Beyond Market-Fundamentalist Economics
An Agenda for Heterodox Economics to Change the Dominant Narrative

June 2012 Special Issue of On the Horizon

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Call for Papers

The financial crisis of 2008 threw in sharp relief the inadequacy of an increasingly market fundamentalist, mainstream neoclassical economics to accurately explain the economy or to provide guidance to policy makers that will lead to widely-shared prosperity and human wellbeing.

Critical understandings of market dynamics and alternative approaches are found in the spectrum of heterodox economics. In 2008, On the Horizon (OTH) published a special issue (Vol. 16, No. 4) on heterodox economics, “Publishing, Refereeing, Rankings, and the Future of Heterodox Economics.”

In an upcoming special issue, OTH will go further, to highlight how practitioners of heterodox economics might differently advise policy makers around the globe to proceed, and how those policy programs might be supported by a re-formulated economic narrative which, in turn, would be shaped by re-designed economics curriculum, different approaches to pedagogy and funding for far wider research agendas, if heterodox economists were to receive the kind and level of support currently enjoyed solely by mainstream neoclassical economists.

For inclusion in this special issue, we are interested in a range of possible papers that conceptualize the policy, teaching, and research arenas to reshape the dominant economic narrative and break the hegemony of market-fundamentalism that would result from substantially strengthened support of all heterodox traditions. Scholars may choose to focus on the contribution of a particular school of economic thought, or draw from a number of heterodox frameworks, and similarly may focus on one nation or many.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

1. The Policy Program
   - What policies would heterodox economists—or practitioners of Institutionalist, Marxist, Feminist, Post Keynesian and other traditions—advise policy makers to support with respect to energy, the environment, trade, employment, family policy, finance, education, health care, military efforts and other pressing issues?
• How might recommended policies vary for more and less affluent nations?
• How would we suggest meeting the challenges of sustainability, raising world-wide living standards while reducing negative environmental and social impacts?
• Are policy ideas influential only if they come from elite academic institutions? Are there other institutional interconnections that reinforce accepted policy ideas and how might heterodox economists seek to reframe these institutions and their relationships?
• How have overlooked insights gained currency in the past? What role does the media play in the acceptance or dismissal of economic ideas?
• How can heterodox economists use cultural practices, organizational processes and technological parameters to change the standard dominant economic narrative?

2. Heterodox economics in universities and schools: Curriculum and pedagogy
• What would a heterodox economics curriculum look like? Are there examples of appropriate curriculum for elementary and secondary education, as well as universities?
• Does heterodox economics call for different pedagogical approaches than those central to market-fundamentalist mainstream neoclassical economic teaching methods?

3. What would be the impact of significantly increased funding for research in heterodox economics?
• If heterodox economists had access to private sector/non-profit philanthropic funds of the order of magnitude of INET/Rockefeller Foundation and public funding of the order of the NSF/RAE, could the profession be changed in terms of research, teaching, economics department composition, conferences, etc.?
• What would the research agendas comprise? Would methodological changes occur? What kinds of metrics might be used?

4. Is the division into heterodoxy and orthodoxy unique in the discipline of economics, perhaps because of its political centrality? Are there lessons from other disciplines in the social sciences?
• What are the consequences for the economics discipline of the dismissal of heterodox ideas by orthodox economists?
• What are the ways that heterodox economics can achieve more widespread acceptance of pluralism?

Papers
One-page proposals are to be submitted to the guest editors (oth.heterodox.econ@gmail.com) and papers should be submitted online at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/oth. Submitted papers undergo a peer-review process.

Papers are expected in well-supported essay style, between 1000 and 5000 words, including abstracts, key words, and references. Please see the general guidelines for authors on the journal site http://www.emeraldinsight.com/oth.htm.

Important Dates
• One page proposals due: August 1, 2011
• Acceptances announced: August 15, 2011
• Draft Papers due: November 1, 2011
• Final Papers due: February 1, 2012
• Publication: June 2012

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About Journal
On the Horizon focuses on the increasingly complex intersection of forces that are impinging on education and learning and to which educators, human resource professionals and all committed to human potential must respond. Areas of interest include the changing needs of an increasingly global society, the economics and business of education delivery, changing policies and practices affecting curriculum content, certification and intellectual property, and rules and regulations governing institutions. For more information, visit the Journal website:
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