



## Association for Institutional Thought [AFIT]

### 2010 CALL FOR PAPERS

The 31<sup>st</sup> annual meeting of AFIT will be held

**April 14-17, 2010**

Reno, Nevada

Grand Sierra Resort

In conjunction with the Western Social Science Association (WSSA) 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference

### Theme for the 2010 Conference: Toward a Socially Embedded Economy

Institutional economics starts from the view that economy or material provisioning is an instituted process and that institutions should be the basic unit of economic analysis (as opposed to the maximizing representative agent) because they act to both control and empower individuals and social groups and give rise to correlated and often predictable patterns of human behavior. The Association for Institutional Thought provides an excellent platform for the delivery of papers in a broad range of areas, including but not limited to macro and monetary economics, political economy, labor, regulatory and environmental economics, economies in transition, history of thought, institutional selection and evolutionary theory, healthcare, trade and globalization, poverty and inequality, and the economics of sports. The Association invites contributions that employ non-standard models or techniques of investigation and analysis. AFIT sessions are well-attended, and presenters can expect to receive valuable comments on their work. Proposals for complete panels (including discussant(s)) are welcome.

The theme for the 2010 AFIT conference is: Toward a Socially Embedded Economy. The social control of big business is a longstanding concern among institutional economists. The 2010 theme is predicated on the view that the design of key economic, legal, regulatory, and other institutions in the capitalist world (but especially the United States) manifests and promotes the iron rule of shareholder interest and consumerism at the expense of other important values such as income and health security, family and community, a reasonably equitable distribution of economic and political power, the availability of collectively consumed goods, and sustainable ecosystems. The conference organizer is especially interested in papers that identify and explicate institutions that serve narrow, elite, or class economic interests and stand in the way of a movement to a more humanized species of market capitalism. Papers that propose modifications to the institutional environment of corporatism will also fit nicely with the conference theme.

AFIT encourages proposals from graduate students, and it is anticipated that at least one and possibly more panels of graduate student papers will be included in the program this year. In addition, AFIT will continue to sponsor prizes for outstanding student papers. A formal announcement of this year's competition is attached.

AFIT will continue the tradition of having one or more roundtables that explores ideas, experiences, and materials to advance economic education, from Institutional and other heterodox perspectives. Participants in these roundtables are encouraged to submit their materials for posting on the AFIT web site. Past contributions can be found at [http://www.orgs.bucknell.edu/afee/afit/teaching\\_institutionalism.htm](http://www.orgs.bucknell.edu/afee/afit/teaching_institutionalism.htm)

AFIT is also receptive to proposals for panels to review and discuss books recently published by AFIT members.

Anyone interested in attending the AFIT Conference or in finding out more about the organization may visit the AFIT web site at <http://www.orgs.bucknell.edu/afee/afit/>. Conference registration information can be found at the WSSA web site <http://wssa.asu.edu>.

You must be a member of AFIT to present a paper at the conference. Annual dues are \$25. Browse to Contact Mary Wrenn, Secretary-Treasurer of AFIT, ([MaryWrenn@weber.edu](mailto:MaryWrenn@weber.edu)).

## Submitting a Proposal

How to submit a proposal: please follow instructions precisely. Proposals submitted in an incorrect form will be returned and the author will be asked to resubmit in the proper form.

Individual Paper Proposals. Proposals must be sent in electronic form as a Microsoft Word attachment in Times New Roman, 12 point font, single-spaced, without any italics, bolding, or underlining. It must include the following information:

Section: AFIT  
Contact Author:  
Affiliation:  
Mailing Address:  
Telephone:  
E-mail:

Willing to serve as discussant/moderator (y/n):  
Overhead projector (y/n):  
Other equipment request:

Double space

Line 1: Author  
Line 2: Affiliation  
(repeat lines 1 and 2 as necessary)  
Space  
Line 3: Title (place title within quotation marks: "Institutionalist Theory")  
Space  
Abstract: Not to exceed 200 words (abstracts are truncated at the 200 word limit)

Complete Panel Proposals. Complete panel proposals are invited. Panel proposals should include 3-4 papers, 1-2 discussants and a panel chair. Panel organizers should send a brief letter with the following information: 1) Title of panel; 2) List of Participants; 3) E-mail addresses for all panel participants. Each participant in the panel should also submit an individual proposal with the information listed above.

Please note: Abstracts of papers presented at AFIT will be included in the WSSA published abstract disk (available at the conference). WSSA requires that abstracts not exceed 200 words.

Audiovisual or other equipment needs: Individual and panel proposals should include requests for any equipment (WSSA does not provide computer projectors). It is difficult and expensive to arrange for equipment at the last minute. Thus, late requests are unlikely to be fulfilled. Please plan ahead!

Send proposals by E-mail (with the subject line AFIT 2010 Proposal, Last name and file attachment in Microsoft Word) to the Vice President of AFIT:

Christopher Brown  
[crbrown@astate.edu](mailto:crbrown@astate.edu)  
(870) 972-3737

**Deadline for proposal submission: November 16, 2009**