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Conference Announcement

Public goods, externalities, public decision making: a perspective from the history of economic thought

Location : Paris, Panthéon-Assas University

Organizers : Bradley Bateman, Denis Baranger, José Luis Cardoso, Gilbert Faccarello, Domenicantonio Fausto, Monique Florenzano, Richard Sturn, Keith Tribe

Major Topics : History of Public Economics

Conference Dates : 12/11/2008 to 12/11/2008

Submission Deadline : 5/15/2008

Send Submissions To : History of Public Economics Conference, ERMES, Université Panthéon Assas (Paris 2), 12 place du Panthéon, 75231 Paris cedex 05, France or mail to: gilbert.faccarello@u-paris2.fr

Sponsoring Organizations : ESF (European Science Foundation), ERMES (CNRS, UMR 7181), Panthéon-Assas University (Paris 2)

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Web Page : <http://Web page in a near future>

During the past three decades there have been important developments in the history of economic thought, opening many theoretical fields to historical scrutiny. Public economics has not however been subjected to systematic investigation. Nonetheless, leading theoreticians such as Richard Musgrave and Alan Peacock have shown how the history of economics can be useful and productive not only as a specialized field per se, but also as a means to an improved understanding of modern concepts and theoretical elaboration — even providing a source of inspiration for new ideas. Two historical surveys were published more than twenty years ago — by John Creedy in 1984 and Richard Musgrave in 1985 — but there has since been little new historical research in this area. It is therefore proposed to hold an international conference on the history of public economics to stimulate new historical research on the development of core concepts, models and issues in modern public economics. All topics relevant to the domain of Public Economics, broadly understood, are welcome, including: theory of the state, public expenditure and revenue, public decision-making, regulation, externalities, social security and insurance, equity, justice, and also study of national traditions of thought in the field. Historical perspectives on public economics from other disciplines — for example the philosophy of law and political philosophy — are also sought. The conference will take place in Paris, at ERMES and Panthéon-Assas University. It will be supported by the ESF programme Public goods, public projects, externalities, in collaboration with ERMES (UMR CNRS 7181) and The European Journal of the History of Economic Thought (EJHET). The keynote speaker will be Alan PEACOCK.