

RESEARCH IN THE HISTORY OF
ECONOMIC THOUGHT AND
METHODOLOGY: INCLUDING A
SYMPOSIUM ON THE HISTORICAL
EPISTEMOLOGY OF ECONOMICS

RESEARCH IN THE HISTORY OF ECONOMIC THOUGHT AND METHODOLOGY

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HISTORY OF ECONOMIC
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INCLUDING A SYMPOSIUM
ON THE HISTORICAL
EPISTEMOLOGY OF
ECONOMICS**

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VOLUME INTRODUCTION

In our first volume of 2017, we present a symposium on the historical epistemology of economics, guest edited by Till D ppe and Harro Maas. The symposium features contributions from both guest-editors, as well as Lo c Charles and Christine Th r , Hsiang-Ke Chao, Thomas Stapleford, and Tobias Vogelgsang. The contributions to the symposium cover an array of topics from Charles and Th r  on the scientific understanding of the eighteenth-century French Physiocrats, to Chao and Maas’s inquiry into Jevons’ and Marshall’s respective diagrammatical methods, Vogelgsang’s research on the ways that the American military administrators of postwar Germany reconfigured the given institutional context in order to generate policy-relevant economic statistics and reports, D ppe’s investigation of Gerard Debreu’s personal values and their influence on Debreu’s theorizing about economic value, and Stapleford’s argument that the French tradition of historical epistemology amounts to a more philosophically respectable historiography than the narrow study of authorial intentions typical of research in the history of economic thought. We are quite pleased with the symposium and expect it to impact new research in the methodology of the history of economics.

The present volume also features a general-research contribution from Cameron Weber on the “value paradox” in art economics. Weber argues that a paradox exists in the conception of value adopted in the unique field of art (or “cultural”) economics relative to the standard conception of the broader economics discipline.

Our “From the Vault” section features a long-lost essay by Marc Nerlove, winner of the John Bates Clark Medal in 1969 and 2012 Distinguished Fellow of the American Economic Association. Originally penned in 1953, when Nerlove was a mere 19-year-old undergraduate, “Some Notes on Cournot and the Bargaining Problem” displays a remarkable understanding of the problem. The paper was written when Nerlove was a research assistant to Jacob Marschak and Tjalling Koopmans at the Cowles Commission, but was only recently unearthed from the Marschak Papers at UCLA. Nerlove’s archival contribution includes a new foreword by Olav Bjerkholt.

Luca Fiorito
Scott Scheall
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Editors

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Luca Fiorito received his PhD in economics from the New School for Social Research in New York and is currently Associate Professor at the University of Palermo. His main area of interest is the history of American economic thought in the Progressive Era and the interwar years. He has published many works on the contributions of the institutionalists and on the relationship between economics and eugenics.

Scott Scheall is a Lecturer with Arizona State University's College of Integrative Sciences and Arts. He received his PhD in philosophy from Arizona State in 2012. Scott is a former Research Fellow with Duke University's Center for the History of Political Economy and a former Postdoctoral Fellow with the F.A. Hayek Program for Advanced Study in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics at George Mason University. He has published extensively on the history and methodology of the Austrian School of economics.

Carlos Eduardo Suprinyak is Associate Professor of Economics at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), Brazil. He specializes in the history of economic thought and economic methodology, studying in particular the interplay between social, political, and economic ideas in early modern England, and the institutionalization of academic economics in Brazil during the postwar era. He has published several papers on these and other related themes in peer-reviewed scholarly journals, and is also the co-editor of *The Political Economy of Latin American Independence* (Routledge, 2017).