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## Foreword

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**Biographical notes:** Jack Reardon teaches economics in the School of Business at the Hamline University. His research interests include economics education, energy and the environment, and labour economics. He has published in a wide variety of journals including the *Journal of Economic Issues*, *Monthly Labor Review* and *International Journal of Green Economics*. He has published *A Handbook for Pluralist Economics Education* (Routledge) and *The Economics Curriculum: Towards a Radical Reformulation* (World Economics Association Books). He is currently finishing a principles of economics textbook for Pluto Press.

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### 1 Article on pluralism

In the introduction to his article, ‘Planting the seed of change: a student-led introduction course to economics’, Timothée Parrique argues that “if the first phase of curricular reform was aiming to formulate a critique of mainstream economics education, the second phase must be dedicated to the drafting of alternative curricula that would embrace the three- or four-fold aspects of pluralism”. Agreed! The article discusses his experience teaching *The Global Economy: Environment, Development, and Globalisation*, a 15 credit, interdisciplinary and very pluralist course, offered since 2003 at the student-run University Centre for Environment and Development Studies (Cemus) at Uppsala University in Sweden. Parrique offers numerous suggestions for what works and what does not, as well as helpful readings.

### 2 Articles on economics

In an effort to increase Indian readership of the *IJPEE*, I helped organise an economics, business and management symposium at the Birla Institute of Management Technology, in Bhubaneswar, India. Faculty selected the six best papers, and of these I selected one which I thought would be of interest to our readers; the paper was then submitted to the usual double-blind review system. I am very pleased to publish ‘Organisational citizenship behaviour and employee engagement at a leading Indian public sector oil company’ by Manosi Chaudhuri and Sonakshi Govil. Not only does the paper comport with the *IJPEE*’s objective to dialogue with economists across the world, but it is a

logical follow-up to our earlier publication of two articles on labour economics (Greenwood 2015; Peterson, 2016). Greenwood (2015, p.129) notes the dearth of pluralist/heterodox labour economics textbooks, and urges “more articles and books presenting a comprehensive pluralist approach that is accessible to undergraduate students”. This article meets her request. While neoclassical labour economics texts assume that human capital influences productivity, which in turn directly influences the wage, Govil and Chaudhuri empirically demonstrate that a worker’s productivity is highly fluid and determined by a plethora of variables – especially the extent of worker engagement. I also recommend this paper in a principles of economics course, which is notoriously reticent about the inner workings of the firm.

Marc Pilkington’s article ‘Where did the money go? Endogenous money creation for international fraudulent purposes: the case of the 2015 Moldovan banking scandal’ discusses this important case of missing money, while also illustrating the concept of endogenous money, an important concept in heterodox economics. Pilkington brings it to life, while also deftly illustrating the concepts of the theory of the firm, shadow banking, and firm agency.

### **3 Roundtable dialogue on pluralism**

As founding editor of the *IJPEE*, I thought it prudent to cast our nets across the pluralist spectrum, to fathom our understanding of pluralism, to assess our progress, and what work needs to be done. Unfortunately, available journal space severely limited the number of pluralist thinkers I could ask, but hopefully this dialogue will further discussion and reflection on this palpably important concept.

### **4 Book review**

This issue concludes with a review by Dirk Ehnts of Schumpeter’s classic *Theory of Economic Development*. As Ehnts notes, Schumpeter’s highly informative account of speculative finance, debt, and the entrepreneur is highly relevant today.

### **References**

- Greenwood, D. (2015) ‘A pluralist approach to teaching labour economics’, *International Journal of Pluralism and Economics Education*, Vol. 6, No. 2, pp.118–133.
- Peterson, J. (2016) ‘The political economy of work: economic pluralism and real world economics’, *International Journal of Pluralism and Economics Education*, Vol. 7, No. 2, forthcoming.