial Ballroom in Hall Campus Center

Friday, March 5 -- 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

SESSION A:

Location: Schewel Hall, Room 231

Chair: Elizabeth Perry-Sizemore, *Randolph College*

- 1) "Principal-Agent Conflict and Seller's Strategy Near Listing Contract Expiration," Zhenyu (Mark) Zhang (Longwood University)
- 2) "The Effect of High-Frequency Trading on Serial Correlation and Market Efficiency," Hunter Hopcroft (Hampden-Sydney College)
- 3) "Do Changes in Unemployment Affect the Demand for Graduate Education?," Rosana del Mar Torres Medina (Randolph College)
- 4) "The Problems with the Term Structure as Proxy for the Natural Rate of Interest," Craig Gurchinoff (Hampden-Sydney College)

- 5) "Is Going Green the Right Answer for California: A Study of the Impact of Price and Disposable Income on Marijuana in California," Anthony Brantley (Roanoke College)

SESSION B:

Location: Schewel Hall, Sydnor Performance Hall

Chair: Fletcher Mangum, *Mangum Economic Consulting*

- 1) "The Pursuit of Wealth: Development and Integration of (International?) Financial Markets in the 18th Century," Tommy Ribaric (Hampden-Sydney College)
- 2) "The Constraints of Empire: An Analysis of Roman Public Policy in a Government Budget Constraint Framework," Gordon Wadsworth (Hampden-Sydney College)
- 3) "Factors Contributing to the Growing Population of HIV+ Incidences in the United States," Danielle Shiley (Roanoke College)
- 4) "Consumer Credit Choice," Craig Holley and Nathaniel Pattison (Christopher Newport University)
- 5) "Market Structure of the Digital Media Industry," Adam Doolittle (Hampden-Sydney College)
- 6) "Fearsome Flu," Matthew Delany (Roanoke College)

Friday, March 5 - 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

SESSION A: The Economic Analysis of Public Policy

Location: Schewel Hall, Sydnor Performance Hall

Chair: Fletcher Mangum, *Mangum Economic Consulting*

- 1) "The Impact of Foreign Aid on Infant Mortality," Nika Lazaryan (Virginia Commonwealth University)
- 2) "The Employee Free Choice Act and Virginia," Fletcher Mangum (Mangum Economic Consulting)
- 3) "War with Iran: Will brinksmanship deter Iran from building the bomb," Atin Basuchoudhary (Virginia Military Institute) and Rich Meredith

Discussants:

- 1) Atin Basuchoudhary
- 2) Francis Bush
- 3) Fletcher Mangum

Friday, March 5 - 10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

SESSION B: Topics in Economics

Location: Schewel Hall, Room 231

Chair: Gregory Dempster, *Hampden-Sydney College*

- 1) “Economic Freedom and Values,” Michelle Vachris (Christopher Newport University) and Justin Isaacs (Hampden-Sydney College)
- 2) “Birth Order Effects and Gender Bias in Child Labor and School Attendance,” Eskander Alvi (Western Michigan University) and Seife Dendir (Radford University)
- 3) “Impact of the Beige Book on 30 Day Fed Funds Futures,” Ray Owens (Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond)

Discussants:

1. Jennifer Dirmeyer
2. John Abell
3. Gregory Dempster

Friday, March 5 – 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Going to Graduate School – a colloquium on attending graduate school

Location: Schewel Hall, Room 231

Chairs: Elizabeth Perry-Sizemore (Randolph College) and Joseph H. Turek, (Lynchburg College)

Panelists:

- 1) Stephen J. Skripak, Associate Dean for Graduate Programs, Virginia Tech
- 2) Emma Candelier, Assistant Director of Graduate Recruiting, University of Virginia

- 3) Gary R. Kirk, Director of the MPA and Undergraduate Programs in Public Policy and Administration, James Madison University

Friday March 5 - After the meeting: VAE Golf Tournament