GLOBAL LANDSCAPES CONFERENCE 2015
An Interdisciplinary Research Symposium

CONFERENCE THEME
THE WORLD IN 3D: DEMOCRACY, DEMOGRAPHY, AND DEMAND

April 16-17, 2015
King’s College
Global Landscapes Conference 2015

Interdisciplinary Research Symposium

Conference Theme
The World in 3D: Democracy, Demography, and Demand

Global Landscapes Conference 2015, an interdisciplinary symposium will assemble scholars, educators, students, and community members who are interested in examining important issues facing humanity and who recognize the need for cooperation among different constituents to find sustainable solutions amid a changing social, cultural, political, economic, and financial environment.

As the countries deal with global challenges, people struggle for survival, governments search for sustainable solutions and hope for growth and development. Three Ds: Democracy, Demography and Demand determine a country’s ability to create peace, stability, development and growth.

This interdisciplinary conference has proven that world citizens need to care about various local and regional as well as global, topics. An interdisciplinary approach shows that there are many ways to analyze and research a topic. For the past 7 years the GLC created a forum for discussion triggered by participants in the forms of presentations, posters and panels. These sessions have enriched ideas formed by the interactions with the experts.

The objective of the conference is to promote interdisciplinary discussion of the research topics within a global landscape across academic curricula, business practice and policy perspective.

The undergraduate research conference presentations are sponsored by the King’s College Chapter of the International Business Honor Society, Epsilon Chi Omicron, and Alpha-Mu Chapter of the International Honor Society in Economics, Omicron Delta Epsilon.

Bindu Vyas, Ph.D. Conference Chair
Associate Professor of International Business/Management, King’s College

KING’S COLLEGE
King’s College Chapter of Epsilon Chi Omicron, International Business Honor Society

Lauren Dereinzi  Peter Kmec
Laura Ortiz      Terria Pettus
Kimberly Zurinski Jennifer Jean-Jacques
Danielle Avery   Nirvana Chand
Drew Groblewski Davide M. Fanelli
Amanda E. Kotch  Brianna M. Prince
Rachel A. Simon

Alpha-Mu Chapter of Omicron Delta Epsilon, International Honor Society in Economics

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Ryan Boyle        Madeline Griffin
Mark Henry        Savannah Jablon
Jennifer Jean-Jacques Nicole Lawler
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Laura Ortiz       William Pokorny

2015 Conference Committee:

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Bindu Vyas, Ph.D., King’s College

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Jennifer Edmonds, Ph.D., Wilkes University

Track Chair Literature
Noreen O'Connor, Ph.D., King’s College

Student Assistants

Kimberly Zurinski, King’s College
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Mobile Internet Access in Developing Countries

William Dietz (diewill@lycoming.edu)
Faculty Advisor: Elizabeth Moorhouse
Lycoming College

Abstract:

Access to the internet is becoming more valuable every year, but for a significant number of people in under-developed countries, gaining reliable access to the web has been virtually impossible. Thanks to the spread of mobile internet through cellular data, this group will finally be able to join in on global communications with exciting possibilities. Data from The World Bank will be used to analyze the relationship between internet use and mobile cellular subscriptions, particularly in less developed economies. My research helps explain the usage of cellular data, rather than conventional connections, for internet access in countries where citizens would otherwise not have a tethered connection on a personal computer. The study also controls for a country’s education level, GDP and related indicators of wealth, access to and consumption of electricity, and fixed broadband internet subscribers. Both current and future implications of the findings will also be discussed.
Environmental Sustainability as a Global Initiative: How the Wilkes-Barre Downtown Small Business Community can participate

Faculty Advisors: Marleen Troy, PhD and Ruth Hughes, JD, Faculty Advisors
Students: Brendon Blachowski, Jonathon Daniels, Stephen Turner

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ABSTRACT

This research, conducted in the Summer of 2014, surveyed small businesses in the Central Business District of Wilkes-Barre on their familiarity with and attitudes towards environmental sustainability, including obstacles and motivators for implementation as well as current business practices. While publications on similar topics existed for small businesses in other countries, there appeared to be little recent published research for small business communities in the United States.

Research results from the local survey seem to support the notion that “peer pressure” will be the most immediate motivator for businesses in the Wilkes-Barre Downtown area to implement sustainable practices. The two primary obstacles cited by businesses, cost and the feeling of being too small, could be overcome in several ways. First of all, a grant or other financial incentive for implementation might spur businesses that would otherwise be reluctant to do so. Second, tracking the progress of all businesses as a group towards an environmental goal could demonstrate the impact of the collective business action.

Addressing the “peer pressure” factor, one thought would be to highlight some early business champions of sustainability in the downtown and through some sort of public relations campaign create enthusiasm for the concept with other businesses.
The most recent economic downturn in the United States generated the highest unemployment rate since the early 1980s and produced the most rapid increase in unemployment since the Great Depression. The national unemployment rate peaked at 10.0% in October of 2009. However, there was significant variation by state. This study seeks to better understand what factors contribute to higher state unemployment rates, as well as what factors help reduce unemployment. Data from all 50 U.S. states was collected to examine the correlation between educational attainment and unemployment. This paper will focus on how the average education level of a region influences the unemployment rate based on level of degree earned among high school graduates, Bachelor Degree recipients, and Advanced Degree recipients. Using this data we will analyze how an increase in level of education achieved can help decrease unemployment rates. Our study will also control for the economical structure of each state and family demographics, as well as other factors that are known to have an influence on state unemployment. Legislators might consider using the results of this study to create policies with the aim of reducing unemployment.
1. Name of Presenters (Student Research Team):
   David Graff, Britton Heim, Nicole Santorelli, Jamie Seyler, Kate Thomas

2. Dr. Morgan Clevenger, Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship, Dr. Jeffrey Alves, Dean & Professor of Entrepreneurship; Lanie Jordan, Executive Director of the Family Business Alliance at Wilkes University, & Dr. Ellen Newell, Assistant Professor of Psychology

3. Institution: Wilkes University, The Jay S. Sidhu School of Business & Leadership

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6. Type of Presentation: Oral Presentation

7. PowerPoint needed


9. Abstract:

Wilkes University’s ENT 396 Research in Entrepreneurship: Family Business in the 21st Century students present preliminary findings from a mixed-method study conducted in 8 counties in NEPA. This project collaborated with Dr. Morgan Clevenger, Assistant Professor of Entrepreneurship; Dr. Jeffrey Alves, Dean and Professor of Entrepreneurship; Dr. Ellen Newell, Assistant Professor of Psychology; and Lanie Jordan, Executive Director of the Family Business Alliance (FBA).

This research combines online and hard surveys using the Dillman, Smyth, and Christian (2009) mixed-mode method and face-to-face interviews. Family-owned business participants had to have 2 or more full time employees and $10,000 or more in capital investment; the study excluded franchises and national brands. A 15-question 1:1 interview of FBA members, lapsed members, and prospects was conducted in Fall 2014 in ENT 201 Nature & Essence of Entrepreneurship. Additionally, a survey was sent to 5,000 randomly selected businesses.

Several areas of interest include: next generation development, transitioning to the next generation, succession and estate planning to protect the family and the business, family governance, business strategic planning, family meetings, family/business legacy, keeping balance between family business and ownership, and successful family dynamics (e.g., communication, teamwork, leadership).
Not every country across the world is evenly rich, or, better said, evenly poor. Poverty causes countless problems: people starve to death, get into fights over rare resources, suffer under insufficient medical health care or do not have the same possibilities as others. According to the United Nations, “every 3.6 seconds another person dies of starvation and the large majority are children under the age of 5” (2006, p. 1). These starvations are caused by poverty. What factors influence the poverty rate of a country? This study explores the relationship between the economic structure of a country and the poverty rate, while controlling for other relevant factors. Analyzing the economic structure, we focus on the prevalence of agriculture, industry and the service sector. Using regression analysis we will compare the influence of specific independent variables. Our intention is to provide an analysis which improves the world’s understanding of how the poverty rate can be reduced. Policymakers could use our research to better understand the factors that contribute to poverty and create policies to fight poverty.
Abstract: The U.S. health care industry will be on strong ethical footing if it acts to make greater use of advance directives. An aging population will require significant health care resources in the coming decades. It is incumbent upon health care providers to have a better understanding of patient preferences and to adopt a mindset that is accepting of advance directives. Providers are most beneficent and nonmaleficent and most respectful of patient autonomy when they act in accordance with the wishes of a patient who has developed treatment preferences in a contemplative, competent state – even if these preferences result in natural death sooner than alternative treatment protocols. The U.S. can support the medical community by engaging policy and regulatory levers that aim to address medical malpractice reform to encourage greater patient autonomy, incentivize greater linkage between advance directives and electronic health records, encourage greater education to medical students on the subjects of advance directives and palliative care, and support efforts to increase cultural competence so that every American has equal opportunity to direct their end of life care.
Availability of water is a major challenge to the security and well-being of the world population this century. Sharing of waters between democratic and other countries and between states and territories within sovereign nations while can provide opportunities for conservation and environmental sustainability, has historically been source of conflicts and “water wars.” There has been a direct relationship between the quality of life and the availability of clean water and history indicates that societies with higher standards of living enjoy availability of good quality water in good quantities. Unfortunately, more than half of the world’s nearly eight billion population, does not have access to clean water according to the United Nations. It is also estimated that nearly 25 countries have less than 1000 m$^3$ of clean water available per capita. While many argue that water is not a commodity but is a basic necessity of life that should be a common property, there are others who consider water to be a commodity and believe that commercialization and privatization of water to be the most effective way to conserve the limited. For over 50 years, many countries in Europe and Latin America and many states in the United States have been home to privately owned water utilities. Even the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund have played a role in funding water privatization projects in developing countries such as Argentina, Benin and Bolivia, among others. Main goals of these projects are to improve the overall health of the citizens and to reduce poverty. In the developed world such as the United States, privatization of water systems has been mostly driven by economic and political policies at local and state levels. In both developed and developing countries though, there are good examples of success and failures with privatization of water supply and sanitation systems in addressing their water crisis and security issues and will be the focus of the presentation.
The purpose of this study is to determine whether personality types impact ethical sensitivity, moral judgment and ethical intentions. This study utilized a brief instrument known as the Ten Item Personality Inventory (TIPI) to measure the Big Five personality traits of the participants. It also included the Narcissistic Personality Inventory (NPI)-13 and the selfism and empathy scales. This study will extend the current literature to explore several situations that have been identified by the Association for Certified Fraud Examiners as occurring often in the business world today: including bribery/kickbacks, theft of cash, check tampering and conflicts of interest. It replicates a study by Brown and al (2003) that found business students to have a higher rate of reported cheating than any other major in order to verify if these results are applicable to King’s College students.
Name of the presenter[s]
1- Asst. Dr. Nasir Khalil Jalal- Ph.D. in Contract Law
2- Dr. Adnan Abdullah Rasheed - Ph.D. in Constitution Law

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Type of presentation-[ oral]
Special requests-[ PowerPoint]

Title of Research

The Iraqi Government’s Responsibility for Non-Implementation of Article 140 of the Iraqi Constitution

After Saddam Hussein’s regime fell in 2003, the issues surrounding what is known as “the disputed territories” became a major public concern. This issue became known as “the problem of Article 140” of the permanent Iraqi constitution of 2005 and refers to the forced demographic alterations carried out by the Ba’ath Party during its reign of power from 1968 to 2003. The oil-rich areas which were largely inhabited by the Kurds, had been especially targeted by the Baath, who forcefully displaced them and settled residents from other nationalities and regions in these areas.

Article 140 grants authority to the State Executive to take necessary steps to fulfill all requirements to solve the problem of demographic changes in Kirkuk and other disputes territories that existed before December 31, 2007. This legally established time limit has long since elapsed without the requirements of Article 140 being fulfilled. Moreover, the federal government extended this time period, though there was no constitutional provision provided for the extension.

In this paper we focus on the disputed territories of Kirkuk and areas such as Shingal in the search for legal solutions to current constitutional questions surrounding their statuses. We seek to answer the questions as to who has legal responsibility under the Iraqi Constitution for the breach of Article 140, as well as consider the question pertaining to both Executive and Legislative responsibilities under the Constitution, and the penalty for the breach of the provisions of the Constitution. Lastly, we discuss the consequences of demographic changes as they pertain to democratization processes in this county.
An Oral Presentation

Abstract: Throughout the world and over the centuries, there is one fact that affects anyone for better or for worse, which is the term war, it has been viewed that refugees are the indispensable conclusion of the act. According to UN High Commissioner for Refugees’ (UNHCR) Iraq is among the 10 countries worldwide with major numbers of displaced people, whose total exceeds to 50 million for the first time since World War II. Under The 1985 UN Declaration, states that the Human Rights of Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live should be granted the right to “health care”. Although Kurdistan Regional Government has been sharing their resources with refugees generously, we as Ishık University could not stand idly by while humanity suffers from lack of health care. With the aim of simplifying refugees access to health care Ishık University, created the project with the name of “Health Promotion Program for Refugees”. This report provides an overview of refugee’s rights to access to health care under the international conventions and action plan of Ishık University by educating refugees on basic hygiene, applying simple restorative treatments and sharing statistical analysis with organizations who are able to do more.

Special requests: PowerPoint, video
Iraqi Dental Students’ Knowledge of and Attitudes Towards HIV/AIDS Patients

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A Poster Presentation

Abstract: In 1988, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared that all dentists have to treat HIV-positive patients. Therefore, it is important that all dentists should have sufficient knowledge of HIV/AIDS patients, and their attitude should meet professional expectations. The purpose of this cross-sectional survey was to assess the knowledge and attitudes towards patients with HIV/AIDS among dental students in Ishik University Dentistry Faculty, Erbil. The overall response rate to the questionnaire was 52 percent. The total mean knowledge and attitudes scores were 56.22 percent (good) and 58.21 percent (passive attitudes), respectively. The mean knowledge score was statistically higher in the clinical group than in the preclinical group (p=0.02). There were no significant differences in the knowledge or attitude scores between male and female students (p=0.549). A majority of the students were aware of the association between HIV and oral candidiasis (68.3 percent), Severe periodontitis (62.99 percent), and Gingivitis (61.24 percent). One of the most important finding is very few students had excellent knowledge (6.83 percent). And other finding is that only 1 percent had professional attitudes about treating patients with HIV/AIDS. Therefore, It is important that dental students, as future dentists, develop not only the necessary practical skills but also knowledge and attitudes that will prepare them to treat patients with HIV/AIDS.

Abstract:

The term ‘sustainability’ in the context of firm has no standard, universally followed definition. As a result, measuring whether or not is ‘sustainable’ is difficult. Should it be focused on traditional metrics such as profits, market share, revenues, return on assets, return on equity, or stock price? Should it also include the effect the firm, through all its activities, has on the physical environment and the resources it uses to produce the goods and services it sells, and/or the societal environment in which it operates? Or should it be a combination of measures that address the financial, operational, and societal aspects of a firm’s activities? Despite the inherent difficulties in measuring firm sustainability, a group known as Corporate Knights has devised a methodology to measure the sustainability of large firms and has developed a ranking of the world’s ‘most sustainable companies’. This panel will critically examine this list and the methodology used to create it, and propose an alternative way to measure and rank firm sustainability.

Proposal Description:

Despite the absence of a universally agreed upon and recognized definition of sustainability that can be applied to firms, Corporate Knights, a media, research and financial information products company based in Toronto, Canada, produces, through its subsidiary CK Capital, has created a ranking list, ‘The Global 100 Most Sustainable Corporations’. Corporate Knights also is a proponent of something it calls ‘clean capitalism’, which essentially is a system in which the social, economic and ecological costs are factored into a company’s prices and that, through proper reporting, both the company and the market are aware of these costs. Its ranking list is one way to bring attention to company’s that, at least through one set of metrics, can be considered sustainable.

The methodology Corporate Knights uses in its rankings recognizes the difficulty of interpreting the actions of complex institutions (firms) on a complex and difficult to precisely define task such as sustainability, and in response has devised clearly defined and quantitative measures that are objective and can be replicated. The size cutoff for possible inclusion into the Corporate Knight ranking list is $2 billion in market capitalization as of October 1st of the ranking year.1 Once a firm meets or exceeds the market capitalization threshold it is subjected to four additional criteria.

The first cut is disclosure; companies must disclose at least 75% of their respective global industry classification (GICS) industry group’s ‘priority indicators’. These priority indicators are any of 12 key performance indicators that are disclosed by at least 10% of all large (greater than $2 billion in market capitalization) in that GICS group. Firms thus are measured against indicators the industry itself deems as important. For transparency, the priority indicators for all GICS groups in the ranking list are available for review, and for vitality, these indicators are subject to change over time as industry priorities change. The second criterion used is a set of 9 financial/operating tests that measure such things as profitability, operating cash flow, asset usage, liquidity and leverage. The tests are fairly straightforward, and a company either passes or fails the test; to continue on in the screening process, a company has to pass at least 5 of them. The third criterion is devoted to product category and has a moral connotation in that
companies that belong to ‘bad’ GICS sub-industry classifications such as ‘tobacco’ or ‘aerospace and defense’ (as long as a majority of revenues are derived from defense-related business) are eliminated. The fourth criterion looks to see if a company has paid (in the previous year) any sustainability-related fines, penalties or settlements (sanctions). Recognizing that virtually all companies might have had to pay some sort of sanction, the size of the sanctions as a percent of total revenues is calculated, and only those companies whose percentages make them among the worst in their peer group are removed from consideration. Once a company has passed all four criteria, it makes the ‘shortlist’, and then from that list the top 100 are chosen. This process is repeated annually.

The description of the methodology used to determine the ‘global 100 most sustainable companies’ is taken from Corporate Knights’ published sources.

The 2014 list consists of companies from Europe, Asia (including Australia), North America and South America, but is dominated by European firms. The vast majority of the firms are from high income countries, with just a few coming from developing or emerging economies; no Chinese company is on the list. Sectors include consumer discretionary, consumer staples, energy, financials, health care, industrials, information technology, materials, telecommunication services, and utilities. The largest single sector is financials, with 22 companies on the list. Of the top 10 Fortune Global 500 companies of 2014, only one, Royal Dutch Shell, was on the list. Also, two companies that have a reputation for placing a large emphasis on sustainability – Unilever and Danone – are near the bottom of this list, and another, Fuji Heavy Industries, which is the parent of Subaru, another highly regarded sustainable company, is not even on the list.

Clearly, even with its careful and thoughtful construction, the Corporate Knights ranking list of sustainable companies raises some interesting questions, such as the relationship between ranking and contribution to a sustainable future or the relationship between a company’s reputation vis-à-vis sustainability and its position on the list. For example, if a financial company ranks higher than, say, a manufacturing or energy company, is its contribution to a sustainable future better? What does it really mean when, on the 2014 list, Univer is ranked 93rd and Danone 97th, and Westpac, an Australian financial services company, is ranked 1st? And, if a company moves significantly up or down on the ranking list from year to year, what does this say about its efforts to be sustainable?

To get behind these questions and to better understand and interpret what it really means to be listed as a ‘top 100 global sustainable company’, each of the 14 students in my Viable Sustainable Businesses Honors Seminar have chosen three companies from the 2014 Corporate Knights ranking list – representing all regions and sectors – to examine in greater detail. Starting with a company’s annual report and/or any supplemental publications on their sustainability actions and initiatives, the students will compare and contrast the sustainability profiles of companies across industry sectors and geographic regions. In the process, the class will address the relative importance, in terms of the wider objectives of other sustainability initiatives such as the United Nation’s sustainable development goals, of industry-specific sustainability-oriented actions. The ultimate outcome is intended to be an exploration of the concept that ‘all sustainability actions are good, but some sustainability actions are better than others’. It is possible, too, that an alternative ranking mechanism can be suggested and/or devised.

The panel will be a discussion of the results of this semester-long activity involving at least four of the students.
If Development Demands Democracy, and Democracy Demands Education, What Do Educators in Uganda Demand?

Reflections on a Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad in Uganda

In the summer of 2014, a group of post-secondary educators, K-12 administrators, and pre-service teachers had the opportunity to explore the various models of education that developed in Uganda in response to the Universal Primary Education policy established in 1997. Panelists who were part of that group will reflect on their experiences in Uganda observing and meeting with teachers, administrators, and students from private and public schools. Specifically, panelists will highlight critical issues in the field of education that impact Uganda, the USA and more generally the global community. Such issues include the similar and different challenges facing educators in Uganda and the US, the relationship between education and development in Uganda, the desire for education and the motivation to learn demonstrated by Ugandan students and their families, and the connection between education and democracy. Special note will be made of the Ugandan Women Writers Association, FEMWRITE, as a space for women to explore and express their critical place in Uganda's economy, education, and democracy.

Panel Presenters:

Megan Borsuk  meganborsuk@kings.edu  (570) 208-5986
Margarita Rose margaritarose@kings.edu  (570) 208-5900 x5778
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Tech Needs:

Access to internet, PowerPoint, and projector
Global Landscapes Conference 2015 Proposal

Name: J.C. Blewitt, Ph.D. (With Student Contributions from CORE193A and B)

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Presentation Type: Extended Poster Session Presentation

Special Requests: Internet Access and a 42” or larger TV display

Title of Research: “Doing Business in 33 Nations”

Abstract:
My two sections of CORE193 (Globalization) will be doing reports on the question of “how to do business” in a particular nation. Topics covered include economics, topography, etiquette, customs, traditions, religion, politics, currency, leadership, major multinational corporations, and many other relevant topics to answer the overarching question. Each student will prepare a 2-3 minute YouTube clip on their country which will summarize the findings of their formal paper and presentation due for the class. I will create a YouTube channel of the 50 video submissions that I receive, and I will broadcast the YouTube channel onto the TV to create an interactive poster display session during the GLC conference. I have informed the students of our intention to participate in the conference, and they are all excited about seeing their work on display. It should be entertaining, informative, and an impressive exhibition of our students’ creative and technological skills addressing a critical question in international business.
Submission for Global Landscapes Conference 2015

1. Name: Hoang Huy Nguyen
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5. Phone number: 570-666-7513
6. Type of presentation: Oral Presentation
7. Special request: PowerPoint
8. Title of Research: Determinants of Housing Prices in Selected Developed and Developing Countries
9. Abstract:

**Determinants of Housing Prices in Selected Developed and Developing Countries**

This paper will compare the housing prices of various developed countries (the U.S, the U.K, Monaco, etc.) and developing countries (China, Vietnam, Burma, etc.). Particularly, this paper will look at the ratio of average housing prices to average income per capita among different countries. Both measureable variables (population, GDP, interest rate, etc.) and non-measurable variables (government policies, investor and consumer behaviors, etc.) will be considered. Ceteris paribus multiple regression analysis will be run among quantitative variables to examine what factors are the key determinants of the high and low housing prices in different countries. It is predicted that the more market-based the economy is, the more housing prices can be explained by quantitative variables (population density, income per capita, etc.). On the other hand, for less transparent economies, housing prices are likely influenced by non-measurable variables (lack of public information on land issues, poor state regulation, etc.), explaining why the housing price-to-income ratios are sometimes higher in low-income countries with less transparency than in high-income countries.

10. N/A
Texting while driving is known to increase the danger of driving. Many people know this but continue to text while driving anyway. A study was conducted to determine whether a personality trait of ‘impulsiveness’ had an impact on the likelihood of people to text while driving. Results indicate that, although females text much more than males in general, males tend to overestimate their ability to drive while texting and males who measured higher on impulsiveness tended to text more while driving. Conversely, it appears that females were better at restraining their impulsiveness while driving and texted less.

A similar study was conducted three years ago. This study compares the results of these two studies to determine the degree of success of public safety campaigns to reduce the occurrence of texting while driving.
Educational Attainment: A Pathway to Better Veterans’ Health Outcomes

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Educational Attainment: A Pathway to Better Veterans’ Health Outcomes

Abstract

The purpose of this paper is discuss the use of the educational benefit of the Post 9-11/GI Bill by veterans as a means to access health care in an unlikely setting… post-secondary institutions. Despite empirical evidence that provides support for the relationship between educational attainment and an increase in health outcomes, the four-year graduation rate of veterans who began post-secondary education from 2003 through 2013 under the Post 9-11/GI Bill was only 51.7%. Their younger non-veteran peers had a completion rate of 59% (National Center for Education Statistics). The paper begins by providing a review of the extant literature and further proposes utilization of the Behavioral Model of Health Services to identify the characteristics necessary to encourage veterans to take advantage of the Post 9-11/GI Bill educational benefit to increase their postsecondary education completion rates and to ultimately improve their overall health. This is important area to examine because most of the literature focuses on the services required to attract, retain, employ, and academically and socially support veterans as transitioning civilians but does not identify the ability to take advantage of using post-secondary education as a mean of improving health and potentially aid in alleviating the funding struggles of the Veterans Affairs effective utilization (Bilmes, 2007).
Identified as the Republic of Kenya, Kenya is a country located in East Africa and is famed for its picturesque landscapes and numerous wildlife preserves. Every year, roughly 20 million Kenyan men, women, and children die from preventable diseases such as diarrhea, measles, malaria, and malnutrition. This paper takes a closer look at Kenya’s past, present, and future healthcare policy implementations for universal healthcare coverage and the successes and failures that the Kenyan government has faced to eradicating preventable diseases and proving proper healthcare.

Since its independence from Great Britain in 1963, Kenyan healthcare has drastically improved in areas of housing, education, sanitation, nutrition, and health care programs, but has not limited itself to social, economic, and political changes. Through a series of new, conjoined health care policies and programs, Kenya has significantly reduced their mortality rates compared to their preindependence rates and has also utilized new and innovative drug therapies to treat the HIV/AIDS and malaria pandemic. As a result of this, the Government of Kenya (GoK) has decided to address the staggering issues of health inequalities, poor health care performance, and inadequate policy documents in hopes to restore their deprived health care sector and system for the better of their population.

Being a predominantly tax-funded health system, the government of Kenya had an idea of attempting to implement policy changes to have a financing system for their country’s healthcare system. The first attempts at this idea began in 1989 and are still being modified today. The National Hospital Insurance Fund was created to help assist in supporting costs for healthcare, but was limited to sector workers and was not supported by an adequate benefits package. In 2004, the National Social Health Insurance Fund was created and its goal was to guarantee Kenyans an opportunity for inpatient and outpatient services being paid for and to lighten the overall cost of health care. Although Kenya was considered to be healthy, the World Health Organization reported that only 4.6 percent of Kenya’s GDP was invested in its health care system and because of this lack of health care investment, Kenya faces serious future implications in the further development of their country’s health care system. Additionally, poor sanitation, unsanitary water and living conditions in urban and rural areas, and a lack of cost effective medications further contribute to the spread of bacteria, infections, and disease.

Due to the depletion in the following foundational aspects: financial stability as a country, lack of medical services, technology, and health information, Kenya is unable to deem and form a winning healthcare system. It is essential to the improvement that the health systems acknowledge the access barriers and make it known that all Kenyans can and should benefit from the health care when they need it. Healthcare is influenced greatly by the distance to receive care, availability of drugs, acceptability of clinical staff, the knowledge of health, and the quality of care. Having proper access to health care facilities will impact the disease outcome and by understanding these factors, this will help healthcare and government officials alike to strengthen
the healthcare systems as well as receive the health benefits that free high quality care can bring in developing countries like Kenya.

Keywords: Kenyan healthcare, Kenya healthcare policies, Kenyan access/cost

References


“‘Hair and Makeup Kerfuffles’: A Textual Analysis of the Media Portrayals of Female Politicians in the 2008 Elections”
Tori DeGiosio
King’s College

Abstract

Prior research on women politicians in the spotlight of the media has shown that there are four main stereotypes used to frame the coverage of these women. Kanter proposes that these four stereotypes are sex object, iron maiden, pet and mother. This study examines a purposive sample of articles written during the 2008 Presidential Election to analyze how the media uses stereotypical language against Sarah Palin and Hillary Clinton and to see if they are in accord with Kanter’s four stereotypes. The analysis indicates that sexist language is used against the two candidates, but certain stereotypes are used more often than others.

Keywords: gender, media, news, Sarah Palin, Hillary Clinton, women, sexism, politics, 2008 Presidential Election, stereotypes, women political candidates
Abstract

Norway’s health care system is often ranked among the best through such measures as infant mortality, which is among the lowest in the world at 3 deaths per 1,000 live births. However, Norway faces many challenges in order to keep pace with global health care trends. An in depth analysis of Norway’s health care system in terms of access, cost, and quality revealed the root of potential areas of improvement. Access concerns have been exacerbated by long wait times and failure to properly address difficulties for rural populations to obtain appropriate levels of care. Norway’s economic independence as a country is exemplified by its status as a non-member of the European Union (EU). However, health care constitutes nearly 10 percent of its gross domestic product, which is above the average for other nationalized health care countries. Furthermore, quality concerns were addressed in the early 2000s with reforms such as the Regular General Practitioners scheme. After these reforms quality indicators showed marked improvement in patient satisfaction and quality of care. The purpose of this analysis was to address these concerns and devise potential methods of finding practical and economical ways of improving the overall health of the Norwegian population.

Key Words: Norway, health care, access, cost, quality
Name of the presenter[s]: Students of Core 190 (Globalization and Human Rights) and Soc/Enst 314 (Environmental Sociology); list of presenters and poster titles forthcoming

In case of student presenter Name of Faculty Advisor: Bridget Costello

Institution[s] Name: King’s College

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Type of presentation-[i.e. poster-viewing only, oral, exhibit, performance, panel]: undergraduate poster session – approximately 12 posters

Special requests-[i.e. technology including Internet access, PowerPoint, video, etc&]: none

Title of Research: Environmental Justice and Human Rights: Local and Global Perspectives

Abstract-not to exceed 200 word: In this undergraduate poster session, students present their research on topics pertaining to the local and global dimensions of environmental and social justice. Focusing on specific manifestations of disparate ecological and/or social hazard, each poster addresses the intersection of cultural meanings and social inequalities as they play out across the physical landscape.
In these times of unemployment and economic instability, can aquaria and zoos contribute to the economy in a sustainable way? Besides entertainment, these establishments seek to educate the public, conduct scientific research programs, and even increase endangered populations of animals through captive breeding. This talk will explore the economics of entertainment, education, research, and captive breeding programs of several aquaria and zoos personally visited by the author.
Shared Leadership Dimensions of Manager Family Physicians at Primary Health Care Centers  

Aysegül Yıldırım Kaptanoglu, MD., Ph.D, Fevzi Akinci, Ph.D.  

Abstract for an Oral Presentation  

The purpose of this study was to describe the shared leadership of family physicians who work as a primary care center managers in Turkey. The Shared Leadership Perception and the Leadership Behavior Questionnaire (SLPBQ) with three dimensions “shared purpose”, “social support”, “voice” was used.  

The study population was comprised of manager family physicians at primary health care centers in two districts of Istanbul, Turkey. One of them is a central business district (Beşiktaş) and the other is a residential area (Beylikdüzü). A total of 279 manager physicians participated in the study between May and June 2013, representing 45% of the total manager physicians in both districts. SPSS 13.0 program was used in the analysis of the data with pearson correlation and basic linear regression techniques. Independent samples t-test and ANOVA were employed among SLPBQ dimension points according to age, gender and seniority.  

Statistically significant differences were found among business and residential primary care center managers compare to their SLPBQ dimension (r=0.72; p<0.05 ; 95% CI 0.29 to 0.81). The total point of SLPBQ are as follows according to age (r=0.49; p<0.005; 95% CI 0.27 to 0.61), gender (t=2.36; p<0.05) and seniority (F=12.15, p<0.001). According to the results of linear regression, sub-dimensions of shared leadership perception scale predicted 61% of leadership behavior.  

In conclusion, the primary health care managers are observed as fair and unfair according to their shared leadership perception and behaviors at primary health care centers.  

Keywords: Primary Care, Manager Family Physician, Shared Leadership Behaviors, Shared Leadership Perception, Leadership Behavior  

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Comparison of Long Term Care Insurance of Turkey and Other OECD Countries
Ageing will be a crucial problem of the future. Today’s demographic situation shows that in the next future, baby boomer generation will need social and health care facilities. From the last decade of the 20th century, many developed countries started to search solutions to recover long term care expenses of aging population. Nowadays, many OECD countries are going to set up fiscal schemes. One of the practice on covering personal and nursing-care costs is tax-funded system. The second is to emphasis on social insurance schemes. The last one is having means-tested schemes for costs. In addition to these policies, there is also private long term care insurances.

In Turkey from the beginning of the 21st century, parallel to the aging policies of the many developed countries and dramatic increase of the old age population, academic and political discussion started to negotiate. Social security policies to prevent high expenses of long term care in GDP are suggested by many scholars. In current situation there is not an insurance scheme for long term care of elderly population. So, many elders (90.000) are cared by the female members of their family or many times by illegal caregivers. In addition, there are formal public (134) and private (169) nursing homes that operate under Ministry of Family and Social Policies. Only few number of people (12,667) can receive care services free of charge by municipalities or by public care homes. Goverment supports home care services by giving job to the unemployed female population of the country

In this study herein it is examined in details Turkey’s future projections on long term care insurance by making comparison with the OECD countries’ long term care plans. This article unpacks the financement solutions from the perspective of social security of the long term care at home or in formal institutions.

Keywords: Aging, long term care insurance, social insurance premiums, private insurance, community based care, home based care, institutional services
1. Name of the presenter[s]
   a. Suril Amin
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6. Type of presentation-[i.e. poster-viewing only, oral, exhibit, performance, panel]
7. Special requests-[i.e. technology including Internet access, PowerPoint, video, etc…]
8. Title of Research
   a. Canada vs. U.S. Health Care: A comparative Analysis
9. Abstract-not to exceed 200 wor
   a. Geographically Canada and the United States are neighbors that sit right above and below each other, respectively. Both are socially, politically, and economically developed countries. In recent years, the two countries have become closer allies and trading partners. However, in terms of health care the two countries could not be more different. A literature review shows Canada’s health care system consistently ranks higher than the United States in many areas. Canada ranks 30th in health care among 191 countries while the United States of America ranks 37th. This is further evidenced from data from organizations such as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the World Health Organization (WHO) rank Canada higher on key areas in health care such as quality, cost, access, infant mortality rate, and life expectancy. Even data from governmental organizations in the United States such as the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Fact Book and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) shows the need for improvement in the fragmented health care system currently present. This paper will analyze the health care systems between Canada and the U.S.A. and recommended changes the U.S. could make for improving health care for their citizens.
10. In the case of a panel discussion, the educational aims of the panel should also be stated
Assessing the Role of Commodities in a Balanced Portfolio for the Individual Investor

Corey Eshelman
February 2015

Investing in commodities is often seen as a complex, inaccessible, and risky method for investing. However, there is evidence to suggest that commodities can serve as a valuable inflation hedge in a balanced portfolio and also provide an adequate return. This paper will strive to quantify both the long and short-term value of commodities as an inflation hedge by finding the correlation between a variety of historical commodity prices and inflation. Additionally, the research will attempt to find the correlation between various commodity returns and other assets, such as the S&P 500 and bond returns, in order to find relationships in price movements, an important consideration in building a balanced portfolio. Commodities and the other assets will also be compared in the correlation in return movements relative to GDP and inflation. The performance and risk levels of commodities and other assets will be measured and compared in order to discern the attractiveness of each type of asset to an investor. Lastly, this paper will discuss popular avenues for investing in commodities with the goal of discerning the most advisable method for the typical individual investor.
Purple Pennsylvania: Geography, Demography, and Political Diversity in the Keystone State

Although recent Presidential election results may classify Pennsylvania as a “blue state”, the commonwealth is actually a very diverse region with regard to voting patterns and political allegiance. The political landscape is, in part, the result of the physical and human geography of the state. The location of Pennsylvania and its physical barriers created different regional interests and thus divergent political affiliations. The human composition of Pennsylvania is the product of large scale immigration and internal migration which created a global culture within the commonwealth. This ethnic and racial diversity also led to different political interests and loyalties. Thus, Pennsylvania is best identified as a “purple” political state, based on a composite of the ethnic and regional geographies of the state. The 2014 elections serve as an example of this. Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Wolfe garnered a nearly ten percent win over Republican incumbent Tom Corbett. However, Republicans gained eight seats in the State House of Representatives and three seats in the State Senate and have a thirty-five and ten vote majority in those respective chambers of the General Assembly. This paper examines the origins of this diversity, the current status of geo-politics, and some projections of how changing demographics may alter the future of the Pennsylvania political landscape.
Stroke falls under the umbrella of cardiovascular disease (CVD), which is the number one killer of Americans. CVD, including stroke and heart disease, takes about 267,000 women’s lives every year, which is almost six times as many lives as the number of women who were killed by breast cancer (2014). A health risk assessment of a population of women residing in Northeastern Pennsylvania was conducted to provide an estimate of vulnerability to stroke on the basis of medical history, genetic predisposition, and other lifestyle factors. Using the Health Belief model of Rosenstock, Strecher, and Becker (1998) and the stage model of Prochaska, Difiente, and Norcross (1992), a health promotion plan was developed to address the needs of that population. An evaluation of risks that can and cannot be modified was developed to help people understand the basic lifestyle changes that could be made to prevent CVD, which includes stroke. An action plan was developed to lower the risk of stroke among women based on their individual needs and to raise awareness throughout the United States. Individuals should take the essential precautions for their personal cases. This will substantially lower the risk of CVD, especially stroke, in women.

Keywords: Cardiovascular disease, stroke among women, risk factors, lifestyle, health belief model
Title of Research: “African American Cultural Influences on the Game of Basketball”

Abstract:
“African American Cultural Influences on the Game of Basketball”

Ever since Dr. James Naismith first had his YMCA students toss a ball into a peach basket the game of basketball has been played by countless cultures across the globe. But no culture has had as much influence or investments into the game as that of the African American society. This research presentation intends to demonstrate just how much impact African Americans have had on the growth and development of the game over the course of an entire century. From musical and dance influences of the Lindy Hop and Hip Hop to urban development and a “bad” attitude listeners will be able to understand why and how for African Americans basketball is more than just a game. Also described will be a group of trendsetters who revolutionized basketball at the college level as well as an individual who emphatically “stomped” his mark onto the NBA and pop-culture scenes by embracing their heritage.
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   b. Theodora Avramidis
   c. Junaid Baloch
   d. Juan Molina

2. In case of student presenter Name of Faculty Advisor
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6. Type of presentation-[i.e. poster-viewing only, oral, exhibit, performance, panel]

7. Special requests-[i.e. technology including Internet access, PowerPoint, video, etc…]

8. Title of Research
   a. Healthier Days

9. Abstract-not to exceed 200 words
   a. HealthierDays.com is an online wellness organization, dedicated to health and fitness; that provides resources to help transform people’s lives. Their mission is to “empower and inspire you to live a healthier, more active life”. This web portal helps its members create weekly exercise programs, track their progress, provides guidance for healthy eating, access to healthy recipes as well as health articles to keep members informed about various medical and health subjects. The fitness tracking market has changed significantly since the launch of HealthierDays. A number of competitors have emerged including MyFitnessPal, SparkPeople, DailyBurn and Fitocracy. This has created the need to overhaul HealthierDays, refocus, and re-strategize the website. Through a new marketing campaign focused on college students, we hope to increase the popularity and profitability of HealthierDays making it a forerunner and leader in the online fitness tracking industry.

10. In the case of a panel discussion, the educational aims of the panel should also be stated
Effect of the FASB convergence on GAAP

Peter Kmec

Abstract

United States’ businesses have always been guided by GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles). These principles have been established by FASB (Financial Accounting Standard Board). However, there is a gap between the FASB principles and Internationally Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Since 2002, FASB and IASB have been working on eliminating differences between these two set of standards. This paper presents the history behind both institutions. It shows differences between these two standards. It describes the positive and negative impacts that this convergence would have on businesses in US. Lastly, it will conclude the opinion and timeline of implications for the FASB convergence to ISFR standards.
Are Sweatshops a Logical Consequence of Manufacturing in the Developing World?

Abstract

In today’s global economy, products are produced all over the world and are then exported to their destinations, whether it’s cars from Japan, electronics from China, or clothing from Bangladesh. Prior to globalization, many of the core business processes of large corporations like manufacturing were performed domestically. However, due to the growing interconnectedness and the rise in outsourcing, manufacturing moved offshore to developing countries where labor is cheaper and workers docile. Despite enabling businesses to lower costs and providing jobs for struggling economies abroad, manufacturing in the developing world has led to the growth of sweatshops. Although sweatshops seem to be a logical consequence of manufacturing in the developing world, firms must take ethical responsibility for the inhumane treatment of workers, the unsafe working conditions, the extremely low pay, and the tragedies that have ensued which cannot continue.
PROPOSAL FOR PAPER PRESENTATION

Authors

Natalie Richard, RN, BSN nmr2@psu.edu 717.303.8069

David Simmons, D.Min. dbs19@psu.edu 717.557.8845

Faculty Adviser: Hengameh Hosseini, Ph.D.

Penn State University - Harrisburg

TITLE:

United Arab Emirates:

A Health Care System Comparative Analysis

Abstract

United Arab Emirates (UAE) is one of the richest countries in the world, compared with the United States. The health system of the UAE is a model worth observing and may hold answers to how a future-state of healthcare could look in the US. The UAE is worth admiring for its relatively low cost in providing healthcare outcomes similar to that of the US. Interestingly, the UAE shares many of the same economic attitudes as the US, as both value the innovative power of the private sector. Hence, the UAE has been moving away from government provided healthcare to a government regulated healthcare system delivered by the private sector. This paper outlines the current state of the UAE, describes the various health authorities that govern the emirates, and evaluates the ways the UAE could serve as a healthcare system model for the US. Our conclusion is that the UAE’s growing success stands to inform the US about how effective healthcare regulation can control costs and increase quality without hindering the entrepreneurial spirit vital to the US healthcare system.
Abstract

**Topic**: A comparative study of Human Resource Management in Italy vs. The United States of America.

**Thesis**: This study will examine Human resource management in the USA and Italy. Based on the evaluation it will compare and contrast the human resource policies using Hofstede’s cultural dimension and how cultural dimension affects human resource management.

**Opening and Concluding Paragraph**: This paper will examine the human Resources management practices in Italy and USA and evaluate how cultural norms, working conditions and managerial skills all have an impact on the HRM policies.
Pope Francis’ Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium* has generated much needed reflection on the role of an economic system in the meeting of humanity’s wants and needs. Too, *Evangelii Gaudium* highlights the difference between wants and needs and the negative consequences of the “need” to consume “wanted” goods and services. Pope Francis points to the individualism that is central to capitalism. However, this need not be the case, and if one were to truly examine the functioning economic system in the U.S., its resemblance to capitalism begins and ends with a partial reliance on markets and prices and a focus on the individual. Beginning with the widely-accepted definition of economics, a discussion of the value judgments in the mainstream definition will follow and then lead to a discussion of alternative definitions proposed by various heterodox economists. Following will be a discussion of the natural tendency for a capitalist economic system to reward those who subscribe to the primacy of the individual, with the system further encouraging ever-increasing consumption. This is not inevitable, however. The paper will conclude with a discussion of the possibility of utilizing a capitalist economic system to meet both the needs of the individual as well as society.
Names of the presenters:

Valerie K. Kepner – Faculty Advisor
Richard Bartumioli – Student Presenter
Ryan Boyle – Student Presenter
Alexandra Evangelista – Student Presenter
Jessica Lange – Student Presenter
Nicole Lawler – Student Presenter
Sean Moran – Student Presenter
Pablo Nascimento – Student Presenter
William Pokorny – Student Presenter
Seda Taskaya – Student Presenter

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Type of presentation: Poster

Title of Research: Service-Learning in Public Economics

Using posters, students will summarize as well as analyze their service-learning experiences completed as part of the requirements for successful completion of their Public Economics course. In the classroom, students will engage in discussion and activities in order to understand the economic activities of government including taxation and government spending. However, because these objectives are generally theoretical in nature, students will be required to complete service-learning hours in order to better understand the complex day-to-day application of tax policy. All students will volunteer with CEO (Commission on Economic Opportunity) and specifically assist with its VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program. The VITA program “offers free tax help to people who generally make $53,000 or less, persons with disabilities, the elderly and limited English speaking taxpayers who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns” (http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Free-Tax-Return-Preparation-for-You-by-Volunteers).
Abstract

Brain Drain, also known as Human Capital Flight, is defined as the migration of skilled professionals out of their home country. This paper looks at different aspects of Brain Drain. The paper begins by introducing the concept of Brain Drain while explaining its impacts on nations that are most affected by this phenomenon. The second part of this paper will cover the effects of Brain Drain, especially in terms of developing and developed economies in Africa and how different solutions to this problem have been taken by these countries. The final part will look at possible solutions to this phenomenon and how they can be applied to these countries. Most importantly through the analysis statistics are used to measure the effects that Brain Drain has in the growth and development of these countries. This analysis is done to determine the effects of Brain Drain on three African countries, which are Ethiopia, Nigeria and South Africa.
Paper Topic, Presenter, and Abstract:

A Comparative Analysis of Economic Theories on Poverty Alleviation: Jagdish Bhagwati vs. Amartya Sen by Jennifer Jean-Jacques
(Email: jenniferjean-jacques@kings.edu)

Abstract:

Many developing countries have ineffective policies and economic structures that contribute to their low Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and low Human Development Indexes. There are two Economists with vastly differing models on how to alleviate poverty and they are Jagdish Bhagwati and Amartya Sen. Some developing countries follow the economic theory that Jagdish Bhagwati suggested, which is that free trade is good for everyone and it is through capitalism developing countries’ economies will grow and flourish. Other countries follow the proposed strategy to combat poverty by Amartya Sen who argued that it is more important to focus on the development indicators in order to increase GDP. This paper will take a look at several countries and agencies that have adopted either the Bhagwati or the Sen theory of poverty reduction and this paper will determine which one appears to work better for the developing world. GDP and levels of poverty as well as the levels of literacy, infrastructure, health care, education and corruption will be used as measures to assess the efficacy of their theories.
Title: Foreign Aid – Does aid help or hinder economic development? An in depth study of objectives and outcome of US aid to Pakistan

Last year the United States spent approximately $17,332,898,247 on foreign aid. For the fiscal year of 2015 the US has already planned to spend over $35 billion. The goal of foreign aid, as defined by the US foreign assistance website, is “respond to global needs, assist people overseas struggling to build a better life, and make the world safer”. With that said is the US achieving its objective? Has each country seen an increase in happiness and a better quality of life or is there still work to be done? Also how can a country use aid and not become dependent on it? The problem with US aid is it is not used effectively. Pakistan is a great example on how aid can impact a nation’s economic development. This study will reexamine a previous study done on Pakistan and the aid received from the US from years 1976-2006 in 2007, update the information compare the findings and determine if foreign aid can contribute to a nation’s economic development. This study will also examine how those receiving aid feel about the policy and how aid can be used in other productive manners.
This paper will examine the foreign direct investment that in the state of Pennsylvania over the past 20 years. With recent changes in the global market and the need for firms to become global to remain successful and prosper, this paper will allow residents to see trends in the recent history and give an idea of how it will grow in the future. By comparing the frequency in location and business sector we can compare Pennsylvania to other states to determine how to best capture the most FDI, as well as learning how adaptation must occur to continue financial stability within the government. In addition to the data, we will compare prior and post-recession to see what we can expect in the upcoming years.
Proposals for GLC 2015

Presenter: Nicole Lawler

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Margarita Rose

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Though the poster format is preferred, this research could be shared through an oral presentation, if that suits the organizers’ needs.

Technology needs: computer with internet and PowerPoint capabilities

Working Title: Tourism, Property Rights, and Women’s Empowerment in Ecuador and Nepal

Abstract

Nepal and Ecuador, two countries located on opposite corners of the world, both have evolving economies that commonly rely on tourism for growth and development. However, the tourism industry is far more complex than meets the eye, especially with natural wonders such as the Himalayas and the Galapagos Islands paving the way for each country. Additionally, without property rights for local citizens, especially women, many of the economic benefits from the tourism industry leak out of each country and into the hands of foreign investors. Hence, property rights are essential to both the Nepalese and Ecuadorian economies if current economic growth, centered in the tourism industry, is going to correlate to economic development and the empowerment of women.
WHO IS WINNING THE COLA WARS:
HEDGE FUNDS OR FAIRLIFE?

Coca-Cola has launched “2020 Vision” and PepsiCo has launched a defense of diversification. Both have drinks that can make you fat and rot your teeth. Who cares about health?

Come. Listen. Find out.

Bernard C. Rudegeair
Assistant Technical Professor
King’s College
ABSTRACT: We cannot stay in school forever; eventually we students find ourselves walking across that stage, being handed a diploma and moving on into the real world! The question is though: how stressed about that transition will we be? There is the stress of getting into and getting through graduate school, or perhaps we will worry about finding a full-time job. Either way, anxiety is part of life post-graduation for most students. How can that anxiety be reduced? What can we do now to lessen that anxiety later on? Using the data set from The Institute for Public Policy and Economic Development’s recent survey titled “Post-Graduation Plans,” I have set out to create an econometric regression model trying to determine what elements of our college education helps to diminish anxiety about our post-graduation plans as well as how much these elements affect our anxiety. Additionally, I will build another regression model in an attempt to see which elements of our education could also help contribute to students staying to work in Northeastern Pennsylvania after graduation.
The Race for Global Advantage: A Comparative Study for Missions to Mars

Drew Groblewski

The topic for research is The Race for Global Advantage: A Comparative Study for Missions to Mars. The history of missions taken to Mars by various countries around the world will be discussed. The costs that went into the funding of these missions, and which countries were able to do it the cheapest compared to the most expensive and the knowledge that was gained due to the expense. The objective of each mission that went to Mars and what they had planned and whether or not they were able to follow through and get the information surrounding their objective. The success rates of each mission taken to Mars. Which missions taken by certain countries that were successful and the ones that were not. We perceive that all missions use roughly around the same costs when going to Mars, but in actuality this is not true. Examination of the different costs surrounding these expeditions that were taken to Mars to see if the costs are solely on the trip or if they are also based on tools to expand our knowledge to further understand the planet.
A Comparative Analysis of How Corruption Effects Development and FDI in the Caribbean Community

Kimberly Zurinski

Abstract:

The topic for discussion is the relationship between corruption and development with the members of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Jamaica in particular, and comparing the most corrupt countries with the countries that have the highest economic standings. Showing this comparison, it will prove that corruption does have an effect on development and foreign direct investment confidence levels. There will be data from rankings like the corruption index ranking, real FDI, and FDI confidence level ranking. This data will help show how corruption creates an unattractive environment for business opportunities, which then effects the development of those countries. There will also be specific examples of corrupt actions displayed. Finally, there will be comparative rankings through-out the years and development levels provided in a data table to prove that corruption has a negative effect on economic development for countries.

The entire paper will begin by explaining what corruption is and give specific examples of corrupt actions. Then the paper will go into a comparison of highly corrupt members of CARICOM like Guyana and Jamaica, and less corrupt countries like Barbados and the Bahamas, and compare their economic environments.
Sustainability in Motion

The Global Efforts of the Leading Automobile Manufactures in Building a Cleaner Automobile

Davide Fanelli

Sustainability is a very broad term that is easily thrown around to define different things in today’s world. In this instance, sustainability is referring to U.S. auto companies being able to use better processes to build cars in an effort to keep energy and natural resource use to a minimum, and also to construct vehicles that treat our planet better, with reduced fuel consumption and CO2 emissions. There is a human element to this as well, as the sourcing of steel and other important materials for the construction of vehicles (along with the assembly of them) are areas that must also be visited for renewed sustainability goals. Herein these elements of the industry will be discussed, and the success of their efforts debated.
Christopher Young

Abstract:

A comparative analysis of minimum wage and growth

With only seven countries in the world having no minimum wage, political forces look toward increasing minimum wages across the globe. However, despite only seven countries having no minimum wage, many economists promote lowering the minimum wage in the rest of the world, seeing it as a detriment to growth. A new study by the economic policy institute in the U.S. showed that raising the minimum wage to $10.10 an hour by 2016 would increase wages by $35 billion, and the resulting increase in consumer spending would mean a GDP boost of $22.1 billion, which would support about 85,000 new jobs, further adding to the production and consumption of goods and services in the country. Opponents to an increase in the minimum wage say that it would hinder economic growth during this period after the great recession, but according to five different studies, in the U.S., increasing the minimum wage during these periods does not negatively affect job growth. Gains made by an increased consumer demand outweigh the costs of slightly increasing the base wage. In this paper I will compare historical effects on gross domestic product, consumer price index, foreign direct investment, and employment rates of various countries such as the United States.
Proposal for GLC 2015

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Paper presentation format is preferred.

Technology needs: computer with internet and PowerPoint capabilities

Microloans—a Tool in the Struggle

Abstract

Africa is home to people living in some of the greatest poverty in the world. For decades governmental assistance has been seen as a way to help those living in such poverty by providing food and money. Often this assistance does not find its way to those who are actually in need. One way assistance is currently being provided is through microloans. These microloans are given to those in greatest need as a means of helping individuals, usually women, develop a small, some might say ‘micro’, business.

In this session two African microloan program models will be presented. The first comes from Uganda, where a long tradition of informal Saving and Credit Cooperatives (SACCOs) has been joined by a more formalized microfinance system. Case studies will include a SACCO organized at Holy Cross Lakeview Senior Secondary School to help supplement the relatively low wages of dedicated secondary school teachers, along with an overview of FINCA’s widespread network of microfinance institutions across Uganda.

The second model is one developed as a means to support the entire family group of children, often orphans being supported by extended family members, with HIV. This microloan program was begun by Power of Love (POL) in Lusaka, Zambia. The administrators of POL began the charity to help children who were impacted by the AIDS epidemic in Africa, in particular those orphaned as a result of AIDS infected parents and who were themselves infected by HIV. Often these children were absorbed into families of relatives, in particular grannies, who lacked the finances to provide adequate care. POL administrators noticed that the families often could not afford to keep children in their program and decided to try to help the entire family unit by assisting the caregivers through the provision of microloans which could be used to start businesses which would help them provide support to the entire family unit.

Global Landscapes Conference 2015
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Wilkes Barre, PA 18766
Session type: Presentation Style - research.

Title: Humility, Overconfidence and Leadership: A cross cultural exploration

Set Up Needs: PowerPoint

One construct that has had an impact on leaders, teams, and organizations is humility. Although humility has received very little attention in the social science research, the construct has gained more attention lately in Positive Organizational Psychology and the study of leadership. Collins (2001), in his book Good to Great, found that leaders in the most enduring successful companies demonstrated a blend of determination and personal humility. These “Level 5” leaders, as he called them, were better able to entertain different perspectives, manage others emotions, and connect back to the organizational goals than those who had low levels of humility. Furthermore, recent research suggests that humility predicts prosocial behaviors such as generosity (Exline & Hill, 2012; LaBouff, Rowatt, Johnson, Tsang, & Willerton, 2012) self-esteem (Exline & Geyer, 2004), better performance on the job (Exline, 2012) and forgiveness (Powers Nam, Rowatt, & Hill, 2007).

This presentation will discuss the role humility and overconfidence play in leadership. More specifically, the survey research presented in this session will discuss individual perceptions of humility, overconfidence, and leadership across four different countries (United States (n=1000), Germany (n=500), Japan (n=500), and China (n=500)) and varying demographics, which will provide a point of comparison across different cultures and demographics. The first part of the presentation will provide findings on the level of overconfidence individuals have in different cultures. Previous research on this topic has found that participants have an overconfidence in their perception of themselves in areas such as job performance, ethical behavior, relationship building, and intelligence. The research in the presentation will addresses some of the same areas covered in previous research, however, from a global perspective. In addition to the areas assessed in previous research (job performance, ethical behavior, relationship building, and intelligence) the current study also explores an individual’s perception of themselves in areas of leadership, prejudice and humility.

The second part of the presentation will discuss the perceived value humility adds to different social and professional roles. The research that will be carried out in January 2015 will add to the research conducted by Exline and Geyer (2004), who found that when they asked participants to imagine humble people occupying various social roles, the participants regarded humility as less of a strength in leaders than in the other social roles. If the findings from this study confirm Exline and Geyer’s findings, this would provide tremendous insight into some of the barriers that may surface when including humility in leadership education programs. Finally, the presentation will discuss different definition of the term humility from participants in the four different countries. This presentation provides a wonderful opportunity to gain insight into perceptions of the word “humility” between and amongst different cultures and demographics. As we begin to better understand the significant impact humility has on effective leadership, having a better understanding of how humility is defined may lead to less ambiguity around the term. One consequence of providing clarity around the term “humility”
is that it would make it easier to incorporate humility into leadership education programs both in the United States and across the globe.

References:


Experts state that international clients are attracted to Brazil because of its stable political and economic environment. However, they face higher levels of bureaucracy, taxes, crimes, and corruption in these markets rather than in their home markets. Many of the companies that come to Brazil do so because the business environment is much more familiar than the other BRIC countries. It is also a more stable public and private sector and a better-proven legal framework than other BRIC countries. There are complex tax rules, corruption, and a slow legal process. The levels of bureaucracy and the lack of transparency of rules make Brazil a difficult country to want to do business in. There are higher costs of labor in Brazil also and the tax system holds many layers. This poster will survey the political, economic, legal, cultural, trade, and monetary environment of Brazil.
International Expansion and Management of Operations Abroad
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Bindu Vyas
King’s College

Poster Session

Innospark, Lithuania
Product: educational toys for children
Challenges: interested in new market expansion, new product features
Nicole Aiello, Christina Varvaglione, Conor Lydon, Mitch Bialy, Moria Swartz, Samantha Raffaele

Pantofola d’Oro, Italy
Product: Shoes, including kid’s soccer shoes
Challenges: Design ideas, of particular interest technological solutions using Near Field Communication technology, and new market expansion plan for kids’ soccer shoes
Angelina Collotty, Louis Oley, Rachel Stantis, Scott Pickets, John Clawson, Jonathan Alfieri

Mobius SLIP, USA
Product: Education enhancement technologies, peer-to-peer evaluation systems
Challenge: New market expansion, new product features and functionality
Kevin Mulvihill, Liam Kelly, Racheal Simon, Robert Kuzynski, Sean Gabel, Thressa Eckhart

Gramedia, Indonesia
Products: Indonesia’s largest media conglomerate, publishing
Challenge: Interested in ideas for new products to replace shrinking publishing business, new market expansion
Anthony Belevino, Robyn Klingerman, Alex Vitale

Daffodils Games and Publishing, Ghana
Product: Card and board games
Challenge: New market expansion plan; ideas for new board/card games and new features for existing products
Terria Pettis, Dominic Malacari, Dylan Kelly, Michael Sweeney

Sacconia, India
Product: 5-D gaming machines
Challenge: interested in expanding into new markets, new product features
Connor Lyons, Michael Krieger, Nirvana Chand, Troy Davis

BFSI, India
Product: EGALITE, a multi-channel banking solution for banks and micro-financing institutions
Challenge: New market expansion plan, new product features
Michael Smart
Storm Drain Management in Urban Areas – Using GIS to Model Remediation

Kathleen Searfoss
Senior GIS Analyst
Concurrent Technologies Corporation
Johnstown, PA

Abstract

Storm drain management affects the water which flows through the tributaries and streams into our rivers, lakes, and oceans. The ramifications of ill-planned storm drainage, especially in highly populated or growing areas, can result in devastating pollution to our water. In this presentation we will explore the Lackawanna River valley and its Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4). We will present green space and rain garden plans and how their use remediates flooding and pollution. We will explore examples of green space as storm water management in Philadelphia. The presentation will show how GIS is used in fee development using GIS models of impervious surfaces in relation to pervious or porous surfaces in building projects and private developments. The presentation will demonstrate that the result of these types of efforts is a better environment on land as well as in surface water, and a more vibrant economy for those municipalities that employ them.
2. Dr. Jayne Klenner

Decision making with GIS
Today's global business relies on big data to make good decisions. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) helps to make decisions based on these large data sets and set in the context of geographic space through visualization of the data on recognizable maps. The ability to look at a problem with the data that is easy to understand helps businesses to become more efficient and streamlines communication of ideas to stakeholders. This paper looks at several areas where decisions are made using big data and where we can find some of these data sources. Examples of ESRI Story Maps will also be demonstrated.
3. Mr. William Christian and Dr. Jayne Klenner

The Dorothy Day Catholic Worker Farm and Dashboard Technology: the technology of food security.

Students in the CIS 271 class spent a semester learning about food security online with Catholic Relief Services and the Dorothy Day Catholic Worker Farm at Harveys Lake. Students learned about food security through videos and blogging with students from other Catholic colleges around the country and then applied that knowledge along with their skills at Excel to build a dashboard decision making tool to help the farm understand how to better manage crops and animals.
Managerial Approach to Overcome Barriers to Quality in Healthcare Providers

Julia Caldwell MD, Penn State Hershey, Penn State Harrisburg
Hengameh Hosseini, PhD, Penn State University-Harrisburg

Introduction: Quality measures are utilized with the expectation that healthcare providers can implement actions to improve or maintain a measurable level of quality care. (1-4) Insight into what precludes or diminishes quality in healthcare is lacking. Individual providers can provide insight as to the barriers they perceive in providing quality care. The purpose of this study is to better define healthcare providers’ perceived barriers to providing quality care. For this study we focused on anesthesia providers at the Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. The goal of this study, is to better understand what providers see as barriers to quality. We think that this information can be used to implement change and improve care.

Methodology: We conducted a survey consisting of demographical information and a series of questions to define and weigh an individual provider’s perceived barriers to quality. Participants were given the opportunity to define additional barriers, explain their responses, and offer ideas for improvement.

Results: In this observational pilot study, 52 participants’ responses were analyzed overall and as demographic subgroups. The most cited barriers were “I do not know how the quality measures are measured” (61%) and “I do not have a summary of quality measures” (54%). Senior providers (>2 years’ experience) were more likely (23% vs. 10%) to feel time pressure than junior providers (1-2 years). More experienced (practice or managerial) providers were less likely to perceive healthcare processes as barriers compared to providers with less experience. Our recommendations would be to institute more educational opportunities, increase practice advisories to improve knowledge of recommendations, and increase managerial contribution and involvement.

Conclusions: In our study group of anesthesia providers, a major barrier to quality is provider’s knowledge of what the measures are and how they are measured. This barrier to quality care can be addressed by instituting an educational program for providers about the quality measures. Another barrier to quality highly reported by senior providers was time restraints. Dedicating protected time to addressing quality measures may change this as a barrier to quality. Those with more practice and managerial experience likely have more involvement in creation and implementation of healthcare processes which may be the reason they were less likely to perceive this as a barrier. This study provided some insight into provider perceived barriers to quality; we think that further study into specifics of these barriers could be used to remove these barriers and provide more quality based care at our institution. By providing insight into methods to improve management and leadership involvement at this key venture will likely improve patient care as well as employee satisfaction.

References


Working Title: A Macroeconomic Model for Greece

Abstract

Assuming the roles of economic advisors to the head of government, students will give updates on macroeconomic conditions in Greece in the last several months and offer policy recommendations based upon a macroeconomic model they constructed from real data.
Presenters: Madeline Griffin, Mark Henry, and K.C. Wanamaker

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Margarita Rose

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The oral presentation format is preferred.

Technology needs: computer with internet and PowerPoint capabilities

Working Title: A Macroeconomic Model for Ireland

Abstract

Assuming the roles of economic advisors to the head of government, students will give updates on macroeconomic conditions in Ireland in the last several months and offer policy recommendations based upon a macroeconomic model they constructed from real data.
Working Title: A Macroeconomic Model for Germany

Abstract

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