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Siems teaches operations research and management science courses in the Bobby B. Lyle School of Engineering at Southern Methodist University and is the Lyle School's chief engineering economist. Siems earned a BSE in industrial and operations engineering from the University of Michigan and an MS and PhD in operations research from SMU. He is also a graduate of the University of Michigan's Public Finance Institute, the University of Colorado's Graduate School of Banking, SMU's Graduate Marketing Certificate program, University of Virginia's Darden Executive Education program and Harvard University's Leadership Development program.

Siems has published more than 60 articles in various academic journals, books and Federal Reserve publications and is the National Association for Business Economics' only two-time winner of the Edmund A. Mennis Contributed Paper Award. His work has received extensive attention from leading publications, including *Financial Times, Wall Street Journal, The Economist, American Banker* and *Investor's Business Daily*. In 2015, he delivered his first TEDx Talk at SMU on "The Wealth of Innovations." Siems has also authored five children's picture books, including his newest release in 2009, *The Dangerous Pet*, which poetically challenges the way the next generation thinks about debt.