

Graduate Connection

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News

Nemmers Prize

The winner of the 2012 Erwin Plein Nemmers Prize in Economics, **Daron Acemoglu** of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will be visiting from April 13 to June 7 (in room 3236). The biennial honor is bestowed on an outstanding economist who has yet to win the Nobel Prize.

He will be giving his Nemmers lecture on Wednesday May 15 at 4:30PM. This will be followed by a conference on Thursday and Friday May 16 and 17. See the events section for more information.

Summer Funding

The Graduate School (TGS) provides us with a quota of summer funding slots for second through fourth year students. (Funding for the summer at the end of the first year is detailed in a student's admission offer letter. Students in years five and above are not eligible for TGS summer funding.)

To be eligible, you have to have met the Department's usual progress goals. That is to say that you need to have made sufficient progress to have been eligible to be a TA in the current academic year. Students holding an outside fellowship that provides summer tuition and stipend are ineligible.

The application form for summer funding should be submitted between May 1 and May 15. You will receive an e-mail on May 1 with more details and a link to the form. You will have to certify that you are limited to 120 hours of paid work over the summer, and that you will not take more than three weeks of "vacation" or non-research time away from campus (but

it is permissible to be absent from campus to conduct research).

Spring Quarter

The first day of Spring Quarter is Tuesday April 2. On that Tuesday normal Monday classes will meet. This means that MW graduate classes will meet on TW in the first week of the quarter, and TTh classes will only meet on Thursday.

Visitors

In addition to Nemmers Prize winner **Daron Acemoglu**, the Department will be hosting other visitors this spring. The Center for Economic Theory is hosting **Tadashi Sekiguchi** from Kyoto University for the entire quarter. In addition visiting for one week each will be theorists:

Ariel Rubinstein (Tel Aviv) – week of April 1

Flavio Toxvaerd (Cambridge) – week of April 17

Thomas Mariotti (Toulouse) – week of April 29

Antonio Penta (Wisconsin) – week of May 6

V Bhaskar (UCL) – week of May 27

Marcin Peski (Toronto) -week of June 3

Placement Report

Professor **Matthias Doepke**, Director of Graduate Placement, reports that demand for new faculty from business schools and European schools was strong this year, but demand has weakened from U.S. economics departments. Demand from private sector firms continues to be strong.

Our students are currently evaluating their various offers. However, some students have already decided (academic appointments are in the economics department except where indicated):

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Tiago Pires - University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Ka Hei Tse - Compass Lexecon

Kosuke Uetake - Yale University (Business School)

Chris Vickers - Auburn University

Students who intend to be on the job market next year, or are just curious about what it entails, are encouraged to attend an orientation on Monday May 13 (see in the "Events" section below).

TA Duties in Other Departments

The Department has a policy that any other Departments that desire to hire an Economics student as a Teaching Assistant must discuss this with us first.

This is partly to ensure that only students who are making appropriate progress in their studies are funded, and partly because the Department must ensure that our own faculty and classes receive first priority. WCAS has been very generous in providing us with TAships to support our large undergraduate enrollments. This means that we are normally able to fund all eligible students as TAs within the Department and the MMSS Program.

The Department wants to make it very clear that it is inappropriate for graduate students to conduct private arrangements to TA for faculty in other departments. If you are approached in this way, direct the faculty member to contact our Associate Chair.

Eisner and Bies Awards

Each fall the Department awards the **Eisner Fellowship** (providing stipend and tuition for three quarters to a graduate student who has distinguished him- or herself in *both* teaching and research) and up to two **Bies Prizes** (providing a research account for the best public policy papers presented as part of the Economics 501 seminar). The faculty nominate candidates for the Eisner Fellowship, and students can nominate themselves for the Bies Prizes. The period for nominations runs from June 1 to August 15. A committee, chaired by DGS **Elie Tamer** will meet in late August, and the winners will be announced by August 31 with the formal awards given out at the Fall Buffet. For more information see a link in the "Graduate > Current Students" section of our website.

Faculty Honors

Congratulations to **Bruno Strulovici** on receiving an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Research Fellowship. The fellowships seek to stimulate fundamental research by early-career scholars of outstanding promise.

Aviv Nevo has been named as Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Economic Analysis at the Department of Justice. He will be taking a leave of absence from Northwestern starting from April 2013. He will head the group that provides economic analysis for all civil enforcement, regulatory proceeding, and competition advocacy matters.

Guido Lorenzoni has been promoted to Full Professor

Staffing News

James Burns left in January to accept a position as a consultant in a public policy consulting firm. In February, **Wilma Stiltz** joined the staff of the Department on a permanent basis. Previously she had been here in a temporary capacity.

Events

Open Day

The annual Open Day for prospective PhD students will be held on Thursday, April 4 (note that it is on a Thursday this year). Graduate students who would like to assist in welcoming prospective students should contact **Mercedes Thomas**, or Professor **Igal Hendel**, the Co-Director of Graduate Admissions. The day will culminate in a reception to which all the graduate students and faculty are invited. The reception will start about 5:45PM and will be held at the John Evans Alumni Center which is at the corner of Clark Street and Sheridan Road.

Bies Lecture

This will be the sixth year of the annual Susan Bies (PhD, 1972) departmental lecture on economic policy. The lecture alternates between macro and micro-oriented lectures.

This year's speaker will be **Esther Duflo** from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The title of the talk is "Hope, Aspirations and the Design of the Fight Against Poverty." The lecture will be at 5:15PM on Thursday April 11 in Leverone Auditorium.

Second & Third Year Orientation

Professor **Elie Tamer**, the Director of Graduate Studies, will be holding mandatory meetings for the second and third year students on Wednesday, May 8. He will cover important deadlines, degree requirements, and funding availability. He will also answer your questions. The meetings will be held in lecture room 3245.

Second year students should attend from 5:15PM to 5:45PM, and third year students from 5:45PM to 6:15PM.

Nemmers Lecture

The Nemmers lecture by **Daron Acemoglu** will be at 4:30PM on Wednesday, May 15. It will be titled "State

Building: A Political Economy Perspective.” The lecture will be held in the McCormick Auditorium of the Allen Center. All faculty, staff and graduate students are invited. Following the lecture, everyone is invited to a reception in the area behind the auditorium.

Nemmers Conference

A conference will be held at the Allen Center on Thursday and Friday May 16-17. This is associated with the awarding of the Nemmers Prize.

There will be keynote addresses by Simon Johnson (Massachusetts Institute of Technology); Jörn-Steffen Pischke (London School of Economics), Robert Shimer (University of Chicago), and Laura Veldkamp (New York University), and eight other papers.

The preliminary program will be posted in the Events > Nemmers section of our web site within the next couple of weeks.

Free on-line registration will be needed. Registration will open after Spring Break. Watch for an e-mail announcement.

Job Market Orientation

Students who are thinking about going on the market next year should attend an introductory meeting scheduled for 5:15PM on Monday, May 13 in lecture room 3245.

Professor **Matthias Doepke**, 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 is curious about the job market process is welcome.

Schwartz Lecture

The annual lecture series organized by the Kellogg School of Management to honor the late Nancy Schwartz will be at 5:45PM on Wednesday, May 22 in the McCormick Auditorium of the Allen Center. This year’s lecturer is **Hal Varian**, chief economist of Google. His topic is “Predicting the Present with Search Engine Data”

Field Course Meeting

An orientation session for students entering their second year will be held on Monday, September 23 from 1PM to 4PM in lecture room 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 the previous 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.

This Quarter’s Course Descriptions

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

See the note in the “News” section regarding unusual class meeting patterns in the first week of the Spring Quarter.

Economics 412-3

Economy Theory and Methods

Professors Ely and Sarver

TTh 1:30-3:30

Jacobs 3204

The course will survey recent research in behavioral economics. Topics will include: non-standard time preference, memory constraints, other-regarding preferences, self-control problems, and others. Some emphasis will be placed on applications to industrial organization.

Readings will be decided on and distributed in class. Students will be required to write a paper.

Economics 414-2

Economics of Information

Professor Pavan

MW 1:30-3:30

Jacobs 3204

This is the third class in the 414 sequence in this academic year, but it is listed as 414-2 in CAESAR. If this causes any problems please contact Ian Savage.

The course has two parts. The first part covers advanced topics in the theory of contracts and mechanism design: envelope theorems for stochastic dynamic problems, ratcheting, renegotiation-proofness, type-dependent participation constraints, dynamic VCG mechanisms, bandit auctions, dynamic profit-maximizing mechanisms, competing principals.

The second part examines models of coordination under incomplete information: global games, equilibrium selection, higher order uncertainty, beauty contests, social value of information and coordination.

Evaluation is based on a final take-home exam.

Economics 415-1

Advanced Microeconomics

Professor Strulovici

TTh 6-8pm

Jacobs 3245

This course covers optimal control and stopping theory as well as applications of the theory to economic problems. The course starts with an introduction to stochastic processes, stochastic calculus, and stochastic control, with a focus on continuous time, including topics such as the smooth pasting condition, the Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman equation, and the Martingale Representation Theorem. The techniques are then applied to models such as optimal portfolio choice, optimal entry/exit decisions, and dynamic Principal-Agent models.

The course will also show how to establish comparative statics results in dynamic models, such as monotonicity of

the value function and of the optimal stopping time or optimal control, as well as other properties of the value function (convexity, homogeneity). The course also covers models of optimal learning and experimentation, including a study of the multi-armed bandit problem (discrete time).

Evaluation is by problem sets, a paper presentation, and the submission of a research project or review paper.

Economics 416-3

Advanced Macroeconomics

Professor Doepke

TTh 9-11

Jacobs 3204

This class covers topics at the intersection of macroeconomics with development economics and economic growth. The first part of the class will be devoted to "family macroeconomics." Issues such as fertility choice, household bargaining, female labor supply, models of marriage and divorce, and intergenerational preference transmission will be discussed.

The second part of the class will deal with political economy in macroeconomics. In particular, voting models and models of institutional change will be discussed.

Evaluation will be by problem sets, class participation, and by the submission and presentation of a paper idea.

Economics 420-1

American Economic History

Professor Ferrie

Will now be held in Fall Quarter 2013.

Economics 425-3

Theory of Economic Development

Professor Beaman

MW 1:30-3:30

Jacobs 3245

This course focuses on the application of theory and econometrics to provide students with a solid background to do applied microeconomic research. Applications will relate to empirical microeconomic issues in developing

countries while drawing on evidence from labor economics as appropriate. The course will cover topics including: agriculture, labor markets (in developing and some papers on developed countries), education, experimental techniques, and social interactions.

Economics 450-3

Industrial Organization and Prices

Professor Hendel

TTh 11-1

Jacobs 3245

The course will cover papers in two areas (1) empirics of contracts, and (2) estimation of dynamic industrial organization models. The former will cover empirical attempts at testing contract theories, including hidden information as well as incentive models. The second part covers dynamic estimation methods and their application to industrial organization.

Economics 481-3

Econometrics

Professor Torgovitsky

MW 6-8pm

Jacobs 3204

Heterogeneous Treatment Response.

This course covers topics on identification and inference in microeconomic models that allow for endogeneity and general forms of heterogeneity. Topics include matching estimators, instrumental variables, regression discontinuity design, nonlinear difference-in-differences, and recent work on panel data. Brief coverage of nonparametric estimation techniques will be provided as needed. Evaluation is by weekly reports, a presentation and a research proposal.

Economics 498-1

Advanced Topics in Economics

Professor Whinston

T 3:30-6:30

Jacobs 3204

The course will cover selected topics in industrial organization and/or the theory of organizations. Course requirements will be announced at the first class.

Finance 520-0

Topics in Finance

Professors Andersen and Krishnamurthy

TTh 10:30-12

Jacobs 4214

The objective of the class is to expose students to topics/papers that could potentially be a dissertation topic. The course is designed for second-year students who have taken corporate finance, asset pricing and macroeconomics.

The first 5 weeks (Krishnamurthy) will analyze crisis as a "bubble" phase followed by a bursting which was amplified because of leverage and financial intermediation frictions. The lectures will go over the main themes in this narrative: (1) financial intermediation; (2) bubbles; and (3) aggregate liquidity and leverage.

The second 5 weeks (Andersen) focuses on extracting information from option prices and other derivatives along with the underlying assets under realistic assumptions regarding stochastic volatility and jumps in asset prices. The emphasis is to learn about the variance risk premium, the market for volatility trading, and the manifestation of the volatility and jump risk factors for general asset pricing issues, including the equity risk premium. The concept of realized volatility is critical for this topic as well, so we also review the measurement and forecasting of model-free volatility.

There are no exams. The course will be graded based on (group) homework assignments and a project plus critical paper review, completed individually.

Finance 530

Empirical Methods in Finance

Professor Bandyopadhyay

Th 6:30-9:30pm

Room TBA

This is a course on empirical asset pricing with a focus on the topics of current research interests and dynamic models in continuous-time. Topics include: (1) systematic risk factors in cross-section and time-series of asset returns; (2) return predictability; (3) the stochastic nature of volatility and variance risk premium; (4) models for term-structure of risk-free rates

and factors affecting bond risk premium; and (5) the current state of research on long-standing empirical puzzles, such as, the equity premium puzzle. The course has a broad coverage and a long reading list including the classic literature and a set of working papers.

This is not a course on financial econometrics. The emphasis will be given to “the ideas” from the current literature. The course will examine empirical evidence of existing theory and provide a roadmap of ideas for future theoretical inquiry. Thus the course will review the necessary asset pricing theory along the way (with a tilt towards continuous-time models).

The course grade will be based on writing referee reports, class presentation of a paper (preferably your own working paper), and on weekly homework. Tutorial sessions will be held on MATLAB and WRDS, which will help doing some of the assignments.

MECS 460-3

Foundations of Management Economics

Professor Dziuda

T 10-1

Jacobs 586

This course covers conflict and cooperation among rational decision makers in economic, political and social systems. Topics include games in extensive and normal forms; repeated games (bargaining, prisoner’s dilemma); games with incomplete information (signaling models, games with communication / cheap talk, reputation, global games); and the concept of common knowledge.

Evaluation is by several problem sets and a final exam. Selected readings will be announced in class. Useful textbooks for reference are *Game Theory – Analysis of Conflict* by Roger B. Myerson (Harvard U.P., 1997) or *Game Theory* by Fudenberg and Tirole (MIT Press, 1991).

MECS 462

Decision Theory

Professor Hu

W 9-12

Jacobs 586

This is a course on the theory of individual decision making under uncertainty. The material covered falls into the following broad topics: (1) classical axiomatic foundations; (2) ambiguity; (3) exchangeability and inter-temporal choices; (4) flexibility; and (5) testing, bounded rationality and complexity.

MECS 466

Social Choice and Voting Models

Professor Egorov

M 2 -5

Jacobs 586

First meeting, April 8. The course focuses on collective decision-making, both from a theoretical and a more applied view. It starts with classical results from social choice theory, and then looks at strategic behavior in collective decision-making: elections, voting in committees, agenda selection and legislative bargaining. The course looks at both preference aggregation and information aggregation in voting, as well as theories of participation and turnout. Finally, these results will be applied to issues like voting on voters, dynamics of political institutions, and coordination games.

Students are expected to attend and participate in class discussion, as well as make a presentation about a paper from the reading list at the beginning of a class. By the end of the term, students are expected to write a paper which either explores an original idea, or has a critical review of several related papers. The recommended textbook for the class is Austen-Smith and Banks *Positive Political Theory (I, II)* (University of Michigan Press, 2000, 2005).

MECS 473

Conflict and Cooperation

Professor Baliga

M 3-6

Jacobs 561

This course will offer a theoretical treatment of conflict and cooperation. It will study the fundamental causes of conflict (positive analysis) and possible solutions that create cooperation (normative analysis).

Positive analyses will focus on conflict caused by payoff uncertainty or asymmetric information, the inability to commit to honor agreements, income inequality, fractionalization of the population into distinct and antagonistic groups and extremists who attempt to manipulate conflict to achieve their ends. This part of the course will cover topics such as the reciprocal fear of surprise attack, global games, wars of attrition, bargaining and coalition-formation.

Normative analyses will focus on communication, mechanism design and institutions and their impact on cooperation.

MECS 475

The Economics of Organizations

Professor Matouschek

M 3:45-5:15 W 11:15-12:45 room TBA

The goal of this course is to prepare the student to contribute to the field of organizational economics. For this purpose, the course will discuss both classic and recent papers, including job market papers from the last few years. Most of the papers that discussed are theoretical. To motivate these papers, however, and to help the student get started on their own research projects, you will also read more broadly about organizations, including empirical papers, cases, and non-academic articles and books. The intention is that by the end of the course, when you come across an empirical observation or an informal argument about organizations, you can write down a model to try to make sense of it.

MECS 478

Introduction to Applied Econometrics III:
 Research Design for Causal Inference
 Professor Black
 MW 4:30-6:30 room TBA

The course will cover the design of true randomized experiments and contrast them to quasi- or “natural” experiments and to pure “observational studies”, where part of the sample is “treated” in some way, and the remainder is a “control group”, but the researcher controls neither the assignment of units to treatment and control groups nor administration of the treatment. The course will assess the causal inferences one can and cannot draw from a particular research design, threats to valid inference, and research designs that can mitigate those threats.

The goal of the course is credible causal inference, and the study of how to design research to come closer to that goal, using messy, real-world datasets with limited sample sizes. The course emphasizes intuition and hands-on work with real data (in Stata).

MECS 485

Empirical Issues in Strategy
 Professor Watanabe (coordinator)
 W 1-4 Jacobs 586

This course explores empirical methods used in industrial organization, strategy, and related fields, and ten faculty members of the Department of Management and Strategy will co-teach the course. The course exposes students to a wide variety of empirical techniques and emphasizes how the researcher can choose from a rich set of econometric methods to address interesting research questions. This course should help students to (1) understand empirical research in business economics and (2) perceive and comprehend numerous empirical avenues that can be used in one’s own research.

Evaluation is by a referee report and a 10 page research proposal. Reading list of related papers is provided for each week.

Economics 501 Seminar

Third Year Students

The seminar will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays at 11am during the Spring Quarter in lecture room 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, based on the random order announced 12-months ago, is:

Week of	Monday	Wednesday
1-Apr	Selezneva*	Gallen
8-Apr	Romeo	Pram
15-Apr	Doval	Chu
22-Apr	Farooque	Gaetani
29-Apr	Zimran	Pique Cebrecos
6-May	Labiano	Mamadehussene
13-May	Bird	Khosroshahi
20-May	Jain	Li
27-May	No Class	Catepillan
3-Jun	Song	Park
10-Jun	Sun	Saade Ospina

*Note that in the first week of class this presentation is on Tuesday April 2

Pareto-improving exchanges are permissible, but should be coordinated with Professor Pavan.

Second Year Students

Second year students should start to work on their first 501 paper which must be submitted for faculty approval by July 31. This paper will then be presented in the Fall. The second paper will be presented next Spring.

The presentation order for 501 papers has always been determined by a random number generator, and is conducted independently for the Fall and Spring. Here is the order for next year. The actual assignment of people to dates and times will be announced in the September and March *Graduate Connection*:

Fall Quarter

Gitlin, Sergey
 Reich, Dean
 Chapman, Stephanie
 Krishnamurthy, Anand
 Rodina, David
 Takahashi, Yuta
 Mensch, Jeffrey
 Bet, Germán
 Luo, Xi (Victor)
 Cianciaruso, Davide
 Mekonnen, Teddy
 Kohls, Sebastian
 Kropf, Andreas
 Wagner, Amy
 Farragut, John
 Budanova, Sofya

Spring Quarter

Kropf, Andreas
 Kohls, Sebastian
 Mensch, Jeffrey
 Bet, Germán
 Budanova, Sofya
 Krishnamurthy, Anand
 Chapman, Stephanie
 Takahashi, Yuta
 Luo, Xi (Victor)
 Cianciaruso, Davide
 Farragut, John
 Rodina, David
 Mekonnen, Teddy
 Gitlin, Sergey
 Wagner, Amy
 Reich, Dean

Second year students may wish to attend some of this spring’s seminars in order to get some idea of expectations for 501 papers.

2013-14 Quarter Dates

Fall: **Tues** Sept 24 - Fri Dec 13
 Winter: Mon Jan 6 - Fri March 21
 Spring: Mon March 31 - Fri June 13

Formal Announcements

Funding Guidelines

The Department has formal rules for the allocation of funding for students in years

two through six. This document is posted on our web site. Please read this document as *the Department strictly enforces these funding criteria.*

In general the cutoff date for meeting the requirements for funding is July 31. However, the cutoff date for the prospectus is August 31. In summary, funding requirements are:

Second Year: Passed two or more prelims at the June sitting and have met the language requirement to be a TA. (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 501 paper.

Fourth Year: Dissertation prospectus by August 31 (includes completing course work and two 501 papers)

Fifth and Sixth Year: Committee chair certifies that you will be on the job market. (Funding is a combination of University Fellowships and TAships.)

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 affect 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 2013 Sitting

Wed June 19 Microeconomics
Wed June 26 Macroeconomics
Wed July 3 Econometrics

All examinations will be held 1PM - 4PM.

Fall 2013 Sitting

Tues Sept 3 Microeconomics
Wed Sept 4 Macroeconomics
Thur Sept 5 Econometrics

All examinations will be held 1PM - 4PM. Note that these dates are *after* Labor Day.

Dissertation Prospectus

Third year students should have been thinking about preparing for their dissertation prospectus, which marks the end of the taught course part of their studies, and the formation of a dissertation committee. Please familiarize yourself with the administrative procedures for the thesis prospectus, which are posted on our web page in the section on goals for second and third year students.

TA Periods in Residence

Each quarter that you are a TA, you are expected to be in Evanston on weekdays from the first day of classes until the Monday after examinations end (which is the day that grades are filed). Absences during this period require permission of the instructor. 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 25
Spring: Tues April 2 - Mon June 17

Attention Next Year's TAs

If you expect to be a TA next fall you need to be aware of the following arrangements:

TA Preference Forms The forms that allow TAs to indicate their preferences for classes will be placed in your mailbox in the main office about September 9 They will also be available on-line for anyone who is away from Evanston. Completed forms have to be

returned by September 18. Unfortunately, the allocation can only be announced late on Friday, September 20 because we do not know enrollment in 201 and 202 until enrollment closes that afternoon. Classes start on the following Tuesday.

New TA Training The University runs a full-day training session for new TAs. It will be held on Thursday, September 19 from 9:00am to 5:30pm, 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 TA for the first time next year, please arrange your schedules so that you are available in Evanston on that date.

Next Holiday Season All TAs will have to be in Evanston until Monday lunchtime on December 16 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 5 for the start of winter classes.

Office Allocations

The Department is short of space for graduate student carrels. We only have 56 carrel spaces, and we have almost 100 post-first-year students wanting space.

Based on a suggestion from the Graduate Studies Committee, students are allocated to a room rather than to a specific carrel. The number of students allocated to each room exceeds the number of carrels. The students allocated to that room then coordinate among themselves to determine who wished to use the room at what times of day and coordinate sharing of individual carrels.

The space allocation for next year will be announced just prior to 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

Note that the Graduate School is now awarding degrees four times a year and not just twice a year. You can now graduate in June (and attend the commencement ceremonies) and in August.

April 19 for submitting the *Application for a Degree* to permit you to participate in the June Commencement ceremony and receive your diploma.

May 10 for submission of completed dissertation and all supporting materials to the Graduate School to receive a Ph.D. degree in June.

May 17 for submitting Master's Candidate Certification for students expecting a Master's degree in June.

July 5 for submitting the *Application for a Degree* to graduate in August.

August 2 for submission of completed dissertation and all supporting materials to the Graduate School to receive a Ph.D. degree in August.

August 9 for submitting Master's Candidate Certification for students expecting a Master's degree in August.

Commencement Arrangements

The main Commencement ceremonies will be held on Friday June 21 at 9:30AM at Ryan Field. Late in April students expecting to graduate in June will receive information regarding ordering academic costume and information about Commencement, including ticket information.

The Graduate School also organizes a "hooding ceremony." This is held from 3PM to 5PM on Thursday June 20 in Cahn Auditorium. At this event, your Ph.D. advisor will present you with your degree. If you are expecting to graduate this June, now is the time to ensure that your advisor is available and willing to attend. If he or she is unavailable then you should ask for one of your other committee members to substitute.

Students Working on NSF Grants

Under new federal legislation, the National Science Foundation (NSF) has started requiring all students supported by NSF to undergo training in the responsible conduct of research. This will be accomplished by a one-time registration in ECON 519 that has two components: an online class and a "face-to-face" component. The online part asks the student to complete a 2-3 hour online class administered by a private company that Northwestern has hired. DGS Professor **Elie Tamer** will lead the face-to-face part of the class.

If you are being supported on an NSF grants for the first time, please contact Professor Tamer for instructions.

Funding Opportunities

Funding Web Page

There is a web page listing non-departmental sources of funding that you can connect to 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 \$3,000, and there is funding for one conference a year that covers up to a maximum of \$700. Full details of the application procedures and links to application forms are on the funding web page.

Notes

Next Graduate Connection

Volume 19, number 1 will be published after Labor Day in the week of Sept. 2.