

## 2006 RESEARCH PROJECTS

**Rejecting Money: Why Sweden and the United Kingdom Refuse to Adopt the Euro** (Janet Anderson) This paper attempts to answer the following questions: If the euro has such a strong following and so many supporters, why are Sweden and the United Kingdom so reluctant to join the EMU? What are the economic and political reasons behind Sweden and the United Kingdom not adopting the euro as common currency? How did the Swedish international business community respond to the euro rejections and why does it desire the euro so much? Readers: Professor Kilpinen (Geography) and Professor Wunder (Economics)

**Globalizing the Chinese Consumer** (Stanley Chiu) What does it mean to be Chinese and how has the consumption of foreign physical and cultural goods changed the Chinese identity? This project will look into how the competing forces of the Chinese government and the consumer market define the Chinese identity. Readers: Professor Lin (Political Science) and Professor Whitefield (History)

**Making Coffee Fair: Globalization, fair trade, and their effects on small scale coffee farmers in Mexico** (Stephanie Davis) Globalization has caused many problems for small scale coffee farmers in Mexico. NAFTA has eliminated Mexico's government farm subsidies and large international companies dominate the market, leaving these farmers little choice in the price they are paid for their coffee beans. However, the increasing interconnectedness of globalization is helping to solve some of the problems these farmers face by increasing international awareness and providing alternative trade opportunities. Readers: Professor Martinez (History) and Professor Wunder (Economics)

**Closing the Income Gap: Foreign Direct Investment and Education in Rural China** (Laura Van't Land) China's recent economic growth has been stunning, but the interior rural areas have been left behind. Average urban incomes are significantly higher than their rural counterparts. This is a result of both Western Imperialism as well as Deng Xiaoping's economic reforms following the death of Mao Zedong. The Chinese government is working to encourage Foreign Direct Investment in inland provinces, but education standards must also be raised. If the Chinese government can improve education and attract businesses to China's rural parts, there is hope that China's current income gap situation can be reversed and rural areas can take part in the econ

The PDF Footer