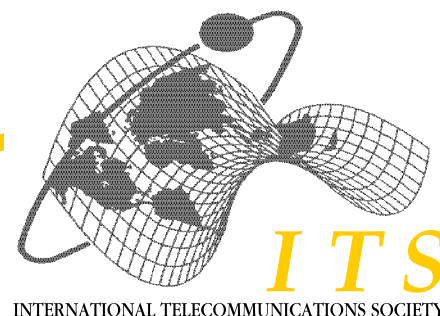


INTERCONNECT

Issue 1, Volume 2
March, 2000



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Biennial Conference Registration Form
- Argentina: An Enchanting Country
- Buenos Aires 2000 on Track

Argentina Program to "Bridge" Global Telecommunications

The theme of ITS 2000 will be "Telecommunications: The Bridge to Globalization in the Information Society", through which conference organizers expect to put the entire telecommunications industry under critical analysis.



Sheraton Hotel, Buenos Aires, site of the Biennial ITS 2000 conference.

Telecommunications has brought the world together in ways never imagined just a few years short ago. It has transcended barriers we thought could never be trespassed, developing products and services that have already transformed the way people communicate and do business.

This is now a new millennium where the phenomenon of globalization is changing the rules of the game, and where the telecom industry is being swept by the forces of transformation.

Four of these key forces are:

- new technologies - advanced capabilities, but short life-spans in the face of change
- deregulation - yet regulators still determine the number of market competitors
- new entrants - innovative and focussed, serving specific customer segments.
- mergers and alliances - all of which radically change the structure of the industry.

Many countries are now rediscovering the knowledge-based economy, and it is very important to thoroughly explore its implications. This is as critical for communities and for governments as it is for industry and telecommunications.

To understand how things fit together in this changing information society, the spectacular developments in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) must be examined relative to institutional and organizational infrastructures, with the focus on realizing the benefits of the advanced use of this knowledge.

Thus, one of the plenary sessions being highlighted will feature Donald Lamberton from Australia, specifically focusing on the

information society.

The plenary session on the information society will feature distinguished speakers who will address it from business, policy and development perspectives...helping us to make sound investments and shape wise public policies.



Buenos Aires is reminiscent of "Old Europe."

The Seven Themes

The Academic Program of ITS 2000 will be divided into seven main themes:

- Regulation and Public Policy
- Management and Organization
- National and Regional Impacts
- Competition and Emerging Industry Structures
- Services
- Technology and Innovation
- Towards Global Markets

Conference organizers are convinced this mixture of dynamic sessions will be frank, challenging and highly attractive for conference attendees.

Internet

The Conference now has an important Internet component. The plenary and parallel sessions will also include: Internet Demand, Electronic Commerce, The Business Value of Web Marketing, The Demand for High Speed Access to the Internet and Internet Pricing. Past experience indicates these sessions will draw a great deal of interest from delegates.

Regulation and Public Policy

One of the most popular subthemes, as indicated in abstract submissions from around the world, is that of regulation and public policy. Regulations and policies have been - and will continue to be - affected by globalization. There is an urgent need to simplify the current framework,

The Leading Edge

At the 1999 Regional ITS conference in Turin, a novel paper was presented by Professor Cristiano Antonelli, dealing with new approaches to analyzing changes in technology and economics. The paper was entitled The Dynamics of Technological Systems: The Case of New ICT.

The paper brings to bear a number of important issues relating to the economics of technology and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). Specifically, the paper is a clear example of how technological changes in telecommunications are relevant beyond just this sector *per se*.

There are many issues in ICT that transcend generalities of its own realm. ICT economics may serve to enhance and develop economics of technology generally. For instance, cooperation



among innovators, technological systems, intellectual property rights and generally collective knowledge are important in this specific sector. Strong complementary actions and interdependence among innovations of each firm in ICT suggest new frameworks of theory. This paper focuses especially on technological systems, helping us understand the drivers to change in technological systems more generally.

The paper offers many relevant contributions. First, it analyzes the notions of technological systems and technological convergence, and provides a definition. It explores those main features of technological systems in terms of a variety of specific forms of interdependencies such as: technological, knowledge, pecuniary, direct and indirect, supply and demand, and network externalities.

It elaborates a tentative analysis of the

sequential origins and effects of the surge of technological innovations which characterize the present direction of technological change in the new information and communication industries.

The relations between the dynamics of technological systems and the industrial dynamics in terms of conduct and performance of firms are also assessed with some implications for a long-term industrial policy. As a result, this paper will stimulate the field of economics of technology even further.

For information on the paper, or a copy, contact Cristiano Antonelli <cristiano.antonelli@unito.it>

Each issue of Interconnect features an executive summary by Publications Committee, of what it deems to be superior literary contributions to current technical, regulatory and social issues.



Connections

Nominations Committee: The ITS Nominations Committee has begun its work, in preparation for the Board meeting to be held during the ITS Biennial this summer in Buenos Aires. Board meetings that accompany Biennials are the occasion for the regularly scheduled election of new ITS Board members. The Committee will consider candidates who are presented to it prior to May 20th for Board membership. For information, please contact the Nominations Committee Co-chairs regarding material that should accompany any candidate's application. (David_Allen_AB63@post.harvard.edu). Also, the Committee is preparing a slate for the regularly scheduled election of ITS officers.

Membership Committee: Global Corporate Memberships are being renewed, and efforts are continuing to attract even more.

A number of new individual members have joined ITS, reflecting ITS' practice of soliciting and billing for new memberships at times other than conferences.

Anyone with suggestions for potential new corporate or individual members is urged to contact Almarin Phillips, Chair, ITS Membership Committee, phillipa@wharton.upenn.edu.

Special Marketing & Promotions Committee: Development of ITS' custom built web site is nearing completion, thanks to the intense work of Sandy Levin, Erik Bohlin and the team of Don Romaniuk. Much information has been gathered and is already being put onto the site framework. The next Special Marketing and Promotions Committee report should be announce the site's completion.

The Committee has been working closely with ITS 2000 officials to help promote the spring conference in Buenos Aires. One result is this special issue of **Interconnect** to further promote and report on what promises to be a stellar conference.

Publications Committee: The abstract review meeting for the Buenos Aires Conference was highly rewarding, in

that it contained many interesting papers. ITS members can expect that edited publications will result from ITS 2000.

Financial Committee: The Financial Committee is now reviewing the financial activity for the year 1999 before a full financial report is made available to the Board of Directors. The Committee reviews the General Ledger entries (income and expenses), compares them to the monthly bank statements, and generally reviews the nature and validity of those transactions. Once this review is completed, a year-end financial report is finalized and submitted to the full Board of Directors. This report then forms the basis for the ITS to file its tax forms with the U.S. Government. Although ITS is a tax exempt entity under U.S. law, it is necessary for ITS to file complete financial data each year.

The preliminary financial report being reviewed by the ITS Financial Committee indicates that ITS continues to enjoy a healthy financial state, enabling it to continue to serve its membership.



*We in Buenos Aires
welcome you to
ITS 2000!*



Preliminary work on this July's conference is already in the final stages. We have worked very hard over the last two years to be able to welcome you to Buenos

Aires at a conference of the same high academic and organizational standards that many of you have become accustomed to since Seville '96 and Stockholm '98. However, this time, you will be able to avail yourselves of our very rich program with themes relating to Globalization and the Information Society.

We also intend to offer you the enchantments of our elegant city, Buenos Aires, and - for those of you wise enough to take advantage - the vast range of climates and landscapes of our most beautiful country.

Our very warm welcome will be extended to those of you who attend these meetings every two years, as well as to those who, for the very first time, join the biennial conference of such a highly prestigious association as is the International Telecommunications Society.

*Dr. Fernando Borio
Secretario General, Telefónica
Conference Co-Chair*



Few things have been so personally rewarding as my participation in the organization and preparation of ITS 2000. This challenge has been so far successful, thanks to the talent and dedication of the team that is working with us on this great undertaking. Our early success has also been due to the very important and gratifying responses from those who will enrich the conference with their work and their papers.

Close to the last stage of the conference preparation, I would like to especially invite you to join this event, which will be highly attractive for the academic level of the papers submitted. Delegates will also be attracted to the special program in both the plenary and parallel sessions, relating to the Information Society and the Internet.

*Ing. Luis Perazo
Director Corporativo de Comunicaciones,
Relaciones Externas Institucionales,
Telecom Argentina Stet-France Telecom S.A.
Conference Co-Chair*



INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY THIRTEENTH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

TELECOMMUNICATIONS: THE BRIDGE TO GLOBALIZATION IN THE INFORMATION SOCIETY
JULY 2-5, 2000 - BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

Official Use Only

REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT IN CAPITAL LETTERS

PARTICIPANT

First Name: _____ Family Name: _____
Institution: _____ ITS Member ☐
Mailing Address: _____ City: _____
State/Prov.: _____ ZIP Code: _____ Country: _____
Fax: _____ Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
Accompanying Person(s): (If registered) _____

1- Registration Fees (US\$ DOLLARS)

• Delegate	US\$ 650,00.-	For Hotel Information Contact the General Secretariat or Visit http://www.its2000.org.ar
• Accompanying Persons	US\$ 350,00.-	

Total US\$

PAYMENT

☐ I include a copy of the Bank Transfer

☐ Credit Card, please mark:

☐ Visa

☐ MasterCard

(Sixteen numbers, and in some cases thirteen numbers)

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I hereby authorize the debit from my credit card account of the total required deposit.

Issuing Bank: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Cardholder Name: _____ Security Code*: _____

* Last three numbers on back side of the card.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Notes: Registration forms without payment will not be processed.

For administrative reasons the secretariat will be closed from June 22nd to July 1st, and it will re-open on site before the conference begins.

Official use only

Authorization date:

Code..:

Entered by:

Date:

Control:

Please send this form to the General Secretariat:

Deadline: June 22, 2000

Congresos Internacionales S.A. : Moreno 584, 9º Piso -C1091AAL- Buenos Aires-Argentina

Tel: 54.11.4342.3216/3283/3408 Fax: 54.11.4331.0223/4334.3811

E-mail: its2000@congresosint.com.ar

Buenos Aires 2000 Organizers on Track to Welcome the World!

The dynamic preparations for ITS 2000 are going remarkably well, and organizers are getting ready to welcome the world. The first organizational stage was, of course, issuing the Call for Papers, the abstract submissions and their subsequent assessment.

The results elated conference officials and were described as quite "remarkable". More than 450 authors from 38 countries submitted their abstracts by the November deadline.

The Conference's Scientific Committee, comprised of 15 people with distinguished international track records, gave richness and depth to the analysis process. The members brought significant diversities of both origin and expertise.

The assessment and ranking of submissions took place in Vienna, Austria, last November. It was not an easy task, due to the volume and the exceptionally high academic quality of the abstracts submitted. Paper selection was based on the novelty of the subject material, as well as adherence to strict criteria that had been established to meet conference program requirements.

Based on the committee selections, the first outline of what is to be the Conference's Academic Program was drafted.

The conference's local organization team was also in Vienna to coordinate the overall assessment process and to help the Program Coordinator, Lorenzo Pupillo. He is in charge of the theme coordinators, as well as all academic aspects of the conference. This function is taken especially seriously, in that it gives ITS 2000 what organizers describe as a 'unity of criteria' between the academic preparations and the Scientific Committee.

Once the authors were officially informed of the assessment outcome, organizers quickly progressed to the second stage of preparation, namely the launch of the Preliminary Program. The Preliminary Program will have reached - or should soon reach - potential delegates and interested parties. It provides a comprehensive overview of the program, as well as being an effective initial introduction to Buenos Aires and ITS 2000.

Authors whose abstracts were selected will have submitted their final papers by the March 15th deadline. Conference officials warned they would expect compliance with all published criteria and would strictly enforce those requirements for the better organization of the conference.

The ITS 2000 web-site has already been visited by more than 3000 people and has received praise for its design, simplicity, and the ease by which

visitors can quickly access desired information.

The ITS 2000 team has undergone weeks and months of hard and intense work. The requirements of putting together a world-class conference are many; and the team knows the biggest demands on their time and energies are still ahead. Yet their diligence has already been rewarded by numerous pleasant and important surprises. Among the most satisfying experiences for the Buenos Aires team to date has been the support of those hundreds of people throughout the world who have contributed with their science, their spirit of research and their critical analysis telecommunications.

They have made ITS 2000 a reality. They will ensure the technical, academic and international richness of the program and make this a conference most worthy of being held in the year 2000.



Argentina: An Enchanting Country Waiting to Greet You!

If you are joining us for ITS 2000, and have never been to Argentina, you may envisage simply the tango and gauchos. Yet, as thousands of delighted visitors to our wondrous country can attest, our country's natural wonders are the primary attractions.

They range from the northern deserts to the southern Andean cordillera, and from Iguazú Falls to the magnificent desolation of Patagonia. Atop all this is Buenos Aires, our fabulous capital city, renowned both for its sophistication and for its neo-European culture.

In fact, the overwhelming feature of Argentina's largely immigrant population is the degree to which the cultural traits of Europe have remained throughout their transition to the so-called "New World".

That is why our country is such a glorious paradox. Argentina offers a mystic and unique enchantment of wonders found only in the south of the

world. Yet this is one Latin American country in which Europeans, North Americans and English speakers can feel at ease and travel relatively inconspicuously. An interest in soccer and some nimble foot skills may be all you need to feel like a local.

Buenos Aires

Buenos Aires, for all its elegance and charm, is still one of the largest cosmopolitan cities in the world, with eleven million inhabitants.

A modern city with dynamic growth and an abundance of activities, Buenos Aires has managed to preserve old traditions and quaint corners. One is fascinated by the atmosphere, the individual peculiarities of each neighborhood, the natural hospitality of the people and the wide range of cultural and business opportunities.



Buenos Aires looks remarkably like Paris, block after block of tidy, high-rise apartment buildings interspersed with 19th-century houses, continuing as far as the eye can see.

It offers a wide variety of attractions: monuments, churches, museums, art galleries and theaters; squares, parks

continued on page 6

An Enchanting Country continued

and gardens with ancient trees; typical neighborhoods; large shopping malls, traditional and modern hotels, delightful restaurants and international cuisine.

When you join us, be sure to choose your visits very well. Without a tour guide, the city may seem scattered. That is part of the magic. Still, it may be advisable for you to study various possible itineraries before making your choice, depending upon your free time and personal interests.

Of course, you can hardly expect us to welcome you from so far away, without tempting you with the sights, experiences and marvels from one of the largest and most unique countries of the world. Buenos Aires, close to all this splendor, is the greatest cosmopolitan doorway to exciting South American vacation possibilities.

Bariloche: Through Mountains and Lakes (3 days - 2 nights). Departure date: July 6, 2000 / Return date: July 8, 2000.

In Bariloche, on the shores of Nahuel Huapi lake and within the largest Argentine National Park, is one of the country's most beautiful mountain resorts. Its lakes, forests and mountains form an ecological zone that is unique in South America.

The price includes a round-trip transfer from/to airports, 2 nights



accommodation with breakfast, half day tour to "Circuito Chico" visiting the city, the shores of Nahuel Huapi lake, a view of the Tronador Mountain and Lopez Bay, reaching the Llao-Llao Peninsula, all day tour to Victoria Island, sailing along the Nahuel Huapi lake through an imposing natural beauty and a visit to the Myrtle Forest, which inspired Walt Disney to film his movie "Bambi".

Iguazú Falls

A breathtaking spectacle: 275 falls separated by islets covering an area of 3 km. The largest waterfall, 70

meters high, is located in the Iguazú National Park, a subtropical rain forest with exotic fauna.

B1 (2 days - 1 night). Departure date: July 6, 2000/Return date: July 7, 2000.

The price includes a round trip transfer from/to airports, 1 night accommodation with breakfast and half day tour to the cascades on the Brazilian side.

B2 (3 days - 2 nights). Departure date: July 6, 2000/ Return date: July 8, 2000.

The price includes a round trip transfer from/to airports, 2 nights accommodation with breakfast, all day tour to the cascades on the Brazilian side and half day tour to the cascades on the Argentine side.

Andean Argentina: Salta and Jujuy (4 days - 3 nights). Departure date: July 6, 2000/Return date: July 9, 2000.

The special character of these old cities and towns added to the imposing setting of mountains, valleys and creeks makes the region irresistibly attractive. The city of Salta has the best preserved patrimony of colonial architecture of the country. The Humahuaca ravine, with its great natural beauty and inhabitants descended from the Incas, is the most attractive area of the region. This valley is dotted with colorful small villages and colonial churches.

The price includes a round trip transfer from/to airports, 3 nights accommodation with breakfast, half day city tour, all day tour of Cafayate visiting the wine cellars of the region, where the "Torrantes" wine - the only variety typical of the country - is produced, and an all day tour to Humahuaca ravine, including a visit to "Pucará de Tilcara", a 10th century Indian fortress.

D. Ushuaia (4 days - 3 nights).

Departure date: July 6, 2000/Return date: July 09, 2000.

Ushuaia, capital of the province of

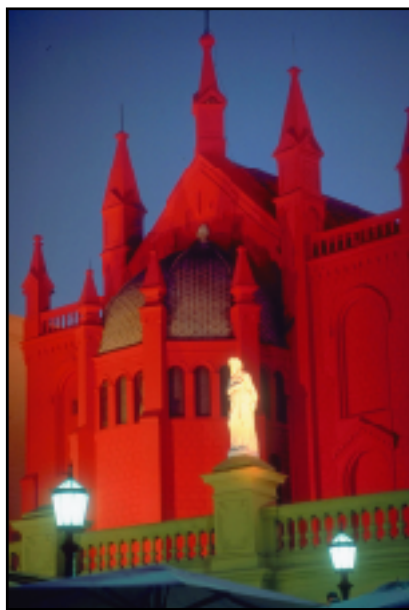
Tierra del Fuego, and the southernmost city in the world, extends along the shore of a bay surrounded by the last Andean slopes. In Tierra del Fuego National

Park there are examples of the sub-Antarctic forest.

The price includes a round trip transfer from/to the hotel in Ushuaia, 3 nights accommodation with breakfast in Ushuaia, an all day tour to the Beagle Channel and to Tierra del Fuego National Park and a half day city tour and visit to the World End's Museum.

For further information on possible tours, please feel free to visit our web-site at <<http://www.its2000.org.ar>> or

contact the General Secretariat of the Conference at <Conginte@congresosint.com.ar>. (Phone: 54-11-4342-3216/3408. Fax: 54-11-4331-0223).



Argentina Program to "Bridge" continued

bringing together legislation on the provision of infrastructure, services, content and conditions for access to that content. Policies and strategies should reflect the trend toward "multiservices" utilizing a common infrastructure platform.

At present, 16 sessions are foreseen for this subtheme, including: Convergence, Country Studies, Local Competition, Theory of Regulation, Political Economy of Regulation, Universal Service and Wireless Communications.

Many expectations have been built into the final program, and none higher than those of the organizers. Major speakers and guests from around the world are confirming their attendance at the conference. They will enrich both the Information Society Plenary Session and the topical subthemes. The final enrichment will be your participation as well.

INTERCONNECT

At a Glance - Photonic Technology in the ACTS Programme

The main focus of ACTS (Advanced Communications, Technologies and Services) has been on using broadband communications to deliver real applications to real users. Some 30 projects have explored how to deliver higher capacity and cheaper or radically new forms of communications.

The results have been consolidated by the HORIZON project into a roadmap toward the communications age (*Reference: Fibre Systems (July 1998) p13*). This brings together the results of the ACTS projects, showing how the individual component and system developments map on to the

communications needs of the next millennium - 100 Mbit/s per customer by 2010. The ACTS projects ESTHER, MIDAS and UPGRADE have investigated how solitons - optical pulses that trade off the various kinds of distortion in a fibre to arrive unchanged at the other end - could be used to deliver over 100 Gbit/s on a single fibre. The projects SPEED and HIGHWAY have shown how to carry up to 16 times the amount of information over each fibre. ACTS projects, such as BROADBANDLOOP, TOBASCO, METON, FRANS, PLANET, COBNET and WOTAN, have investigated a range of options for providing broadband two-way access to

residential and business customers.

A series of techno-economic case studies are presented in an ACTS Guideline (BAE2) suggesting which network evolution strategy fits which set of circumstances.

Summaries of the ACTS Guidelines can be found at: <http://www.actsline.org> and full texts can be downloaded from: <http://www.infowin.org>.



Upcoming Events

18th Annual ICFC Conference is entitled "Convergence of New Technologies and Market Dynamics: Forecasting Economics and Marketing for the Communications Revolution".

The conference will be held on September 26-29, 2000, in Seattle, WA, USA.

The ICFC is an international communications conference for marketing, forecasting and demand analysis. The ICFC is a professional forum for telecommunications forecasters, demand analysts, market researchers, product managers and planners.

For more information, visit the website at www.icfc.ilstu.edu, or contact Dr. David Loomis, Illinois State University, Campus Box 4200, Normal, IL 61790-4200, or phone (309) 438-8625.

11th European Regional ITS Conference in Lausanne, Switzerland invites you to participate and encourages research papers in the following areas: Regulation, Industry Policy Issues, Role of Telecommunications Infrastructure, Changes in the Structure of the Telecommunications Industry, Convergence among Telecommunications, Broadcasting and Computing, Telecommunications Services plus other areas.

Submissions must be received by March 31, 2000.

For more information visit <http://userpage.fu-berlin.de/~jmueller/its.html>

20% off for ITS members!

Competition in Telecommunications *Jean-Jacques Laffont and Jean Tirole*

Theoretical models based on the assumption that telecommunications is a natural monopoly no longer reflect reality. As a result, policy-makers often lack the guidance of economic theorists. *Competition in Telecommunications* is written in a style accessible to managers, consultants, government officials, and others. Jean-Jacques Laffont and Jean Tirole analyze regulatory reform and the emergence of competition in network industries using the state-of-the-art theoretical tools of industrial organization, political economy, and the economics of incentives.

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Academic Alley

Tracking the Who's and Where's of Research & Development

An impressive book about the life and work of ITS member Don Lamberton has recently

been published by Elsevier Press. The book is entitled Information and Organization: A Tribute to the Work of Don Lamberton, and is edited by Stuart Macdonald and John Nightingale.

The Festschrift contains 30 chapters with contributions from leading researchers in the field of information economics and organization science, all having developed close working relationships with Don. The book provides an interesting and informative introduction to the life, intellectual struggles and victories of Don Lamberton, authored by the editors of the book.

Quoting from the book: "Don Lamberton is an information economist. There can be few of his acquaintance who are not thoroughly aware of his fascination with the economics of information, some would say his obsession..."

"What will be immediately evident to the reader is how diverse the collection is. Just as information is everywhere, so Don's interest in information has led him everywhere information is an issue. This is evident in his own work, and even more to those who have been influenced by him."

"Let us be quite clear that Don Lamberton is very much alive and very much still kicking. This determination to kick and keep kicking is one reason why this volume has been compiled."

Don has always eschewed bandwagon compliance, finding opportunism distasteful and admiring those who have their own ideas or,

perhaps better still, some appreciation of whence their ideas have come and whence they might go.

"Don should of course have followed the fashion for self-promotion and named something after himself - a theory, a model, a thesis. He might do so yet, but it would be out of character."

In his thesis work, The Theory of Profit, subsequently published by a renowned publishing house (Blackwell, 1965), Don probed the problem of corporate profit from angles that troubled and confused traditional economists.

"In Don's view, many of the firm's resources are not exogenous as implied by the production function view, but endogenous and generated by the goal oriented efforts of the core entity to finance its own future existence."

"Uncertainty is only a part of the reason for the persistence of profit. Market power, entrepreneurial flair and imagination, stocks of knowledge updated by continuous flows of information, are the basis of the firm's ability to produce the surplus required to maintain the resources measured as capital."

Don has also worked intensely through students and Ph.D. candidates.

"Under Don's influence, and briefly under his control, the Department of Economics at Queensland became the most prolific producer of economics Ph.D.'s in Australia, bar none."

"Even in his retirement he supervises more Ph.D. students than many academics supervise in a lifetime. ... Don is a relentless supervisor, demanding more of students than they ever thought of giving, and asking more of the very best."

"Don has also worked relentlessly to further the topic of information economics through journals and publication opportunities. For instance,

Leading Researcher - A Profile of Don Lamberton

he started and printed the journal Prometheus completely on a voluntary basis for a number of years. He also is editor of Information, Economics and Policy and participates in many other publication venues.

"It was founded in 1983 simply because there was no other journal which catered around the catholic range of issues which had come to occupy Don. The major journals were still reluctant to publish information economics; and if they did accept the occasional paper, it had to be very much focussed on economics."

"From the beginning, and for the next fifteen years, Prometheus was published by its editors, there being no academic society and no commercial publisher who cared for the journal's prospects. The journal survived on its own subscriptions and on the uncosted efforts of Don and his wife, Clare."

"Running a journal in this way is exhausting; negotiations not only with authors but with everyone in the production chain."

"Don has always assumed that questioning will cause people to stop and think, to reconsider, perhaps to change their views and to ask questions themselves. The question is of more value than the answer."

"Don thinks and works in terms of a community of scholars in which entitlement to authority comes from ideas. He is absolutely delighted when an idea which has interested him crops up in some unlikely spot. Don's ideas are being used and developed, spread by his students and colleagues, and then by their students and colleagues."

"This is the reward which Don Lamberton values most. This collection of papers is evidence that such ideas matter, and that the questions they inspire are being asked."