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## Article

### Note from the editor

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# Note from the editor

Dear reader,

This issue of the *Newsletter* focuses on intersections between economic sociology and law. The “economic sociology of law” is a field of study that, as Laura Ford and Richard Swedberg argue in the introductory essay in this *Newsletter*, has only fairly recently regained attention. This is despite the classic writings of Max Weber, who, more than nine decades ago, gave great importance to this field.

In their opening article, Ford and Swedberg take stock of more recent studies that have examined the role of law in economy and society, and outline areas that in their view warrant more attention, such as Roman Law and Financial Law. Yves Dezalay and Bryant Garth analyze “the economy of legal practice as a symbolic market”, comparing and contrasting processes of social, relational and financial capital conversion in the legal fields of the U.S., Europe and the “global South”. Laura Ford devotes attention to the role of law in relation to property, arguing that property is simultaneously a fundamental threat as well as a necessary corollary to the existence of social groups. Sabine Frerichs discusses connections and disconnections between economic sociology, socio-legal studies and economic analyses of law.

Further, we have two interviews. One interview was conducted with Gunther Teubner, an eminent sociologically-minded legal scholar, who has written extensively on the social theory of law, contract law, networks, transnational governance and constitutionalism. The other interview was conducted with French economic sociologist Philippe Steiner, the next editor of the *Newsletter*. The interview has been reprinted with kind permission from the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics (SASE). In the

interview, Steiner discusses the state of the art of economic sociology in France and gives insight into his recent work on the market for human body organs. From November 2009, Philippe Steiner will take over the editorship of the *Newsletter* with associate editors Sidonie Naulin and Nicolas Milicet (Université Paris-Sorbonne). We welcome him and his team and look forward to reading their next issue.

As in previous issues, Brooke Harrington edited the book review section, and I would like to thank her for all her work. Lotta Björklund Larsen, Marc Lenglet and Sebastian Botzem provide summaries of their doctoral research projects, which investigate the justification of illicit work in Sweden, compliance work in equity brokerage houses, and the politics of international accounting standard setting, respectively.

This is my last issue as Editor. I would like to thank all contributors to Volume 10 of the *Newsletter*. I would also like to thank Rita Samiolo (LSE) and Christina Glasmacher (MPIfG) for helping me to put the issues together, and I thank the Editorial Board for all their support.

Please continue to submit material that you think should be published in the *Newsletter*. Materials for the November issue should be sent to one of the following email addresses:  
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With best wishes for a fruitful summer,

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