

The Leading Minnesota Council on Economic Education INDICATOR

Building Economic and Financial Understanding for Life

INSIDE

And The
Winners Are...
2006 Economics
Challenge Calendar
Fall Workshops

Note Our New Web and Email Addresses

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Minnesota Council on
Economic Education

Building Economic and
Financial Understanding for Life

3M ECONOMIC EDUCATION AWARDS

Top Teachers Turning the Tide on Economic Preparedness

In April, the National Council on Economic Education reported that most high school graduates do not understand the basic economic concepts they need to successfully manage their personal finances and compete in our global economy. The 2005 *3M Economic Education Awards* honor top Minnesota educators trying to change that problem. These teachers' innovation and commitment to economic education have increased students' economic awareness and understanding, helping prepare them for future success.

Economic Educator Excellence Award

The *Economic Educator Excellence Award* recognizes sustained commitment, leadership and achievement in economic education. No teacher is more deserving of this award than David Stark, who has been a champion for economic education since he began teaching at Brainerd High School in 1982.

Stark has long believed in making economic concepts real to his students. He combined economic theory and experiential learning

with the Economics Club, which managed Brainerd High School's vending machines. As members of this club, his students gained hands-on experience operating a business. They donated to school and community organizations and used profits to help fund class trips to Washington, D.C., New York, Europe, and China.



David Stark, Brainerd High School

Stark also coaches his students for competition in *Economics Challenge*. This year his team placed first in the Adam Smith Division of the Minnesota state competition, and went on to take third place honors at the national competition in New York.

In 1994, Brainerd High School was voting to eliminate economics as a graduation requirement. Stark responded by using newspaper articles to illustrate to his colleagues how students' future success is directly tied to their understanding of basic economic principles. *Bravo, Mr. Stark!* (Continued Inside)

SAVE THE DATE EconFest on Tuesday, October 18th



Join us at Cargill Headquarters for the 29th annual celebration of excellence in economic education. Starting at 4:30 there will be mini-seminars, reception and

buffet, followed by the featured presentation, *World Food Prospects*, by Phil Pardey, Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota and winner of the American Agricultural Economic Association's Distinguished Policy Award.

Seminars this year include:

Teachers Building Global Partnerships

Teachers discuss their experiences collaborating with European economic educators and observing economic education in Russia.

2005 Innovative Lesson Winners

Join Shannon Hammer and Kate Peterson for presentations of their award-winning lessons.

Community Mentorship Program in Personal Finance

Regional Extension Educators and nonprofit agencies joined forces to provide personal finance classes in their communities. Come learn about their exciting results.

Cargill Global Food Challenge

Learn about the successes teachers have had with these innovative learning activities exploring the economics of world food issues.

For more information call 612-625-3727.

REAL WORLD ECONOMICS Global Food Challenge

Designed by a team of leading economists and educators to appeal to high school students, *Global Food Challenge* allows teachers and students to explore basic economic concepts in the context of world food issues. Every year, *Global Food Challenge* offers free curricula and workshops to teachers and hosts a contest for students. First and second place winners are selected for each of the four Global Food Challenge units.



2005 Global Food Challenge Fall Workshops

Join us for these exciting, free workshops to learn more about the *Global Food Challenge* units and effective ways of incorporating them into your curriculum.

November 5

Economics of Food Safety

Economics of Food Security

November 19

*Basic Economics of
Food Markets*

*Economics of
World Food Trade*

Workshops are from 9:00–3:00, but teachers may elect to attend a half-day training on one unit. Free curricula, lunch, and a \$20 stipend are provided for teachers who attend a full day.

2005 Global Food Challenge Winners

Economics of Food Markets

1st: Amanda Boehne, Central High School, Norwood Young America; Mark Lagergren, teacher.

2nd: Myranda Pittman, WEM High School, Waterville; Annie Allen, teacher.

Economics of Food Security

1st: Sarah Jepperson, Melrose High School; Rob Bahr, teacher.

2nd: Nikki Reiland, Melrose High School; Rob Bahr, teacher.

Economics of World Food Trade

1st: Jen Zierden, Melrose High School; Rob Bahr, teacher.

2nd: Lisa Moldan, St. Mary's High School, Sleepy Eye; Kathleen Kemmeter, teacher.

Economics of Food Safety

1st: Todd Hooper, Hibbing High School; Scott Wolla, teacher.

2nd: Erica Larson, Hibbing High School; Scott Wolla, teacher.

**Increase your student's
financial and economic
understanding.**

**Learn how in these
free workshops.**

**Attendees receive
free curricula, lunch,
and a \$20 stipend.**

**Register soon,
space is limited.**

Learning, Earning and Investing and Financial Fitness for Life

Teachers for Grades 6-12
November 12
University of St. Thomas, 9:00 – 3:00

Join **Agapitos Papagapitos**, director of the University of St. Thomas' Center for Economic Education, to learn about two excellent personal finance curricula. *Learning, Earning and Investing* introduces students to the benefits and risks of investing and the role it plays in the creation of jobs and wealth. *Financial Fitness for Life* helps students apply economics and decision-making skills to the world of money management.

Economics in Action

Teachers for Grades 9-12 *New!*
December 10
St. Olaf College, 9:00 – 3:00

Join instructor **Curt Anderson**, director, Center for Economic Education, University of Minnesota, Duluth, to learn about *Economics in Action: 14 Greatest Hits for Teaching School Economics*. This National Council on Economic Education publication features economic lessons that have been successful in classrooms all over the world. The hands-on lessons help teach basic economic concepts and develop an economic approach to thinking.

Innovative Economic Educator Award, Secondary

Kate Peterson made economic principles pertinent to her students' lives. In her lesson "Towns of Externalities," 7th graders learned about positive and negative externalities and goods and services using *Sanji and the Baker* by Robin Tzannes and Korky Paul. After identifying externalities in the story, students were asked to analyze a "town" for positive and negative externalities. They were all able to identify the externalities in their own lives at the end of the unit.



First Place Winner, Kate Peterson, Farmington Middle School East

Innovative Economic Educator Award, Secondary

What high school student doesn't listen to CDs? **Anne Pherson** made world economic systems relevant to her 10th and 12th graders in her lesson "Whose Label Is It?". Students designed CD labels within parameters to mirror one of three economic systems. They learned how production is affected in free market, mixed market, and command economies.



Second Place Winner, Anne Pherson, Lakeville High School

Innovative Economic Educator Award, Elementary

Shannon Hammer combined economics with language arts in her lesson "What's It Worth to Ya?" for 5th graders. Using, *A Single Shard* by Linda Sue Park, students identified natural, human, and capital resources. They were also taught to recognize differences in workmanship of products, understand the correlation between human capital and available resources, and to recognize the effect of this correlation on a final product.



First Place Winner, Shannon Hammer, St. Charles Borromeo School, Minneapolis

Innovative Economic Educator Award, Elementary

Suzanne Ryan used literature to teach economic concepts in her lesson, "Pony Penning Day." Fourth graders read Marguerite Henry's *Misty of Chincoteague* and explored how individuals and businesses in the story earned and spent their money. They held their own "Pony Penning Day" and demonstrated their understanding of the circular flow of economic activity.



Second Place Winner, Suzanne Ryan, formerly of St. Therese School, Deephaven

Congratulations to all participants in this year's competition.

Congratulations 2005 Economics Challenge Winners!

Two Minnesota teams advanced to the *National Economics Challenge 2005* in New York. **Hibbing High School**, coached by Scott Wolla, finished second in the David Ricardo Division for single semester economics courses, and **Brainerd High School**, coached by David Stark, finished third in the Adam Smith Division for Advanced Placement students.

State Economics Challenge Winners Adam Smith Division

1st: Brainerd High School
2nd: Moorhead High School

David Ricardo Division

1st: Hibbing High School
2nd: Wayzata High School

Joan Robinson Division

1st: Melrose High School
2nd: Barnesville High School

MN Economics Student of the Year

Jacob Belanger, Hibbing High School

Upcoming Economics Challenge Competitions

St. Cloud State University will host an expanded *Heartland Economics Challenge* on January 11, for small and large schools (Joan Robinson and David Ricardo Divisions). The University of Minnesota will host the *Metro Economics Challenge* for large schools only. Winning teams will advance to the *Minnesota State Economics Challenge* on April 18th.

Economics Challenge Calendar

January 11 – *Heartland Economics Challenge I*, St. Cloud State University.
Information: 320-308-2157

January TBA – *Metro Economics Challenge I*, University of Minnesota.
Information: 612-625-3727

March 21 – *Metro Economics Challenge II*, University of St. Thomas.
Information: 651-962-5686

March 28 – *Great Plains Economics Challenge*, Minnesota State University, Moorhead.
Information: 218-4776-4029

March 29 – *North Dakota Economics Challenge*, Minnesota State University, Moorhead.
Information: 218-477-4029

March 31 – *Southern Minnesota Economics Challenge*, Minnesota State University, Mankato.
Information: 507-389-5329

April 4 – *Heartland Economics Challenge II*, St. Cloud State University. Information: 320-308-2157

April 6 – *Lake Superior Economics Challenge*, University of Minnesota, Duluth.
Information: 218-726-7568

April 18 – *State Economics Challenge*, University of Minnesota, St. Paul.
Information: 612-625-3727

April 23-24 – *Regional Economics Challenge* in Minneapolis for state winners.

May 20-22 – *National Economics Challenge* in New York City, NY.

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Welcome Mary Zimmermann!

Our new Development Coordinator, Mary Zimmermann, has years of nonprofit sector experience in fundraising, marketing, and public relations. Most recently, Mary led the development and public relations efforts of Family Violence Network (Lake Elmo) and Tubman Family Violence (Minneapolis). After receiving her Bachelor of Science degree in Foreign Service from Georgetown University, Mary was communications director for the National Council for International Visitors and the Special Libraries Association, both based in Washington, D.C.

After moving to Minnesota in 1991, Mary provided communications and/or fundraising services to a number of organizations, including the St. Paul Mayor's Office, Minneapolis Office of International Affairs, American Women's Trans-Antarctic Expedition, and Minnesota Technology. Mary enjoys reading, traveling, and spending time with her family. We welcome Mary to our team!



Calendar of Events

All workshop opportunities are free to participants and limited in capacity.

- October 18** *EconFest*, annual teacher recognition event held at Cargill in Minnetonka.
- November 5** *Global Food Challenge* units on *Economics of Food Safety*—Brian Buhr, University of Minnesota; and *Economics of Food Security*—Vernon Dobis, Minnesota State University, Moorhead; 9:00 am–3:00 pm at University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus.
- November 12** *Personal Finance Workshop*, grades 6–12—Agapitos Papagapitos, 9:00 am–3:00 pm at the University of St. Thomas, St. Paul.
- November 19** *Global Food Challenge* units on *Basic Economics of Food Markets* and *Economics of World Food Trade*—Curt Anderson, University of Minnesota, Duluth; 9:00 am–3:00 pm at University of Minnesota, St. Paul campus.
- December 10** *Economics in Action: 14 Greatest Hits for Teaching High School Economics*—Curt Anderson, 9:00 am–3:00 pm at St. Olaf College, Northfield.

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