A message from Sam Hansen, 2013-2014 SEA President

As the Stanford Economics Association kicks off this quarter, I am excited to announce new changes and opportunities it will offer this year. Building on last year’s faculty lunch series, economics roundtable discussions, and first-ever undergraduate journal, the SEA will create more opportunities for economics-related dialogue on campus.

**Come one, come all!**
The SEA invites students from all majors to fully engage in SEA meetings and events. Economics centers on a set of key questions, including “How do people make decisions? What are the economic impacts of their choices? What are the policy implications of economic behavior?” With these questions in mind, the SEA encourages students majoring in Public Policy, International Relations, Symbolic Systems, MS&E, and all others to join the discussion and share their unique perspectives.

**SEA and SIEPR**
This year, the SEA plans to collaborate with the Stanford Institute of Economic Policy Research (SIEPR) through student involvement in the institute’s biannual Policy Forums - all day events that feature expert speakers
and policy discussions on exciting topics. The first SIEPR Policy Forum this year – scheduled for October 25 – will focus on the Big Data Revolution. Because this collaboration is a new endeavor, SEA members will help create new opportunities for

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student engagement in the Spring Policy Forum such as economic policy simulations, rapid-fire expert Q&As, and in-depth workshops. Details to come.

**Economics in Action**

Finally, the new SEA schedule will consist of student-led “Economics in Action” conversations twice a month, with faculty lunches held on alternating weeks. In this way, we will base many of our discussions on previous weeks’ subject matter presented by faculty. Last year’s topics included Behavioral Economics, Healthcare Reform, Market Design, Black Markets, and others.

Economics is a fast-evolving discipline that constantly demands new ideas and perspectives. In this past year alone, the SEA grew immensely from student-led initiatives such as the undergraduate economics journal, mentorship programs, and weekly debates.

To keep pace with change, the SEA encourages newcomers and veterans alike to use the organization as a platform to launch their own ideas and proposals. What’s more, the SEA challenges the Econ 1 mantra: “There’s no such thing as a free lunch.” Trust us; there are cookies.

**Economic Conversations**

The SEA hosted a total of 17 economics conversations this year, which were held every Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Old Union. The conversations directly followed SEA meetings, allowing members and visitors to discuss an economic question relating to current events.

Jeremy Majerovitz, a member of the SEA, hosted the majority of the conversations. Some of the issues discussed included market design, social security and the job market, the crisis in Cyprus, and microfinance.

The SEA is seeking suggestions for Econ Conversation topics. Please email Jeremy at jmajic@stanford.edu.
A message from Ganesh Kumaraguru, 2012-13 SEA President

This year has been an exciting year for the SEA. Our recruitment has been huge and we have had tremendous success in the programs and events that occurred this year. The SEA core itself has more than quadrupled from what it was spring quarter last year. We even have large umbrella groups under the SEA such as the SEA journal and the SEA mentorship program.

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the SEA’s growth. Part of the magic that made such growth possible was the breathtaking enthusiasm among members and their ability and desire to lead and take the initiative in spearheading new ideas. In addition, we received a lot of support from Professor Timothy Bresnahan, our faculty liaison, as well as Joanne DeMarchena and Susan Taylor from the Economics department.

Before I talk about the events this year, I would like to invite you to be a part of the SEA next year. The SEA, like its surroundings of Stanford and Silicon Valley, is a very entrepreneurial organization. Most of the events this year were spurned from ideas from new members that joined this year who were able to turn their ideas into full-blown events and programs.

If you have an idea about anything remotely related to economics and want to make it happen, joining the SEA is the best way to do so. In addition, the exposure you get to both economics and the economics department via joining the SEA or taking part in one of our programs is great. By joining other people who share your interest in economics, you can exchange ideas, satisfy your curiosity, and turn your ideas for events and programs into reality.

SEA Launches Quarterly Economics Journal

The SEA launched the Stanford Economics Journal, a new publication for student papers and articles, last year.

Under the leadership of Editor-in-Chief Brandon Camhi, two issues of the Journal were published. Angela Huang, Larry Win, Joshua Wong, and Ganesh Kumaraguru also edited submissions.

Articles ranged from short pieces under 1000 words to excerpts from honors theses, and writers of all experience levels were invited to submit their work.

The first issue of the journal, which was published in January 2013, can be found at http://economics.stanford.edu/files/SEA_Journal_Issue_1_fin al_revised2.pdf.

The second issue, which was published in April 2013, can be found at http://economics.stanford.edu/files/SEA_Journal_Issue_2.pdf.

Please contact Brandon Camhi at bcamhi@stanford.edu with any questions or feedback about either issue of the journal or how to submit an article or paper for future issues.
Faculty Lunches and SEA Events

Economics majors had a chance to socialize with professors outside of the classroom during the nine faculty lunches hosted by the SEA this year. Professors that participated include Caroline Hoxby, Michael Boskin, Timothy Bresnahan, Jonathan Levin, Jay Bhattacharya, John Pencavel, Nicholas Bloom, and Nobel Prize winner Al Roth.

On April 11, the SEA hosted a panel with eight alumni speakers who majored in economics at Stanford, from Al-Karim Lanani, an entrepreneur who graduated in 2012, to Bruce Ledesma, executive vice president at SunPower Corporation, who graduated in 1990.

The SEA also hosted a majors night on April 16 for prospective or declared economics majors. Faculty members in attendance included Pablo Kurlat, Fuhito Kojima, John Pencavel, Petra Moser, Pete Klenow, Pascaline Dupas, and Michael Boskin.

SEA Mentorship Program: Guiding the Next Generation of Econ Majors

The SEA launched a mentorship program this year, pairing prospective economics majors with upperclassmen who have already declared their major.

Six upperclassmen—Sahil Bloom, Julia Reichelstein, Henry Zhu, Zachariah Lott, Catherine Gray, and Robert Liu, volunteered to serve as mentors, and they were each paired with two mentees.

The mentors and mentees met in the spring, and will continue to meet regularly.