

Proposal: Arizona State University Winter Institute for the History of Economic Thought

To: History of Economics Society (HES) New Initiatives Fund and Executive Committees

From:

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Project Narrative

Background:

The Summer Institute for the History of Economic Thought was for many years a vital event for historians of economics. Organized by David Levy and Sandra Peart, the Institute was held at George Mason University in its early years and, later, at the University of Richmond. Levy and Peart's Institute brought together scholars from across scientific and ideological divides for a fun and intellectually challenging weekend exploring a range of topics related to the history of economics. The Summer Institute provided a unique forum where both senior and junior scholars could present new work to eminent historians, methodologists, and even the occasional Nobel laureate (James Buchanan). The fifteenth and, unfortunately, last Institute was held in 2015.

Several fruitless discussions about recreating the Institute have occurred. Beyond the obvious and significant problem of funding, these discussions floundered on the question of location: there simply are not many centers of scholarly inquiry into the history of economics in North America (that do not already run their own summer events; see the HOPE Center at Duke University) that also make pleasant destinations for summer travel.

A New Location. A New Season:

While there are few potential summer destinations north of Hell less pleasant than the metropolitan region of Phoenix, Arizona, there is a window between Halloween and Easter when southern Arizona is a rather nice place to be. *We propose to remake the Summer Institute as a Winter Institute, to be held annually on the ASU campus in Tempe, Arizona, beginning the winter of 2019/2020.*

A distinctive feature of Arizona State University's innovative academic structure is its grouping of faculty research and teaching responsibilities around problems rather than disciplines. One result is that there are more faculty/graduate students interested in the history of economics at ASU than there would if they were all concentrated in the university's economics department. The participants in this proposal reflect that diversity. Tyler DesRoches is a philosopher located in the School of Sustainability (Tempe campus). Scott Scheall is also a philosopher, directing and teaching in a graduate program on science, technology and society in the College of Integrative Sciences and Arts (Polytechnic campus). Ross Emmett is a historian of economics, and serves as Director of CSEL, sharing space with the Department of Economics (Tempe). Ross' professorial appointment is in SCETL. All three of us are active in teaching and research related to the history and philosophy of economics. The three of us form a strong leadership foundation for the Winter Institute, and CSEL will provide the administrative support.

Other ASU faculty with related research interests include Peter McNamara, a political theorist in SCETL who teaches the history of economics; Edward Schlee, an economist who regularly publishes in the history of micro theory (often with Ali Khan, a regular participant in the former Summer Institute); Chris Jones, a historian whose work is on the history of economic growth theories and energy economics; Jonathan Barth, another historian, this time on money and banking; and Bradley Ryner, English professor researching English drama and mercantile writing. The presence of a strong contingent of sustainability scholars and others interested in the

work of Elinor Ostrom, who was to retire to ASU before her untimely death, also raises the possibility of attracting research on the history of Ostrom's (and related) work. And, of course, Nobel laureate Edward Prescott may attract research presentations related to the history of recent macro-economics.

The role of CSEL in providing research, administrative, and eventually financial support for the Winter Institute is crucial to its long-term viability. The Center's research and public event activities related to the history of economics will continue to expand over the next several years. But the basics are already in place. A summer 2018 reading/research fellowship program for faculty and graduate students that included a history of economics component will be repeated. Peter Galbacs, working on Robert Lucas and Chicago macro, is a Fulbright Scholar working with Ross; faculty/grad student/guest fellowships will become available soon. Several of the CSEL public lectures are related to the history of economics (upcoming lectures on economic liberty in Marx, Hayek/Keynes, and JS Mill, for example). A research workshop will start in Spring 2019, and be open to history of economics scholarship. And the Center will host the winter 2021 Voluntary Governance Conference, which often features research on the relationship of public choice and constitutional political economy to the Tocquevillian/Ostromian traditions. The Winter Institute will provide a focal point of external interest for CSEL's developing programs in the history of economics.

The Plan for the Winter Institute

The old Summer Institute had a lasting impact on the field. The ASU Winter Institute can have a similar impact by providing a significant forum for dissemination of work and discussion among historians and methodologists of economics. We plan to follow the Levy-Peart model as far as possible. There will be no *a priori* restrictions – methodological, historiographical, theoretical, or ideological – on the papers accepted. Quality and potential impact on the field will be the relevant criteria. Young scholars will be given opportunity to present their work alongside senior scholars. The sessions will be video-recorded and online access provided. We plan to provide accommodation for several scholars to attend as audience participants rather than as presenters. Indeed, we hope to invite Nobel laureates like Ed Prescott and Vernon Smith (in southern California). Thus, we expect the Winter Institute to compensate for the felt loss of the Levy-Peart Summer Institute.

The workshop will occupy two complete days. Twenty participants will be invited: twelve authors to present their papers, and eight scholars to participate as audience members. Six of the presentation spots will be dedicated to younger scholars no more than two years beyond completion of their doctorates; six will be allotted to senior scholars, including “legacy scholars” like David Levy, Sandra Peart and others. Additional participants who wish to attend the event at their own expense will be welcome.

The budget for the Winter Institute is provided at the end of this document. We estimate that the Institute will cost approximately \$31,000 every year. The School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership (SCETL), one of CSEL's two programmatic homes, has offered to provide \$15,000 per year for the next three years toward that budget. During that time, CSEL will seek to incorporate the Winter Institute into its regular annual series of events to be funded

by university, foundation, and donor support. We also hope to maintain a relationship with the Society beyond the first Institute.

Funding Request

We seek \$16,000 from the History of Economics Society New Initiatives Fund in support of the Winter Institute for the History of Economic Thought. These funds will support the initial Winter Institute, to be held in January/February 2020 at Arizona State University. We will provide a report on the plan for the first Institute at the December 2019 HES executive committee meeting, as well as plans and budget details for future Institutes.

The Society's funding will cover the cost of honoraria for participants and most of the food budget (catering and closing dinner). The remainder will be funded by SCETL and CSEL.

Budget per Year*

Total
\$31,000

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Honoraria (\$750/speaking participant; \$500/invited other participants)	\$13,000
Hotel Accommodation	\$12,000
Catering (reception; breakfast/lunch x2)	\$2,500
Video Recording	\$1,400
Closing Dinner	\$1,200
Directional Signage & T-Shirts	\$900

**CSEL has its own administrative and event coordination staff, whose services will be provided as part of their regular activities.*

Scott Scheall, Ph.D.

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602-980-8709

Curriculum Vitae

November 2018

INSTITUTIONAL ADDRESS:

Arizona State University Polytechnic Campus
College of Integrative Sciences and Arts
Faculty of Social Science
Santa Catalina Hall, 250A
7271 E Sonoran Arroyo Mall
Mesa, AZ 85212

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION:

History and Philosophy of Economics
Philosophy of Science
Social and Political Philosophy

EDUCATION:

Ph.D., Philosophy, Arizona State University, December 2012

Dissertation: *Slaves of the Defunct: The Epistemic Intractability of the Hayek-Keynes Debate*

CURRENT ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT:

August 2018 – Present

Assistant Professor
Arizona State University Polytechnic Campus
College of Integrative Sciences and Arts
Faculty of Social Science
Mesa, AZ

RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

- “On the Method Appropriate to Hayek Studies”
Æconomia – History / Methodology / Philosophy – Forthcoming, Volume TBD
- “Karl Menger as Son of Carl Menger” (Lead author with Reinhard Schumacher)
History of Political Economy – December 2018, Volume 50, Number 4, pp. 649-678
- “Social and Scientific Disorder as Epistemic Phenomena, or The Consequences of Government Dietary Guidelines” (Lead author with William N. Butos and Thomas J. McQuade)
Journal of Institutional Economics – Published Online October 22, 2018, Print Issue TBD
- “What is Extreme about Mises’ Extreme Apriorism?”
Journal of Economic Methodology – 2017, Volume 24, Issue 3, pp. 226-249

PROFESSIONAL & ACADEMIC SERVICE:

August 2018 – Present

Director of Graduate Studies, Faculty of Social Science, College of
Integrative Sciences and Arts, Arizona State University

May 2018 – Present

Member
Executive Committee
History of Economics Society

Ross B. Emmett, Ph.D.

Director, Center for the Study of Economic Liberty
Professor, School of Civic and Economic Thought and Leadership
Arizona State University
Ross.Emmett@asu.edu

Education

PhD Economics, University of Manitoba, Canada, 1991 (*Diss.: "The Economist as Philosopher: Frank H. Knight and American Social Science in the Twenties and Early Thirties"; won HES Dorfman Prize 1992*)
IMBA Business (International Finance & Banking), University of South Carolina, 1981
BA History, Old Dominion University, 1978

Previous Positions

Augustana University College, Camrose AB: Assistant Professor (1989-1994); Associate Professor (1994-2003)
James Madison College, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI: Associate Professor 2003-2007; Professor (2007-2018).

Major Publications

Frank Knight and the Chicago School in American Economics (Routledge, 2009)
(Editor) *Elgar Companion to the Chicago School of Economics* (Edward Elgar, 2010)
(Editor) *Selected Essays by Frank H. Knight* (2 vols.) (University of Chicago Press, 1999)

Recent Scholarly Articles

"Why James Buchanan Kept Frank Knight's Picture on His Wall Despite Fundamental Disagreements about Economics, Ethics, and Politics." In *James Buchanan*, edited by Richard Wagner, Palgrave Macmillan (forthcoming, 2019).
"Keynes on Judgment, Moral Science, and the Civilization of the Few." *Journal of Markets & Morality* 20(1, 2017).
"The Chicago School Student of Bourgeois Civilization." *Man and the Economy* 3(2, 2016): 213-24.
With Robert Van Horn. "Two Trajectories of Democratic Capitalism in the Postwar Chicago School: Frank Knight versus Aaron Director." *Cambridge Journal of Economics*, 39.5 (September 2015): 1443-55.

Relevant Service

- History of Economics Society: Spengler Book Prize Committee Chair, 2007-2008; Vice-President, 2013-15; Dorfman Prize Committee Chair, 2016-2017.
- Founded the HES (now SHOE) email distribution list, created the HES website through Eh.Net, and served as Manager of Electronic Resources for HES, 1994-2003.
- Editor, *Research in the History of Economic Thought and Methodology*, 2005-2015.
- Co-organized the Voluntary Governance Conference, 2017 (The Constitution of Order in a Self-Governing Society), held in East Lansing, MI, bringing 60 scholars to Michigan State University's campus.
- Co-organized the CIRLA 2000 and CIRLA 2002 conferences on Interdisciplinarity; Banff Conference Center, Alberta

As director of CSEL, my responsibilities include organization of a regular workshop, a graduate student/faculty summer reading/research group, the Perspectives in Economic Liberty public lecture series (which regularly features topics in the history of economics), and development of multiple academic conferences/graduate student workshops per year.

C. Tyler DesRoches

Curriculum Vitae

School of Sustainability &
School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies
Arizona State University
tyler.desroches@asu.edu
www.tylerdesroches.com

Appointments

2015-Present Assistant Professor of Sustainability and Human Well-Being, School of Sustainability & Assistant Professor of Philosophy, School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies, Arizona State University

2014-2015 Lecturer, Vancouver School of Economics, University of British Columbia

2013-2015 Graduate Instructor, Department of Philosophy, University of British Columbia

Education

2009-2015 Ph.D., Philosophy, University of British Columbia, British Columbia

2007-2009 M.A., Philosophy & Economics (*Cum Laude*), Erasmus University Rotterdam, South Holland

2002-2004 M.A., Economics, University of Victoria, British Columbia

1998-2002 B.Comm, Economics (Honors), Saint Mary's University, Nova Scotia

Selected Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

"On the Historical Roots of Natural Capital in the Writings of Carl Linnaeus," *Research in the History of Economic Thought and Methodology* [Accepted - In Press].

"On Aristotle's Natural Limit," *History of Political Economy*, 46 (3): 387-407, 2014.

"The Institutionalist Reaction to Keynesian Economics," *Journal of the History of Economic Thought*, 30 (1): 29-48, 2008, with Malcolm Rutherford.

Selected Relevant Activities

2015-Present Editorial Oversight Board, *Erasmus Journal for Philosophy and Economics*

2018 Co-Organizer, Roundtable on Health & Human Well-Being, Institute of Humanities Research, Arizona State University (Keynote Speaker: Daniel M. Hausman, Department of Philosophy, University of Wisconsin-Madison)

2008-2015 Co-Founder and Co-Editor, *Erasmus Journal for Philosophy and Economics* (www.ejpe.org)

2013 Co-Organizer, Annual Meeting of the History of Economics Society