“There is hardly anything I know that is as exciting as finding that the great events that move history, the forces that determine the destiny of empires and the fate of kings, can sometimes be explained, predicted, or even controlled by a few symbols on a printed page.”

— Paul Krugman

YOU CAN HELP

Equations can change the world—but not in isolation. We depend on private donations to fund the vital work being done by UC Santa Cruz economics faculty, staff, and students.

Your gift will help to ensure that people will truly benefit from our work.

Call ANNE HAYES at 831-502-7274 or visit economics.ucsc.edu
Using complex data systems and large-scale experimentation, UC Santa Cruz economics faculty and students are actively addressing some of the most pressing issues of our day through economic innovation. From confronting starvation in developing countries to relieving major financial crises, our economic research stems from the understanding that it takes large-scale thinking to effect large-scale change.

We have unique strengths in three broad areas:

- Economic growth, human capital, and jobs
  Including monetary policy, unemployment, entrepreneurship, education, health, and empowerment zones.

- Global economic problems
  Including international finance, exchange rates, central bank behavior, third-world savings, health, trade, and labor.

- Cutting-edge empirical methodology beyond econometrics
  Including randomized control experiments, lab experiments, quasi-experimental approaches, computational methods, and big data.

To expand both our global impact and our academic relevance, we are focused on these specific goals:

- Expand student opportunities
  As UC Santa Cruz’s largest major, we need to add to our field study and career development resources to ensure our students continue to receive the opportunities they deserve.

- Increase faculty and staff
  Our current faculty of 19 has put us on the map nationally and internationally, but we are still well behind our competition in size. Adding to the faculty would allow us to pursue new research and develop new programs in entrepreneurship and public policy.

- Initiate practical intervention research
  We believe in creating positive change. That’s why we want to focus on initiating policy-shaping research locally, nationally, and globally.

- Enhance the strength of the Ph.D. program
  We believe that a strong Ph.D. program is crucial to maintaining our reputation as one of the country’s strongest economics research programs. We want to bolster our resources to attract top candidates in the field.

- Establish endowed chairs
  Endowed chairs will attract high-caliber faculty and students while elevating the intellectual activity and visibility of the department.

- Attract a Nobel Prize winner
  We want to add to our reputation and research impact while inspiring students through access to visionary experts, either with the hire of a permanent award-winning faculty member or by establishing a visiting Nobel Laureate program.

ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT BY THE NUMBERS

- 8,551 students enrolled in economics classes
- 1,321 undergraduate economics majors
- 46% of majors are first-generation college students
- 79 masters and Ph.D. students
- 19 faculty members, with 7 ranked among top 5% of economists in research productivity
- 8th nationally in research productivity in international finance
- 11th nationally in open economy macroeconomics
- 15th nationally in the economics of information technology

OUR MISSION

We believe in economics as a tool for real, tangible change. Our goal is to educate and empower students through research and teaching that emphasizes creative disruption and innovation. We use cutting-edge empirical methodology to develop and teach economic theory, and then apply that theory to pressing issues that have a practical impact on people’s lives.

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