

Seidman Business Review

Volume 20 | Issue 1

Article 2

2014

From the Editor

Gerry Simons
Grand Valley State University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/sbr>

Recommended Citation

Simons, Gerry (2014) "From the Editor," *Seidman Business Review*. Vol. 20: Iss. 1, Article 2.
Available at: <https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/sbr/vol20/iss1/2>

Copyright © 2014 by the authors. Seidman Business Review is reproduced electronically by ScholarWorks@GVSU.
<https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/sbr>

From the Editor...



The past year has been one of change for the Seidman College of Business. Near the beginning of 2013, after nine years of leadership at Seidman, Dean H. James Williams took the position of President of Fisk University in Nashville. Associate Dean John W. Reifel, who has a longstanding record of exemplary service in the College, assumed the position of Interim Dean, and in May

he shepherded the College's move into the new four-story, \$40 million L. William Seidman Center. A new dean will begin service July 1, 2014.

The past year has been one of change for the West Michigan economy too, as the articles in this latest edition of the *Seidman Business Review* attest. Our continued commitment to excellence in this publication is reflected by the expert analysis and commentary on a variety of topics of relevance to you, our readers—the annual Grand Rapids economic forecast; retrospectives of the year for the regional housing, real estate, and stock markets; analysis of the changes in the area economy through the Great Recession and the ongoing recovery; an evaluation of the economic impact of the Calder Cup win by the Grand Rapids Griffins; and a review of corporate tax rates and the question of their appropriate level.

I hope that you enjoy these articles, and that they answer some of the questions you might have about the economy and business environment in our region. As you read through this edition of the *Seidman Business Review*, other questions might arise. I encourage you to look over the list of Seidman Faculty Experts provided on the last page and contact those whose expertise may be of value to you. They might just help you bring the change that you need in 2014.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. Simons". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Gerry Simons, Professor of Economics

Seidman Business Review Winter 2014 Contents

- 2 Grand Rapids Economic Forecast 2014**
Paul Isely, Ph.D.
The results of the annual economic forecast are in. How is business confidence for 2014? What do area executives project for employment, sales, and exports?
- 5 West Michigan-Grand Rapids Commercial Real Estate Review and Forecast**
David Shafer and Logan Mentz, Research Analysts
Colliers International | West Michigan
The commercial real estate market saw many positive changes in 2013. Find out what exactly has been happening in the industrial, retail, office, and investment markets.
- 11 West Michigan Stock Returns**
Gregg Dimkoff, Ph.D.
For the national stock market, 2013 was the best year since the late 1990s. But how does the performance of regional stocks compare?
- 14 Housing Prices and Foreclosures in Grand Rapids**
Laudo Ogura, Ph.D. and Paul Isely, Ph.D.
West Michigan house prices have increased over the past year, but so have mortgage rates. What exactly has been going on in the regional housing market and what are the prospects for 2014?
- 16 Corporate Taxes: Too High, Too Low, or Just Right? That is the Question.**
Eric Hoogstra, Ph.D., Gregg Dimkoff, Ph.D., and Sridhar Sundaram, D.B.A.
The appropriate level of corporate taxes is a divisive issue. How can we gain a more objective perspective to this often emotionally-charged topic?
- 18 Economic Growth in the Grand Rapids Region**
Laudo M. Ogura, Ph.D. and Brad Sturgill, Ph.D.
The West Michigan economy continues its recovery from the Great Recession. How has the regional economy changed over these tumultuous years?
- 21 Economic Impact of the Grand Rapids Griffins Calder Cup Championship**
Roberta Biby, M.B.A.
Winning the Calder Cup in 2013 was a tremendous achievement for the Grand Rapids Griffins. What economic impact does such a successful season bring to the area?
- 24 Seidman Faculty Experts**
A listing of the various areas of expertise of Seidman College of Business faculty.