New Economics Faculty

Ken Creech

Professor Creech comes to St. Olaf from the University of Montana Western in Dillon, MT where he taught business communications, international trade, accounting, and finance.

Ken has an MBA from Gonzaga University and is both a CMA and a CPA. He spent over 30 years in business beginning with six years in public accounting. He then moved to being the SEC reporting officer for a diversified financial services company. The last 25 years that he spent in business were in manufacturing where he worked for a fortune 500 Company first where he rose to the position of controller for a $200 million unit. After the sale of the unit he moved to another publicly traded company as controller. He spent his last 12 years in business as the CFO for a privately held company with international operations. During the time spent as CFO he closed operations in Canada and the Netherlands and opened operations in England and Dubai. During his time in business Mr. Creech served as adjunct faculty to a variety of colleges and universities which led to his leaving business to become a full time college professor in 2012.

Ken teaches Principles of Accounting and Managerial & Cost Accounting at St. Olaf.

Brandt Richardson

Please welcome back Visiting Instructor Brandt Richardson. Brandt is an Ole from the graduating class of 2008 and a Ph.D. Candidate in Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota. His research focuses on early education programs and school quality.

Brandt is teaching Principles of Economics and Statistics for Economics.
"The Economics of Energy Demand"

William Provencher
Professor, Agricultural and Applied Economics
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Dr. Provencher’s current research focuses on demand-side energy management, the valuation of ecosystem services, socio-ecological interactions, and the dynamic allocation of resources.

Monday, September 29th
3:30 p.m. in HH413

"Exploring How Ecosystem Services Affect Economic Systems, and Vice Versa"

Justin Johnson ’05
will discuss INVEST models for non-timber forest products, biodiversity impacts using the GLOBIO framework and methods to optimize management decisions when multiple ecosystem-service matters (and potentially conflict), that he is developing for the Natural Capital Project. Justin’s work has led him to research areas including China, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Brazil. Prior to pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota, he received his B.A. in Economics and Environmental Studies at St. Olaf College and studied Environmental Science at Tsinghua University, Beijing, on a Fulbright Scholarship.

Monday, October 20th
at 3:30 p.m. in HH413

Tom Hennen is a poet of the landscape—in the words of Robert Bly, his poems have an “ability to bring immense amounts of space, often uninhabited space, into his mind and so into the whole poem.”

Hennen was born, raised, and continues to live in rural Minnesota. He made his living working outdoors, first for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, then for the Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

“...I’m not trying to just describe how pretty a flower looks, I’m trying to put some meaning into it and using nature because we’re part of nature and nature’s part of us.”

Thursday, November 6th
7pm
Viking Theater
Stephen Polaski, Fesler-Lampert Professor of Ecological/Environmental Economics 
University of Minnesota Regent’s Professor

Dr. Polaski’s research interests focus on issues at the intersection of ecology and economics and include the impacts of land use and land management on the provision and value of ecosystem services and natural capital, biodiversity conservation, sustainability, environmental regulation, renewable energy, and common property resources. His research has been published in Science, Nature, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Frontiers of Ecology and Environment, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Land Economics, and other journals.

Monday, November 10th
Seminar: 3:30 p.m. in Regents Natural Sciences 150
Lecture: 7:00 p.m. in Tomson Hall 280

2014 Melby Lecture
Can Economics Save the Loon?
Economics, Love, and the Environment

“Climate change threatens loon, other Minnesota birds, Audubon study finds”
Article by JEFF STRICKLER, Star Tribune Updated: September 30, 2014 - 1:18 AM

Rebecca Judge, Ph.D.
Monday, November 3rd
7:30 p.m.
Buntrock Commons, Viking Theater

*Attention Seniors→Pre-Register!* 

Economics pre-registration is now transmitted by online form. A link to the form will be sent to all students, who are seniors and are declared Economics majors, at least two days before pre-registration begins. Those students will be allowed to pre-register for up to two Economics classes.

Mon., Sept. 29: Pre-registration course information will be posted on SIS
Wed., Oct. 29: Pre-registration begins at 8:00 a.m.
Mon., Nov. 3: Pre-registration ends at 2:00 p.m.
Economics Department Activities

Bowling at Jesse James Lanes
Wednesday, October 22nd at 5:30pm
Transportation, 2 Games, Shoe Rental, Pizza & Pop
provided courtesy of the Economics Dept.
Sign up for bowling at freking@stolaf.edu or at Holland Hall 414D

Cocoa and Cookie Mondays
Join us in the Economics Dept. Office
Holland Hall 414
for complimentary cocoa and cookies.
Monday mornings 8:00 a.m. to noon.

***Attention: Senior Management Studies Concentrators***

Friday, October 31st is the first deadline for your Capstone Project. Please must provide your informational interviews and your experiential learning activities summaries and upload the link to your draft website by October 31, 2014. If you need any additional help please contact Nancy Aarsvold, x3550, for technical help and Sian Muir, at x3904, for help with content.

Program

Keynote Speaker
8:30 AM – 9:30 AM
Stuart Pimsler, of the Stuart Pimsler Dance Theater Company

Discipline Specific Panels
9:40 AM – 10:30 AM
Art Panel:
Dance Panel:
Music Panel:
Theater Panel:

Panel Session One
10:40 AM - 11:40 AM
Mix your own: Managing your own art
• Kurt Gough
• Marlene Pauley
• David Pisa
• Zachary Teska
• Max Wojanowicz

Digital Mix: Adapting to new technology
• Scotty Gunderson
• Jeff Nordquist
• Erin Scheiwe
• Kristin Solid

Mashup: Reshaping your work
• Katie Belfanz
• Erica Burton & Josh Misner
• Glenn Hernandez
• Ben Percy
• Eric Severson

Panel Session Two
11:50 AM – 12:50 PM
Choose another panel from the list above

Networking Reception
12:50 PM – 2:00 PM
Join the panelists for hors d’oeuvres and networking.

Making It in the Arts

ART // DANCE // LITERATURE // MUSIC // THEATER

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Stuart Pimsler Dance

Remix 2014
A one day conference exploring career paths in the fine arts.

Panel include topics on:
• Managing Your Art
• Using New Technology
• Reshaping Your Work
• The Creative Process

Buntrock Commons, St. Olaf College
Saturday // Oct. 25 // 2014
8:30AM-3PM // Registration & Information at Pages.stolaf.edu/miita