

2021 Distinguished Fellow Award

Christina Marcuzzo is one of the most accomplished and well-known historians of economics in the world today. She was for many years a Full Professor at the University of Rome “La Sapienza” and is now Honorary Professor there.

Her research and publications are highly respected, and her contributions to the history of economic thought are in the tradition of the great scholars in the field. For over forty years she has been an active scholar, produced a tremendous number of high-quality papers and books, been a distinguished visiting professor in many locations, given seminars and lectures at a tremendous number universities, given papers and keynotes at all the history of economics societies conferences, refereed and served on many editorial boards, and worked tirelessly and passionately to build and support history of economics scholarship across the world. She is truly a major figure in our field, an institution-builder and a considerable credit to the discipline.

Best known for her work on the Cambridge School, Dr. Marcuzzo has explored its historical development and those who have contributed to its evolution. She has examined the large volume of archival materials associated with Cambridge to explore the central role of Keynes, the Cambridge circus, Sraffa, Robinson, Kahn, Kalecki, and their successors. Not only has she investigated the many working documents and correspondence of those who produced the key outputs of the school, but she has also researched a range of other activities they engaged in, the roles they played in the war, and how they contributed to economic policy before, during, and after the war. Cristina’s efforts in this regard include taking on new projects with the goal of recovering lost contributions of the School. She has worked to create an entire research program for the Cambridge School that can continue on into the future.

A key feature of her historiographic approach is to read historical texts as living documents with insights for today. Dr. Marcuzzo uses texts from the history of economics as a device to understand contemporary social reality. She argues that HET scholarship and revisiting past texts is neither solely a specialist exercise with no relevance for today, nor devoid of insight; the historian of economic thought is also an economist who can contribute to modern debates and issues.

Professor Marcuzzo has been phenomenally active in creating collaborative links between different HET societies globally and supporting scholars in this field of research. She has reviewed papers and been a member of the editorial boards of all major publications in the HET. She has been the President of the European Society for the History of Economic Thought (ESHET) (2008-10) as well as a Member of the Council and then of the Executive Committee of ESHET (1996-02), and a Member ex officio of the Executive Committee of the ESHET (2010-12). She has been instrumental in the running of the Italian History of Political Economy Association (STOREP) where she was President (2015-18) and a Member of the Executive Committee (STOREP) (2006-12). She has been a Member of the Executive Committee of the History of Economics Society, (2006-09). This short list shows only a small part of her activity that includes participation in conferences and other academic gatherings across the world for the better part of the last 40 years. Dr. Marcuzzo has devoted years to promoting the research and development of young scholars in the history of economics across the world. Her advice and support to younger members of the community (many of whom she has collaborated with or, found means to fund joint research with), is a model of scholarship and community spirit.