

Department of Economics

Newsletter
Newsletter

2003

The 2002-03 academic year has been a difficult one for the Department of Economics. The resignation of Professor Chantale LaCasse was disappointing. The subsequent loss of her position to the continuing process of budget reduction means that the Department has lost a total of 2.67 faculty positions in the last two years. This loss of faculty positions has required the Department to substantially reduce its course and section offerings for the 2003-04 academic year at a time when its undergraduate and graduate enrolments have never been stronger. These reductions will limit the course choice available to students and may potentially jeopardize the ability of students to complete their programs of study on time.

On a more positive note, the Department was successful in recruiting Haibin Wu from Vanderbilt University into its one remaining vacancy. Professor Wu's areas of specialization are macroeconomics and time series econometrics. Professor Paul Boothe was appointed "EnCana Scholar in Public Policy" by the CD Howe Institute. Professors Pushan Dutt and Heather Eckert were successful in securing research grants from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The Department underwent a review of its graduate programs and research and the external review committee provided a very positive assessment of the quality of the graduate education provided by the Department and the quality of the research produced by its faculty members and

graduate students. Despite the serious difficulties imposed by budget reductions, the Department of Economics remains a dynamic teaching and research environment.

Bradford G Reid

NEW FACES

Loretta Fung

It is no surprise that Dr. Loretta Fung recently joined our department as an Assistant Professor. Destiny brought her here. Loretta hails from Taiwan. She completed her undergraduate degree in economics at the National Taiwan University, and followed that with a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California, Davis.

So where's the destiny in that? It turns out Loretta has the same taste in music, movies, and food as Claudia Landeo. During the interview for this newsletter, one would often finish the other's sentences. While naming favourite musical artists, the two excitedly engaged in a competition to name the best. Like two convivial high jumpers in a showdown, one would clear a new height; the other would heartily congratulate her and then raise the bar even higher. Fate decided the lives of these two would inevitably intersect. The intersection almost happened when Loretta considered doing her Ph.D. in Pittsburgh, but has finally taken place here in Edmonton.

Dr. Fung teaches international economics and has many research interests. Questions that she hopes to address are: What is the impact of trade liberalization or exchange rate movements on international technology diffusion and productivity growth? How much is the contribution of quality upgrading – particularly in the computer hardware industry – to the productivity growth in the computer parts industry itself and to the growth of the manufacturing sector? Does business grouping play a role in the location choice and timing of foreign direct investment? And what is the impact on technology diffusion of global flows in human resources through the postsecondary education system and returning nationals?

When not addressing such weighty issues, Loretta likes to unwind with a nice meal. She is particularly fond of dim sum, Japanese food, and spicy Indian dishes. She has tried a number of restaurants in Edmonton, but has not yet settled on a favourite. Suggestions are most welcome! Musical tastes – in addition to Claudia's – include Sarah McLachlan, Tracy Chapman, U2, and the Eagles. When asked if she liked to drive a Fast Car to the Hotel California, Dr. Fung replied, "Yes, and en route I enjoy Building a Mystery by driving Where the Streets Have No Name." Touché.

Claudia Landeo

Ever wonder what it would be like to square dance with a Nobel laureate in economics? As unsettling as watching someone swallow a light bulb and twice as painful as doing it yourself?

Not at all, according to Dr. Claudia Landeo, a newly recruited Assistant Professor in our department. At an academic conference in southwestern USA, Claudia corralled none

other than Vernon Smith, Nobel laureate, to be her dance partner. It turns out that Dr. Smith could do-si-do like a seasoned pro, and left his partner in the dust. We can perhaps forgive Claudia for being outmatched by an almost octogenarian. Dr. Landeo hails from Peru, and the Latin rhythms and sensibilities with which she grew up surprisingly transfer rather poorly to the world of square dance.

From an undergraduate degree in economics at Del Pacifico University in Lima, Claudia moved on to complete a Masters in public policy and a Ph.D. in economics at the University of Pittsburgh. While doing so, she met and married Max Nikitin, fellow economist and now fellow co-worker.

Dr. Landeo currently teaches micro theory and labor economics. Her research interests are varied, but one topic which has recently captured her attention is punitive damages awarded in lawsuits. There is pressure to limit the size of such awards, in hopes of reducing plaintiffs' determination to see a suit through to trial and of encouraging the parties to settle out of court. This would reduce court costs, freeing up resources in an overburdened judicial system. Dr. Landeo, however, is interested in exploring how such reforms would affect firms' "upstream" behaviour. Knowing that punitive damages will be limited, some firms may reduce their safety efforts, and so may jeopardize people. Is this a justified "cost" to reduce legal system burden?

When not engaged in such brow-furrowing endeavours, Claudia likes to relax with music – the louder the better. Favourites include Anne Murray, Fleetwood Mac, Queen, Italian operas, and Barbara Streisand. And after a nice seafood dish at the Three Musketeers restaurant, you might just see her square dancing down Whyte Avenue.

Dawn Bissett

Dawn Bissett joined IPE (Institute for Public Economics) as administrative assistant to Director in the Fall of 2002. Dawn's sterling reputation preceded her because she had worked in the Department of Economics for nine months in 2000-2001. When the half-time position came available for IPE we thought of her and she jumped at the chance to have a half time position so that she could continue to spend lots of time with her two-year old son Hunter (more about Hunter later on).

Dawn's work is filled with variety, reflecting the energetic direction provided by the Director, Paul Boothe. She does, among many tasks, hire student researchers, organize Paul's calendar and travel, set up meetings for the Expert Advisory Panel to Review Publicly Funded Health Services of Alberta Health and Wellness, manage the accounting for the various grants and coordinate the redesign of the web site for IPE and Economics. With Dawn's assistance on the administration of IPE, Paul is able to focus his attention and time on expanding IPE's research and bringing in new grants. Dawn's arrival as his assistant in his words "saved my sanity"!

As well as being a mother in her spare time, Dawn is also a musician. Much to the consternation of Dawn's parents, she left home at 18 to join an all girls' band called "High Society". For four years she traveled across Canada with the group performing classic rock and a 50's & 60's show. Band members are denying rumours of a comeback tour. Today Dawn is part of a group called "The Time Flies" which performs its own original music for children. In addition, Dawn and her partner Shane have a duo called Bissett and Watt. They

have performed regularly at a club here in Edmonton in recent years.

Mary Carson

Mary Carson is the newest member of the IPE (Institute for Public Economics) team. She joined the Institute in 2002 as a Research Associate. Mary received her PhD in Biology from Tufts University in Medford Massachusetts. A biologist working in the area of public economics you ask? You bet. As part of her activities for IPE she is a member of the Research Group for the Expert Advisory Panel to Review Publicly Funded Health Services of Alberta Health and Wellness. Her work for IPE includes examination of methods to evaluate health care technologies and review of proposed and actual strategies for health care reform in Canada.

Before joining IPE Mary was the research coordinator for the Alberta Lung Association and prior to that she was a project coordinator for a measles vaccination study in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Alberta. This research led to a number of joint publications, one with Paul Boothe. One intriguing title for a paper she co-authored is: "Do Bugs Need Drugs?" With her varied background Mary brings valuable expertise and knowledge in the field of clinical research to IPE, adding to the breadth of the team that Dr Paul Boothe, Director of IPE, has assembled. For more information about IPE and Mary Carson's research, visit the IPE website <http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/ipe/>

It should be noted that the mild-mannered Mary makes a mean nut crunch, a confection that can do serious damage to any waistline. Don't let the word 'nut' fool you. This is not a health snack. Despite Mary's avowed interest in the field of health care research,

perhaps we should be asking, “Has she received clearance from the Ethics Committee to work on human subjects?”

EVEN NEWER FACES

Anna Smythe and Alice Eckert

In the red corner, weighing in at 6 pounds, 9 ounces, the Sultan of Spit-up, the Strathcona Streaker: Anna Margaret Smythe. And in the black corner, weighing in at eight pounds one ounce, the Wiley Coyote, the Windsor Park Wiggler: Alice Wynona Eckert. Yes, the Economics family welcomed two very small additions this past year. Proud parents are James and Stacey Smythe and Heather and Andrew Eckert. Alice arrived near Labour Day (how appropriate) and Anna a few months later, just past Christmas.

Anna is a born exhibitionist. She loves flailing about naked in her crib and protests heartily when getting dressed. She is trying to crawl, but her legs are impatiently waiting for her arms to catch up in strength. She just can't lift her melon off the mat for long.

Alice's hobbies include climbing furniture and putting toys in cups, and she is currently tackling the intellectual challenge of finding Daddy's nose. Despite the ineptitude of her parents, Alice is healthy and often happy.

All involved are having a wonderful time, but Alice and Anna do get together every so often to complain about their parents' choice of bedtime stories. It seems the Smythes favour Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*, while the Eckerts favour Adam Smith's *Moral Sentiments*. It is nice to know these couples are helping lay the foundations for many years of future research by their colleagues in Psychology.

Hunter Watt

Hunter was born May 22, 2001 to proud parents Dawn Bissett and Shane Watt. Hunter just turned two and is full of beans! He is the fastest thing on two legs, and gives his mom and dad a real workout at the playground!

Hunter is learning lots of new words and is becoming aware of the benefits of verbal communication...“Blues Clues on a TV NOW Mommy please!” He also knows key words like “ice cream *cone!*”. His most asked question (about 100x/day) is “that sound?” Can you tell his parents are musicians?

Hunter loves to be read to, and enjoys Dr. Seuss as well as Rudyard Kipling, but his favorite book right now is about “Traffic”. He loves his cars and trucks and spends many hours “driving” his ride-in car to destinations that involve one hand out for “money!”

[Dawn Bissett is administrative assistant to the Director of the Institute of Public Economics.]

STUDENTS IN THE WORLD

Once again we are very pleased to feature career profiles on two of our former students. We hope you find these profiles as interesting as we do.

Derek Hermanutz - Preparing briefs and changing diapers

B.A. (Honours) University of Alberta, 1991
 M.A. (Economics) Queen's University, 1993
 Due to the recession and government cutbacks, 1993 was not a great time to be looking for work as an Economist. After finishing at Queen's I spent two months on my parent's couch in St. Albert before getting a job with Alberta Treasury (now Alberta Finance) where I had spent the summers of 1990 and 1991 working as a student. During my first year I was fortunate to work with Dr. Joe Ruggeri with whom I co-authored various papers and a book on government spending in Canada. I then moved into the exciting, and uniquely Canadian, world of fiscal federalism. My time there was very interesting – highlights included the now-famous 1995 federal budget (which created the Canada Health and Social Transfer) and representing Alberta during the 1999 Renewal of the federal Equalization Program. This job gave me the chance to visit many Canadian cities and interact with officials from other Canadian governments. I am also proud to say I had a perfect record forecasting Alberta's Equalization payments over the period (zero each year of course!). I also had the opportunity to work with Professor Boothe on several papers, including one published by the C.D. Howe. Thanks to Paul, I was able to present this paper at a conference in Argentina and spent a month touring South America with my wife. What a great experience.

In the fall of 1998, my wife and I packed up and headed for Ottawa where I worked at the Department of Finance in the Expenditure Analysis and Forecasting Group of the Fiscal Policy Division. The Division is responsible for the federal fiscal situation, which primarily involves the preparation of the

federal budget. Very interesting (and somewhat scary) to be at the heart of this process. Then, in January 2002 I took a secondment at the Privy Council Office in the Liaison Secretariat for Macroeconomic Policy. Quite a mouthful, but essentially is the group responsible for briefing the Clerk (Canada's top bureaucrat) and the Prime Minister on fiscal and economic issues. Working in this very small group allowed me to apply my general knowledge of economics to a wide variety of issues, from modelling the economic impacts of Kyoto to the inner workings of the Cabinet Committees.

Right now I am undertaking my most important challenge. I have been on parental leave since Dec 2002 and spending loads of time with my 7 month old daughter Alison. My economics training has actually come in surprisingly handy, although I haven't yet been able to explain to my wife (an Actor) exactly how kids are like real-life CGE models!!

Overall, the last ten years have been fantastic and I have worked with many interesting and intelligent people. Economics was definitely a good career choice for me. And, for someone who is interested in public policy, but who also has an interest in applied research, I could not have asked for a better career to date. And, who knows what the future will bring? Anyway, back to those diaper changes...

Karrin Powys-Lybbe - Economist, Lawyer and Cover Girl

Honors Economics, 1991

After I graduated from the University of Alberta in 1991, I enrolled in law school at the University of Toronto. I spent my first summer working for two professors, Michael

Trebilcock and Robert Howse, on a book they were writing on international trade. Professor Trebilcock focuses on Law and Economics and International Trade and my economics background was critical to my ability to receive and complete this assignment. The following summer I started working at a law firm in Toronto now called Torys LLP. I also articulated at this firm after law school and have worked there since I became a lawyer in January 1996, becoming a partner in February 2002. I now practice corporate commercial law, and give advice and counsel to major national and multinational, publicly traded corporations on corporate dispositions, mergers and acquisitions, restructuring, financings and bond and securities issues. This year, I was named as one of Canada's Top 40 Lawyers under 40 by *Lexpert*. [Editor's note: Karrin is too modest to say that she appeared on the cover of *Lexpert*.]

I do not include economics in my daily practice but I have no doubt that the critical thinking that I learned in my undergraduate work in economics, as well as the work ethic of the honours program, have been an important part of my success to date. For example, I recall finding first year law school, which is a very challenging year and quite an adjustment for most students, a breeze after some of my fourth year classes such as econometrics and math for economics students!

Alumni Please Drop Us a Line....

Our thanks to **Derek Hermanutz** and **Karrin Powys-Lybbe** for taking the time to share their career experience with us. We are curious about our alumni, both undergraduate and graduate. Please let us know what you are up to, and how your education here has served you in your life. We are also curious as to how our present

students experience our program. We may profile you in a future newsletter!

Contact information:

<http://www.ualberta.ca/~economic/>

FACULTY IN THE WORLD

Research Funding

The Department has had an outstanding year in attracting research money. In total, members of the department were able to attract just under one million dollars in competitions for externally funded research money. Major sources of funding include the Government of Alberta, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) and the Government of Canada.

The Canadian Building Energy End Use Data and Analysis Centre (CBEEDAC)

David Ryan and André Plourde established the Canadian Building Energy End Use Data and Analysis Centre (CBEEDAC) in March of 2002, in cooperation with both the Department of Economics and the School of Business. CBEEDAC is one of four Data and Analysis Centres funded by Natural Resources Canada (NRCAN) under NRCAN's National Energy Use Database (NEUD) initiative. CBEEDAC is responsible for improving knowledge and accessibility of building energy data for the Canadian residential, commercial, and institutional sectors.

Working with data providers and users from all levels of government, the residential and commercial sector, and the research community, the Centre supports a forum on strategic data collection and analysis, and

facilitates an integrated approach to energy-efficiency improvements in these sectors. CBEEDAC is currently comprised of members from the Department of Economics and from the School of Business at the University of Alberta. The research expertise and interests of the directors David Ryan and André Plourde and research associates, Denise Young, Heather Eckert, and Mel McMillan combined with the existing graduate studies programs, make the Centre well suited to enabling a multi-disciplinary approach to data management and to analysis and improvement of knowledge in the building sector.

In the past year CBEEDAC has provided financial assistance for eleven graduate students. In addition to funding students during the fall and winter terms, CBEEDAC provided part-time assistance during the summer months to enable students to work on energy topics that fit in with the Centre's mandate and which might form the basis of their MA, PhD, or certain other projects. In this regard, one of these students who worked for the Centre last summer, Junaid Jahangir, recently has completed his Econ /Finance 900 project on Real Option Valuation of Energy Efficiency Investments. The Centre continues to provide direct financial support as well as training opportunities and computing resources to students interested in working in the area of energy economics. Most recently, the Centre purchased the SpaceStat Environmental Insight Software for use in the computer labs.

In addition to providing internal reviews for its funding partners, CBEEDAC produces reports on building sector technology and economics. A review, Programmable Thermostats as a Means of Generating Energy Savings: Some Pros and Cons, by André Plourde will soon be available on

CBEEDAC's website,
www.ualberta.ca/~cbeedac.

Following the presentation of the paper, The Heat is On: The Changing Role of Weather on Residential Energy Demand, by Plourde and Ryan at the annual International Association for Energy Economics in Prague in June 2003, this study of weather elasticities in the context of energy demand modelling will also be publicly available.

Another major project for the Centre in the past year has been the construction of an online searchable MetaDataBase of building energy data resources. The objective of the project is to provide users with a comprehensive searchable resource of building energy data and associated literature. CBEEDAC also produces tri-annual newsletters that document the activities of the Centre as well as containing articles on current topics in energy economics. Recent articles have covered such topics as Residential Energy Use Changes: The Increasing Role of Appliances, and in some cases reflect joint work involving graduate students. Copies of previous newsletters can be accessed from the CBEEDAC website. Should you be interested in being added to the mailing list to receive future newsletters, or if you wish to find out more about CBEEDAC or to become involved with its activities, the Executive Director, Donna White, can be contacted by mail through the Department of Economics, or directly by phone at 492-4134 or by email to cbeedac@ualberta.ca.

Major Funding Award from Alberta Health and Wellness

Professors James Smythe (Assistant Professor and Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research Population Health

Investigator) and Paul Boothe (Full Professor, EnCana Scholar and Director of the Institute for Public Economics) have won a major research grant from Alberta Health and Wellness. The award of \$350,000 runs for three years and will fund research to support Alberta's Expert Advisory Panel (EAP) on publicly funded health care services.

The Minister of Health and Wellness has asked the EAP to provide recommendations in three key areas: 1) Four referred health services, 2) Other publicly funded services, and 3) The process that should be used to assess new health services that are nominated for public funding. The purpose of this research is to conduct primary research to evaluate the clinical, social, economic and fiscal impacts of selected EAP recommendations that are accepted and implemented by the government.

The Premier's Advisory Council on Health (PACH) chaired by the Right Hon. Don Mazankowski released its report in January 2002. One of the key themes of the report was that the current publicly funded health system was fiscally unsustainable and that reforms were urgently needed if the system was to be maintained and strengthened in the future. PACH noted that for at least the past five years, health care spending in Alberta had grown at annual rates far exceeding the medium-term growth of revenue and that measures were required both to increase the growth of revenue for health care and to slow the growth of spending. To this end, PACH called for the establishment of an expert panel to review public funding of existing and future health services. As part of his implementation of the Mazankowski Report recommendations, the Minister established the EAP and assigned it the three tasks outlined above.

This project has two goals. The first goal is to develop and implement a process that collects and organizes information regarding the technical, social and economic, and fiscal factors that should be considered when the issue of public funding of health services is examined. The second, longer-term goal of the project is to evaluate the impact of selected EAP recommendations that are implemented by the government.

Department Members win SSHRC Awards

Assistant Professors Pushan Dutt and Heather Eckert are the latest members in the department to win prestigious SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council) research grants (the department as a whole currently holds six SSHRC grants). Both grants will fund the next three years of research for each professor.

Professor Dutt's research investigates the political economy motivations underlying the formulation of trade policies, and how demands for protection are mediated through the political process.

There exists an overwhelming consensus among economists that international trade should be free. While trade theorists recognize the presence of imperfect competition may provide a strategic rationale for governments to pursue protectionist policies, the identification and implementation of strategic trade policies is difficult, and opportunities for strategic use of trade policy are limited. Despite the consensus that free trade promotes aggregate welfare, protectionist trade policies remain universal. This raises the question: why do all governments, whether socialist or capitalistic, democratic or despotic, choose protectionism over free trade?

One answer is that trade policies are politically motivated: tariffs, quotas and a myriad of forms of protection are granted by politicians either in response to demands by special interest groups or in response to the electoral concerns of voters. The primary explanation offered in the economics literature is sub-optimal policies are chosen because they achieve the objectives of the policy maker, where these objectives are distinct from social welfare maximization. Politics, therefore, provides the overall context within which trade policies are determined endogenously. The objective of this research is to study endogenous trade policy determination in general, and explore in detail two voting models – the partisan voter model and the median voter model.

Professor Eckert's research program, titled "The Enforcement of Environmental Regulations in Alberta," will investigate how decisions are made regarding the enforcement of environmental regulations and compare the effectiveness of different enforcement tools in a number of industries. To do this, the enforcement decisions of Alberta Environment, including which environmental incidents are investigated and what punishment is chosen in the event of a violation, will be examined empirically. As well, the effect that an enforcement action has on the future compliance decisions of the firm facing the enforcement will be determined. By undertaking this analysis for a number of environmental regulations in key industrial sectors in the province, the effectiveness of different enforcement tools can be compared.

Overall, the project will offer a better understanding of how enforcement tools are used and which enforcement tools are more effective at reducing non-compliance. In doing so, the research will provide recommendations for how regulators may

achieve the greatest improvement in compliance, and therefore environmental quality, given limited budgets.

HIRING

The Department is pleased to announce the appointment of Haibin Wu from Vanderbilt University in Memphis, Tennessee. Haibin joins the Department of Economics on July 1, 2003.

STAFF NOTES

We are delighted to welcome Theresa Everest to the Department of Economics. Theresa was hired in January 2003 to fill the position in the General Office left vacant when Audrey Jackson was promoted. Theresa comes with many years of campus experience and brings a high level of skill and technical expertise to the job. Theresa also brings a positive and warm presence to the Department.

Audrey Jackson was promoted to the position of Graduate Program Administrator in July 2002. She loves the work and the contact with the students. Audrey has been with the Department of Economics since 1988. On a personal note, the eldest of Audrey's four children, Kelly, graduated this June from Waterloo with an honors degree in Biological Sciences. Kelly is currently in the optometry program at Waterloo. On the same day as Kelly's graduation, Audrey's second child, Christopher, graduated from Law at the University of Alberta. Chris and his wife Andrea gave birth to Audrey's first grandchild, Mark, in February 2003. Mark attended his father's graduation in June but didn't enjoy all the clapping.

In last year's Newsletter Margaret mentioned that she had a grandson Brendan, now five. In May of this year a second grandchild was born when her oldest daughter Christine and her husband Andrew gave birth to a daughter, Ainsley. Margaret has been with the Department of Economics since 1982.

Charlene Hill has been in the Department the longest of all our administrative support staff. She began in July 1980. Charlene is off to New Brunswick this summer for three weeks to visit family. In all the years she has worked in Edmonton, Charlene has managed to stay in close touch with her family in Black's Harbour, New Brunswick.

SCHOLARSHIPS & DONATIONS

Since we reported to you last year, the Education Endowment Fund in Economics has grown from \$34,000 to \$47,000. Again we would like to thank all of you, alumni and staff, for your generous contributions. The Department will be announcing a new source of funding for graduate students this Fall. The Graduate Program Committee will be establishing a scholarship to be used to recruit or retain students. Initially there will be \$2,000 a year for this scholarship. As the fund grows the number of scholarships will increase.

Special congratulations go to Steven Yong for his success in winning both graduate prizes one year after the other.

Our 2002 Scholarship and Prizewinners are:

- **Iryna Kryvoruchko** — Dr Milton F Bauer Memorial Scholarship
- **Jason Evans** — HSBC Bank of Canada Scholarship
- **Ryan Clements** — Andrew Stewart Scholarship
- **Nirav Patel** — Andrew Stewart Scholarship
- **James Marple** — Andrew Stewart Scholarship
- **Jason Hanna** — Andrew Stewart Scholarship
- **Tahir Bhimji** — Andrew Stewart Scholarship
- **Nirav Patel** — Dr Manmohan Singh Prize in Economics
- **Aaron Braaten** — KD Verville and DM Lowtan Scholarship for Academic Excellence
- **Brendon Cameron** — MA Core Course Prize
- **Steven Yong** — MA Research Prize

For alumni who would like to contribute to the Education Endowment Funds in Economics, you may send a your donation to the Development Office of the University of Alberta, 6th Floor General Services Building, Edmonton, AB T6G 2H1.

IN MEMORIAM - KATHLEEN KLAWE

My former colleague and good friend Kathleen Klawe died in Vancouver on July 11, 2003. After two years as a part-time sessional lecturer, Kathleen was appointed to a tenure track position in the Department in 1968 and retired in 1979 with the rank of Associate Professor. Prior to joining the Department she had been a lecturer at the University of Toronto (1944-1948) and a part-time lecturer at the University of

Edinburgh (1959-1963). In 1968 the Department introduced the system of mass lectures for the principles course to allow the normal teaching load to be reduced to four courses. A superb organizer and talented teacher, Kathleen was the indispensable backbone of this mass lecture system for over a decade. By my count some 15,000 students had the benefit of her instruction. Colleagues in the Department had the benefit of a lighter teaching load and some of us also had the benefit of splendid parties at the Klawe home.

Kathleen Wreath McCaughan was born July 31, 1919 in Ballymoney, Northern Ireland. At Glasgow University she majored in French and German, completing her MA (equivalent to our BA) in 1939 with two prizes and the gold medal in Geography. This was followed by a second Glasgow MA in Political Economy and Political Philosophy awarded in 1942 with first class honours and a fellowship for doctoral studies. The fellowship was never taken because she was drafted into the Ministry of Economic Warfare as an intelligence officer. Marriage to Janusz Klawe in 1943 brought them to Canada for five years and a return in 1963 when Janusz was appointed Professor of Geography at Alberta.

Kathleen is survived by four daughters: Dr. Anna Taube, Prof. of Oncology, University of Alberta; Dr. Maria Klawe, Dean of Engineering, Princeton University, NJ; Dr. Katrina Poetker, Prof. of New Testament Studies, Fresno Pacific University, CA and Patricia Klawe, Mission, BC.

Written by Adolf Buse

FINAL NOTES

On December 11, 2002 Dick Plain's youngest son Robert passed away suddenly at the age of 30 years in Oakville, Ontario while playing floor hockey. The Department of Economics extends its deepest sympathy to Dick and Margaret Plain for their loss.

VISIT OUR WEB SITE

The department web site at <http://www.ualberta.ca/~economic/> provides information on our undergraduate and graduate programs, the teaching and research interests of faculty, and links to faculty web sites. We will add additional material, including this newsletter, and other news items. We would appreciate feedback on our website in general and what you would like to see added. Please keep in touch **B** we love to hear from you!