



# IAREP

International Association  
for Research in  
Economic Psychology

## Newsletter May 2008

The IAREP Newsletter is issued by the International Association for Research in Economic Psychology / Association Internationale de Recherche en Psychologie Economique, as an announcement bulletin for its members.

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Please use editor's e-mail to submit contributions.

### Table of Contents

Editorial .....	3
From the President's Chair .....	3
Call for nominations .....	3
Call for papers: 2008 Joint IAREP and SABE Conference Rome 2008 .....	3
Call for papers: Elsevier/ IAREP/SABE Best Student Paper Competition 2008 .....	4
Workshop announcement and call for papers: Colloquium Financial Capability .....	4
Workshop announcement: "What is the behavioral in behavioral economics?" .....	5
Other Issues .....	6

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The website is: <http://www.iarep.org/>

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## Editorial

*Erik Hoelzl*

Dear IAREP members,

I really look forward to seeing many of you in Rome this September. I am sure it will be an excellent conference in a fantastic city. It being a joint IAREP/SABE conference, we can look forward to a fruitful interdisciplinary exchange of ideas - so don't miss it. Please also consider the student paper competition, and encourage young colleagues to participate.

With best wishes,  
Erik Hoelzl

## From the President's Chair

*Simon Kemp*

I have never been to Rome and am looking forward to it a lot, as are my wife, daughter, daughter's boyfriend, and possibly my daughter's boyfriend's cat (who seems to have heard of i gatti di Roma). And the conference promises to be excellent as well.

Hope to see you there.

Simon

## Call for nominations

At the General Assembly in Rome, we need to elect a new president-elect, a new treasurer and a new secretary. We currently have the following nominations:

- President-elect: Alan Lewis
- Treasurer: Rob Ranyard
- Secretary: Ofer Azar

All nominees have agreed to accept the nomination.

If you want to nominate additional candidates, please send an email to [erik.hoelzl@univie.ac.at](mailto:erik.hoelzl@univie.ac.at) before July 15th, 2008.

## Call for papers: 2008 Joint IAREP and SABE Conference Rome 2008

*September 3rd – 7th, 2008*

*ECONOMICS and PSYCHOLOGY:  
METHODS AND SYNERGIES*

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The 2008 Joint IAREP and SABE Conference will be held in Rome at LUISS – a small private university in a pleasant location in a wonderful city. The conference will include the fifth Kahneman lecture, and we are glad to announce that **Alvin Roth**, George Gund Professor of Economics and George Gund Professor of Economics and Business Administration at Harvard University, will deliver it. Stefano Della Vigna will present the Up and Coming Bright Young Thing lecture. And we are delighted to announce that Jack Knetsch will give the Herbert Simon lecture.

**Submissions** for the conference are now open, through the conference site. Single papers as well as symposium sessions or workshops may be submitted. Abstracts for all papers must be submitted through the conference website by **the end of May 2008**. Individual papers or posters, and proposals for specific sessions or workshops may be on any subject within Economic Psychology and Behavioural Economics. As is traditional, there is a theme of the conference; **economics and psychology: methods and synergies**. We believe that both disciplines have much to learn from each other, and we particularly welcome submissions connected with methodology – both practical and philosophical, concerning both data collection and data analysis. Submissions, however, do not need to be strictly within this theme. On the website of the Conference all information will be given, as well as the titles of planned or submitted symposia. Informative abstracts (300 to 500 words) should be submitted through the conference website [www.luiss.it/iarep2008](http://www.luiss.it/iarep2008).

A Scientific Committee headed by John Hey and Simon Kemp will review the abstracts. The criteria for review are: theoretical and practical impact, empirical and theoretical basis, clarity of ideas and structure. Original, not yet published works are preferred. Authors will be notified by the end of June 2008 whether their paper has been accepted. Full texts of accepted papers will be included in the CD of the Conference Proceedings if received by August 15th and if the registration fee has been paid by the end of June. For further information, and regular updates about the conference arrangements, please see the same website (<http://www.luiss.it/iarep2008>). You can always contact either the organizing committee ([iarep2008@luiss.it](mailto:iarep2008@luiss.it)) or one of us ([jdhl@york.ac.uk](mailto:jdhl@york.ac.uk) or [ddicagno@luiss.it](mailto:ddicagno@luiss.it)) by email. We are looking forward to meet you in Rome.

John Hey  
Daniela Di Cagno

## Call for papers: Elsevier/ IAREP/SABE Best Student Paper Competition 2008

For information on the 2008 joint IAREP/SABE meeting taking place in Rome refer to: <http://www.luiss.it/iarep2008/homepage.php>

Since at least 1984, IAREP has offered a prize for the best paper by a student submitted for inclusion in the programme of its annual conference. Such a prize has also been offered for the IAREP/SABE joint meetings. This prize is generously sponsored by Elsevier Scientific, the publishers of the Journal of Economic Psychology and the Journal of Socio-Economics. The winner of the Elsevier/IAREP/SABE Best Student Paper Competition for 2008 will receive:

- A year's subscription to the Journal of Economic Psychology
- A year's subscription to the Journal of Socio-Economics
- 1000 Euro

The second and third place winner will receive a year's subscription to both journals. The current rules for the competition are:

- Papers may be in any field of economic psychology/ behavioural economics.
- The first author of the paper must be a student and the paper should be written in English.
- The paper has to be accepted for oral or poster presentation at the conference.
- The paper should be limited to the length allowed for full papers at the conference, and should be submitted in the format requested.
- The panel will judge the papers using the following criteria: (a) interest of subject area; (b) quality of research; and (c) quality of writing.
- Please note that abstracts and papers need to be submitted to the conference organisers as well, following the guidelines announced in the general call for papers.

This competition is judged by a prize committee of senior members of IAREP and SABE consisting of:

- Morris Altman (University of Saskatchewan, Canada)
- Shabnam Mousavi (Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin & Pennsylvania State University, University Park)
- Guido Ortona (Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy)
- Marko Polic (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia)

The deadline for abstract submission for the conference will be May 30, 2008; the deadline for full paper submission will be July 15th, 2008. This is also the deadline for submitting papers to the student paper competition. To participate in the competition, you need to send your paper according to the above guidelines via email to: Morris Altman ([Morris.altman@usask.ca](mailto:Morris.altman@usask.ca)) until **July 15th, 2008**.

## Workshop announcement and call for papers: Colloquium Financial Capability

*Wageningen, December 11-13, 2008*

Financial capability and household financial management is a popular topic in economics and other social-scientific research, including behavioral finance and economic psychology. The colloquium is an attempt at integrating the findings of this research and to learn from the participants. You are cordially invited to participate in the colloquium.

### *Organization*

The colloquium will be organized by the chair group of Economics of Consumers and Households (ECH) of Wageningen University, the Netherlands, in collaboration with the International Association for Research in Economic Psychology (IAREP) and CentiQ, a Dutch group of institutions aiming at improving consumer financial decision making. The colloquium will take place 11-13 December 2008 at the hotel and congress center WICC at Wageningen (<http://www.wicc.nl/>), at about an hour distance from Schiphol Airport, Amsterdam.

Three keynote addresses have been scheduled:

1. Arie Kapteyn, Program Director Labor & Population of the RAND Corporation in Santa Monica;
2. Sumit Agarwal, Research Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago;
3. to be announced.

The colloquium will consist of plenary sessions of about 25 presenters and other participants. Table 1 shows the preliminary program.

### *Deadline for submission*

If you wish to participate, please let us know as soon as possible but no later than September 6, 2008. We would appreciate having your full paper for discussion and to be included in the materials no later than November 15, 2008.

### *Costs*

Please, book your hotel room directly with WICC, **mentioning ECH**. Rooms will be held until 1 October 2008. There are no registration costs for the symposium, except the IAREP fee.

Since this is an IAREP workshop, IAREP fee for 2009 needs to be collected from participants who have not yet paid it. The membership fee, which is 100 Euro, includes one year's subscription to the Journal of Economic Psychology. Please, pay the fee in advance by contacting IAREP's administrative officer: Fiona Neligan (Details and registration form can be found at <http://www.iarep.org/>).

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## Preliminary program

	<b>Thursday 11 December</b>
12:30 – 13:30 hrs.	Registration
13:30 – 15:15 hrs.	Welcome and opening session Keynote address
15:15 – 15:45 hrs.	Coffee break
15:45 – 18:00 hrs.	Presentations
19:30 hrs.	Dinner at WICC
	<b>Friday 12 December</b>
9:30 – 10:15 hrs.	Keynote address
10:15 – 10:30 hrs.	Coffee break
10:30 – 12:30 hrs.	Presentations
12:30 – 13:30 hrs.	Lunch
13:30 – 15:15 hrs.	Presentations
15:15 – 15:45 hrs.	Coffee break
15:45 – 18:00 hrs.	Presentations
19:30 hrs.	Dinner in Wageningen
	<b>Saturday 7 december</b>
9:30 – 10:15 hrs.	Keynote address
10:15 – 10:30 hrs.	Coffee break
10:30 – 12:30 hrs.	Presentations
12:30 – 13:30 hrs.	Lunch

## Workshop announcement: “What is the behavioral in behavioral economics?”

Trento (Italy), June 5-6, 2008

Co-organized by

CEEL *Computable and Experimental Economics Laboratory of the University of Trento* and

ALEX *Experimental and Simulative Economics Laboratory of the University of Piemonte Orientale*

Behavioral economics aims at increasing the realism of economic theory by incorporating psychological insights into economic models. However, behavioral economics does not call for a rejection of the neoclassical concepts of utility maximization, equilibrium, and efficiency but promotes an extension of the motivational scope of economic agents. Methodologically, it also promotes the integration of different kinds of evidence in the traditional toolbox of neoclassical economics.

In asking “What does *behavioral* mean in behavioral economics?” the workshop will provide an opportunity to take stock and critically reflect on the approaches and methods of behavioral analysis. The workshop aims at providing a forum for a constructive debate about recent developments in the behavioral approach to economic reasoning. Among the questions that we would like to address are the following:

- What is the role of theory in behavioral economics? In what sense, if any, can experimentation provide knowledge that is partly independent of theoretical understanding?
- Should behavioral economists depart more radically from the standard modeling techniques of neoclassical economics?
- Can economics retain a distinctive methodological and disciplinary profile, or will it eventually merge with neighboring disciplines like cognitive science and evolutionary biology?
- How do behavioral and neurophysiological data jointly contribute to our understanding of behavioral and decision processes?
- What is the place of evolutionary theory in behavioral economics?
- Are standard methodological conventions – such as statistical significance levels, monetary incentives, anonymity – overall adequate, or do they hinder the development of behavioral economics?
- How do field data complement laboratory evidence and help in the application of economic models?
- What is (or can be) the contribution of behavioral economics to mechanism design and policy-making?

Although the focus of the workshop is primarily methodological, we welcome papers that use empirical data or formal theoretical models to illustrate or substantiate a general philosophical argument or thesis.

### Keynote

The workshop will include a keynote address by **Werner Güth** (Max Planck Institute of Economics, Jena).

### Ending Session

The workshop will end with a round table discussion with the keynote speaker, the workshop presenters, and other invited participants.

### Submission invitation

Papers related to any area of behavioral economics are invited for the workshop. Theoretical, empirical, and experimental contributions are welcome.

There will be no parallel sessions. 10 to 15 papers will be accepted.

### Submission Items and Deadlines

Extended abstracts of proposed papers will be evaluated for inclusion on the workshop program.

Extended abstracts (of no more than 2 pages) should be sent by **April 30<sup>th</sup>**, 2008 to the organizing committee

at the following address: [wbetn@economia.unitn.it](mailto:wbetn@economia.unitn.it). Notification of acceptance or other dispositions will be given by **May 10th**, 2008.

### *Publication in a special issue of the Journal of Socio Economics*

Selected papers will be invited to submit a full paper for a special issue of the Journal of Socio Economics devoted to the outcomes of the workshop. The special issue papers will be refereed in the same manner as regular submissions. The Scientific Committee will suggest additional referees to the Editor who arranges the refereeing and review process.

When sending your extended abstract, please indicate in the email whether you intend to submit the paper, if selected, for publication in the special issue of the Journal of Socio Economics.

Manuscripts submitted for the special issue must not currently be under review, accepted for publication, or published elsewhere.

### *Scientific Committee*

- *Luigi Mittone* (University of Trento)
- *Guido Ortona* (University of Piemonte Orientale)
- *Francesco Guala* (University of Exeter)
- *Matteo Ploner* (University of Trento)

### *Location*

The conference will be held at the Conference Center Panorama, Sardagna (Trento). It is located on a rocky spur at about 560 meters above sea level. The place is quiet and isolated, but very close to the town center, which can be reached by cable car (about 5 min.) or by car/bus (about 20 min.).

### *Accommodation*

It will be possible to book a room at the Conference Center Panorama:

- Single room: € 30
- Double room: € 50
- Apartment (3 beds): € 70

Prices are per room (or apartment) per night, including breakfast. Every room is endowed with bathroom, telephone, TV, Internet connection, frigobar, and independent heating.

Alternatively, it will be possible to get a discount reservation in hotels in the city center that have an arrangement with the University of Trento (a list of these hotels can be found on the Workshop Website).

### *Registration and more information*

Please consult the Website: [http://www-ceel.economia.unitn.it/](http://www.ceel.economia.unitn.it/) or contact

Dominique Cappelletti  
Phone: +39 0461 882302  
Fax: +39 0461 882335  
Email: [d.cappelletti.2@email.unitn.it](mailto:d.cappelletti.2@email.unitn.it)

## Other Issues

### *SJDM 2008 Annual Meeting*

The Society for Judgment and Decision Making (SJDM) invites abstracts for symposia, oral presentations, and posters on any interesting topic related to judgment and decision making. Completed manuscripts are not required.

#### LOCATION, DATES, AND PROGRAM

SJDM's annual conference will be held at the Chicago Hilton in Chicago, IL during November 15-17, 2008. Early registration and welcome reception will take place the evening of Friday, November 14.

Following the format established in the last few years, the schedule includes a full day on Saturday to make room for more presentations and for two keynote speakers.

#### SUBMISSIONS

The deadline for submissions is June 15, 2008. Submissions for symposia, oral presentations, and posters should be made through the SJDM website at <http://sql.sjdm.org>. Technical questions can be addressed to the webmaster, Alan Schwartz, at [www@sjdm.org](mailto:www@sjdm.org). All other questions can be addressed to the program chair, (also) Alan Schwartz, at [alansz@uic.edu](mailto:alansz@uic.edu).

#### ELIGIBILITY

At least one author of each presentation must be a member of SJDM. Joining at the time of submission will satisfy this requirement. A membership form may be downloaded from the SJDM website at <http://www.sjdm.org>.

An individual may give only one talk (podium presentation) and present only one poster, but may be a co-author on multiple talks and/or posters.

#### AWARDS

The Best Student Poster Award is given for the best poster presentation whose first author is a student member of SJDM.

The Hillel Einhorn New Investigator Award is intended to encourage outstanding work by new researchers. Applications are due July 1, 2008. Further details are available at <http://www.sjdm.org>.

The Jane Beattie Memorial Fund subsidizes travel to North America for a foreign scholar in pursuits related to judgment and decision research, including attendance at the annual SJDM meeting. Information and an application form can be found at <http://faculty.chicagogsb.edu/joshua.klayman/more/Beat tieInfo07.htm>.

Applications are due by July 16, 2008.

#### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Alan Schwartz (Chair), George Wu, Melissa Finucane, Craig McKenzie, Yuval Rottenstreich, Michel Regenwetter, Gal Zauberman, Michael Birnbaum (SJDM president), Julie Downs (Conference Coordinator)

## *7th TIBER symposium on psychology and economics*

TIBER, the Tilburg Institute for Behavioral Economics Research is happy to announce the 7<sup>th</sup> **Tiber Symposium on Psychology and Economics**, to be held on August 29, 2008.

The symposium aims to bring together Economists, Psychologists, Marketing researchers and others who work on Behavioral Decision Making, either in individual or interdependent settings. The symposium will be held at Tilburg University and consists of two keynotes and a number of parallel sessions with presentations of about 20-30 minutes. The keynote speakers for 2008 will be announced later, the previous keynotes were:

2002 Jack Knetsch & Rick Larrick

2003 Ernst Fehr & Elke Weber

2004 Chris Starmer & Paul van Lange

2005 Tom Gilovich & Uri Gneezy

2006 Werner Güth & Daniel Kahneman

2007 Ravi Dhar & Urs Fischbacher

The goal of this series of symposia is to establish contact and discussion between researchers of the different fields. We look for empirical contributions from the diverse fields, such as Individual Decision Making, Consumer Behavior, Bargaining, Social Dilemmas, Experimental Games, Emotions, Fairness and Justice, Rational Choice and related subjects.

### CALL FOR PAPERS

If you would like to contribute to this symposium by presenting a paper, we ask you to send an abstract of ± 300 words to Niels van de Ven (by email or regular post at the address below). On the basis of these abstracts we will select speakers for the symposium. We will let you know mid June whether or not you have been selected to present.

### TIIMEPATH SYMPOSIUM

1<sup>st</sup> of April Call for papers

8<sup>th</sup> of June deadline for submission of abstracts

Mid June Selection of speakers

15<sup>th</sup> of August Normal registration deadline

29<sup>th</sup> of August Symposium at Tilburg University

More information about the program of the symposium and the keynote speakers, as well as the location of the symposium and the registration forms is or will be available at

<http://www.tilburguniversity.nl/faculties/fsw/research/decisionmaking/>

## *1) Society of Neuroeconomics ([www.neuroeconomics.org](http://www.neuroeconomics.org)) Annual Meeting<sup>1</sup>*

Dates: September 25-28, 2008

Place: The Canyons, Park City Utah

<sup>1</sup> Many thanks to Harold Zullo for providing these items.

### Abstract Deadlines

Abstract submission: May 30

Abstract withdrawal: August 1

Change in submitted abstract: September 12

This info and registration fee amounts are now posted on our website, [www.neuroeconomics.org](http://www.neuroeconomics.org). Registration will open soon!

The Society for Neuroeconomics invites submission of research abstracts for its 2008 annual meeting in Park City Utah. Abstracts are encouraged from any area of neuroeconomic research. Abstracts can be for either a poster or a 30-minute slide presentation, and those requesting slide presentations will be evaluated for suitability and chosen by the Program Committee. Notification of acceptance or non-acceptance will be emailed to the submitting author by early July.

You may submit your abstract online by uploading it in Word or pdf format at <http://www.neuroeconomics.org/conference/2008-abstract-submission>.

Abstracts must include title, authors (with presenting author listed first), institutions, and abstract text. Contact information for corresponding author and a link to the paper, if available, is recommended. Abstracts must be no longer than 1 page, single spaced, with 1" margins. Abstracts longer than 1 page will be returned to the submitting author for editing and must be resubmitted by the abstract deadline or will not be accepted. Abstracts will be printed exactly as uploaded with no further editing. There is a Word template in the preferred font and format downloadable at the submission link above.

To qualify for abstract submission, you must be a member in good standing with your 2007-2008 dues paid by the time of abstract submission. You can find membership and payment information or pay your membership dues at <http://www.neuroeconomics.org/membership>.

## *2) National Institutes of Health funding announcement for the Science of Behavior Change, including behavioral economics and neuroeconomics: Science of Behavior Change*

### Overview

Behavior change is critical to addressing many health risks; at least 40% of all preventable premature deaths are due to specific patterns of behavior. Notable among health-injuring behaviors are smoking, drinking, drug abuse, and risky sex. The dangerous effects of inactivity, poor diet, and chronically stressful environments are now also widely appreciated. In addition, people are often unable or unwilling to adhere to medically prescribed treatments and preventative behavioral regimens for a wide variety of conditions including diabetes, hypertension, drug addiction, and HIV/AIDS. Behavioral interventions to address many

health issues have favorable side effect profiles and can complement other treatments, but the mechanisms of change are not understood, and the resulting behavior change is often not maintained. More generally, it is difficult for people to initiate behavior change, even when they intend to do so, and it is even more difficult to maintain behavior change over time. Furthermore, most health behavior change occurs outside the context of professional interventions. Concepts we often describe using the terms "willpower" and "self-control" are important, but the mechanisms underlying these concepts are not clear. It is clear, however, that breakthroughs in the science of behavior change could lead to substantial improvements in public health.

The NIH has long supported research addressing specific problem behaviors that are relevant to the missions of various institutes. It has also supported research in emerging basic biobehavioral science. These studies, including work in cognitive and affective neuroscience, neuroeconomics, behavioral genetics, and behavioral economics including the use of default approaches, are increasingly relevant to our understanding of how to effect positive behavior change. Researchers in the field of behavior change, however, often work on disease- or condition-specific problems in relative isolation. In addition, the application of emerging and basic science to problems in behavior change has sometimes been slow. Further, some fundamental work on behavior change may have broad relevance to NIH but there is no close match with the interests of any one institute or center. NIH is uniquely poised to facilitate a unified science of behavior change, with the goals of decreasing isolation, increasing the adoption of exciting new science, and linking basic and applied behavioral science, in order to produce potent behavior change interventions to improve the public health.

The purpose of this Roadmap Pilot is to establish the groundwork for a unified science of behavior change that capitalizes on both the emerging basic science and the progress already made in the design of behavioral interventions in specific disease areas. By focusing basic research on the initiation, personalization, and maintenance of behavior change, and by integrating work across disciplines, this Roadmap effort and subsequent trans-NIH activity could lead to an improved understanding of the underlying principles of behavior change. This should drive a transformative increase in the efficacy, effectiveness, and (cost) efficiency of many behavioral interventions.

The scientific challenges in developing an integrated science of behavior change are daunting. Foundational work is needed before more definitive work is likely to be productive. The Pilot will include a series of trans-NIH conferences on behavior change that will bring together a broad range of basic and behavioral scientists, economists, quantitative and informatics experts, and others. The purpose of the conferences will be to share findings, identify common concepts and approaches across conditions, and identify the most

feasible, promising, and innovative lines of interdisciplinary research for further developing the science of behavior change. Individual conferences will focus on topics including issues related to the initiation and personalization of behavior change, maintaining behavior change and fostering adherence, and translating behavior change efforts from the laboratory and the clinic to the world at large. Discussions will be held with the National Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Medicine about a parallel NAS-IOM study of trends in the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of past and ongoing behavior change interventions. Building on the conclusions and results of these efforts, the NIH will then support exploratory and interdisciplinary research applying new emerging science to the general problems of the initiation, personalization, and maintenance of behavior change.

The results of this pilot will be used both to assess what larger scale Roadmap activities in the science of behavior change will be most productive and to ensure that an interdisciplinary scientific community is prepared to undertake the transformative research on behavior change that will be required.

The URL for the NIH Roadmap Web site is [nihroadmap.nih.gov](http://nihroadmap.nih.gov). Support for the NIH Roadmap is provided by the NIH Common Fund, and teams of staff across the NIH direct and oversee each initiative. Scientists who wish to discuss opportunities related to this initiative should contact one of the project team leaders, (Dr. Richard Suzman or Dr. Jonathan King; [behavior\\_change@nih.gov](mailto:behavior_change@nih.gov)). For information about the role of the Office of Portfolio Analysis and Strategic Initiatives (OPASI) in this program, contact Dr. Mary Perry, OPASI Program Director ([perryrna@mail.nih.gov](mailto:perryrna@mail.nih.gov)).

Further information about the NIH can be found at its Web site: [www.nih.gov](http://www.nih.gov) <http://www.nih.gov>.

### *3) New policy research journal and blog for which economic psychologists may have contributions:*

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for giving the Review of Policy Research (RPR) a boost with your many contributions including articles, referee reviews, and many other kinds of valuable input.

I write to encourage you to keep sending us your contributions and also to call attention to our newly launched RPR Blog. Take a look: <http://rprjournalblog.wordpress.com/>

The blog allows us to continue our deliberations – in an interactive fashion – beyond the articles published in the journal. Here is a summary of two important blog features and recent entries:

Policy debates: Stacy Van De Veer and Dorothy Daley have posted entries on the policy issues arising from their articles on climate change and citizen participation respectively. Please see comments (including posts from

George Gonzalez and Mark Lubell) on possible implications. Francesco Amoretti has also started a discussion thread on e-dependency in developing countries.

If you would like to start a policy thread of your own or respond to those that already exist, we encourage you to do so.

I look forward to hearing from you about our Blog and reading your submissions. I believe science, technology and environmental issues to be the salient transformational issues of our times and the journal/blog debates are important components.

I'd also like to thank Katy Calbreath, our Blog Editor, for designing and launching the RPR Blog. If you have any comments for Katy, please e-mail her at: rprjournal@gmail.com

Best wishes,

J. P. Singh, Editor; Review of Policy Research Chair; Science, Technology and Environmental Politics Section

#### ***4) New York Academy of Sciences announcement of new Scientists Without Borders initiative, aimed at developing nations:***

May 13 New York Academy of Sciences announcement  
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Last night, the New York Academy of Sciences hosted a kickoff event for our new initiative, Scientists Without BordersSM. Joining us were some of the world's top scientists, policymakers, NGOs, companies and foundations, all of whom share a strong desire to harness the power of science to make a difference in people's lives.

Their dedication enhances an initiative whose advisory council already includes, among others, Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University; Zhu Chen, China's Minister of Health; Alice Dautry, Director General of the Pasteur Institute; and Mohamed Hassan, President of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World.

Scientists Without Borders is a new initiative that will link and mobilize institutions and people who apply science to improve lives and livelihoods in developing countries. Whether exploring low-cost green energy technologies, improving strategies for sustainable agriculture, or developing tools to prevent and treat disease, science builds knowledge that advances global efforts to enhance health and prosperity. These objectives are at the heart of the UN Millennium Development Goals, which guide the new initiative's mission.

Conceived by the Academy and the United Nations Millennium Project, Scientists Without Borders' first project is a web site whose cornerstone is a simple yet powerful database that offers new opportunities for international collaboration. New members enter their details and those of their projects. An easy-to-use interface and comprehensive search tool then allows

individuals and organizations to quickly locate potential partners, match needs with resources, and discover who is doing what where.

Scientists Without Borders is now live, and we invite individuals and organizations to add their information to the database. Together, we can make the site a unique resource for the entire global community.

We urge you to visit the site, explore this exciting new tool for collaboration, enter your information, and use the database's invitation function to invite others to join. We also encourage your feedback—Scientists Without Borders belongs to its members. The site can be found at: <http://scientistswithoutborders.nyas.org>.

Through your support, Scientists Without Borders can dramatically enhance global scientific collaboration to the benefit of all of the world's citizens.

Sincerely,

Ellis Rubinstein, Scientists Without BordersSM  
Advisory Council Chair,

President of the New York Academy of Sciences

Evelyn Strauss, PhD, Executive Director, Scientists Without BordersSM

#### ***5) Conference to mark the 40th anniversary of Garrett Hardin's "The Tragedy of the Commons":***

The Adrian College (Michigan) Policy Institute will host "The Tragedy of the Commons" 40th Anniversary Retrospective Symposium on Friday, Nov. 21, 2008. This is an interdisciplinary symposium drawing panelists from Political Science, Biology, Environmental Policy, and Mathematics, to discuss Hardin's seminal article, and the status of commons problems 40 years later.

Panelists will include political scientist Elinor Ostrom (Indiana University), mathematician J. Marty Anderies (Arizona State University), political scientist Harlan Wilson (Oberlin College) and biologist (and friend of Hardin) Carl Bajmea (Grand Valley State University). Other panelists are being recruited.

Attendance is limited to 40 registrants. Registration will be \$45, and includes lunch, dinner, and one night's lodging. The Symposium website is [http://www.adrian.edu/academics/policy\\_institute/commons.php](http://www.adrian.edu/academics/policy_institute/commons.php). We hope to have registration beginning on July 15.

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