Pennsylvania Economic Association

**

38th Annual Conference
May 30 – June 1, 2024

**

Slippery Rock University

Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania
PENNSYLVANIA ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION

38th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

May 30 – June 1, 2024

Slippery Rock University

Slippery Rock, PA

Visit the Pennsylvania Economic Association Home Page at http://econpea.org/

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Publish Your Paper in the Pennsylvania Economic Review

The Pennsylvania Economic Review (PER), a publication of the Pennsylvania Economic Association (PEA), publishes scholarly articles and book reviews submitted from anywhere in the world and in all economic areas. The PER also welcomes submissions containing an analysis of the Pennsylvania economy. It encourages members of the Pennsylvania Economic Association who present papers at the Association’s Annual Conferences to submit their papers for possible publication. Referees evaluate articles that authors submit for possible publication.

Manuscript submission instructions can be found at:

Publish Your Conference Paper or Discussant Remarks in the PEA 2024 Conference Proceedings

Submit an electronic copy of your paper or comments to:

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For submission information, see the style sheet posted at the association website:
http://econpea.org/publications/about-pea-conference-proceedings/

The deadline for proceedings submissions is July 31, 2024

Note: Publishing in the Proceedings does not prevent you from submitting your work to any other peer-reviewed journal!
Acknowledgments

Dr. Karen Riley, President, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
Dr. Michael Zieg, Provost, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
Dr. Lawrence Shao, Dean, College of Business, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
Dr. Thuy Bui, Chair, Department of FAME (Finance, Accounting, Management, and Economics), Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
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Dr. John Golden and Student Interns at the Sustainable Enterprise Accelerator, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
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Mr. Mike Schnelle, Director of Visual Communication, Slippery Rock University
Campus Police Department, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
Dr. Meta Brown, Keynote Speaker, Associate Professor of Economics, The Ohio State University
Dr. Russell Mills, Fed Lecture Speaker, Senior Regional Officer, Pittsburgh Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland
Slippery Rock University
McGraw Hill Education
2024 Conference Agenda

All events will take place in the Smith Student Center (SSC)

Thursday, May 30th
4:00 – 5:30 pm Board of Directors’ Dinner (SSC Room 321)
5:30 – 7:00 pm Board of Directors’ Meeting (SSC Room 321)
7:00 – 9:00 pm Registration (3rd Floor Lounge)
7:00 – 9:00 pm Thursday Evening Reception (Theater)

Friday, May 31st
8:00 am – 12:00 pm & 2:00 – 4:00 pm Registration (3rd Floor Lounge)
8:00 – 10:00 am Continental Breakfast (3rd Floor Lounge)
9:00 – 10:15 am Concurrent Sessions (Smith Student Center)
10:15 – 10:30 am McGraw Hill Snack Break (3rd Floor Lounge)
10:30 – 11:45 am Concurrent Sessions (Smith Student Center)
12:00 – 12:45 pm Luncheon (Ballroom)
12:30 – 12:45 pm Opening Address by SRU Provost Michael Zieg (Ballroom)
12:45 – 1:45 pm Keynote Speaker, Dr. Meta Brown, The Ohio State University (Ballroom)
2:15 – 3:30 pm Concurrent Sessions (Smith Student Center)
3:45 – 4:45 pm Federal Reserve Lecture, Dr. Russell Mills, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland (Theater)
5:00 – 6:30 pm Friday Afternoon Reception (3rd Floor Lounge)
Saturday, June 1st

8:00 – 10:30 am Registration (3rd Floor Lounge)

9:00 – 10:15 am Concurrent Sessions (Smith Student Center)

10:30 – 11:45 am General Membership Meeting (Theater)

11:45 am Closing

Smith Student Center Room 324 is available as an all-purpose working space for the duration of the conference.
Sponsors

Slippery Rock University

McGraw Hill
Thursday, May 30, 2024

**

Board of Directors Dinner – SSC 321
4:00 – 5:30 pm

**

Board of Directors Meeting – SSC 321
5:30 – 7:00 pm

**

Conference Registration – 3rd Floor Lounge
7:00 – 9:00 pm

**

Thursday Evening Reception – 3rd Floor Lounge
7:00 – 9:00 pm
Friday, May 31, 2024

**

Conference Registration – 3rd Floor Lounge
8:00 am – 12:00 pm, 2:00 – 4:00 pm

**

Continental Breakfast – 3rd Floor Lounge
8:00 – 10:00 am

**

Session F1: Friday, May 31, 2024
9:00 – 10:15 am

**

Session F1A: Banking & Housing Markets
SSC 319 (9:00 – 10:15 am)

Chair: Zack Klingensmith, Washington & Jefferson College

[1] Banking Productivity: A By-Production Model with Good and Bad Outputs
Yulu Wang, Binghamton University
Subal Kumbhakar, Binghamton University
Man Jin, Oakland University

[2] Banking on Financial Development to Save our Planet: A Semiparametric Analysis
Monica Das, Skidmore College
Sudip Basu, United Nations

Hyun Woong Park, Denison University

Benjamas Jirasakuldech, Slippery Rock University
Riza Emekter, Robert Morris University

Pennsylvania Economic Association 2024 Conference
Discussants:
[1] Monica Das, Skidmore College
[3] Benjamas Jirasakuldech, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania

Session F1B: International Trade
SSC 320 (9:00 – 10:15 am)
Chair: Xuebing Yang, Pennsylvania State University – Altoona

[1] Transactions Costs and Trade Restrictions
   Frew Hailou, West Virginia State University

   Xuebing Yang, Pennsylvania State University – Altoona

   Hanafiah Harvey, Pennsylvania State University – Mont Alto

Discussants:
[1] Xuebing Yang, Pennsylvania State University – Altoona

Session F1C: Social Policy & Economic Disparities
SSC 321 (9:00 – 10:15 am)
Chair: William P. McAndrew, Gannon University

[1] Spousal Effects: Will You Smoke/Quit Smoking Because of Me?
   Hualong Diao, Stony Brook University
   Junyu Zhang, Stony Brook University

   Douglas Nguyen, The College of New Jersey
   Donka Brodersen, The College of New Jersey
   M. Garrett Roth, Gannon University
   William P. McAndrew, Gannon University

Discussants:
[3] Hualong Diao, Stony Brook University

Session F1D: Global Innovations
SSC 322 (9:00 – 10:15 am)

Chair: Brian W Sloboda, University of Maryland, Global Campus

[1] Digitalization and Organizational Learning: A Comprehensive Analysis of
   Innovation Dynamics in the EU
   Imad El Hamma, Mohammed V University in Rabat

[2] Use of Spatial Panel Regression to Examine the Impact of External Debt on
   Economic Growth and Investment in ECOWAS Countries
   Brian W Sloboda, University of Maryland, Global Campus
   Yaya Sissoko, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

   Countries (2008-2021)
   Khalid Hammes, Mohammed V University in Rabat
   Fadwa Betane, Mohammed V University in Rabat

Discussants:
[1] Brian W Sloboda, University of Maryland, Global Campus
[2] Khalid Hammes, Mohammed V University in Rabat
[3] Imad El Hamma, Mohammed V University in Rabat
Snack Break – 3rd Floor Lounge
10:15 – 10:30 am
Sponsored by:

**

Session F2: Friday, May 31, 2024
10:30 – 11:45 am
**

Session F2A: Montani Semper Liberi
SSC 319 (10:30 – 11:45 am)

Chair: Robert Dunn, Washington & Jefferson College

   Robert Dunn, Washington & Jefferson College

   I. Maupin, West Virginia University

   Brian Osoba, Central Connecticut State University

Discussants:
[1] I. Maupin, West Virginia University
[2] Brian Osoba, Central Connecticut State University
Session F2B: Undergraduate Paper Session  
SSC 320 (10:30 – 11:45 am)  

Chair: Orhan Kara, West Chester University of Pennsylvania  

[1] Female Labor Force Participation Rates in South Asia  
   Shagufta Haque, Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
   Caleb J. Johnson, Indiana University of Pennsylvania  

   Seraphina Plewa, The College of New Jersey  

[3] The Impact of Tuition Freezes on Net Prices at 4-year Pennsylvania Public Universities  
   Kyle Stretch Jr., Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania  

   Alexander Bruce, Gannon University  
   Graham Rusco, Gannon University  

Discussants:  
[1] Seraphina Plewa, The College of New Jersey  
[3] Alexander Bruce, Gannon University  

Session F2C: The Pennsylvania Economy  
SSC 321 (10:30 – 11:45 am)  

Chair: Leslie Dunn, Washington & Jefferson College  

[1] The Impact of Natural Gas Production on Human Capital Accumulation  
   Leslie Dunn, Washington & Jefferson College  

[2] Pennsylvania Treasury Accomplishments  
   Thomas Armstrong, Pennsylvania Treasury
    Angel Alcantara, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
    Kaleb Kolesar, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
    James J. Jozefowicz, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Discussants:

Session F2D: Personal Investing
SSC 322 (10:30 – 11:45 am)

Chair: Serkan Karadas, University of Illinois – Springfield

    Serkan Karadas, University of Illinois – Springfield
    Minh Tam Tammy Schlosky, University of Illinois – Springfield

    John Ruddy, University of Scranton

    David A. Nugent, Robert Morris University (Retired)

Discussants:
[1] John Ruddy, University of Scranton
[2] David A. Nugent, Robert Morris University (Retired)

Session F2E: Diversity, Safety, & Governance
SSC 323 (10:30 – 11:45 am)

Chair: Lucas Mafica, Temple University

[1] How Does School Violence Affect Immigrant and Native-Born Children?
    Exploring Impacts on Mental Health and Academic Outcomes
    Junyu Zhang, Stony Brook University
    Hualong Dio, Stony Brook University
   Lucas Mafrica, Temple University

   Zeliha Ozdogan, Pennsylvania State University - Harrisburg

Discussants:  
[1] Lucas Mafrica, Temple University  
[2] Zeliha Ozdogan, Pennsylvania State University - Harrisburg  
Keynote Speaker Luncheon
Friday, May 31, 2024
12:00 – 1:45 pm
Ballroom

Keynote Speech
Debt Across the Life Cycle

Dr. Meta Brown
Associate Professor of Economics
The Ohio State University
Dr. Meta Brown is an Associate Professor of Economics at Ohio State, where she also holds a research affiliation with the Institute for Population Research. Prior to her current position, Dr. Brown was a member of the Research Group of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the economics department faculties of Stony Brook University and the University of Wisconsin at Madison. She was also a research fellow at both the Institute for Economic Equity and the Center for Household Financial Stability at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. Dr. Brown did her undergraduate study at Ohio State, and earned her master’s and Ph.D. in economics from New York University.

Dr. Brown’s research interests include the economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis, student borrowing and human capital investment, household financial behavior, job loss and hiring, and the economics of aging. Her work has been published in the Review of Financial Studies, the American Economic Review, the Review of Economic Studies, the Journal of Human Resources, the Journal of Labor Economics, and Ohio State’s own Journal of Money, Credit, and Banking. Her research has been funded by the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation, among other esteemed organizations.

In addition to her research, Dr. Brown is committed to service and leadership roles within her academic community and beyond. These include mentoring through the Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession of the American Economic Association, advising OSU’s Graduate Women in Economics student group, and leading the OSU economics department’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.
Session F3: Friday, May 31, 2024
2:15 – 3:30 pm

**

Session F3A: Religion & Politics
SSC 319 (2:15 – 3:30 pm)

Chair: Guido Giuntini, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

Guido Giuntini, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

[2] "In God They Trust": Analyzing the Impact of Religion on Politics in Tennessee Through License Plate Data
Allyssa Wadsworth, University of Houston – Clear Lake

[3] Political Talk Radio and Rural Conservatism
Heyu Xiong, Case Western Reserve University

Discussants:
[1] Allyssa Wadsworth, University of Houston – Clear Lake
[2] Heyu Xiong, Case Western Reserve University

Session F3B: Panel on Diversity in Economics
SSC 320 (2:15 – 3:30 pm)

Moderator: Sandra Trejos

This panel will address statistics on the status of minorities and women in the Economics profession and their role in the advancement of the profession. Anecdotes, experiences, lessons, and ways of boosting the participation of minority groups in the professions will be discussed by the panelists.
Session F3C: Sports & Economics  
SSC 321 (2:15 – 3:30 pm)  
Chair: Zachary Klingensmith, Washington & Jefferson College  

   Woosoon Kim, Alvernia University  

   Mark F. Owens, Pennsylvania State University – Erie  
   Michael A. Roach, Middle Tennessee State University  

[3] NFL Team Performance and Player Ratings of Teams  
   Zachary Klingensmith, Washington & Jefferson College  

Discussants:  

Session F3D: The Chinese Economy  
SSC 322 (2:15 – 3:30 pm)  
Chair: Jingze Jiang, Pennsylvania Western University – Edinboro  

   Jingze Jiang, Pennsylvania Western University – Edinboro  

[2] Relationship Between Political Involvement and the Success of Women Entrepreneurs in China’s Economy  
   Orhan Kara, West Chester University of Pennsylvania  
   Tufan Tiglioglu, Alvernia University  

   Lizi Maisashvili, Dickinson University  
   Ye Jiang, Dickinson University
Discussants:
[1] Orhan Kara, West Chester University of Pennsylvania
[2] Lizi Maisashvili, Dickinson University

Session F3E: Money & Inflation
SSC 323 (2:15 – 3:30 pm)

Chair: Steve Andelin, Pennsylvania State University – Schuylkill (retired)

[1] A Macroeconomic Model of Monetary Inflation
   Steve Andelin, Pennsylvania State University – Schuylkill (retired)

   Yongchen Zhao, Towson University

   Neepa Gaekwad Babulal, State University of New York at Fredonia
   William A. Barnett, University of Kansas

Discussants:
[1] Yongchen Zhao, Towson University
Federal Reserve Lecture
Friday, May 31, 2024
3:45 – 4:45 pm
Smith Student Center, Theater

National and Regional Economic Conditions Update

Dr. Russell Mills
Senior Regional Officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland
Russell Mills is a Senior Principal and the Senior Regional Officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland’s Pittsburgh Branch. He is responsible for managing relationships with regional stakeholders, monitoring the region’s economic environment, and speaking to regional audiences on national and regional economic conditions. Additionally, he participates in briefings that support the Bank president’s role on the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC). He also manages the Bank’s relationships with the Pittsburgh Branch’s board of directors and business advisory councils in southwest Pennsylvania, northwest Pennsylvania, and northwest Ohio.

Dr. Mills joined the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland in 2023. Prior to taking on his current role, he oversaw the Center for Regional Development at Bowling Green State University, leading a team in economic, community, and workforce development projects across 31 counties in northwestern Ohio. Prior to his time at the center, Dr. Mills was an associate professor of political science at BGSU and a policy analyst at the Federal Aviation Administration in Washington D.C.

He holds a BA in political science from Westminster College, an MPA from the University of Vermont, and a PhD in political science from Kent State University.

**

Friday Afternoon Reception
Friday, May 31, 2024
5:00 – 6:30 pm
Smith Student Center, 3rd Floor Lounge

**
Saturday, June 1, 2024

**

Conference Registration – 3rd Floor Lounge
8:00 – 10:30 am

**

Session S1: Saturday, June 1, 2024
9:00 – 10:15 am

**

Session S1A: Issues in International Economics
SSC 319 (9:00 – 10:15 am)

Chair: Erwin F. Erhardt, III, University of Cincinnati

[1] An Assessment into Impact of Regional Conflicts Upon Socio-Political Sustainability in Pakistan
   Muhammad Muzaffar Abbas, Lahore School of Economics

[2] Coping with Crises: Challenges to Reforming the Armenian Economy
   Erwin F. Erhardt, III, University of Cincinnati

   George P Gonpu, Ramapo College of New Jersey

Discussants:
[1] Erwin F. Erhardt, III, University of Cincinnati
Session S1B: Artificial Intelligence & Fraud  
SSC 320 (9:00 – 10:15 am)

Chair: Minh Tam Schlosky, University of Illinois Springfield

Minh Tam Schlosky, University of Illinois Springfield

[2] Navigating the AI-Driven Fraud Landscape: Risks, Detection, and Mitigation Strategies  
Sunita Mondal, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania  
Pavani Tallapally, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania  
Diane Galbraith, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania

DeAnna McCarley Smith, University of Montevallo  
Xiangjing Wei, Gannon University  
Yang Yang, University of Montevallo

Discussants:  
[1] Sunita Mondal, Slippery Rock University  
[2] Yang Yang, University of Montevallo  

Session S1C: Public Health & Economic Development  
SSC 321 (9:00 – 10:15 am)

Corey J.M. Williams, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania

[1] Up in Smoke: The Educational Toll of Air Pollution  
Maheen Javaid, George Washington University

Hilary Waldron, US Treasury Department

Corey J.M. Williams, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania  
Andrew Vassallo, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Discussants:

Session S1D: Economic Growth
SSC 322 (9:00 – 10:15 am)

Chair: Martin Kimani, Indiana University of Pennsylvania

[1] Sources of Externalities and Economic Growth
   Babatunde Aiyemo, SUNY Oneonta

   Eric Bruker

[3] Determinants of Economic Growth in Alliance of Sahel States (ASS) Countries:
   An Empirical Investigation
   Martin Kimani, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
   Yaya Sissoko, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
   Brian W. Sloboda, University of Maryland, Global Campus

Discussants:
[1] Eric Bruker
[3] Babatunde Aiyemo, SUNY Oneonta
General Membership Meeting

Saturday, June 1, 2024
10:30 – 11:45 am

Smith Student Center – Theater

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Our Annual Business Meeting of the General Membership of the Pennsylvania Economic Association is open to the entire membership of the PEA, including all registrants of the conference.

Door prizes will be awarded!

Closing at 11:45 am
# 2024 Program Author and Participant Index

<table>
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<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
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<th>Session(s)</th>
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Source of jokes: https://economicscience.net/content/JokEc/
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