THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS VISITING LECTURER SERIES WELCOMES

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Presenting

“Labor Market Restructuring in Shale Booms”

Thursday, January 17, at 3:30 in the Rasmussen Library (OSH 336)

Abstract:
Innovations in hydraulic fracturing methods and micro-seismic technology along with rising oil and gas prices have led to natural gas and oil booms in various shale plays across the U.S. The economic impact of shale development has been estimated for states and specific regions with varying results. A county level analysis of the lower 48 states from 2001-2011 provides insight into the labor market restructuring occurring due to the recent shale boom and can provide insight into the mechanisms behind the “natural resource curse.” Results suggest that the impact of shale development on employment is modest with the impact on earnings growth approximately double that of the impact on employment growth, though the growth effects seem to wane over time. The employment multiplier from oil and gas development is estimated to be approximately 1.46.