The Johns Hopkins Economics Department

**1876 - 1945**

**The Johns Hopkins University was Established in 1876.**

**Politics housed in Hopkins Hall and later taught in the Department of History and Politics.**

Sidney Sherwood 1860-1931

Sidney Sherwood is appointed the head of the political economy program following H.B. Adams’ resignation, and heads the Economic Conference. The newly designated Economics Seminary began meeting in 1899.

Richard Ely 1854-1943

Richard Ely, professor and later head of the Department of Political Economy, was awarded a professorship in Economics at Johns Hopkins in 1880. Ely was credited with taking the lead in the creation of the Hopkins Club in 1899.

The Homewood campus site is acquired in 1902 and the department moves to its new home in the summer of 1916 - top floor of the right wing of Gilman Hall. The construction of Gilman Hall - one of the first buildings built on the new campus site began in 1913 and was completed in 1915.

The fall of 1902 saw the introduction of yet another program under the auspices of the Department of Political Economy. The School of Business Economics was started to provide "specialized academic training for men contemplating a business career." A full-time, four-year program, the School granted the degree of B.S. in Economics.

**Richard T. Ely (professor and later head of the Department of Political Economy) replaces H.C. Adams in 1881 and starts the Department of Political Economy.**

**H.B. Adams leads the History and Politics Seminary, begins to meet regularly.**

**The Department of Political Economy is granted autonomy and separates from the Department of History.**

**Jacob Hollander 1872-1928**

After the retirement of President Gilman and untimely deaths of Sherwood and H.B. Adams, the Department of Political Economy is granted autonomy and separates from the Department of History. Jacob Hollander (Ph.D. 1894) becomes the first director. Hollander is also the first appointed full Professor of Political Economy (1895). The full-time faculty include Hollander teaching the Economic Seminary and teaching Fiscal Policy and Economic Theory, and Barnett teaching Statistics.

**Sidney Sherwood is appointed the head of the political economy program following H.B. Adams’ resignation, and heads the Economic Conference.**

**Henry Carter Adams 1840-1897**

Henry Carter Adams was appointed as an instructor 1880-1881.

**Richard T. Ely organizes the American Economic Association in 1885.**

**Francis A. Walker 1840-1897**

Francis A. Walker, regarded as the "father" of American economics, was appointed the first permanent professor of political economy. He declined the offer, taking a visiting position instead.

**George Barnett 1873-1938**

George Barnett was awarded a partial autonomy in 1899. Barnett teaches in the Department of Political Economy until his retirement in 1928. The department is one of the first buildings built on the new campus site in 1913 and was completed in 1915.

**H.C. Adams was appointed as an instructor in 1880-1881.**

**Herbert Baxter Adams 1860-1931**

The first faculty teaching political economy in the Department of History and Politics was Herbert Baxter Adams. The first Ph.D. students in Economics were taught by visiting scholars. H. C. Adams was appointed as an instructor 1880-1881.

**H. C. Adams was appointed as an instructor in 1880-1881.**

**Barnett teaching Economics class in Mccoy Hall**

**Acheson Duncan 1908-1994**

Acheson Duncan is named chair after the deaths of Barnett (1934) and Ndulak (1941-1945). He is asked to take over the faculty to teach respectability to the economics department at Johns Hopkins.

**R.J. Bullock**

**G. H. Evans**

**H. E. Cooper**

Three new members join the faculty - Howard E. Cooper (Hopkins Ph.D. Political Economy 1920; Faculty 1918-1940), Roy J. Bullock (Hopkins Ph.D. Political Economy 1933; Faculty 1929-1935; director of Johns Hopkins School of Business 1941) and George H. Evans (Hopkins Ph.D. Political Economy 1934; Faculty 1926-1970; served 1942-1945).
The Johns Hopkins Economics Department

1946 - 2016

Most recently, the department founded the Center for Financial Economics (CFE). Conceived in the late 1980s by economics faculty and alumni in the global finance industry, the Center for Financial Economics was founded on the belief that the principles of finance had strayed too far from their economic underpinnings. The CFE opened its doors in 2007 with a mission to build a bridge between economics and finance, theory and practice, quantitative analysis and social understanding— all within an expansive liberal arts framework.


The department is once again on strong and steady footing and is often ranked as one of the top economics programs in the United States.

As of January 2016, the Department of Economics relocated to the fifth floor of Wyman Park Building. After 30 years, Mergenthaler Hall was left by economists and staff members with infinite memories.

The faculty numbers 20, including Elena Katsnelson, Jorge Bailey, Nicholas Papageorge, Yuya Sasaki, Anton Korinek, Ying Chen, Yuya Takahashi and John Quah, who joined the department between 2010 and 2016.