



### Conference Summary

The conference will analyze which political and institutional settings have allowed countries to implement successful policy reforms and help us understand how these favorable settings emerged. It will pay special attention to issues such as clean water provision, lowering the cost of doing business, and the problems of credible policy evaluation.

The conference is committed, through work with the St. Louis Initiative, to improving our understanding of policy reform by focusing on the dynamics of institutional change. The research findings will assist policy makers implementing reform in developing nations and guide donors wishing to improve the efficacy of foreign aid.

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### Bakewell Foundation Support

This conference is supported by a generous gift from the Bakewell Foundation which seeks creative approaches to high impact philanthropy and, through the Saint Louis Initiative, supports development of cost/benefit guidelines for more effective grantmaking.

# NIE

& DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE:



*A Project of the St. Louis Initiative*

## May 4-5, 2007

HOSTED BY



Center for New  
Institutional Social Sciences

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## PROGRAM

### May 4

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- 9:15-9:30 am Introduction and Welcome  
*Itai Sened and John Nye, Washington University*
- 9:30-11:30 am A Conceptual Framework for Interpreting Recorded Human History  
*Douglass North, Washington University*  
*John Joseph Wallis, University of Maryland*  
*Barry Weingast, Stanford University*
- Discussant: *Randy Calvert, Washington University*
- 1:00-2:30 pm Urban Water Reform: What We Know, What Need to Know  
*Mary Shirley, Ronald Coase Institute*
- Diversity, Learning, and Robustness in Resource Management Institutions  
*William Blomquist and Elinor Ostrom*  
*Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis*
- Discussant: TBA
- 2:45-4:00 pm Institutional Experimentalism  
*Jack Knight, Washington University*
- Do Institutions Really Matter: A Fresh Look at the Data  
*Itai Sened, Washington University*
- Discussant: *Paul Rothstein, Washington University*
- 4:00-5:00 pm Title TBA  
*Abhijit Banerjee, MIT*

### May 5

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- 9:15-10:30 am Getting to the Bottom of Corruption: A Case Study in Community Driven Development  
*Jean Ensminger, California Institute of Technology*
- What Can the NIE Really Say About Development?  
*John Nye, Washington University*
- Discussant: *John Drobak, Washington University*
- 10:45-12:00 noon Evaluations of Programs and Public Policy  
*Sebastian Galiani, Washington University*
- Institutions and U.S. Regional Development: A Case Study of Massachusetts and Virginia  
*Sukoo Kim, Washington University and NBER*
- Discussant: *Robert Walker, Washington University*
- 12:00-12:45 pm Roundtable Discussion  
Moderator: *Murray Weidenbaum, Washington University*

**ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE WOMEN'S BUILDING, WOMEN'S FORMAL LOUNGE, ON THE HILLTOP CAMPUS AT WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS**

