



SECTION ON SOCIO-ECONOMICS NEWSLETTER

Section on Socio-Economics Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting Preliminary Program

Wednesday, January 3, 2007 Marriott Wardman Park Hotel Washington, DC

(Co-Sponsored by the Sections on Poverty Law)

(Preliminary Program *)

Socio-Economics and Economic Justice

- 8:45 - 9:00 Welcoming Remarks
9:00 - 10:10 Deans' Forum on Socio Economics and Economic Justice
10:20 - 11:20 Concurrent Sessions
11:30 - 12:40 Teaching Socio-Economics and Economic Justice
12:50 - 1:50 Socio-Economics Luncheon Address
2:00 - 3:10 Socio-Economic Perspectives on Black Reparations
3:20 - 4:20 Concurrent Sessions
4:30 - 5:00 The Future of Socio-Economics

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Join Today!

AALS Section on Socio-Economics

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*** Please copy, post, and send to interested persons. ***

**Section on Socio-Economics
Annual Meeting Preliminary Program
Wednesday, January 3, 2007**

- 8:45 - 9:00 Welcoming Remarks**
Philip Harvey (Economics and Law, Rutgers - Camden, Section Chair)
- 9:00 - 10:10 Deans Forum on Socio Economics and Economic Justice**
Roger Dennis (Provost, Rutgers)
Dennis Honnabach (Washburn)
Donald Polden (Santa Clara)
Ed Rubin (Vanderbilt)
Mark Sargent (Villanova)
Emily Spieler (Northeastern)
Kelley Testy (Seattle)
- 10:20 - 11:20 Concurrent Sessions**
- 1. Ecological Economics**
Nicholas Ashford (Chemistry and Law, Massachusetts Institute of Technology)
David Driesen (Syracuse University)
- 2. Theology and Socio-Economics**
Alfreda Robinson (George Washington)
Lyman Johnson (Washington and Lee)
Cynthia Fain (Thurgood Marshall)
Herbert Fain (Ethics, School of Divinity, Thurgood Marshall)
Carlton Waterhouse (Florida International)
- 3. Corporate Governance Fiduciary Duties and Social Responsibility**
Steven Diamond (Santa Clara)
James Hackney (Northeastern)
Demetri Kantarelis (Economics - Assumption College)
- 4. Criminology and Socio-Economics**
William Black (University of Missouri - Kansas City)
Carolyn Currie (Managing Director, Public Private Sector Partnerships Pty Ltd.)
Dr. Louse Shelley (Director, The Transnational Crime and Corruption Center)
- 11:30 - 12:40 Teaching Socio-Economics and Economic Justice**
Robert Ashford (Syracuse)
Lynne Dallas (San Diego)
Jeffrey Harrison, (Florida)
Emma Coleman Jordan (Georgetown)
- 12:50 - 1:50 Socio-Economics Luncheon Address (To be announced)**
- 2:00 - 3:10 Socio-Economics Perspectives on Reparations**
Anthony Cook (Georgetown)
Adrienne Davis (North Carolina)
Charles Ogletree (Harvard)
Alfreda Robinson (George Washington)
- 3:20 - 4:20 Concurrent Sessions**
- 1. Socio-Economics and Wealth Distribution**
Morris Altman (Economics, Saskatchewan, Editor - Journal of Socio-Economics)
Carolyn Currie (Managing Director, Public Private Sector Partnerships Pty Ltd.)
Robert Prash (Economics, Middlebury)
Charles Whalen (Economics, Labor and Employment Relations Association)
- 2. Katrina and the Destruction and Rebuilding of New Orleans**
Mitchell Crusto (Loyola)
Jim Chen (Minnesota)
- 3. Norm Creation, Globalization, and the Regulation of New Technologies**
June Carbone- Moderator (Missouri - Kansas City)
Martha Ertman (Utah)
(Michele Goodman (De Paul)
Kevin Outerson (West Virginia)
- 4. Socio-Economic Perspectives on Development**
James Angresano (Economics, Idaho)
Carmen Gonzalez (Seattle)
Philip Harvey (Economics and Law, Rutgers - Camden)
Demetri Kantarelis (Economics - Assumption College)
- 4:30 - 5:00 The Future of Socio-Economics**
Morris Altman (Economics, Saskatchewan, Editor - Journal of Socio-Economics), Robert Ashford (Syracuse), Bill Black (Missouri-Kansas City), June Carbone (Missouri - Kansas City) Anthony Cook (Georgetown), Lynne Dallas (San Diego), Roger Dennis (Provost, Rutgers), James Hackney Northeastern, Jeffrey Harrison (Florida), Phillip Harvey (Ph.D. Economics, Rutgers, Camden), Dennis Honnabach (Washburn) Emma Coleman Jordan (Georgetown), Charles Ogletree (Harvard), Donald Polden (Santa Clara), Robert Prash (Economics, Middlebury) Alfreda Robinson (George Washington) and Ed Rubin (Dean, Vanderbilt), Mark Sargent (Villanova), Emily Spieler (Northeastern), Kelley Testy (Seattle), and Charles Whalen (Economics, Labor and Employment Relations Association)

Georgetown Conference on Socio-Economics
Georgetown University Law Center
Saturday, January 6, 2007

(Endorsed by the AALS Sections on Socio-Economics and Poverty Law and
the Institute for Fraud Prevention)

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

12-00 - 1:15	Luncheon Address: Speaker to be announced.
1:15 - 2:00	Introductory Plenary: Socio-Economics and Economic Theory
2:10 - 4:20	Concurrent Sessions
4:30 - 5:30	Concluding Plenary: The Future of Socio-Economics
5:30 - 6:30	Reception

Continuing the tradition, members of the AALS Section on Socio-Economics and friends will hold the 2007 Georgetown Conference on Socio-Economics. Most of the participants at the AALS Section on Section-Economics Annual Meeting Program will also be participating at the Georgetown Conference along with others.

People interested in organizing session or participating in the program should contact Robert Ashford: rhashford@aol.com

PROGRAM

12-00 - 1:15	Luncheon Address: Speaker to be announced.
1:15 - 2:00	Introductory Plenary: Socio-Economics and Economic Theory
2:10 - 4:20	Concurrent Sessions
	(1) Race, Gender and Convergence Theory
	(2) Wealth Distribution and Economic Theory
	(3) Ecology and Economic Theory
	(4) Ethical Dimensions of Teaching Economic Issues
	(5) Fraud and Economic Theory
	(6) Corporate Governance, Fiduciary Duties and Social Responsibility
	(7) Telecommunications and the Internet, Race, Ethnicity, Language and Socio-Economics
4:30 - 5:30	Concluding Plenary: The Future of Socio-Economics
5:30 - 6:30	Reception

Georgetown Conference
on
Socio-Economics
Registration

\$ 60 in advance and \$75 on site. Registration includes continental breakfast, box lunch, mid-morning and afternoon refreshments.

To register, or for more information:

contact: Robert Ashford, Syracuse University College of Law, Tel (315) 677-4680; << rhashford@aol.com >>

Participants

(Partial Listing)

Morris Altman (Economics, Saskatchewan, Editor Journal of Socio-Economics), Robert Ashford (Syracuse), William Black (Criminology, Missouri-Kansas City), Paul Boudreaux (Stetson), June Carbone (Missouri - Kansas City) Susan Carle (American), Anthony Cook (Georgetown), Mitchell Crusto (Loyola - New Orleans), Lynne Dallas (San Diego), Keven Greene (Thomas Jefferson), James Hackney (Northeastern), Philip Harvey (Economics and Law, Rutgers - Camden), Dennis Honnabach (Washburn), Demetri Kantarelis (Economics, Assumption), Robert Prash (Economics, Middlebury), Alfreda Robinson (Associate Dean, George Washington), Catherine Sandoval (Santa Clara), Kelley Testy (Dean, Seattle), Charles Whalen (Labor and Employment Relations Association), Deleso Washington (Barry University)

**AALS Section on Socio-
Economics:
Founded in 1997**

Chair: Philip Harvey (Rutgers Camden);
Co-Chairs-Elect: Guido Calabresi (Yale) and
Robert Ashford (Syracuse).

Opinions expressed herein are not
necessarily those of the Section and do not
necessarily represent the position of the AALS.

Web Site for all Programs (1996-2006)
<< journaloflawandsocioeconomics.com >>

Socio-Economic References

1. Paul Stern, "The Socio-Economic Perspective and Its Institutional Prospects," *The Journal of Socio-Economics*, Volume 22, No. 1, 1993, pp. 1-11.
2. Richard Coughlin, "Whose Morality? Which Community? What Interests? Socio-Economic and Communitarian Perspectives," *The Journal of Socio-Economics*, Volume 25, 1996, pp. 135-55.
3. Robert Ashford, "Socio-Economics: What Is Its Place in Law Teaching?" *Wisconsin Law Review*, Volume 1997, p. 611-623.
4. Jeffrey L. Harrison, "Law and Socio-Economics," Volume 49, *Journal of Legal Education*, 224 (1999).
5. Richard E. Hattwick, "The Future Paradigm for Socio-Economics: A Call for Papers," Volume 28, *The Journal of Socio-Economics*, 1999, pp. 511-532.
6. Robert A. Solo, *The Philosophy of Science, and Economics* (1991) and *Economic Organizations and Social Systems* (2000).
7. Steve Keen, *Debunking Economics - The Naked Emperor of the Social Sciences* (2001).
8. Socio-Economics and Corporate Law Symposium: The New Corporate Social Responsibility, 76 *Tulane Law Rev.* 1187 (2002).
9. Symposium: Teaching Law and Socio-Economics 41 *San Diego Law Review* 1 (2004).
10. Lynne Dallas, *Law and Public Policy: A Socio-Economic Approach* (2004).

Definition of Socio-Economics

Socio-economics begins with the assumption that economics is not a self-contained system, but is embedded in society, polity, culture, and nature. Drawing upon economics, sociology, political science, psychology, anthropology, biology and other social and natural sciences, philosophy, history, law, management, and other disciplines, socio-economics regards competitive behavior as a subset of human behavior within a societal and natural context that both enables and constrains competition and cooperation. Rather than assume that the individual pursuit of self-interest automatically or generally tends toward an optimal allocation of resources, socio-economics assumes that societal sources of order are necessary for people and markets to function efficiently. Rather than assume that people act only rationally, or that they pursue only self-interest, socio-economics seeks to advance a more encompassing interdisciplinary understanding of economic behavior open to the assumption that individual choices are shaped not only by notions of rationality but also by emotions, social bonds, beliefs, expectations, and a sense of morality.

Socio-economics is both a positive and a normative science. It is dedicated to the empirical, reality testing approach to knowledge. It respects both inductive and deductive reasoning. But it also openly recognizes the policy relevance of teaching and research and seeks to be self-aware of its normative implications rather than maintaining the mantle of an exclusively positive science. Although it sees questions of value inextricably connected with individual and group economic choices, socio-economics does not entail a commitment to any one paradigm or ideological position, but is open to a range of thinking that treats economic behavior as involving the whole person and all facets of society within a continually evolving natural context.

Unique among interdisciplinary approaches, however, socio-economics recognizes the pervasive and powerful influence of the neoclassical paradigm on contemporary thought. Recognizing that people first adopt paradigms of thought and then perform their inductive, deductive, and empirical analyses, socio-economists seek to examine the assumptions of the neoclassical paradigm, develop a rigorous understanding of its limitations, improve upon its application, and develop alternative, perhaps complementary, approaches that are predictive, exemplary, and morally sound. With modest amendment, this description of socio-economics was the substance of the petition signed by more than one hundred twenty law professors from over fifty AALS member schools, to establish the AALS Section on Socio-Economics. It serves as the constitution of the Section.