

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA  
RICHARDS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2002 – 2003**

**PRESENTED TO DR. JACK JOHNSON, DEAN**

**BY DR. DAVID BOLDT, CHAIR**

**JUNE 2003**

**Department of Economics**  
**2002 – 2003 Annual Report**

- Ia. University Mission Statement:** The State University of West Georgia, a charter member of the University System of Georgia, is a selectively-focused, comprehensive institution providing undergraduate and graduate public higher education in arts and sciences, business, and education, primarily to the people of West Georgia.

West Georgia offers a range of disciplinary, interdisciplinary, and professional programs at the baccalaureate level. It is also a major provider of graduate education at the master's and educational specialist's levels; further, a doctoral program in education is offered. In addition to being accredited as an institute of higher education, the University earned national accreditation or recognition in most undergraduate and graduate fields of specialization.

The purpose of West Georgia is to provide opportunities for intellectual and personal development through quality teaching, scholarly inquiry, creative endeavor, and service for the public good. The University aspires to preeminence in providing educational excellence in a personal environment through an intellectually stimulating and supportive community for its students, faculty, and staff.

- Ib. Richards College of Business Mission Statement:** The primary mission of the College is to provide quality professional education, built upon a common body of knowledge, in various functional areas to prepare students for positions of leadership in business administration and in business education.

- Ic. Department Mission Statement:** The mission of the Department of Economics is to: 1) provide a personalized and high quality undergraduate education in economics with a choice of business (B.B.A.), liberal arts or secondary education certification (B.S.), or international economics (B.A.), 2) closely work with undergraduate economics majors in helping these students gain valuable research, technological, and other career enhancing skills and help in the placement of these students in graduate school or entry level positions, 3) conduct academic research by presenting papers at conferences and by publishing in peer-review journals, 4) work closely with the Honors College to enhance the quality of the Honors experience at UWG, 5) conduct service activities including data analysis and presentations on the West Georgia economy, 6) teach service courses in economics and business statistics for all business majors, 7) participate in the Richards College of Business MBA program, 8) participate in College of Business and university international studies programs, 9) enhance the economic literacy of K-12 teachers and students through activities of the Center for Economic Education, and 10) aid in the recruiting and retention of undergraduate students.

## Departmental Statement of Goals, Processes to Assess These Goals, and Assessment Results:

- a. **Economics Department Goals (2002-2003):** The State University of West Georgia (UWG) has established “bread and butter” goals and “visionary” goals. Details on these goals can be found at the following links: [www.westga.edu/~spc/phase3/BB.html](http://www.westga.edu/~spc/phase3/BB.html) for the UWG Bread and Butter Goals (BBG) and [www.westga.edu/~spc/phase3/3x5.html](http://www.westga.edu/~spc/phase3/3x5.html) for the UWG Visionary Goals (VG). The relationship between the Economics Department goals and the university goals is indicated in parenthesis.

- Goal 1 **Economics Graduates.** Students completing the baccalaureate program with a major in Economics (B.B.A., B.S., and B.A.) will be able to demonstrate a satisfactory understanding of economic theory and its application and will be adequately prepared for the job market and/or graduate school. (BBG3)
- Goal 2 **Economics Majors and Enrollment in Major Courses.** Specific goals: i) Maintain the number of economics majors above 70. As of Spring 2002, there were a total of 74 majors, and ii) Average 20 students in economics major courses offered during 2002-03 (excluding ECON 3402, 3406 and independent study offerings). (BBG2)
- Goal 3 **Undergraduate Research and Internships.** i) At least two economics majors will make research presentations as part of the “Big Night” competition or participate in some other significant research activity. ii) At least two economics majors will gain work related experience by participating in an internship (BBG3, BBG5, BBG9, VG1)
- Goal 4 **New Faculty Position in Economics.** The Economics Department will gain approval from the administration to hire an additional (9<sup>th</sup>) full time faculty member (tenure or non-tenure track for the 2003-04 academic year. (BBG2, BBG3, BBG6).
- Goal 5 **Departmental Committee Activity.** *Curriculum Committee* Specific Goals: 1) the Curriculum Committee will review graduate course offerings of the economics department as to the level of rigor/complexity, the distinction between undergraduate/graduate offerings, and the “currentness” of instruction. This review will be completed by the end of the Fall 2002 semester; 2) the committee will present any recommendations for changes in courses and/or degree programs to the entire department by the end of the Fall 2002 semester. *Merit Committee:* the Merit Committee will review the merit evaluation policy of the department. Any recommended changes will be forwarded to the entire department by February 1, 2003. Any recommended changes should be approved by the entire department by April 1, 2003. *Textbook Committee:* the Textbook Committee will review textbook alternatives for the introductory economics courses. Any recommendation should be approved by the entire department by the end of Spring Semester 2003. (BBG3)
- Goal 6 **Faculty Development Activities.** To maintain and improve their capacity for effective teaching and research, the faculty will attend workshops, seminars, training programs, conferences and other events. Specific goal: each faculty member will devote at least 40 hours to such faculty development activities during 2002-2003. This is in addition to course preparation activities. However, new course development activities may be included in the 40 hr. total. (BBG3, BBG6, VG4)

- Goal 7      **Research, Publication and Professional Leadership.** Economics faculty will be engaged in research, publication, and other professional activities (BBG3, VG1). Specific goals:
- i)      all faculty will attend research-related sessions at an academic conference.
  - ii)     at least 75% of economics faculty will make a research presentation at an academic conference
  - iii)    an average of one article per faculty member will be published (or will accepted for publication) during 2002-2003 for a total of 7 publications for the department
  - iv)    department faculty will obtain at least one research-related grant from internal or external sources, and
  - v)     at least three department faculty will take leadership roles in state and national associations as officers, journal referees, conference organizers, etc.
- Goal 8      **Economic Forecast Breakfast.** The Economics Department will successfully conduct an Economic Forecast Breakfast in October 2002. Specific goals: the publication of a Regional Outlook for the West Georgia Region for breakfast attendees, attendance at the breakfast of 250 people or more, and financial and other support for the breakfast from at least 9 sponsors or co-sponsors. (BBG7, BBG8)
- Goal 9      **Economic Education.** The Center for Economic Education will expand its activities during 2002-2003 (BBG3, VG5). Specific goals include:
- i)      attracting at least 5 additional B.S. majors in economics interested in secondary education certification by the end of the Spring 2003 semester (4 students were majoring in Economics with Secondary Ed. as of the end of Spring Semester 2002),
  - ii)     creating a Center for Economic Education website. Once created, this website will be promoted in the West Georgia service area,
  - iii)    conducting, with the assistance of the Georgia Council for Economic Education, at least two economics workshop for K-12 teachers in the West Georgia region, and
  - iv)    working with the West Georgia College of Education and the Georgia Council of Economic Education to develop an attractive summer course for K-12 teachers to be offered during Summer 2003.
- Goal 10     **Media Assistance and Maintenance of an Economic Database for West Georgia.** The Economics Department faculty will continue to work with media outlets in providing insights on the local, state and national economy. The Economics Department will also continue to maintain its web-based database for counties in the West Georgia region. (BBG7, BBG8)

- Goal 11      **Technology/Writing Skills.** The economics department will continue to effectively incorporate technology and writing skills in the classroom (BBG3, BBG9, VG4). Specifically,
- i)      100% of faculty will use some form of multimedia in class this year
  - ii)     all students taking Economics 3402 and Economics 3406 will complete computer assignments requiring the use of problem solving software
  - iii)    all economics students will make power point presentations in the economics capstone course (ECON 4484)
  - iv)    the department will continue to offer at least 4 sections per year of Surfing the Internet for Success (BUSA 1900)
  - v)     at least one-half of economics faculty will attend workshops or conference presentations related to the effective integration of technology into the classroom
  - vi)    all students in upper division economics courses will be required to utilize writing skills in at least one assignment (research paper, essay exam, etc.)
- Goal 12      **Honors College.** The economics department will continue to utilize its resources to support programs offered through the Honors College at UWG (BBG2, BBG3, BBG5, VG2). Specifically,
- i)      the department will offer at least one honors section of ECON 2105 or 2106 during 2002-03, and
  - ii)     department faculty will support the Advanced Academy program in various ways such as helping in the interviewing process for selecting new students for the program
- Goal 13      **International Programs** The department faculty will continue to offer international economics courses and will integrate international concepts in a variety of economics courses (BBG3, BBG5). Specifically,
- i)      the economics department will provide a faculty member to help conduct the UWG Economics and Finance study program in New York and London during Summer 2003,
  - ii)     enough students will be recruited to fill the program each summer, and
  - iii)    at least two department faculty will participate in other international programs such as the University System European Union program
  - iv)    offer two of the following international courses each year (ECON 3458,4450,4455,4470)
- Goal 14      **Newnan Program** The economics department will continue to utilize its resources to support the Newnan program of UWG. Specifically, the department will offer a section of ECON 2105 during Fall 2002 and a section of ECON 2106 during Spring 2003 (BBG7).
- Goal 15      **Economics Alumni Feedback.** By the end of the Spring 2003 semester, the Economics Department will obtain feedback from former students by conducting an alumni survey (BBG7).

**b. Processes to Achieve Department Goals (2002-2003)**

Goal 1

- i) maintain a current and relevant economics curriculum
- ii) advise each student to take courses appropriate to his/her desired career/academic interest
- iii) require that all economic majors take public speaking, basic computer and other skills-oriented courses
- iv) conduct an assessment examination in the Economics Seminar class (ECON 4484)
- v) require that students in ECON 4484 make a PowerPoint presentation, prepare a resume and participate in a business etiquette dinner
- vi) help in the job placement/graduate school selection process by writing recommendation letters and by other means

Goal 2

- i) maintain informative and attractive promotional materials for Economics Department degree programs
- ii) maintain an attractive and informative department website
- iii) provide students adequate opportunities to discuss academic and career goals with faculty
- iv) hire faculty devoted to high quality teaching and research with an ability to relate to students
- v) provide incentives in the merit evaluation process for faculty to excel in teaching

Goal 3

- i) encourage students in upper division courses to participate in undergraduate research by requiring a paper or research project as part of the class requirements
- ii) provide Economics Department Student Research Awards to economics students participating in the "Big Night" competition
- iii) assist interested students in locating internship opportunities
- iv) provide incentives in the merit evaluation process for faculty who work with students in undergraduate research or who help students find internships/jobs

Goal 4

- i) provide convincing evidence to the Dean of the College of Business and to the Vice President for Academic Affairs of the need for an additional full time faculty member in economics

#### Goal 5

- i) on at least an annual basis, the chair of department and the curriculum committee will review course offerings and degree programs to determine if modifications need to be made
- ii) any recommended changes will be submitted to the various campus committees (including the Faculty Senate if needed) for approval
- iii) faculty on the textbook committee will review and select new introductory economics textbooks
- iv) the Merit Committee and the chair will review the merit policies of the department. Any recommended changes will be forwarded to the entire department for approval

#### Goal 6

- i) faculty will be encouraged by the Chair to attend on-campus faculty development activities such as those sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Learning
- ii) the Chair will inform faculty of faculty development opportunities
- iii) when possible, department and College of Business travel funds will be used to support faculty development activities at off-campus sites
- iv) faculty development activities will be supported by the merit development policies of the department

#### Goal 7

- i) the main priority for the use of travel funds available to the Department is to support academic research activity
- ii) faculty will be encouraged to seek other sources of funds to support academic research including UWG Learning Resource Grants, external grants, and discretionary funds that might be available to the Dean of the Richards College of Business
- iii) course scheduling for faculty will be arranged to allow time to conduct academic research
- iv) graduate students assigned by the Dean will be utilized in support of academic research
- v) when filling vacancies in the department, attention will be paid to the research and publication potential of the applicants
- vi) faculty research activities will be supported by the merit development policies of the department

#### Goal 8

- i) the department will organize a forecast breakfast to including a nationally recognized economist as the featured speaker
- ii) corporate sponsors will be sought out to support this breakfast
- iii) a department economist will make a presentation on the local economy and all attendees will receive an updated West Georgia Regional Outlook
- iv) faculty working on the breakfast will be rewarded with additional compensation and/or discretionary funds and merit evaluation credit

#### Goal 9

- i) produce attractive materials to promote this degree
- ii) work closely with Georgia Council for Economic Education staff on economic education issues and on workshop presentations for teachers
- iii) work with College of Education faculty and advisors to encourage majors in economics (with Secondary Education Certification) and to coordinate course offerings
- iv) utilize graduate student, secretarial and other staff to help set up a useful website for the West Georgia Center for Economic Education
- v) the Director of the Center will receive credit in the merit evaluation process for economic education activities

#### Goal 10

- i) the Economics Department will maintain an economic database for the West Georgia region on the Department's website
- ii) efforts will be made to publicize the existence of this data base
- iii) economics faculty will respond to media requests for information/opinions re: the local, state or national economy
- iv) faculty providing service to the public will receive credit in the merit evaluation process

#### Goal 11

- i) the Department's merit evaluation process will encourage the utilization of technology and writing assignments in courses
- ii) faculty will be encouraged to take part in UWG technology training opportunities (faculty will be informed via e-mail)
- iii) faculty will also be encouraged (and provided financial support, if available) to take part in external technology training opportunities

#### Goal 12

- i) the Department chair will discuss course offering plans with the director of the Honor's program
- ii) individual faculty teaching honors courses will receive credit in the Department's merit evaluation process
- iii) faculty will be encouraged (and given a merit incentive) to participate in Honors Program and Advanced Academy activities

#### Goal 13

- i) the Economics Department will offer courses with international content each semester
- ii) the Economics Department will encourage its faculty to participate in international studies programs (provide financial support, release time, etc.)
- iii) Faculty involved with the International Finance and Economics Program will recruit for the program at West Georgia, the University of Georgia, and at other institutions



#### Goal 14

- i) the Department will discuss course offering plans with the director of the Newnan Center
- ii) individual faculty teaching a course at the Newnan Center will receive credit and additional funds for academic research (if available)

#### Goal 15

- i) a current listing of past economics graduates will be obtained from the Alumni Services office
- ii) a survey instrument will be developed
- iii) alumni survey results will be reviewed by the faculty and the information will be used to improve the offerings of the department

### c. **Assessment of Department Goals**

#### Goal 1

All economics majors are required to complete courses in economic theory (micro and macro economics), economic statistics, and applied economics as part of a degree program. To receive a degree, these students must achieve at minimum a 2.0 average in major course requirements. All graduating seniors also participated in a business etiquette program, completed a resume, learned about applications of economics in the real world from a number of guest speakers, and made a power point presentation as part of the ECON 4484 Senior Seminar class. All economics majors have also acquired basic computer skills by successfully completing at least one computer skills course. The results of the Department assessment examination, required as part of ECON 4484 Senior Seminar, indicate most of our majors are able to apply economic concepts in public policy situations. Overall, of the 20 students taking the exam in Spring 2003, four were assigned a grade of "high pass", thirteen were assigned a grade of "pass" and three were assigned a grade of "low pass." No students failed this exam. A survey of students in the economics seminar class found that economic majors are having a very difficult time lining up a job under current economic conditions. Seven of twenty students surveyed indicated an interest in going to graduate school within one year of graduation.

#### Goal 2

The total number of majors in economics as of the end of Spring Semester 2003 stood at 76. The goal of 70 majors was exceeded. As another indication of overall growth of majors, the department also experienced a sharp increase in enrollment in upper division courses. Excluding junior core business courses, upper division economics courses averaged 32.2 students during 2002-03. This average was well above the numerical goal of 20 students per class.

#### Goal 3

One economics major (sponsored by D. Boldt) participated in the COB "Big Night" competition. Bill Schaniel also worked with students in his Economic Anthropology class on a Flea Market project. These students (Anthropology majors) presented findings of their research at the Big Night competition. Two economics major (J. Kenny, Erin Peeples) obtained internships during 2002-03. The goal of two internships was met.

#### Goal 4

The economics department was given authorization to hire an additional faculty member (full time, non-tenure track) for 2003-04. This position will become the 9<sup>th</sup> faculty line in the department.

#### Goal 5

The department's Curriculum Committee reviewed undergraduate and graduate offerings during Fall 2002. Recommended changes were forwarded to the appropriate committees and were approved by the Faculty Senate. The department also revised the merit policy during Spring 2003. In addition, new introductory textbooks (starting Fall 2003) were selected by the faculty. Departmental Committee activity goals were met in 2002-03.

#### Goal 6

All economics faculty devoted at least 40 hours to faculty development activities. The goal was met.

#### Goal 7

i) Seven of eight faculty attended research conferences (less than the 100% goal); ii) five of eight faculty made presentations at academic/professional meetings (slightly below the 75% goal), iii) department faculty had a total of three referred articles appear in print during 2002-03 (below the goal of 7 publications), iv) one faculty member was successful in obtaining a grant (meeting the goal) and four faculty (Boldt, Gustafson, Kassis and Schaniel) held leadership positions in state or national associations (exceeding the goal). Thus, two of five research/professional goals were achieved during 2002-03.

#### Goal 8

The Economics Department conducted its annual forecasting breakfast on October 29, 2001. Over 300 people attended. The breakfast was supported by four sponsors and eight co-sponsors. All attendees received the latest West Georgia Regional outlook. Phone discussions with sponsors after the event confirmed satisfaction with the breakfast and a willingness to sponsor the breakfast once again in Fall 2003. The goals for the breakfast were met.

#### Goal 9

i) the department added 5 additional B.S. in Economics (with Secondary Education Certification) majors during 2002-03 (goal was met), ii) a economic education website was not created as anticipated, iii) two workshops for teachers were planned by the West Georgia Center for Economic Education (the stock market game session had to be cancelled due to insufficient enrollment), and iv) a jointly taught course with Economics and College of Education faculty was scheduled to be offered for Summer 2003.

#### Goal 10

Department faculty made presentations to local organizations such as the Carrollton Lion's Club and to the "Great Decisions" study group. Department faculty contributed economic insights that appeared in a number of newspaper articles during 2002-03. The West Georgia economic database, maintained at the Department of Economics website, was updated throughout the year. Media Assistance/Public Service goals were met.

#### Goal 11

i) seven of eight faculty incorporated some form of multimedia in the classroom (goal was 100%), ii) All sections of ECON 3402 (Stat I) and ECON 3406 (Stat II) incorporated computer-related assignments in the course. The goal was 100% integration in both courses, iii) all economics majors did made PowerPoint presentations in the senior seminar class (ECON 4484, Spring 2003), iv) the Economics Department offered four sections of BUSA 1900 during 2002-03 (meeting the goal of four), v) six of eight economics faculty attended a technology training session during 2002-03, exceeding the goal of 50%, and vi) all upper division economic major courses incorporated significant writing assignments.

#### Goal 12

The Economics Department offered an honors section of ECON 2106 during Spring 2003. The department also supported the Honors College in a variety of other ways (honors credit given for other classes, opening up of closed sections for joint enrollment students, interviewing potential advanced academy students, etc.) Honors Program goals were met.

#### Goal 13

Bill Schaniel helped organize (and will teach courses in) the International Economics and Finance Program in New York and London. All the spaces available for students in the Summer 2003 program were filled. Four faculty members participated in other International programs. Courses with significant international content were offered during 2002-03. International education goals were achieved.

#### Goal 14

The Economics Department offered a section of introductory macroeconomics (ECON 2105) at the Newnan Center during Fall 2002. Due to resource constraints, a section of ECON 2106 was not offered in Newnan during Spring 2003.

#### Goal 15

The Economics Department did not conduct an alumni survey during 2002-03. We did obtain a complete listing of alumni and do plan on conducting a survey of alumni during 2003-04 in preparation of the Program Review and AACSB-I accreditation process.

### **III. Departmental Statement of Curriculum Learning Outcomes, Processes to Assess These Outcomes, and Assessment Results:**

#### **a. Learning Outcomes**

##### BBA in Economics

We expect graduating BBA students will meet the following learning outcomes:

- LO1) strong writing and oral communication skills;
- LO2) ability to conduct effective library and other research;
- LO3) basic computer proficiency in web page design, word processing, and spreadsheet use;
- LO4) a background in accounting, finance, information systems, marketing, management and other business subject areas;
- LO5) an ability to apply quantitative skills to economics and business problems;

- LO6) an ability to work with other students in a problem-solving environment;
- LO7) an understanding of basic economic concepts and tools including scarcity, opportunity costs, and supply and demand;
- LO8) an understanding of macroeconomic concepts including national income accounting, inflation, unemployment, the monetary system, and open market economies;
- LO9) an understanding of microeconomic concepts such as consumer decision making, elasticity, costs, market structure, labor markets, and international trade;
- LO10) an understanding of economic problems and policy strategies for addressing these problems;
- LO11) an ability to gather and interpret economic data;
- LO12) an ability to integrate all areas of business; and
- LO13) an awareness of ethical, socio-political, historical, and global aspects of the business/economic environment.

#### BA in International Economic Affairs (IEA)

We expect graduating IEA students will meet learning outcomes LO1-LO3, LO5, LO7-LO11, and LO13 and the following:

- LO14) a solid grasp of at least one foreign language;
- LO15) a solid background in political science, history, and global issues; and
- LO16) an ability to integrate different areas of the social sciences.

#### BS in Economics

We expect graduating BS students will meet learning outcomes LO1-LO3, LO5, LO7-LO11 and LO13, LO16 and the following:

- LO17) a solid understanding of at least one area of study outside of economics or business (political science, psychology, computer science, etc.).

#### BS in Economics (with Secondary Education Certification)

We expect graduating BS majors with Secondary Education Certification will meet learning outcomes LO1-LO3, LO5, LO7-LO11 and LO13, LO16 and the following:

- LO18) earn broad based field certification in the social sciences (history, geography, political science, economics)
- LO19) have an understanding of education issues in developmental and educational psychology and special education and of instructional strategies for secondary education
- LO20) gain practical teaching experience in a secondary social studies classroom
- LO21) achieve of level of understanding of social studies to satisfy the Professional Standards Commission

**b. Processes to Assess Learning Outcomes**

- LO1. All economics majors complete ENGL 1101, ENGL 1102, and COMM 1110 (or a comparable public speaking course). In addition, BBA majors are required to take ABED 3100 (Managerial Reporting). All economics major courses require the completion of writing assignments, and several of these also require oral presentations. All economics majors must make a presentation as part of the Senior Seminar Class (ECON 4484). BBA students also make team presentations as part of the BBA capstone course, MGNT 4600.
- LO2. All upper division economics courses incorporate a research component. Students also write application papers on current events or on other topics in ECON 4484. A number of other upper division economics courses require significant research papers. BBA economics majors also must complete a business research class (MKTG 3808). Many economics majors also complete LIBR 1101 (Academic Research and the Library) or BUSA 1900 (Surfing the Internet for Success), courses containing substantial coverage of information/data research strategies.
- LO3. All economics majors must complete a course in information systems (CISM 2201). BBA majors must complete a second course, CISM 3330. In the advisement process, economics students are encouraged to take as many courses as possible involving computer applications. Many other courses, including the required business statistics course, ECON 3402, have computer applications. Passing grades in these courses will indicate an adequate or higher level of skills in computer applications.
- LO4. All BBA majors must take a two course accounting sequence, a course in business law, and upper division courses in management, production, finance, and marketing. Passing grades in these courses will indicate an adequate or higher level of skills in business subject areas.
- LO5. All economics majors must complete MATH 1111 and ECON 3402 (Stat I). BBA majors have additional quantitative requirements MATH 1413 (Business Calculus), ECON 3406 (Stat 2) and MGNT 3615 (Production Operations Management). Passing grades in these courses will indicate an adequate or higher level of skills in quantitative subject areas.
- LO6. The BBA capstone course, MGNT 4600 Strategic Management, requires substantial group work. Students work together on case studies and make team presentations in ECON 4484, the senior seminar class required for all economics majors.
- LO7. All economics majors take a minimum of eight economics courses (including Principles of Micro and Macroeconomics and Intermediate Micro and Macroeconomics). Basic economic concepts are incorporated in all courses.
- LO8. Economics majors take a minimum of two macroeconomics courses (ECON 2105, ECON 3410). IEA majors must complete a third macro-oriented course, ECON 4410 Money and Banking. Macro-economic concepts are also incorporated in other major courses.
- LO9. Economics majors take a minimum of two microeconomics courses (ECON 2106, ECON 3411). Microeconomic concepts are also incorporated in other major courses.
- LO10. The orientation of the department faculty is applied economics. Faculty teaching major courses devote considerable attention to applied economic issues. The assessment exam taken by graduating seniors in ECON 4484 tests knowledge and understanding of the application of economic analysis to public policy issues.

- LO11. All economics students must take ECON 3402 (Stat 1). This course requires that students perform basic statistical analysis of data. BBA students are required to take a second quantitative course requiring data analysis (ECON 3406 Stat II). Other major courses incorporate data analysis in lectures or in student homework assignments or projects.
- LO12. An expressed purpose of the BBA capstone course, MGNT 4600 Strategic Management, is to integrate all areas of business. The course offers the means for BBA students to integrate previous studies into a holistic view of the business organization. Students taking this course must have completed prerequisites in accounting, economics, finance, information system, management and marketing.
- LO13. All economics majors must complete a one-semester course in world history as part of Core E. In addition, all majors complete the two semester introductory economics courses (ECON 2105 and ECON 2106). Both these courses include substantial international economics coverage. All BBA students complete a Core Area F course in the Legal Environment of Business. IEA majors take additional international courses in political science, history, and geography.
- LO14. All IEA majors are required to complete four courses in a foreign language (unless exempted by the Foreign Language Dept.).
- LO15. All IEA majors take additional international courses in political science, history and geography.
- LO16. IEA is a multidisciplinary undergraduate degree program. The IEA program offers a broad liberal arts education with a focus on international economics, history, political science, geography, and foreign language skills.
- LO17. B.S. Economics majors must complete 15 hours of supporting courses. These courses are expected to form a coherent whole and must be approved by the Department Chair. Students are advised to select a group of supporting courses that will enhance their career or graduate school prospects.
- LO18. The B.S. Economics major (with secondary education certification) has been designed such that students take at least 3 courses in at least four social science areas (economics, geography, history, and political science).
- LO19. Successful completion of the following education courses will help students meet this learning outcome: CEPD 2102 Developmental Psychology, CEPD 4101 Educational Psychology, SPED 2706 Introduction to Special Education, SEED 2271 Introduction to Secondary Education, SEED 4243 Instructional Strategies for Secondary Social Studies Education and SEED 4271 Understanding the Secondary School Curriculum through Integrative Technology.
- LO20. Successful completion of the following requirements will help students meet this expected learning outcome: SEED 4286 Teaching Internship and SEED 4289 Teaching Internship Seminar.
- LO21. This learning outcome will be assessed by reference to the passing rate of B.S. economics majors on the Professional Standards Commission examination.

**c. Assessment of Learning Outcomes**

Graduates of each economics program must satisfy all the requirements set out for that particular degree. Students must satisfy the college core requirements, Area F requirements, and the major course requirements. One-hundred percent of all graduates have completed these requirements.

Learning outcomes are also assessed in ECON 4484, Senior Seminar in Economics. In that class students participate in class discussions, make multiple presentations, take an assessment examination and evaluate the department. The assessment exam is given and graded by a committee of faculty members in the Economics Department. The assessment exam counts 10% of the grade.

The effectiveness of degree programs is also measured in part by how well students have performed on the department's assessment examination. This examination is taken by each student in the senior seminar course (ECON 4484). Of the 20 students taking this examination, 4 were awarded a grade of "high pass," 13 were awarded a grade of "pass," while 3 students received a grade of "low pass." No student failed the exit exam. The results will be reviewed during Summer 2003 by the assessment committee. Results of that review will be reported to the entire faculty at the first meeting of the Fall 2003 semester.

Economics degree programs are reviewed annually. Student input on the effectiveness of our degree programs is obtained each year from a department evaluation distributed to all graduating seniors. The most frequently mentioned strengths of the department (in the Spring 2003 evaluation) were the close interaction between the faculty and students in economics and the flexibility of the program. Suggested improvements for the department include: the need for more real world applications in courses, a greater selection of upper division course offerings, additional internship opportunities for economic majors, and the need for an economics student club. The completed evaluations will be reviewed by the economics faculty during Summer 2003.

Twenty economics students, all seniors within 30 hours of graduation, also completed a "future plans" survey during Spring 2003. Of the twenty students, seven indicated that they will be attending graduate school immediately upon graduation. Fields of study include law, economics, business, international affairs and public administration. One student hopes to advance with his current employer after graduation. The other twelve had a job lined up or hoped to land a position with private industry, the government, or to establish their own small business.

**IV. Examples of How the Economics Department Used the Assessment of Goals and Outcomes to Change/Improve a Process**

- a) In past assessments of the economics department, students have indicated that a positive of the economics department is the fact that economics faculty are excellent teachers and willing to work individually with students. In selecting new faculty to join the department (two new faculty started during 2001-02 and one new faculty member hired in 2002-03), the department set as a priority the hiring of instructors who are outstanding classroom teachers.
- b) Goal #11 for the department relates to the need to increase the technological sophistication of the faculty. To support this goal, the department made it a priority to hire a new secretary who had excellent computer skills.

- c) Comments of students (informally and formally) suggested that the B.A. in International Economic Affairs was too inflexible concerning its major course requirements. Many of the courses were only offered once per year and some students were facing challenges in graduating on time. As a result, the curriculum committee recommended changes in this degree to allow more options. These changes were approved by the Faculty Senate during 2001-02 and appeared in the 2002-03 Undergraduate Catalog.
- d) Assessment examination results are annually reviewed by the department faculty to determine the level of economic literacy of graduating majors. In the past, a number of International Economics Affairs majors performed poorly on the macro policy questions. In an effort to improve the level of macroeconomic literacy of IEA majors, ECON 3410 was added as a required course to that degree program. Results for 2001-02 indicate some weakness in applying supply/demand concepts to current issues. As a consequence, the economics seminar course offered during Spring 2003 (ECON 4484) included a focus on the application of economics to public policy issues.

#### **V. General Statement of Departmental Condition:**

The condition of the Economics Department is good. Strengths include the faculty's excellent teaching, research activity and involvement in service. The faculty made use of technology to enhance classroom presentations, incorporated writing or research assignments in all upper division classes, and incorporated a wide variety of teaching innovations into the classroom. Department faculty also participated in the College of Business International Program in London, taught courses at the UWG Newnan campus, and helped provide learning opportunities for honors students. William Schaniel continued to serve as Director of International Programs at UWG. The faculty also provided other service to the university, the profession, and the community. For example the department presented a well attended Economic Forecast Breakfast during Fall 2002. Department faculty was also frequently quoted in the local newspaper. In general, the research productivity of the department is quite high considering the extremely heavy teaching load. Economics faculty published peer reviewed and other articles, made presentations at a number of conferences, reviewed articles for referred journals, and submitted articles for publication. A weakness of the department is that only 3 referred articles of economics faculty appeared in journals during 2002-03.

The department experienced substantial growth in enrollment and credit hour production and milder growth in the number of majors this past year. The number of economics majors increased to 76 in Spring 2003, compared to 74 in Spring 2002. The total number of students enrolled in classes in 2002-03 rose by 15.8% over the previous academic year. Credit hour production also increased by 15.8% over the past year. The average number of students per section has also increased sharply over the past few years. For example, lower division economics courses (ECON 2105 and 2106) averaged about 54 students in Spring 2000. During Spring 2003, average class size increased to 63. The average size of upper division junior core classes (ECON 3402 and 3406) increased from 43 to 50 over this period. The average number of students in economics major classes more than doubled from about 11 in Spring 2000 to 24 in Spring 2003. This tremendous growth in student enrollment has placed a significant burden on full time faculty, making it much more challenging to engage in service and research activities. Another weakness of the department has been the need to use part-time instructors to help handle the sharp increase in student load. Although very competent instructors, these individuals are not able to be on campus as many hours as full time faculty members. Part time faculty covered two sections during Spring 2000. During Spring 2003, part time faculty taught 6 sections. The use of part time instructors will be less of a problem during 2002-04 as the department was given approval to hire for a full-time lecturer position beginning Fall Semester 2003.



## VI. Notable Departmental Achievements:

- A. Percent of Students Passing Licensing, Certification, or Other Accreditation Examinations: *Not applicable*
- B. Proportion of graduating students going on to graduate or professional schools:  
Of the twenty economics students completing the “future plans” survey in Spring 2003, seven indicated a desire to attend graduate school immediately after graduation. A number of other students indicated that they might attend graduate school sometime in the future.
- C. Types of Licensure: *Not applicable*
- D. How does the Department Prepare Students for Licensure? *Not applicable*
- E. Other Notable Achievements
  - 1. The Department of Economics sponsored its annual Economic Forecast Breakfast, October 29, 2002 together with the Richards College of Business and Carroll County Chamber of Commerce. The program featured the nationally known economist, Dr. Donald Ratajczak, former Director of the Georgia State University Economic Forecasting Center and State University of West Georgia’s Michael Raper. David Boldt and Carol Dole assisted in preparation of the West Georgia Regional Outlook. Over 300 business leaders, politicians, and others attended. This program was supported by 11 sponsors and co-sponsors.
  - 2. Co-sponsored, together with Accounting/Finance Department, a New York/ London Summer Study abroad program with over 20 students participating. William Schaniel devoted a considerable amount of time in organizing and teaching for this program.
  - 3. The Economics Department established two new annual scholarships with department funds and donations from faculty during Fall 2003. The Department now has a total of five student scholarships.
  - 4. The department successfully hired a new PhD economist (Adrian Austin) during 2002-03. Dr. Austin will replace Dr. Richard Fryman, who is retiring in June 2003.
  - 5. An Economics Department Student/Faculty “etiquette” dinner was held on April 8, 2003. It was attended by 30 students and faculty..
  - 6. Richard Fryman, Faculty Advisor to Beta Gamma Sigma, organized the awards banquet held on March 11, 2003.
  - 7. Department faculty contributed on numerous occasions to articles appearing in local newspapers including the Times Georgian and the Newnan Times Herald.
  - 8. The Department’s website was updated to include details of the Department’s Policies and Procedures, the current annual report, all current course syllabi and current CV’s for faculty.
  - 9. Two of seventeen SACS Self-Study Chairs for the University Self Study were economics faculty (David Boldt and William Schaniel)
  - 10. Dr. Carol Dole served as consultant to Addison Wesley Longman. Her projects included videotaping economics lectures on DVD and preparing a portion of the test bank and study guide for Bade/Parkin introductory economics text.
  - 11. Dr. Leland Gustafson was presented a “Service Fellow Award” in February 2003 for his many years of service to the Academy of Economics and Finance.

12. Dr. Leland Gustafson served as Director of Center for Economic Education. Judy Butler of the College of Education was named Associate Director of the Center.
13. Dr. David Boldt served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Academy of Economics and Finance during 2002-03.
14. Dr. David Boldt received the Graduate Research Award (November 14, 2002) for his article titled "The Impact of a Community Based Privatized Approach to the Provision of Social Services," (with Robert Sanders). David Boldt was also selected as the Richard's College of Business faculty member of the year by the UWG Student Government Association.
15. Dr. David Boldt made a presentation on the West Georgia economy to the Budgetary Oversight Committee of the State Legislature on January 24, 2003.
16. Dr. William Schaniel served as faculty advisor for a student research project selected for presentation at "Big Night 2003". The title of the presentation was "*Wheeling and Dealing With New Technology: The Local Flea Market in Transition.*" The presenting students were members of Dr. Schaniel's Spring 2003 Economic Anthropology class.
17. Dr. Swarna Dutt was promoted to Professor, effective at the beginning of the 2003-04 academic year.
18. All majors made multimedia presentations in the Senior Seminar course (ECON 4484). One economics major (Denton Hill) presented the results of his research on Forecasting Consumer Sentiment at the COB "Big Night" competition. David Boldt was his faculty advisor. Another economics major (Joshua Kenny) was an intern with the Carroll County Attorney (Fall 2002).
19. Melanie George, an International Economic Affairs major, served as President of the Honors Student Council during 2002-03. Ms. George also received the Thomas Herndon Award in Economics at the Academic Honors Convocation on April 3, 2003 and was awarded the Hugh G. Richards Scholarship for 2003-04. Erin Peeples, a B.S. Economic major, served as vice-president of the Student Government Association during 2002-03.

<b>VII. Student Achievements:</b>	<b>No.</b>
A. Published Research Papers	<u>0</u>
B. Presentations	<u>1</u>
Denton Hill made a presentation at the COB "Big Night" Competition	
C. Internships	<u>1</u>
Joshua Kenny worked as an Intern with the Carroll county Attorney (Fall Semester 2002)	
D. Co-Ops	<u>0</u>

E.	Scholarships (awarded for 2003-04)	<u>4</u>
1.	<i>Julia Meski</i> W. Glenn Moore Scholarship	
2.	<i>Melanie George</i> Hugh G. Richards Memorial Scholarship	
3.	<i>Jason Norton</i> Economics Department Achievement Award Scholarship	
4.	<i>Brett Jones</i> Economics Department Achievement Award Scholarship	
F.	Fellowships	<u>0</u>
G.	Notable Awards	<u>1</u>
1.	<i>Melanie George</i> The Tom Herndon Award	
H.	Other Notable Achievements	<u>0</u>

**VIII. Faculty/Staff Productivity:**

<b>A.</b>	<b>Teaching</b>	<b>No.</b>
1.	New Course Development	<u>3</u>
2.	Faculty Teaching Honors Courses	<u>1</u>
3.	Percent of Faculty Involved in Academic Advisement	<u>100%</u>
<b>B.</b>	<b>Research/Scholarship/Intellectual Contributions</b>	<b>No.</b>
1.	Books and Monographs	<u>0</u>
2.	Book Chapters	<u>0</u>
3.	Peer Reviewed Articles	<u>3</u>
4.	Non-Refereed Articles	<u>4</u>
5.	Proceedings Papers	<u>1</u>
6.	Other Paper Presentations	<u>9</u>
7.	In-House Publications	<u>0</u>
8.	Journal Editor/Reviewer	<u>6</u>
9.	Book Chapter Editor/Reviewer	<u>1</u>
10.	Offices Held in Professional Organizations	<u>6</u>
11.	Presenter in Professional Programs	<u>included above</u>
12.	Chair/Discussant in Professional Programs	<u>7</u>
13.	Participation in Honors Organizations	<u>2</u>
14.	Research Awards (e.g., best paper, best research study)	<u>2</u>
15.	Attend Professional Meetings	<u>23</u>
16.	Submissions	<u>5</u>
17.	Other Contributions not mentioned above (please specify):	

<b>C. Service Activities</b>	<b>No.</b>
1. Student Organization Advisement	<u>3</u>
2. Committee Chair Assignments	<u>8</u>
3. Service on Departmental Committees	<u>22</u>
4. Service on RCOB Committees	<u>8</u>
5. Service on University Committees	<u>24</u>
6. Service on System-wide Committees	<u>10</u>
7. Consulting Assignments	<u>2</u>
8. Professional Development Hours	<u>423</u>
9. Other Service Activities Not Included Above (please specify)	<u>yes</u>
<b>(See individual faculty activities summaries)</b>	

<b>IX. Grants</b>	<b>No.</b>
1. Grant Proposals Submitted	<u>1</u>
2. Grant Proposals Funded	<u>1</u>
3. Total Grant Dollars Funded	<u>\$1500</u>
4. Other Grants/Awards—i.e., gifts, contracts, fellowships (please specify):	
<u>Total Gifts Generated by Department \$12,925 (Gross revenue generated by the Economics Forecast Breakfast (October 2002))</u>	

**X. New Degree Programs/New Emphases/New Tracks/etc.**

None

**XI. New Departments of Other Units:**

None

**XII. Accreditation**

The Undergraduate and Graduate College of Business programs are accredited by AACSB International.

**XIII. Other Awards and Distinctions**

**XIV. Additional Comments Concerning the Economics Department**

Additional Information:

The personnel of the Economics Department for 2001-2002 were as follows:

Full-Time Faculty:

Dr. David Boldt	Associate Professor/Chair
Dr. Carol Dole	Assistant Professor
Dr. Swarna Dutt	Associate Professor
Dr. Richard Fryman	Professor
Dr. Leland Gustafson	Professor
Dr. Mary Kassis	Assistant Professor
Dr. Michael Raper	Associate Professor
Dr. William Schaniel	Professor

Secretary:  
Abbey Williamson

Part-Time Faculty:  
Ms. Willie Mae Anderson  
Mr. Joe Cali  
Dr. Salvador Lopez  
Ms. Julia Ruskell  
Dr. Hector Saravia

Graduate Assistants:  
Justin Gay  
Kazumi Tahara

College Work Study Program Worker:  
Allison Merk

Seventy-four students were majoring in Economics as of Spring Semester 2003: 15 B.B.A., 26 B.S., 9 B.S. with Secondary Education, and 26 International Economic Affairs (I.E.A.).

The number of Economics majors during Spring Quarters/Semesters has been:

	<u>B.B.A.</u>	<u>B.S.</u>	<u>B.S./Secondary Ed Cert.</u>	<u>I.E.A.</u>	<u>Totals</u>
1990	35	11			46
1991	30	22			52
1992	22	28		26	76
1993	19	18		39	76
1994	11	23		38	72
1995	13	23		29	65
1996	4	16		36	56
1997	11	11		33	55
1998	4	19		37	60
1999	10	24		34	68
2000	17	24		44	85
2001	16	10		22	48
2002	15	23	4	32	74
2003	15	26	9	26	76

The Department offered the following “special” classes:

Fall Semester 2002

ECON 2105-91                      Newnan                      Dr. David Boldt                      23 students

Spring Semester 2002

ECON 2106-25                      Honor Section                      Dr. Carol Dole                      11 students

From Summer 2002 through Spring 2003, ten Economics majors graduated from State University of West Georgia:

Summer Semester 2001	2	Alyson Ward, Pierre Pluviose
Fall Semester 2002	1	Lisa Bauer
Spring Semester 2003	7	Patricia Blas, Derodrius Brimidge, Scott Campbell, Shameka Fuller, Denton Hill, Scott Mapp, and David Strickland

**Table 1**  
**Enrollment Statistics**  
**Department of Economics**  
**2002-2003**

Enrollments	2000-2001	2001-2002	2002-2003
Student Credit Hours** ECON	7212	8182	9473
Number Enrolled in Classes**	2404	2776	3215
Majors*			
Pre-BBA	7	7	7
B.B.A	9	8	8
B.S.	10	23	26
B.S. (Secondary Education)		4	9
I.E.A.	22	32	26
TOTAL # MAJORS	48	74	76

\* Majors counted during Spring Semester (enrolled).

\*\* Numbers include Summer, Fall, and Spring Semester including the London Program.

**Table 2**  
**Department of Economics**  
**Teaching 2002 – 2003**

Faculty	No. of Sections Taught Summer 02	No. of Sections Taught Fall 02 & Sp 03	No. of Different Preparations	Number of students			Total # of undergrads, graduate & independent study students	On line courses	GSAMS courses
				undergrad/graduate	/independ	study			
Boldt	0.5	3	3	150		4	154		
Dole	2	6	4	360	8		368		
Dutt	2	6	3	418			418		
Fryman	2	5	2	410			410		
Gustafson	2.5	6	4	351	33		384		
Kassis	0	6	3	329			329		
Raper	2	6	3	362			362		
Schaniel	3 (2 London)	4	6	133	21	2	156		
Anderson*	0	2	1	140			140		
Cali*	0	2	1	132			132		
Ruskell*	0	4	1	119			119		
Lopez*	0	3	3	135			135		
Saravia*	0	2	2	108			108		
Total	14	55	36	3147	62	6	3215	0	0

\*Part-time



**Table 3**  
**Research and Publication**  
**Department of Economics**  
**2002 – 2003**

Professors	Books and Monographs	Book chapters	Peer Reviewed Articles	Non-Refereed Articles	Proceeding Papers	Other Paper Presentations	In-house Publications	Journal Editor/Reviewer	Book Chapter Editor/Reviewer	Offices held in Professional Organizations	Submission & Journals	Chair/discussant in Professional Programs	Participation in Honors Organizations	Research Awards	Other contributions Attend Professional Meetings
Boldt	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	9
Dole	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Dutt	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	2	0	1	1	0
Fryman	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gustafson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	5
Kassis	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	2
Raper	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Schaniel	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	0	0	2	1	3	1	0	4
Totals	0	0	3	4	1	9	0	6	1	6	5	7	2	2	23

**Table 4**  
**Grant Work**  
**Department of Economics**  
**2002 – 2003**

Faculty	Grant Proposals Submitted	Grant Proposals Funded	Total Grant Dollars Funded	Total Gifts Generated by Department	Total Contracts Awarded	Total Fellowships Awarded
Boldt	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dole	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dutt	1	1	\$1500	0	0	0
Fryman	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gustafson	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kassis	0	0	0	0	0	0
Raper	0	0	0	0	0	0
Schaniel	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	1	1	\$1500	\$12,925 *	0	0

\* Gross Revenue generated by Economic Forecast Breakfast (October 29, 2002)

**Table 5**  
**Service Activities**  
**Department of Economics**  
**2002 - 2003**

Faculty	Student Organization Advisement	Committee Chair Assignments	Service on Department Committees	Service on RCOB Committees	Service on University Committees	Service on System Wide Committees	Consulting Assignments	Professional Development Hours	Other Service
Boldt	0	2	3	1	3	0	0	47	11
Dole	0	0	3	0	1	0	1	43	1
Dutt	0	1	3	0	2	0	0	56	2
Fryman	2	0	1	1	2	0	0	40	1
Gustafson	0	1	3	2	7	0	1	44	9
Kassis	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	66	1
Raper	1	2	2	2	2	0	0	42	7
Schaniel	0	2	3	0	7	10	0	85	9
Totals	3	8	22	8	24	10	2	423	41