

Graduate Connection

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News

Edward C. Prescott

The Department is pleased to welcome Professor **Edward C. Prescott** of the University of Minnesota as the recipient of the Erwin Plein Nemmers Prize in Economics. The biannual honor is bestowed on an outstanding economist who has yet to win the Nobel Prize. Professor Prescott is widely published in many aspects of macroeconomics. He will be in residence from April 1 to May 30, and will be using Andersen 3233 (1-8212). Information on his Nemmers Prize lecture can be found in the "events" section.

Prescott is the fifth winner of the prize. Previous winners are Peter Diamond, Thomas Sargent, Robert Aumann and Daniel McFadden

Other Visitors

The Department is fortunate to have four leading economists in international and development economics visiting us during the spring quarter. Each of them will be visiting for two weeks, during which they will be giving a series of lectures. Full details are given in the teaching section. The visitors in the spring quarter are: **Jonathan Eaton** of New York University (weeks of March 31 and May 26), **Fabrizio Zilibotti** of University College London (weeks of April 7 and April 14), **Abhijit Banerjee** of MIT (weeks of April 28 and May 5), and **Fabrizio Perri** of New York University (weeks of May 12 and May 19).

The Center for the Study of Industrial Organization welcomes **Marc Rysman** of Boston University from May 9 to June 13.

Placement Report

Robert Gordon, Director of Graduate Placement, reports that the job market in economics continues to be strong. All of our candidates had plenty of interviews, typically 20 to 30, and numerous fly-outs. All had accepted offers by mid-March, and our collective unemployment rate is zero.

However, there were differences between this year and the last several years. The number of our students on the market was much smaller than usual, especially compared with last year when the number was unusually large. This reflects the coincidental timing of student decisions about when to enter the job market. Students of a given quality did not do as well in the top ten or 15 economics departments; these economics departments did not seem to be hiring as much as before. Thus, while students received jobs, their ultimate placement in some cases was lower than their initial aspirations. Seven of the nine students accepted academic offers and two in the private sector. This is a somewhat higher percentage of academic placements than in the last few years. The placements are:

- Jeffrey Ballou** - Northeastern University
- Levon Barseghyan** - Cornell University
- David Barth** - Bates White Ballentine
- Mauricio Drelichman** - University of British Columbia
- Maria Gonzalez** - Pompeu i Fabra, Spain
- Francesca Molinari** - Cornell University
- Hugo Nopo** - Middlebury College
- Antonio da Silva** - Lehman Brothers
- Randall Watson** - University of Texas, Austin

Ethel M. King

Ethel McKay King, our Department Assistant since 1992, will be leaving the Department to pursue new interests on the East Coast. She will be leaving on March

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26. Her leadership has guided the Department though many changes over the past decade. Her efforts were recognized by the awarding by the University of the "Employee of the Year" for the Evanston Campus in 2002. She will be missed by all of us. The Department has started the search process to find a replacement.

Building Address

Within the past few months the University and the City of Evanston have agreed that a unified number - 2001 Sheridan Road - applies to the building complex we are in. However, there should be no hurry to change your address for subscriptions, memberships etc., as 2003 will continue to widely used both internally and externally for years.

As to the building name, the entire complex is called the Jacobs Center, but the Andersen and Leverone Halls names are not going away. We have taken the decision to continue to use Andersen Hall as the designation for internal university matters.

Congratulations

Congratulations to: **Jeffrey Ely** on being selected as an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow; and **Joel Mokyr** who serves as the 2002-03 President of the Economic History Association.

Hugo Nopo and his co-authors received a first-place award for their work on the economics of social exclusion in Peru from the Global Development Network at their January annual meeting in Cairo.

Sandy Shaver earning a second Service Excellence Award from the University in recognition of her outstanding attitude and service excellence in our main office.

The past three months have seen a bumper crop of new additions to the Economics family. **Charles Zheng** and his wife welcomed a daughter on December 12, the **Olszewski's** a second son on December 16, and the **Ely's** a second daughter on February 10.

Events

Open Day

The annual Open Day for prospective PhD students will be held on April 4. Graduate students who would like to assist in welcoming prospective students should contract Professor Wolinsky. The day will culminate in a reception to which all the graduate students and faculty are invited.

Nemmer Prize Lecture

Edward C. Prescott will be presenting his Nemmers Prize lecture on Monday April 28 at 3:30pm at the Allen Center. The lecture will be followed by a reception honoring Professor Prescott.

Job Market Orientation

Students who are thinking about going on the market next year should attend an introductory meeting scheduled for 5pm on Monday, May 5 in Andersen 3245. **Professor Gordon**, the Director of Graduate Placement, will provide an orientation for those considering going on the market in the fall. However, any student in the third year and beyond who are curious about the job market process are welcome.

Department Wide Seminar

The next distinguished visitor in our Department-wide seminar series is **Richard Blundell** from University College, London. He will be visiting and giving two talks on Tuesday, May 6 and Thursday, May 8. Both are scheduled from 3:30 to 5pm. His research deals with the microeconomics of households & firms, consumer behavior, and public finance.

Schwartz Lecture

The annual lecture series organized by the Kellogg School of Management to honor the late Nancy Schwartz will be at 4:30pm on Wednesday, May 7. This year's

lecturer is **Bengt Holmstrom** from the Sloan School of Management at MIT. His research deals with the economic theory of organization, especially contracting and incentives.

Field Course Meeting

An orientation session for students entering their second year will be held on Friday September 19 from 1pm to 4pm in Andersen 3245. The session will discuss the 501 requirement, funding criteria, and include presentations on each of the field course sequences that you can take in both the Economics Department and KSM. Prospective second year students who also expect to be Teaching Assistants will need to return to Evanston earlier that week for mandatory training (see Formal Announcements section).

Teaching

Next Year's Course Schedule

We are still working on the teaching schedule for next year. The schedule of courses will be posted on our website at the start of Spring Quarter.

Time Conflicts in Spring Quarter

The Department apologizes that due a combination of events, the number of course offerings has not been as balanced across quarters as it should be. As a result we have ended up with some time conflicts for some students. We are actively working to find ways to reduce the conflicts between Economics 420-1 and 498-2, and between 450-3 and 483. Look for e-mail announcements.

This Quarter's Course Descriptions

The Department has a policy to avoid excessive awarding of incomplete grades. Please see our web site for a complete statement. Report any problems to the Director of Graduate Studies.

Economics 412-3

Economics Theory and Methods

Professor Chung

MW 11-1

AAH 3204

This is an introduction to implementation theory. Topics will include: (1) the common driving force behind impossibility theorems; (2) possibility theorems using non-direct-breaking solution concepts; (3) possibility theorems using domain restrictions; (4) robust mechanism design; and (5) message games vs. button games. Evaluation will be by means of an in-class presentation.

Economics 414-3

Economics of Information

Professor Pavan

TTh 7-8:30pm

AAH 3245

The course addresses some important contributions to the theory of contracts and incentives in organizations. Topics include (1) static and dynamic principal-agent(s) models; (2) multiple bilateral relationships; (3) property rights, renegotiation, hold-up and incomplete contracts; (4) financial contracting; and (5) organization theory: vertical integration, hierarchies, authority, career concerns, delegation, relational contracts. Evaluation will be based on problem sets, and possibly a final (take home) exam.

Economics 415-2

Advanced Microeconomics

Professor Reiter

MW 11-1

ANN G28

This course will present new material from a book on mechanism design. The book deals with a systematic method for designing decentralized, informationally efficient mechanisms whose outcomes match those specified by a goal function. Given a set of environments and a goal function the systematic procedure--an algorithm--produces one or more mechanisms. We will consider in detail concepts of informational efficiency,

Mechanisms constructed by the algorithm can be the basis for designing incentive compatible mechanisms. We will read two chapters from the book, and work through some examples. Evaluation will be based on class performance and homework.

Economics 416-2

Advanced Macroeconomics

Professor Nagypál

MW 9-11

AAH 3245

The second quarter of the macroeconomics sequence will emphasize two important departures from the frictionless macroeconomics models studied during the first year. In the first part of the course, we will study search frictions and their role in enhancing our understanding of macroeconomic phenomena, such as unemployment and business cycles. In the second part, we will study models with incomplete markets and the provision of optimal social insurance in the presence of such markets. The credibility and time-consistency of government policies will be emphasized. Evaluation will be based on problem sets (some of which will require the use of Matlab, Gauss, or a similar software), and a final exam.

Economics 420-1

American Economic History

Professor Ferrie

TTh 9-11

AAH 3204

Examines the development of the American economy from colonial times to the present, with an emphasis on climetric research and the evolution of markets and institutions. Topic include: the growth and integration of labor, capital, and product markets, technological change, the evolution of the role of government, and long-run patterns in macroeconomic stability and distribution. Students participate in detailed discussions of previous research each week, and complete a substantial empirical research paper (due a year after the course). There is no

textbook; a course packet of required readings will be available for purchase.

Economics 440-2

Economics of the Labor Market

Professor Mortensen

MW 11-1

AAH 3245

The goal of the second half of the labor sequence is to integrate theory and empirical work in labor economics with emphasis on wage and employment determination. The topic coverage will include bilateral bargaining and monopsony models of wage determination, wage dispersion, the effects and role of labor turnover, unemployment duration and incidence, and the flows approach to the analysis of labor market equilibrium. The two focal points of interest are high unemployment in Europe and wage dispersion in the US. These issues are viewed within the context of a general search and matching labor market equilibrium framework. Empirical content will emphasize studies based on worker unemployment and job duration data and matched worker-employer panel data.

The course will require an understanding of dynamic optimization techniques and stochastic process theory at the level of Stokey and Lucas', *Recursive Methods in Economic Dynamics* (Harvard University Press, 1989). The course grade will be based on problem sets and a final paper. A reading packet will be available in the Department office.

Economics 450-3

Industrial Organization and Prices

Professor Whinston

TTh 2-3:30

HRS 310

The third quarter in the graduate industrial organization sequence will cover antitrust, vertical contracting, research and development, network externalities, and computational models of dynamic oligopoly.

Economics 481-3

Econometrics

Professor Matzkin

MW 1-3

AAH 3245

The course deals with semiparametric and nonparametric methods for estimating popular microeconomic models. The models studied include qualitative response models, tobit models, duration models, simultaneous equations models, and panel data models. Evaluation is by several problemsets and a paper. Reading List: *Nonparametric Econometrics* by Pagan and Ullah and selected papers.

Economic 482

Econometrics: Time-Series Methods

Professor Spady

MW 7-8:30pm

AAH 3245

This course will cover the main topics of time series analysis, including ARIMA, vector autoregressions, nonstationarity, long memory processes, cointegration, and factor analysis. The goal of the course is to provide a working knowledge of the application of state of the art techniques while providing insight into contemporary theoretical work. The applications and illustrations will be drawn mostly from financial economics, with some macro examples. The textbooks will be Gourieroux and Jasiak's *Financial Econometrics* and James Hamilton's *Time Series Analysis*. Evaluation will be based on three or four homework projects, and a limited time final project. For the most part, these projects will apply the techniques developed in the course to a single body of data on recent daily behavior of 100 or so financial assets. Throughout, the emphasis is on practical application grounded in an understanding of the basic theory.

Economics 483

Econometrics: Cross-Sectional Methods

Professor Hu

TTh 1-3

AAH 3245

The purpose of this course is to prepare the students for doing applied work using cross-sectional or panel data. It will cover many commonly used techniques that are available in the "micro-econometrics" literature. Topics include M-estimator, GMM, and standard error correction; quantile regression; discrete choice models; censored regression and sample selection models; duration models; linear and nonlinear panel data models. Special attention will be given to some practical issues in applying these techniques.

Evaluation will be based on problemsets and a paper or presentation. There is no single required text; most of the reading material will be taken from journals and books.

Economics 498-2

Advanced Topics

Professor Austen-Smith

TTh 9-11

AAH 3245

An introduction to social choice and positive political economy. The first third or so of the course provides an overview of the general theory of preference aggregation, voting and legislative bargaining. The remainder of the course looks at topics in the political economy of redistribution, comparative institutions and information aggregation. Evaluation is by several problem sets and a final exam. There is no required text (although Austen-Smith and Banks, *Positive Political Theory: Collective Preference*, Univ of Michigan Press 1999, should be useful for some of the first part of the course). Selected readings assigned as appropriate, with an emphasis on contemporary research in the field.

Economics 499

Independent Study

Professor Matsuyama

TTh 11-1

AAH 3245

The Department will be hosting a lecture series in International Trade and Development Economics in the winter and Spring Quarters. Graduate students can take this lecture series for credit by enrolling for an Independent Study with Professor Matsuyama in the Spring Quarter. This Independent Study can be combined with Economics 425-1 to satisfy a field requirement.

Besides attending the lectures, students must also write a short summary of the research presented by all five speakers (about 2x5 = 10 pages), and prepare a research proposal (of five to ten pages) on a related topic.

The lecture series will consist of five speakers. Each of them will stay for two weeks, and give six hours of presentation. John McLaren (University of Virginia) visited during the winter quarter. For the spring quarter the speakers are: Jonathan Eaton (New York University, for the weeks of March 31 and May 26), Fabrizio Zilibotti (University College London, for the weeks of April 7 and April 14), Abhijit Banerjee (MIT, for the weeks of April 28 and May 5), and Fabrizio Perri (New York University, for the weeks of May 12 and May 19). In addition to students registered for Economics 499, faculty and auditing students are welcome to attend the lecture series.

MGR ES 460-3

Foundations of Management Economics

Professor Sandroni

T 12:30-3:30

LEV 561

The course will cover the following chapters in Mas-Colell, Whinston and Green, *Microeconomic Theory* (Oxford University Press, 1995). Chapters are 7, 8 and 9 (Basic elements of Noncooperative Games, Simultaneous-Move Games, and Dynamic Games, respectively), followed by chapters 12, 13, and 14 (Market Power,

Adverse Selection, Signaling and Screening, and The Principal-Agent Problem), then chapters 21 and 22 (Social Choice Theory and Elements of Welfare and Axiomatic Bargaining). If time permits, chapter 25 (Incentives and Mechanism Design) will be covered. Evaluation will be by problem sets, a midterm and a final exam.

MGR ES 462

Decision Theory
 Professor Yeltekin
 Th 3-6

LEV 561

The course will focus mainly on axiomatic theories of individual decision making under risk and uncertainty. First the course will briefly explore utility theory under certainty and the notion of preferences and their representation. Then we will study in detail the classic theories of decision under risk and uncertainty. This will take roughly half the course and constitutes a basic grounding in the subject. From here we will explore a selection of topics that expand on the classical work in various directions and are nearer to the current research frontier. These topics may include: (1) Allais' Paradox, Prospect Theory, Machina's approach; (2) Ellsberg's paradox, uncertainty and ambiguity attitude; (3) Dynamic, Bayesian updating, dynamic consistency, preferences over the timing of the resolution of risk/uncertainty; (4) Notions of belief and probability in decision making; (5) finite-state models. The course will be part lecture, part prepared presentations by students, and discussion by everyone throughout. Evaluation will be problem sets and in-class presentation. The required text is *Notes on the Theory of Choice* by David Kreps (Westview Press) and a number of selected papers and working papers.

MGR ES 520

Applications Seminar in Strategy
 Professor Israel
 W 1:30-3 +

In order to gain exposure to current research, students will read and discuss papers presented by visitors to the Spring Quarter Management & Strategy seminar. The speakers will present working papers on various applied economics/strategy topics, both empirical and theoretical. Class will meet prior to each seminar (at a mutually agreeable time), during which time there will be a discussion of the paper. Students will lead each discussion, with each weeks discussion leader selected on a volunteer basis. Class discussion will highlight some aspects of the research process, as well as the content of the papers presented.

Course requirements are threefold: (1) attend each class discussion, (2) lead at least one discussion, and (3) attend the Management & Strategy seminar, which meets Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3pm. The class will meet during the week of March 31 at a time to be arranged by email to set up the detailed logistics of the class.

Finance 485

Introduction to Finance
 Professor Skiadas
 F 3-6

AAH 4214

This is a special one-time-only edition of Finance 485 course for students that have already taken Finance 485 in the past. The course will start with static asset pricing theory under symmetric and asymmetric information, and will continue with discrete and continuous time arbitrage and equilibrium asset pricing and portfolio selection theory.

Finance 520

Aggregate Implications of Financial Contracting
 Professors Krishnamurthy and Rampini
 W 3:30-5, F 10:15-12

AAH 430

This course is a second year graduate topics course in financial economics. The course studies the equilibrium implications of endogenous financial contracts. Static and dynamic models of economies with contracting frictions (e.g., imperfect information and limited enforceability) and optimally determined financial contracts are covered and the implications for both quantities and prices are considered. The course is thus at the intersection of corporate finance/contract theory and asset pricing/macro-economics. Specific topics covered include the dynamics of agency costs, financial intermediation, liquidity, collateral, default, and non-exclusive contracts.

A prerequisite is a familiarity with macroeconomics and either corporate finance/asset pricing or contract theory / information economics. Evaluation will be by several problem sets/referee reports and a final exam. The reading list includes selected articles, and a required textbook: Ljungqvist and Sargent (2000) *Recursive Macroeconomic Theory* (MIT Press).

Economics 501 Seminar

The seminar will meet on Tuesdays and Wednesdays during the Spring Quarter at 5:10PM in the Seminar Room (Andersen 3245). There will be one presentation and the seminar will last for fifty minutes including the question-and-answer period. Full practical details for the seminar are posted on our web site.

The schedule for the Spring Quarter was shown in the previous *Graduate Connection* and is repeated below: Pareto-improving exchanges are permissible, and should be communicated to Professor Barlevy.

Week of	Tuesday	Wednesday
3/31	Braun	Hohaus
4/7	Ponomarev a	Pavlov
4/14	Stoye	Lucca
4/21	Croker	Nakamura
4/28	Burykina	Goltsman
5/5	Dept Wide Seminar	Schwartz Lecture
5/12	Peski	Gagnon
5/19	Orlov	Chandra
5/26	Collard-Wexler	Rungruxsiri-vorn
6/2	Mukherjee	Menzio

Second years students may wish to attend some of the spring seminars in order to get some idea of expectations for field papers.

2003-04 Quarter Dates

Fall: Wed Sept 24 - Fri Dec 12
 Winter: Mon Jan 5 - Fri March 19
 Spring: Mon March 29 - Fri June 11

Formal Announcements

Funding Guidelines

The Department has formal rules for the allocation of funding for students in years two through five. This document is posted on our web site. Please read this document as *the Department strictly enforces these funding criteria.*

The cut off date for meeting the requirements for funding is July 31. In summary, funding requirements are:

Second Year: Passed two or more prelims at the June sitting and have passed the TSE test. (Details on rules for those who pass zero or one prelim in June are

posted on the web site.)

Third Year: Completed all prelims, and submitted an approved field paper.

Fourth Year: Admitted to doctoral candidacy (includes completing course work and two field papers)

Fifth Year: Conditional funding if committee chair certifies that you will be on the job market.

Preliminary Examinations

The Department has rules on the number of times that students are allowed to take prelim examinations, and the conditions for such retaking. These effect whether some second and third year students will be allowed to continue in the program. The rules are posted on our web site. Please make sure that you are familiar with them.

One important implication is that each time the examinations are offered counts as an “attempt” irrespective of whether you attend. All first year students should make sure they are available to attend the September sitting, should that be necessary.

Dates for future prelim examinations have been set. The ordering of the three examinations will rotate each year. For the coming summer, the dates are:

Spring 2003 Sitting

Wed June 18 Econometrics
 Wed June 25 Microeconomics
 Wed July 2 Macroeconomics
 All examinations will be held 1pm - 4pm.

Fall 2003 Sitting

Tues Sept 2 Econometrics
 Wed Sept 3 Microeconomics
 Fri Sept 5 Macroeconomics
 All examinations will be held 1pm - 4pm.

Admission to Doctoral Candidacy

The Department has clarified the procedures for admission to doctoral candidacy. Full details are on our web

page in the section on goals for second and third year students. In summary, candidacy is a two-step process. The candidate initiates the process by completing the Graduate School form *Recommendation for Ph.D. Qualifying Examination Committee*. This form lists the proposed date for the qualifying exam and the recommended committee. The form is countersigned by the Department Chair and submitted to the Graduate School.

The Chair's signature verifies that the student has completed his or her course work. To allow the Chair to quickly make this verification, the student will need to supply some straight forward information on preliminary examinations, major and minor fields and economic history requirement on a simple two-page form obtainable from the Graduate Secretary's office or on-line. This form along with a copy of the student's transcript should accompany the Graduate School's form when it is submitted to the Department for signing.

When the Graduate School receives this signed form, it generates a personalized three-page form, which is signed by the candidate's committee on the day of the qualifying exam. This latter form authorizes the Graduate School to admit you to Doctoral Candidacy.

TA Periods in Residence

Each quarter that you are a TA, you must be in Evanston from the first day of classes until the Monday after examinations end (which is the day that grades are filed). In the past people have left early and arrived back late, in some cases without informing the instructor. The Department will not tolerate this. You must arrange your vacation airline flights so as to be able to fulfill your duties. Failure to do so will be grounds for rescinding your TAship. For the remainder of this year the dates for which you must be in attendance are:

Winter: until Mon March 24
 Spring: Mon March 31 - Mon June 16

Attention Next Year's T.A.s

If you expect to be a T.A. next fall you need to be aware of the following arrangements:

TA Preference Forms The forms that allow T.A.s to indicate their preferences for classes will be placed in your mailbox in the main office during the week of September 8. Completed forms have to be returned by September 19. Unfortunately, the allocation can only be announced at 4pm on Tuesday September 23 because we do not know enrollment in 201 and 202 until enrollment closes that afternoon. Classes start the following day.

New TA Training The University runs a half-day training session for new T.A.s. The exact date for this has not been set, but based on past experience it will most likely be held on the morning of Wednesday September 17th, which is during the week before classes start. The Department regards your attendance as mandatory. If you believe that you will be serving as a T.A. for the first time next year, please arrange your schedules so that you are available in Evanston on that date.

Next Holiday Season All T.A.s will have to be in Evanston until Monday lunchtime on December 15 to complete grading duties. If you are making holiday travel arrangements, please ensure that you remain in Evanston until this date. In addition you will need to be back in Evanston by Sunday night, January 4 for the start of winter classes.

Office Allocations

The Department has space to provide carrel accommodations for 58 graduate students. Typically about 65-70 post-first year students seek accommodations. Therefore some rationing is needed. Allocations for next year are based on long-standing priorities:

1. Departmental Lecturers
2. Research Assistants

3. Holders of distinguished dissertation fellowships from NU or elsewhere

4. Teaching Assistants

5. School of Continuing Studies Lecturers

Other advanced graduate students will be accommodated where space permits. This does mean that some incumbents who will not fall into the above categories next year may be evicted.

It is clearly in the interests of those students receiving Research Assistantships or Dissertation Fellowships to inform Ian Savage and Joe Ferrie. The new space allocations will be announced about Labor Day, and people move in and out between then and the start of classes.

If you are leaving us this summer, please return your keys to the Graduate Secretary when you depart, and leave us a forwarding address.

Graduate School Deadlines

April 4 for filing the *Application for Admission to Candidacy* at the Graduate School to receive a Master's Degree in June.

April 4 for submitting the *Application for a Degree* to permit you to participate in the June Commencement ceremony and receive your diploma.

May 9 for submission of completed dissertation and all supporting materials to the Graduate School to receive a Ph.D. degree in June.

May 16 for students expecting a Master's degree in June to turn in a *Final Examination Report* and any *Change of Grade* forms for 499 Projects or 590 Research.

September 30 for students to be admitted to candidacy for the start of the fall quarter. Admittance after this date means that you will pay medium rate tuition for both the fall and the subsequent three quarters.

Commencement arrangements

Commencement will be held on Friday evening June 20 at Ryan Field (a.k.a. Dyche Stadium). Late in April students expecting to graduate in June will receive an order form for academic costume from the E.R. Moore Company and a pamphlet providing information about Commencement, including ticket information and an invitation to the Graduate School Reception.

Funding Opportunities

Funding Web Page

The web page listing non-departmental sources of funding has been updated. You can connect to it from the page giving information for current graduate students. There is also information on how to obtain funds for research expenses and attending conferences. The maximum one-time research grant is \$1,500, and there is funding for up to two conferences a year that covers 2/3 of the cost up to a maximum of \$1,000. Full details of the application procedures and links to application forms are on the web page.

Transportation Dissertation Awards

The Transportation Center offers a stipend plus 503 tuition DYF to eligible students who are in the final twelve months of their thesis research. Research in the area of transportation, broadly defined, and public utilities is eligible. Applications, including letters of support from your faculty advisor, are due at the Transportation Center by March 31. For further details talk to Ian Savage. Information is also available on the funding web page.

Research assistantships

Many faculty members hold research grants that permit advanced graduate students to be hired as research assistants. The usual process by which these positions are filled is informal contact between graduate students and the faculty member.

The Director of Graduate Studies does not normally act as a clearing-house for these positions. However, he would like to be informed when an appointment is made, as it will help him when allocating departmental support.

Summer jobs

Summer research assistant positions are often available from individual faculty with research funding. There is no Departmental assignment of these positions. The best way to go about obtaining such a job is to advertise! Prepare a *one-page* resume introducing yourself to faculty, emphasizing the *useful skills* (computer experience, etc.) you have. Distribute these resumes in faculty mailboxes toward the end of Spring Quarter. Be sure to include faculty in the KSM departments of MEDS, Finance, and Management and Strategy in your mailing. Kellogg faculty are often long in research funding and short on students to spend it upon.

Notes

Personal copy accounts

Graduate students can obtain a personal account on our copy machines. You will be billed at the end of each month at 5¢ a copy. To obtain an account please send an e-mail to the Assistant Chair <ipsavage@northwestern.edu> with your name and a 5-digit number to be used as your personal access code (the number must not start with a 0).

Photocopiers

The leases on our existing copiers expire at the end of March. During the early part of Spring Break week, both machines will be replaced by new digital machines. Digital machines only have to scan originals once, unlike our analog machines which require multiple feeding through the document feeder.

Current plans are for the large and small machines to be replaced by two middle sized machines. While the copying rate on these machines is technically slower than the Xerox machine, in practice they will be faster because the speed of the current Xerox machine is limited by the speed of the document feeder. In addition, the machines will be wired together, so that large jobs can be scanned in on one machine but produce copies simultaneously on both.

More practical details will be available when the machines are installed. You can continue to use your existing access

codes.

Web Site

The redesigned Department's website should debut within the next few weeks. The URL and the content will not change, but the graphics and navigation will be improved.

Prospective Students

The first round admission decisions are now complete. Graduate student can help improve our program by actively helping in the recruitment of prospective students.

First, on Friday, April 4, we will have an open day. Current students can help by coming to meet the prospective students, and let them know the greatness of our program.

Second, we need some students to contact prospective students in the later part of March and April. Third, we need volunteers to assist incoming students over the summer by informally answering their questions as they prepare to move to Evanston.

If you wish to help with any of these activities, please contact Prof. Asher Wolinsky. We will then provide you with the relevant contact information.

Next Graduate Connection

Volume 9, number 1 will be published in the week of September 8.
