



TUFTS UNIVERSITY
Global Development And Environment Institute
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Tufts Institute to Award Annual Economics Prize to Michael Lipton and Peter Timmer for Work on Food and Agriculture

Tufts University's [Global Development And Environment Institute](#) announced today that it will award its 2012 [Leontief Prize](#) for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought to Michael Lipton of Sussex University and C. Peter Timmer of Harvard University. The award recognizes the critical work these researchers have contributed to the economics of food and agriculture. The ceremony and lectures will take place in April 2011 at Tufts University's Medford campus.

"The current food crisis is an early indication of one of the greatest economic, humanitarian, and environmental challenges of our time," says GDAE Co-Director Neva Goodwin. "Michael Lipton and Peter Timmer have been giants in the field of food and agricultural policy. Their research and writings have provided critical conceptual leadership as well as the empirical foundations necessary to address the challenges we face."

The Global Development And Environment Institute, which is jointly affiliated with Tufts' Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, inaugurated its economics award in 2000 in memory of Nobel Prize-winning economist and Institute advisory board member Wassily Leontief, who had passed away the previous year. The Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought recognizes economists whose work, like that of the institute and Leontief himself, combines theoretical and empirical research to promote a more comprehensive understanding of social and environmental processes. The inaugural prizes were awarded in 2000 to John Kenneth Galbraith and Nobel Prize winner Amartya Sen.

2012 Awardees

Michael Lipton is Research Professor of Economics at Sussex University, UK. He is a leading economist specializing in agricultural research, nutrition, land reform, demographic change, and poverty and inequality. His famous works, including *Why People Stay Poor: Urban Bias and World Development* (1977) and *New Seeds and Poor People* (1989, with Richard Longhurst), have been major contributions to the fields of food and agricultural research. His latest book is *Land Reform in Developing Countries: property rights and property wrongs* (2009). He is now writing *Malthus and Africa*, on the population-agriculture interface. During his 25 years as Fellow of the Institute of Development Studies, Dr. Lipton founded and directed the Village Studies Programme (1971-6), which collated over 3000 primary surveys and produced books on "why villages differ" in nutrition, migration and labour use. He was Lead Scholar for the *Rural Poverty Report of the International Fund for Agricultural Development* (2002), working at Sussex University with the Poverty Research Unit, which he founded in 1994, and which has contributed to reports from the United Nations, World Bank and the Asian Development Bank. He has conducted fieldwork mainly in India (starting with eight months in Kavathe village, near Satara, Maharashtra), and in Bangladesh, Botswana, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka and South Africa.

He has been elected to Fellowships of All Souls College, Oxford (1961-8 and 1982-4), MIT (Rockefeller Fellow, 1962-3), the British Academy (2006), and the Stellenbosch Institute of Advanced Studies (2011). He holds a D. Litt (1982) and a CMG (2003).

He is currently on the Program Advisory Committee of HarvestPlus (the CGIAR's biofortification research group), and in the UK on the Boards of the Overseas Development Institute, the *Journal of Development Studies* and International Development Enterprises. The author of over 150 publications, including eight books, Dr. Lipton has served as an advisor to the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Food Policy Research Institute, the International Labor Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations, and the Asian Development Bank.

C. Peter Timmer is one of the world's preeminent agricultural economists and a leading expert on food policy. His seminal book, *Food Policy Analysis* (co-authored with Falcon and Pearson), is considered to be the groundbreaking work on understanding food economies nearly 30 years after its publication. Dr. Timmer has held faculty positions at Harvard, Stanford, and Cornell Universities and served as Dean of the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies at the University of California at San Diego. He has authored over 100 publications, including six books.

He is currently Cabot Professor of Development Studies, *emeritus*, Harvard University, and continues his work on the political economy of agricultural policy and the functioning of the world rice market. He also serves as an advisor to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on agricultural development and food security issues.

The Global Development And Environment Institute was founded in 1993 with the goal of promoting a better understanding of how societies can pursue their economic and community goals in an environmentally and socially sustainable manner. The Institute develops textbooks and course materials, published on paper and on its web site, that incorporate a broad understanding of social, financial and environmental sustainability. The Institute also carries out policy-relevant research on climate change, the role of the market in environmental policy, and globalization and sustainable development. As part of its globalization research, GDAE has published extensively on the role of agriculture in international development and on the global response to recent food price increases.

In addition to Amartya Sen and John Kenneth Galbraith, GDAE has awarded the Leontief Prize to Paul Streeten, Herman Daly, Alice Amsden, Dani Rodrik, Nancy Folbre, Robert Frank, Richard Nelson, Ha-Joon Chang, Samuel Bowles, Juliet Schor, Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Stephen DeCanio, José Antonio Ocampo, Robert Wade, Bina Agarwal, Daniel Kahneman, Martin Weitzman and Sir Nicholas Stern.

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