

Symposium on Economics Teaching

A different kind of conference put on
by a different kind of journal.

July 29th— July 31st

West Lafayette, IN

Purdue University



JournalOfEconomicsTeaching.com

#JETSET26



Plenary Speakers



WEDNESDAY
5:45 PM

WAILIN WONG
NPR'S PLANET MONEY

WHAT F1 TEACHES US ABOUT ECONOMIC STORYTELLING

The journalists behind NPR's economics podcasts, Planet Money and The Indicator, have refined the craft of demystifying economic concepts for a mass audience—and having fun along the way. Indicator co-host Wailin Wong goes behind the scenes of the shows and the new Planet Money book to highlight the storytelling methods behind the hijinks. She'll link these techniques to well-known films and show how they can be used to explain wonky subjects to curious audiences.



THURSDAY
8:30 AM

DOUG MCKEE
CORNELL UNIVERSITY

THE POWER OF PEERS

Instructor time is the ultimate constrained resource, and as students increasingly turn to artificial intelligence for support, the human attention they do receive becomes more valuable than ever. Doug McKee shares his experience structuring classes so students teach, support, and inspire each other through two-stage exams, think-pair-share, peer feedback, study buddies, and free-rider-resistant group projects. Attendees will leave with concrete peer instruction strategies adaptable to any class size, in person or online.

Acknowledgements

We are grateful to the following individuals for their work managing the journal and bringing this symposium to life:

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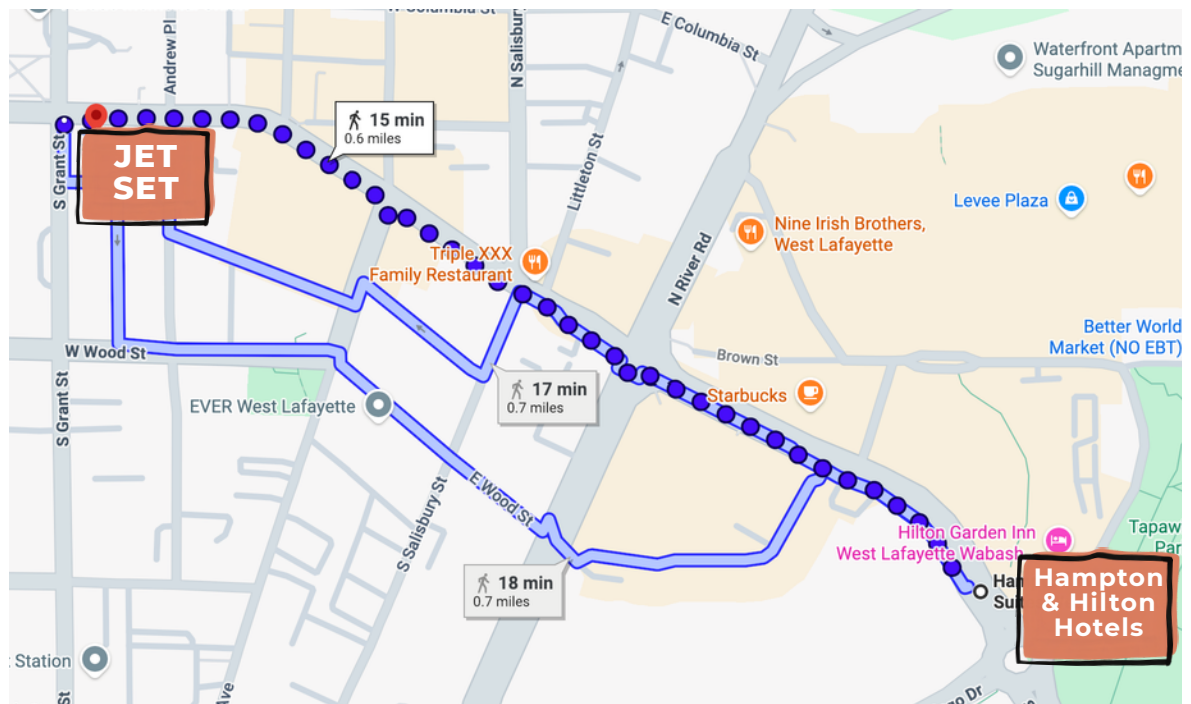
Scott Wolla (Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis)

West Lafayette & Purdue University

JET SET 2026 is held in West Lafayette, Indiana, on the campus of Purdue University. Take some time to explore campus and check out the Purdue Mall, Engineering Fountain, and the Bell Tower. When you're ready to eat, you'll find plenty of local spots along Wabash Landing.



All organized sessions will be held at Purdue University's Rawls Hall, just a short walk from the two main conference hotels.



West Lafayette Dining Recommendations

JET SET Ambassadors have committed to leading groups of interested parties to some of their favorite nearby locations. Most are within a 15-minute walk of the conference location. We also have a list of dining recommendations from Purdue faculty and staff available at the registration desk.

If you'd like to join a JET SET Ambassador for a meal, they have agreed to go to the following locations during meal breaks:

	Wednesday Dinner	Thursday Lunch	Friday Lunch
Melanie Fox	The Lawrence	Mad Mushroom	Taste of India
Tim Dye	Nine Irish Brothers	Triple XXX	Fiesta Mexican Grill
Jadrian Wooten	The Tap	AJ's	Not available
Mary Clare Peate	Boomerangs	Sakanaya	Not available

West Lafayette Happenings

Most people know West Lafayette as the home of the Purdue Boilermakers, but the campus itself is worth exploring beyond the football stadium. Take a walking tour of lesser-known landmarks, from the Degas Collection in the Purdue Memorial Union to the many art installations scattered across campus.

For an off-campus excursion, nature and history lovers can visit Tippecanoe Battlefield, a national historic landmark, or Wolf Park, a nonprofit dedicated to wolf research and conservation. Both are connected by the scenic Wabash Heritage Trail.

Schedule of Events

JULY 29 (MARRIOTT HALL)

- 4:00 PM REGISTRATION DESK OPENS
- 5:00 PM RECEPTION & HORS D'OEUVRES
- 5:30 PM OPENING REMARKS
- 5:45 PM KEYNOTE BY WAILIN WONG (NPR)

JULY 30 (RAWLS HALL)

- 7:45 AM LIGHT BREAKFAST & REFRESHMENTS
- 8:15 AM WELCOME TO JET SET 2026!
- 8:30 AM KEYNOTE BY DOUG MCKEE (CORNELL)
- 9:30 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK #1
- 10:45 AM REFRESHMENT BREAK
- 11:05 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK #2
- 12:20 PM LUNCH ON YOUR OWN
- 2:20 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK #3
- 3:35 PM REFRESHMENT BREAK
- 3:55 PM CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK #4
- 5:30 PM RECEPTION AT HARRY'S CHOCOLATE SHOP
SPONSORED BY THE JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS TEACHING
- 7:15 PM DINNER ON YOUR OWN

JULY 31 (RAWLS HALL)

- 6:00 AM JET SET 10K (OR LESS)
- 8:00 AM DONUTS WITH THE EDITORS
- 9:00 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK #5
- 10:15 AM REFRESHMENT BREAK
- 10:30 AM CONCURRENT SESSIONS BLOCK #6
- 12:00 PM CLOSING REMARKS
- 12:15 PM LUNCH ON YOUR OWN
- 3:00 PM MALIBU JACK'S INDOOR FUN PARK
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Wednesday July 29

4:00 PM, Registration desk opens (Marriott Hall Atrium, 1st Floor)

Paid parking is available nearby at the University Street Parking Garage.

5:00 PM, Reception (Marriott Hall Atrium, 1st Floor)

Welcome reception sponsored by the *Journal of Economics Teaching* advisory board, board of directors, and editorial board.

5:30 PM, Opening remarks (Marriott Hall #101, John Purdue Room)

Welcome to JET SET 2026! – Tim Dye (Perry Meridian High School) and Melanie Fox (Purdue University)

5:45 PM, Reception keynote (Marriott Hall #101, John Purdue Room)

Wailin Wong (NPR's Planet Money): What F1 (the Movie) Teaches Us About Economic Storytelling

6:30 PM, JET SET reminders & logistics (Marriott Hall #101, John Purdue Room)

Melanie Fox (Purdue University)

6:45 PM, Dinner on your own

JET SET Ambassadors will meet at the entrance of the Marriott Hall to lead a group of interested attendees to various dining locations near the reception site. We have also collected local dining recommendations from faculty and staff if you want to dine on your own. You can find a copy at the registration desk.

CONNECT WITH JET

Sharing your conference experience on social media, using the hashtag #JETSET26 and connect with us online at:

Twitter/X: @EconTeaching

Facebook: @EconomicsTeaching

LinkedIn: Journal of Economics Teaching



WIFI INFORMATION

Purdue's campus is covered by AT&T WiFi, a free connection available to all attendees that requires no credentials. If you need any assistance, stop by the registration desk, and we'll be happy to help.

Thursday, July 30

7:30 AM – 4:45 PM, Registration desk opens (Rawls #3011, Third Floor Atrium)

7:45 AM – 8:15 AM, Continental breakfast (Rawls #3011, Third Floor Atrium)

Light breakfast fare and refreshments will be available.

8:15 AM, Opening remarks (Rawls #1086)

Welcome and JET Awards by Megan Kirts (Econiful)

8:30 AM, Opening keynote (Rawls #1086)

Doug McKee (Cornell University): The Power of Peers

9:15 AM – 9:30 AM, Refreshment break (Rawls #3011, Third Floor Atrium)

9:30 AM – 10:45 AM, Concurrent Sessions Block #1

10:45 AM – 11:05 AM, Refreshment break (Rawls #3011, Third Floor Atrium)

11:05 AM – 12:20 PM, Concurrent Sessions Block #2

12:20 PM – 2:20 PM, Lunch on your own

JET SET Ambassadors are available at the start of the break to lead interested attendees to their favorite lunch spots nearby.

2:20 PM – 3:35 PM, Concurrent Sessions Block #3

3:35 PM – 3:55 PM, Refreshment break (Rawls #3011, Third Floor Atrium)

3:55 PM – 5:10 PM, Concurrent Sessions Block #4

5:30 PM – 7:15 PM, Happy Hour at Harry's Chocolate Shop

Join us for a drink to close out the first full day of sessions! This is a great chance to unwind and connect with fellow attendees.

Sponsored by the *Journal of Economics Teaching*

Block #1 Sessions

9:30 AM–10:45 AM

Session 1A: Simulations and Hands-On Market Activities (Rawls #2070)

Chair: Megan Kirts (Econiful)

Vladimir Snurenco (Acton Institute and Calvin University) — A Lighthouse Pledge Simulation for Teaching Public Goods and the Free-Rider Problem

Sarah Reed (Villanova University) — Using Strawberries & Starburst to Teach Perfect Competition

Megan Kirts (Econiful) – Succeeding with Simulations

Session 1B: Empowering Every Student as an Economic Thinker (Rawls #2077)

Chair: Janet Scott (Southeast Community College)

Marisa Cameron (Pomona College) — Don't Believe Everything You Scroll: A Fact-Checking Activity for Economics

Thomas Hayward (Pearson) and Carl Coates (University of Chicago) — Economics for Everyone: Making Introductory Economics Meaningful and Accessible

Stephen Day (VCU Center for Economic Education) — Make a Choice Tests: An Engaging, Easy Way to Build and Assess Economic Reasoning

Session 1C: Experiential and Real-World Learning (Rawls #2079)

Chair: Jadrian Wooten (Virginia Tech)

Latisha Settlage (University of Arkansas – Fort Smith) — Inside Community Banking: Leveraging a Collegiate Ambassador Board to Teach the Economics Behind Loan Decisions, Marketing of Financial Services, and more

Joshua Price (Brigham Young University) — Beyond Campus: Employer Site Visits in Economics

Jadrian Wooten (Virginia Tech) — Taking Urban Economics to the Streets Through Faculty-Led Field Trips

Block #2 Sessions

11:05 AM–12:20 PM

Session 2A: Curriculum Design (Rawls #2070)

Chair: Matt Pierson (Nebraska Council on Economic Education)

Avi Cohen (University of Toronto and York University) — One Rule to Rule Them All: Simplifying Profit Maximization Across Market Structures

Chandler Jordan (South Carolina Council for Economic Education) — House Rules, Hidden Order: What Uno Teaches Us About Adam Smith

Lauren Shifflett (James Madison Center for Economic Education) and Matt Pierson (Nebraska Council on Economic Education) — Lesson Plan Writing for Impact: K-12 Curriculum Resource Creation That Works

Session 2B: Economic Theory Made Tangible (Rawls #2077)

Chair: Varun Gupta (Wharton County Junior College)

Eric Dunaway (Wabash College) — Conceivable! Signaling With Inigo Montoya and the Dread Pirate Roberts

James Redelsheimer (Foundation for Economic Education) — Future Millionaires in the Making: Creative Ways to Teach Investing

Varun Gupta (Wharton County Junior College) — Hooked on Monthly: The Addictive and Naughty Economics of Subscriptions

Session 2C: Video Games as Economic Laboratories (Rawls #2079)

Chair: Chris Clarke (Washington State University)

Luke Starkey (Chesterton High School) — Hunting, Fording, and Dysentery: Economics in the Oregon Trail

Todd Yarbrough (Purdue University) — Tycoonomics: Using OpenRCT2 to Hack Roller Coaster Tycoon for a Microeconomics Class

Tom Frye (Georgia College & State University) — Playing Video Games the *Wrong* Way to Teach Economic Principles in a *Better* Way

Session 2D: Panel: Educators as Public Scholars (Rawls #1071)

Moderator: Carl Coates (University of Chicago)

Panelists:

Abdullah Al-Bahrani (Northern Kentucky University)

Stephen Day (Virginia Commonwealth University)

Jadrian Wooten (Virginia Tech)

Block #3 Sessions

2:20 PM–3:35 PM

Session 3A: Active Learning and Student Engagement (Rawls #2070)

Chair: Mary Clare Peate (Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis)

Kayla Childs (University of Georgia) — Think, Teach, Switch

Andrew Jonelis (Syracuse University) — Virtual Reality, Real Insight on Economic Development

Mary Clare Peate (Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) and Scott Wolla (Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) — Teaching Deflation: What Textbooks Miss and Active Learning Reveals

Session 3B: Supply Chains, Trade, and Real-World Economic Analysis (Rawls #2077)

Chair: Varun Gupta (Wharton County Junior College)

Rholine Rose (Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta) — From Raw Materials to Retail: Evaluating Economic Goals Through Supply Chains

Kristin Stowe (Wingate University) — Visualizing Supply Chains in the Classroom: Teaching Input–Output Concepts Using BEA Industry Data

Heather Schumacker (Salt Lake Community College) — Active Learning With AI: Supporting Tariff Analysis Through Student-Led Research

Session 3C: Course Design (Rawls #2079)

Chair: Jadrian Wooten (Virginia Tech)

Katrina Babb (Indiana State University) — Less Is More: The Impact of Asynchronous Fridays on Undergraduate Economics Engagement and Performance

Meena Beri (Collin College) — Building A Supportive, Interactive, Zero-Cost Online Course

Eric Svendsen (W.W. Norton) and Jadrian Wooten (Virginia Tech) — Planet Money Courseware

Session 3D: Building Better Economics Educators (Rawls #1057)

Chair: Ben Smith (University of Nebraska Omaha)

Bill Goffe (Penn State University) — Tackling the Curse of Knowledge in Building Undergraduate Economics Schemas

Sara Avila (University of Colorado) — Backward Designing Your Syllabus

Jose Fernandez (University of Louisville) — Leveraging Pedagogy Training for Grad Students for Job Market Signaling

Block #4 Sessions

3:55 PM–5:10 PM

Session 4A: Pop Culture and Economics (Rawls #2070)

Chair: Matt Rousu (Susquehanna University)

Amrita Dhar (University of Mary Washington) and Shreyasee Das (Temple University) — What Would Wakanda Do? Teaching Development Economics and International Trade through Black Panther

Wayne Geerling (University of Texas at Austin) — Poppi-lar Economics

Matthew Rousu (Susquehanna University) and Brian O'Roark (Robert Morris University) — Teaching About Command Economies Using TV, Music, and Movies

Session 4B: Data Literacy (Rawls #2077)

Chair: Kaycee Washington (Collin College)

Andres Vargas (Purdue University) — Decomposing Cross-Country GDP Per Worker Differences Using Federal Reserve Economic Data (FRED)

Abdullah Al Bahrani (Northern Kentucky University) and Sami Al Farhan (Northern Kentucky University) — FREDX: A Data-Centered, Experiential Learning Assignment to Strengthen Data Literacy, Economic Reasoning, and Belonging in Principles of Macroeconomics

Eric Dunaway (Wabash College) — Data Visualizations with LLMs

Session 4C: Civic Engagement and Diverse Perspectives (Rawls #2079)

Chair: Chris Clarke (Washington State University)

Ishrat Mahzabeen (Pima Community College) and Lisa Jahn (Pima Community College) — Income Distribution: Three Perspectives on Who Gets What [Teaching a VOTE Program Issue in Online and In Person Classes]

Nathanael Snow (Ball State University) — What is My Vote Worth To Me? A Civics and Economics Assignment

Elaine Frey (California State University, Fullerton) — Diversifying Economics in the Undergraduate Classroom: Effectively Using Videos with Diverse Role Models, Relevant Research, and Active Learning

Session 4D: Your Econ Class Playbook (Rawls #1057)

Chair: Tim Dye (Perry Meridian High School)

Jamie Wagner (University of Nebraska Omaha) — Beyond the Syllabus: Designing a Course That Actually Works

Tim Dye (Perry Meridian High School) — Engagement Toolkit: Instructional Methods You Can Use Monday

John Kruggel (James Madison Center for Economic Education) — Assessment as Learning: Beyond the Grade

Friday, July 31

6:00 AM, JET SET 10K (or less)

Start at Margerum Fountain in Tapawingo Park

Get your running shoes on and join a JET SET Ambassador at the Margerum Fountain in Tapawingo Park for a quick 10K along the river. There is also a route for those wanting to run 5k.

7:30 AM – Noon, Registration desk open (Rawls #3011, Third Floor Atrium)

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM, Donuts with the editors (Rawls #3011)

Donuts, coffee, and other light assortments sponsored by the editors of *The Journal of Economics Teaching*

9:00 AM – 10:15 AM, Organized Sessions Block #5

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM, Refreshment break (Rawls Hall #3011)

10:30 AM – 11:45 AM, Organized Sessions Block #6

Noon, Closing remarks (Rawls #1086)

Farewell remarks from the *Journal of Economics Teaching* presented by Brian O’Roark (Robert Morris University)

12:15 PM, Lunch on your own

JET SET Ambassadors are available at the start of the break to lead interested attendees to their favorite lunch spots nearby.

3:00 PM – 7:00 PM, Malibu Jack’s Indoor Fun Park

Close out the conference with some fun and games, sponsored by *The Journal of Economics Teaching*. Enjoy a few hours of go-karts, laser tag, mini golf, arcade games & more.



SUBMIT YOUR IDEAS TO JET!

JET is the leading source for innovative economics teaching at all levels, from K-12 to community colleges and universities. We welcome journal articles, lesson plans, websites, and other supplemental materials designed to improve the learning environment. Scan the QR code to access our submission guidelines and get started!

HAVE AN IDEA BUT NOT SURE WHERE TO START?

We are happy to help! Sign up for our new author mentorship program and JET volunteers will walk you through the presenting, writing, and submission process.

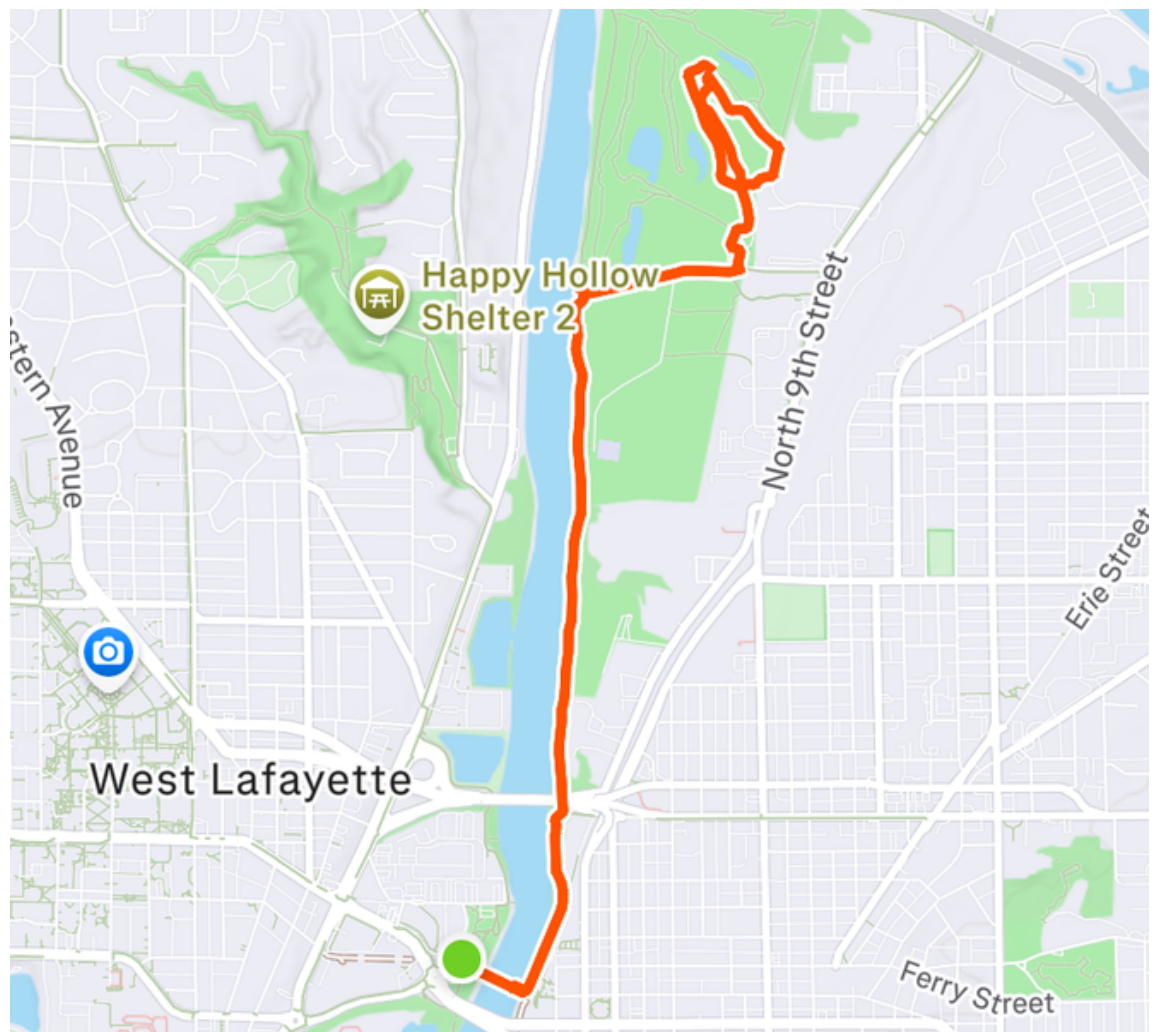


JET SET 10K (or Less)

Jump-start your day with an energizing early morning run! Meet us at 6 AM at the Sonya L. Margerum Fountain in Tapawingo Park, directly across the street from the Hilton Garden Inn West, for a scenic 10K along the Wabash River, or choose a shorter 5k route if you prefer.

JET SET Ambassadors will be there to lead different groups based on the desired length, ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all.

Scan the QR code to see route details:



Block #5 Sessions

9:00 AM–10:15 AM

Session 5A: Economics Meets Personal Finance (Rawls #2070)

Chair: Jamie Wagner (University of Nebraska Omaha)

Jamie Wagner (University of Nebraska Omaha) and Melissa Schram (Millard West High School) — Personal Finance IS Economics!

Princeton Williams (Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta) — Pretzel Decision Making

Chandler Jordan (South Carolina Council on Economic Education) — Allocate Your Life: Where Economics Meets Personal Finance

Session 5B: Innovative Frameworks (Rawls #2077)

Chair: Janet Scott (Southeast Community College)

Aaliyah de Toeni Zhu (Financial Literacy Diaries) — Narrative-Based Instruction in Economics: Best Practices for Classroom Implementation

Ben Van Kammen (Purdue University) — All You Can Eat Labor Economics

Bryan Boucher (Phillips Exeter Academy) — Oval Economics: Using the Harkness Method to Empower Students

Session 5C: Decision-Making (Rawls #2079)

Chair: Marisa Cameron (Pomona College)

Cecilia Cuellar (University of Texas at Tyler) — From the Tatami to the Classroom: The B.R.I.C.K. Method as a Pedagogical Framework for High-Stakes Economic Decision-Making

Noah Trudeau (Troy University) — Building a Micro Economy Game Scalable for Small Groups or Classrooms

Timothy Haase (Ramapo College of New Jersey) — Teaching to 'Git Gud': The Dark Souls Framework for Experiential Economics Instruction

Session 5D: Demystifying the Publishing Process (Rawls #1057)

Chair: Tim Dye (Perry Meridian High School)

Jadrian Wooten (Virginia Tech) — Notes vs. Articles: Choosing the Right Format for Your Work

Ben Smith (University of Nebraska Omaha) — My Idea Works - Why Do I Have to Write It This Way?": Communicating in the Econ Ed Academic Paper Structure

Brian O'Roark (Robert Morris University) — What Happens After You Hit Submit? A Walk Through the Editorial Process

Mary Clare Peate (Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis) and Tim Dye (Perry Meridian High School) — Introducing JET's New Author Mentoring Program

Block #6 Sessions

10:30 AM–11:45 AM

Session 6A: Panel: Get to Know Your Center for Economic Education (Rawls #2070)

Moderator: Matt Pierson (Nebraska Council on Economic Education)

Panelists:

Katrina Babb (Indiana State University)

J.W. Fansler (Indiana Council for Economic Education)

Cynthia Harter (Eastern Kentucky University)

John Kruggel (James Madison Center for Economic Education)

Session 6B: AI as a Teaching Tool (Rawls #2077)

Chair: Marisa Cameron (Pomona College)

Abigail Cormier (University of Georgia) — Describe It, Build It: Using AI to Create the Teaching Resources You Actually Need

William Byrd (Troy University) — Using AI to Generate and Refine Case Studies for Economics Education

Daniel Settlage (University of Arkansas at Fort Smith) — The Reality of Assessment in the Face of AI: Challenges and Opportunities

Session 6C: Editors' Workshop (Rawls #1057)

Brian O'Roark (Robert Morris University) and Matt Rousu (Susquehanna University) — Meet our editors and learn more about the publication process at JET

SPECIAL ISSUE ON TEACHING PERSONAL FINANCE

As states and institutions expand personal finance requirements at both the K–12 and college levels, the need for innovative instructional approaches has never been greater. The *Journal of Economics Teaching* is proud to announce a forthcoming special issue dedicated to the teaching of personal finance, and we're looking for submissions.

We welcome work on pedagogical strategies, curriculum design, experiential learning, assessment, diverse student populations, and the role of economics principles in financial decision-making, among other topics.

All submissions go through the same double-blind peer-review process as regular JET issues. Scan the QR code for full submission guidelines, or contact Brian O'Roark (oroark@rmu.edu) with questions.

Submission deadline: November 1, 2026



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DIGITAL PROGRAM

