



Welcome Letter

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Ajeyo Banerjee, Ph.D., CMA, Associate Professor of Finance and Risk Management, Executive and Faculty Director, J.P. Morgan Center for Commodities (JPMCC) at the University of Colorado Denver Business School, addressing the JPMCC's Research Council in the Center's CoBank Lecture Hall on December 4, 2015.

Dear Reader,

I am happy to welcome you to the inaugural issue of the J.P. Morgan Center for Commodities' *Global Commodities Applied Research Digest (GCARD)*. This bi-annual publication is generously sponsored by the CME Group Foundation, and the purpose of this new digest is to highlight the key findings of applied research on topical commodity issues. As you read through our first issue, please consider providing feedback to the *GCARD*'s Contributing Editor, Hilary Till, at hilary.till@ucdenver.edu, on how we can improve the digest to serve the needs and interests of commodity-industry professionals and policymakers.



For readers who are unfamiliar with either the University of Colorado Denver Business School or the university's J.P. Morgan Center for Commodities (JPMCC), I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce these entrepreneurial institutions to you. [As a major hub for agriculture, energy, metals, minerals, and renewable energy research, Colorado is already an undisputed national leader in commodities.](#) It is natural then for the University of Colorado Denver Business School to also become a leader in commodities education and applied research. As a result, the JPMCC was set up in 2012 and is the first of its kind covering the broad range of commodities. [The Center provides research insights, student educational programs, and professional education offerings in the business of physical commodities, commodity markets, regulation, trading, risk management and policy.](#)

The Center aims to become the focal point of highly relevant commodities thought-leadership. The *GCARD* is just one element of this strategy; other efforts include:

- The Center's [Global Commodities Issues \(Editor's Choice\) eJournal](#), edited by Professor Marcelle Arak, the Center's CoBank Professor;
- The Center's prestigious [Research Council](#), which is made up of eminent academics and successful industry professionals, who ensure the research carried out through the Center has both academic rigor and practical relevance;
- The Center's forthcoming international commodities conference, planned for Spring 2017, which will take place in Denver; and
- The recent launch of [JPMCC Commodities Research Fellowship Awards](#).

With the *GCARD*, we had noted that commodity practitioners do not currently have an accessible source of concise information about current commodities research, either in specific fields or across industries. The *GCARD* aims to fill this marketplace gap. Accordingly, we look forward to the *GCARD* becoming the go-to place for new knowledge on commodities for the business community. We hope you will like this issue, and our subsequent issues will have the benefit of your insights and suggestions. Thank you for joining us in our latest initiative!

If you would like more information on the J.P. Morgan Center for Commodities, please feel free to contact us at commodities.center@ucdenver.edu.

Sincerely,