

*The MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness is a student organization dedicated to providing the Texas A&M University community with international exposure through programming and travel abroad.*

*The L.T. Jordan Institute is divided into eight operational areas:*

*L.T. Jordan Committee Programs: The MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness plans and implements programs which provide the Texas A&M student body with cultural, educational, recreational, and entertainment programs, all with an international focus.*

*L.T. Jordan Funding Programs: The MSC Overseas Loan Program provides students with supplemental, interest-free loans for international travel or study abroad.*

*L.T. Jordan Fellows: The L.T. Jordan Fellows are a select group of students who receive funding to conduct educational or research activities abroad. They are selected through a rigorous application and interview process.*

*L.T. Jordan Internship & Living Abroad Programs: The Internship & Living Abroad Program sends students to the Dominican Republic, England, Singapore, Spain, and China for five to six weeks each summer. The Institute provides host families and career-related, noncompensatory internships for program participants.*

*L.T. Jordan Greece Leadership program: The Greece Leadership Program sends sophomore students to Greece for two weeks in the summer with a student mentor and Texas A&M faculty member. The trip focuses on such themes as Democracy, Philosophy, Literature, History, Architecture, and current cultural events.*

*International Education Outreach: The International Education Outreach Program targets Bryan/College Station schools, sponsoring co-programs with the International Student Association and the International Center at the Bush Presidential Library Center.*

*L.T. Jordan International Service Program: The International Service Program sends student participants to serve on health, and education projects in the Dominican Republic and Honduras. Students live with host families and work in cooperation with local clinics, hospitals, and non-government organizations.*

*The L.T. Jordan Collection: Numerous international art objects donated by Mrs. Jessie W. Jordan are displayed in the Student Programs Office. The Collection helps give students an insight into various cultures of the world.*

*For more information, please contact the MSC L.T. Jordan Institute at 845-8770 or e-mail: [ji-chair@msc.tamu.edu](mailto:ji-chair@msc.tamu.edu)*



MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness  
presents:

# Microfinancing

*Economics, Transportation, and Disaster  
Management: Empowering the People*

Thursday, March 22, 2012

6:45 - 7:45 p.m.

Rudder Tower 501

# Microfinancing

*Economics, Transportation, and Disaster Management:*

*Empowering the People*

## Introductions

## Speaker Presentations

## Q&A Discussion

### Dr. David Ellis

*-- Texas Transportation Institute, Visiting Professor, Dept. of Urban Planning*  
*-- Changing the Way We Think About Transportation: a new approach to solving the Texas transportation issue*

Dr. Ellis is a Senior Research scientist in the Mobility Analysis Program at the Texas Transportation Institute and a Visiting Professor of Urban Planning in the Department of Urban Planning, College of Architecture at Texas A&M University.

He received his Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Economics (1979), a Master of Urban Planning (1990), and a doctorate in Urban and Regional Science (1995), all from Texas A&M University. His areas of interest include transportation economics and finance, demographics, and tax policy.

He has served as a lobbyist in Austin, representing clients in the construction materials industry before the Texas Legislature and various state boards and agencies. Following that, he served as Director of Research for the Texas Dept. of Commerce, and additionally served as Director of Research for both the Strategic Economic Policy Commission and the Rural Economic Development Commission. For this work, Dr. Ellis has received the State's Distinguished Service Award and the Outstanding State Service Award, respectively.

Dr. David Ellis has been active in local community and youth activities, serving on various municipal and volunteer boards. He is a also member of both the Honor Society for Architecture as well as Phi Kappa Phi.

### Dr. Yu Xiao

*-- Asst. Professor, Dept. of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning*  
*-- Empowering communities for a sustainable future: hazard management and sustainable economic development.*

Dr. Xiao joined the Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning at Texas A&M University as an Assistant Professor in the fall of 2008. She is interested in urban economic development, disaster management, and public finance. Her research examines short-to long-run economic impacts of natural disasters, business interruption, and process of community economic recovery after disasters.

Dr Xiao has presented in numerous regional science, urban planning, and disaster research conferences. She was the recipient of the Mary Fran Myers Scholarship for outstanding individual who has committed to disaster research practice and has the potential to make a lasting contribution to reducing disaster vulnerability.

Dr. Xiao received Ph.D. from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2008, M.U.P. from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2004, and B.S. and B.M. from Peking University in China in 2002.