

Current Comments

The 1981 NAS James Murray Luck Award for Excellence in Scientific Reviewing: John S. Chipman Receives Third Award for His Reviews in Economics

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On April 27 of this year, the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) presented the 1981 James Murray Luck Award for Excellence in Scientific Reviewing to John S. Chipman, professor of economics, University of Minnesota. The award was presented at the Academy's 118th annual meeting in Washington, DC. This is the third year the award has honored an outstanding author of scholarly reviews.^{1,2} I was pleased to attend, although I was not consulted on Chipman's selection by a committee of the Academy.

In 1979, ISI® and Annual Reviews, Inc., a nonprofit organization, began sponsorship of this award to formally recognize the contributions of reviewers. To my knowledge, no such award had hitherto existed. The award is named for the founder of Annual Reviews, James Murray Luck, who served as that organization's editor-in-chief until his retirement in 1969. Luck remains on the editorial committee of the *Annual Reviews of Biochemistry*, which he founded in 1932. He was also present at the awards ceremony.

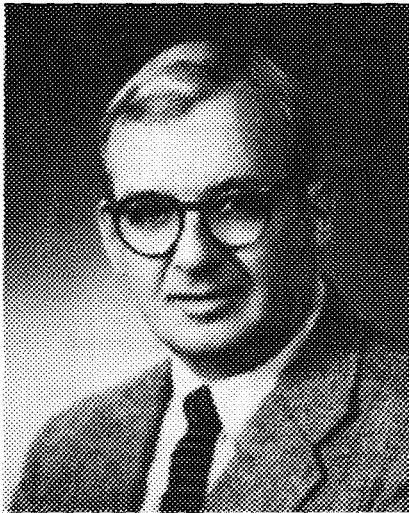
The NAS administers the award, which carries a \$5,000 honorarium co-donated by ISI and Annual Reviews. The field recognized by the James Murray Luck Award rotates yearly. The first award recognized an outstanding reviewer from the life sciences. G. Alan Robison, University of Texas at Houston, was honored for his series of

reviews on cyclic AMP.¹ Last year, the second award recognized a reviewer from the physical sciences. Conyers Herring,² Stanford University, received the award for his authoritative reviews in the discipline of solid-state physics, now generally referred to as condensed matter physics.

This year, Chipman was chosen from a field of nominees in the social sciences. The Academy cited him for combining "superb technical expertise and a passion for the analysis and synthesis of intellectual development. His surveys of international trade theory, the new welfare economics, and the Paretian heritage are outstanding contributions to economic thought."

Chipman, a native of Canada, received his PhD in political economy from the Johns Hopkins University in 1951. Soon afterward, he became assistant professor of economics at Harvard University. In 1955, he became associate professor of economics at the University of Minnesota, where he was named professor in 1960. Over the years, he has served as visiting professor at several institutions in the US and abroad.

In 1970, Chipman helped found the *Journal of International Economics*, which is covered in *Current Contents*®/*Social & Behavioral Sciences* and the *Social Sciences Citation Index*® (SSCI™). A glance at SSCI's *Journal Citation Reports*® shows that this jour-



John S. Chipman

nal has achieved a substantial impact on the field. He has also served as an associate editor of *Econometrica* and is currently an associate editor of the *Canadian Journal of Statistics*. Chipman is a fellow of the Econometric Society, the American Statistical Association, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Chipman is author of the book, *The Theory of Inter-Sectoral Money Flows and Income Formation*, first published in 1951 by Johns Hopkins Press, and now in its third printing. With E.F. Babino, J. Blat Gimeno, and F. Hardy, Chipman coauthored *Educación y Economía en Venezuela*, published in 1963 by UNESCO. He was also coeditor of *Preferences, Utility, and Demand*, published in 1971 by Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, and *Flexible Exchange Rates and the Balance of Payments: Essays in Memory of Egon Sohmen*, published in 1980 by North-Holland. Chipman has written 40 original articles on various topics in economics, including international trade theory, welfare economics, and the theory of aggregation in economet-

rics. His latest article, "Compensating variation, consumer's surplus, and welfare," coauthored with James C. Moore, appeared in the December 1980 issue of *American Economic Review*.

But in addition to his original works, Chipman has authored a number of scholarly reviews. Perhaps the most influential of these was a three-part series surveying the historical development of the theory of international trade, which appeared in *Econometrica* in 1965-1966. The importance of this review series was described by Robert M. Solow, professor of economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology: "Chipman's three-part survey of international trade theory in *Econometrica* is a superb example of the art. It coded and unified many strands of contemporary trade theory and, what is also important, made the connections with the 19th-century precursors. It succeeds in being both a review of the literature and an intellectual performance on its own. There is no better example in economics."³

Data from the *SSCI* demonstrate that this series was cited more than 100 times between 1966 and 1980 in the periodical literature alone. In a field like economics, this would qualify it as a *Citation Classic*. Other significant reviews by Chipman concern welfare economics and the lingering influence of 19th-century economist Vilfredo Pareto. See Table 1 for a bibliography of Chipman's reviews.

In nominating Chipman for the award, Leonid Hurwicz, a colleague of Chipman's at the University of Minnesota, wrote: "There are a number of people writing about the history of economic thought who lack the required technical expertise. There are many with technical expertise who lack any interest in other people's work. John Chipman is a rare conjunction of superb technical expertise and a real

Table 1: A selected bibliography of reviews authored by John S. Chipman.

- Chipman J S.** Linear programming. *Rev. Econ. Statist.* 35:101-17, 1953.
----- The foundations of utility. *Econometrica* 28:193-224, 1960. (Reprinted in:
Luce R D, Bush R R & Galanter E, eds. *Readings in mathematical psychology*.
New York: Wiley, 1965. Vol. 2, p. 419-50).
----- The nature and meaning of equilibrium in economic theory.
(Martindale D, ed.) *Functionalism and its limits in the social sciences*.
Philadelphia: American Academy of Political and Social Science, 1965. p. 35-64.
(Reprinted in: Townsend H, ed. *Price theory, selected readings*.
Harmondsworth, UK: Penguin, 1971. p. 341-71).
----- A survey of the theory of international trade. Part 1. The classical theory.
Econometrica 33:477-519, 1965.
----- A survey of the theory of international trade. Part 2. The neoclassical
theory. *Econometrica* 33:685-760, 1965.
----- A survey of the theory of international trade. Part 3. The modern theory.
Econometrica 34:18-76, 1966.
Chipman J S & Moore J C. The compensation principle in welfare economics.
(Zarley A M, ed.) *Papers in quantitative economics*.
Lawrence, KS: University of Kansas Press, 1971. Vol. 2, p. 1-77.
Chipman J S. Introduction to Part II. (Chipman J S, Hurwicz L, Richter M K &
Sonnenschein H F, eds.) *Preferences, utility, and demand: a Minnesota
symposium*.
New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1971. p. 321-31.
----- The aggregation problem in econometrics.
Advan. Appl. Probab. 7(3):72-83, September 1975.
----- The Paretian heritage.
Cahiers Vilfredo Pareto, Rev. Europ. Sci. Soc. 14:65-171, 1976.
Chipman J S & Moore J C. The scope of consumer's surplus arguments. (Tang A M,
Westfield F M & Worley J S, eds.) *Evolution, welfare, and time in economics*.
Essays in honor of Nicholas Georgescu-Roegen.
Lexington, MA: D.C. Heath, 1976. p. 69-123.
Chipman J S. A reconsideration of the 'elasticity approach' to balance-of-payments
adjustment problems. (Dreyer J S, ed.) *Breadth and depth in economics: Fritz
Machlup—the man and his ideas*. Lexington, MA: D.C. Heath, 1978. p. 49-85.
Chipman J S & Moore J C. The new welfare economics, 1939-1974.
Int. Econ. Rev. 19:547-84, 1978.

passion for discovering, analyzing, and helping us know about others' work."⁴

Others who nominated Chipman assert that he is not content to merely report what others have written. Rather, he brings a subject up-to-date, makes corrections where necessary, and adds his own insights to work done previously. Chipman himself confirms this in summarizing his own philosophy of review writing: "I have always been reluctant to write a survey that does not provide fresh perspectives as well as contain some new results. For me, synthesis and original thought have always been inseparable elements, both of which suffer when they part company."⁵

The importance of critical reviews to the advancement of science is well recognized but needs constant reiteration.⁶ I have even proposed that review writing be considered a profession unto itself.⁷ Nevertheless, there persists a chronic shortage of people who write reviews on a regular basis. To collect the available literature on any subject and turn it into a single, digestible work requires much time, knowledge, and writing skill. This particular brand of critical reviewing is the culmination of many other kinds of reviewing, including the "minireviews" we are incorporating in our forthcoming *Atlas of Science*.⁸ Providing access to critical

and other reviews wherever they appear is the purpose of our *Index to Scientific Reviews*[™].⁹

Until recently, there existed no formal award to recognize the contributions made by reviewers. The cosponsorship of the NAS award by ISI and Annual Reviews is intended to encourage more scientists, especially younger ones, to write more and better reviews. I was delighted that the award was given to a social scientist. It is particularly relevant to mention that the present administration has recommend-

ed devastating cuts in the support of social sciences research.

Next year's James Murray Luck Award will again be presented to a reviewer in the life sciences. Submit all nominations to the Office of the Home Secretary, National Academy of Sciences 247, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, DC 20418, before August 14, 1981.

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2. The 1980 NAS James Murray Luck Award for Excellence in Scientific Reviewing: Conyers Herring receives second award for his work in solid-state physics. *Current Contents* (25):5-7, 23 June 1980.
3. **Solow R M.** Telephone communication. 15 April 1981.
4. **Hurwicz L.** Personal communication. 17 March 1981.
5. **Chipman J S.** Personal communication. 27 March 1981.
6. **Herring C.** Distill or drown: the need for reviews. *Phys. Today* 21(9):27-33, September 1968.
7. **Garfield E.** Proposal for a new profession: scientific reviewer. *Current Contents* (14):5-8, 4 April 1977.*
8. ISI's *Atlas of Science* may help students in choice of career in science. *Current Contents* (29):5-11, 21 July 1975.*
9. So you wanted more review articles—ISI's new *Index to Scientific Reviews (ISR)* will help you find them. *Current Contents* (44):5-6, 30 October 1974.*

*Reprinted in: **Garfield E.** *Essays of an information scientist.* Philadelphia: ISI Press, 1980. 3 vols.