CSUEB CENTER FOR ECONOMIC EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT

December 2015

Jane S. Lopus, PhD
Center Director
Academic Year: 2014 – 2015

Name of Center/Institute: Center for Economic Education

College/Department: College of Business and Economics; Department of Economics

Date of Current Charter: September 2013

Charter Expiration Date: August 2018

Office or space utilized by center: VBT 329

Website address: http://www20.csueastbay.edu/cbe/about/centers/center-for-economic-education/index.html

Faculty associated/affiliated with center:
Dr. Jane Lopus, Professor of Economics Emerita and Center Director.
Dr. Brian Adams, Assistant Professor of Economics. (Assisted with Mathematics for Economics PEIL grant.)
Dr. Julie Glass, Professor of Mathematics. (Co-Principal Investigator on Mathematics for Economics PEIL grant and serves on CEE Advisory Board.)
Dr. Ryan Lampe, Associate Professor of Economics. (Assisted with 2015 Economics Challenge and Mathematics for Economics PEIL grant.)
Dr. Jung You, Assistant Professor of Economics. (Assisted with 2015 Economics Challenge, presented at a CEE workshop for high school economics teachers, and serves on CEE Advisory Board.)

Advisory Board Members:
Dr. Alex Cassuto (Economics Department Chair Emeritus)
Dr. Julie Glass (Professor of Mathematics)
Dr. Jay Tontz (CBE Dean Emeritus)
Dr. Jung You (Assistant Professor of Economics)
(New members to be invited to replace David Murray, who left the University.)

Advisory Board Meetings:
The CEE Advisory Board meets informally through email exchanges. We also hold a lunch meeting once a year. The last meeting was held in VBT 458 on January 30, 2015. The next meeting will be held during Winter Quarter 2015.
FINANCIAL STATEMENT (2014-2015)

There were no funds received or dispersed through the University for the Center for Economic Education in 2014 – 2015. Programs and projects were supported through external funding. For local programs, major support was provided by the Bay Area Financial Education Foundation (BAFEF). An economic-education related PEIL grant was administered through Faculty Development. Other projects and activities were funded by the organizations listed in the program descriptions in this report including USAID and Financial Markets International, the University of South Florida, the American Institute for Economic Research, and the California Council for Economic Education.

ECONOMIC EDUCATION EVENTS, PROGRAMS, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

● Consultant to Council for Economic Education in New York for National Economics Challenge, a nationwide economics competition for high school students, 2015 – 2016. Activities include developing questions for regional and national competitions and serving as a judge at national competition.

● Developed 16 videos and assessment activities for PEIL grant project “Mathematics for Economics” with Dr. Julie Glass, CSUEB Professor of Mathematics. The materials present the mathematics necessary to succeed in principles of economics classes. CSUEB students were involved in the project on a student advisory committee and as research assistants.

● Secretary of the Board of Directors and founding board member of the Global Economic Education Alliance, a non-profit corporation dedicated to promoting economic and financial literacy worldwide. www.globableconed.org

● Consultant to Financial Sector Development Program (USAID/FINREP-II) through Financial Markets International and USAID Ukraine for financial literacy component of financial reform program in Ukraine.

Public Events:

● Speaker / presenter in workshop “Interactive Methodology of Teaching the Financial Literacy Course” for 45 teachers and education leaders from throughout Ukraine from September 22 – 24, 2014 in Kyiv, Ukraine. The workshop was organized and sponsored by USAID Ukraine, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the National Bank of Ukraine, and the Ukraine National Banking University.

● Speaker / presenter in USAID-Ukraine sponsored workshop “Financial Literacy Training of Trainers Workshop for NGOs” December 15 – 17, 2014 in Kyiv,
Ukraine. Fifty-five participants from most regions of Ukraine attended, including partners from the National Bank of Ukraine, the Ministry of Social Policy, and the Deposit Guarantee Fund of Ukraine.


- Speaker / presenter in USAID-Ukraine sponsored workshop “Financial Literacy Interactive Teaching Methodology” for 30 teachers March 4, 2015 at the National Banking University in Lviv, Ukraine.

- Conducted workshop for 25 high school economics teachers titled “New Lessons for Teaching High School Economics” on March 28, 2015. The workshop was held in the Merrill Lynch offices in the Bank of America Building, San Francisco and was sponsored by the Bay Area Financial Education Foundation.

- Speaker / presenter at workshop for 30 high school teachers on “Teaching about the Role of Government in a Market-Based Economy.” The workshop was conducted by the American Institute for Economic Research in Great Barrington MA, June 25, 2015.

- Conducted workshop “Economics Workshop for High School Teachers” for 27 high school economics teachers on August 14, 2015. The workshop was held in the Merrill Lynch offices in the Bank of America Building, San Francisco and was sponsored by the Bay Area Financial Education Foundation.


**Other Economic Education Activities:**

- Outside reviewer of Department of Economics, St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud MN, March 30 – 31, 2015.

- Organized and conducted finals for Northern California Economics Challenge, a competition for high school students, at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, April 7, 2015.

- External assessor for economic education doctoral dissertation of PhD candidate at the University of Johannesburg (South Africa) Faculty of Economic and Financial Sciences, September 2015.
Research Reports and Publications:


Other Research Activities:

Invited participant on research panel “What the Research will Allow Us to Say about Program Effectiveness” Council for Economic Education annual conference, Dallas, TX October 2014.

Book review editor for *The American Economist*, an academic economics journal sponsored by Omicron Delta Epsilon, the international economics honorary society.

Co-editor for *The International Handbook on Financial Literacy* (forthcoming: Springer, 2016.)


Presented “Effects of Math Intervention on Learning Principles of Economics” with Julie Glass at Western Economic Association International annual meetings, Honolulu, HI, June 29, 2015.  Also chaired the session Economic Education and Teaching II.
2015/16 Plans

Vision for year: The vision is to continue to offer economic education programs and related activities locally, nationally, and internationally.

Main Objectives: The main objective, reflected in the vision, is to continue to produce successful programs and other activities to assist teachers and other audiences to increase the quantity and improve the quality of economic education.

Strategies: Strategies include continuing to work with the Bay Area Financial Education Foundation and the California Council on Economic Education for support for future programs. We look forward to continuing to work with the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco on economic education initiatives.

We look forward to continuing to work with the Global Economic Education Alliance and Financial Markets International to pursue the possibility of securing a grant from USAID to promote financial literacy in Indonesia.

By involving Professor Julie Glass on the CEE Advisory Board, we plan to investigate ways to follow up on our PEIL grant to develop a STEM education project to combine economics and mathematics education. Economics is a quantitative social science and is also a graduation requirement in California high schools. Combining math and economics has advantages to both curricular areas.

Plans for revenue enhancement: We look forward to hearing about ideas for funding opportunities from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs and University Advancement.

Center’s most important strengths and core competencies: The CSUEB CEE has a long and strong reputation of promoting quality teacher training and research and evaluation programs in economic education locally, nationally, and internationally. The CEE is affiliated with the California Council for Economic Education and the (national) Council for Economic Education, giving us access to an active group of university-based centers for economic education throughout the state and country.

Significant challenges the center faces this year: No significant challenges are anticipated in the following year. We expect that BAFEF will continue to support local teacher workshops and we expect that future CEE opportunities will continue to help to connect CSUEB with the local, national, and international communities through economic education.