

Department of Economics presents

David S. Saurman

Provocative Lecture Series 2019



Alex Tabarrok, Ph.D.

Professor, George Mason University

“Patents, Intellectual Property, and the Rise of the Rent-Seeking Society”

Are patents necessary for innovation?

Can patents reduce innovation?

What about other forms of intellectual property such as copyright?

Prof. Tabarrok will discuss the history and economics of intellectual property and the potential dangers of a rent-seeking society.

Wednesday,
October 30th
Student Union
Theater

5:15-6:45p.m.

Free and open
to the public

Alex Tabarrok is Bartley J. Madden Chair in Economics at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University and a professor of economics at George Mason University.

Tabarrok is the coauthor, with Mercatus colleague Tyler Cowen, of the popular economics blog *Marginal Revolution* and cofounder of the online educational platform *Marginal Revolution University*. He is the coauthor of *Modern Principles of Economics*, and author of the recent e-book *Launching the Innovation Renaissance*. His articles have appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and many other publications.

<https://mason.gmu.edu/~atabarro/>

The Department of Economics invites students, faculty, and the general public to consider intellectual arguments on controversial topics. Presenters are noted for outstanding scholarship and public speaking ability. This series fosters the tradition of higher education to challenge ideas and develop critical thinking in an environment of respect for intellectual discourse. Our goal is that you engage critical thinking skills to reach your own informed position on controversial issues. We invite you to attend, relax, ponder, and enjoy the thought process. For more information or to be added to our events list, please contact: Justin.Rietz@sjsu.edu