

35TH

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK CONFERENCE

20
24

FEBRUARY 8
8:30AM - 12:00PM
CENTRAL BANK CENTER



Agenda

8:00 A.M.

Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 A.M.

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Scott Kelley

*Executive Associate Dean, Simmons
Endowed Professor*

Dr. Charles Courtemanche

*Director of the Institute for the Study of Free
Enterprise, Associate Professor*

8:50 A.M.

"A View from the Federal Reserve"

Charles Gascon

*Senior Economist, Federal Reserve
Bank of St. Louis, MO*

9:30 A.M.

"Kentucky's Economic Outlook 2024"

Dr. Michael Clark

*Director of the Center of Business and
Economic Research, Gatton College of
Business and Economics, University
of Kentucky*

10:00 A.M.

Break

10:20 A.M.

"The Promises and Pitfalls of Artificial Intelligence: How Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Can Change the Work We Perform"

Dr. Brent Harrison

*Assistant Professor, Stanley and Karen Pigman
College of Engineering, University of Kentucky*

10:55 A.M.

"The Effects of Technological Change on the Workforce: How A.I. Could Affect Employment and Wages"

Dr. John Garen

*BB&T Professor Emeritus of Economics,
Gatton College of Business and Economics,
University of Kentucky*

11:30 A.M.

Q & A Speaker Panel

12:00 P.M.

Adjourn

Speakers



Charles
Gascon

Charles S. Gascon is a senior economist in the Research division at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis. He analyzes economic conditions nationally and in the Eighth Federal Reserve District. He reports on regional economic conditions to the Bank president and staff economists prior to Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meetings. He is responsible for writing the bank's Beige Book report on economic conditions and contributes to other bank publications. His work has been cited in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times, and in local media outlets.

He is a member of the American Economic Association and the National Association for Business Economics. Gascon has a master's degree in economics from State University of New York at Albany and an MBA from Washington University in St. Louis. He lives in University City Missouri with his wife and two children.

Michael W. Clark is the Director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Kentucky's Gatton College of Business and Economics. He earned a B.A. in Management and an M.S. and Ph.D. in economics from the University of Kentucky. Prior to coming to UK, Dr. Clark was the Chief Economist for the Kentucky Legislative Research Commission. He conducts applied economic and policy research focusing on labor, health, economic development issues. His work has been published in the Journal of Labor Research. He has conducted research for various Kentucky state agencies including the Department of Public Health, the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet, and the Department of Income Support.



Dr. Michael
Clark

Speakers



Dr. Brent
Harrison

Brent Harrison is an Assistant Professor of Computer Science at the University of Kentucky's Stanley and Karen Pigman College of Engineering. Dr. Harrison earned a B.S. in Computer Science from Auburn University and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Computer Science from North Carolina State University. The goal of his research is to create AI and machine learning systems that can better understand and interact with humans. This involves imbuing machine learning systems with a better understanding of human communication patterns, values, and personality. His research interest includes artificial intelligence, machine learning, autonomous agents, game design, and computational storytelling. Dr. Harrison's work has been presented at various conferences and published in the conference proceeding including the AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence, the International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces, and the AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society.

John Garen is the BB&T Professor Emeritus of Economics of the Gatton College of Business and Economics at the University of Kentucky. He was a member of the Gatton faculty from 1985 through 2021. Dr. Garen received his Ph.D. from Ohio State University in 1982 and has served as a Visiting Professor at the University of Chicago, a Visiting Scholar at the Mercatus Center, at National Sun Yat-Sen University, and at National Taiwan Normal University. He is a member of the Board of Scholars for the Bluegrass Institute for Public Policy Solutions and of the Foundation for Economic Education Faculty Network. Dr. Garen was the founding director of the Gatton College's Institute for the Study of Free Enterprise, served as Department Chair from 2005-2009, and during 2004-2005 he was Co-Director of the Gatton College's Center for Business and Economic Research.

Dr. Garen's interests have focused on the economics of organizations, labor and human resource economics, and the role of government in society. He has conducted research on a wide variety of economic issues, leading to over forty publications in many of the foremost academic journals, as well as numerous reports and manuscripts. Based on this experience, Dr. Garen has generated a flow of opinion columns, media work, and presentations to the public on the economy and economic issues, and on the importance of economics to good public policy.



Dr. John
Garen