



News

Message from the Chair

Hello, alumni and friends!

This Winter 2026 issue of EconMatters includes a profile of faculty member Professor **Daniel Rosenblum**. We have profiles of three alumni, **Dan De Munnik** (BSc (Honours) 2002), Catherine Maclean (BSc (Honours) 2002, MA 2004), and **Kelly Chen** (PhD 2012). Our Research Spotlight shines a light on the work of Professor **Norov Tumennasan** and Professor **Casey Warman**.

We are happy to recognize our outstanding graduate students who have been granted scholarships or bursaries. **Mingyue Li** was awarded the Mildred and John Young Post-Graduate Scholarship. The Robert L. Comeau Scholarship went to **Abdelaziz Elherbawy** and **Liam Hayes**. The Zella Crowe Spencer Memorial Scholarship was awarded to **Ruowen Zeng**. **David Orozco Rios** was the recipient of the Professor George A.B. Kartsaklis Memorial Scholarship. The Christian Marfels Memorial Graduate Bursary went to **Jackson Anderson**, and the Dr. Alasdair M. Sinclair Memorial Bursary was awarded to **Aaron Klein**.

You may have heard that the provincial government ended its Nova Scotia Graduate Scholarship program with little warning. On top of reduced graduate funding from Dalhousie, all graduate programs are facing a challenging situation. We very much appreciate the alumni and friends of the Economics Department who have donated to our annual giving and bursary funds (through giving.dal.ca) to help us support student excellence as well as financial need.

In addition to scholarships and bursaries, one way we have used the annual giving funds is to renovate our buildings in response to student requests. We renovated one of our basement study spaces last year to turn it into an independent study area with study carrels, and we are currently doing further renovations to the two other spaces to make them more useful for both group and independent study. (Would any alumni like to share memories of studying in the Economics basement?)

Stay in touch on LinkedIn:
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/dalhousie-university-department-of-economics>

All the best,

Tess Cyrus

Associate Professor and Chair

Faculty Profile: Daniel Rosenblum

I'll tell you a secret—I think a lot more people are interested in economics than you might think. Because really, you can weave an economic thread through just about any discipline. If your interests lean towards psychology, there's behavioral economics. If you're a historian, study economic history. Biologist? Well, then there's neuroeconomics! In my case, as a mathy kid who didn't really love theoretical math, economics was a way to use that skill set and apply it to all kinds of things that I was interested in. Economics meant I didn't have to limit my options.

Research Spotlight: Dr Norov Tumennasan

“Robust Median Voter Rules” (with Steven Kivinen), available at SSRN 5910504 (2025).

Generalized median voter (GMV) rules on the single-peaked preference domain are group strategy-proof. This paper shows that if incomplete information coexists with the ability to commit to coalitional agreements, then GMV rules can be susceptible to insincere voting by groups with heterogeneous beliefs. The authors identify strategic compromise as a novel source of insincere voting in this environment.

Research Spotlight: Dr Casey Warman

“Nonbinary and Transgender Identities and Earnings: Evidence from a National Census”

(with Christopher S. Carpenter, Donn Feir, and Krishna Pendakur), *American Economic Review: Insights* 8:1, March 2026, 1-17.

This paper provides the first evidence from a large population census on earnings disparities experienced by nonbinary people — individuals who do not exclusively identify as men or women — and transgender people — individuals whose gender differs from their sex assigned at birth — relative to cisgender people.

Alumni Profiles

Daniel de Munnik

BSc (Honours) (2002)

I'm a Senior Policy Advisor in the International Economic Analysis Department at the Bank of Canada. In this role, I contribute to the Bank's assessment of global economic conditions and help shape the Global Outlook section of the Monetary Policy Report. Prior to joining the Bank's International Economic Analysis Department in 2024, my work focused on Canadian regional analysis and nowcasting Canadian GDP.

Catherine Maclean

BSc (Honours) (2002), MA (2004)

Hi! My name is Catherine. I live in Arlington, Virginia, just outside of the District of Columbia in the States, with my husband and my dogs. I am an Associate Professor in the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. I completed my PhD in Economics at Cornell University in 2012, I met my husband (also an Economist) during my graduate studies at Cornell. Prior to joining George Mason University in 2022, I was an Assistant Professor at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania (2012-2014) and then an Associate Professor in the Economics Department at Temple University (2014-2022).

Kelly Chen

PhD (2012)

I moved to Halifax in 2005 from Winnipeg after completing my Master's degree at the University of Manitoba. Although I had lived in Canada for two years, I was still working to overcome language barriers while adjusting to a new culture. Being away from my family added stress to my day-to-day life. The question that haunted me most was simple yet heavy: Should I quit?