



Colloquium: Contemporary Economic Challenges in Historical Perspectives

Speaker:
Shankar Jagnathan

Date / Time:
February 7, 2013 - 3:45pm - 5:30pm

Venue:
10th Floor, Auditorium, Pixel A, APU

Abstract:

The talk will address why and how Economics evolved as a distinct discipline in the 18th century. It explains how the three prerequisites needed for economics - Private property, Social Sanction for self-centered behavior and Material Consumption equated to Welfare, emerged through the social, ethical and moral maze to put economics on a firm footing. With the advent of economics, two distinct schools of thought emerged based on conflicting ideas. The talk will trace the three battles fought between these two schools over the last 200 years and places the contemporary economic challenges in historical perspective.

A Note on the Speaker:

Shankar Jaganathan is passionate about economic history, sustainability practices and corporate governance. A chartered accountant and a law graduate by qualification, he has varied experience in corporate, academic and social sectors in a career spanning twenty five years. His longest stint was with Wipro as the Corporate Treasurer heading investor relations, treasury operations and external reporting from 1993 to 2003. During his tenure Wipro was listed in the NYSE in October 2000. A select list of other entities and institutions he is/was associated with includes Azim Premji Foundation, Indian Institute of Science, Union Bank of India and Oxfam India. He currently divides his time between corporate consulting for rapidly growing entities, teaching, research and writing. He consults for select corporates and is an independent director on the Boards of Indian Corporates and NGO, teaches at leading management schools.

Shankar is the author of the book **Corporate Disclosures: 1553-2007, The Origin of Financial and Business Reports**, published by Routledge in 2008. This book was selected by the *Indian Society of Training and Development*, New Delhi for commendation in 2010 and was awarded a cash prize. His second book **The Wisdom of Ants, A Brief History of Economics**, covering the last 2500 years was published in November 2012.