

Fall-Winter 2013 Newsletter | Association for Social Economics

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ASE NEWS

1) Reminder: ASE at ASSA



If you are coming to Philadelphia, don't miss the plenary address by Martha Nussbaum on "*Capabilities and Social Justice: Why Economic s Needs Philosophy.*" The ASE theme for this year is exploring the relationships between law and social economics, with exciting sessions on 1) Gender, Law, and Social Economics; 2) Law and Social Economics: Foundations; 3) Law and Social Economics: Applications; 4) Overcoming Causes of Income Inequality and Fostering Economic and Social Stability; 5) Social Entrepreneurship: Maximizing Impact and Innovation; 6) The Environment, Law, and Social Economics; and 7) The Ethics and Economics of Corporation Governance, Finance, and the Great Recession. The program is on the AEA and ASE websites.

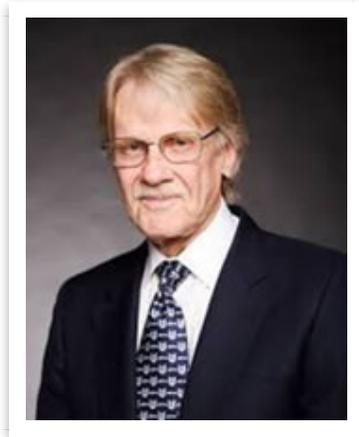
2) It's the most wonderful time of the year...

Please renew your membership in the Association for Social Economics for 2014 if you have not yet done so. If you are not yet a member, consider joining ASE. Your membership includes subscriptions to our two journals - the *Review of Social Economy* and the *Forum for Social Economics*. On-line links are provided to members to back issues of these journals and specific articles can be downloaded with no charge.

Renew your
membership now!

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

3) Vernon on Adam



The [latest issue](#) of *Forum for Social Economics* includes an open-access paper by Nobel Laureate Vernon Smith about Adam Smith. Adam Smith argued in *Moral Sentiments* that human sociability in close-knit groups is governed by the “propriety and fitness” of conduct based on sympathy. This non-utilitarian model provides new insights into the results of two-person experimental “trust” and other games that defied the predictions of traditional game theory in the 1980s and 1990s, and offers testable new predictions. Moreover, Smith shows how the civil order of “propriety” grew naturally out of the rules of propriety. Property together with what Vernon calls Smith’s Discovery Axiom enabled his breakthrough in *Wealth* that defined the liberal intellectual and practical foundation of two centuries of Western economic growth.

4) Recent Regional Conferences

Thanks to Aparna Mitra, an Associate Professor with the Department of Economics of the University of Oklahoma, ASE organized a session at the Missouri Valley Economic Association annual meeting on “Welfare and the State.” Aparna also organized two sessions for ASE at the Southern Economic Association annual meeting in Tampa, Florida. The first session was on “Social Opportunities and human development”, and the second on “Ethnicity, Gender, and Economic Development”.



Newsletter Interview Series

5) Jon Wisman

“Social economics can pursue the highest social expression of reason – open discourse as to the ends and goals that are worthy of pursuit.” The second installment in the ASE newsletter interview series features Jon Wisman from American University. Jon is a past President of the Association for Social E



conomics and he has received virtually all the awards the Association provides (the Helen Potter Award, the Ludwig Mai Service Award, and the Thomas F. Divine Award). Jon reflects on what distinguishes social economics from mainstream economics and why it matters today.

The interview is available [here](#).

6) Irene van Staveren

"Some of the main strengths of social economics lie in its interdisciplinarity, its engagement with ethics, and its welcoming of feminist scholarship." In the third installment of the ASE newsletter interview series, read what Irene van Staveren, a Professor of Pluralist Development Economics with Erasmus University Rotterdam and an ASE trustee, has to say about her experience with social economics, some of its strengths, and some of the challenges it faces today.

The interview is available [here](#).



7) Wolfram Elsner



"We are doing real-world economics and cutting-edge economic research is often based on earlier heterodox issues and questions." The fourth interview in the ASE newsletter interview series is with Wolfram Elsner, a Professor of Economics with the Institute for Institutional and Innovation Economics at the University Bremen in Germany and the managing editor of the *Forum for Social Economics*. If you are interested in the emergence of institutions as ways to solve social coordination problems and how these institutions may degenerate when they simply serve dominant ideologies, this one is for you.

The interview is available [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

8) Upcoming Regional Conferences

In pursuance of its long-standing tradition, ASE will be present at three upcoming regional conferences: (1) the Midwest Economics Association 79th Annual Meeting on March 21-23, 2014 in Evanston, Illinois (Chicago Area); (2) the 56th Annual Western Social Science Association conference on April 2-5, 2014 in Albuquerque, New Mexico; and (3) the Eastern Economic Association conference on March 6-9, 2014 in Boston, Massachusetts. While deadlines have passed to submit papers, please make sure you visit ASE colleagues if you are attending!



9) World Congress 2015



The World Congress Committee (Jonathan Wight, Mark White, Jane Clary, Robert LaJeunesse, Irene van Stavern, Carlo D'Ippoliti, Bruce Collier, and Elba Collier-Brown) have scheduled the next World Congress and the associated summer school in social economics for 2015. The committee is still looking for options in terms of location, but ideally the Congress would take place on the East Coast in the U.S. Please contact Jonathan Wight or Mark White if you have ideas and proposals for the Congress.

Please send us your prose! If you google "Association for Social Economics Newsletter", you may find a newsletter dating back to 1987. We revived the newsletter in the spring of 2013. If you would like to submit contents, please contact Quentin Wodon. The newsletter is published three times a year. Thank you.