



Every year **NICKERSON & ASSOCIATES** sponsors university-level interns to work on issues dealing with economics, public policy and government. In 2009, we continued our summer internship program with four positions focusing on our traditional areas of economics and public policy and three in the arts. Policy interns maintain projects for the **Northwest Economic Policy Seminar** and focus on healthcare, employment and environmental issues. Arts interns arrange live performances, produce recordings and participate in intern seminars throughout the summer.

Learn more at www.nickersonassociates.com/interhip/index.html

PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM

SEATTLE'S "GREEN FEE" BY CHRIS LLOYD

Anti-plastic bag policies have emerged in various parts of the world at various levels of government. From outright bans to market based incentives, governments have established these policies to resolve serious threats to the environment and public health. Looking through a variety of case studies as well as several reports contracted by Seattle to assess the costs and benefits of the proposed 20-cent grocery bag fee.

HEALTH CARE AND JOB TURNOVER BY ALICE SHIEH

The United States' health care system currently defers the responsibility of health insurance provision to employers. The availability of health coverage, therefore, becomes an important employment consideration for both employers and their employees. Using statistical methods to analyze twelve years' of data from the Current Population Survey, this research investigates the effect of health insurance on the probabilities of individuals experiencing voluntary or involuntary turnover.

HEALTHCARE POLICY REFORM BY JOHN THOMPSON

Healthcare policy reform was the hottest political topic of the summer. There are many different issues within this complicated topic, and I spent the summer researching a few of these. I will be discussing the healthcare 'outcomes' in America, and how they're used in the debate. I'll also discuss the historic change in the U.S. and Canadian systems that has occurred over the last 30 years. Finally, I'll address the tax-exclusion for employer-provided healthcare.

COMPENSATION FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES BY THADDEUS WOODMAN

How does compensation for public employees (e.g. income, health benefits, retirement plans) compare to compensation for private employees? Although this question carries import for public policy and economic theories alike, it is notoriously difficult to answer due to the paucity of available data. This report discusses the shortcomings of the data, provides some preliminary findings, and makes recommendations for future research.

NICKERSON & ASSOCIATES is a thirty year old consulting firm specializing in applying economics, statistics, and computer-related analysis to business and public policy issues. Our clients have included numerous law firms, Fortune 500 companies, small and medium size businesses, federal, state, and local government entities, the U.S. Department of Justice, and labor and trade organizations. As consultants we have calculated damages in litigation, performed numerical, statistical, and econometric analysis for both litigation and public policy studies, and have provided expert testimony in jury and bench trials on numerous occasions. In related capacities, we have been integrally involved in mediation and settlement discussions and have served as Settlement Administrators in a number of class action cases.

NICKERSON & ASSOCIATES

PRESENTS

SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM '09



MUSIC AND DANCE NIGHT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22ND, 2009

8:00PM - 10:00PM

WEST HALL

(2ND FLOOR OF THE ODDFELLOWS BUILDING)

915 PINE STREET

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98122

Summer 2009 Internship Participants

Arts Program



Michael Yu is currently a senior at Knox College in Galesburg, IL. In his three years at Knox College, he has performed with a variety of groups as a jazz saxophone player and classical clarinetist. He has appeared in the Knox-Galesburg Symphony, the Knox College Jazz Ensemble, the Knox-Sandburg Community Band, the Galesburg Community Chorus, and the Dave Hoffman Trad jazz combo, as well as in a variety of straight-ahead jazz combos. He is currently completing a Bachelor of Music with a minor in Business.



Jessica Jasper has been involved with music since she was in fourth grade. She started piano lessons and fell in love with the violin the next year. She began studying privately with Dr. Cynthia Morrow in Kirkland in seventh grade. She had known since then that she wanted to be a professional musician. After tenth grade, she switched to the viola, deciding to get a viola performance degree. She has been attending Central Washington University for the past two years with plans to complete a Masters degree. She is very excited to have been an intern at Nickerson and Associates!



Laara Garcia is the artistic product of her mother, Joyce Wonderly, her father, Carlos Garcia, as well as the University of Washington, Cornish College of the Arts, Riverside Community College, and, oh yeah, *Life!* Don't worry, Laara has been dancing and creating dance for billions of light years now, sometimes even in exchange for goods and money. Her moniker is "*Pseudopod*" something or other, so keep an eye out for more to come. She lives for music, movement and peace. She would like to thank everyone who has supported her along the way. There are many. Thank you from the bottom of my Elephant shoes. For realZzz.

Public Policy Program



Chris Lloyd Chris graduated from Wheaton College with a degree in Philosophy and Urban Studies. He spent his internship at Nickerson & Associates analyzing Seattle's proposed 20-cent Grocery Bag Fee along with several case studies of anti-plastic bag policies in other regions of the globe. For more information, go to seattlebagtax.org. This fall, Chris will be moving to the Midwest to work as a development associate for Breakthrough, a community development organization on Chicago's west side.



Alice Shieh Alice graduated with a degree in sociology from the University of Washington in 2009. She is interested in researching stratification, inequality, and specifically wishes to study the integration of minorities and women in mainstream society through these groups' participation in education and the labor force. Alice intends to become a demographer and will pursue a graduate degree in sociology. When she does not need to ride the ferry to commute across the Sound on her days off, she enjoys her time off by not riding the ferry.



John Thompson John finished his B.A. in English at Vanderbilt University in 2008. He has spent the summer researching comparative healthcare systems, particularly focusing on differences between the U.S. and Canada. He has also been following current policy reform and blogging his opinions. He enjoys travelling and has lived in Nepal, China and Argentina. He hopes to attend law school in 2010.



Thaddeus Woodman Thaddeus graduated from Reed College this past year where he studied philosophy and economics. He spent the summer examining the differences in wages between the public and private sectors and how these wage differentials have changed over time. Thad hopes to continue working in economics and learning about data management and analysis. He enjoys rowing, snowboarding and playing mandolin.

Schedule of Events

August 22, 2009

8:00pm Jazz Ensemble

Tenor Saxophone: Michael Yu

Bass: David Zeno

Drums: Carlos Cruz

Piano: Michael Hepburn

Fungii Mama
Autumn Leaves
Black Orpheus
Bag's Groove

Blue Mitchell
Joseph Kosma
Luiz Bonfá and Antonio Maria
Milt Jackson

8:30pm..... Viola & Piano Recital

Viola: Jessica Jasper

Piano: Monica Clark

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Partita No. 2 for Solo Violin

1.) *Allemanda*
4.) *Gigue*

Robert Schumann (1810-1856)
Adagio and Allegro

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Sonata No. 2 in E flat Major for Clarinet or Viola
1.) *Allegro Amabile*

9:30 pm..... Sakura Rising

Choreographer: Laara Garcia

Special Thanks: William Kitchings, William Feffer, Sean Singer, Melinda Short, Jeremy Jones, Eli Hetrick and Eric Ward-Hanisko

