



# Econ Ph.D. News

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*Econ Ph.D.  
Program  
News  
August 17,  
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## **Welcome New Econ Grad Students!!!**

Welcome to the Graduate Economics Program at the University of Virginia! This second issue of your newsletter is dedicated to the Econ Grad Club. It includes an overview of some of the activities the Graduate Economics Club does throughout the year, and reminders about some important Department events.

### **The Graduate Economics Club**

The Graduate Economics Club works to promote collaboration and improve the overall experience among economics graduate students at the University of Virginia. The Club organizes a Collab page that serves as a repository of the Club's information, research collaboration meetings, and social events.

If you have any questions, comments, or feedback, we would love to hear from you!

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### **Our Collab Page**

The resources tab under the Collab page provides a grants/fellowships directory, which summarizes the available grants for which students can apply, and shows whether Econ students in the program received those grants in the past. There is also a skills/research directory which provides a suggested list of graduate students you contact if you would like information on various topics such as computing programs (Fortran, Latex, Matlab, Stata), and Website Design. We will soon post a directory of the field specialization of each econ grad student in the third year or beyond.

Another key feature of the Collab page is the schedule tab, which provides a calendar of events organized by the Graduate Club each month. The calendar is regularly updated in the beginning of each month.

### **Research Collaboration Meetings (RCMs)**

Roughly twice a month, the Graduate Economics Club hosts lunchtime meetings with the goal of facilitating collaboration between graduate students. The club always provides pizza and sodas for attendees! Meetings typically have a specific theme or purpose and are usually held in Monroe 120, the Department's large conference room on the first floor. Some previous meetings included a panel discussion on commonly used data sources, a tutorial on using the computing cluster, and general research feedback.

## Fun Events...

Econ grad folks regularly enjoy a variety of fun gatherings, such as the fall picnic, often at nearby McIntire Park, and a spring picnic just before exams.

Other get-togethers may include rafting, hiking, or skating trips, trivia or karaoke nights, Happy Hour gatherings, and Halloween or other holiday parties. Your suggestions are welcome!



It's not too early to start planning your halloween costume!



Grad student Selcen Cakir discusses her research on Turkish political party allegiance at a lunch-time research collaboration meeting.

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## Social Events

The Club typically hosts a social event once a month. Traditionally, this has included Halloween parties, happy hours, fall and spring Departmental picnics, a Welcome Reception for new students, and many other events.

Below is our tentative social calendar. While the exact times, locations, etc., may change, we hope this gives you a general idea of some events to look forward to throughout the fall semester. We will update you throughout the semester about upcoming activities. We all hope to see you at all our social gatherings!

If you have any suggestions on possible social outings for the graduate students please email our social planner, Tre Wells, at [tdw5cg@virginia.edu](mailto:tdw5cg@virginia.edu).

Grad Econ Club <i>Tentative</i> Social Calendar, Fall 2015		
<b>August</b>		Date
Event:	Welcome Reception	8/28
Location:	Monroe Courtyard	
Time:	4:30 PM	
<b>September</b>		Date
Event:	UVA vs. Boise St. Tailgate	9/25
Location (Tailgate):	TBD	
Time (Tailgate):	6:00 PM	
Location (Game):	Scott Stadium	
Time (Game):	8:00 PM	
<b>October</b>		Date
Event:	Fall Picnic	10/14
Location:	TBD	
Time:	TBD	
Event:	Halloween Party	10/30
Location:	TBD	
Time:	TBD	

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*First-year students enjoy the fall picnic at Pen Park.*

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### ***Department Events***

The Department hosts several events featuring research from Economics and related departments. Here is a list of some events to look for in the coming year:

#### *Fed Research Jamboree (Fall, Spring)*

Each fall and spring, our Department, in collaboration with the Richmond Federal Reserve Bank, hosts a research “jamboree.” The next meeting will be August 21<sup>st</sup> at the Richmond Federal Reserve Bank. This one-day conference typically features research from UVA economics faculty, students, and FRB economists.

#### *Economics Research Colloquium (Spring)*

The conclusion of each spring semester features the Economic Research Colloquium: a conference run entirely by the UVA economics grad students. The May 2015 conference consisted of morning and afternoon sessions over three days. Third-year students present their dissertation proposals, and 4<sup>th</sup> -year students present updates on their research as well. Each presentation has higher-year students serving as discussants. This conference culminates in our annual spring picnic.

#### *Bankard Graduate Student Workshop (Spring)*

Each spring, the Econ Grad Club uses money provided by the Bankard Fund for Political Economy to bring an economist to the University for a Graduate Student Workshop. The visit typically includes two lectures, an informal lunch presentation with graduate students, a more formal afternoon workshop, and a reception. This past spring the Club hosted Jesse Shapiro from Brown University.

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*Econ grad students play soccer regularly and invite interested first-year students to join them.*

## **Updated Schedule for Econ 5090 and Orientation Activities**

*(Color Key – Math Class/Discussion,  
ECON Orientation/Social,  
Other Orientation/Social*



*Winter holiday party in Monroe 120.*

	<b><u>Mon. Aug 17</u></b>
<b>9 AM - 12:30 PM</b>	<b>SPEAK, UVELPE Test - required for all non-native speakers</b>
<b>1:30 - 2:15 PM</b>	<b>Welcome from Federico Ciliberto, DGS, Monroe 110</b>
<b>2:30 - 4 PM</b>	<b>Patty Futrell, Adam Gutterman, Tre Wells, Monroe 110</b>
	<b><u>Tues. Aug 18</u></b>
<b>10 - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>5090 Class, Monroe 110</b>
<b>Noon - 4 PM</b>	<b>GSAS Orientation, Newcomb Hall Ballroom</b>
<b>4-6 PM</b>	<b>GSAS Reception and Resource Fair</b>
	<b><u>Weds. Aug 19</u></b>
<b>10AM - Noon</b>	<b>International Student Orientation, Chem 402</b>
<b>1:30 – 2:45 PM</b>	<b>5090 Class, Monroe 110</b>
<b>3:30 – 4:45 PM</b>	<b>5090 Class, Monroe 110</b>
	<b><u>Thurs. Aug 20</u></b>
<b>10:00 - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>5090 Class, Monroe 110</b>
<b>1:00 - 2:15 PM</b>	<b>5090 Class, Monroe 110</b>
<b>2:30 - 3:20 pm</b>	<b>5090 Discussion, Monroe 110</b>
	<b><u>Friday, Aug 21</u></b>
<b>9:30 - 10:45 AM</b>	<b>5090 Class, Monroe 110</b>
<b>11:30- 12:45 PM</b>	<b>5090 Class, Monroe 110</b>
<b>2:00 - ~7:30 PM</b>	<b>Trip to King Family Vineyards &amp; Blue Mtn Brewery</b>
	<b><u>Mon Aug 24</u></b>
<b>10:00 - 11:15 AM</b>	<b>5090 Class, Monroe 110</b>
<b>1:00 - 2:15 PM</b>	<b>5090 Class, Monroe 110</b>
<b>2:30 - 3:20 PM</b>	<b>5090 Discussion, Monroe 110</b>
	<b><u>Tues Aug 25</u></b>
	<b>Fall Classes Begin! (New schedule for ECON 5090)</b>
<b>3:30-4:45 PM</b>	<b>5090 Class, T,Th, Monroe 110</b>
	<b><u>Fri Aug 28</u></b>
<b>4:30 PM</b>	<b>Econ Welcome Reception, Monroe Courtyard</b>

**(Note:** Two additional, short orientation sessions for new Econ students will include a presentation by CAPS, and a tour of Alderman library facilities with our Department's library liaison. As your schedule is already quite full, we hope to schedule these fro 11 am on Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>, and Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>. You'll be notified as soon as we have definite commitments. Thanks for your patience!)

\* \* \*



*New Econ grad students at the 2014 trip to King Family Vineyards.*

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