

Contemporary Economic Policy

2009 Editor's Report

Volume 27 published quarterly in 2009 was comprised of 41 articles (579 pages) contributed by 86 authors and co-authors from a variety of topic areas as defined by the *Journal of Economic Literature* classification system. Table 1 provides a distribution of articles by JEL topic area.

JOURNAL STATISTICS

Active participation in the annual conferences of the Western Economic Association International is encouraged by editors and members of the editorial board. At the 2009 annual meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia, *CEP* sponsored 16 sessions out of 238 (7% of the total sessions). At the 2009 Pacific Rim Conference in Kyoto, Japan, *CEP* sponsored 15 sessions out of 70 (21% of the total sessions). I would like to thank co-editor Jack Hou for his efforts in organizing a large number of these sessions. The WEAI conferences provided approximately 21% of our total manuscript submissions for 2009.

During the 2009 publishing cycle 188 manuscripts were submitted for review to *CEP*. There were 40 manuscripts submitted from the Vancouver and Kyoto conferences and 148 non-conference submissions. At this time, 12 manuscripts have been accepted for publication, 114 rejected with 63 decisions pending. The overall acceptance rate is expected to be approximately 23%.

An important contribution to enhancing the quality of the journal is the refereeing process. *CEP* uses a double-blind process with the objective of obtaining three referee reports for each manuscript. As Table 2 demonstrates we are making a significant effort to contact referees and make sure that the editorial team has well-grounded input in order to make informed decisions regarding the manuscripts. During 2009 we received 483 referee reports that have helped to provide constructive input to improve accepted manuscripts as well as input for authors of rejected manuscripts. Refereeing is also the major challenge in providing timely feedback to authors. During 2009 we requested 1033 referee reports. These are

all-time highs for both categories. Individuals who have generously provided their time as referees for the journal are listed in Table 3.

The time to decision for authors is a critical variable for most journals but is particularly important for *CEP* since the objective is to inform current policy debates. The editorial team continues to work hard to reduce the time to first decision so that important contributions to the policy debates are available as soon as possible. The average time from manuscript submission to first decision was approximately 12 weeks in 2009.

Most faculty are required to report the quality of the journals where they publish. The most frequently cited statistic is the impact factor. However, there are a number of other sources that measure the quality of a journal. An example of the most recent quality ranking for journals is the *Journal Quality List*, 35th edition, edited by Dr. Anne-Wil Harzing, University of Melbourne, published December 2009. According to this ranking, *CEP* earned a rank of "A" representing "top academic journals." This article reports the results from a variety of ranking sources. If you need a copy of this report please contact Kaulene Gellerman at the editorial office (journals@weai.org) or the editor (wmartin@csulb.edu). Also, we are pleased that the impact factor for 2009 has increased to 0.659 and the 5-year impact factor is now 0.835.

BEST ARTICLE AWARD

As with every volume there are a number of articles deserving of special recognition. The editorial team wishes to recognize the following article of particular relevance to the policy discussions regarding firms operating in transition economies and the incentives for transparency and efficiency for the firm affiliated with a business association.

Best Article Award: Jeffrey B. Nugent and Grigor Sukiassyan, "Alternative Strategies for Firms in Oppressive and Corrupt States: Informality or Formality via Business Associations?," 27 (4), 423–439. doi: 10.1111/j.1465-7287.2009.00171.x

PUBLISHING AND THE JOURNAL

As we continue to learn how to more effectively use our online submission and reviewing process, the research of our authors is becoming available more rapidly and we have found this change has resulted in the timely review of manuscripts on average. We have also continued to make the research of our authors available in advance of publication through Wiley InterScience (www.interscience.wiley.com) or on the journal's website (<http://www.wiley.com/bw/journal.asp?ref=1074-3529> or www.weai.org). We encourage you to sign up for online notification of articles in your area of interest. There are currently 29 accepted manuscripts available through Early View at the journal's web site. This early access has helped us to meet our objective of making research contributions available in a timely manner that enhances the role of *CEP* in contemporary policy debates.

THE EDITORIAL TEAM

During 2009 the editorial team remained unchanged. Continuing as co-editors are Robert Michaels from California State University, Fullerton, Jack W. Hou and Steve Yamarik from California State University, Long Beach, Brad R. Humphreys from the University of Alberta, and Robert P. Berrens from the University of New Mexico. The editor and co-editors are very appreciative of the significant contribution to the success of *CEP* made by Kaulene Gellerman, editorial assistant.

The editorial team also thanks the authors, the referees, the editorial board, and the staff at Wiley-Blackwell Publishing for their efforts in making *Contemporary Economic Policy* an important resource in economics, public administration, and to policy analysts worldwide.

Wade E. Martin, Editor

TABLE 1
2009 Manuscripts Published by *JEL** Topic Area Code

<i>JEL</i> * Code	Field	# Articles	
		Primary Code	All Codes
A	General Economics & Teaching	2	0
B	Methodology & History of Economic Thought	0	0
C	Mathematical & Quantitative Economics	4	5
D	Microeconomics	4	5
E	Macroeconomics & Monetary Economics	1	3
F	International Economics	8	7
G	Financial Economics	2	2
H	Public Economics	3	11
I	Health, Education & Welfare	3	8
J	Labor & Demographic Economics	3	9
K	Law & Economics	1	3
L	Industrial Organization	2	11
M	Business Administration & Business Economics, Marketing, Accounting	0	0
N	Economic History	0	0
O	Economic Development, Technological Change & Growth	4	5
P	Economic Systems	0	2
Q	Agricultural & Natural Resource Economics	4	11
R	Urban, Rural & Regional Economics	0	3
Z	Other Special Topics	0	3
	Total	41	88

**Journal of Economic Literature*.

TABLE 2
1998–2009 Manuscript Acquisition and Disposition

Manuscripts												
	1998–1999	1999–2000	2000–2001	2001–2002	2002–2003	2003–2004	2004–2005	2005–2006	2006–2007	2007–2008	2008	*09
	Tahoe	SD/Syd	Vanc	SF	Seattle/Tp	Denver**	Vanc/HK	SF	SD/Bej	Seattle	Hawaii	Vanc/Kyoto
Total Submitted	158	175	156	184	145	158	144	111	191	194	211	188
New conference manuscripts w/o fee	92	78	55	77	42	57	55	40	54	26	38	40
New conference manuscripts with fee	2	7	10	5	6	7	3	0	0	0	0	0
New non-conference manuscripts	54	66	73	88	95	86	86	71	128	163	86	148
New Submittals	148	151	138	170	143	150	144	111	191	194	211	188
Resubmittals	10	24	18	14	2	8	0	0	7	64	65	77
Rejected	122	129	114	130	93	94	102	80	144	147	161	114
Accepted	36	46	42	55	52	56	42	31	47	44	42	12
Decisions Pending	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	8	62
Acceptance Rate	22.78%	26.29%	26.92%	29.89%	35.86%	37.33%	29.16%	27.92%	24.60%	22.24%	19.23%	6-39%
Referees												
	98–99	99–00	00–01	01–02	02–03	03–04	04–05	05–06	06–07	07–08	09	
Refs Contacted	Tahoe	SD/Syd	Vanc	SF	Seattle/Tp	Denver	Vanc/HK	SF	SD/Bej	Sea	Vanc	
# Reports requested		578	477	451	594	563	788	414	643	791	1033	
# Reports received	429	384	324	286	453	242	351	245	260	291	483	
# Referees contacted	748	853	430	412	558	543	764	396	627	706	931	
# Referees sent report	380	336	290	238	358	225	332	240	275	249	423	
# Referees > 1 report	108	78	33	31	90	16	19	41	15	43	60	

Abbreviations: SF = San Francisco; HK = Hong Kong; Vanc = Vancouver; SD = San Diego; Sea = Seattle; Syd = Sydney; Tp = Taipei; Bk = Bangkok, Bej-Beijing.
**includes 8 from the 2003 Taipei conference.
*Converting to calendar year beginning January 2008 (some totals duplicated in conversion to calendar year from conference year 2007-2008).

TABLE 3
2009 *Contemporary Economic Policy* Referees

Adams, Richard	Chen, Yiu Por	Fain, James
Addisson, Rick	Chen, Yutian	Fang, Tony
Alfranca, Oscar	Chermak, Janie	Farka, Mira
Amara, Jomana	Chiang, Eric	Farmer, Karl
Anderson, John D.	Chiu, Yung-Ho	Farmer, Michael
Ang, James	Choe, Chung	Farrell, Lisa
Anoruo, Emmanuel	Choi, Changkyu	Fernandez, Linda
Antwi, Yaa	Choong, Chee-Keong	Fifer McIntosh, Molly
Arias, J. J.	Choudhry, Misbah Tanveer	Fleck, Robert
Arin, Perin	Choudhry, Taufiq	Forrest, David
Arnold, Scot	Chouinard, Hayley	Fort, Rodney
Assane, Djeto	Chu, Angus C.	Frank, Mark
Asuyama, Yoko	Cieslik, Andrzej	Frank, Nathaniel
Avalos, Antonio	Coates, Dennis	French, Eric
Back, In-Mee	Cochran, James	Friberg, Richard
Bahmani-Oskooee, Mohsen	Connolly, Laura	Funkhouser, Ed
Bai, Junfei	Cotti, Chad	Furceri, Davide
Balderas, Juventino	Coupe, Tom	Gabel, David
Baldwin, Marjorie	Crawford, Claire	Gale, Fred
Banaian, King	Crespi, Francesco	Gallin, Joshua
Barnett, Andy	Cuellar, Steven	Garen, John
Bel, Germa	Cutter, Bowman	Garratt, Rod
Beresteanu, Arie	Das, Gouranga	Garrett, Thomas
Berk, Jan Marc	Daveri, Francesco	Garzarelli, Giampaolo
Berlemann, Michael	Davies, Ronald	Gawande, Kishore
Biddle, Elyce Anne	Davis, Lewis	Gayer, Ted
Bielinska-Kwapisz, Agnieszka	Dayanandan, Ajit	Gelos, Gaston
Black, Dan	De Brauw, Alan	Gelper, Sara
Blackburn, McKinley	de Goeij, Peter	Ghent, Andra
Blagrove, Patrick	de Resende, Carlos	Gilleskie, Donna
Bodvarsson, Orn	Debelle, Guy	Golding, Heidi
Boehm, Thomas	DeCarolus, Joseph	Gounder, Rukmani
Borraz, Fernando	DeCicca, Phillip	Greiner, Alfred
Boyle, Kevin	Deily, Mary E.	Grier, Kevin
Bradley, Ralph	Deltas, George	Grijalva, Therese
Brandes, Leif	DeSimone, Jeffrey	Grimes, Arthur
Brasington, David	Dincer, Oguzhan	Grobar, Lisa
Breffe, Bill	Dixon, Peter	Grote, Kent
Brester, Gary	Dobkin, Carlos	Gruenewald, Paul
Brouhle, Keith	Dong, Xiao-Yuan	Gundersen, Craig
Brown, Bruce	Doucouliagos, Chris (Hristos)	Gunderson, Morley
Brown, Stephen	Doyle, Matt	Gustafson, Cole
Buraimo, Babatunde	Duffy, Sarah	Gustafsson, Bjorn
Butkiewicz, James	Duke, Joshua	Gustavsen, Geir
Byrne, Margaret M	Dunn, Richard	Gyimah-Brempong, Kwabena
Calcagno, Peter	Echávarri, Rebeca	Hale, Travis
Calderon, Cesar	Edwards, Ryan	Hall, Darwin
Cameron, Trudy	Ehrmann, Michael	Hall, Jane
Carroll, Deborah	Elliehausen, Gregory	Hamilton, James T.
Cash, Sean	Ely, David	Hamzaee, Reza
Cassou, Steven	Engelbrecht, Hans-Jürgen	Han, Jun
Caulfield, Janice	Engelhardt, Bryan	Hand, Michael
Chakraborty, Indrani	Episcopos, Athanasios	Hare, Denise
Chami, Ralph	Etile, Fabrice	Harris, Mark
Chappell, Henry	Evans, Carolyn	Hawley, Clifford
Chattopadhyay, Sudip	Evans, Mary	Hayo, Bernd

TABLE 3
Continued

Hefeker, Carsten	Le, Anh Tram	Neumark, David
Henrickson, Kevin	Lee, Chien-Chiang	Ng, Chen
Hesse, Heiko	Lee, Yu-Feng	Ng, Shu Wen
Heyes, Anthony	Leeves, Gareth	Nguyen, Cuong
Hisnanick, John	Lehman, Dale	Ni, Jinlan
Ho, Lok Sang	Levin-Waldman, Oren M.	Ni, Yongmei
Hodges, Hart	Lewis, Ethan	Nicholson, Walter
Hoffler, Richard	Li, Ming	Nyman, John
Hofmann, Boris	Li, Mingliang	Odawara, Rei
Horn, Brady	Lien, Donald	Ogawa, Kazuo
Horowitz, Stanley	Lin, Shu-Chin	Oh, Yonghyup
Hou, Xiaohui	Liu, Chunlin	Ojede, Andrew
Houser, Daniel	Liu, Jing	Ong, Lynette
Howard, David	Loureiro, Maria	Orazem, Peter
Hryshko, Dima	Lurie, Ithai	Ostrom, Elinor
Hughes, James	Ma, Alyson	Owen, Ann
Hui, Shek-wai	Maher, Craig	Papayrakis, Elissaios
Hurd, Brian	Maier, Philipp	Parsons, George
Hurlin, Christophe	Mandell, Svante	Pasurka, Carl
Immervoll, Herwig	Mansfield, Carol	Paul, Antony
Jalbert, Terrance	Marcál, Leah	Pedace, Roberto
Jansen, W. Jos	Marcotte, Dave E.	Pollini, Andrea
Jong-A-Pin, Richard	Marette, Stephan	Prante, Tyler
Kaestner, Robert	Maswana, Jean-Claude	Prasad, Monica
Kahn, Matthew	Maurer-Fazio, Margaret	Pratt, Leila
Kandogan, Yener	McCannon, Bryan	Pula, Gabor
Keefer, Philip	McGarvey, Mary	Ralston, Katherine
Keith, Kristen	McGregor, Rob Roy	Rapach, David
Kellogg, Ryan	McIntosh, Molly	Rassier, Dylan
Kelly, Inas	McIntyre, Kevin	Rattso, Jorn
Kendall, Todd	McKee, Michael	Rawski, Thomas
Kenkel, Donald	McMullen, B. Starr	Rees, Daniel
Kennedy, Peter	Meen, Geoffrey	Reeves, Eoin
Kennedy, Scott	Mendez, Fabio	Rephann, Terance
Kesenne, Stefan	Meyerhoefer, Chad	Reyes, Mario
Kim, Dae Il	Mohn, Craig	Ribar, David
Kim, Jeong-Yoo	Monaco, Kristen	Riddel, Mary
Kim, Jung Sik	Mondello, Michael	Ross, Justin
Kiyota, Kozo	Montiel, Peter	Roumasset, James
Koc, Cagatay	Mora, Toni	Rozelle, Scott
Kohler, Marion	Morey, Edward	Sabia, Joe
Kohlhase, Janet E.	Moulton, Brent	Sadorsky, Perry
Krull, Heather	Mozumder, Pallab	Salm, Martin
Kula, Maria	Mroz, Thomas	Sanbonmatsu, Lisa
Kuo, Chun-Chien	Mu, Ren	Santerre, Rexford
Kutan, Ali	Muchnik Izon, German	Sanyal, Amal
Laband, David N.	Muller, Nick	Sarker, Rakkhal
LaCroix, Sumner	Mundaca, Gabriela	Sass, Tim
LaFountain, Courtney	Mutter, Ryan	Savage, Elizabeth
Landry, Craig	Naghshpour, Shahdad	Scafidi, Ben
Lanoie, Paul	Naka, Shigeto	Scarpa, Riccardo
Laroche, Patrice	Nayga, Rodolfo	Schanzenbach, Diane
Larue, Bruno	Nelson, Arthur	Scharff, Robert
Law, Siong Hook	Nemoto, Jiro	Schiff, Maurice
Layte, Richard	Neri, Stefano	Schnepel, Kevin

TABLE 3
Continued

Scrogin, David	Thevenon, Olivier	Wadud, Ikm Mokhtarul
Shadbegian, Ron	Thompson, Eric	Walker, Douglas
Shapiro, Matthew	Thorsnes, Paul	Wang, Jing
Shaw, W. Douglass	Tomljanovich, Marc	Wang, Rui
Sheehan-Connor, Damien	Topoleski, Julie	Wang, Xiaobing
Shelton, Cameron	Tosun, Mehmet	Watson, Tara
Shi, Lizheng	Trogon, Justin	Wellington, Alison
Silva, Peri	Truett, Dale	West, Brady
Simpson, Seamus	Truong, Truong	Wetzel, James
Sims, David	Tsai, Chun-Li	Williams, Barry
Sirmans, Stacy	Tsai, Ni-Na	Wilson, Linus
Sjöberg, Ola	Turner, Tracy	Wolaver, Amy
Solomon, Binyam	Ulku, Hulya	Wu, JunJie
Song, Shunfeng	Unver, Utku	Wu, Shih-Ying
Sosa-Rubi, Sandra	Valletta, Robert	Xu, Kuan
Stadtman, Georg	Van den Berg, Hendrik	Yafeh, Yishay
Stafford, Sarah	van der Werf, Edwin	Yamashiro, Guy
Stehr, Mark	van Egteren, Henry	Yetman, James
Stephan, Gunter	van Hoorn, Andre	Yeung, Raymond
Stone, Craig	van 't Veld, Klaas	Young, Douglas
Stone, Daniel	Velamuri, Malathi	Yu, Fei
Stratmann, Thomas	Ventura, Gustavo	Zhang, Jungfu
Sullivan, James	Verma, Reetu	Zhang, Kevin
Sung, Nakil	Videras, Julio	Zhang, Li
Tay, Richard	Vladkova Hollar, Ivanna	Zhang, Xiaobo
Thacher, Jennifer	Waddams Price, Catherine	Zhao, Zhong
Thayer, Mark A.		