Economics for An Imperfect World

A Conference for Joe Stiglitz’s 60th Birthday

Columbia University
October 24-25, 2003

This conference will look ahead to the challenges that economics and economic policy face in the first decades of this new century. Distinguished economists and policy makers will assemble to take stock of the lessons learned in the past 25 years, and to set an agenda of research and analysis for the next 25.

The conference is being held to mark the 60th birthday of Joe Stiglitz, the winner of the 2001 Nobel Prize in Economics, and the presentation to him of a Festchrift, “Economics for an Imperfect World: Essays in Honor of Joseph Stiglitz,” by his students, teachers and co-authors. The themes of the conference reflect Joe’s significant contributions to economic analysis and policy. There will be four sessions on economic analysis (“Imperfect Information”, “Macroeconomics”, “Public Economics” and “Development and Transition”) and two sessions on economic policy (“US Economic Policy” and “Managing Globalization”).

Program

October 24

8.30 Participants Assemble

9.00—9.30 Opening Session

9.30—11.00 Session I: Imperfect Information

Barry Nalebuff (Chair), Avinash Dixit, Kenneth Arrow, Michael Rothschild

11.00—11.30 Break
11.30—1.00  Session II: Macroeconomics

Bruce Greenwald (Chair), Edmund Phelps, Robert Solow, Mark Gertler

1.00—2.30  Lunch

2.30—4.00  Session III: Public Economics

Richard Arnott (Chair), Patrick Rey, Tony Atkinson, Eytan Sheshinski

4.00—4.30  Break

4.30—6.00  Session IV: Development and Transition

Ravi Kanbur (Chair), Philippe Aghion, Timothy Besley, Dani Rodrik

7.30  Conference Dinner (by invitation)

Speakers: Rick Levin and others

October 25

9.00—10.30  Session V: US Economic Policy

Alan Blinder (Chair), Alicia Munnell, Jamie Galbraith, Jeffrey Frankel

10.30—11.00  Break

11.00—12.30  Session VI: Managing Globalization

Jeffrey Sachs (Chair), George Soros, Eisuke Sakakibara, Jagdish Bhagwati, Juan Somavia

12.30—1.00  Closing Comments

Speaker: Joseph Stiglitz