

George Borjas, expert economist on immigration joins UCSD Faculty

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LEADING EXPERT ON ECONOMICS OF IMMIGRATION JOINS UCSD FACULTY

Economist George Borjas, considered to be one of the country's leading experts on the economics of immigration, has joined the University of California, San Diego Department of Economics.

A graduate of Columbia University, Borjas is the author of the recent book "Friends or Strangers: The Impact of Immigrants on the U.S. Economy." In his book, he argues that the U.S. economy would become more productive if our laws were changed to encourage the immigration of skilled immigrants instead of low-skilled workers. Immigrants with a high-skill level, he says, are going not to the U.S. but to countries like Australia and Canada whose immigration laws favor people with education and investment capital.

"We are very pleased to have an economist of the caliber of George Borjas join our department," said Professor Rob Engle, chairman of the Economics Department. "He is an outstanding scholar, and an excellent addition to our faculty."

Formerly a professor of economics at the University of California, Santa Barbara, Borjas is a research associate with the National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc. From 1988-1989 he was a visiting scholar at Harvard University. Borjas just recently completed a two-year term on the National Science Foundation's Advisory Panel in Economics. He is also a member of the American Economic Association's Committee on the Status of Minority Groups in the Economics Profession. In addition to his work on the economics of immigration, Borjas' research includes the study of wage differentials, employment discrimination and various other aspects of the labor market.

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