

**Anthony P. Monaco**  
**Global Development and Environmental Institute: Leontief Prize**  
**Tuesday, March 28, 2017**

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Good afternoon. It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this year's award ceremony and lectures for the Leontief Prize.

This is the sixteenth year that GDAE (G-Day)—the Global Development and Environment Institute of Tufts University—has presented the Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought. The Prize has a distinguished history, from its first recipients, Nobel laureate Amartya Sen and John Kenneth Galbraith, to Dr. James Boyce and Dr. Joan Martinez-Alier, whom we honor today.

Before I talk about today's ceremony, I would like to say a few words about what this award means to Tufts. It aims to recognize, and I quote, “outstanding contributions to economic theory that address contemporary realities and support just and sustainable societies.”

The Leontief Prize therefore stands for one of our hallmark values as an institution: leveraging our intellectual and academic strengths to confront the greatest challenges facing the world. Indeed, it is this spirit of impact-oriented scholarship and teaching that frames Tufts' mission. We believe that this commitment to bridging the gap between theory and practice benefits future generations and contributes to the significance of our work as a university.

For over twenty years, GDAE has been at the forefront of essential interdisciplinary scholarship and teaching at Tufts. Its programs have married international development with environmental sustainability, and they have pioneered research and policy recommendations to meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

GDAE has been integral to Tufts' development as an institution that is intimately involved with greeting such challenges head-on. And it truly represents the interdisciplinary spirit of Tufts. GDAE works across schools and departments, and involves both graduate and undergraduate students. From the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy...to our Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning program and others in the Arts and Sciences...GDAE and its projects marshal all of the strengths of Tufts to do work that reflects our highest institutional values.

Today we recognize two outstanding scholars of development economics who represent the best of the tradition that GDAE champions and embodies. The 2017 Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought is presented today in the spirit of the theme “Economics, Equity, and the Environment.” We live in challenging times—economically and globally. But it is exactly during times like these that the economic interests of development must be informed by concerns environmental sustainability and equity.

It is exactly this sensibility that we celebrate today in the lives and careers of our Leontief Prize recipients, recognizing Dr. Boyce and Dr. Martinez-Alier for their ground-breaking theoretical and applied work that has effectively integrated ecological, developmental, and justice-oriented approaches into the field of economics.

Congratulations Dr. Boyce and Dr. Martinez-Alier. I am very much looking forward to hearing the lectures. I am proud to be part of this ceremony, and it is a privilege to welcome to you to the Hill.

I would like to thank everyone who has made this event and the Leontief Prize possible—including the Fletcher School International Development Group and the Tufts Institute of the Environment—and to extend a warm welcome to everyone for coming out to be part of this exciting event.

It is always wonderful to celebrate the great work being done at Tufts, and the scholars and practitioners around the world who inspire it.

Thank you for joining us.