Aspers, Patrik

Article

Note from the editor

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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Today economic sociology has become an important and well-established branch of sociology, and it is clearly flourishing. As a result, it becomes harder to cover the field, and to know what is going on in today’s economic sociology. Fortunately, Richard Swedberg has just finished an overview, and it is with great pleasure that it is published in this issue of the Newsletter.

In the paper, Swedberg provides an excellent overview of the development of economic sociology, as well as its contemporary trends, both in the US and in Europe. The text is essential for everyone who wants to be updated on this field.

Clearly, money is one of the issues that have attracted the interest of economic sociologists in the past, such as those studies made by Nigel Dodd and Viviana Zelizer. This issue of the Electronic Newsletter also includes an essay on Money. The text is a prelude to a forthcoming work by Geoffrey Ingham, The Nature of Money.

As is known, networks are a central theme in Economic Sociology, but it is also important in our everyday life as scholars. Some departments have enough people to launch courses, seminars, collaborative research projects and so on. Sociologists working at departments populated by economic sociologists are fortunate in this respect. Other sociologists have to work more independently and rely on contacts through the Internet and conferences. Today the field of New Economic Sociology also attracts, for example, economists and social anthropologists. Hence, one should also consider the possibility to have, for example, interdisciplinary seminars and other form of collaborative work with people outside one’s own department. Such undertakings, it is my experience, can be fruitful in many ways. A yet other way to bring people together is to organize mini-conferences where a few people come together, and take it from there.

This issue include several calls, for theme issues as well as courses. Please keep sending this type of information to the editor.