

# 2024 Great Plains Economic and Business Conference



Bellevue University—Bellevue, Nebraska

## “Identifying and Seizing Upon Midwest Business and Labor Growth Opportunities”

Friday, October 25, 2024

- 8:00 a.m.**      **Registration, Refreshments, and Check-in with Tech Support (Lobby)**
- 8:15-9:00 a.m.**   **NEBA Business Meeting (Symposium Room)**
- 9:05 a.m.**      **Welcome and Opening Remarks (Symposium Room)**  
Dean Rebecca Murdock, Ed.D., MBA, College of Business, Bellevue University
- 9:10 a.m.**      **Award Presentations (Symposium Room)**  
David Carpenter, CMA, CFM, CPA, Professor of Accounting and Business Administration, Hastings College, NEBA Secretary/Treasurer
- 9:20-9:30 a.m.**   **Coffee Break**
- 9:30 a.m.**      **Paper Presentations (Sessions A and B running concurrently)**

### **Session A: Symposium Room**

#### **“Are Students Sexist when Grading Each Other? Bias in Peer Grading and a Generalization to the Rubric-Based Estimator”**

Ben O. Smith, PhD, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Jadrian J. Wooten, PhD, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

#### **“Double Major Dilemma”**

Seungmin Mike Yang, Ph.D. Candidate, Kansas State University

#### **“To AI or not to AI, to Buy Local or not to Buy Local: A Mathematical Theory of Real Price”**

Huan Cai, PhD, Associate Professor of Finance, Cornell College

Weiyu Xu, PhD, Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering and

Professor, Applied Mathematical and Computational Sciences, University of Iowa

Catherine Xu, Student, University of Iowa

### **Session A (continued)**

#### **“Utilization of Curated Applicational Artificial Intelligence Knowledge via a Knowledge Hub Platform”**

Hyeong-Gyu Choi, PhD, Nebraska Wesleyan University

### **Session B: Multipurpose Room**

#### **“Upgrading the Good Life: Using Trends in Inter-State Migration to Modernize Nebraska’s Workforce Recruitment”**

Ethan Kimbrough, MS, Nebraska Department of Economic Development  
Kyoko Wall, Nebraska Department of Economic Development

#### **“Globalization of Food Crops and Plants”**

Meenakshi Nath Dalal, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Wayne State College

#### **“Did COVID 19 Alter Competition? An Empirical Analysis”**

David Bouras, PhD, University of Nebraska at Lincoln

#### **“Precursors to Purchase Decisions: A Social Penetration Theory Perspective”**

Phillip Frank, PhD, Pittsburg State University  
Donald Baack, PhD, Pittsburg State University

**10:45-10:55 a.m. Break**

**11:00 a.m. Student Presentations (Symposium Room)**

**“Impact of Minimum Wage, Living Wage, and Unemployment on the Economy”**  
Logan Menke, Student at Doane University

**“The Competitive Edge of a Liberal Arts Education”**  
Emily Allen, Student at Doane University

**11:30-Noon Lunch (Multipurpose Room)**

**12:00 p.m. Featured Speaker (Multipurpose Room)**

#### **“The Impact on the AG Economy”**

Clayton Becker, President, Farmers National Company, Omaha, Nebraska

**1:00-1:10 p.m. Break**

**1:10 p.m.      Featured Speaker (Multipurpose Room)**  
**“The Economic Impact of International Visitors”**  
Val McPherson, Omaha, Nebraska

**2:00-2:15 p.m.   Break/Snack (Multipurpose Room)**

**2:15 p.m.      Paper Presentations (Sessions C and D running concurrently)**

**Session C: Symposium Room**

**“Does College Enrollment Affect Retail Sales In a College Town?”**

Kristen M. Maceli, PhD, Pittsburg State University

Phillip Frank, PhD, Pittsburg State University

**“A Panel Data Sample Selection Model with a Bivariate Selection Variable:  
Application to the Estimation of Households Money Demand”**

Judex Hyppolite, PhD, Simpson College

**“The Great Lakes Economic Resurgence: Investment and Expansion in Cleveland  
and Duluth”**

Erwin F. Erhardt, III, PhD, University of Cincinnati

**Session D: Multipurpose Room**

**“Business and Labor Growth Opportunities: A Case Study of Kansas and Missouri”**

Ejiro U. Osiobe, DED, Baker University

**“Analysis of the General Aviation Jet Industry: Competition, Concentration, and  
Forecasts with an Eye on Midwest Labor Markets”**

Rob Catlett, MA Emporia State University

Brad Goebel, MBA, Fort Hays State University

Jesse Jacobs, DBA, Fort Hays State University

**“Windfall or Made Whole?”**

Michael J. O'Hara, JD., Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, University of Nebraska at Omaha

**“Dynamic Systems Theory, Motivation and Decision Making: with Apologies  
to Dr. Esther Thelen”**

John W Tiner, PhD, RN, University of Nebraska at Omaha

**4:05 p.m.      Adjournment**