



**Kentucky Economic  
Association**

**2016  
ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**CONFERENCE  
PROGRAM**

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*Gatton College of Business  
550 South Limestone  
University of Kentucky  
Lexington, KY 40506*

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Parking Structure 5  
409 South Limestone  
Lexington, KY 40506*

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## **2016 KENTUCKY DISTINGUISHED ECONOMIST**

**Dr. Eugenia F. Toma**  
**Wendell H. Ford Professor of Public Policy**  
**Martin School of Public Policy and Administration**  
**University of Kentucky**



Eugenia F. Toma is the Wendell H. Ford Professor of Public Policy in the Martin School of Public Policy & Administration and, as of spring, 2016, University Research Professor. She is a native of Monroe County, KY and a graduate of Tompkinsville High School. She received the B.A. in Economics from the University of Kentucky and the Ph.D. in Economics from Virginia Tech. Dr. Toma is an applied micro economist with long-term interests in the economics of schooling and economics of the political process. She is interested in why particular institutional structures are chosen for the provision of public services and the consequences for consumers, interest groups, and decision makers. Her research has considered topics as diverse as school choice, school financing approaches, the choice of Kentucky counties to be dry, the effects of teacher certification requirements on school outcomes, and the effects of peers on student outcomes in public and private schools. Her current research focus is on the types of structural reforms necessary for improving rural school quality with a special focus on Appalachian schools. Dr. Toma has published extensively in public policy and economics journals including *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, and *Journal of Public Economics*. In addition to her scholarly work, she also has written technical reports for groups such as the National Institute for Education, the Treasury of New Zealand, and state school agencies. In 1999, she was selected to deliver the annual lecture in the Virginia Political Economy Lecture Series in honor of 1986 Nobel Laureate in the Economic Sciences, James Buchanan. As a Fulbright Fellow to New Zealand in 1992, Toma worked with The Treasury and the Ministry of Education to analyze school reform initiatives in New Zealand. In 1998-99, she served as economics program director for the National Science Foundation (NSF). In 2003-04, she served as President of the Southern Economic Association and served as President of the National Association for Schools of Public Affairs and Administration in 2004-05. She served as Director of the Martin School from 1995-2004.

# **Conference Schedule**

## **Friday October 21, 2016**

### **Registration and Welcome**

**8:30-9:00AM**

Woodward Event Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Gatton College of Business  
Coffee and Danish Provided

### **Concurrent Sessions A**

**9AM -10 AM Sessions**

#### **Session A1: Impacting Educational Outcomes**

Room: 230

Chair: M. Gray Hunter, University of Kentucky

Presenters: Alan Bartley, Transylvania University  
Does Service-Learning Help Economics Student Learn Better?

Erin Yetter, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Louisville Branch  
Measuring the Impact of New State Standards on the Economic Knowledge of  
Kentucky Teachers

M. Gray Hunter, University of Kentucky  
How Students Form and Update Their Educational Expectations as they  
Transition from High School

Discussants: Paul Hamilton, Asbury University  
Chenxu Hu, University of Kentucky  
Martin Milkman, Murray State University

#### **Session A2: Economics of Finance and Insurance**

Room: 330

Chair: Nancy Sowers, Berea College

Presenters: Timothy Bianco, University of Kentucky  
Financial Constraints, Net Worth, and the Reallocation of Credit

Rohnn Sanderson and Nancy Sowers, Brescia University and Berea College  
Buy and Hold in the New Age of Stock Market Volatility: A Story about ETFs.

Timothy Harris, University of Kentucky  
Life Insurance Death Spiral? Analyzing Adverse Selection in the Group Market

Discussants: Cathy Carey, Western Kentucky University  
Tim Bianco, University of Kentucky  
Conor Lennin, University of Louisville

**Session A3: International Economics**

Room: 430

Chair: Abdul Turay, Kentucky State University

Presenters: Hao Guo, University of Kentucky  
External Integration, Internal Liberalization, and Coastal Agglomeration

Kimmel Evans, Kentucky Community and Technical College System  
The Economic Effects of Pope Francis on the World

Andrew Jonelis, University of Kentucky  
Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa: New Instrument and Spillover Effects

Discussants: Abdul Turay, Kentucky State University  
George Allen, Asbury College  
Jinyi Xu, Murray State University

**Session A4: Digging into Agricultural Markets**

Room: 323J

Chair: John Garen, University of Kentucky

Presenters: Jessica Richard, University of Kentucky  
Understanding the Dairy Production Response to Past and Present Dairy Policies

Elham Darbandi, University of Kentucky  
The U.S Meat Value Chain

Benjamin Wallace, University of Kentucky  
Nonlinear Pricing: Evidence of Price discrimination in the Fluid Milk Market.

Discussants: John Garen, University of Kentucky  
Mike Clark, University of Kentucky  
Thomas Jones, Governor's Office for Economic Analysis

**Session A5: Undergraduate Research Papers 1**

Room: 435U&V

Chair: Abdullah Al-Bahrani

Presenters: Jessica C. Wellman, Western Kentucky University  
Tipping The Scales: Is Right-to-Work Legislation on the Path to Prosperity?

Emilie S. O'Connor, Centre College  
Determinants of Character Death in Commonly Performed Operas

Rachel Jarrold-Grapes, Centre College  
Effects of Race and Education Perceptions on Educational Attainment

Matthew Young, Berea College  
Is OPEC Over? Analyzing OPEC's Strategies in an Expanding Energy Market.

**Concurrent Sessions B**

**10:10am – 11:10am Sessions**

**Session B1: Behavioral Models in Economics**

Room: 323J

Chair: Cathy Carey, Western Kentucky

Presenters: Junyi Xu, Murray State University  
Bounded Rationality and the Ineffectiveness of Big Push Policy

George Allen, Asbury University  
The Chief Customer Officer: Impact on Shareholder Value and the Mediating Role of Customer Satisfaction

Cathy Carey, Western Kentucky University  
Trust But Verify? The Roles of Trust and Deceit in the Sustainability of Illegal Ponzi Schemes

Discussants: Jenny Minier, University of Kentucky  
Tony Creane, University of Kentucky  
Adib Bagh, University of Kentucky

**Session B2: Designing Education Policy**

Room: 230

Chair: Chenxu Hu, University of Kentucky

Presenters: Martin Milkman, Murray State  
An Analysis of Mathematics Requirements and Recommendations for Admission to PhD Programs in Economics

Erin Yetter, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis - Louisville Branch  
Do State Education Mandates Effect Student Knowledge of Economics?

Chenxu Hu, University of Kentucky  
China's college premium and its inter-cohort heterogeneity: Evidence from CHIP 2007 & 2013

Discussants: Carla Nietfield, University of Kentucky  
Nicholas Moellman, University of Kentucky  
Alan Bartley, Transylvania University

**Session B3: Law and Economics**

Room: 330

Chair: Jose Fernandez, University of Louisville

Presenters: Richard M. Smith, LG&E and KU  
Rate Structure and Technology Adoption Incentives in the Electric Utility Industry

Robert Perez, University of Kentucky  
Eminent Domain Legislation and the Effects on Homeownership.

Jose M. Fernandez, University of Louisville  
The Unintended Consequence of Restrictive Alcohol policies on the Restaurant Industry

Discussants: Frank Scott, University of Kentucky  
Rohnn Sanderson, Brescia University  
Frank Scott, University of Kentucky

**Session B4: The Practice of Economic Education**

Room: 430

Chair: Darshak Patel, University of Kentucky

Presenters: Thomas Creahan, Morehead State University  
Animating Graphs to Teach Microeconomics

Alejandro Dellachiesa, University of Kentucky  
Teaching Research Methods to Undergraduates

Darshak Patel, University of Kentucky  
Does Mathiness Matter? How Student Perceptions Create Barriers to Economics

Discussants: Gail Hoyt, University of Kentucky  
Darshak Patel, University of Kentucky  
Steven Locke, Western Kentucky University

**Session B5: Undergraduate Research Papers 2**

Room: 435U&V

Chair: Charles Hokayem, Centre College

Presenters: Benjamin Hovey, Northern Kentucky University  
The Effects of Labor Force Participation Rates on Income and Income Inequality

Even Hintz, Centre College  
Factors Affecting the Prices of Glass Artwork

George Lynch, Centre College  
Determinants of Coin Price

Hannah Gomez, Kentucky State University  
The Hidden Cost of Free Trade



**Concurrent Sessions C**  
**11:15am – 12:15pm**

**Session C1: Sustainability and the Environment**

Room : 230

Chair: Steven Locke

Presenters: Mel Evans, Kentucky Community and Technical College System  
What is Sustainability, Really

Willie Bedell, University of Kentucky  
Hedonic Valuation of Greenspace Amenities and School District Boundaries in Fayette County

Steven Locke, Western Kentucky University  
Do the Major Leagues Cause Major Problems? The Impact of Professional Sports Facilities on Local Air Pollution

Discussants: Glenn Blomquist, University of Kentucky  
Daniel Vazzana, Georgetown College  
Tom Creahan, Morehead State University

**Session C2: Health and Welfare Economics**

Room: 323J

Chair: Volker Grzimek, Berea College

Presenters: Grayson Forlines, University of Kentucky  
Does Medicaid Fraud-Control Reduce Medicaid Spending?

Kathline Hartch and Frank O'Connor, Eastern Kentucky University  
Regional and Behavioral Aspects of Mortality at Midlife in Kentucky 1999-2014

Paul Hamilton, Asbury University  
The Earned Income Credit for All

Discussants: Volker Grzimek, Berea College  
Mike Childress, University of Kentucky  
Tim Harris, University of Kentucky

**Session C3: Labor Economics**

Room: 330

Chair: Michael Jones, Governor's Office for Policy Research

Presenters: Hyungjo Hur, Ohio State University  
How job mismatch affects differently in wage and job turnover by gender?: Why males want to change occupations more ?

Conor Lennon, University of Louisville  
The Individual-specific Incidence of Employer-provided Health Insurance

Michael Jones, Governor's Office for Policy Research  
Extended Unemployment Benefits and the Long-term Unemployed – Evidence from Kentucky

Discussants: Michael Jones, Governor's Office for Policy Research  
John Garen, University of Kentucky  
M. Gray Hunter, University of Kentucky

**Session C4: Local Public Finance**

Room: 430

Chair: Carla Nietfeld, University of Kentucky

Presenters: Nicholas Moellman, University of Kentucky  
Fiscal Structure and Program Response Over the Business Cycle

Steven Gordon, University of Kentucky  
The Earmark Ban and the Distribution of Federal Funds

Carla Nietfeld, University of Kentucky  
Do Educational Investments Affect Aggregate Earnings and Employment Across State Borders?

Discussants: Nancy Sowers, Berea College  
Erin Yetter, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Louisville Branch  
Jose Fernandez, University of Louisville

**Session C5: Undergraduate Research Papers 3**

Room: 435U&V

Chair: Carlos Lopes, Eastern Kentucky University

Presenters: Corey Rusko, Centre College (U. Alabama)

A Blunt Analysis: Marijuana Policy Liberalization and Market Prices in Colorado and Washington

Chris Desmarais, University of Kentucky

A Comparison of the US and Canadian Health Care Systems and Their Treatment of Less Populated Areas

Harrison Kirby, Centre College

The Determinants of Income in Louisville, Kentucky

Eve Ann Jones, Kentucky State University

Brain Aneurysm and Its Financial Implications

**Luncheon, Awards and Speaker**

**12:15 – 1:45**

Woodward Event Space

Awards

Dr. Eugenia F Toma, Distinguished Kentucky Economist

**Plenary Panel Session: Six Years after the ACA: Where are we?**

**1:45- 2:45pm**

Room 311

Glen Mays, Scutchfield Endowed Professor and Director of Center for Public Health Services and Systems Research at the University of Kentucky

Joseph A. Benitez, Department of Health Management and Systems Sciences, University of Louisville.

Aaron Yelowitz, Department of Economics, University of Kentucky

David Zimmer, Department of Economics, Western Kentucky University

John Garen, Moderator

**KEA Business Meeting**

**3pm – 4pm**

Woodward Event Space

**Kentucky Economic Association  
Roll of Distinguished Economists**

James Martin	1975	Gerald Lynch	1996
William Herzel	1976	Ronald Jones	1997
Marlon Gillium	1977	Price Fishback	1998
Don Soule	1978	James Ramsey	1999
Clifton Lowry	1979	Kerry Back	2000
Paul Tanner	1980	Eugene Steurle	2002
Damon Harrison	1981	Margaret Walls	2003
Charles Haywood	1982	Merl Hackbart	2004
Charles Hultman	1983	Donald Kenkel	2005
James Thompson	1984	W. Kip Viscusi	2006
Lawrence Lynch	1985	Ralph d'Arge	2007
Stephen Lile	1986	John Whitehead	2008
Roy Bahi	1990	Glenn Blomquist	2009
Jaunita Kreps	1991	Jeffrey Lacker	2010
Ray Marshall	1992	Amitabh Chandra	2011
Paul McCracken	1993	James J. Heckman	2012
Benjamin Friedman	1994	Jerry R. Skees	2013
Alan Randall	1995	Paul A. Coomes	2014
La Vaughn M. Henry	2015	Eugenia F. Toma	2016

## Index of Participants

Last Name	First Name	Sessions
Al-Bahrani	Abdullah	A5,B5,C5
Allen	George	A3, B1
Bagh	Adib	B1
Bartley	Alan	A1, B2
Bedell	Willie	C1
Bianco	Timothy	A2
Blomquist	Glenn	C1
Carey	Cathy	A2, B1
Childress	Mike	C2
Clark	Mike	A4
Creahan	Thomas	B4, C1
Creane	Tony	B1
Darbandi	Elham	A4
Dellachiesa	Alejandro	B4
Desmarais	Chris	C5
Evans	Kimmel	A3
Evans	Mel	C1
Fernandez	Jose M	B3, C4
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Garen	John	A4, C3
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Hovey	Benjamin	B5
Hoyt	Gail	B4
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Jarrold-Grapes	Rachel	A5
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Jones	Eve Ann	C5
Jones	Michael	C3
Jones	Thomas	A4
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Last Name	First Name	Sessions
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Moellman	Nicholas	B2, C4
Nietfeld	Carla	B2, C4
O'Connor	Emilie S	A5
O'Connor	Frank	C2
Patel	Darshak	B4
Perez	Robert	B3
Richard	Jessica	A4
Rusko	Corey	C5
Sanderson	Rohnn	A2, B3
Scott	Frank	B3
Smith	Richard M.	B3
Sowers	Nancy	A2, C4
Turay	Abdul	A3
Vazzana	Daniel	C1
Wallace	Benjamin	A4
Wellman	Jessica Canada	A5
Xu	Junyi	A3, B1
Yetter	Erin	A1,B2, C4
Young	Matthew	A5