



ECONOMICS

Students and faculty explore new ideas and conduct innovative research both inside and outside the classroom

Michigan Economics embraces a vision of economics that is both applied and empirical—combining rigorous theory, careful statistical analysis, and newly collected data to bring economics to “the real world.” Our faculty members routinely testify in front of Congressional committees, comment in the international media, and provide economic forecasts to the State of Michigan and the federal government. Michigan Economics provides undergraduate and graduate students in the department with a thorough grounding in state-of-the-art methods of economic analysis.

An undergraduate economics education at U-M provides a solid background because it engages so many important issues and develops a rigorous, analytical way of thinking that employers value greatly. Undergraduates majoring in economics pursue careers in business, government, teaching, and service, as well as advanced/professional degrees at leading institutions. Economics is the largest major in LSA, and it is anticipated that our number will continue to grow.

The economics department has two large graduate programs. Our Ph.D. students are central to the department’s research and teaching missions, and our placement record is strong. Virtually every student leaving Michigan with a Ph.D. is employed as a professional economist in academics, policy institutions, or the private sector. Our Masters in Applied Economics Program is similarly thriving with its graduates typically going on to careers in banking, business, and governments worldwide.

In order to strengthen Michigan Economics and maintain its academic renown, the department must secure resources to leverage the university’s strengths in the social sciences that will enable it to broaden and deepen its expertise in critical areas such as econometric theory and macroeconomic markets. Gifts for faculty research, and cutting-edge technology also serve to strengthen both graduate and undergraduate programs by advancing our commitment to prepare the future leaders for the nation and the world. Many alumni regularly return to campus to discuss their experiences with our students and support our activities through financial contributions.

ECONOMICS STRATEGIC FUND

The Economics Strategic Fund provides the department with a powerful source of discretionary support to address urgent needs and maximize opportunities. In recent years, gifts to the Strategic Fund have allowed us to recruit and retain outstanding faculty, fund graduate students traveling abroad to conduct research, support career and mentoring events hosted by undergraduates in the Michigan Economics Students (MES) organization, and recognize Honors students for exceptional academic achievement in economics. Your gift of any size will have a direct impact on the lives of students and faculty.



JIM ADAMS UNDERGRADUATE EXCELLENCE FUND

William James Adams is the Shorey Peterson Professor in Industrial Organization and Arthur F. Thurnau Professor of Economics. His research has ranged broadly, from public policies toward business in the United States to economic integration in Europe, and he has won numerous prizes for his teaching including the Amoco Foundation Award and Gold Apple Award. Thousands of students have been in courses taught by Professor Adams. Gifts of all sizes to this fund celebrate his legacy and promote excellence in undergraduate teaching, education, and program administration.

“I want to understand how the world works, and human behavior and why people make decisions. Economics provides a model that simplifies those very complex problems.”

–Vail Hartman, A.B. ’21

FACULTY SUPPORT FUNDING

Our commitment to provide a world-class education requires a world-class faculty. Faculty research funding enables us to attract, retain, and recognize our superb faculty, key to the department’s academic leadership and our students’ successes. Endowed gifts of \$250,000 – \$1M will fund ongoing support for one or more faculty members. Annual gifts are also welcome in any amount; a gift of \$1000 could provide a faculty member with access to a data set or cover travel expenses related to their research and professional development. A gift of \$25,000 would enable a faculty member to hire part-time research assistance for a semester.

SEMINAR SERIES

Presentations by visiting scholars are vital to the intellectual life of the department. Lectures and seminars expose students to the world's leading economists and promote intellectual exchange at the faculty level. Individuals who wish to support these offerings with gifts of \$15,000 per seminar may specify a particular area of interest, such as industrial organization, econometrics, public finance, international economics, and other topics.

FOSTER LIBRARY FUND

The Department's Foster Library advances the research activities of students and faculty, serving as a space for study and the exchange of ideas. The department relies on \$40,000 of funding annually to maintain the library's electronic resources as well as ongoing costs related to the space's maintenance. A gift of \$2,000 could provide updated computing resources for department use, and \$500 could support annual research software renewal expenses.

WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will enable the best and brightest minds to experience a liberal arts education, solve problems in a changing world, and yield ideas and innovations that will make a difference in Michigan and around the globe.

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