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ARTICLES

AMY FINKELSTEIN

The Aggregate Effects of Health Insurance: Evidence from the Introduction of Medicare 1

ROBERT E. HALL AND CHARLES I. JONES

The Value of Life and the Rise in Health Spending 39

HOYT BLEAKLEY

Disease and Development: Evidence from Hookworm Eradication in the American South 73

BRUCE SACERDOTE

How Large Are the Effects from Changes in Family Environment? A Study of Korean American Adoptees 119

JENS LUDWIG AND DOUGLAS L. MILLER

Does Head Start Improve Children's Life Chances? Evidence from a Regression Discontinuity Design 159

**RAFAEL DI TELLA, SEBASTIAN GALIANI,
AND ERNESTO SCHARGRODSKY**

The Formation of Beliefs: Evidence from the Allocation of Land Titles to Squatters 209

MIKLÓS KOREN AND SILVANA TENREYRO

Volatility and Development 243

GEORGE ALESSANDRIA AND HORAG CHOI

Do Sunk Costs of Exporting Matter for Net Export Dynamics? 289

BAUKE VISSER AND OTTO H. SWANK

On Committees of Experts 337

JACQUES CRÉMER, LUIS GARICANO, AND ANDREA PRAT

Language and the Theory of the Firm 373

SANDRA E. BLACK, PAUL J. DEVEREUX, AND KJELL G. SALVANES

From the Cradle to the Labor Market? The Effect of Birth Weight on Adult Outcomes 409

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Volume 122, Number 1 (February 2007)

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Acknowledgement

This issue marks the retirement of Harriet Hoffman, who has been the assistant editor of the journal for 33 years. Harriet has spent an enormous amount of her life making the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* a better journal. She has managed the submission and editorial process. She has edited over a thousand papers, improving writing and maintaining the *QJE* style. She has contributed significantly to the *QJE*'s most famous papers from Akerlof's market for lemons to Donohue and Levitt's abortion and crime and received little of the glory. It is appropriate that we thank her now.

Harriet's most important contributions came at the editing stage, where she went word-by-word and figure-by-figure through every article. She catches errors and enforces style, but also guards the English language from abuse at the hands of less than literary economists. When academics write papers, they do so in the expectation of recognition and the hope of lasting fame. Harriet edited those same papers with none of the same rewards and did a terrific job.

The economists who have edited the journal have occasionally been models of administrative competence but have sometimes been less well organized. Harriet has managed to steer the journal through all of them with equanimity. Her ability to put up with us is itself an accomplishment.

On a personal level, Harriet has become known particularly for her passion for New England's avian population. The one thing that the editors feared might bring the journal to a halt was another sighting of a Ross Gull in New England. While the journal is saddened to lose Harriet's contributions, we are at least sure that our loss will be a gain to the birding population. Harriet gave much to the *Quarterly Journal of Economics* and she will be greatly missed.