



EDITORIAL INTRODUCTION

The June 2000 issue of the *Journal of the History of Economic Thought* commences what we hope will become an annual tradition: the publication of selected papers from the annual conference of the History of Economics Society. For the past thirteen years, the Society, first in conjunction with Edward Elgar Publishing and more recently with Routledge, has published an annual, hard-cover volume, edited by the President of the Society, containing papers selected from those presented at the conference. With the 1998 decision to move to a quarterly publication schedule for *JHET*, the Society and the Editor thought it useful to devote an issue to papers from the conference.

Each year, the June issue of *JHET* will contain the Presidential Address that was delivered at the previous year's conference, as well as a number of papers that were presented at the conference. Those who present papers at each year's conference are invited to submit their papers to the Editor of *JHET* for consideration for publication in this issue. All papers submitted for inclusion in the June issue go through the normal refereeing process, so it is essential that papers are submitted in a timely manner, which means as soon as possible after the conference.

Last year's conference, the 26th in the Society's history, was hosted by President-elect Bruce Caldwell in Greensboro, North Carolina, on June 25–28, 1999. The conference theme was "Alternative Conceptions of Economics at Century's End." President David Colander gave his Presidential Address, "The Death of Neoclassical Economics," on Sunday evening. It should be noted that (as evidenced here) the topic of the presidential address need not be related to the conference theme. This is because the President-elect picks the conference theme, while the President chooses the theme of the address.

The papers in the current volume were selected from among those submitted to the *JHET* Editor Steve Medema and President Bruce Caldwell following the conference. As noted above, all were subjected to the same referee process as is used for any other paper submitted to *JHET*. Some, but not all, fit in with the conference theme of "Alternative Conceptions of Economics"—reflective of the fact that congruence with the conference theme is neither a necessary nor a sufficient condition for inclusion in the conference volume. But we hope you will agree that all are fine additions to the various literatures to which they contribute.

Steven G. Medema
Editor, *JHET*

Bruce Caldwell
President, *HES*