How did Starting Point get Started?

- Earlier work by Simkins and Maier
  - Focused on adapting pedagogic innovations across disciplines
- Need for readily accessible, easy-to-use set of resources
What is Starting Point?

An economic pedagogic portal that seeks to:

- **Introduce economists** to innovative teaching strategies – within and beyond the disciplines
- **Provide tools** to integrate and assess research-based teaching strategies in classroom settings
- **Promote sharing** of teaching innovations and examples implementing these innovations

Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting, November 2009 | San Antonio, TX
What is Starting Point?

Pedagogic Modules under development (16):

- Context-Rich Problems
- Just-in-Time Teaching
- Quantitative Writing
- Teaching with Cases
- Cooperative Learning
- Classroom Experiments
- Teaching with Computer Simulations
- Effective use of Personal Response Systems
- Interactive Demonstrations
- Undergraduate Research
- Interdisciplinary Approaches to Teaching
- Service Learning
- Spreadsheets Across the Curriculum
- Documented Problem Solving
- Using Media to Enhance Teaching and Learning
- Interactive Lectures

Why use Starting Point?

- Central location for comprehensive set of pedagogical resources
- Promoting the concept of a “teaching commons”
How can Instructors use Starting Point?

- Learning about specific pedagogic techniques
- Browsing the teaching examples library
What’s Different about Starting Point?

- Central location for resources
- Extensive pedagogic topic coverage
- Developed in interdisciplinary teams
- Intentionally adapting innovations across disciplines
- Dynamic library of examples
- Content management system framework (modular and shareable)

Starting Point – An Example