Socialism in Transition 1990-91

Department of Economics

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"Socialism in Transition" is the twenty-seventh Annual Public Lecture Series organized by the Department of Economics at Western Michigan University. This year’s series is directed by Dr. William S. Kern of the WMU Economics Department, and is co-sponsored by the W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research. All lectures are open to the public and no admission is charged. A question and answer session follows each lecture. For further information, please contact Dr. Kern at (616) 387-5549, or the WMU Economics Department at (616) 387-5535.

The guest scholars also participate in a seminar for graduate students and advanced undergraduates. The seminar, which is under the supervision of Dr. Kern, is offered for academic credit to students enrolled at WMU. Interested guests are also welcome.

Directions: from I-94, take Exit 36A at Stadium Drive. Travel east on Stadium Drive 2.2 miles to Howard Street. Turn left and take the second right onto the WMU campus. Follow the signs to the Wood Hall parking lot. Knauss Hall is the dark brown building located near the southeast corner of the Wood Hall lot.

**1990-1991 Lecture-Seminar Series**

**Department of Economics**

**Western Michigan University**

**Socialism in Transition**

Wednesday evenings 8:00 p.m.

The public is cordially invited to attend

3750 Knauss Hall

(please see directions on back cover.)

**Fall Semester**

**Paul Marer**

Indiana University—September 19

**Abram Bergson**

Harvard University—October 17

**Paul Gregory**

University of Houston—November 14

**Winter Semester**

**Josel Brada**

Arizona State University—January 23

**Joseph Berliner**

Harvard University Russian Research Center—February 20

**Herbert Levine**

University of Pennsylvania—March 13

The Department of Economics, Western Michigan University gratefully acknowledges the co-sponsorship of this lecture-seminar series by the W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

This series is directed by William S. Kern, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Western Michigan University.

**“From Economic Reform to Transition in Eastern Europe”**

**Wednesday September 19, 1990 8:00 p.m. 3750 Knauss Hall WMU**

**Dr. Paul Marer**

Professor of International Business

University of Indiana

Dr. Paul Marer, Professor of International Business at the Indiana University School of Business, is internationally known as an authority on the economies of Eastern European countries. Dr. Marer has served as a Consulting Editor and contributor to the Joint Economic Committee of the U.S. Congress for its triannual assessment of the economic and political situation in Eastern European countries. His expert testimony has been heard by various Congressional committees on several occasions.

Dr. Marer has been a consultant to the World Bank on centrally planned economies and to the United Nations on East-West trade and technology transfer. The International Monetary Fund and the Ford Foundation, among others, have also sought his services as a consultant.

Dr. Marer has been coordinator of the activities of the Joint Hungarian-International Blue Ribbon Commission to develop an economic recovery and transformation program for Hungary’s new democratic government. More than a year in the development, the plan contains the ideas of some of the leading economists around the world.

Most recently, Dr. Marer was appointed by President Bush to be one of the trustees of the U.S.-Hungarian Enterprise Fund to set policy on how to allocate money that the U.S. is giving to Hungary to promote private enterprise.

In addition to the 8:00 p.m. lecture, Professor Marer will present a seminar at 3:00 p.m. in 3760 Knauss Hall.

**“Soviet Economic Reform Under Gorbachev: What Has Gone Wrong?”**

**Wednesday October 17, 1990 8:00 p.m. 3750 Knauss Hall WMU**

**Dr. Abram Bergson**

George F. Baker Professor of Economics

Harvard University

Dr. Abram Bergson is the George F. Baker Professor of Economics at Harvard University and a member of the Executive Committee of the Russian Research Center at Harvard University. Professor Bergson is well known for his work in the area of welfare economics and as one of the “founding fathers” of the field of comparative economic systems and research on the Soviet economy.

Professor Bergson earned his Ph.D. in economics at Harvard University in 1940. He has also been awarded honorary degrees from the University of Windsor and Brandeis University. He has taught at the University of Texas, Columbia University, and Harvard University.

Professor Bergson is a former Director of the Russian Research Center at Harvard University, and a past president of the Comparative Economics Association.

Professor Bergson is the author of fifteen books and over 80 articles in scholarly journals and books, many appearing in prestigious journals such as the American Economic Review, the Journal of Political Economy and the Quarterly Journal of Economics. Titles of Dr. Bergson’s books that are indicative of his work include: Essays in Normative Economics, The Economics of Soviet Planning, Productivity and the Social System—The U.S.S.R. and the West, and Planning and Performance in Socialist Economies: The U.S.S.R. and Eastern Europe.

In addition to the 8:00 p.m. lecture, Professor Bergson will present a seminar at 3:00 p.m. in 3760 Knauss Hall.
“Soviet Bureaucracy and Economic Reform”

Wednesday
November 14, 1990
8:00 p.m.
3750 Knauss Hall
WMU

Dr. Paul R. Gregory
Professor of Economics
University of Houston

Dr. Paul Gregory is Professor of Economics at the University of Houston. Professor Gregory has made contributions in the areas of economic history, demography, comparative economic systems and Soviet economics. Much of his recent research has centered upon the Soviet economic bureaucracy and the microeconomic behavior of Soviet households. Professor Gregory received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1969. He has taught at the University of Oklahoma and the University of Houston, joining the faculty of the latter in 1972 where he was Chairman from 1982-86. Dr. Gregory has been an affiliate of the Russian Research Center of Harvard University and a member of the research team on the Soviet Interview Project. He is currently Principal Investigator, Soviet Economic Bureaucracy Project. He is also a member of the editorial boards of Comparative Economic Studies, Slavic Review, and the Journal of Comparative Economics.

Professor Gregory is the author or co-author of 8 books including: Soviet Economic Structure and Performance, Russian National Income, 1885-1913, and The Soviet Economic Bureaucracy. He is also the author of over 40 articles appearing in such leading journals as the American Economic Review, The Journal of Political Economy, the Journal of Economic History and Soviet Studies.

In addition to the 8:00 p.m. lecture, Professor Gregory will present a seminar at 3:00 p.m. in 3760 Knauss Hall.

“Economic Reform in Eastern Europe: Who Will Build Capitalism”

Wednesday
January 23, 1991
8:00 p.m.
3750 Knauss Hall
WMU

Dr. Josef C. Brada
Professor of Economics
Arizona State University

Dr. Josef Brada is Professor of Economics and Distinguished Research Professor of Business at Arizona State University. Professor Brada’s contributions cover a wide variety of topics in the area of comparative economics including international trade issues, the efficiency of planned economies, and reform of socialist economies. Professor Brada received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Minnesota in 1971. He has taught at Ohio State University and New York University, joining the faculty at Arizona State in 1979. He was also a visiting professor at Stanford University.

Professor Brada is the editor of the Journal of Comparative Economics, East European Economics and Soviet and Eastern European Foreign Trade. In addition he has been a consultant to various times to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the World Bank. He is also a member of the Executive Committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies. Professor Brada is the author or editor of 9 books including:

“Transition from Soviet Socialism”

Wednesday
February 20, 1991
8:00 p.m.
3750 Knauss Hall
WMU

Dr. Joseph Berliner
Professor of Economics, Emeritus
Brandeis University

Dr. Joseph Berliner is Professor of Economics, Emeritus at Brandeis University and member of the Executive Committee of the Russian Research Center at Harvard University. Professor Berliner is best known for his work on the Soviet economy, particularly on managerial incentives and innovation.

Professor Berliner received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1954. He has taught at Syracuse University as well as Brandeis and was a visiting professor at Harvard and Hebrew University.

Professor Berliner is a past president of the Association for Comparative Economic Studies and of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies. He has also lectured at Columbia, Harvard, Princeton and the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Levine is chairman of the Board of Plan Econ., Inc. and is a consultant to the U.S. government on issues related to the Soviet economy and east-west trade. He is president-elect of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies and past Chairman of the National Council for Soviet and East European Research. Professor Levine has published more than 50 articles in journals and books on economic planning and the Soviet economy. Titles of Professor Levine’s publications that are indicative of his work include: “The Effects of Foreign Trade on Soviet Planning Practice,” “The Soviet Economy Toward the Year 2000” and “The State of Economic Reform in the Soviet Union.”

In addition to the 8:00 p.m. lecture, Professor Levine will present a seminar at 3:00 p.m. in 3760 Knauss Hall.

“Soviet Economic Reform: The Transition Problem”

Wednesday
March 13, 1991
8:00 p.m.
3750 Knauss Hall
WMU

Dr. Herbert S. Levine
Professor of Economics and Co-Director of the Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies, The University of Pennsylvania

Dr. Herbert S. Levine is Professor of Economics and Co-Director of the Lauder Institute of Management and International Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. Professor Levine has made numerous contributions to the analysis of Soviet economic growth and planning. His recent work includes analysis of Soviet economic reforms, the role of entrepreneurship and central planning and econometric modeling of the Soviet economy.

Professor Levine earned his Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University in 1961. He has taught at the University of Pennsylvania since 1960 where he has received Penn’s Lindback and Kravis prizes for distinguished teaching. He has also lectured at Columbia, Harvard, Princeton and the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Levine is chairman of the Board of Plan Econ., Inc. and is a consultant to the U.S. government on issues related to the Soviet economy and east-west trade. He is president-elect of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies and past Chairman of the National Council for Soviet and East European Research. Professor Levine has published more than 50 articles in journals and books on economic planning and the Soviet economy. Titles of Professor Levine’s publications that are indicative of his work include: “The Effects of Foreign Trade on Soviet Planning Practice,” “The Soviet Economy Toward the Year 2000” and “The State of Economic Reform in the Soviet Union.”

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