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BFRF Spring Chats Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, March 1

Yunwei Gai – Economics

“Will Universal Health Insurance Enhance Entrepreneurial Activity?”

Vikki Rodgers – Mathematics and Science

“Plants in New England shift their photosynthetic rates in response to future climate change conditions”

Wednesday, March 23

Kandice Hauf – History and Society

“Female Agency in a Patriarchal Society: The Chinese Case”

Kankana Mukherjee – Economics,

“Capacity Utilization in Indian Manufacturing: A Non-Parametric Analysis of State Level Data”

Save the dates:

Tuesday, April 5

Wednesday, April 20

Call for Proposals

National Endowment for Financial Education

The [National Endowment for Financial Education](#), a nonprofit foundation dedicated to improving the financial well-being of all Americans, seeks to fund innovative research and research-based development projects that can make a profound contribution to the field of financial literacy. Inquiries are encouraged from disciplines in fields as diverse as economics, sociology, psychology, marketing, finance, education, change theory, decision sciences, and others.

Deadline: June 7

J-Lab and McCormick Foundation Seek Applicants for New Media Women Entrepreneurs Program

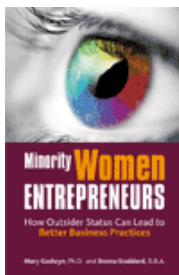
[J-Lab: The Institute for Interactive Journalism](#) and the [McCormick Foundation](#) are seeking to fund four women-led journalism projects. The program seeks to support individuals interested in creating new Web sites, mobile news services, and other entrepreneurial initiatives that offer interactive opportunities to engage, inspire, and improve news and information in a geographic community or a community of interest.

Deadline: April 4

Visit the program Web sites for complete application guidelines.

Faculty News

Hot Off the Press



Mary Godwyn, History and Society, and **Donna Stoddard**, TOIM, have a new book, *Minority Women Entrepreneurs: How Outsider Status Can Lead to Better Business Practices*, published by Stanford University Press, USA and Greenleaf Publishing, UK.

Minority women start new businesses in the U.S. at four times the rate of non-minority men and women. Though minority women entrepreneurs in the United States are thriving, their stories are very seldom told, and few think of minority women as successful entrepreneurs. *Minority Women Entrepreneurs* gives voice and visibility to this group of business owners.

The second purpose of this book is to explain what makes these women different from the standard white, male business owners with whom most people are familiar. Through in-depth interviews and firsthand accounts from minority women entrepreneurs, the authors found that minority women use their outsider status to develop socially conscious business practices that support their communities in innovative and exciting ways.

To hear Mary Godwyn’s interview on NECN [click here](#):

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Final Products Accepted

BFRF

Elizabeth Goldberg, Arts and Humanities

“‘Accorded a Place in the Design’: Torture in Post-Apartheid Cinema”

“‘Accorded a Place in the Design’” studies films made in South Africa and in the U.S. after the end of apartheid that address the legacies of torture by the apartheid state. Exploring the films’ representations of apartheid-era torture in the context of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, I argue that it is precisely the nature of the TRC as part of a state apparatus—‘new’ as it may have been—which potentially compromises its standing as a forum for healing and restoring the dignity of those most harmed by the apartheid system. Further, I argue that this understanding of the TRC sheds light upon the differential treatment it receives in post-apartheid films made in South Africa and in the U.S., respectively, specifically illuminating why U.S. films consistently focus upon the TRC as vehicle par excellence for redemption, forgiveness, and (re)conciliation, while South African films often tell their stories of post-apartheid working through in the shadows of the TRC, outside the circle of light cast by international media attention and inside other individual or communal spaces: the home, the workplace, schools, burial grounds or other sacred memorial spaces.

Vikki Rodgers, Mathematics and Science

“Herbaceous plant shifts in photosynthesis and transpiration rates in response to experimentally altered climate regimes in an old-field of New England”

Climate change is predicted to alter regional air temperature, humidity, solar radiation, and soil moisture, all of which directly impact the stomatal activity of plants. The opening and closing of stomata are responsible for the physiological controls of plant carbon and water dynamics. We are investigating shifts in photosynthesis and transpiration rates for four species of plants under twelve different temperature and precipitation regimes at the Boston Area Climate Experiment. Measuring the impacts future climate change scenarios may have to plant communities is critical to understanding the potential feedback processes between plants, soil and climate change.

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CWL

Kandice Hauf, History and Society

“Female Agency in a Patriarchal Society: The Chinese Case”

My aim in this article is to counter the stereotype of unrelieved oppression of women in Chinese history by making available materials and analysis of female agency to encourage a more nuanced interpretation. There is no denying that China was (and I would argue is) a male-dominated society. However, there were ways in which women gained authority, and certain cultural resources that could be looked to as exemplars of female authority, power, and action. I use examples from Chinese thought, and from the writings and actions of actual and mythical women from the 6th century B.C. to the end of imperial China in 1912, in order to analyze them as examples of and resources for female agency in imperial China.

GCC

Kankana Mukherjee, Economics

“Capacity Utilization in Indian Manufacturing: A Non-Parametric Analysis of State Level Data”

In this paper, I use the non-parametric method of Data Envelopment Analysis to obtain primal measures of capacity utilization in the overall manufacturing sector across states in India for the period 1998-99 through 2007-02. Capacity utilization is measured using two models – one in which capital is the only fixed input while other inputs are variable and another in which labor is also treated as a quasi-fixed input in addition to capital. A second stage regression analysis examines the main determinants of variation in capacity utilization across states. The relationship between capacity utilization and energy efficiency is also examined.

Corporate, Foundation, and Government Relations Office (CFGR)

Wendy Silverman, Director, CFGR

The Office of Corporate, Foundation and Government Relations (CFGR) within Development and Alumni Relations at Babson College provides guidance and assistance to faculty and staff seeking funding from corporations, foundations, and government agencies to support their research and curricular development initiatives. Among the pre-award services provided are identifying and researching possible funding sources, assisting with cultivation of funding prospects and with proposal development and writing, particularly in the final draft stage, and ultimately with the submission of proposals. Post-award assistance, including grant negotiation, budget clarification, financial and narrative reports, requests for extensions, and grant close-outs is provided by both the CFGR and the Business Office. If you would like to explore the possibility of external funding or examine your research agenda please contact me at x5993 or silverman@babson.edu.

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The BFRF [Working Paper Series](#), which features all of the completed research projects that have been supported by the BFRF, are published on DKB.