Tufts Institute to Award Economics Prize to
Amit Bhaduri and Diane Elson

Awardees to present Leontief Prize Lectures on
Development and Equity
March 10, 2016

September 22, 2015: Tufts University’s Global Development And Environment Institute (GDAE) announced today that it will award its 2016 Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought to Diane Elson and Amit Bhaduri. GDAE awards the Leontief Prize each year to leading theorists who have developed innovative work in economics that addresses contemporary realities and supports just and sustainable societies.

The award recognizes the contributions that Elson and Bhaduri have made to economic understandings of development, power, gender, and human rights. The ceremony and lectures by the awardees will take place on March 10, 2016 on Tufts University’s Medford campus.

“As the free market and waves of globalization have left some peoples behind, Diane Elson and Amit Bhaduri demonstrate why the current theories of development have excluded the poor and disenfranchised from the growth process,” said GDAE Co-Director Neva Goodwin. “Their cross-disciplinary work and profound understanding of economic development is appropriately recognized in an award that bears Leontief’s name.”

This year’s award will celebrate their continuing efforts to expand our knowledge of economic systems in the contexts of globalization, capital accumulation and the shifting balance of power away from governments to markets.

GDAE inaugurated the Leontief Prize in 2000 in memory of Nobel Prize-winning economist and GDAE advisory board member Wassily Leontief. The Leontief Prize recognizes economists whose work, like that of GDAE and Leontief himself, combines theoretical and empirical research to promote a more comprehensive understanding of social and environmental processes.

2016 Awardees
Amit Bhaduri is Professor Emeritus at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, and is currently the Visiting Chair Professor in Political Economy at Goa University. He has served as Professor of Political Economy at the University of Pavia, Italy, Reader at the Delhi School of Economics, and Professor at the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta. He was educated at Presidency College, Calcutta, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Cambridge University, where he received a Ph.D. in 1967.

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Bhaduri’s research spans several important fields including capital and growth theory, Keynesian and Post-Keynesian macroeconomics, and development economics. His contribution as an economic theorist lies in challenging the mainstream theory and analyzing the role of power in the market economy in a precise and yet compelling way. Bhaduri has published more than 60 papers in leading international journals and is currently on the editorial boards of five of them. He has written ten books, including: The Economic Structure of Backward Agriculture (1982), Macroeconomics: The Dynamics of Commodity Production (1986), Unconventional Economic Essays (1992), An Intelligent Person’s Guide to Liberalisation (coauthored with D. Nayyar) (1996), On the Border of Economic Theory and History (1999), Development with Dignity (2006), and Growth, Distribution and Innovations: Understanding their Interrelations (2007).

Diane Elson is Emeritus Professor of Sociology at the University of Essex, Visiting Professor at the Centre for Research on Women in Scotland’s Economy, Glasgow Caledonian University, and Research Associate of the Center for Women’s Global Leadership, Rutgers University. She is a member of the UN Committee for Development Policy, and an adviser to UN Women. She served as Vice President of the International Association for Feminist Economics (2004-6). She holds a B.A. in philosophy, politics, and economics from the University of Oxford and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Manchester.


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 and carries out policy-relevant research on globalization, climate change, and the role of the market in environmental policy.

GDAE has awarded the Leontief Prize to Amartya Sen, John Kenneth Galbraith, 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, Nicholas Stern, Michael Lipton, C. Peter Timmer, Albert O. Hirschman (posthumous), Frances Stewart, Angus Deaton, James K. Galbraith, Duncan Foley, and Lance Taylor.

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