

ANNUAL REPORT 2005

COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF MINORITY GROUPS IN THE ECONOMICS PROFESSION (CMSGEP)

I. CMSGEP

New Chair:

After the January meetings, Professor Cecilia Rouse, Princeton University will take over as the Committee's Chair.

She and I have already had preliminary discussions on how to raise the Committee, Program and Project's visibility in the profession. Given our backgrounds as labor economists, we are also talking about performing an evaluation of the program.

Current Membership:

William M. Rodgers III: 2nd term ending December 2005

Gary Dymski: 1st term ending December 2005

Adela De La Torre: 1st term ending December 2005

Juliet Elu: second term ending Dec. 2006

Peter Henry: 2nd term ending Dec. 2006

Ngina Chiteji: 1st term ending Dec. 2006

Cecilia Rouse and I recommended that Professor Dymski be reappointed to a second term and Professor Sue Stockly join the committee, taking Professor De La Torre's slot. Professor Rouse will take my slot. We have also recommended that Susan Collins be appointed.

Action Item:

For the past two years, it has been AEASP policy to restrict financial support to US citizens. This restriction is intended to prevent support from going to unintended groups – namely, to recent immigrants from racial or ethnic groups whose American citizens have been disadvantaged in the historical context. However, there are many families that move back and forth from Mexico to the USA, and this policy appears to be having a somewhat arbitrary impact on eligibility for many people. We have had acceptable applications from people born in the United States who have spent nearly their entire life in Mexico, while having not been able to support individuals born in Mexico but who have been raised in the United States. To make eligibility dependent on one's parents' efforts to secure US citizenship seems arbitrary.

Professor Becker recommends that eligibility be extended to US citizens and Mexican citizens who are permanent residents of the United States.

II. Program and Project Highlights for 2005

AEASP

- The Program is financially secure for the next two years. Duke committed to hosting the program through 2007 and has committed to providing an additional \$300,000.
- Professors Becker and Sharpe ran a successful Summer Program. The AEASP had 39 (36 US minority) students for a 9-week period, during which they took courses at two levels: Foundations (advanced undergraduate/beginning MA) and Advanced (MA level). The students came from 37 colleges or universities in 24 states – it was a truly national program. In its two years at Duke, the student body has been 44% female, 55% African-American, and 31% Hispanic.
- The 2006 meetings are special because the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston has designed a day-long open house and evening reception for the AEASP alumni on January 5, and is funding those who will be giving presentations.
- The AEASP's success also has attracted the NSF's attention. This fall, the Summer Program was one of 60 NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates programs (out of 400+ across the country) invited to make a poster presentation on Capitol Hill. As AEASP director, I was also invited to serve as the social sciences' representative on the pan-REU conference steering committee that took place concurrently.
- For the 132 participants during the period 2001-05, based on some but incomplete information about applications for the coming academic year, we have:
 - 50 have entered PhD programs in Economics/related fields
 - 32 have entered MA programs in Economics/related fields
 - 28 have no graduate experience (undergraduate or BA complete)
 - 22 are not expected to progress to a PhD program

AEAPP

- The Project is financially secure for the next year. The NSF recently awarded the Pipeline Project a one-year grant for \$72,727.
- To date, nine participants have become assistant professors and one has recently joined Mathematic Policy Research, Inc. The 20 graduate student members comprise the largest group. Of the 14 for which we have current information, 3 are actively writing their dissertation, 3 are in the process of completing the comprehensive and field exams, 5 are in the midst of their coursework, and 3 are most likely going on the job market this fall. Seven have left their respective programs
- This year's research conference was held at Duke University during the 6th week of the Summer Program. The conference program is available at the Program's

website. All of the Summer Program students (39) participated. Over one-half of active Mentor Program members attended the conference and 19 mentors/economists/faculty joined our discussions. Seven papers at various stages of the research process were presented. The conference included a general session on the early years of a tenure track position and a session on publishing.

- This year a small fraction of the Project's research funds were used to cover the expenses of Michigan State University graduate student Terry-Ann Craigie to work as a research assistant for Professor Charles Becker. Their paper is based on the seminal work of Sir Arthur Lewis.
- A call for collaborative paper proposals will be circulated during early spring to mentees and mentors. Selection criteria will be based on the project's potential to generate a peer-reviewed article, publication and dissemination strategy (e.g., having the graduate student present the paper at conferences and departmental seminar series), identification of the graduate student serving as a co-author as opposed to a research assistant and the mentor's effort to match these funds. The goal is to offer between \$750 and \$1,000, such that the graduate student can to travel to their mentor's location and spend several days working on the project
- One of the many highlights of the Conference was the First Annual Pipeline Conference raffle held at the Friday night dinner. Mentors and Institutional supporters were asked to donate items for the graduate and Summer Program students.
 - Cornell economist Willene Johnson offered Volume 1 of *A Different Vision*, a book on African economic development.
 - Professor Stephanie Seguino and photographer donated a photo series called "Moustapha Speaks".
 - Joint Center for Political and Economics Studies Vice President for Research gave away two edited volumes of the *Review of Black Political Economy* that she had edited.
 - Duke University and UNC Chapell Hill Professor Sandy Darity donated a new book of his called *Economics, Economists, and Expectations: Microfoundations to Macroapplications*.
 - Eastern New Mexico University Professor Sue Stockly raffled off round trip airfare to the upcoming Boston AEA meetings.
- Our institutional supporters were very generous.
 - The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston donated *Engines of Enterprise* and *A Guide for the Young Economist: Writing and Speaking Effectively about Economics*. Each came with a gift pack that also included money (shredded), a Boston Fed pen and pencil set, and a Boston Fed flying disc. They also gave away a visit to the bank that would enable work on a research project.

- Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. donated a \$200 Gift certificate to Barnes and Noble. It was Mathematica's first time to attend the conference.

III. AEA Summer Program

The following draws heavily from Professor Charles Becker's annual update of the program.

Current Financial Status:

The AEASP is financially secure for the next two years. Last summer, Duke committed to an additional \$300,000 of support beyond the amount committed to date.

This new commitment is the last amount we can expect to receive from the university – that is, we can expend it at the rate of \$150,000/year over two years, or \$100,000/year over three years.

In 2005, the program also received increases in funding from the NSF (from \$100,000 to \$159,000 – a \$20,000 increase plus a one-time supplement), the AEA (from \$60,000 to \$100,000) and from Moodys Investors Services (from \$10,000 to \$15,000). We continued to receive support on an annual basis from RAND (\$10,000) and the Citigroup Foundation (\$20,000), and have funding in both 2005 and 2006 from the MacArthur Foundation (about \$46,000/year).

Consequently, the program's preliminary financial projections, without further support, are deficits:

- \$80,000 for September 2004 - August 2005
- \$105,000 for FY 2005-2006, and
- \$150,000 for FY 2006-2007

That is, we need to raise roughly \$335,000 and/or reduce program costs during the next two years, given present funding commitments. Total annual expenses are approximately \$650,000.

Fundraising efforts by AEASP staff and administrators have been modest. Our best prospect at present is with Morgan Stanley, which has indicated an interest. The program has been encouraged by Duke's fundraising staff to approach the Bradley Foundation.

The Location of AEASP beyond 2007:

Duke has indicated that the university is happy to continue to host the Summer Program, but will not commit funding beyond the additional \$300,000. To keep the program at Duke will entail additional fundraising – largely by CSMGEP, since AEASP administrators are already fully extended. Alternatively, a new site for the program will need to be secured for 2008 and beyond.

While the Summer Program has thrived at Duke, we are having preliminary discussions about the program's location. Please see Professor Becker's most recent annual report for a description of this discussion.

The remainder of this section discusses one issue for the CSMGEP, provides a description of the 2005 Summer Program and students, discusses participant characteristics, and ends with a point of celebration.

Policy Issue for the CSMGEP: Mexican American students

For the past two years, it has been AEASP policy to restrict financial support to US citizens. This restriction is intended to prevent support from going to unintended groups – namely, to recent immigrants from racial or ethnic groups whose American citizens have been disadvantaged in the historical context. However, there are many families that move back and forth from Mexico to the USA, and this policy appears to be having a somewhat arbitrary impact on eligibility for many people. We have had acceptable applications from people born in the United States who have spent nearly their entire life in Mexico, while having not been able to support individuals born in Mexico but who have been raised in the United States. To make eligibility dependent on one's parents' efforts to secure US citizenship seems arbitrary.

Professor Becker recommends that eligibility be extended to US citizens and Mexican citizens who are permanent residents of the United States.

2005 program participant composition

The AEASP had 39 (36 US minority) students for a 9-week period, during which they took courses at two levels: Foundations (advanced undergraduate/beginning MA) and Advanced (MA level). The students came from 37 colleges or universities in 24 states – it was a truly national program. In its two years at Duke, the student body has been 44% female, 55% African-American, and 31% Hispanic.

TABLE 1 CHARACTERISTICS OF AEA SUMMER PROGRAM STUDENTS, 2003-2005

MINORITY/GENDER	Males			Females			Total		
	2005	2004	2003	2005	2004	2003	2005	2004	2003
African-American	14	8	8	8	11	11	22	19	19
Hispanic	6	7	3	3	7	5	9	14	8
Native American	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	2
Indochinese – American	3	0	0	0	3	1	3	3	1
Filipino-American	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Non-minority	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
TOTAL	27	15	12	12	21	18	39	36	30

Progression to graduate school

The core objective of the Summer Program is to increase minority representation in doctoral programs in Economics and related fields. Student responses (excluding two students who left early, and are likely to continue to doctoral programs) from 2005 indicate that the program was highly successful this year:

TABLE 2 *How would you describe the probability that you will enter a Ph.D. program in Economics?*

Of those in the category below BEFOREHAND:		Number in this category AFTERWARD:			
		Unlikely	Somewhat likely	Very likely	Certain
	Total	2	6	14	15
Unlikely	5	0	2	2	1
Somewhat likely	12	1	0	8	3
Very likely	14	1	2	2	9
Certain	6	0	2	2	2

One can also judge progression from actual movement, rather than statements. For the 132 participants during the period 2001-05, based on incomplete information about applications for the coming academic year, we have:

TABLE 3 PROGRESSION TO DOCTORAL PROGRAMS, AEA MINORITY SCHOLARS, 2001-2005

Total number of participants, AEASP 2001-2005		132
<i>Of whom:</i>	Entered PhD programs in Economics/related fields	50
		46
	Still enrolled or planning to re-enroll	4
	No longer enrolled	
	Entered MA programs in Economics/related fields	32
		3
	Currently applying to PhD programs	14
	Eventual progression to PhD expected	15
	PhD progression not expected	
	No graduate experience (undergraduate or BA complete)	28
	8	
Currently applying to PhD programs	12	
Eventual progression to PhD expected	8	
PhD progression possible but not certain		
Progression to PhD program not expected	22	
Expected PhD program enrollment, AY 2006-07	57	
Eventual total progression to PhD (excluding those no longer enrolled)	83 (63%)	

Previous reports to the AEA that compare these figures to total minority enrollments in Economics suggest that the Summer Program’s overall impact is to increase the long run supply of minority economists by about 25%, and possibly more, especially if attrition rates prove lower.

Additional program notes

Perhaps the best indication of student effort and ability, and the social importance of the program, is that the faculty continue to remain engaged. Duke faculty returning for a third consecutive summer next year include Paul Ellickson, Dan Graham, Pietro Peretto, Rhonda Sharpe, Curtis Taylor, and me. Thomas Nechyba will be back next summer, while Frank Sloan has committed to returning in 2007. In short, this remains very much a “Duke program.” In addition, our partner school, North Carolina A&T, expects to provide a faculty member next summer as well.

The students in turn responded enthusiastically to the participating Duke faculty. For five of last year’s eight Duke instructors, the students responded almost unanimously (0 or 1 negative vote) to an anonymously administered question as to whether particular faculty members should be asked to return next year or play a larger role in the program. Opinions of the remaining faculty were highly positive as well.

The program also appeared to operate more smoothly than in previous years. Several pedagogical changes were made – new texts in several courses, and a new model for running the research seminar. A new schedule with longer blocks and more free time also was introduced. Student complaints were minor, there were virtually no incomplete grades, and all 39 students completed the program successfully.

The applicant pool remained at about 100, as in recent years. AEASP administrators have made a renewed effort to recruit, visiting roughly 25 campuses in AY 2004-05. Most of these visits have a one to two year lag, as those without adequate mathematics are advised to apply in subsequent years. A similar recruiting effort is underway this year. In addition, North Carolina A&T remains actively involved as a partner in the program, and sent out recruiting posters to all HBCUs both this fall and last year. Although the 2005 applicant pool did not grow, the quantitative skills of participants did improve considerably, to the point where about half of the Foundation's group was moved to Advanced Level mathematical economics. Since we discourage those without adequate math from applying, the stable pool size to some extent reflects improved self-selection.

As noted, NC A&T remains an important partner. 2005 was the first year in which an A&T faculty member was not involved in teaching, but we anticipate having an A&T faculty instructor this coming summer. A&T faculty have continued to participate in the student recruitment and selection process. The Federal Reserve Board also remains an active partner. Not only did the Fed sponsor the group's trip to Washington, DC once again (and, once again, Alan Greenspan greeted the group; Roger Ferguson and Ben Bernanke both have made technical presentations to the group in past two summers), it also provided two senior economists (Seth Carpenter, an AEASP alumnus from the Temple era, and Neil Ericsson) to cover the advanced econometrics course.

The AEASP's success also has attracted the NSF's attention. This fall, the Summer Program was one of 60 NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates programs (out of 400+ across the country) invited to make a poster presentation on Capitol Hill. As AEASP director, I was also invited to serve as the social sciences' representative on the pan-REU conference steering committee that took place concurrently.

Who are the AEASP minority scholars?

The program's success notwithstanding, there has been increased question as to whether the economics profession should be promoting a program that, at best, imperfectly targets genuinely underrepresented socio-economic groups with few opportunities. So, how do we know that Duke is not simply supporting an expensive program that draws from upper-income minority groups and highly select, motivated immigrants – that is, from populations that would succeed on their own, and that do not have an exceptional claim to proactive support? To address these problems, AEASP administrators and the AEA have deliberately narrowed the program's focus, introducing financial need requirements to receive a scholarship, and restricting recruiting mainly to non-research institutions with predominantly minority and low-income student bodies.

Table 4 presents social background information culled from those 2005 participants who submitted online applications. There is considerable variation within the student population, but it seems safe to assert that the students' social backgrounds are not abnormally elite. Rather, the exceptional feature is that so many of the students are financially independent of their parents, implying that a very high proportion are simultaneously working and going to school. A second feature is that a high proportion has a parent – usually a mother – who is a teacher or nurse.

TABLE 4. SOCIAL BACKGROUND CHARACTERISTICS OF 2005 MINORITY SCHOLARS		
Living independently of parents:	Yes	21
	No	9
Both parents living	Yes	21
	No	9
Parents married (to each other)	Yes	12
	No	18
Father's education	> BA	4
	BA	4
	Associate degree/some college	7
	High school	12
	Elementary school	2
Mother's education	> BA	4
	BA	11
	Associate degree/some college	2
	High school	10
	Elementary school/some HS	3
Father's occupation	White collar	3
	Blue collar/clerical	13
	Retired/unknown	6
Mother's occupation	Schoolteacher	4
	Nurse/ nurse's assistant	7
	Blue collar/clerical/sales	8
	Homemaker	5
	Other/retired/unknown	6

The Boston AEA meetings: a celebration

In recent years, the Summer Program has subsidized attendance at the January meetings by students from the preceding summer. Originally restricted to three or four people, the \$250 subsidy is now extended to all who wish to participate. The 2006 meetings are special because the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston has designed a day-long open house and evening reception for the AEASP alumni on January 5, and is funding those who will be giving presentations. We therefore extended the general subsidy offer to all 2001-2005 AEASP alumni. Some 51 recent alumni have accepted this offer, and, even allowing for substantial attrition, it is clear that a large portion of students from recent years will be in attendance. This large gathering is valuable because it revives participants' spirits and sense of belonging to a close-knit, dynamic group with common interests, and because the meetings themselves offer a vast array of research topics and approaches.

IV. The AEA Pipeline Project

The *Economics Pipeline Project's* goal is to expand the pool of minority Ph.D. economists using a series of interventions targeted at critical stages in their training and professional development.

Program Director:

I took over the directorship last spring from Professor Cecilia Conrad (Pomona College).

Current Financial Status:

The Project is in very good health. The Project's primary expenditures are for the annual conference. The Project ended the year with a balance of \$14,000 from a MacArthur Foundation Grant. It is my understanding that these funds will be available for this year.

In the summer, I submitted a proposal to the National Science Foundation. Several weeks ago, I received notification that the one-year \$72,727 proposal will be funded.

Current Membership in the Project

Currently, 20 graduate students are active members, with at least two going on the job market this fall. We have identified 16 students from the 2004 Summer Program that are eligible for the program. It is important to note that past participation in the Summer Program is not a requirement for participating in the Mentoring Program. Because of that, we receive applications from many non-Summer Program participants. We are eager to enroll any applicant, but it is contingent on having the funds to support the conference, collaborative research and the tracking of participants.

Table 5 shows that for current graduate school members, we have faced a challenge with identifying suitable mentors. In the absence of a designated mentor, the Program Director assumes the responsibility. Because of this, the program has evolved to an identified pool of economists that serve as resources. We are in the process of developing "regional" clusters and "professional interest" clusters of participants and mentors. The same criteria for choosing mentors and inviting professional economists to attend the conference remain the same. We found that most interactions take place during the conference and because of schedules not all mentors and even participants are in attendance. So, starting with the new funding we will offer seed money for collaborative research projects that lead to a significant publication.

Table 5: Mentor Program Participants and Mentors as of 7/2005
Bold names are former participants in the AEA Summer Training Program.

Panel A: Graduated			
Name	Current Status	Institution	Mentor
Bogan, Vicki	Assist Prof - Cornell University	Brown University	Marcellus Andrews
Fryer, Roland	Assist Prof -Harvard University	Penn State University	James Stewart
Grant, Lariece	Assist Prof -Denison University	Ohio State University	Warren Whatley
Liard-Muriente, Carlos	Assist Prof-Western New England College	Univ. of Mass-Amherst	Lisa Saunders
Logan, Trevon	Assist Prof - Ohio State	UC Berkeley	Steve Raphael
Lozano, Fernando	Assist Prof – Pomona College	UC Santa Barbara	Arturo Gonzalez
Martinez, Salvador	Assist Prof -Weber State	University of Florida	Maria Crummett
Washington, Ebonya	Assist Prof –Yale	MIT	Jerry Hausman
McKie, Alison	Mathematica Policy Research	MIT	Randy Albelda
Ajilore, Gbenga	Assist Prof - University of Toledo	Claremont Graduate Univ.	Cecilia Conrad

Panel B: Graduate Student		
Name	Institution	Mentor
Chavis, Larry	Stanford University	Peter Henry
Andrews, Rodney	University of Michigan	Sheldon Danziger
Soto Arriagada, Leopoldo	UC Santa Barbara	Juan-Pablo Montero
Chavis, Larry	Stanford University	Peter Henry
Bruce, Oyinka	Duke University	.
Bueno, Cruz Caridad	University of Mass-Amherst	Lisa Saunders
Cox, Robynn	Georgia State University	Sally Wallace
Craigie, Terry-Ann	Michigan State University	William M. Rodgers III
Elder, Zadkiel	UC Riverside	.
Gonzalez-Brenes, Melissa	UC Berkeley	Nada Eissa
Jones, Damon	UC Berkeley	.
Lopez-Velasco, Armando	UC Santa Barbara	Fernando Lozano
Mangum, Vincent	Jackson State University	Gregory Price
Martinez, Sebastian	UC Berkeley	Manuel Pastor
Meky, Muna	Brown University	.
Melendez, Joel	University of Houston	.
Rodriguez, Lourdes	University of Houston	.
Santillano, Robert	UC Berkeley	David Sunding
Snell, Julius	University of Arizona	.
Swinton, Omari	Duke University	William Darity
Wilson, Valerie	UNC Chapel Hill	William E. Spriggs

Notes: Constructed from assorted student updates, which is an ongoing process. At the time of the development of the proposal we were collecting information on detailed status of the graduate student members. In addition to the students in Panel B, two students, who joined July 2005 are working and in the process of applying for doctoral programs. Seven students have left the program and the status of 10 students is unknown.

The table above describes the status of current participants toward degree completion. As of last summer, nine participants are Assistant Professors. The 20 graduate student members comprise the largest group. Of the 14 for which we have current information, 3

are actively writing their dissertation, 3 are in the process of completing the comprehensive and field exams, 5 are in the midst of their coursework, and 3 are most likely going on the job market this fall. Seven have left their respective programs. We have identified two young scholars who although are not enrolled in a doctoral program, have given very strong signals of their intentions to enroll. Because of that, we accepted their membership application. Our current records indicate that 10 students status is not known. During the fall, I received several unsolicited request to join the Project.

Mentor Program participant fields of interests vary widely. They represent a diversity of interests. The most popular fields are labor, macroeconomics, International, public finance, and development. Participants have also expressed interest in urban, health and economic history.

The 2005 Research Conference

This year's conference was held at Duke University during the 6th week of the Summer Program. The conference program is available at the Program's website. All of the Summer Program students (39) participated. Over one-half of active Mentor Program members attended the conference and 19 mentors/economists/faculty joined our discussions. Seven papers at various stages of the research process were presented. Jackson State University graduate student Vincent Mangum presented his research prospectus that will serve as the anchor for an upcoming grant proposal. University of Michigan graduate student Rodney Andrews presented a version of his job market paper. Professors Stephanie Seguino (University of Vermont) and Gary Hoover (University of Alabama) presented papers that are under review at peer-reviewed journals. Professor Seguino's paper has a "revise and resubmit" at *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics* and Professor Hoover's paper is under its first review at the *American Economic Review*. Former NSF Economics Program Director and now Director of the Mississippi Urban Research Center described a research agenda that seeks to raise awareness about the continued dearth of black economists by developing report cards on the presence and efforts of economics departments to increase their numbers of black faculty.

Panels on choosing and thriving in graduate school, navigating the economics job market, and succeeding during the early years of a tenure track position were held. Several mentors led a fascinating discussion on non-academic careers. An additional treat for participants was Acquisition Editor Raphael Allen, University of Michigan Press, who led a publishing workshop. These sessions gave conference participants a comprehensive introduction to these issues. But just as important, the sessions provided the graduate student and newly minted Ph.D. panelists the opportunity to share their experiences. For some, it was an opportunity to vent any frustrations that may have accumulated over the year. For others, talking to students who are at earlier stages of the Ph.D. journey allowed them to put their achievements in perspective. The panels achieved their goal of providing a realistic yet positive portrait of graduate studies and careers in economics.

One of the many highlights of the Conference was the First Annual Pipeline Conference raffle held at the Friday night dinner. Mentors and Institutional supporters were asked to donate items for the graduate and Summer Program students. Rodgers donated three subscriptions to the *Review of Black Political Economy*, 3 issues of the Heldrich Center's volume, *A Nation at Work*, and three CD holders. Cornell economist Willene Johnson offered Volume 1 of *A Different Vision*, a book on African economic development. Professor Stephanie Seguino and photographer donated a photo series called "Moustapha Speaks". Joint Center for Political and Economics Studies Vice President for Research gave away two edited volumes of the *Review of Black Political Economy* that she had edited. Duke University and UNC Chapel Hill Professor Sandy Darity donated a new book of his called *Economics, Economists, and Expectations: Microfoundations to Macroapplications*. Eastern New Mexico University Professor Sue Stockly topped individual donations. She raffled off round trip airfare to the upcoming Boston AEA meetings.

Our institutional supporters also stepped up to the plate. The Federal Reserve Bank of Boston donated *Engines of Enterprise* and *A Guide for the Young Economist: Writing and Speaking Effectively about Economics*. Each came with a gift pack that also included money (shredded), a Boston Fed pen and pencil set, and a Boston Fed flying disc. They also gave away a visit to the bank that would enable work on a research project. Finally, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. donated a \$200 Gift certificate to Barnes and Noble. It was Mathematica's first time to attend the conference. Since then, they have expressed an interest in solidifying their ties with the program. In fact, they just hired pipeline member Allison McKie.

The planned budget for the conference was \$30,000, but actual expenses were around \$20,000, which is approximately \$260 per person (including Summer Program students). Our goal is to keep the annual amount at \$30,000. This will allow us to accommodate the projected growth in the interests of current members and Summer Program participants, and the creation of a junior faculty mentoring component. These new sessions will run concurrently with several of the graduate student sessions.

The evidence from the evaluations of this year's Conference is favorable. Of the 73 attendees, 47 participants submitted evaluations. Participants were asked how many Pipeline Project conferences they had attended. Obviously, none of the Summer Program students had attended the conference before. The typical Mentor Program student had been to one conference, but the values ranged from 0 to 4. A similar pattern exists for mentors and other professional economists.

Participants were asked the extent to which they agreed with the following statements:

- I am satisfied with the amount of time I spent getting to know others and networking at the conference.
- I have acquired valuable new information about the economics profession and/or graduate school.

- Next year, I would like the conference to be longer and have a more extensive program.
- I would benefit from the inclusion of a "Teaching Economics" workshop in next year's conference.
- I enjoyed this conference.

A value of 1 indicates that the individual strongly agreed and a value of 5 indicates that the individual strongly disagreed with the statement. Most participants were quite happy with the amount of time they had available to network; however, many wanted more time to network (avg. – 2.0). Participants were in general agreement that the conference enabled them to acquire value new information about the profession (avg. 1.5). The highest score came from the question about length and extensiveness of the program (avg. – 2.4). Some want the conference to be longer. People felt that they would benefit from a teaching workshop, but it seems that most want the focus to be on research. Overall, participants were in strong agreement that they enjoyed the conference. This question had an average of 1.3, with no scores above 2.

Promoting Pipeline Member Research

This year a small fraction of the Program's research funds were used to cover the expenses of Michigan State University graduate student Terry-Ann Craigie for several days after the conference to work as a research assistant for Professor Charles Becker. Their paper is based on the seminal work of Sir Arthur Lewis, the first black Nobel Laureate in economics. Due to the expertise of Dr. Becker and the abundant resources available at Duke University, it seemed fitting that Ms. Craigie visit Duke, thus stimulating the progress of their paper. Becker and Craigie used the days after the conference to discuss and plan their research strategy. They reviewed what they had already accomplished and suggested ways to improve the paper such as including more recent publications in their paper on Sir Arthur Lewis and ways to combat econometric problems such as multi-collinearity and heteroscedasticity.

In our upcoming budgets, our goal is to keep the level of support at \$9,000 a year. The Director will be more aggressive at soliciting the development of summer collaborative research projects between mentors and mentees. A call for paper proposals will be circulated during early spring. Selection criteria will be based on the project's potential to generate a peer-reviewed article, publication and dissemination strategy (e.g., having the graduate student present the paper at conferences and departmental seminar series), identification of the graduate student serving as a co-author as opposed to a research assistant and the mentor's effort to match these funds. Our vision is to offer between \$750 and \$1,000, such that the graduate student can to travel to their mentor's location and spend several days working on the project.