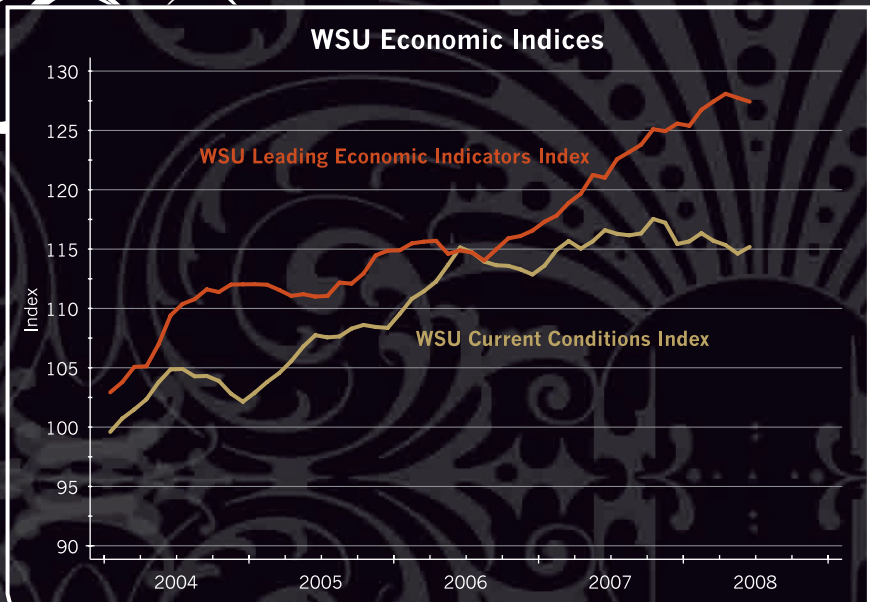


Economic Overview **An**

“The strong local economy has been Wichita’s ace in the hole throughout much of the national housing market downturn.”



The strong local economy has been Wichita’s ace in the hole throughout much of the national housing market downturn. Now it appears to be more of a wild card. The WSU Current Conditions Index fell slightly over the past year, off 2 percent since its peak in October 2007. Ironically, however, much of this decline has been due to slowing home sales, an important component in the index.