

**University of Puerto Rico  
Mayagüez Campus  
College of Arts and Sciences  
DEPARTAMENT OF ECONOMICS**

***Annual Report 2024-2025***

Submitted by:

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## **Executive Summary**

The Department of Economics offers a four-year program leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Economics. The program is one of only two undergraduate programs in Economics offers within the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) system. The program offers a strong development in quantitative methods and techniques necessary for economic analysis by requiring two-semester sequence in mathematics, one year of mathematical statistics, one semester in project evaluation and one semester course in econometrics, as well as one year seminar course in research methodology.

Besides providing professional training to students majoring in Economics, the Department also offers a Minor Concentration in Economics, mainly design for student's pursuing other fields in the UPRM with an interest in complementing its career development with a knowledge in economics.

The Department educational purpose is to develop students' ability to think clearly and objectively in dealing with economic decisions and problems. Students are trained specifically to replace value judgments and prejudices with sound economic reasoning based on an objective and rational analysis. Besides this function, economic research and the promotion of economic education are two integral elements within the Department.

In this context, the Department vision is to become an advanced department in higher education and research, internationally distinguished for its excellence in the training of its graduates, which contributes dynamically to social and economic development, transforming society through the pursuit of knowledge, in an environment of ethics, justice, and peace.

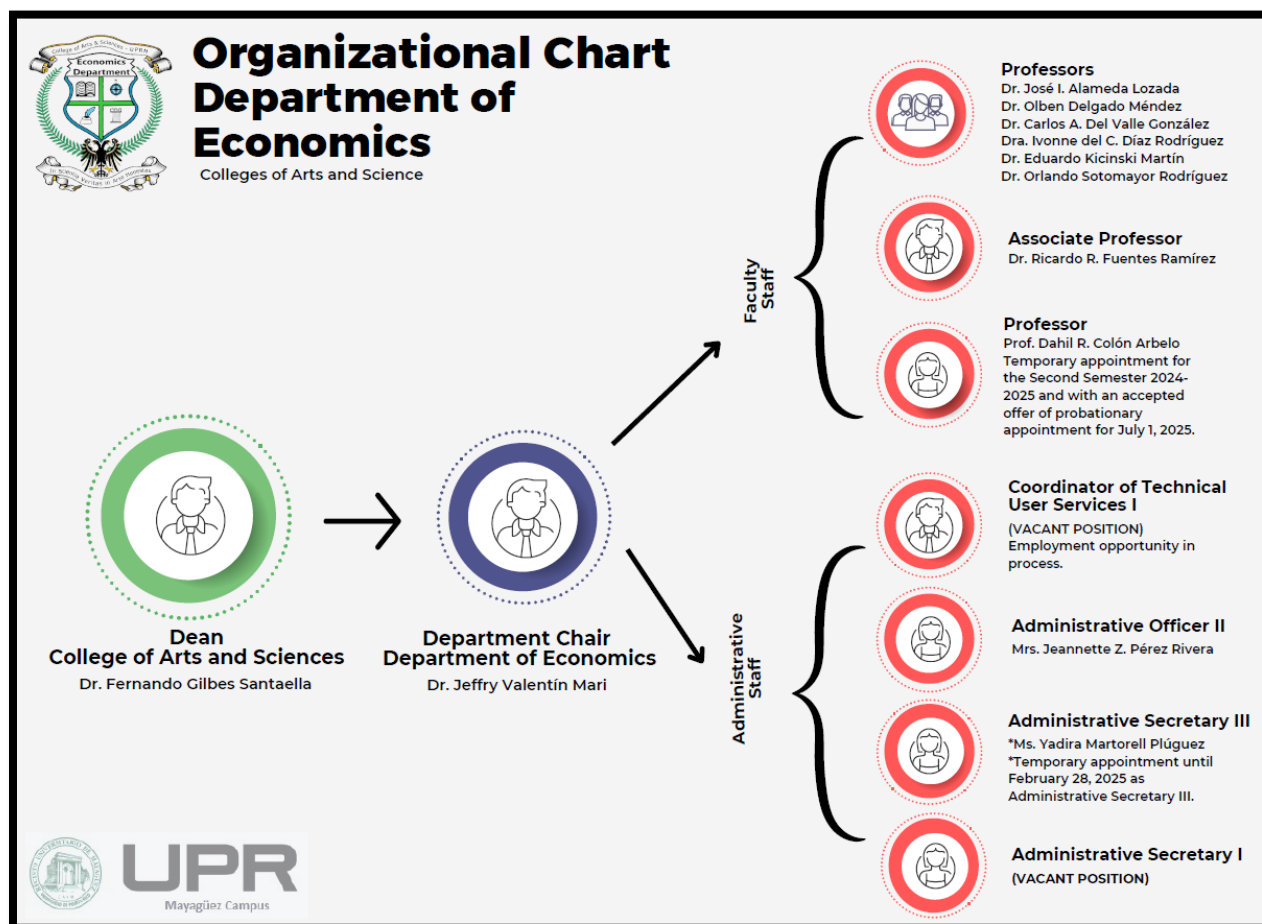
In addition, its mission seeks to provide an excellence service in education, particularly:

- Collaborating in the formation of educated, cultured citizens, capable of critical thinking and professionally prepared in the economic discipline so that they can contribute to educational, cultural, social, technological and economic development.
- Carrying out creative work, research, and service, that meets the needs of society and disseminating the results of these activities so that they are accessible to all.
- To provide our students with the skills and sensitivity necessary to effectively solve the problems we face and to be an example of the civic formation in education that must prevail in a democratic system that values and respects diversity.

To accomplish these statements, the Department of Economics has a total of eight (8) professors of which seven (7) are in the rank of professor, and one with the rank of associate professor. In addition, the Department expected to have a new faculty member effective July 1, 2025. The Department has a Faculty Recruitment Plan reviewed and approved at a departmental meeting on Thursday, December 1, 2016. As for the

administrative staff, apart from the position of Director of the Department there are three (3) non-teaching employees, these are: an administrative officer, an administrative secretary, and a coordinator of technical service coordinator to the user.

The Department is located in the Efrain Sánchez Hidalgo Building, occupying its administrative offices on the third floor of the building. In addition to that the Department has five classrooms, one computer lab, two meeting rooms, thirteen professor offices, one storage area, and other offices.



During the academic year 2024-2025 several activities, initiatives and accomplishments were carried out to support the UPRM institutional objectives.

In the assessment area, a departmental assessment plan was revised and approved, and two different questionnaires were put into effect. The questionnaires were: (1) questionnaire was distributed to the freshman economics students in the orientation and welcome day; and (2) An *Exit Questionnaire* was carried out to receive the perspective of the economics senior students. In addition, three separate reports were discussed at the departmental faculty meeting about the academic profile of (1) the Department's freshman class 2024-2025, (2) academic profile of all active students in the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program, and (3) In the Second Semester 2024-2025, the results of

the Administrative Appraisal Questionnaire for the First Semester 2024-2025 were reported at the departmental meeting on Thursday, March 6, 2025. The vision, mission, objectives, and values of the Center for Economic and Financial Education (CEEF) were reviewed, and updated on Friday, January 31, 2025. These were subsequently approved at the departmental faculty regular meeting on Thursday, February 6, 2025. The process of visiting the classrooms of the Department of Economics for the administration of the Student Opinion Questionnaire (COE) was reestablished with the assistance of the departmental faculty staffs as part of the recommendation approved in Certification No. 24-25-067 of the Administrative Board of the UPRM. On Thursday, March 6, 2025, the faculty of the Department of Economics in the ordinary meeting approved the proposed alignment of the Expected Learning Outcomes of General Education of the UPRM with the Expected Student Learning Outcomes of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program (SLOs ECON). The proposed revision of the alignment of ECON SLOs with those of the College of Arts and Sciences was also approved. Dr. Carlos A. del Valle González, Professor of the Department of Economics, was appointed (by the Chancellors' Office) for the special assignment of preparing and drafting the UPRM Infrastructure Master Plan 2024-2034. In addition, professor del Valle organized collaborative planning roundtables on the UPR Master Plan.

In the curriculum area, the proposal for the creation of a master's program in sustainable economic development and its initial courses were approved by the department and submitted to the faculty curriculum committee. All proposed courses in the master's program in sustainable economic development were approved by the faculty curriculum committee. The courses of the master's degree have already been approved at the level of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. The prerequisites for the courses ECON 4056 (Environmental Economics) and ECON 4028 (Natural Resource Economics) were revised and modified at the departmental faculty ordinary meeting held on Thursday, March 6, 2025. The faculty of the Department of Economics in a regular meeting held on Thursday, March 6, 2025 approved the proposed curricular change to eliminate the prerequisites of the following ECON coding courses, these are ECON 3086: Contemporary Problems of the Economy of Puerto Rico, ECON 4028: Economics of Natural Resources, ECON 4047: Economics of Electronic Commerce and the Internet, ECON 4056: Economics of the Environment and ECON 4068: Economics of Tourism.

In the administrative area, the Department continues its efforts in the digitization of its archives to liberalize storage space and the implementation of technology to provide a service of excellence.

In the funding and research area, some faculty members have participated as co-principal investigators in several research proposals for external funding with other UPRM institutional units, such as the Department of Civil Engineering, the College of Business Administration, the Department of Social Sciences, among others. The Department also participated in the RUMex program offering ECON courses which represents a newly diversified funds of revenue. The Department of Economics published Volume 11 of our journal *Ceteris Paribus*. Dr. Vanee Smit was very helpful with his recommendations for institutionalizing the journal. Following its recommendations, an ISSN was obtained and

for the first time each article in the journal has its own DOI. Ceteris Paribus is expected to be included as part of CePa's virtual catalog. The link to the latest volume: <https://www.uprm.edu/ceterisparibus/> . In addition, a second collaboration agreement was signed with the Puerto Rico Planning Board to provide technical assistance in the production of the national accounts and the input-output matrix. Refer to <https://www.uprm.edu/portada/2024/01/26/expertos-del-rum-brindaran-asesoria-a-la-junta-de-planificacion-tras-firma-de-acuerdo/>..

In the area of community services and societal impact, the faculty participated continuously in several conferences, discussion panels, meetings that provided an important point of view. Some of our faculty members also collaborated with other governmental agencies, such as the Department of Justice of Puerto Rico, the Puerto Rico Planning Board, and the municipality of Mayaguez.

In the area of international activity Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez informed the publication "Counter-Hegemonic Evolution: The intentional township of Auroville as a case study of Systemic Transformation" conditionally accepted in the peer-reviewed journal "Review of Radical Political Economics" was co-authored with sociologist Cansu Gurkaya attached to the Center for Indian and South Asian Studies -CEIAS of the École des Hautes Études in Social Sciences in France. The work presented in New York City. at the 51st Annual Conference – Eastern Economic Association on February 22, 2025 was also co-authored with sociologist Cansu Gurkaya. In addition, Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez and Dr. Jeffry Valentín Mari were invited by the Rector's Office to participate on Monday, March 31, 2025 in a working group (Celis-202) to explore possible collaborations in economic development, entrepreneurship and regional impact initiatives with faculty from Purdue University Northwest who were on view at the Campus from March 31 to April 1, 2025. Al so, Dr. Dahil R. Colón Arbelo, Assistant Professor at the Department of Economics participated in the International Congress VII of the Association of Economic History of the Caribbean. Lecture: From the industrial enclave in the twentieth century to the enclave of people XXI: the case of Puerto Rico, November 8, 2024 in Mexico City. Refer to <https://ahec.uji.es/>

The following sections presented, aligned with the institutional annual report, the initiatives, activities, and accomplishments carried out by the Department of Economics during the academic year 2024-2025.

## **To institutionalize a culture of strategic planning and assessment.**

- Dr. Carlos A. Del Valle González, professor at the Department of Economics, was appointed as a member of the Arts and Sciences Planning Committee, institutional committee in charge of the new strategic plan of the College of Arts and Sciences at UPRM.

- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, associate professor at the Department of Economics, implemented at the Department level an online administrative assessment questionnaire.
- On Thursday, October 24, 2024, the Economics Department Administrative Assessment Questionnaire for the period comprising the Academic Year 2024-2025 was delivered to the faculty staff of the Department of Economics. The Questionnaire is part of the work programmed by the Assessment Committee during the academic year. The information that is completed in the questionnaire is anonymous. The link to the questionnaire was sent to the institutional email of the Departmental faculty staff. The questionnaire platform was available at Google Forms, which had a completed deadline of Friday, November 22, 2024 until 4:30 pm.
- On Thursday, September 5, 2024, at the Departmental ordinary faculty meeting, the faculty staff of the Department of Economics was asked to verify the following information: (1) Date of recruitment at the UPRM, (2) Academic degrees obtained (year, degree and university), (3) ECON Taught Courses and (4) Areas of Specialty and Research. Justification: This type of information is frequently requested from the departmental management for the purpose of completing forms related to the accreditation or institutional evaluation processes (i.e., MSCHE, five-year evaluations and licensing of the Board of Postsecondary Institutions, among others).
- On Thursday, September 5, 2024, at the Departmental ordinary faculty meeting, the Personnel Evaluation Plan for the Faculty Staff of the Department of Economics was distributed among the faculty staff. At that moment, Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez was the faculty member pending periodic evaluations by the Departmental Personnel Committee. In addition, the current operational criteria for faculty evaluation of the Department were delivered to the faculty staff. This includes the Appendix F: Module for General Evaluation and Appendix G: Module for Teaching Evaluation. On that day, the teaching staff was informed through a departmental communication about the revision of these criteria's, including the criteria's presented in the Appendix I.
- On Thursday, October 3, at the Departmental ordinary faculty meeting, a departmental report was distributed among the faculty members of the Department of Economics that presents the academic profile of the 29 active students in the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program.
- On Thursday, November 7, 2024, at the Departmental ordinary faculty meeting, the percentage distribution of the preliminary grades obtained by the 2024-2025 freshman students of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program was presented to the faculty staff. The information presented is based on the report of grades delivered by the Registry Office of the UPRM under the institutional initiative of the Early Warning System.
- Dr. Carlos A. del Valle González, Professor of the Department of Economics, was appointed (by the Chancellors' Office) for the special assignment of preparing and



drafting the UPRM Infrastructure Master Plan 2024-2034. In addition, professor del Valle organized collaborative planning roundtables on the UPR Master Plan.

- On Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at the first meeting of directors of the College of Arts and Sciences, the Dean of Arts and Sciences asked the directors that the departmental Personnel Committees begin the work to prepare the plans for the recruitment of teaching staff, specifically the areas of hiring (with the corresponding justifications). This is in case such information is requested for the UPRM Recruitment Plan 2025-2026. The University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus (UPRM), has gone through the following recruitment cycles (these plans were distributed to faculty):
  - 2020 Recruitment Plan: Assigns a teaching position to the Department of Economics.
  - 2021 Recruitment Plan: Does not assign a teaching position to the Department of Economics.
  - 2023 Recruitment Plan: Assigns a teaching position to the Department of Economics.
- The Annual Report of the Department of Economics for the 2024-2025 Academic Year was submitted on June 25, 2025 to the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, with the deadline for delivery being July 1, 2025.
- The master syllabus (in face-to-face mode) of all ECON undergraduate coding courses were updated according to the Certification No. 125 (2023-2024) of the Board of Governors of the University of Puerto Rico (JG-UPR) and are available for use on the website of the Department of Economics in <https://www.uprm.edu/economia/prontuarios/>.
- On Thursday, September 5, 2024, at the Departmental ordinary faculty meeting, a report was delivered to the faculty staff presenting the answers to the questionnaire distributed to the seven (7) 2024-2025 freshman students who enrolled and attended the Department's welcome and orientation on Thursday, August 2, 2024.
- On Thursday, September 5, 2024, at the Departmental ordinary faculty meeting, a report presenting the academic profile of the 2024-2025 freshman students of the Department of Economics was delivered and discussed among the faculty staff.
- Economics Department faculty staff (i.e., Dr. Ivonne Diaz Rodriguez and Jeffry Valentin Mari) participated in the event titled Collaborative Planning Roundtables for the Development of the UPR Master Plan, organized by Dr. Daniel Rodríguez and Dr. Carlos del Valle on March 27 and 28, 2025.
- In the Second Semester 2024-2025, the results of the Administrative Appraisal Questionnaire for the First Semester 2024-2025 were reported at the departmental meeting on Thursday, March 6, 2025. At the faculty level, work continued for the publication of the next volume of Assessment Plus.
- In the Second Semester 2024-2025, Dr. Eduardo Kicinski, professor at the Department of Economics, prepared data collection for an appraisal project, where



differences in students' final grades from the ECON 3021 course are analyzed, given differences in the number of absences and whether they took the LWV course sequence versus MJ course sequence.

- In an ordinary meeting of the Department of Economics held on Thursday, February 6, 2025, a table was distributed to the faculty staff showing the Expected Learning Outcomes of General Education at UPRM, as well as the Learning Objectives of the Bachelor of Arts Program in Economics and the Expected Learning Outcomes of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Student. The faculty staff was asked to verify the alignment of the expected learning outcomes and objectives of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program with those of the College of Arts and Sciences and those of the UPRM.
- On Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 9:00 am at Celis 116, the meeting of the Rector with the academic programs of the UPRM affected by the Series R-2425-17 was held. On January 30, 2025, the departmental report required by Series R-2425-17 regarding the evaluation of the Bachelor of Arts Program in Economics was distributed among the teaching staff of the Department of Economics.
- The vision, mission, objectives, and values of the Center for Economic and Financial Education (CEEF) were reviewed, and updated on Friday, January 31, 2025. These were subsequently approved at the departmental faculty regular meeting on Thursday, February 6, 2025.
- The Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program Student Recruitment Plan was presented and approved at the departmental faculty regular meeting on Thursday, February 6, 2025. The Plan consists of three areas: (1) Participate in the 4th edition of the College of Arts and Sciences' Summer Camp: Explore Your Vocation in the Arts and Sciences. Around 100 students in grades 11 and 12 from schools throughout Puerto Rico are expected to participate. The Camp will be held at the UPRM from June 23 to 27, 2025; (2) School Visits: Professor Dahil Colón Arbelo reported that she plans to visit the San Felipe de Arecibo School and the Captain Correa Evangelical School in Hatillo on Friday, February 21 in the morning; (3) Collaborative Pilot Plan with the Department of Education. On Friday, January 31, 2025, a meeting was held with Mr. Víctor M. Cintrón Díaz of the Assistant Secretary of Academic Services of the Social Studies Program of the Puerto Rico Department of Education (DEPR) and Ms. Jesselia Ayala Torres, Facilitator of the Social Studies Program of the Mayagüez Educational Region of the PRDE. It was agreed to offer an initial training workshop in Basic Principles in Economics to 40 teachers of the Social Studies Program on Friday, April 11, 2025 from 8:00 am to 12 noon at the UPRM. This initiative will help to create the necessary contact with teachers and facilitate visits to schools in the public education system.
- Dr. Carlos A. del Valle González, Professor, participates at the request of the Office of Planning, Research and Institutional Improvement (OPIMI) in the process of updating the Master Plan of the University of Mayagüez Campus (RUM). This initiative is being coordinated by Dr. Carlos A. del Valle González and Dr. Daniel Rodríguez Román (Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying). As part of the effort to develop the plan, a brief questionnaire was completed that seeks to gather

ideas on the priorities and principles that should guide the planning of the Campus spaces and to gather community input on the current state of the Main Campus' infrastructure and green spaces.

- The process of visiting the classrooms of the Department of Economics for the administration of the Student Opinion Questionnaire (COE) was reestablished with the assistance of the departmental faculty staffs as part of the recommendation approved in Certification No. 24-25-067 of the Administrative Board of the UPRM.
- On Thursday, March 6, 2025, the faculty of the Department of Economics in the ordinary meeting approved the proposed alignment of the Expected Learning Outcomes of General Education of the UPRM with the Expected Student Learning Outcomes of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program (SLOs ECON). The proposed revision of the alignment of ECON SLOs with those of the College of Arts and Sciences was also approved.
- Dr. Jeffry Valentín Mari and Dr. Ivonne Diaz Rodríguez, Professors of the Department of Economics, participated in the Collaborative Planning Event on Friday, March 27 and 28, 2025 at Celis 009 as part of the work to prepare the UPRM Master Plan coordinated by Dr. Carlos A. del Valle González, Professor of the Department of Economics and Dr. Daniel Rodríguez Román, Professor of the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying.

## **To lead higher education throughout Puerto Rico while guaranteeing the best education for our students.**

- The Department of Economics organized several conferences during the academic year 2024-2025. These conferences are intended to broaden economic culture of our students and to put into perspective what they have learnt from theoretical lectures and arouse their curiosity:
  - Challenges and opportunities of the Educational Challenge in PR: Years of transition by: Dr. Cesar Rey Hernández, September 19, 2024 at the UPRM.
  - Struggles for a Just Recovery: Insurgent Planning, Transnational Networks, and Colonial Legacies in Post-Disaster Puerto Rico by: Dr. Ariam L. Torres Cordero, October 8, 2024 at the UPRM.
  - Documentary: Puerto Rico Economic Labyrinths by: Mariel C. Marrero García, October 9, 2024 at the UPRM.
  - Towards a new order of things? By Dr. and Rafael Cox Alomar, October 10, 2024 at the UPRM.
  - Challenges and opportunities of the Educational Challenge in PR: Years of transition by: Dr. Cesar Rey Hernández, September 19, 2024 at the UPRM.

- Struggles for a Just Recovery: Insurgent Planning, Transnational Networks, and Colonial Legacies in Post-Disaster Puerto Rico by: Dr. Ariam L. Torres Cordero, October 8, 2024 at the UPRM.
- Documentary: Puerto Rico Economic Labyrinths by. Mariel C. Marrero García. October 9, 2024 at the UPRM.
- Faculty personnel and members of the UPRM Students Economics Association attended the 40th Annual Assembly of the Association of Economists of Puerto Rico, October 25, 2024 at PUCPR, Ponce.
- Dra. Ivonne Diaz-Rodriguez, professor at the Department of Economics offered during the First Semester 2024-2025, the course Economics for Well-being and Sustainability (ECON 3026), the course was offered for the first time at the UPR undergraduate level.
- The conference entitled "Economic and Environmental Justice: Ecofeminism and Sustainability from Borikén" was organized by Marianna Defendini Torres, a former student of the Department of Economics. Date: October 25, 2024.

*Conferencia*

**JUSTICIA ECONÓMICA Y AMBIENTAL:  
ECOFEMINISMO Y SOSTENIBILIDAD  
DESDE BORIKÉN**

*Recurso*

**Marianna Defendini Torres, MSc.**

Egresada del Departamento de Economía. Posee una maestría en Género, Desarrollo y Globalización del London School of Economics.

 Logo UNESCO

 **VIERNES, 25 DE OCTUBRE DE 2024**

 **12:30 PM A 2:00 PM**

 **CELIS 116**

Curso: ECON 3026  
Dra. Ivonne del C. Díaz, Catedrática  
Departamento de Economía  
Asociación de Estudiantes de Economía



This activity was part of the activities of the ECON 3026 course and was organized in conjunction with the Association of Economics Students. Students in the ECON 3021 sections and other students and professors of the UPR also participated.

RUM Press published the review of this activity on its website: <https://www.uprm.edu/portada/2024/12/06/egresada-colegial-dicta-conferencia-en-el-rum-sobre-justicia-economica-y-ambiental/>

- The Departmental faculty staff attended the activity to recognize employees with over 20 years of service at the UPRM, held on December 16, 2024 at the Figueroa Chapel Amphitheater.
- In December 2024, the final report on the AgroEnergy research was released to the community, where Dr. Ivonne Diaz-Rodriguez, professor at the Department of Economics, participated as a researcher. UPR students also participated in this project, including a student from the Department of Economics. <https://www.energy.pr.gov/proyecto-agroenergia/recursos>





Foto tomada de <https://www.energy.pr.gov/proyecto-agroenergia/recursos>

- The proposal for the creation of a master's program in sustainable economic development and its initial courses were approved by the department and submitted to the faculty curriculum committee.
- As part of the curriculum review process of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics, an inactivation of three ECON coding courses was requested, these are: ECON 4007: Quantitative Methods in Economics, ECON 4046: Input-Output Analysis and ECON 4405: Analysis of Contemporary Economic Problems.
- On Thursday, November 7, 2024, at the Departmental ordinary faculty meeting, the teaching staff approved and reviewed the Quota and the Minimum Entry Index of the Bachelor of Arts in Economics Program corresponding to the undergraduate admission process of the 2025-2026 Academic Year.
- A STATA workshop was provided to economics students. The workshop was held Thursday, November 21, 2024 at the Computer Laboratory of the Economics Department in SH-301.



- Dr. Dahil R. Colon Arbelo, Assistant Professor at the Department of Economics offered an orientation at the high school of the Captain Correa Evangelical School on the bachelor's degree in Economics.



- The prerequisites for the courses ECON 4056 (Environmental Economics) and ECON 4028 (Natural Resource Economics) were revised and modified at the departmental faculty ordinary meeting held on Thursday, March 6, 2025.
- All courses in the master's program in sustainable economic development were approved by the faculty curriculum committee. The initial courses of the master's degree have already been approved at the level of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.



- The Department of Economics organized the welcome and orientation activity designed to the econ freshman class 2024.



- The Economics Student Association celebrated their initiation and various activities for the academic community. These included a discussion on economic development with professors Carlos del Valle and Ricardo R. Fuentes.





- **Technology Fee:** On Wednesday, December 11, 2024, we were informed that the Institutional Committee for the Development of the Educational and Information Technology Infrastructure of the UPRM evaluated the proposal submitted by the department in accordance with the criteria established in Certification No. 14-15-297 of the JA and as a result of the process and after recommendation of the Committee to the Rector, the total amount of \$27,908.00 in funding was approved for the Department of Economy. These are broken down for the following: Two computers for classrooms. 27 computers for the lab to eliminate the current virtual network system.
- In an ordinary meeting of the Department of Economics held on Thursday, February 6, 2025, the faculty approved the proposal of Dr. Dahil R. Colon Arbelo and Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez to relaunch the Center for Economic and Financial Education (CEEFF) as a leading platform for public economic education and citizen engagement. using existing resources to ensure their viability without incurring significant additional costs. The CEEFF will be located in office SH-310.
- The conference entitled *Financialization of Housing in Puerto Rico in Two Stages: From the Dream of Ownership, to Post-Disaster Touristification*, was offered by Dr. Raúl Santiago Bartolomei, Assistant Professor of the Graduate School of Planning of the UPR Río Piedras on Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. at the Josefina Torres Torres Amphitheater.



- Economics students Alejandro Ouslan Cerritos and Alexi Wu He submitted applications for the 2024 American Economic Association Summer Program.
- Dr. Carlos A. del Valle González, Professor, collaborates with the Center for Technology Transfer in Transportation of the Department of Civil Engineering and Surveying of the UPRM as an instructor of the virtual training entitled "Basic Concepts of Transportation Economics for Municipal Officials" on February 6, 2025 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. This virtual training is aimed at city and state transportation agency officials/employees, engineers, and planners.
- Dr. Carlos A. del Valle González, Professor, was elected Academic Senator, and chairs the Committee on Claustal Affairs. In addition, it collaborates with the Office of Planning, Research and Institutional Improvement (OPIMI) in the development of the UPRM Master Plan.
- Dr. Ivonne Diaz Rodríguez, Professor, is a member of the Sustainability Committee and is a member of the Department of Engineering and Materials Sciences of the UPRM.
- Through departmental funds from RUMex, funds were allocated for the acquisition of two computers (desktops) for the benefit of two faculty staffs as part of the Computer Renovation Plan of the Department of Economics.
- The master records of all ECON coding course (at undergraduate level) were reviewed following the current regulations of the records is Certification No. 125 (2023-2024) Governing Board (JG) of the UPR, Guide for the Creation, Uniform Coding and Registration of Courses, which amends Certification No. 33 (2020-2021) JG. This new certification came into force in August 2024. Master handbooks for the courses in the Department of Economics are available at <https://www.uprm.edu/economia/prontuarios/>
- The Dean of Academic Affairs of the Campus reported the approval of the request of the Department of Economics on the inactivation of the following ECON coding courses, these are: ECON 4007: Quantitative Methods in Economics, ECON 4046: Input-Output Analysis and ECON 4405: Contemporary Economic Problems. These courses have not been offered for more than five (5) years.
- The faculty of the Department of Economics approved in an ordinary meeting on Thursday, April 3, 2025 that new students of the Academic Year 2025-2026 be enrolled in the sequence of new courses ESPA 3131 and ESPA 3132.
- On Thursday, April 3, 2025, in an ordinary meeting of the Department of Economics, the academic information of the Department was approved, which will be published in the 2025-2026 Undergraduate Catalog.
- On March 21, 2025, the Department of Economics appointed Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, Associate Professor, to collaborate in the development of the Campus' Chatbot project aimed at new students and it is expected to be available by May 2025. The immediate tasks are to identify documents or web pages that contain relevant information about the academic programs, as well as to generate questions with their respective answers for the training of the Chatbot.

- The faculty of the Department of Economics in a regular meeting held on Thursday, March 6, 2025 approved the proposed curricular change to eliminate the prerequisites of the following ECON coding courses, these are ECON 3086: Contemporary Problems of the Economy of Puerto Rico, ECON 4028: Economics of Natural Resources, ECON 4047: Economics of Electronic Commerce and the Internet, ECON 4056: Economics of the Environment and ECON 4068: Economics of Tourism.

## **To increase and diversify the Institution's sources of revenue.**

- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, continued the collaboration with government state funds from the Puerto Rico Planning Board for technical assistance to the agency. This includes funds for students, who have benefited from the project.
- The Department of Economics continued with the corresponding procedure to acquire three (3) desktop computers (PC Desktops) for the teaching staff for the amount of \$3,417.00. These funds were assigned from the RUMex revolving account of the allocation corresponding to the First Semester 2023-2024. At the moment the departmental directorate is waiting if we are assigned from the Budget Office the necessary funds to acquire the remaining computers.
- The Department of Economics allocated a total of \$2,770.00 of its own funds available from RUMex (\$1,953.77) and CEEF (\$816.23) to cover the cost of acquiring the two glass doors in the room at SH-307 that were not considered in the petition that was delivered to the Budget Office.





- The amount of \$27,908.00 was allocated to the Department of Economics from technology fee funds corresponding to the 2024-2025 Academic Year. The amount allocated is intended to replace the current virtual terminal network with 26 Dell OptiPlex Tower Plus 7010 Base Model PCs that will be available in the computer lab at SH-301 and for the purchase of two (2) units of Dell OptiPlex Tower Plus 7010 Basic Model PCs to replace two current units located in two classrooms.



- The amount of \$10,958.86 of RUMex funds corresponding to the Second Semester 2023-2024 was allocated. With which, 2 additional computers were acquired for teaching staff, as well as 5 cameras and 5 speakers for teachers with new equipment. In addition to office materials, promotional material and in support of the Association of Economics Students, with these funds a tablecloth will be processed that identifies the association for the activities they carry out. We are in the process of identifying future departmental needs for the use of these.
- Professor Dahil Colón Arbelo, Instructor, participates as a co-investigator in the project entitled Technical Assistance in the Production of the Quarterly Accounts of the Gross Product and the Output Input Matrix 2017" (Z-410) of the Planning Board of Puerto Rico. Additional compensation: 3 credits.
- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, Associate Professor, participated in the following research projects: Technical Assistance in the Production of the Quarterly Accounts of the Gross Product and the 2017 Output Input Matrix (Z-410) of the Planning Board of Puerto Rico. Regular Assignment: 3 credits. It receives discharge for research as part of the commitments made in its effective hiring on July 1, 2021. Regular Assignment: 3 credits.

## **To implement efficient and expedient administrative procedures.**

- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, associate professor at the Department of Economics, implemented at the Department level an online administrative assessment questionnaire.
- The Department continues its efforts to digitize documents in order to liberalize storage space. The administrative office has limited space for document archiving purposes (i.e., the warehouse on SH-305D and the area near the photocopier located on SH-302A). The Digitization Plan has been governed by Certification No. 62 (2015-2016) of the Board of Governors (JG) of the University of Puerto Rico (UPR), as amended that approves the Regulations for the Administration, Conservation and Disposition of Documents of the University of Puerto Rico. The digitization process has been carried out since the First Semester of the 2019-2020 Academic Year (see Director's Report delivered at the ordinary meeting of Thursday, October 24, 2019 and Minutes 19-20-03). Up to this point, documents from the 1980s and 1990s have been digitized. As for the 2000s, it has been completed up to the 2004-2005 Academic Year.
- On September 25, 2024, the faculty staff was informed that the process of digitizing the budget files and purchase orders for the academic year's corresponding to the period from 1991-1992 to 2013-2014 was completed.
- The administrative staff of the Department of Economics attended the following training workshops:
  - Processes for the Hiring of International Teachers and Students offered by the Center for Professional Enrichment on February 22, 2024.
  - Certification from the Office of the Comptroller for participating in the Government Contracting Continuation Course aimed at those public servants who have interference in the formation of contracts, their execution and registration. The workshop was offered in person at the ADEM 242 Amphitheater, on Thursday, September 5, 2024 from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. The workshop was offered by staff of the Office of the Comptroller of Puerto Rico and coordinated by the Office of the Comptroller of Puerto Rico. This requirement was first established in Circular Letter OC-21-11 of May 12, 2021, issued by the OCPR and subsequently repealed by the aforementioned Circular Letter OC-25-07.
  - Workshop on Student Requisitions to Salary and Teleworking Orientation. Offered by the Department of Human Resources of the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus (UPRM) on Thursday, September 26, 2024 in room T-115.
  - Certification for having completed the Webinar: UPR Avanza Personal Life Project.

- Workshop in the virtual modality Breast self-examination as a tool for prevention and early detection. Offered by the UPR Office of Quality of Life on October 8, 2024.
- Differential Workshop in salary. Offered by the Department of Human Resources of the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus (UPRM) on Thursday, October 10, 2024 in room T-115 at 9:00 am.
- Virtual Psychological First Aid Workshop on October 10, 2024 in the virtual mode at 10:30 am. Offered by Quality of Life.
- Participation in the ninth edition of the traditional Pink March of the RUM on Thursday, October 17, 2024, as part of the institutional support to the educational campaign of the Western Unit of the American Cancer Society (SACC). <https://www.uprm.edu/portada/2024/10/18/exaltan-superpoderes-de-las-sobrevivientes-en-la-marcha-rosada-en-apoyo-a-pacientes-de-cancer-de-seno/>
- Certification for having completed the course entitled Customer Service at UPR Avanza.
- Certification for having completed the UPR Avanza Effective Time Management course.
- Certification for having completed the webinar The Women's Workforce at the UPR and in PR of UPR Avanza.
- College of Arts and Sciences Adobe Sign Workshop offered by Ms. Lissette Villarrubia Concepción, Coordinator of Technical User Services II, at Celis 202 on November 7, 2024.
- Adobe Sign workshop offered by the Central Administration on November 12, 2024 in the virtual mode.
- Participation in the traditional Recognition Ceremony for Years of Service on Monday, December 16, 2024 from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon at the Ramón Figueroa Chapel Amphitheater. Organized by the Office of the Rector. Delivery of a commemorative pin of 20 years of service.
- Workshop on Biopsychosocial and Legal Aspects of Domestic Violence in the virtual modality on Thursday, September 12, 2024. Offered by the Office of Staff Liaison.
- Workshop in the virtual modality How to use Canva for educational material? On September 26, 2024. Offered by the UPR Professional Enrichment Center.
- Safety First Talk: Effective Strategies to Reduce Access to Lethal Means in Virtual Suicide Prevention on October 1, 2024. Offered by the Health Department's Commission on Suicide Prevention.



- Workshop in the virtual modality Breast self-examination as a tool for prevention and early detection. Offered by the UPR Office of Quality of Life on October 8, 2024.
- Participation in the ninth edition of the traditional Pink March of the RUM on Thursday, October 17, 2024, as part of the institutional support to the educational campaign of the Western Unit of the American Cancer Society (SACC). <https://www.uprm.edu/portada/2024/10/18/exaltan-superpoderes-de-las-sobrevivientes-en-la-marcha-rosada-en-apoyo-a-pacientes-de-cancer-de-seno/>
- College of Arts and Sciences Adobe Sign Workshop offered by Ms. Lissette Villarrubia Concepción, Coordinator of Technical User Services II, at Celis 202 on November 7, 2024.
- Adobe Sign workshop offered by the Central Administration on November 12, 2024 in virtual mode.
- At the request of Mrs. Lissette Villarrubia Concepción, Coordinator of Technical Services to User II of the Dean's Office of Arts and Sciences, informs that in the Dean's Office of Arts and Sciences there is a new Coordinator of Technical Services to User I, the young Yunay S. López Santa Cruz Pacheco, who will be collaborating to meet the needs of the Dean's Office as Coordinator of Technical Services to User I. In order to coordinate the work, the way of requesting services has been changed, combining them with the Information Technology Center (CTI). The new link to apply is as follows: <https://www.uprm.edu/arci/solicitud-apoyo-tecnico/>. Ms. Villarrubia reported on September 3, 2024, that MS Office has been updated on classroom computers and Windows licenses are activated.
- On Thursday, October 3, 2024, a workshop on Reasonable Accommodations was organized at the level of the Department of Economics. The speaker was Dr. Jeannette Ferrer Montes, Coordinator of the Office of Services to Students with Disabilities (OSEI-RUM). The orientation designed for the faculty staff was held at 10:30 a.m. on SH-207. In addition, the document entitled "Information Letter for University Professors on Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities" was shared.
- The administrative area in SH-302A was reorganized to facilitate the academic and/or administrative tasks that are carried out in it. This reorganization has been achieved by the advances in the process of digitizing the archives of the Department of Economy and the reorganization of the warehouse in SH-305 and in the servers control room in SH-309E.



Before

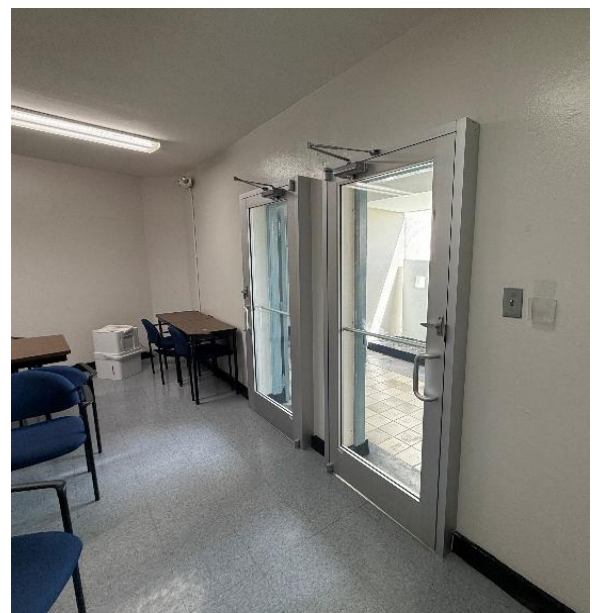


After

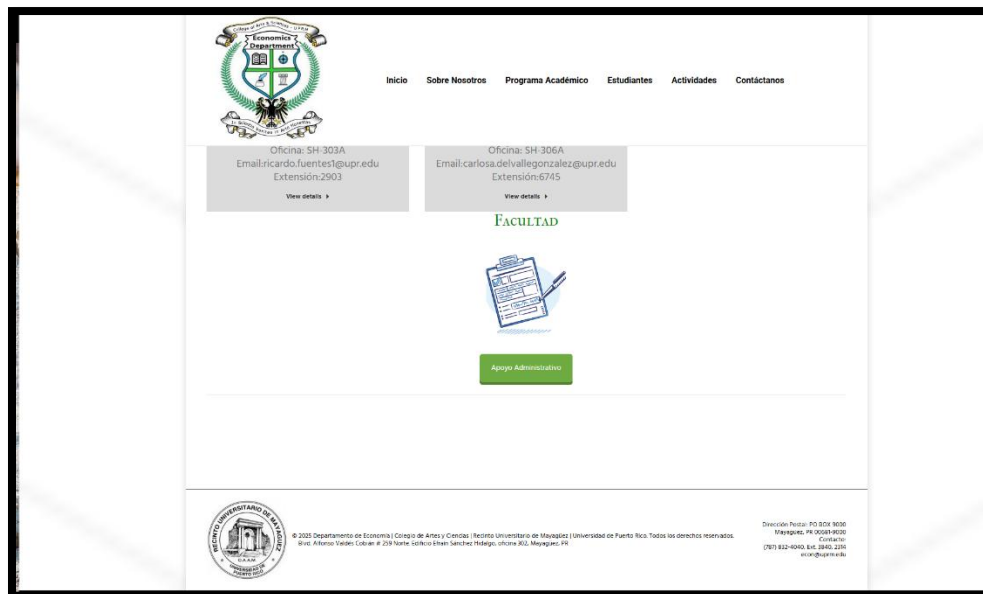


- The Chancellor Office held the traditional Recognition for Years of Service ceremony (i.e., 20, 25 and 30 years of service). The ceremonies were held on two dates: the 1st was on Monday, December 16, 2024 and the 2nd was on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, both at the Ramón Figueroa Chapel Amphitheater. Teaching and non-teaching staff of the Department of Economics were recognized in these activities.
- Non-teaching staff from the Department of Economics attended the conference on the Women's Workforce at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) and in Puerto Rico. The lecture was offered remotely by Dr. Juan Carlos Jorge, Executive Officer of Diversity of the UPR, Office of Diversity of Central Administration of the UPR. The conference was held on Friday, November 8, 2024.

- To maintain adequate access in classrooms and offices attached to the Department of Economics, in February the installation of aluminum doors was carried out in classrooms SH-101, SH-102, SH-103 and SH-104. In addition, aluminum doors were installed on SH-109, SH-207, and SH-303D and four glass doors for the meeting room on SH-207 and SH-307.



- The Department of Economics, in addition to having an account on X (Twitter), has an account on Facebook (Department of Economy, RUM) and Instagram (economia\_rum). This makes it easier to extend services and information about the Department's academic programs through social networks.
- At the regular meeting on Thursday, February 6, 2026, the teaching staff was informed of the closing of the biennial period that began on July 1, 2024 and ends on June 30, 2026 for the fulfillment of the hours of training in ethics matters. Article 3.3 of the Organic Law of the Office of Government Ethics of Puerto Rico provides that all public servants of the executive branch must complete a minimum of 20 hours of ethics training every two (2) years.
- Department's administrative staff attended the training, organized by the Office of Staff Liaison and the Finance Department of the Office of the Dean of Administration, entitled Pre-Intervention Standards and Payment Process. During the session, the current certifications and circulars applicable to these tax processes were presented. The training was held on Tuesday, April 1, 2025 from 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. on AE-242.
- The Department's website has a link available where the teaching staff can report any type of situation presented in the areas of the Department of Economics, Efraín Sánchez Hidalgo Building, regarding cleaning, classrooms (SH-101, 102, 103, 104, 309A), offices and bathrooms on the first and third floors, among others. Link: <https://www.uprm.edu/economia/facultad/> .





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## To strengthen research and competitive creative endeavors.

- Dra. Ivonne del C. Díaz Rodríguez, professor at the Department of Economics reported that in December 2024, the final report on the *AgroEnergy* research was released to the community, where she participated as a researcher. UPR students also participated in the research project, including a student from the Department of Economics. Refer to <https://www.energy.pr.gov/proyecto-agroenergia/recursos>
- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, associated professor at the Department of Economics reported the following achievements:
  - The publication of the Volume XI of the *Magazine Ceteris Paribus*. Refer to <https://www.uprm.edu/ceterisparibus/towards-a-dystopian-existence-in-puerto-rico/>
  - Work continued under the collaboration agreement for technical assistance to the Planning Board.
  - Publication in a peer-reviewed journal: Fuentes-Ramírez, R. R. (2024). Beyond Dependency in Puerto Rico: Exploring Social and Solidarity Industrial Policy as an Alternative for the Global South. *Review of Radical Political Economics*, 56(4), 544-553. <https://doi.org/10.1177/04866134241267362>
  - Presentation of the "Economy for Peace" Conference at the 1st Congress for Peace of the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico on October 9, 2024.
  - Presentation of the Keynote Lecture "Country Portrait" at the Annual Convention of the Puerto Rico Psychological Association on November 2, 2024.
  - Presentation of "Rescuing Economic Data Infrastructure at the Planning Board" at the Annual Collaborative Symposium "Puerto Rico in Data" between the University of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Census Bureau. November 15, 2024.
  - Technical assistance in the estimation of the quarterly accounts of the Gross Product and Estimation of the Input-Output Matrix as part of the Agreement signed between the PR Planning Board and the UPRM.
  - Appointed member of the Editorial Board of the UPRM *Atenea Journal*. The journal is directed by Dr. Michael González Cruz, Professor of the Department of Social Sciences.
  - Research entitled "Trimesterization of the Gross Product and Estimation of the Input-Output Matrix" with 3 credits of regular homework. Agreement with the Puerto Rico Planning Board and the UPRM Agricultural Experimental Station.
  - Publication in peer-reviewed journal: "Counter-Hegemonic Evolution: The intentional township of Auroville as a case study of Systemic Transformation" conditionally accepted subject to editorial changes in May 2025 in the peer-reviewed journal *Review of Radical Political Economics*.

- Presentation of academic paper "Social Reproduction or Social Change?: Insights from Auroville on the system-building capacity of interstitial institutions" at the 51st Annual Conference – Eastern Economic Association on February 20-23, 2025 in New York City.
- Economics student Uriel Montijo Soto receives an assistantship in research for assisting Prof. Ivonne del C. Díaz Rodríguez in the Economics of Wellbeing and Sustainability class, which is part of the next secondary subject of ISOS; participate as a mentor in the activities of the ISOS cohort.
- Dr. Carlos A. del Valle González, professor at the Department of Economics reported the following achievements:
  - Academic Senator and President of the Committee on Faculty Affairs.
  - Special assignment for the preparation and drafting of the UPRM Infrastructure Master Plan.
  - Faculty Representative of the College of Arts and Sciences in the Institutional Committee on Research-Related Affairs (CIARI).
- Dahil R. Colón Arbelo, instructor at the Department of Economics, informed that its doctoral thesis was approved by the Department of Economics at the University of Zaragoza, Spain and was invited to participate as a conference with Dr. Ricardo Fuentes at the 2025 Freedom and Justice Summer Conference.
- An economics workshop was offered to teachers from the Puerto Rico Department of Education on Friday, April 11, 2025.





- Alejandro Ouslan Cerritos (BA ECON graduate May 2024). He is currently a student of the Master of Science in Statistical Mathematics at the UPRM. He was accepted for the 2nd time to participate in the American Economic Association (AEA) Summer Training Program 2025.
- Dr. Orlando Sotomayor Rodríguez, professor at the Department of Economics has been working in the following projects:
  - Supporting Adoption of Computer Assisted Learning (CAL) at Scale: Enhancing CAL Technologies in School Improvement Plans, with G. Bobonis, P. Oreopolous, R. A. Zárate (University of Toronto).
  - Elevating Employment Success: Empowering Puerto Rico's American Job Centers with Innovative Job Search Strategies, with S. Hernández Saborit (Northwestern).
  - Estudia Khanmigo: An Equity-Focused Pilot Exploration of Artificial Intelligence Tutoring in Puerto Rican Classrooms, with G. Bobonis, P. Oreopolous, S. Rodríguez Martínez (University of Toronto).

## **To Impact Our Puerto Rican Society.**

- In an ordinary meeting of the Department of Economics held on Thursday, February 6, 2025, the faculty approved the proposal of Dr. Dahil R. Colon Arbelo and Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez to relaunch the Center for Economic and Financial Education (CEEf) as a leading platform for public economic education and citizen engagement. using existing resources to ensure their viability without incurring significant additional costs. The CEEf will be located in office SH-310.

- 
- Dr. Ivonne del C. Díaz Rodríguez, professor, organized the conference entitled "Economic and Environmental Justice: Ecofeminism and Sustainability from Borikén" was organized by Marianna Defendini Torres, a former student of the Department of Economics, on October 25, 2025. This activity was part of the activities of the ECON 3026 course and was organized in conjunction with the Association of Economics Students. Students in the ECON 3021 sections and other students and professors of the UPR also participated. RUM Press published the review of this activity on its website: <https://www.uprm.edu/portada/2024/12/06/egresada-colegial-dicta-conferencia-en-el-rum-sobre-justicia-economica-y-ambiental/>.
  - Dr. Eduardo A. Kicinski Martín, professor at the Department of Economics, evaluated a questionnaire to be used by doctoral student, Ricardo Rodríguez Díaz, entitled "The Impact of the 2017 Labor Reform: Perceptions of Human Resources Specialists of Puerto Rican Companies" from the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico.
  - Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, associate professor at the Department of Economics provided data analysis exercises for resilience planning as part of a collaboration with participating communities of the UPR-UPR Institute of Communities.
  - Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, associate professor at the Department of Economics, as president of the Association of Economists of Puerto Rico, coordinated several meetings and conferences with the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Census Bureau, and the Government of Puerto Rico to strengthen Puerto Rico's statistical system.
  - Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, associate professor at the Department of Economics was co-author of the 2023-2024 Visitor Profile of the Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics; and the main person in charge of data analysis of the 2023-2024 Traveler Survey.
  - Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramirez, Associated Professor at the Department of Economics is the coordinator of the Social and Solidarity Economy Committee of the Association of Economists of Puerto Rico, he coordinated the 3rd National Meeting of Social and Solidarity Economy on May 17, 2025, at the headquarters of the League of Cooperatives of Puerto Rico, where he presented the conference "The Hope of the Development of the Social and Solidarity Economy."
  - On February 6, 2025, Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramirez, Associated Professor at the Department of Economics, presented the conference "From Data to Research and Informed Decisions: Maximizing the Economic Census for Puerto Rico's Economic Development" at the presentation of the US Census Bureau's 2022 Economic Census held in San Juan, PR.





**SAGRADO**  
Universidad del Sagrado Corazón



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U.S. Census Bureau  
Washington, DC 20233-0001

Presentación del Censo Económico 2022  
jueves, 6 de febrero de 2025  
9:30 am a 11:30 am

AGENDA

9:30 am - 9:45 am	<b>Registro</b> Co-work, Edificio Barat Sur, Universidad del Sagrado Corazón
9:45 am - 9:50 am	<b>Bienvenida</b> <b>Saludo</b> , Dennis R. Román Roa, Decano Escuela de Negocios, Universidad del Sagrado Corazón
9:50 am - 10:15 am	<b>Infraestructura Estadística Federal para Puerto Rico</b> , Marijulie Martínez Lozano, Economic Department, U.S. Census Bureau
10:15 am - 10:45 am	<b>Censo Económico 2022</b> , Ana Gabriela Jara Castro, Economic Department, U.S. Census Bureau
10:45 am - 11:15 am	<b>De los datos a la investigación y las decisiones informadas: Maximizando el Censo Económico para el desarrollo económico de Puerto Rico</b> , Ricardo Fuentes Ramírez, Catedrático Asociado UPR Mayagüez, Pasado Presidente Asociación de Economistas de Puerto Rico
11:15 am - 11:25 am	<b>Sesión de Preguntas</b> , Robert Nusz, Economy-Wide Statistics Division, U.S. Census Bureau
11:25 am - 11:30 am	<b>Cierre</b> , Alba Bruguera Fabre, Catedrática Auxiliar, Escuela de Negocios Universidad del Sagrado Corazón, Presidenta de la Asociación de Economistas de Puerto Rico

- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramirez, Associated Professor at the Department of Economics, offered a Personal Finance workshop to seniors' students of the Eugenio María de Hostos High School at Mayaguez on May 19, 2025.







- The Department of Economics participated in the Institutional Open House on Thursday, October 24, 2024 from 7:30 am - 12:00 pm at the UPRM.





- On Friday, May 10, 2024, the 4th edition of the Applied Economics Congress was held, an activity coordinated by the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology. In the competition for undergraduate projects, our students Alexis Wu and Félix Arostegui came in first and second place, respectively.

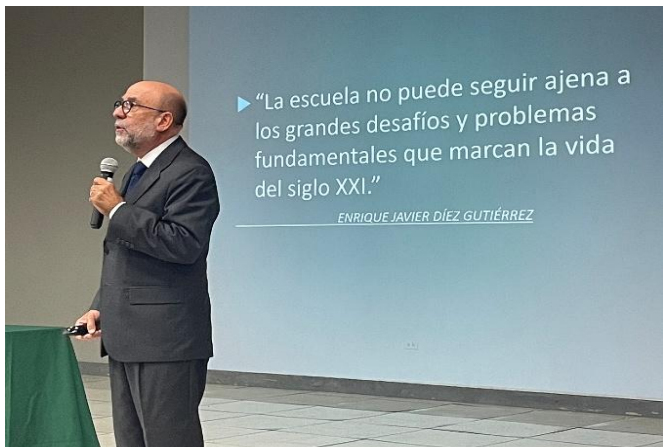
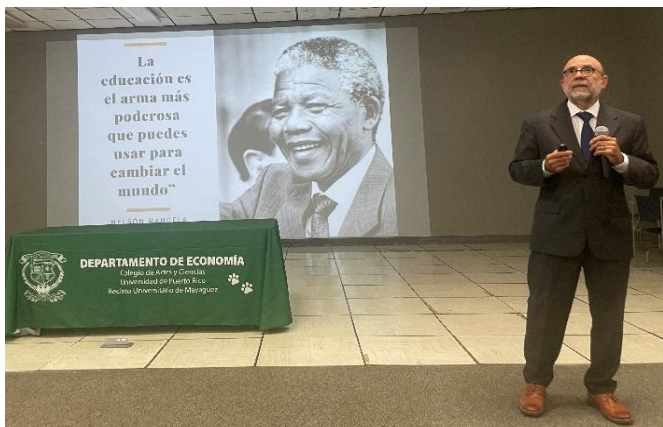






- Participated in the College of Arts and Sciences Summer Camp for students entering their fourth year of high school. The camp was held from June 24 to 27, 2024. The economics student Rodrigo García Guerrios participated with professor Jeffry Valentín Mari.
- The conference entitled *Challenges and Opportunities of the Educational Challenge in Puerto Rico: Years of Transition* was held by Dr. Cesar Rey Hernández, former Secretary of the Department of Education of Puerto Rico and Professor of the Graduate School of Public Administration of the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus. The conference was held on Thursday, September 19, 2024 at the Dr. Josefina Torres Torres Amphitheater in the UPRM Department of Nursery from 10:30 a.m. to noon.







DEPARTAMENTO DE ECONOMÍA  
COLEGIO DE ARTES Y CIENCIAS  
RECINTO DE MAYAGÜEZ

**JUEVES**  
**19**  
SEPTIEMBRE  
2024

**10:30 AM**

*Conferencia*

# Retos y Oportunidades del Desafío Educativo en PR: *Años de Transición*

*Conferenciante*

**LUGAR:**

**WEBCAST:**

**DR. CESAR REY HERNÁNDEZ**

ANFITEATRO  
DRA. JOSEFINA  
TORRES TORRES  
(ENFERMERÍA)





FOTO: EL NUEVO DIA

Ex Secretario del Departamento  
de Educación de Puerto Rico y  
Catedrático de la Escuela  
Graduada de Administración  
Pública de la Universidad de  
Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río  
Piedras.

[https://youtube.com/live/VgRlFF3t\\_Ac?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/VgRlFF3t_Ac?feature=share)

\*Autorizado por la Oficina del Contralor Electoral OCE-SA-2024-11369\*





- The eighth edition of the Economic Sciences Week was held on Tuesday, October 8, Wednesday, 9 and Thursday, October 10, 2024. The activities are described below:

- Tuesday, October 8, 2024

- Conference Title: Struggles for a Just Recovery: Insurgent Planning, Transnational Networks, and Colonial Legacies in Post-Disaster Puerto Rico.

Speaker: Dr. Ariam L Torres Cordero, Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Planning of the University of Puerto Rico. Río Piedras Campus.

<https://planificacion.uprrp.edu/torres-cordero-ariam/>

Time and Place: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon, Ramon Figueroa Chapel Amphitheater



- Wednesday, October 9, 2024

- Documentary movie presentation: Puerto Rico Economic #Laberinto (120 minutes)

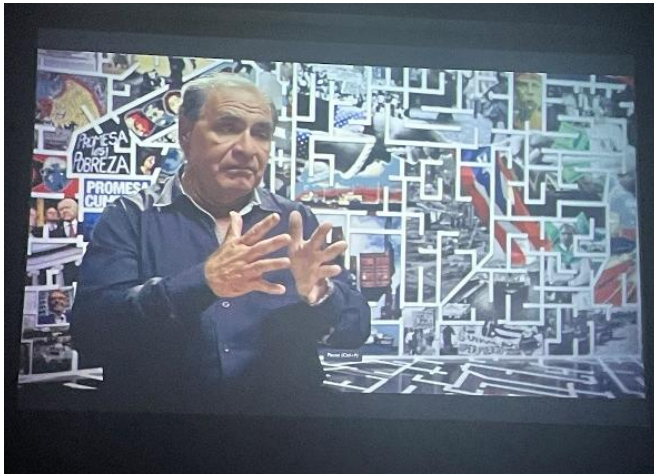
Speakers: Mariel C. Marrero García, Researcher-Producer and Freddie Rodríguez, Director-Editor, both from Zaranda Productions.

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/7b6JUloPBbo?si=SDwn9e6nchXZ-2S3> or <https://festivalpuertorico.com/tr%C3%A1ilers>

Time & Place: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Amphitheater Ramón Figueroa Chapel



# @PUERTORICO #LABERINTO ECONÓMICO



○ Thursday, October 10, 2024

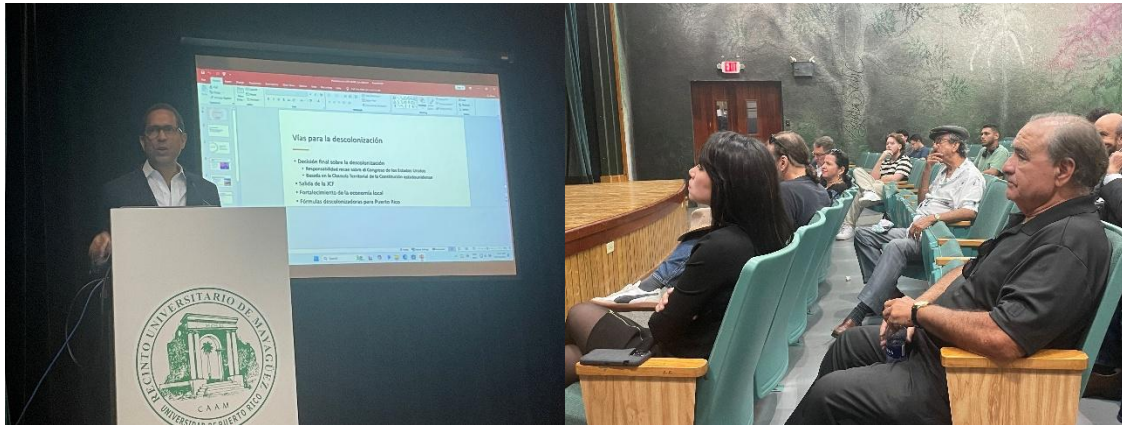
- Conference Title: Towards a New Order of Things?

Speakers: Dr. and Rafael Cox Alomar, Professor at the David A. Clarke School of Law of the District of Columbia University in Washington, DC.

<https://law.udc.edu/rcoxalomar/>

Time and Place: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon, Ramon Figueroa Chapel Amphitheater





# Octava Edición *Semana Ciencias Económicas*



"Autorizado por la Oficina del Contralor Electoral OCE-SA-2024-11656"



ANFITEATRO FIGUEROA CHAPEL

*Martes*

**08**

**OCTUBRE**

**10:30 AM**

**Luchas por una Recuperación Justa: Planificación Insurgente, Redes Transnacionales y Legados Coloniales en el Puerto Rico Post Desastre**

Conferenciante:

**Dr. Ariam L. Torres Cordero**

Catedrático Auxiliar Escuela Graduada de Planificación de la Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras.



Foto: Escuela Graduada Planificación

*Miércoles*

**09**

**OCTUBRE**

**6:00 PM**

**Documental: Puerto Rico # Laberinto Económico**

Conferenciantes:

**Mariel C. Marrero García**

Investigadora-Productora  
Producciones Zaranda

**Freddy Rodríguez**

Director- Editor  
Producciones Zaranda



Foto: Youtube

*Jueves*

**10**

**OCTUBRE**

**10:30 AM**

**¿Hacia un Nuevo Orden de las Cosas?**

Conferenciante:

**Dr. y Lic. Rafael Cox Alomar**

Profesor de la Escuela de Derecho David A. Clarke de la Universidad del Distrito de Columbia en Washington, DC.



Foto: Página de Twitter



DEPARTAMENTO DE ECONOMÍA  
COLEGIO DE ARTES Y CIENCIAS  
INFO: 787-832-4040 EXT. 2314



- Annual Assembly of the Association of Economists of Puerto Rico was held on Friday, October 25, 2024 at PUCPR.
- The Founders Library Museum of the Department of Economics was inaugurated on Thursday, May 8, 2025. The library is located at SH-109. Most of the books, texts and documents have been donated by Professor Alfredo González Martínez (Doctor Honoris Causa UPR 2023).



- The Department of Economics hosted a professional development workshop on economics for teachers of the Social Studies Program of the Puerto Rico Department of Education (DEPR). The workshop was offered on Friday, April 11, 2025 from 7:45 am to noon in the Tranquility Room located on the 4th floor of the UPRM Student Center. The workshop was offered by Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, Dr. Jeffry Valentín Mari and Professor Dahil R. Colón Arbelo and was attended by 40 teachers from the DEPR.



- The conference entitled Impact of the Trump Administration's Tariff and Energy Policy was organized. It was offered on Thursday, March 27, 2025. Speakers: Dr. José I. Alameda Lozada and Dr. Agustín A. Irizarry Rivera, professor of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

UPRM  
ECONOMÍA  
AEECON

**EFFECTOS DE POLÍTICAS  
DE TRUMP EN  
ARANCELES Y ENERGÍA**

*Conferenciante*

Dr. José I. Alameda Lozada  
Catedrático del Departamento de Economía

Dr. Agustín A. Irizarry Rivera  
Catedrático del Departamento de Ingeniería Eléctrica y Computadoras

**27**  
**MARZO**

**10:30 AM**  
**Anfiteatro S-113**

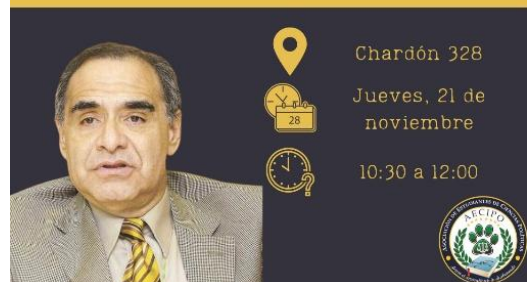
Más información: Departamento de Economía  
787-834-4040 ext. 2314, 2042  
[www.uprm.edu/economia/](http://www.uprm.edu/economia/)



- The Economics student Félix G. Arostegui Saavedra was accepted to start an internship at Bank of America in New York in the summer of 2025.
- Dr. José I. Almeda Lozada, Professor at the Department of Economics, was authorized by the UPRM Chancellors Office to continue as economic advisor to the Division of Monopoly Affairs of the Department of Justice of Puerto Rico.
- The Dean's Office of the College of Arts and Sciences is organizing the 4th edition of the Summer Camp: Explore your Vocation in the Arts and Sciences. The Camp will be held at the UPRM from June 23 to 27, 2025. The Department of Economics has been assigned on the afternoon of Tuesday, June 24, 2025 to offer an interactive workshop to five sections of camp students. On Thursday, June 26, 2025, graduate María E. Rodríguez Carrió will participate in the alumni discussion of the College of Arts and Sciences.
- As part of efforts to ease the transition of incoming students (802-25) to university life, the Office of the Provost established the Departmental Open House initiative. In the case of the Department of Economics, this activity will take place on Friday, May 30, 2025 from 9:30 am to 12:00 noon in room SH-103 of the Efraín Sánchez Hidalgo Building of the UPRM.
- On Friday, April 11, 2025, the Department of Economy was visited by the Honorable Jorge A. Morales Wiscovitch, Mayor of the Municipality of Cabo Rojo, at the initiative of Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez with the purpose of developing collaboration initiatives with said municipality.
- The Association of Economics Students organized the "R" workshop, which had the collaboration of Dr. Damaris Santana Morant, Professor of the Department of Mathematical Sciences of the UPRM. The workshop on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. in the Computer Lab at SH-301.
- Dr. José I. Almeda Lozada, Professor of the Department of Economics will offer the webinar Impact of U.S. Tariffs on China, Mexico and Canada and their Possible Effects on Puerto Rico, on Monday, May 5, 2025 at 9:00 pm at the College of Public Accountants of Puerto Rico.

Taller de Política Fiscal,  
Organización de la Deuda (COFINA)  
y el Código de Rentas Internas  
(Impuestos)

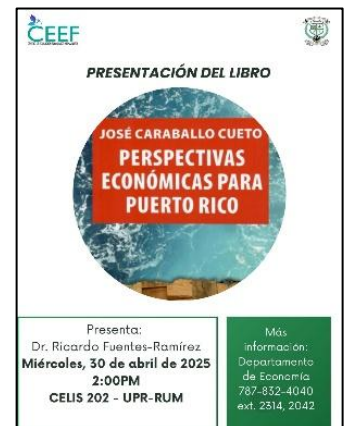
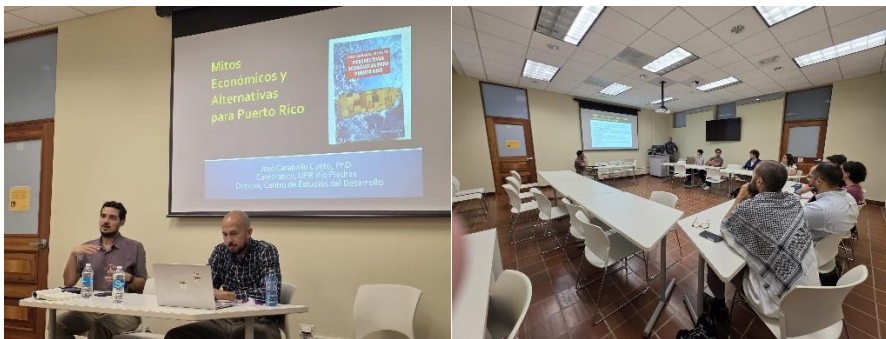
con: el Dr. José Almeda  
Profesor de Economía



- The Association of Economics Students held the panel: "Economic Development Strategies" with the participation of Dr. Ricardo Fuentes Ramírez and Dr. Carlos del Valle González. The panel was held on Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Biology building at B-392.



- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, Associate Professor, organized the presentation of the book Economic Perspectives of Puerto Rico offered by the doctor. José Caraballo Cueto, Professor at the Graduate School of Business Administration of the UPR - Río Piedras Campus. The presentation was offered on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at Celis 202 at 2:00 pm.



- Consulting and research activity occurring in this academic year:
  - Dr. José I. Alameda Lozada:
    - Consultant to the Secretary of Justice of Puerto Rico (received consent from the Rector of the UPRM).
    - Consultant to the Office of the Mayor of the Municipality of Mayagüez. (Received consent from the UPRM Rector).

- Dr. Ivonne del C. Diaz Rodríguez:
  - Sustainability Engineering Committee led by Dr. Ivan Baigés and NSF Proposal for Sustainability Programs, led by Dr. Christopher Papadopoulos of the College of Engineering.
- Dr. Orlando Sotomayor Rodríguez:
  - Research collaboration with Dr. Gustavo J. Bobonis of the University of Toronto.

## **To Strengthen School Spirit, Pride, and Identity**

- The Founders Library Museum of the Department of Economics was inaugurated on Thursday, May 8, 2025. The library is located at SH-109. Most of the books, texts and documents have been donated by Professor Alfredo González Martínez (Doctor Honoris Causa UPR 2023).





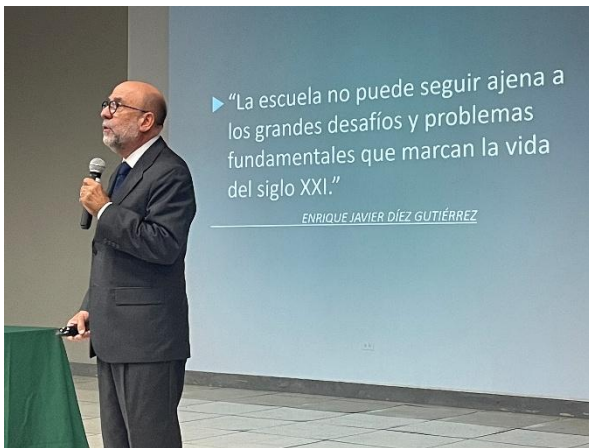


- Dr. Ivonne del C. Díaz Rodríguez, professor, organized the conference entitled "Economic and Environmental Justice: Ecofeminism and Sustainability from Borikén" was organized by Marianna Defendini Torres, a former student of the Department of Economics, on October 25, 2025. This activity was part of the activities of the ECON 3026 course and was organized in conjunction with the Association of Economics Students. Students in the ECON 3021 sections and other students and professors of the UPR also participated. RUM Press published the review of this activity on its website <https://www.uprm.edu/portada/2024/12/06/egresada-colegial-dicta-conferencia-en-el-rum-sobre-justicia-economica-y-ambiental/>.
- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, associate professor at the Department of Economics provided data analysis exercises for resilience planning as part of a collaboration with participating communities of the UPR-UPR Institute of Communities.
- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, associate professor at the Department of Economics, as president of the Association of Economists of Puerto Rico, coordinated several meetings and conferences with the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Census Bureau, and the Government of Puerto Rico to strengthen Puerto Rico's statistical system.
- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, associate professor at the Department of Economics was co-author of the 2023-2024 Visitor Profile of the Puerto Rico Institute of Statistics; and the main person in charge of data analysis of the 2023-2024 Traveler Survey.
- The Department of Economics participated in the Institutional Open House on Thursday, October 24, 2024 from 7:30 am - 12:00 pm at the UPRM.
- On Friday, May 10, 2024, the 4th edition of the Applied Economics Congress was held, an activity coordinated by the Department of Agricultural Economics and



Rural Sociology. In the competition for undergraduate projects, our students Alexis Wu and Félix Arostegui came in first and second place, respectively.

- Participated in the College of Arts and Sciences Summer Camp for students entering their fourth year of high school. The camp was held from June 24 to 27, 2024. The student Rodrigo García Guerrios was in attendance.
- The conference entitled Challenges and Opportunities of the Educational Challenge in Puerto Rico: Years of Transition was held by Dr. Cesar Rey Hernández, former Secretary of the Department of Education of Puerto Rico and Professor of the Graduate School of Public Administration of the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus. The conference was held on Thursday, September 19, 2024 at the Dr. Josefina Torres Amphitheater in the UPRM Department to Nursery from 10:30 a.m. to noon.



- The eighth edition of the Economic Sciences Week was held on Tuesday, October 8, Wednesday, 9 and Thursday, October 10, 2024. The activities are described below:

- Tuesday, October 8, 2024

- Conference Title: Struggles for a Just Recovery: Insurgent Planning, Transnational Networks, and Colonial Legacies in Post-Disaster Puerto Rico

Speaker: Dr. Ariam L Torres Cordero, Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Planning of the University of Puerto Rico. Río Piedras Campus.

<https://planificacion.uprrp.edu/torres-cordero-ariam/>

Time and Place: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon, Ramon Figueroa Chapel Amphitheater



- Wednesday, October 9, 2024

- Documentary movie presentation: Puerto Rico Economic #Laberinto (120 minutes)

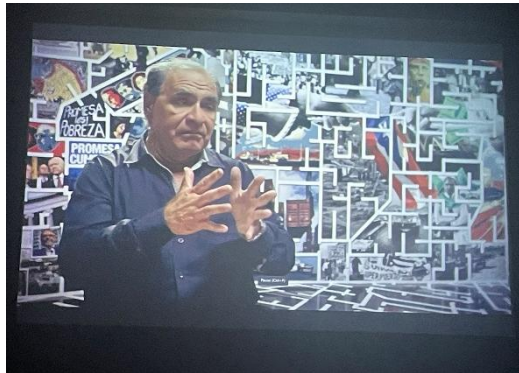
Speakers: Mariel C. Marrero García, Researcher-Producer and Freddie Rodríguez, Director-Editor, both from Zaranda Productions.

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/7b6JUloPBbo?si=SDwn9e6nchXZ-2S3> or <https://festivalpuertorico.com/tr%C3%A1ilers>

Place and hour: 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Ramón Figueroa Chapel Amphitheater.



# @PUERTORICO #LABERINTO ECONÓMICO



○ Thursday, October 10, 2024

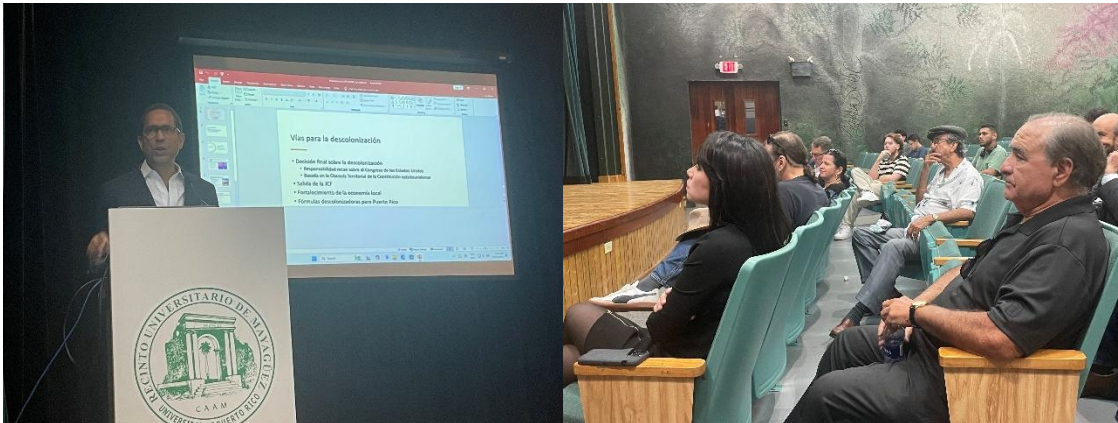
■ Conference Title: Towards a New Order of Things?

Speakers: Dr. and Rafael Cox Alomar, Professor at the David A. Clarke School of Law of the District of Columbia University in Washington, DC.

<https://law.udc.edu/rcoxalomar/>

Time and Place: 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon, Ramon Figueroa Chapel Amphitheater





- Faculty staff and students of the Department of Economics attended and participated at the Annual Assembly of the Association of Economists of Puerto Rico, which was held on Friday, October 25, 2024 at PUCPR.
- Faculty staff and students of the Department of Economics participated in *Expo Graduates Porta del Sol*, which took place on October 3 and 4, 2024 at the Palace of Recreation and Sports in Mayagüez.



- The economics student Stephanie Medina Sabido was elected as the 2024-2025 Student Representative of the Department of Economics. The student will hold this position until May 2025 or until the election of her replacements.
- On Thursday, October 3, 2025, the teaching staff of the Department of Economics was informed that after almost two academic years of inactivation, the Association of Economics Students has been formally activated. The president of the association is the student José A. Delgado Fernández (jose.delgado42@upr.edu). On Monday, October 21, 2024, a balance equivalent to the amount of \$158.65 in



cash was delivered to the current president of the Association. In concept of the money received from the Former President of the Student Association of the Department of Economics (ESA, at that time), the graduate María E. Rodríguez Carrio, who delivered the surplus money from ESA to the administrative offices of the Department at the end of the Second Semester of the Academic Year 2022-2023 with the purpose of transferring it for the benefit of the next board.

- Economics student Héctor Ramos Arroyo participates by offering tutoring in Economics as part of the RUMbo EX Learning and Success Center, sponsored by the UPRM Dean of Students.
- On Thursday, November 7, 2024, the teaching staff was informed about the work of the Founders Library Museum of the Department of Economics. Specifically, the following points were reported: (1) on Thursday, October 24, 2024, the Carpentry Section installed the new shelves acquired by the Department in SH-109, (2) funds (\$959.64) were requested from the Dean of Arts and Sciences to cover the cost of installation of internet cabling and WiFi antenna by the UPRM CTI staff (who will carry them out as a project under additional compensation), (3) the Department of Auxiliary Services was asked for a VoIP telephone unit for the SH-109, (4) the exterior wall of the SH-109 was painted, and (5) the teaching staff was encouraged to help catalog the books donated by Professor Alfredo González Martínez.
- The Department of Economics has institutionally authorized a donation account under the name of the ECON Fund. The purpose of this account is that individuals, companies and foundations, among others, can deposit their donation and contribute to our departmental unit through a link on the <https://www.uprm.edu/economia/> website. The use or function of the funds will be for improvements to the facilities, acquisition of materials for educational and office purposes, technology equipment, equipment in general, promotional expenses, academic recognitions, conferences and/or activities of the institution, among others. The start date of the ECON Fund would be from the creation of the website. On Thursday, October 31, 2024, an orientation was held with Ms. Carmen P. Parés, Director of the Office of Alumni and Philanthropy of the UPRM on the creation and management of the ECON Fund account.
- The Economics Students Association organized various activities for the academic community. These activities are:





- The Department of Economics has a total of eight (8) students who were selected to the 2023-2024 Honor Roll of the College of Arts and Sciences of the University of Puerto Rico, University of Puerto Rico Campus, University of Mayagüez Campus. The Department honored these outstanding students, along with the graduation candidates, on Thursday, April 10, 2025 in room SH-309 at 10:30 a.m. The students are: Adrián E. Figueroa Acevedo Alexi Wu He Félix G. Arostegui Saavedra Héctor H. Ramos Arroyo José A. Delgado Fernández José A. Torres Maldonado Raúl O. Rodríguez Pagán Sebastián D. de Jesús Varela.







- The economic student Alexi Wu He was selected as the best research poster project in the first annual conference “*Puerto Rico en Datos*”, organized by the US Census Office in Puerto Rico on November 15, 2024 at the UPR Carolina. The awarded research project title is: *Effects of the Minimum Wage of Puerto Rico*.



Puerto Rico en Datos  
Primer Simposio Anual Colaborativo

**SAVE THE DATE!**

15 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2024  
UPR CAROLINA

El Censo Federal y la Universidad de Puerto Rico te invitan al  
primer Simposio Anual Colaborativo “Puerto Rico en Datos.”

El simposio estará enfocado en temas de interés como economía,  
demografía, salud, vivienda, geografía, acceso y disponibilidad de  
datos sobre Puerto Rico.

Para más información accede:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/puerto-rico-en-datos-simposio-anual-colaborativo-tickets-1021357877907?aff=roddatcreator>



Universidad  
de Puerto Rico



Remitido a la Oficina del Contralor OCS SA 2024 0220

United States  
Census  
Bureau







- The Economy Department offered the conference titled Trump's Policy Effects on Tariffs and Energy. Date: Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 10:30 am at the Stefani Amphitheater S-113. Speakers Dr. José I. Alameda Lozada, Professor of the Department of Economics and Dr. Agustín A. Irizarry Rivera, Professor of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computers.
- The Department of Economy offered the conference entitled Economy of Puerto Rico: Current Situation and Prospects. As part of the Seminar entitled Economy 2025: Challenges and Opportunity in Real Estate. Organized by the Mid Island Association of Realtor of Puerto Rico and the MIAR Institute of Real Estate. Date: Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 5:00 pm at the Community Center of the Sultana de Mayagüez Urbanization.





- The Trump Administration's Tariffs as a Trade Policy Instrument and Their Potential Effects on the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Speaker: Dr. Jeffry Valentín Mari, Professor of the Department of Economics. Date: March 11, 2025 at 7:00 pm organized by the Observatory of Society, Governance and Public Policy of the Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico.
- The Department of Economics offered the conference entitled Expert Review of the Essence Project: Fiscal Impact, Economic Viability and Implications. Report prepared by Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez and submitted for consideration by the public hearings of the Municipality of Cabo Rojo as part of the evaluation of the Esencia project (February 27, 2025).
- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez, associated professor at the Department of Economics offered the conference *Social Reproduction or Social Change? Insights from Auroville on the System-Building Capacity of Interstitial Institutions* with Cansu Gürkaya, professor at the School of Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences as part of the Eastern Economic Association 52th Annual Conference in New York City. February 22, 2025.
- Dr. Carlos A. Del Valle González offered a webinar for the National Institute for Congestion Reduction. Presentation entitled Financial Incentives to Reduce Vehicle Mile Traveled.
- Prof. Dahil R. Colón Arbelo participated in the International Congress VII of the Association of Economic History of the Caribbean. Prof. Arbelo offered the lecture: From the industrial enclave in the twentieth century to the enclave of people XXI: the case of Puerto Rico, November 8, 2024 in Mexico City.
- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez informed the publication "Counter-Hegemonic Evolution: The intentional township of Auroville as a case study of Systemic Transformation" conditionally accepted in the peer-reviewed journal "Review of Radical Political Economics" was co-authored with sociologist Cansu Gurkaya attached to the Center for Indian and South Asian Studies -CEIAS of the École des Hautes Études in Social Sciences in France. The work presented in New York City, at the 51st Annual Conference – Eastern Economic Association on February 22, 2025 was also co-authored with sociologist Cansu Gurkaya.



**FORO**  
**Los aranceles de la administración Trump como instrumentos de la política comercial y sus posibles efectos para los EE.UU. y Puerto Rico**

Desde su reelección, el presidente Donald Trump ha anunciado la imposición de aranceles a las importaciones desde Canadá, México y China. Estos aranceles se promueven como medios de conjurar el déficit comercial de los EE.UU. y promover los empleos de los ciudadanos estadounidenses como parte del plan *Make America Great Again*. En este foro se analizarán la racionalidad y los posibles efectos de estos aranceles.

**Dr. Jeffry Valentín Mari**, catedrático y director del Departamento de Economía del Recinto Universitario de Mayagüez (RUM) de la Universidad de Puerto Rico

moderador:  
**Dr. Hernán A. Vera Rodríguez**, catedrático de Administración Pública y director del Observatorio de Sociedad, Gobernanza y Políticas Públicas

**11 de marzo de 2025**  
7:00 p.m. (hora PR)  
Plataforma **zoom**  
[bit.ly/Aranceles-EstadosUnidos](https://bit.ly/Aranceles-EstadosUnidos)

**PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE PUERTO RICO**  
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Para más información: [observatorio\\_sociedad@puccpredu](mailto:observatorio_sociedad@puccpredu)



- Dr. Ricardo R. Fuentes Ramírez and Dr. Jeffry Valentín Mari were invited by the Rector's Office to participate on Monday, March 31, 2025 in a working group (Celis-202) to explore possible collaborations in economic development, entrepreneurship and regional impact initiatives with faculty from Purdue University Northwest who were on view at the Campus from March 31 to April 1, 2025.
- On Friday, May 9, 2025, the 5th edition of the Applied Economics Congress was held, an activity coordinated by the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology. In the competition for undergraduate projects, our students Alexis Wu and Félix Arostegui came in first and second place, respectively.

## 5<sup>TO</sup> CONGRESO ECONOMÍA APLICADA DE PUERTO RICO



**FECHA**  
VIERNES, 9 DE MAYO DE 2025

**HORA**  
8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

**LUGAR**  
SALON TARZAN, CENTRO DE ESTUDIANTES

**ORGANIZAN**  
DEPARTAMENTO DE ECONOMÍA AGRÍCOLA Y SOCIOLOGÍA RURAL  
ASOCIACIÓN DE ECONOMÍA AGRÍCOLA Y SOCIOLOGÍA RURAL (AEASR)

**REGISTRO**



<https://www.puag.edu/tema/5to-congreso-economia-aplicada-de-puerto-rico>  
[aeasr@puag.edu](mailto:aeasr@puag.edu)

AUSPICIADORES



COLEGIO  
DE CIENCIAS  
AGRICOLAS  
UPR - RUMI



ESTACIÓN  
EXPERIMENTAL  
AGRICOLA  
UPR - RUMI



SERVICIO  
DE EXTENSIÓN  
AGRICOLA  
UPR - RUMI



## International Activity

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