



## Updates from the J.P. Morgan Center for Commodities' Leadership Team

We are delighted to welcome you to the eighth issue of the *GCARD*! We are very grateful that members of both the JPMCC's Research Council and Advisory Council continue to support this publication by providing insightful articles from both academia and industry, and which are included in this issue.



The J.P. Morgan Center for Commodities (JPMCC) is also happy to provide the *GCARD*'s readers with a brief update on the many events and initiatives that have taken place since the digest's last issue.

### Executive Director Appointment

We are very pleased to announce that Dr. Thomas Brady has been named as the JPMCC's Executive Director. Dr. Brady was previously the Chief Economist at Newmont Mining Corporation and has been a long-time supporter of the JPMCC, having served on the JPMCC's Advisory Council and Research Council as well as serving on the *GCARD*'s Editorial Advisory Board.

### The Geopolitical Oil Price Risk Index

The JPMCC has created a brand new and unique index that reports monthly on how geopolitical risk appears to be influencing oil prices. This index is called the Geopolitical Oil Price Risk Index (GOPRX); and the JPMCC's Program Director, Yosef Bonaparte, Ph.D., describes the index's launch in this issue of the *GCARD*. In brief, the index utilizes data from Google Trends to obtain search volume for keyword phrases commonly associated with oil and politics. A proprietary application of factor analysis is then employed to compose the monthly GOPRX from relevant search terms.

### Newsletters

The JPMCC will be launching two quarterly newsletters: one for students and one for the general public. Interested parties will be able to subscribe to the JPMCC's newsletter through our website: [www.business.ucdenver.edu/commodities](http://www.business.ucdenver.edu/commodities).

### Educational Curriculum

The JPMCC has revised and updated our curriculum to include a new class, "Commodity Valuation and Investment." This class joins our "Foundations of Commodities," "Commodity Supply Chain Management," and "Commodity Data Analysis" suite of courses.



## Press

The JPMCC's Program Director was interviewed by Denver's Fox television affiliate on financial market volatility, demonstrating the relevance of the JPMCC's expertise to the concerns of investors (Kruegel, 2019).

## International Commodities Symposium

In August 2019, the JPMCC hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual International Commodities Symposium. This highly successful conference was organized by Dr. Jian Yang, Ph.D., CFA, the J.P. Morgan Endowed Chair & JPMCC Research Director, who was also the conference's program chair. Dr. Yang describes the conference and its international impact in this issue's Research Director Report. In addition, the conference was coordinated by Mr. Matthew Fleming, the JPMCC's Program Manager.

The *GCARD* team notes that this year's conference was the most successful yet and congratulates Dr. Yang on this accomplishment. The 2019 symposium featured distinguished participants from academia, policymaking institutions, and leading natural resource companies.

Ms. Kassie Davis, Executive Director of the CME Group Foundation, concurred with the positive assessment of this year's conference: "This is my third year attending the conference, and one of the things that keeps getting better and better each year is the industry panels," noted Davis in Robinson (2019). Davis continued: "There's an amazing caliber of professors here from universities all over the world, and the impact of that can't be underestimated. But the industry panels really tie the whole event together."

The JPMCC leadership team is very pleased that both academic and industry participants have agreed to provide research summaries from their conference presentations in both the current and next issue of the *GCARD* for the benefit of the digest's readers.

## Feedback

As always, if you would like to provide us with feedback on the *GCARD*, please feel free to contact us at [gcard@ucdenver.edu](mailto:gcard@ucdenver.edu), and thank you for your interest in both the JPMCC and the *GCARD*!

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## References

Kruegel, E., 2019, "Dow Sinks 800 Points as Bond Market Flashes Recession Warning," Fox Denver News, August 14. Accessed via website: <https://kdvr.com/2019/08/14/dow-industrials-sink-800-points-as-bond-market-flashes-recession-warning/> on September 6, 2019.

Robinson, K., 2019, "3rd Annual JPMCC International Commodities Symposium Brings Academic and Industry Leaders Together," *CU Denver Business School News*, August 27. Accessed via website: <https://business-news.ucdenver.edu/2019/08/27/3rd-annual-jpmcc-international-commodities-symposium-brings-academic-and-industry-leaders-together/> on September 2, 2019.