THE PAST YEAR HAS BEEN MARKED BY many accomplishments of ARE’s faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students, with the support of our dedicated staff. Many memorable moments from 2017 are covered in this publication, the inaugural annual ARE newsletter. The year was also marked by many transitions. Kathy Edgington (Computer Services) and Duncan Pohl (Business Office) retired. Arnon Erba (Computer Services) joined the staff. Assistant Professor Bulat Gafarov joined the faculty, and Continuing Lecturer Marilyn Whitney and CE Specialist Shermain Hardesty retired. Shermain continues to work on projects as a CE Specialist Emerita. It is an honor to work with the dedicated faculty, lecturers, researchers, graduate students, and staff of our department. I look forward to our continued success in 2018.

MANAGERIAL ECONOMICS SENIORS PRESENT HONORS THESIS RESEARCH

As part of the Undergraduate Honors Thesis program, Managerial Economics seniors presented their original, independent research papers to students and faculty in the Agricultural and Resource Economics Library in March 2017. Some students later presented at the Undergraduate Research Conference in the spring, and Julie Beppler was featured in a UC Davis blog promoting how her research into local menu design developed sought-after skills and enhanced her resume. This two-quarter program is designed to give outstanding, committed, and hard-working students the opportunity to work closely with a faculty member and get involved in academic research.

THE UNDERGRADUATE HONORS THESIS program is open to seniors majoring in Managerial Economics with a minimum overall GPA of 3.5.
Student-Alumni Career Day Success

Managerial Economics majors learned tips about finding jobs after graduation at Student-Alumni Career Day 2017. The fact that the advice came from Managerial Economics alumni, who are now successful professionals across a variety of occupations, made it even more valuable.

“I think it’s a fantastic day,” said Benjamen Luu, a Managerial Economics student on track to earn his bachelor’s degree in June 2019. “It allows a lot of students the opportunity to network and speak to former UC Davis graduates to learn more about their industries.”

Organized by student services staff of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ARE), this annual event included workshops in accounting, internships/study abroad, marketing/sales, agribusiness/supply-chain management, consulting, data analytics, finance/investment banking, human resources, and risk management.

“The workshops are great,” Luu said. “The ones I chose really gave me an eye-opening experience about how the speakers developed their skills and what skills are necessary to succeed in that position.”

Further advice was shared during the “student-alumni networking opportunity,” a favorite part of the day for many. The attending alumni sat at tables organized by field, and students visited whomever they chose in order to learn about preferred career paths or job industries.

Alexey Silin, graduating with a Managerial Economics bachelor’s degree in December 2017, enjoyed the informal nature of the networking tables.

“I think it’s an awesome event and I would recommend it to any student,” Silin said. “And I would not wait until your senior year. I would go to these as soon as possible.”

ARE student services staff ended the day expressing thanks to all alumni, faculty, staff, and peer advisors who helped make the event possible.

“We truly hope students gain as much as they can from this annual event, especially with all the support so many give in making it possible,” said Justin Smalley, undergraduate advisor in Managerial Economics. “The students are truly fortunate to have such great alumni willing to take time out of their busy lives to help them out.”

Students and Faculty Benefit from Bloomberg Terminal Access

Managerial Economics students are now able to see financial markets come to life via the Bloomberg Terminal, a highlight of ARE 139 Futures and Options Markets.

The Bloomberg Terminal is a comprehensive database utilized worldwide by financial firms to access real-time market data, news and research, analytics, and more. This valuable resource requires an annual subscription and having access to it is considered a necessity in the financial industry.

“I enjoyed having the terminal in class,” a student wrote in a survey. “It solidified concepts and gave me a preview into what real-life markets would look like in the workplace.”

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