

HIGHLIGHTS

Atlas Economic
Research Foundation



Fall 1997

Free Trade, Private Property and Intellectual Property Rights

The international conference, "Toward Free Trade in the Americas: The Legal and Regulatory Barriers," examined ways to enhance free trade in the American hemisphere. Co-hosted by the **Instituto Liberal de Minas Gerais** (Belo Horizonte, Brazil) and Atlas Economic Research Foundation, the day-long conference attracted 75 representatives from 53 organizations to Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, May 12-13, 1997.

The keynote address by Deepak Lal, the James Coleman Professor at the University of California-Los Angeles, set the tone for spirited discussions about alternative prospects for freer trade. The first session, "International and National Challenges to Judicial Security," included presentations by Judge Ricardo Rojas of Argentina and Augusto Machado of the Federation of Industries-Minas Gerais. The panel on "Private Property and Intellectual Property Rights" featured papers by

Armando Ribas of **Fundación República** (Buenos Aires) and Brazil's Carlos Henrique Fróes with commentaries by Roque Albuja of Ecuador and Owen Lippert from **The Fraser Institute** (Vancouver, BC). The program speakers argued that expanded investment and economic development will not occur in Latin America without a stronger legal framework of property rights, including protection of intellectual property rights in Argentina and Ecuador.

The Wall Street Journal's Mary O'Grady and Atlas adjunct fellow Deroy Murdock led the afternoon session with an assessment of the roles played by the media and think tanks in public policy debates. A panel composed of Charles Rowley (**The Locke Institute**, Fairfax, Virginia), Roberto Fendt (**Instituto Liberal**, Rio de Janeiro) and Atlas adjunct fellow Wesley Smith

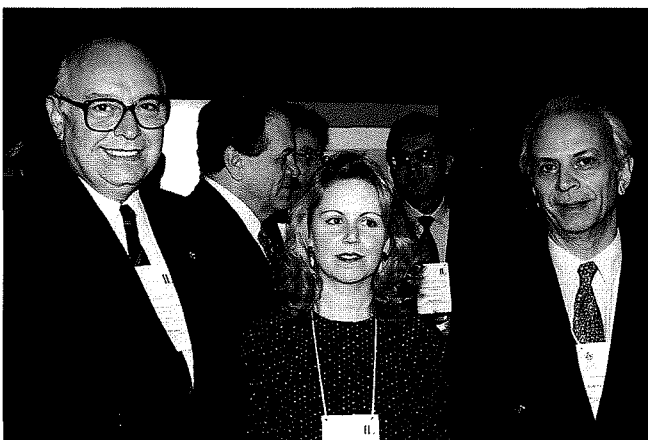
discussed "Free Trade and Regulations."

The conference closed with a debate on "Current Achievements in Regional Integration and Mercosur,"

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Alvaro Pedreira de Cerqueira, Instituto Liberal - MG



(left to right): Sergio Levy (Instituto Liberal - PR), Fernando Fontana (Centro Paranaense de Estudos Políticos e Sociais, Brazil), and Carol Coulter Davis (Atlas)



(left to right): Eugenio Guzman (Libertad y Desarrollo, Chile), Mary O'Grady (Wall Street Journal, NY), Odemiro Fonseca (Instituto Liberal - Rio), and Deroy Murdock (Atlas)

In June seven hundred fifty friends and supporters attended the 1997 annual dinner of the **Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty** (Grand Rapids, MI). Antonin Scalia, Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court, delivered the keynote address "On Interpreting the Constitution" in which he discussed the uniqueness of the United States Constitution as an enduring standard by which laws can be evaluated as just or unjust. Video and audio tapes of the program are available for purchase from the institute.

Achieving Labour's Aims, the newest project of **The Adam Smith Institute** (London), seeks to identify sound policy objectives of the new government and help build practicable and economically sound ways to achieve them. The program features seminars on subjects such as taxation, transport, education, and the environment. The first seminar, held in July, focused on welfare reform.

Danielle Smith, director of **Canadian Property Rights Research Institute** (Alberta, Canada), visited Atlas in July to learn more about creating public policy think tanks. The newly-established CanPRRI is devoted to teaching Canadians about the importance of property rights. Smith also visited with the **Center for Market Processes** and the **Institute for Humane Studies**, both in Fairfax, VA.

Cascade Policy Institute (Portland, OR) welcomes its new environmental policy director, John Charles. Charles, former executive director of the Oregon Environmental Council, directs the institute's environmental policy program and is developing the Oregon Growth PLAN (People, Land, and Nature). The PLAN will advance new ideas for growth management that rely on markets, property rights, and decentralized decision-making.

The *Oregonian* newspaper featured a full-page article, "Public Services, Private Enterprise," which detailed a number of privatization efforts in Oregon, around the nation,

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and the world. It prominently featured Cascade's programs throughout the page.

Another newly-established Canadian institute, **Frontier Centre for Public Policy** (Manitoba, Canada), offers another voice "to popularize common sense, solutions-oriented approaches to Canada's social and economic challenges." The institute aims to become a leading research and education resource to forge a model for a more focused and effective government. Its two-part research program 1) examines the business model in which governments separate funding from provision of services and directly fund consumers of public services in place of service producers in government, and 2) develops guides to benchmarking performance in the public sector. Current products include a weekly fax and e-mail commentary on the topic of smarter, smaller, more effective government; a quarterly newsletter which analyzes policy issues from the smaller government perspective; and books and monographs on these issues.

Goldwater Institute (Phoenix, AZ) received a grant from the **Reason Foundation** (Los Angeles, CA) to study the Phoenix model of competitive bidding for waste collection services. In August, the institute hosted Robert Poole, Reason's founder and president, at a press briefing to answer the question "How can Phoenix avoid becoming another Los Angeles?" Poole offered a prescription for the mass transit dilemma which included express toll lanes, more highways and private jitneys, stressing that rail is the least economical means of public transportation. In September, the institute hosted a policy briefing on electric utility deregulation.



IEA general director, John Blundell, (seated) and summer staffers Andrew Farrant (left) and Miles Blundell prepare 48 boxes of free-market books for shipment to Cuba.



Frontier Centre staff (left to right): Jean Dutoit, director of development; Rod Clifton, Hymie Rubenstein, and David Henderson from the academic advisory board; Peter Holle, president; and Merle Faminow, academic advisory board

The Institute of Economic Affairs (London) packed and shipped its single biggest order for free-market books. With Atlas assistance, 2,874 books were sent to the Ministry of Economy and Planning in Havana, Cuba.

Instituto Ecuatoriano de Economía Política (Guayaquil, Ecuador) held a workshop in August entitled, "Limits to governmental power: Constitutional Reforms." Sixty participants heard talks on issues including political power versus individual liberty, the government provision of services, and state monopoly power in the issuance of
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NEW PUBLICATIONS

Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty's (Grand Rapids, MI) president Rev. Robert A. Sirico's column "The Religious Left with Its Mask Off" appeared in the July 7 issue of *Forbes*. The institute also released its new book, *Where Garden Meets Wilderness: Evangelical Entry into the Environmental Debate* by E. Calvin Beisner. Beisner examines the issues at stake in current environmental debates by detailing the history of the evangelical environmentalist movement and exploring both its weaknesses and its strengths.

The first two issues of *Calvert Issue Briefs*, published by the **Calvert Institute for Policy Research** (Baltimore, MD) examine the potential for school choice to reverse urban decline. *Reforming the Schools to Save the City* analyzes the thesis that the various proffered remedies for urban decline -- new police, new green space, new tax cuts -- will not save the city unless the schools are saved. The middle and working classes will continue to leave the cities unless they are given access to good schools. The school choice alternative is considered in Part 1 of the report, *Toward a New Common School for Baltimore* and Part 2, *Survey Shows School Choice Would Prevent Middle-Class Flight from Baltimore*. The third brief in the series, *The Dissent: How the Townsend Report Fails to Address the Roots of Juvenile Crime and What to Do About It*, argues that no serious improvement can come about in the juvenile-crime situation until the state's staggering rate of illegitimacy is addressed.

The Centre for Independent Studies (St. Leonards, Australia) provides a comprehensive overview of international research and debates about the welfare state in *Reforming New Zealand Welfare: International Perspectives*. Its recommendations for New Zealand include financing retirement through individual accounts instead of state-funded pensions.

Other 1997 publications from CIS include *Democracy and the Welfare State* by London School of

Economics professor Kenneth Minogue; *Reforming Central Banking* by Standard & Poor's economist Stephen Kirchner; and *Taking Education Seriously: A Reform Program for Australia's Schools* by Ken Gannicott, a professor of education at the University of Wollongong in Australia. Lead stories in recent issues of *Policy*, CIS's journal of public policy and ideas, featured a review of the Mont Pelerin Society by its executive director, Greg Lindsay, and an excerpt from Gannicott's book which offers charter schools as "a new paradigm of public education."

The Commonwealth Foundation (Harrisburg, PA) published "Innovative Management Ideas for Government, State Liquor Stores, and Pennsylvania Highways," an edited version of remarks from the foundation's October 1996 conference on privatization. The foundation also published "An Overview of The Commonwealth Foundation's Analysis of Pennsylvania's General Fund Budget: Choosing Lower Taxes."

The Edmund Burke Institute (Dublin) published the first edition of its journal, *Reflections*. Articles included "Learning the Wrong Lessons: Governments, Hunger and the Great Irish Famine," "New Payments Technology and its Potential Implications for the Re-emergence of Laissez-Faire in Banking," "Third-Party Childcare: Liberation or Entrapment?" and "The European Democratic Deficit? The Strange Case of Integration by Stealth."

Goldwater Institute's (Phoenix, AZ) *Perspective on Public Policy* series recently included "Purple Logic: Fate of 'Purple People Movers' is bad omen for public transit," "Can Infill Stop the City from Moving Out?" "Politically Correct Transportation Policy," "Is Paying Higher Taxes for Public Transit a Good Idea?" "Tuition Tax Credits," "Charter Schools Are a Breath of Fresh Air," "School Finance: How to kill two birds with one stone," and "Hotwiring [electricity] Deregulation."

The July issue of *HKCER Letters*,

published by the **Hong Kong Centre for Economic Research** (Hong Kong), examines Chinese foreign trade following the GATT Treaty's Uruguay round of negotiations and proposed changes to switch secondary school language instruction from English to Chinese.

The IEA Health and Welfare Unit (London) published Alexis de Tocqueville's *Memoir on Pauperism* as translated by Seymour Dresner. In the introduction, Gertrude Himmelfarb, one of the foremost historians on the 19th century, shows the relevance of de Tocqueville's insights for the modern welfare debate, both in Britain and America.

Other Health and Welfare Unit publications include: *Does Prison Work?* which features an essay by Charles Murray and critical responses by three criminology experts; and *Zero Tolerance: Policing a Free Society*, which examines alternative perspectives on crime management.

The Institute of Economic Affairs - Ghana (Accra, Ghana) published *Democracy and Governance in Africa: A Preliminary Status Report, In Search of a Democratic Political Culture in Ghana*, and *Managing the High Social Demand for University Education*, a two-part essay which examines how the state-financed university system has failed to keep pace with the rising demand for higher education and the increasing population of qualified applicants.

Instituto Ecuatoriano de Economia Política (Guayaquil, Ecuador) published *Derechos de Propiedad: Requisito para la innovacion y Desarrollo Economico* (Property Rights: Requirements for Innovation and Economic Development) which includes an article on the ethics of property by Atlas colleague, Armando Ribas.

Viewpoints on Public Issues from the **Mackinac Center for Public Policy** (Midland, MI) include "Herbert Dow, the Monopoly Breaker," which examines the business strategies of Dow Chemical Company's founder; (Continued on page 4)

(New Publications, Continued from page 3)

"Lessons from Down Under," an illustration of the benefits of economic freedom which focuses on the case of New Zealand; "Temporary Workers and Pushbutton Unionism," which warns against efforts by the National Labor Relations Board to force temporary workers into unions; "The Difference Between a Fire and a Flood," an essay that contrasts private philanthropy with government relief efforts; "Competition is Coming to Electric Power Business;" and "Michigan Should Enforce the Rights of Workers," a defense of individual rights within the labor movement.

Brief Analyses from the **National Center for Policy Analysis** (Dallas, TX) cover foster care, environmentalism, and health care in "Languishing in Foster Care," "Myths of Global Warming," "The Federal Government and Juvenile Crime" and "Will a Cigarette Tax Increase Really Help Uninsured Children?" NCPA published the policy report *More Effective Health and Safety Spending Could Save 60,000 Lives a Year* by Tammy O. Tengs which illustrates that there is little relationship between the amount spent on a project and the project's effectiveness. Tengs, author of another newly-released NCPA publication "Dying Too Soon: How Cost-Effectiveness Analysis Can Save Lives," offers the cost-effectiveness model as a guide for public policy.

The NCPA also published *The State of the Children: An Examination of Government-Run Foster Care* by Conna Craig and Derek Herbert. The report finds that over 50,000 kids are legally free to be adopted, yet they are trapped in government-run foster systems because institutional incentives work against permanent adoption. The report attracted widespread media coverage in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Times*, and other leading newspapers.

National Wilderness Institute (Washington, DC) published *Conservation Under the Endangered Species Act: A Promise Broken* as a special project of the *NWI*

Resource series. The publication critiques the act, charging that its process for determining whether a species is endangered or threatened is highly subjective. It concludes that the act requires drastic revisions or wholesale replacement to create an endangered species program that will achieve real conservation.

Findings from the **Pacific Research Institute's** (San Francisco, CA) study, "Ending Welfare as We Know It," suggest that the state's program is hardly a temporary safety net. Over 10,000 families in California have been on welfare for 17 years or more and a majority of General Assistance recipients are single, male, employable and between 30 and 40 years old. The study cites the need to refocus on the original intent of welfare – to move the system from one focused on economic maintenance – to one that is concerned about the self-sufficiency and personal responsibility of recipients.

PERC (Bozeman, MT) researchers Don Leal and Holly Lippke Fretwell propose user fees to maintain and upgrade national parks in *Back to the Future To Save Our Parks*. The study compares the growing number of state parks that are supported through user fees with adjacent national parks to fortify the case for self-supporting systems.

Pioneer Institute for Public Policy Research (Boston, MA) published *Putting Our Kids First: Reform and Choice in Education*, an edited version of remarks made by Dr. Howard Fuller at a Pioneer Institute Forum. Fuller, who is director of Marquette University's Institute for the Transformation of Learning and former Superintendent of the Milwaukee Public Schools, spoke about the need for urban school reform.

In the white paper, "Challenging Convention(al) Wisdom: Hard Facts About the Proposed Boston Convention Center," Pioneer joins the growing number of institutes that are examining the economics of public convention centers.

Another Pioneer publication, *Seducing the Samaritan*, examines

how the bureaucratic grip of government paralyzes and dehumanizes caregiving, how public funds alter the agendas of private agencies, how federal and state agencies dictate broad philosophical perspectives on assistance while micromanaging social programs, and how state regulations crowd out private alternatives.

Loyalty Misplaced: Misdirected Virtue and Social Disintegration is the newest publication of the **Social Affairs Unit** (London) to suggest a connection between declining moral standards and social disintegration. Themes explored in this edited collection include "socially disintegrative attachments a threat to social as well as political order," "misdirected spirituality undermines civility," "politically 'correct' language as a tool to reconstitute society," "the blurring of distinction between private and public confuses political debate," and "civil society damaged by abandonment of traditional politics in favour of utopian goals."

Capital Comments from the **South Carolina Policy Council Education Foundation** (Columbia, SC) include "Refining 'Compassion' in South Carolina: Volunteerism and Welfare Reform," "Psychology, Feminist Propaganda and the Public Schools," "Why Kids Can't Read," and "Organized Labor Makes Campus Inroads."

The Sutherland Institute (Murray, UT) published *Utah Schools At A Glance: A Consumer's Guide*. In an easy-to-read color table form, this "school shopping guide" provides critical information about all public, private, and parochial schools in Salt Lake County.

Other Sutherland publications include "Tuition Tax Credits are a Good Idea," "Government Regulation: A Good Deal?" "Dumping Private Busing is a Step in the Wrong Direction," "Utah Doesn't Need Tax Dollars to Pay for I-15" and "The Federalist Papers: The Key to Restoring Our Constitutional Republic."

(*Institute News*, Continued from page 2)

money.

The **John Locke Foundation** (Raleigh, NC) featured actor Bill Barker posing as Thomas Jefferson at a Headliner dinner in the spring. "Thomas Jefferson" reiterated the states' rights that he stressed in 1784.

The **Josiah Bartlett Center for Public Policy** (Concord, NH) held a day-long session in the spring to examine the long-term economic outlook for the state. The program attracted 130 participants who heard sessions on economic growth and decline in New Hampshire, state tax policy and potential revenue sources, and the impact of the federal budget deficit on the state's economy.

The **Liberty Institute** (New Delhi, India) graced the pages of *The Wall Street Journal* twice in August. Barun Mitra, the institute's founder, published an opinion-editorial entitled, "India's Love Affair With the State," which examined the socialist influence that continues to hinder this democratic state. Several days later an *Asian Wall Street Journal* editorial reflected on India's 50th anniversary and quoted "free market economist Barun Mitra" and his views on Indian development.

In July and August, **Mackinac Center for Public Policy** (Midland, MI) sponsored two 3-day seminars for state high school educators who teach government, economics, and history.

The **National Wilderness Institute** (Washington, DC) petitioned the US Fish and Wildlife Service to remove 15 species from the list of threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. According to NWI's petition, some of the species are invalid (i.e., they are genetically identical to other species and should not have a separate classification); other species should be taken off the list because they have never been endangered or have long been extinct.

Pacific Research Institute (San Francisco, CA) held its annual privatization dinner in May to recognize the winners of its fifth annual competition "Celebrating Private Initiative in Criminal Justice." The

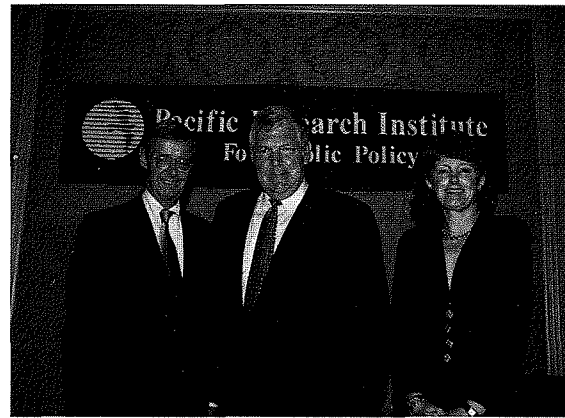
entrants submitted ideas for private alternatives to the state-managed criminal justice system. Winners reflected Pacific's commitment to the idea that independent local programs are better suited than those of government to address the issues of crime.

Pioneer Institute for Public Policy Research (Boston, MA) hosted a luncheon forum in May to discuss the proposed Boston Convention Center. The program featured remarks by Thomas O'Brien, chief economic development officer of the Boston Redevelopment Authority and Heywood Sanders, professor of Urban Administration at Trinity University in San Antonio, TX. In June, Pioneer's 1997 Annual Meeting program featured Eloise Anderson, director of the California Department of Social Services, who discussed welfare reform in California.

The **South Carolina Policy Council** (Columbia, SC) hosted a June teachers' forum entitled "Teaching the American Founding in 1997." Fifteen high school history and government teachers participated in the forum which focused on the legacies of James Madison and Alexander Hamilton.

In other activities, the SCPC filed an *Amicus Curiae* brief in the Wisconsin Court of Appeals with several other conservative organizations that also support the Milwaukee Parental Choice Program. This brief reaffirms the principles of parental choice which are at stake in Milwaukee. The **Center for Education Reform** (Washington, DC) initiated the brief.

Over 75 prominent government leaders and representatives of private firms attended a conference co-sponsored by **The Sutherland Institute** (Murray, UT) and the city of Taylorsville in July. A team of seasoned experts, including former New Zealand Cabinet Minister Maurice McTigue and Reason Foundation



PRI chairman, Dan Oliver (left) with guest speaker Bill Bennett and PRI president Sally Pipes at the PRI privatization dinner

president Robert W. Poole, Jr. offered information about privatization considerations and techniques.

Sutherland's September Issues & Ideas Luncheon addressed questions of racial neutrality. Speaker William Perry Pendley, president of the Mountain States Legal Foundation (Denver, CO), discussed "The Death of the Quota Culture." Pendley argued the affirmative action case of *Adarand Constructors v. Pena* before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Just days after the **Texas Public Policy Foundation** (San Antonio, TX) began its independent audit of San Antonio's mass transit agency, VIA, a \$1.5 million telephone tax was rescinded. The tax on telephone services was earmarked for the agency. Good work!

Most of the organizations mentioned in these pages are listed in the virtual phonebooks on the Atlas web page:

<<http://www.atlas-fdn.org/fonebook>>

Free Market Environmentalism in China: Conference and Translation Spark Environmental Debates

Thanks to the continuing efforts of Atlas's Beijing colleague, Dr. Pan Jihua, the ideas of free-market environmentalism are reaching opinion leaders and idea shapers in China. Jihua attended Atlas's 24th International Workshop in Beijing in December 1995 and has worked with Atlas since that time to enhance understanding of how markets can be applied to environmental questions and challenges.

In September, Jihua organized a free-market environmental (FME) seminar for the Research Centre of Environment and Development of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. He writes, "It turned out to be a greater success than expected." Originally planned to accommodate 40 people, attendance peaked at sixty-five. Participants included university lecturers from Beijing University, Tsinghua University, Beijing University of Science and Technology, People's University of China, and the Agricultural University of China; academicians from research institutions of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; officials from the State Planning Commission, State Science and Technology Commission, National Environmental Agency, the Ministry of Forestry, State Land Administration, and State Resettlement Administration; NGOs from the Institute of Human Ecology, Research Centre for Environment and Development, and Chinese Land Society; an entrepreneur from China Green Food (Group) Ltd.; and journalists and editors from Xinhua News Agency, *China Environmental News*, *China Daily*, *Social Science Research Briefing*, *Environment and Development News*, *Journal of Land Studies in China*, *Journal of World Economy*, *International Economic Review*, *China Environmental Industrial Development*, and *China Environmental Press*.

Each of the presentations were followed by active, if not heated, discussions and debates about the theoretical underpinnings of the market model, as well as the applicability of the ideas to China's problems. "Many participants," writes Jihua, "considered free market environmentalism as a new and efficient alternative to centralized



Book cover from the Chinese translation of *Free Market Environmentalism* by Terry Anderson and Don Leal

regulation and asked for more books on the subject." Similarly, news writers and journalists have asked for news summaries, book reviews, and papers for publication.

Fortunately, Pan Jihua is able to respond to these requests, thanks to his efforts to publish a mainland Chinese translation of the book, *Free Market Environmentalism* (1991, Pacific Research Institute for Public Policy, San Francisco, CA) by Terry Anderson and Don Leal. The translation project was cosponsored by Atlas and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation of Königswinter, Germany. To market the new translation, Jihua offered to organize seminars on

the topic to garner interest in this important area. According to Jihua, participants expressed an interest in additional seminars which would focus on the practical application of free market environmentalism and its constraints and institutional applications in China's transitional economy.

Hopefully, these efforts will go a long way in generating continued discussion in China, especially since many of the seminar participants are high-ranking researchers and officials representing the senior fellow and vice ministerial levels. Additionally, several attendants have been invited to write journal papers and newspaper summaries. The seminar news is scheduled to appear in *Environment and Development News*, *Social Science Research Briefing*, *China Environmental News*, *Journal of World Economy*, *International Economic Review*, and *China Environmental Industrial Development*.

Judging by the growing list of book translations, there is an ever expanding geographical interest in FME. Coincidentally, the Taiwanese translation of *Free Market Environmentalism* was produced last year by Professor Shaw Daigee, a graduate school colleague of Atlas's Jo Kwong. Atlas also previously sponsored the Portuguese translation with the cooperation of the **Instituto Liberal - RS** (Porto Allegre) in 1992. Former Atlas fellow Atilla Yayla (**Association for Liberal Thinking**, Ankara, Turkey) recently released the Turkish translation; colleagues at **Timbro** (Stockholm, Sweden) translated the book into Swedish; and the book has been available in Spanish for several years. Of course, for years, the English version has been widely distributed by institutes in English-speaking countries.

Atlas Hosts Contingent of Argentine Leaders

On June 26, 1997, twenty board members and business supporters of **Fundacion del Tucumán** (Tucumán, Argentina) attended "*The Free Market in the Americas*," a conference hosted by the Atlas Economic Research Foundation in Fairfax, VA.

Established in 1985, the **Fundacion del Tucumán** actively contributes to the economic development of the northwest region of Argentina through research, publications and conferences. Participants included Fundacion del Tucumán's chairman of the board José García Gonzalez and executive director Fernando Bach; Raúl Topa, vice governor of Tucumán; Antonio Maranzana, director of ARCOR Candy Manufacturers, the world's second largest producer of candy; and Ricardo Arriazu, an international economic consultant who represents Argentina at the International Monetary Fund.

Professor Charles Rowley, director of **The Locke Institute** (Fairfax, VA), opened with a presentation on the economic principles of free trade. He described how and why special interests can implement policies detrimental to consumers. Charles Evans, Atlas's director of public policy & information,

discussed the internet and its influence on public policy.

Dr. S. Fred Singer, director of the **Science and Environmental Policy Project** (Fairfax, VA), analyzed several environmental regulations currently under consideration by climate change proponents. He assessed the vast economic costs involved in the proposals, stressing the need for sound science in the evaluation of alternatives. Singer shared how his research findings challenge the popular perception that human activity is leading to catastrophic global change.

The Honorable Maurice McTigue, former Cabinet Minister and Member of Parliament in New Zealand and currently a distinguished visiting scholar at the **Center for Market Processes** (Fairfax, VA), outlined the privatization experience in New Zealand. While serving as head of the New Zealand Department of Works, McTigue privatized the entire 20,000-employee system at a 40% cost saving. Similar



(left to right): Osvaldo Suar (President de la Bolsa de Comercio), Antonio Maranzana, Franco Fogliatta (Ministro de la Produccion), Fernando Bach, and Maurice McTigue

reforms in telecommunications and taxation have helped make New Zealand one of the world's 15 wealthiest nations. The Fraser Institute's *Economic Freedom of the World* rates New Zealand as number two in its summary index ratings of economic freedom.

Concluding remarks were given by Atlas president, Alejandro Chafuen, on free trade and the role of institutes in the Americas.

(Free Trade, Continued from page 1)

with Ordélio Azevedo Sette (Brazil) and Gerardo Bongiovanni (**Fundación Libertad**, Rosario, Argentina).

After the workshop several Atlas guests and representatives attended the three-day "Free Trade Area of the Americas" meeting which also took place in Belo Horizonte. These meetings paralleled the Atlas program by focusing on the lack of adequate protection of intellectual property rights in Latin America, particularly for pharmaceutical and software industries. Participants discussed problems with the current system, noting, for example, that Latin researchers with creative

ideas often choose to emigrate and patent their products abroad, rather than risk having their intellectual work stolen. The impact on jobs and economic growth, in turn, is significant, reinforcing earlier comments from the Atlas meeting about the effects of inadequate legal systems upon economic growth and development.



(left to right): Armando Ribas (Fundación Republica, Argentina), Roque Albuja (Quevedo y Ponce, Ecuador), Carlos Henrique Fróes (Fróes, Luna & Fróes, Brazil), Owen Lippert (The Fraser Institute, Vancouver, BC)

Summer Fellows Bring New Talents to Atlas

Summers at Atlas are never dull thanks to an active fellows program which brings institute entrepreneurs from many different cultures to our Fairfax offices. This summer, Atlas welcomed Juan Carlos Madrigal from Mexico, Raul Madrid from Chile, and the return of visiting fellow Pedro Isern Munne from Argentina.

Juan Carlos Madrigal comes from Mexico City where he worked as a research assistant to Roberto Salinas Leon at **CISLE** (Center for Free Enterprise Research). He helped organize and coordinate CISLE's first Liberty Fund colloquium entitled "The Roots of Classical Liberalism in Mexico." He also arranged speaking tours for distinguished classical liberal scholars including Steve Hanke (Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD), James Dorn (**Cato Institute**, Washington, DC), Enrique Ghersi (**Instituto Libertad y Democracia**, Lima, Peru), Gary S. Becker (Nobel Laureate), and José Piñera (the architect of Chile's private pension system).

In addition to his think tank experiences, Madrigal is a successful young entrepreneur. He has been the owner and manager of several businesses, including an environmental nature camp for primary school

children and several sidewalk hot dog stands. He also manufactures unique kaleidoscopes that he supplies to museums and retailers. These endeavors provide practical insights for his academic thesis research which examines the application of classical liberal ideas to small and medium enterprises in Mexico. Madrigal, who is working on Mexican and Latin American programs at Atlas until December, is also applying his environmental knowledge to ecolabel research. He can be reached via e-mail at jcmadrig@tonatiuh.sis.uia.mx.

Raul Madrid of Chile also brought his special areas of expertise to Atlas. He received a Ph. D. in Philosophy of Law and an M.A. in Philosophy at the University of Navarra in Spain. He is the academic secretary of the School of Law at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile where he specializes in the study of philosophy of law and legal theory and is a professor of ethics at the university's School of Philosophy. Madrid's current research focuses on postmodernity and its influence on contemporary legal thought.

Madrid learned about Atlas from his fellow faculty member, Eugenio Guzmán (**Instituto Libertad y Desarrollo**, Santiago), who served as a

visiting fellow at the foundation last year. Together, they are seeking to bring the study of law and economics to their university. "Despite the fact that the Chilean economy is very successful," comments Madrid, "a commitment to Law and Economics is still ground breaking." While at Atlas, Madrid examined this as a new methodology in law and explored its feasible connections with other epistemological models such as hermeneutics. He worked closely with Professor Charles Rowley of **The Locke Institute** (Fairfax, VA) on these studies.

Atlas also welcomes Pedro Isern Munne, a native of Rosario, Argentina. Through **Fundacion Libertad's** (Rosario) Gerardo Bongiovanni, Isern learned about Atlas's international network of market-oriented institutes. Shortly afterwards, he came to Atlas for two months in 1995 and helped organize a conference on Latin American electric utility reform. Following his first Atlas fellowship, Pedro returned to Argentina to complete his studies in political science at University San Andres. In August 1996 Isern rejoined Atlas and is continuing to work on Latin American programs.



Juan Carlos Madrigal, Raul Madrid, and Pedro Isern on the way to visit the Statue of Liberty.

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