

# Kautz-Uible Economics Institute

SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER



*Enriching the lives of economics students, alumni, and faculty at the University of Cincinnati*

[www.kueconomicsinstitute.org](http://www.kueconomicsinstitute.org)

## GREETINGS

### DEBASHIS PAL, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE KAUTZ-UIBLE ECONOMICS INSTITUTE



Remember the Hewett-Kautz Fund? Established by Caroline and James C. Kautz in 1982, the fund has a long history of supporting economics students at the University of Cincinnati. Thanks to a substantial gift from Dan Kautz and Woody Uible, on October 18, 2019, the fund became the Kautz-Uible Economics Institute. Today, the institute offers student fellowships, international and domestic travel scholarships, student research opportunities, a Women in Economics initiative, and a Pathways to Success program for underrepresented students.

The institute also offers opportunities to work with cutting-edge technology, including blockchain, as well as an annual Kautz lecture series that features prominent economists. The establishment of the institute has strengthened the transformational impact of the Hewett-Kautz Fund and has allowed us to reach even more students. This year alone, the Kautz-Uible Economics Institute is supporting more than thirty students through scholarships!

We're turning the corner on what has been a difficult couple of years. As we look ahead, we are excited about resuming events like the annual James C. Kautz Lecture and our economics homecoming event. We will keep you informed about these and other exciting developments at the institute with our biannual newsletter, of which this is the first.

Meanwhile, you may also visit our website at [kueconomicsinstitute.org](http://kueconomicsinstitute.org) and/or join our LinkedIn company page at [linkedin.com/company/kautz-uible-economics-institute](https://www.linkedin.com/company/kautz-uible-economics-institute) for the most up-to-date information. We encourage you to get involved with the institute and welcome your participation in our events, including the annual James C. Kautz Lecture, Kautz-Uible Women in Economics panels, Kautz-Uible Pathways to Success events, and/or our annual economics homecoming event.

Mentor a current student. Give a lecture. Supervise a student's research project. Donate to the institute. Create a named scholarship. Together, let's help our current students to have amazing educational experiences and outstanding careers!

Wishing you and your loved ones my very best.

Sincerely,

*Debashis Pal*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Sarah Asebrook

Sarah Asebrook has joined the institute staff full time as a program coordinator. Earning both her degrees from the University of Cincinnati—most recently, an MA in Professional Writing—Sarah is no stranger to the UC experience. Prior to this, she was an executive staff assistant for Lindner's economics and accounting departments; in this role, she supported the institute in a range of marketing and design projects.



### Dipanjan Chatterjee

Dipanjan Chatterjee has been named an institute fellow. A prominent thought leader, Dipanjan leads the brand strategy research practice as a vice president and principal analyst at Forrester, a think tank focused on marketing, customer experience, and technology. Frequently quoted in media outlets like NPR, The New York Times, and Vogue, he also writes for publications like The Drum, Forbes, and the MIT Sloan Management Review and speaks at global events, including SXSW and Mobile World Congress.



### Candice Matthews-Brackeen

Candice Matthews-Brackeen has been named an institute fellow. A graduate of UC's economics program (BA, '04) and a former Hewett-Kautz Fellow, Candice is the founder and executive director of the Lightship Foundation, an impact-driven organization that enables growth within the minority innovation economy. She holds advisory roles across numerous organizations, including the Lunar Surface Innovation Consortium for NASA, the Cincinnati Innovation District, and Endeavor Northwest Arkansas.



Michael Jones has been named the Kautz-Uible Professor in Economics.

## MICHAEL JONES RECEIVES KAUTZ-UIBLE PROFESSORSHIP IN ECONOMICS

Michael Jones has been appointed the Kautz-Uible Professor in Economics by the University of Cincinnati's Board of Trustees. Since the institute's inception in 2019, Michael has served as its academic director and has been a driving force in implementing the institute's mission of enriching the lives of economics students at the University of Cincinnati.

Michael has played an instrumental role in blockchain and cryptocurrency research and education at UC. An IBM-certified Blockchain Practitioner - Instructor, he spearheaded the development of the Kautz-Uible Blockchain Lab, where students learn to mine cryptocurrency. In the soon-to-be-opened Digital Futures Cryptoeconomics Lab, he will serve as director. While leading the institute's research program, Michael has orchestrated meaningful educational opportunities, including the Foresight Challenge, economics salons, and timely panel discussions and workshops—all of which are highly popular among the students.

Michael earned his PhD in Economics from the University of Notre Dame and his MBA from the University of Cincinnati. He has served on the Economic Advisory Group for JobsOhio, the Ohio Economic Roundtable, and the Ohio Economic Experts Panel and has been quoted in TV, radio, and print media outlets, including WLWT Channel 5, WCPO Channel 9, Ohio Public Radio, Time Magazine, and The Washington Post. Michael's research has been published in Public Administration Review, Applied Economics Letters, Frontiers in Public Health, Economics of Education Review, the IZA Journal of Labor of Economics, and the Business Case Journal, among others.

## NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BLOCKCHAIN ACADEMY

The Kautz-Uible Economics Institute has entered into an exciting partnership with The Blockchain Academy, which offers turnkey blockchain curriculum and instruction to universities, associations, and employers. This collaboration provides the curriculum, labs, and instructional support to establish the institute as a leading source of blockchain education, certification, and talent for hire in Ohio and surrounding states.

The partnership comes at a time when blockchain is becoming widely recognized. In a 2020 employer survey, LinkedIn named blockchain as the most in-demand hard skill—and not only for those in financial services. Students and working professionals from a range of fields can benefit from blockchain education.

[LEARN MORE AT: KUECONOMICSINSTITUTE.ORG/BLOCKCHAIN-EDUCATION](https://kueconomicsinstitute.org/blockchain-education)



Source: The Blockchain Academy

## INTRODUCING THE CRYPTOECONOMICS LAB

Set to open in Fall 2022, the Cryptoeconomics Lab will be housed in the new Digital Futures building—a state-of-the-art interdisciplinary research facility located in the Cincinnati Innovation District. The lab will offer a physical space where researchers, students, and companies will collectively study the impact of blockchain technology and digital assets on the future economy. Michael Jones will serve as its director.

The lab will host computing hardware and networking equipment, which will validate payments, upload data for smart contract execution, and securely store digital assets. Researchers will analyze trends in decentralized currency exchanges, parametric insurance, prediction markets, and other business applications. Providing a platform for blockchain technology research, the lab will also serve as a transdisciplinary hub for research across diverse academic fields, including business, law, engineering, and art.

[LEARN MORE AT: UCDIGITALFUTURES.COM/CRYPTOECONOMICS-LAB](https://ucdigitalfutures.com/cryptoeconomics-lab)



Source: UC Digital Futures

The Cryptoeconomics Lab will be housed in UC's Digital Futures building, located in the Cincinnati Innovation District.



Rob Gioielli, historian and UCBA professor, leads a discussion on business history with students at the Fall 2021 economics salon.

## WHEN BUSINESS MEETS HISTORY

Recently, the Lindner College of Business updated its mission to “empower business problem-solvers to tackle the world’s challenges.” The Kautz-Uible Economics Institute, along with Lindner, fully believes that “solving problems requires diverse views, critical thinking, and collaboration.”

In line with this mission, the institute identifies and creates learning opportunities for students outside the classroom—especially ones that explore the role that economics plays in the real world. Enter the economics salon, a platform for students to come together to discuss a particular economic issue and the impact it has on society at large.

The Fall 2021 economics salon focused on Cincinnati’s rich business history—brought to life by guest speaker and UC Associate Professor Rob Gioielli, who in his research has examined how the pork-packing industry has shaped the city as we know it today. The historic Clifton home of Academic Director Michael Jones served as the perfect backdrop for the discussion. After all, it once belonged to the Rawsons: a prominent local family who was active in the pork-packing business as well as in the city’s financial circles.

Within the discussion, Gioielli shed light on the importance of business history, emphasizing that the actions of those operating in the business sphere—whether it be an individual or corporation—are “embedded within the larger world.” With this in mind, Gioielli encourages business majors “to pursue a broad understanding of history in general and work to think creatively and critically about the ways business shapes—and is shaped by—historical factors.”

“Business history is not just a narrow examination of firms and corporations. It should be an expansive understanding of the social, political, and environmental factors that shape the development of business.”

—Dr. Rob Gioielli

## THE ECONOMICS OF DIGITAL ART SALES

NFTs—short for non-fungible tokens—are shaking up the art world. In the past year, they’ve gained significant recognition as a new way to buy and sell digital art. NFTs are not interchangeable like traditional currency; instead, they represent a digital asset and serve as a certificate of ownership of it, which is recorded using blockchain technology. Iconic auction houses have legitimized the use of NFTs by facilitating record-breaking sales this past year.

In response to the trending phenomenon of NFTs, the Kautz-Uible Economics Institute partnered with UC’s College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP) to bring three unique perspectives to the conversation in a panel discussion titled *How Will NFTs Disrupt Art?*

“The institute is always open to ways in which we can enter into meaningful interdisciplinary collaborations,” explains Academic Director Michael Jones, who served as the moderator of the event.

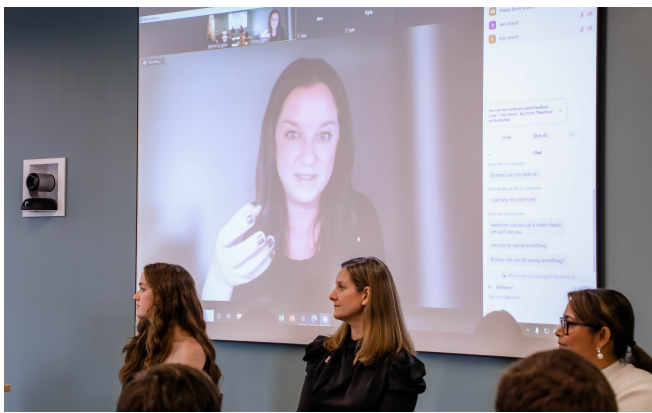
The panelists included:

- Rob Richardson, the founder of Disruption Now Media & Disrupt Art.
- Jordan Tate, an associate professor at DAAP.
- Prince Lang, a local visual artist.

The event was attended by hundreds of guests—both virtually and in-person in Lindner Hall’s auditorium.



**Top:** Guests attend the NFT panel in Lindner Hall.  
**Bottom:** Moderator Michael Jones and panelists Prince Lang, Jordan Tate, and Rob Richardson pictured during the event.



**Top:** Moderator Kellie Hannan pictured with guest speakers Amanda Wait, Nandita Jena, and Britany Bostic.

**Bottom:** Students attend the Fall 2021 Women in Economics panel in the Kautz Attic.

## WOMEN IN ECONOMICS RECONNECTS

In October 2016, economics alumna Amanda Wait (BA, '00) spearheaded the Kautz-Uible Women in Economics initiative with the mission of enriching the lives of economics students through scholarships, mentoring, and advice.

Since then, the initiative has flourished and grown into an important part of the student experience in UC's economics program. The group has historically held panel discussions twice a year.

Over the years, these events have always been well attended and a favorite among the students—and this past fall's panel event was no exception. After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19, the group was able to gather again at Lindner Hall's Kautz Attic for a panel discussion. Moderated by economics student and Amanda Wait Fellow Kellie Hannan, the panel consisted of guest speakers Amanda Wait (BA, '00); Nandita Jena (MS, '03); and Britany Bostic (BS, '09), all of whom were excited to interact with the students again.

"We were excited to see a fully crowded room. This was a wonderful opportunity to kick off again with this initiative and build connections with the students—which is what it's all about," expressed Amanda.

"I'm always pleasantly surprised by the overwhelming response of the students," added Nandita. "The interest and engaging participation were overwhelming. With the pandemic, it was great to be there in person and soak up the response."

The Women in Economics group is looking forward to their next event on March 25, 2022.

**TO BE A PART OF THE INITIATIVE AND/OR JOIN THE WOMEN IN ECONOMICS LINKEDIN GROUP, PLEASE CONTACT GRACE GRISSETT AT [GRISSEGM@MAIL.UC.EDU](mailto:GRISSEGM@MAIL.UC.EDU).**

## PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS KICKS OFF

The Kautz-Uible Economics Institute's Pathways to Success program supports students who belong to groups that have been historically underrepresented among economics majors at UC. Beginning in Fall 2022, the institute will offer mentoring, scholarships, and study-related travel opportunities while Compass Lexecon will offer job-related training and internships so that participants are prepared for a highly rewarding career in economics.

In October 2021, the institute hosted thirty-five junior and senior students from the Spencer Center for Gifted and Exceptional Students for a campus visit in Lindner Hall's innovative Kautz Attic to learn more about the program. We thank economics alumna Krista Fehring-Gustavsson-Bronzie (BA, '05; MS, '07), intervention specialist at the Spencer Center, for fostering this connection.

Speakers included:

- UC economics alums Amanda Wait (BA, '00), Candice Matthews-Brackeen (BA, '04), and Abdou Ndao (BBA, '20), who shared their experiences as graduates of the economics program;
- Compass Lexecon economists Catherine Barron, Piyal Hyder, and David Weiskopf, who discussed opportunities in economic consulting;
- Academic Director Michael Jones, who shared various opportunities within the Kautz-Uible Economics Institute;
- Associate Dean of Academic Programs Steve Slezak, Assistant Dean of Inclusive Excellence Nick Castro, and Assistant Director of Student Recruitment & Undergraduate Programs Kendra Dewberry, who discussed opportunities at the Lindner College of Business.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT AN UNDERREPRESENTED STUDENT, PLEASE CONTACT [DEBASHIS PAL @ DEBASHIS.PAL@UC.EDU](mailto:DEBASHIS.PAL@UC.EDU).**

### Program Highlights

#### Financial Support

Students are guaranteed \$4,000 a year for all four years of education.

#### Mentorship

Students receive one-on-one mentorship from a professor within the department and a business professional.

#### Job Opportunities

Each summer, students will be placed in an internship with one of our industry partners, with the aim of the student gaining full-time employment after graduation.

#### Study-Abroad Opportunities

Students will travel to a foreign country through a study-abroad program organized by the economics department and the Lindner College of Business.



Student researchers Kellie Hannan and Daniel Rowe pictured with their mentors Academic Director Michael Jones and Institute Fellow Dipanjan Chatterjee at the Fall 2021 research presentation.

## RESEARCH INITIATIVE THRIVES

Since its founding in 2019, the Kautz-Uible Economics Institute has opened the doors for exciting research opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, the institute's research initiative is thriving and in more demand than ever.

In December 2021, two students—Kellie Hannan (BBA, '25) and Daniel Rowe (BA, '21)—had the opportunity to present their research to the Lindner community.

Kellie worked with Institute Fellow Dipanjan Chatterjee as she explored the impact scandal has on the long-term health of companies. Through an extensive literature review and case study analysis, Kellie identified the key determinants of how severe a crisis's impact will be to the overall health of a brand.

Daniel worked with Academic Director Michael Jones as he explored the effects of residential mobility on high school graduation through multivariate linear regression using individual and family controls and multiple measures of mobility across a national dataset.

Congratulations to Kellie and Daniel for their innovative work and excellent presentations of their findings.

We welcome our alumni to supervise research projects, with the possibility of supervising remotely.

**IF INTERESTED IN SUPERVISING A RESEARCH PROJECT, PLEASE EMAIL MICHAEL JONES AT [M.JONES@UC.EDU](mailto:M.JONES@UC.EDU).**

## FELLOWS DINNER RESUMES

Each Fall and Spring semester, the Kautz-Uible Economics Institute treats its current fellows to a delicious dinner at an upscale Cincinnati restaurant. The directors and engaged alums of the institute join the current fellows to get to know each other in an informal setting.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the institute's biannual Fellows Dinner had been on hold for nearly two years. On September 17, 2021, the institute was excited to host its Kautz-Uible fellows at deSha's for a wonderful meal and an opportunity to reconnect.

Alums Joni Lewis, Candice Matthews-Brackeen, Nick Puncer, Institute Directors Michael Jones and Debashis Pal, Economics Department Head Iryna Topolyan, and Institute Board Members Richard Curry and Woody Uible joined the current students for the evening. We are eagerly looking forward to our Spring 2022 Fellows dinner.



Kautz-Uible fellows pictured with Managing Director Debashis Pal at the Fall 2021 Fellows Dinner.



*Kellie Hannan is a second-year Business Economics student with a focus in legal studies at the University of Cincinnati; she is also minoring in Political Science. Kellie is currently a Judicial Extern for the U.S. District Courts and was previously an Equity Research Intern at Bahl & Gaynor Investment Counsel. She is also a Lindner Honors PLUS scholar and a Kautz-Uible Amanda Wait Research Fellow.*

### MY KUEI EXPERIENCE: KELLIE HANNAN (BBA, '25)

My connection to the Kautz-Uible Economics Institute (KUEI) began with a virtual call to one of my professors, Dr. Debashis Pal. I had just started college and found it hard to feel connected with my studies during COVID. However, Dr. Pal listened to my interests and long-term goals and began to open doors.

Soon thereafter, I met Dr. Michael Jones, who offered me a data analyst position through the institute. I was part of a team of students who created an environmental scan of nonprofits in the area. It was incredible to gain fundamental research and coding experience as a first-year. We were even able to present our findings in front of nonprofit Sweet Cheeks Diaper Bank, seeing firsthand the positive effects research can have on the community.

Through the Kautz-Uible Amanda Wait Renewable Research Fellowship, the institute has funded many of my college experiences. As a fellow, I have been given unique and challenging opportunities that I have immensely enjoyed. In Fall 2021, I facilitated the Women in Economics panel event, working closely with impressive alumnae from the institute. My scholarship has also funded my independent study entitled *Managing Brand in the Face of Crisis*. I was paired with Dipanjan Chatterjee, vice president and principal analyst at Forrester, as my mentor. We explored the impact scandal has on the long-term health of companies during weekly research meetings. Dipanjan taught me a tremendous amount as I worked to explore our central question and eventually finalize an academic paper and a presentation unlike any I had given before.

Most recently, I was accepted into the London School of Economics' (LSE) General Course program where I will study in their Social Policy Department for the entire 2022-23 academic year. Dr. Pal was tremendously helpful in my search for study-abroad options and in writing a reference letter to assist in my admission into LSE. Above all, the Kautz-Uible Economics Institute has given me great mentorship and a community that is similarly curious about the world.

### MY KUEI EXPERIENCE: ABDOU NDAO (BBA, '20)

The Department of Economics was a catalyst for my growth as a student and individual. As a lower-income first-generation college student, when I initially walked into the Lindner College of Business, I did not feel like I had a community; I felt disconnected. I was fortunate to have met Economics Department Manager Toshia Watkins and Dr. Debashis Pal, who helped me find a community within the Kautz-Uible Economics Institute (KUEI).

Through the Department of Economics and KUEI, I found financial support, mentorship, and accountability—essential ingredients that allowed me to strive academically and personally. I currently work as an investment analyst at Pelion Venture Partners, an early-stage venture capital firm based in Salt Lake City. I have also been accepted to Harvard Business School via the 2+2 program and will pursue my MBA starting in 2023. I believe that any success I have achieved and will ever achieve reflects the investment the Department of Economics and the Kautz-Uible Economics Institute made in me. With the institute's Pathways to Success program, I get the opportunity to reinvest in the community that empowered me.

In my senior year of college, Dr. Debashis Pal and I began designing the Kautz-Uible Pathways to Success program, which empowers underrepresented students through mentorship, financial support, and career opportunities. We are excited to announce that 2022 will be the program's inaugural year. In Fall 2022, we will be welcoming our first class of students, which will consist of 2 first-year students, with the goal of having 8 students total within the program at scale. I am fortunate to help students like myself find a community that will empower them to thrive!



*Abdou graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 2020 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Economics and Finance. While at UC, he was actively involved in the Lindner community. He was a member of the Economics Society for four years and was elected President of the club during his senior year. A member of the University Honors program and Lindner College of Business Circle of Excellence, he was also selected as Outstanding Student of the Year for Business Economics and Lindner Professional Experience of the Year for Economics. Abdou represented the Lindner College of Business as a Commencement Marshal.*

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

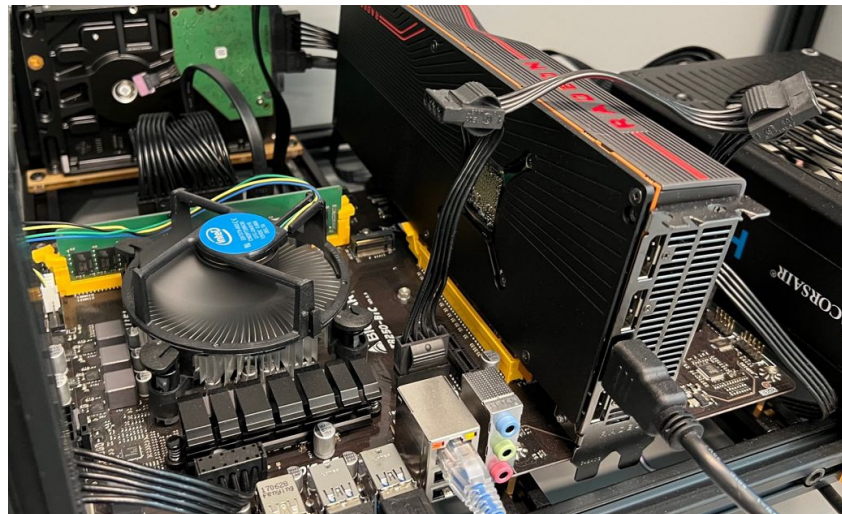
### KAUTZ-UIBLE BLOCKCHAIN LAB NOAH CSENDES (BBA, '22)

Noah Csendes has been building computers in his spare time for nearly a decade. It's one of the reasons he was drawn to Lindner's Information Systems (IS) program, which prepares students to leverage technology to develop solutions to business problems. Now a fourth-year who will graduate in Spring 2022, Noah is spending the year applying the skills he's learned using the resources of the Kautz-Uible Economics Institute's Blockchain Lab.

Noah's work in the Blockchain Lab traces back to a project in Academic Director Michael Jones' Honors course, *From Bitcoin to Blockchain*. In the course, students gain a fundamental understanding of blockchain technologies using bitcoin cryptocurrency. It just so happened that one of the projects involved the repair of a cryptocurrency mining rig that was donated to the institute by local entrepreneur and KUEI Industry Fellow Adam Koehler, an alumnus of Cincinnati's School for Creative and Performing Arts (SCPA). The idea was that students would repair the rig, mine for cryptocurrency, and then donate the proceeds to the SCPA Fund, a nonprofit that supports the school's mission. As an IS major with a personal interest in tech hardware, Noah took the lead on the project, and his group was successful in restoring the rig to working condition by the end of the semester.

When it came time to enroll in a capstone project during his final semester at UC, Noah took the initiative to create a new kind of educational experience. He's currently working with Dr. Jones to take the project a few steps further and explore how it could transform into a full-fledged operation—one in which donors can collaborate with UC to fund a socially beneficial cause. Presently, the pair is building a sample mining rig that will be shown to prospective donors. Working through the foundational stages of this process has been a rewarding experience for Noah, who claims that "the opportunities are limitless." Dr. Jones emphasized that "Noah's research provides a roadmap for nonprofits as they engage with cryptophilanthropy."

In Fall 2022, the operations of the institute's Blockchain Lab—including this project—will transfer into the new Cryptoeconomics Lab in the Digital Futures building. Noah explains that this work is truly a team effort, which will be further explored in the new lab, where students, researchers, and companies will come together to solve a range of problems using this emerging technology.



#### PHOTO CAPTIONS

**Top:** Noah Csendes (far left) pictured with his group in the Kautz-Uible-Blockchain Lab with the project that started it all.

**Middle/Bottom:** The cryptocurrency mining rig that was donated to the institute by Industry Fellow Adam Koehler.

“Noah's research provides a roadmap for nonprofits as they engage with cryptophilanthropy.”

—Dr. Michael Jones





## WHERE IN THE WORLD IS... **PIPER MAGYAROS (BBA, '23)**



During the Fall 2021 semester, Kautz-Uible Amanda Wait Fellow Piper Magyaros embarked on a new adventure at the Norwegian School of Economics (NHH) in Bergen, Norway. The institute is proud to support her with some of her study-abroad expenses.

**Read on to learn more about Piper's experience in her own words.**

### **Why did you choose to study abroad?**

I wanted to expand my studies internationally and heard about this program through a couple of my professors. Norway sounded like the perfect place, especially since I really enjoy hiking.

### **What was your favorite course, and why?**

I took a Market Microstructure and Trading course, which is my favorite course I have ever taken. We learned from world traders who came to speak to our class along with online market simulations during the course. Our professor always tied everything into current events, which was very fascinating given the current trading market.

### **What was/were your favorite place(s) you visited/traveled to while in Norway?**

A group of friends and I went up to Tromsø two separate times, which is in the Arctic Circle. Tromsø is now my favorite place I have ever been. We saw the Northern Lights and drove around to different remote islands. The views were absolutely gorgeous. It was also very very cold. Oslo and Stavenger were also beautiful places I traveled to.

### **Did you cross anything off your bucket list?**

Yes, to see the Northern Lights. I saw them twice—once in Bergen and once in Tromsø.

### **How will you incorporate what you learned during your study-abroad experience in your future career?**

I learned a lot in and outside of the classroom while in Norway. In terms of my future career, I learned that it is not necessary to go straight into a job. Many Norwegians take gap years prior to starting full-time jobs. I also learned to be more patient as I was working with many bilingual people whose first language is not English.

### **Did your study-abroad experience inspire you to do anything when you returned to UC?**

Yes! I learned to focus more on sustainability in my life. Norway is known for being the most sustainable country in the world, and living there opened my eyes to how important it is to live that way. I am currently working on a research project at my co-op for brands to focus on sustainable alternatives for packaging, which is one thing this study abroad has inspired me to do.

### **What was the biggest takeaway from your experience?**

The biggest takeaway is to go out of my comfort zone more. That semester was nerve-racking for me as I have never been to Europe, let alone live there. Once I was there, I was going on fun adventures every weekend, and I do not regret a single thing I did.

### **What did you learn about yourself?**

That I can take risks a lot better than I thought I could. I also learned that I could hike Trolltunga in a day.

“*Eye-opening. Breathtaking. Exhilarating.*”

–Piper Magyaros, on her recent study-abroad experience

PHOTO CAPTIONS (TOP TO BOTTOM)

1: Piper on a small island just outside of Tromsø.

2: Piper shown atop Preikestolen—an iconic Norwegian landmark.

3: Piper pictured in downtown Tromsø in the city's center.

4: Piper (third from left in the UC hat) enjoying time with friends.

# 30 + scholarships

AWARDED BY THE INSTITUTE FOR THE 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

**KU Renewable Fellowship:** Andrew Allwein • Andrew Niese • Daniel Shisler • Alejandro Diaz • Andrew Geers • Aayaan Mehta • Daniel Posmik

**KU Amanda Wait Renewable Fellowship:** Julia Dean • Amanda Rapien • Marie Curd • Piper Magyaros • Grace Grissett • Abigail Klare • Margaret Stringfellow

**KU Renewable Research Fellowship:** Colin Crank • Luke Grothaus • Rishi Mehta

**KU Amanda Wait Renewable Research Fellowship:** Kellie Hannan

**KU Nandita Jena Renewable Research Fellowship:** Heidi Reppart

**KU Fellowship:** Evan Eskilson • Vighnesh Raj

**KU Joni Lewis Fellowship:** Grace McCutcheon

**KU Sean Sullivan Fellowship:** Ryan Paul

**KU Don Wellington Fellowship:** Joe Kroger

**KU Caroline Kautz Book Prize:** Brendan Dewing • Rajan Taneja

**KU Study Abroad Prize:** Joe Book • Ethan Deep • Hayden Koch • Andrew Morrissey • Owen Racer • Josette Ricker

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Economics alumna Amanda Wait.

### AMANDA WAIT (BA, '00) INSPIRES WOMEN IN ECONOMICS

A former Hewett-Kautz Fellow, Amanda Wait graduated with a BA in Business Economics from the University of Cincinnati in 2000. She went on to earn a JD from the William & Mary Law School in 2004. After graduation, Amanda joined the Federal Trade Commission and soon became one of the finest lawyers in the nation, specializing in antitrust, mergers, and acquisitions.

Named to Benchmark Litigation's "40 Under 40 Hot List," which recognizes the top litigators in the nation under the age of 40, she has also been individually ranked by Chambers USA for antitrust. Currently, Amanda is a partner at Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP in Washington, DC, where she devises and implements strategies for companies to obtain antitrust clearance for their transformative corporate mergers and acquisitions.

Amanda has always demonstrated an amazing passion for supporting young women in economics and law. In 2011, she co-founded The Grapevine, which is the first networking platform established for professional women in the Washington, DC area who practice law in the areas of competition and consumer protection. Through The Grapevine, Amanda personally mentors young women lawyers entering the profession.

In 2016, Amanda spearheaded the Kautz-Uible Women in Economics initiative, through which she has established several scholarships for economics students at UC. In addition to the generous scholarships, Amanda organizes a workshop for women economics students each semester and mentors several women students. Furthermore, she has created an effective network of women economics students and alumnae who support each other.

Through her exemplary actions, Amanda has also inspired other economics alumnae to create scholarships and support and mentor current students. She is making an extensive and long-lasting impact in furthering the status and achievements of women in economics.

Amanda serves on the boards of the Kautz Uible Economics Institute and the University of Cincinnati Foundation.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### ENGAGEMENT

The Kautz-Uible Economics Institute sincerely thanks the following alumni for their engagement. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Debashis Pal at [debashis.pal@uc.edu](mailto:debashis.pal@uc.edu).

Aziza Banerjee Lyons (BA, '16; MS, '17) • Alex Boerger (BA, '09; MA, '10) • Britany Bostic (BS, '09) • Candice Matthews-Brackeen (BA, '04) • Dinushki De Livera (BBA, '15; MS '16) • Mary DeStefano (BS, '15; MS '16) • Krista Fehring-Gustavsson-Bronzie (BA '05; MA '07) • Vanessa Finzer (BS, '13; MS '16) • Sara Ford (BA, '02) • Abdou Ndao (BBA, '20) • Nick Puncer (BBA, '10)

### SCHOLARSHIPS

The Kautz-Uible Economics Institute sincerely thanks the following alumni for mentoring and creating scholarships for our students. If you are interested in creating a scholarship to support a current student, please contact Debashis Pal at [debashis.pal@uc.edu](mailto:debashis.pal@uc.edu).



**Inna Tobin Poliakov,  
BA '99**  
Vice President,  
Global Beauty Finance  
& Operations  
Procter & Gamble



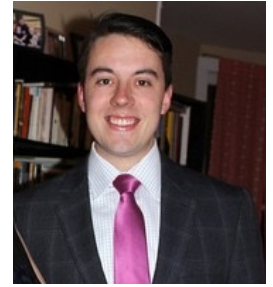
**Amanda Wait,  
BA, '00**  
Partner  
Norton Rose Fulbright



**Nandita Jena,  
MS, '03**  
Head of Operational  
Resilience  
CIBC



**Joni Lewis,  
BBA, '08**  
Director of Finance  
IDEX Corporation



**Sean Sullivan,  
BA, '09**  
Senior Trader,  
Crude Oil Options  
Group One Trading, LP

### OUR SPECIAL THANKS TO:



**Toshia Watkins**  
Unit Manager

Toshia Watkins, Unit Manager of Lindner's Accounting and Economics Departments, for her years of service and dedication to the institute.

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## SAVE THE DATE

- 3/22:** Compass Lexecon Presents: Acing the Interview - Tips & Tricks
- 3/24-25:** The Econ Games | University of Kentucky
- 3/25:** KU Women in Economics Panel | Kautz Attic
- 3/25:** Economics Awards Banquet | Nippert North Lounge
- 3/31:** Ethical Issues with Cryptocurrency: A Conversation with Dr. Jones
- 4/6:** Web3 Day | UC's 1819 Innovation Hub
- 4/21:** UC Economics Homecoming | Cincinnati Country Club
- 4/30-5/4:** UC Economics Society Trip | Washington, DC

For more information, please visit the events calendar  
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KUEI Board members Richard Curry, Dan Kautz, and Woody Uible with Lindner students during a study-abroad program in India.