

## Economics Student Profile January 2016

**Kerri Neil**, B.A. (Honours), Economics and Canadian Studies, Expected May 2016  
Department of Economics Society President since September 2013 - Present



When I first started with The Department of Economics, I was full of energy and anxious to become involved with the Department. So with the help from a few friends, I started up the MUN Economics Society. As a society, we hosted mixers once a month, it was a great way of getting to know other economics students. We also hosted a Professor Speaker Series to learn more about what our Professors did as real life Economists in Newfoundland and Labrador. With so many talented professors in the Department, it proved to be a really interesting series, where we learned about professors' career paths, and the research they do outside of teaching. The highlight of my experience was when I was given the opportunity to work for The Collaborative Applied Research in Economics (CARE). CARE is a kind of think tank, operating out of the Economics Department that uses applied research to analyze the Newfoundland and Labrador economy. This past year I had the opportunity to write a monthly report called The Labour Market Observer for CARE's Website. I also had the chance to meet the Leaders of the three Political Parties of Newfoundland and Labrador during a debate hosted by CARE in October 2015. Working with CARE gave me a better idea of what an economist does and it really prepared me for life after graduation. Being involved with your department and getting to know faculty increases your chances of obtaining employment opportunities, whether that is working as a MUCEP student, participating as a society member, or volunteering during special departmental events. With so much great experience under my belt, I currently work as a research assistant with Dr. Tony Fang, Stephen Jarislowsky Chair in Cultural and Economic Transformation.

In the future I hope to see more students involved with The Economics Society at MUN and would like to hand over my role as president of the society to someone who is as enthusiastic about economics as I am. I would like to thank the Department of Economics of Memorial University of Newfoundland for all my experiences and helping me achieve my goals and for helping to foster my active interest in the Newfoundland economy.

I would like to end with my favorite economics quote:

*I think there's a lot of merit in an international economy and global markets, but they're not sufficient because markets don't look after social needs. George Soros*