

Editor's Forward to Volume 18 Number 2

This issue of the *Journal of Business Administration Online* continues the work of rebuilding the JBAO's catalog of academic investigation that has been our hallmark in past years. We hope that you find the latest works published here of interest. We welcome your formative feedback and constructive comments as always.

The JBAO is committed to being an outlet for scholarly work in business administration and related fields, and we hold ourselves accountable for publishing work that has received peer review and feedback, and which reflects the current state of inquiry into issues that affect us, the marketplace, our students and other constituencies. We continue to solicit manuscripts from scholars from diverse backgrounds. In this issue:

Drs. Thomas, Casey & Hill begin this issue by examining the impact of responses to the COVID-19 pandemic on teaching statistics courses at the collegiate level. They focus on student and faculty experiences and the various strategies used to adapt to the changing conditions of the pandemic while maintaining academic integrity.

Drs. Zapata, Snyder & Saliba look at the economic impact of DACA recipients and the gains made by legalizing occupational licenses for these persons. The financial impact to states of not providing such licenses is calculated to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars.

Drs. Williams & Sutanto investigate the main drivers of inflation in the United States during the COVID-19 pandemic. They find that disruptions and responses on multiple fronts combined to impact inflation rates with long-term effects.

Drs. Adams, Carter & Edwards review the effect of authentic leadership on employee retention in the manufacturing sector. Using the Authentic Leadership Questionnaire, they look at the effect of this style of leadership on employees in a South Carolina firm.

Drs. Logan & Doty find that the roles of fun and flexibility in employee engagement are wider ranging than may be assumed. They also find that flexibility mediates the role of fun in a way that mildly decreases engagement and pose an interesting possible explanation.

Finally, Drs. Budden, Curet & Budden find that the Uniform Trade Secrets Act is impactful in protecting a company's marketing secrets, including - and for this paper specifically - customer lists. They look at several cases regarding this issue in the U.S.

We hope that you enjoy reading this latest issue of the *Journal of Business Administration Online*. The next issue is scheduled for December 2024, and the call for papers can always be found online at our website: <https://www.atu.edu/business/jbao/>

Until then, we welcome your manuscripts, but we also encourage you to volunteer as a reviewer. We promise to not overwork you, and the experience is always rewarding.

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