



Berkshire Hathaway trip, 2014

A group of eleven undergraduate student members of Econ Club, along with Professors Peter Orazem and Dermot Hayes, traveled to Omaha's CenturyLink Center for the unique chance to witness the annual Berkshire Hathaway shareholders' meeting. Thousands attended the annual meeting to hear from Warren Buffett, company chairman, president and CEO, and Charlie Munger, company vice-chairman, give their annual address and answer questions from shareholders.

Hieu Nguyen, a sophomore majoring in economics, finance, and math, helped to organize the day-long trip that started at 5 am, when the group hit the road for Omaha. Throughout the day, they listened in on the shareholders meeting in progress, and explored a large display area of businesses looking to attract interest from one of the many investors present.

"For any econ or finance major, this was a phenomenal opportunity to hear Buffett and Munger discuss their different views on the economy," says Hieu.

The experience, he says, "helped me to see that everything we learn in the classroom can be applied to very fundamental things. Economics can be very simple."

Orazem agrees that it was "an excellent opportunity to see how the tools we learn in the classroom translate into real world business.

"The students enjoyed talking to each other and sharing their ambitions," he says. "We'll have at least five research projects that come out of this trip based on the way that students were able to bounce ideas off of each other"

Tan Nguyen, a senior majoring in business economics and finance, says he learned from listening to Buffett and Munger that "to grow a company you have to invest in the people.

"The talent and thoughts of people can be the lifeblood of a business and can determine the fate of any venture."