

# HIGHLIGHTS

Atlas Economic  
Research Foundation



Spring 1998

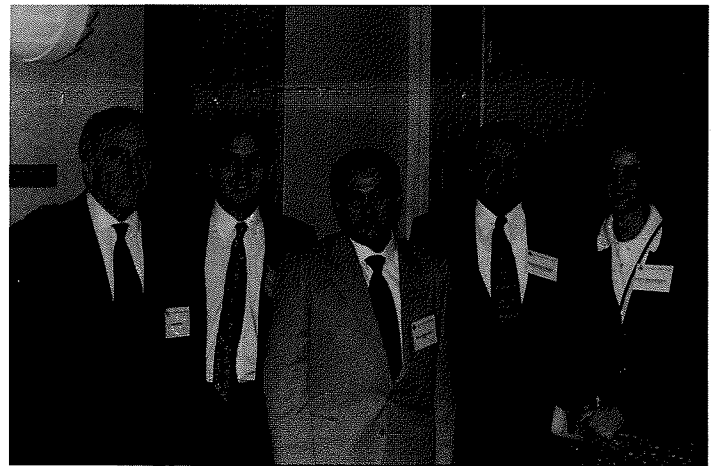
## Poverty and the Environment -- Global Lessons, Local Solutions

Policy leaders from seventy-five different organizations explored issues of "poverty and the environment" at the Atlas International Workshop held in Orlando, FL. Atlas colleagues have long proposed ideas to address environmental concerns, often to find intense opposition based on "moral" arguments. Critics hold up property rights, capitalism, and markets as examples of moral decadence. In contrast, this February program examined compelling arguments that markets provide institutional arrangements which enable nations to rise out of poverty. As wealth increases, the luxury of environmental protection becomes more affordable and obtainable.

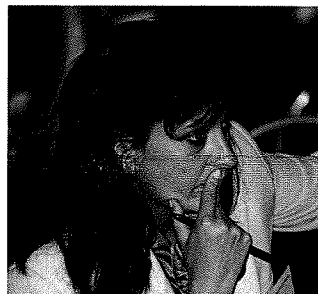
The program opened with a dinner speech by Hernan Büchi, Chile's former economic minister (**Instituto Libertad y Desarrollo**, Chile), who endorsed the idea of focusing on poverty and the environment as a means of positively influencing public policy. "Environmentalism is an emotionally charged issue, but the focus on poverty and the environment offers a rational balance because it shows that people have to make choices." He encouraged the participants, as "idea creators," to find innovative ways to help people realize they have to make choices, each of which has different consequences. The choices that lead to a wealthier society also lead to a society that has greater freedom.

The program's first panel focused on empirical data and supporting arguments for the theme, "wealthier is healthier." Lynn Scarlett (**The Reason Foundation**, Los Angeles, CA) contended that "poverty is perhaps the greatest threat to human health and the

environment." She described how the human condition has been one of continual improvement by showing how we have become more efficient in our resource use, how we are able to produce more output with fewer inputs, and how increasing wealth produces better and cleaner options.



Armando Ribas (*Fundación República, Argentina*), Juan Carlos Madrigal (*Atlas*), Hugo Landivar Cuellar (*FULIDED, Bolivia*), Rolando Espinosa (*Centro de Estudios en Economía y Educación, Mexico*), and Carroll Rios de Rodriguez (*Centro De Estudios Economico-Sociales, Guatemala*)



Ana M. de Lamas (*Estudio Lamas, Taboada & Asociados, Argentina*)

Sally Pipes (**Pacific Research Institute**, San Francisco, CA) offered empirical evidence to back the argument that environmental conditions are, in fact, improving. Each year Pacific publishes an environmental index which delineates primary, secondary, and composite measures of environmental well-being. The figures show that economic growth



Harry Teasley, (*former president, Coca-Cola Nestlé Refreshments Company, USA*)

and environmental improvement go hand-in-hand, and additionally, that economic growth is the main prerequisite for environmental improvement.

Both speakers added the caution

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*(Poverty & the Env't, Cont'd from page 1)*

that regulations can be costly, typically imposing an overall negative effect on both the economy and the environment. By documenting the strides that have been made, institutes can work to counter the pessimistic views towards the environment and focus on the positive contributions that the market alternative offers.

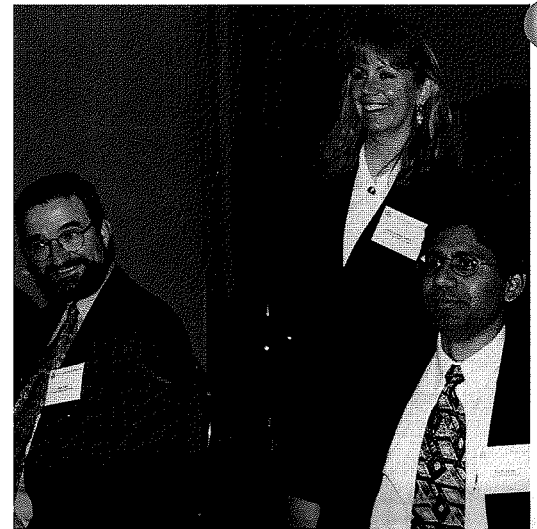
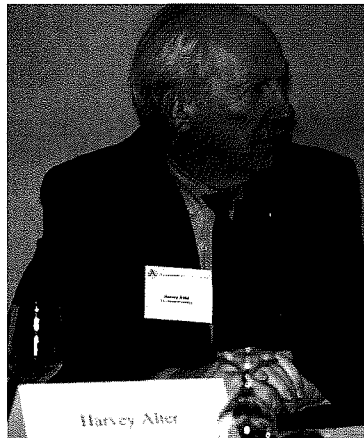
On the second panel, Calvin Beisner, author of *Where Garden Meets Wilderness*, looked at "The Human Dimensions of Poverty." He pointed out that many countries simply can't afford the technologies that enable people to have a clean environment. The environmental costs of poverty -- indoor air pollution from burning coarse biomass fuels, untreated sewage, and low-efficiency vehicles which burn highly polluting fuels, for example -- diminish as economies grow through continued hard work, learning, and capital investment.

Speaking from a similar perspective, Atlas's director of environmental programs, Jo Kwong asked, "What kind of environmental ethics ignores the plight of the less wealthy among us, and instead, focuses on hypothetical or phantom risks at unreasonably high costs? Environmentalism is distinctly a Western preoccupation, yet our Western ideals are being exported worldwide to countries where people simply cannot afford to adopt these costly measures."

Terry Anderson (PERC, Bozeman, MT), a hero to many program participants for penning *Free Market Environmentalism* with coauthor Don Leal, picked up the regulatory theme introduced in the previous panel and described how barriers to free trade, through their negative impacts on economic growth, end up hindering the ability to enhance and protect the environment.

Participants received an information-packed keynote luncheon address from Harry Teasley, former president of Coca-Cola Nestlé Refreshments Company. Combining classical liberal insights with his experience as a top multinational business leader, Teasley delivered a powerful perspective on "Packaging:

Good for Trade, Health, and the Environment." He countered widespread environmental perceptions with common sense rebuttals. On the topic of orange juice packaging, he responded to the oft-heard claim that "mother nature offers the best packaging available, so consumers best protect the environment by



Don Cayo (Atlantic Institute for Market Studies, Nova Scotia), Carol Coulter Davis (Atlas), and Parth Shah (Centre for Civil Society, India)

Harvey Alter (US Chamber of Commerce, USA)



Margaret Conditt (Procter & Gamble Company, USA), Ana Maria Garmendia (SUSTENTA, Mexico), and Fran Smith (Consumer Alert, USA)

buying oranges and making their own juice at home." Not so, responds Teasley. Not only is there far greater efficiency in the amount of juice that commercial operations can achieve, but the rinds are turned into animal feed so there is little waste to speak of. Additionally, the energy costs of shipping fresh oranges are far greater than shipping orange juice concentrate: oranges generate nine times more corrugated waste, weigh more than seven times as much as the frozen orange juice alternative, and take more than six times the number of trucks to

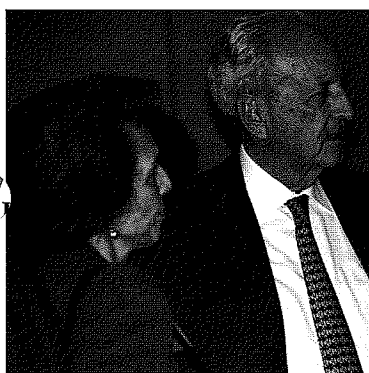
distribute. Using other real world examples, Teasley revealed a remarkable history of innovation and improvement in product packaging that has vastly contributed to economic and environmental well being.

The Orlando, Florida, location offered the Disney advantage: in the afternoon, a group of program participants privately toured the Waste Management, Composting and Recycling Facility of Disney World. On the panel preceding the tour, Roy

*(Continued on page 3)*



*Roberto Blum (Centro de Investigación Para el Desarrollo, Mexico), Juan Carlos Madrigal (Atlas), Roberto Fendt (Instituto Liberal-RJ, Brazil), and Joaquin Zepeda (Procter & Gamble Co - Latin America, Venezuela)*



*Mr. and Mrs. Ricardo Zuloaga (Venezuela)*



*Patricia Vásquez (Fundación República, Argentina), Enrique Gherzi (CITEL, Peru), and Roger Bate (IEA Environment Unit, London)*

global attempt at addressing hazardous wastes) and other treaties of international governance, deny national sovereignty, impose unproductive trade barriers, and impede positive developments in waste management strategies by creating conditions of ambiguity and uncertainty. Subsequent speakers also looked at flawed regulations and their impacts on innovation and development. Lynn Scarlett described extended producer responsibility (the idea that producers should bear responsibility for environmental impacts of their products throughout the product's life cycle); Henry Miller (**Hoover Institution**, Stanford, CA) described biotechnology regulation and its continued focus on theoretical risks; and Roberto Fendt (**Instituto Liberal do Rio de Janeiro**, Brazil) and Patricia Vásquez (**Fundación República**, Argentina) addressed trade barriers imposed by ecolabelling programs.

Roger Bate (**IEA Environment Unit**, London) discussed how fear and misinformation drive public policy decisions despite the availability of scientific evidence that allows issues to be put in relative perspective. Enrique Gherzi (**CITEL**, Peru) drove home that point by illustrating how fears over chlorine's potential cancer effects led policy makers to eliminate chlorine from the Lima drinking water system. A cholera epidemic ensued, causing far more deaths than those hypothetically posed by chlorine.

Harvey Alter returned to the podium for the luncheon address and discussed the growing problem of environmental treaties as a dangerous new strain of paternalism and colonialism. Amid all the bad news coming out of Kyoto, he noted, is the good news that developing nations have rediscovered the fact that "emerging economies soar, and people's lives improve dramatically when they build basic industries with scrap metals and other recycled materials." That is one reason they refused to sign the accords.

Unfortunately, under competitive pressure from these developing nations, several OECD countries have sought to shield their own industries by practicing

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Mecklenburg, Disney's Animal Kingdom Horticulture manager, presented an overview of Disney's waste management and composting facilities. He was joined by Monica Ozores-Hampton, an agricultural engineer at the University of Florida, who explained how Walt Disney World processes food wastes, waste paper and wood chips into organic compost.

Later that evening, Fred Smith (**Competitive Enterprise Institute**, Washington, DC) presented a briefing on his experience in Kyoto during the December Global Warming Summit and offered the slogan, "A world starved of

energy will be a world of starving people." Reflecting on the slim numbers representing free-market perspectives, Smith urged institutes to pursue NGO (non-governmental organization) status to achieve greater participation in the future. Contact Jim Sheehan at CEI for ideas on pursuing NGO classification.

For those institutes steeped in solid waste management issues, the Saturday program offered both broad overviews and detailed operations presentations. In the opening panel, Harvey Alter (US Chamber of Commerce, Washington, DC) described how the Basel Convention (the first



Program participants en route to the Walt Disney Company waste management and composting facilities

*(Poverty & the Env't, Cont'd from page 3)*

neo-colonialism, banning the shipment of recycled materials, and erecting trade barriers disguised as environmental protection or sustainable development. "We must continue to struggle with those who would deny developing nations their right to raw materials, industrial development, prosperity, health and a better environment," Alter concluded.

The last two panels showed how communities can and are responding to local environmental challenges. Charles Stitt, former Deputy Mayor in Indianapolis, IN, spoke about that city's privatization experience. Luiz Diaz (CalRecovery, Inc., Hercules, CA) focused on nontechnical solutions, such as providing adequate legal institutions, to create an overarching framework from which technological problem-solving can flow. Lou Ann Baker (White River Environmental Partnership, Indianapolis, IN) described the alternative levels of public-private partnerships available in the provision of water services. María Isabel Di Mare (Universidad Autónoma de Centro América, Costa Rica) looked at ecological strategies and opportunities in her home country, ranging from conservation partnerships to hunting and other eco-tourist arrangements. Lastly, Fernando von Zuben (CEMPRE, Brazil) and Ana María Garmendia (SUSTENTA, Mexico) detailed solid waste associations and recycling in their home countries,

including the role of scavengers as "agents against pollution."

Armando Ribas (Fundación República, Buenos Aires and former member of Congress in Argentina) concluded the program with the final dinner speech. He observed that the environmental debate is really a moral or ethical battle between Rousseau's view that private property is the root of inequality and poverty -- and the Anglo-Saxon recognition that private property is a vital incentive to pursue one's own happiness, live in freedom, create wealth and improve society. Rousseau, coupled with Kant's theory of an absolute moral imperative, leads naturally to the socialist (or bureaucratic) belief that an anointed class of "wise people" should be able to dictate how others must behave and how best to distribute wealth and possessions "equitably." But as even Karl Marx realized, bureaucracies "convert private interests into the common interest for their own purposes." "Conversely, when we are free, our innate creativity results in a better world. For this reason, we must wage the environmental battle in the field of ethics and recognize that, because we are not governed by angels, we need controls over the governments that would rule every aspect of our lives," said Ribas.

With 94 program participants representing 75 organizations and 18



Terry Anderson (PERC, USA) and Calvin Beisner (Covenant College, USA)



Henry Miller (Hoover Institution, USA)

countries, the presentations offered more than enough "food for thought" to explore additional dimensions of the free society.

Audio tape recordings of the conference are available for \$10 each or \$75 for a set of ten tapes. To order, contact Great White Productions at 179 Parkhill Boulevard, West Melbourne, FL 32904. Tel. 888-827-348, fax 407-733-5417.

### Upcoming Atlas Program

#### "New Technologies and Public Policy"

August 28-30, 1998  
Charlottesville, VA

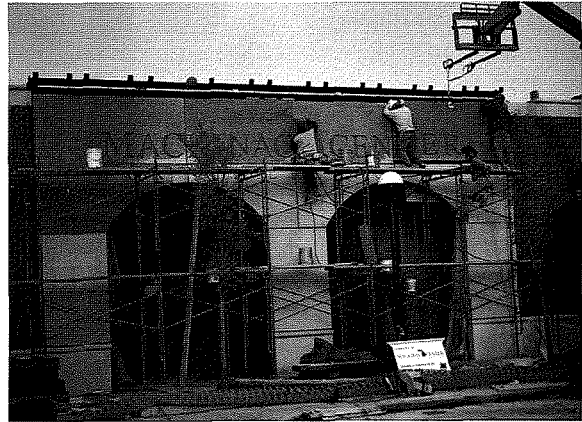
On August 27, Atlas will host a special session for donors which includes a private tour of Montpelier, home of James Madison, and a lecture on "The Thought of James Madison."

## INSTITUTE NEWS

The Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty (Grand Rapids, MI) announced its 1998 *Toward a Free and Virtuous Society* student conference schedule. Seminarians and religious studies students are invited to apply for the four-day introduction to the principles of liberty. The 1998 programs run through October. Contact Lisa Prentice at 800-345-2286 for additional information.



Participants at a meeting of the Centre for Civil Society in New Delhi



Woolworth's transformation into new headquarters for the Mackinac Center in Grand Rapids, MI

**Adam Smith Institute** (London) attracted record numbers to its annual event, *Independent Seminar on the Open Society*, held in December. Students from as far away as Fife, Edinburgh, and Dundee, came to hear twelve social and political experts who addressed the "economic and political issues of the day."

Before a standing-room-only crowd of more than 170 legislators, media representatives and policy leaders, Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith outlined his successful competitive bidding initiatives at a statehouse luncheon sponsored by the **Buckeye Institute for Public Policy Solutions** (Dayton, OH) in late 1997. The institute's popular *Issues & Ideas Luncheons* feature nationally-recognized free-market reformers addressing policymakers in Ohio's capitol.

**Cascade Policy Institute** (Portland, OR) kicked off its fourth annual *Independence Essay Competition* for high school students. The 1998 essay, which offers up to \$5,000 in award money, focuses on the interdependence of personal and economic freedom. An independent Essay Review Committee will select up to five winners.

The **Ethan Allen Institute** (Concord, VT) hosted a January luncheon featuring Dartmouth economics professor Bill Fischel. He summarized economics research on the question, "Does a Shift from Local to State Funding Improve Public Education?" arguing that the shift often makes matters worse. Over 50 institute members and guests attended the program. A five-page summary is

available upon request from the institute.

**Goldwater Institute** (Phoenix, AZ) cosponsored a conference on *Sound Science and Public Policy* with **The Advancement of Sound Science Coalition** (Washington, DC) and the **Mountain States Legal Foundation** (Denver, CO) in mid-December.

**Instituto Liberal do Parana** (Parana, Brazil) celebrated its tenth anniversary at a luncheon event on December 3. Attendees included IL-PR trustees; local business representatives; and Hermann Heinemann Wever, president of Siemens-Brazil, who spoke on "Brazilian Economy and the Globalization Process."

The **James Madison Institute** (Tallahassee, FL) also celebrated its 10th anniversary in 1997. Festivities included a banquet and ceremony on December 4th.

India now boasts two think tanks run by Atlas colleagues. *Highlights* readers are familiar with the **Liberty Institute** (New Delhi) under the competent direction of science writer Barun Mitra. In August 1997, Parth Shah, on leave of absence from the University of Michigan, established the **Centre for Civil Society** also in New Delhi. The new institute is devoted to improving the quality of life for all citizens of India by reviving and reinvigorating civil society. Upcoming programs include a monthly public policy debate, policy study series (currently commissioned topics focus on economic analysis of legal reforms, corruption and civil service reforms, telecommunications services, and environmental policy), and student

outreach programs.

The 18-person staff of the **Mackinac Center for Public Policy** (Midland, MI) recently moved to its new \$2.4 million headquarters building. Renovation began last May on the 17,000-square-foot headquarters that once housed a Woolworth's department store. The new facility provides space for the center's researchers, a public policy and economics library, a media distribution center, and the Norval K. Morey Conference Room which will be used for educational programs attended by students, teachers, policymakers, and the public. To coincide with its ten-year anniversary, the center will host an open house at its new headquarters on June 5. Steve Forbes, publisher and former presidential candidate, will be the featured speaker at a special banquet in Midland on that date.

**National Wilderness Institute** (Washington, DC) continues to watchdog the Environmental Protection Agency and other environmental players in its efforts to achieve sound, ethical, and effective endangered species protection. NWI provides background information, research, and other assistance to parties challenging the US Fish and Wildlife Service's authority under the Endangered Species Act. The Congressional Research Service is currently reviewing NWI's endangered species study in order to question the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Academy of Science about the study's findings.

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## NEW PUBLICATIONS

The **Allegheny Institute for Public Policy** (Pittsburgh, PA) offered alternatives to taxpayer-funded sports stadiums in *Private Stadium Financing Sources: Options for the Pirates and Steelers*. Responding to the recent rejection of taxpayer-funded stadium proposals in Columbus and Minneapolis, the report argues that major league sports franchises should find ways to raise private money to build new facilities. The report examines successful alternatives from cities nationwide.

In the January issue of the **Atlantic Institute for Market Studies'** (Halifax, Nova Scotia) newsletter, *The Independent*, president Don Cayo addressed an issue which resonates with people in both the US and Canada. "It's Time for Tax Cuts: The Fiscal Dividend Would Be Best Left in People's Pockets" considers issues in so-called spending "surpluses." In February, senior policy analyst Fred McMahon examined the factors which propel regions to economic prosperity. He asked why region after region in the US experiences economic resurgences, yet the Atlantic provinces remain persistently weak. The secret, he says, is to get government out of the economy and keep taxes competitively low.

The Ohio Supreme Court ruling, *DeRolph vs. State*, has state legislators scrambling to reconstitute the state's school funding system. The **Buckeye Institute** (Dayton, OH) adds its perspective by focusing on child-centered education. The Fall issue of *Buckeye's Ohio Education Report* describes how child-centered education links school funding to educational opportunity: it establishes accountability within the public school system because it integrates parental involvement into everyday education decisions. Hence, a "market" for education evolves as the establishment seeks to meet students needs. Buckeye also published *Children First: A Discussion Paper on Public School Finance and Education Reform in Ohio* in November.

In *The Morality of Capitalism*, published by **The Centre for Independent Studies** (St. Leonards, Australia), author James Q. Wilson argues that capitalism depends upon important moral values for its success and, in its turn, helps to reinforce those values. The centre also published *Social Capital: The Individual, Civil Society and the State*, a collection of essays from a workshop conducted in January 1977, and reprinted Lord Acton's essay, *Nationality*, which argued that cultural diversity is a vital condition of civilized life.

The **Fraser Institute** (Vancouver, BC) published *Government-Sponsored Training Programs: Failure in the United States, Lessons for Canada* by Fazil Mihlar and M. Danielle Smith (director of the **Canadian Property Rights Research Institute**, Calgary, Alberta). The reports finds that a substantial number of job training participants have less than 12 years of schooling -- a fact that can not be changed by improving training programs. Hence, the long-run solution for Canada is to encourage people to stay in school and receive the proper foundations for building job skills.

Fraser also tackled perceptions about youth unemployment in *Is There a Youth Unemployment Crisis?* by Marc T. Law and Fazil Mihlar. They find that youth unemployment rates are not high by historical standards and offer policy solutions based on the observations that regional economies and educational levels affect rates of unemployment.

**Goldwater Institute** (Phoenix, AZ) continues its education efforts in electricity deregulation with the publication of *The ABC's of Stranded Costs*. The report looks at stranded costs (the "unavoidable costs of producing electricity that utilities would not be able to recover in a competitive market") and discusses the arguments for and against allowing utilities to recover these costs. It also proposes the least damaging way of recovering stranded costs. *How I Stopped Worrying and Learned to Love*

*Deregulation*, the third part of the institute's *Electric Competition Primer*, rebuts common myths about electricity deregulation.

In the January 1998 issue of *HKCER Letters*, the **Hong Kong Centre for Economic Research** (Hong Kong) included articles on private companies and their role in the industrialization of Vietnam, the composition of US-East Asia Trade and the East Asian Miracle, and a re-examination of Hong Kong as the "Freest Economy."

The **Institute of Economic Affairs** (London) published *How Markets Work: Disequilibrium, Entrepreneurship and Discovery* by Israel M. Kirzner. It offers a concise account of the Austrian view of competitive markets and how that view differs from the mainstream neo-classical view. The IEA is currently negotiating the German, Swedish, and Czech translation rights for the book.

The **IEA Environment Unit** (London) published *Climate Change: Challenging the Conventional Wisdom*. Edited by IEA's Julian Morris, the collection includes contributions from Robert Balling (Arizona State University), Roger Bate (IEA Environment Unit), Sonja Boehmer-Christiansen (University of Hull), Deepak Lal (University of California at Los Angeles, CA), and Thomas Moore (Hoover Institution, Stanford, CA).

In the **IEA Health and Welfare Unit's** (London) *Benefit Dependency*, David Green argues that Britain's rising welfare rolls should be a cause for shame rather than justification for expanding governmental assistance. He criticizes poverty professionals for treating the poor as powerless victims of external forces, and argues instead for the need to consider poverty in relation to character. This approach "treats the poor as competent individuals who can escape from poverty once their enthusiasm and self-confidence are enlisted."

The **James Madison Institute** (Tallahassee, FL) published a special issue on home schooling in the Winter

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**(New Publications, Cont'd from page 6)**

1998 issue of *Madisonian Journal*, which features essays from Florida families who are involved with home schooling. Students and parents respond to issues relating to socialization, support groups, goal setting, and resource sharing.

**The John Locke Foundation** (Raleigh, NC) tackled myths about charter schools in the cover story of the *Carolina Journal*. In "Charter Choices," author Andrew Cline offers a guided tour of two of the state's largest charter schools. In the December *Policy Report*, the foundation published "Measuring Up: How North Carolina's Faculty Salaries Compare." It also recently completed a *Policy Report* on education reform that proposes higher standards, an end to teacher tenure, the creation of tax-deductible Educational Savings Accounts, more local control, and private school scholarships for students trapped in the worst public schools in North Carolina.

**The Josiah Bartlett Center for Public Policy** (Concord, NH) published *Ideas for New Hampshire, Book Four: 1997 Better Government Competition Winners* which features essays from its two award winners. The first offers a comprehensive new approach to controlling air pollution in "The Industry-Average Performance System for Air Pollution Control: A Competitive, Self-Governing Air Pollution Control System." The second essay promotes "A Proposal to Improve Instruction and Advance Student Learning Across New Hampshire."

**The Lithuanian Free Market Institute** (Vilnius) examined taxation and privatization issues in its newsletter, *The Free Market*, offering seven principles of a "pro-liberal tax system" and elements of tax reform that "benefit private well-being." The publication additionally scrutinized the World Bank's *World Development Report 1997*. The following issue, No. 5, examines "The Controversy Over Money," which explains why the free market institute supports the idea of currency boards for its country. The institute promotes the ideas of economic

liberalism based on the principles of individual freedom and responsibility, free markets, and limited government. Its motto is, "If you don't create a free market, a black market will emerge."

*Do Private Schools Serve Difficult-to-Educate Students?* is the topic of a report by the **Mackinac Center for Public Policy** (Midland, MI). Authors Janet R. Beales and Thomas F. Bertonneau examine Michigan case studies of how nongovernment schools educate disabled, at-risk, and incarcerated youth. "Contrary to a widely held perception, public schools do not accept everyone. Those students whom the public schools can not or will not enroll are often sent to private schools." Hence policy recommendations from the report include the elimination of unnecessary regulations, expanding public and private options for students, and enhancing provider accountability by linking results to funding.

Nizam Ahmad, executive chairman of **Making Our Economy Right** (Dhaka, Bangladesh), made the case for liberalism, free markets, rule of law, individual freedom, tolerance and constitutionalism, in the cover story of *Liberal Times*, a forum for liberal policy in South Asia. Ahmad argues that these elements are necessary for the country to achieve true independence.

**National Center for Policy Analysis** (Dallas, TX) published *The Nightmare in our Future: Elderly Entitlements* by John Goodman and Dorman E. Cordell. Using the latest projections made by government actuaries for the Social Security and Medicare Trust Funds, the study finds that the burden of health care for the elderly will be greater than the burden of Social Security.

*Brief Analyses* from NCPA include "Who's Afraid of CO<sub>2</sub>?" which details the importance of carbon dioxide in life cycles, despite attempts by special interest groups to label it as a major pollutant.

Issues covered in the December issue of **The Nevada Policy Research Institute's** (Reno, NV) *Nevada Journal*

include telephone deregulation, global warming impacts, voter fraud, and social security. The cover story, *Dragon's Teeth*, looks at proposed western water law reforms and provides an analysis of the current state of the "water wars."

**PERC** (Bozeman, MT) addresses mining issues in *The Mining Law of 1872: Digging a Little Deeper*. Author David Gerard supports the current law which he says provides appropriate incentives to mine on public lands. The incentives would be stifled by most reform proposals.

*Missing the Bus: The Fight to Contract Competitively for MBTA Bus Service*, published by **Pioneer Institute for Public Policy Research** (Boston, MA), examines the impact of a 1993 anti-privatization law which effectively limits competition in the state.

**The Sutherland Institute** (Murray, UT) shares Utah's perspective on salient national issues in its *To The Point* policy series. Recent titles include "Cut Income Taxes Before Property Taxes," "Affirmative Action Hurts More Than it Helps," "Utah Should Lead the Way Toward a More Fair Election System," and "Enterprising Government?"

**Thomas Jefferson Institute for Public Policy** (Fairfax Station, VA) issued its latest report in December entitled "Downsizing State Government -- Doing Better With Less." The analysis found over \$2 billion that could be cut from the state's proposed two-year budget. Based on this report, and the media attention it attracted, the institute is optimistic that legislation might be introduced to limit the growth of the state budget to the rate of inflation plus population growth.

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

[www.atlas-fdn.org/fonebook](http://www.atlas-fdn.org/fonebook)



Colorado Attorney General Gayle Norton at the Sutherland Institute

(*Institute News*, Cont'd from page 5)

**Pacific Research Institute** (San Francisco, CA) closed the first round of its new *Education Privatization Competition* in late December 1997. PRI is offering \$20,000 to the most innovative and effective private entity that provides educational services in California. Applications are currently under review by a panel of judges which will select the best submission in each of five categories: pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, colleges and universities, adult education, and education services.

Other news from Pacific: senior fellow Lance Izumi has been named columnist and contributing editor of



Lance Izumi (*Pacific Research Institute senior fellow*)

*California Journal*, the state's premier political monthly. Through Izumi's "State of the State" monthly column, he'll have the opportunity to promote the free competition perspective on key public policy issues.

In February, the **South Carolina Policy Council** (Columbia, SC) celebrated the opening of its new headquarters in Columbia. The Thomas A. and Shirley W. Roe Center for Public Policy Research serves as the headquarters of the South Carolina Policy Council Education Foundation.

**The Sutherland Institute's** (Murray, UT) *Issues & Ideas* February luncheon featured Gale A. Norton, Colorado Attorney General. Norton spoke on "State Attorneys General in

the Cultural Wars: Colorado's Gay Rights Amendment and the National Tobacco Settlement." The event was co-sponsored by The Federalist Society.

The Sutherland Institute also hosted a February legislative briefing for Utah Legislators. Featured speaker Indianapolis Mayor Stephen Goldsmith discussed the benefits of implementing privatization policies in government.

In January, the **Virginia Institute for Public Policy** (Sterling, VA) was featured in lead editorials in the *Richmond Times-Dispatch* and *The Washington Times*. Both articles cited VIPP's study which argues for tax relief rather than more government spending. The report, authored by **Cato Institute's** Stephen Moore and Dean Stansel, debunks the idea propagated by tax opponents that the Commonwealth faces a crisis in unmet education and transportation spending needs.

## Think Tanks and Civil Society Workshop in Argentina

From June 2-3, 1998, Atlas is cohosting an international workshop in Buenos Aires on *Think Tanks and Civil Society* with **Fundacion Libertad** (Rosario, Argentina). Confirmed speakers include Peruvian author, Mario Vargas Llosa, and Jacques Garello (ALEPS, Paris). The sessions will focus on the relationship of think tanks to philanthropy, academia, and the corporate world. Linda Whetstone, Atlas trustee and daughter of Sir Antony Fisher, will present the Sir Antony Fisher International Memorial Awards to the institutes whose publications have made the greatest contribution to the understanding of economic freedom.

Following the events in Buenos Aires, the program will continue at Fundacion Libertad in Rosario, Argentina on June 4-5 (on the occasion of Fundacion Libertad's 10th anniversary).

This event will be a great opportunity to see firsthand the results of policy reforms in Argentina, as well as its natural attractions. Argentina has privatized its oil company, electric utilities, railways and even the post office. Inflation has all but disappeared. Come and see for yourself! Some of the speakers will be visiting Iguazu Falls and Bariloche, the beautiful Argentine lake country. For more information, contact Atlas at (703) 934-6969.

## New Translations

The **Association for Liberal Thinking** (Ankara, Turkey) published the Turkish translation of Norman Barry's *Classical Liberalism in the Age of Post-Communism*, originally published in English by the **Locke Institute** (Fairfax, VA). Atilla Yayla, the association's president, writes that the book is an important contribution because it "replies to criticisms made by communitarians against classical liberalism." The book was published with support from the **Friedrich Naumann Stiftung** (Konigswinter, Germany).

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