

Introduction to the 2004 International Industrial Organization Conference Special Issue

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This special issue of the *Review of Industrial Organization* is devoted to papers presented at the second annual International Industrial Organization Conference held on the downtown campus of Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois, April 23–24, 2004. The conference included invited and submitted papers, keynote addresses, and panel sessions covering all aspects of industrial organization. There were over 400 attendees and over 300 papers presented. Further information on this and upcoming conferences can be found on the website <http://www.ios.neu.edu>.

The purpose of this special issue is to tap new sources of high-quality research for the *Review*. This issue contains two sets of papers. The first set contains the keynote addresses delivered at the conference. The keynote speakers are two of the top researchers in the field; I am grateful to the speakers for agreeing to include their addresses in this issue. Both papers provide an excellent survey of their topics.

Robert Porter delivered the first of the two keynote addresses. He is William R. Kenan Professor of Economics at Northwestern University. He is currently Editor of the *RAND Journal of Economics*, and is serving or has served as editor or on the editorial board of others of the top general interest and field journals. He is a Fellow of the Econometric Society and a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research, where he serves on the Steering Committee for the Industrial Organization Program. He has published widely on theoretical and empirical issues in industrial organization, in particular on collusion and auctions. Professor Porter's paper (Porter, 2004) is on empirical methods to detect collusion.

Professor Paul Joskow delivered the second of the two keynote addresses. He is Elizabeth and James Killian Professor of Economics and Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Director of the MIT Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research. He is President of the International Society for New Institutional Economics and a

Fellow of the Econometric Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has written over 100 articles focusing on empirical and policy issues in antitrust, regulation, energy markets, environmental economics, and contracts and organizations. In his paper in this issue (Joskow, 2004), Professor Joskow provides a view on what constitutes good empirical research in industrial organization using the research on regulation and deregulation from the past 25 years as an exemplar.

The second group of papers contains two articles that were submitted in response to a call for papers at the conference. Any paper presented at the conference was eligible for submission. Authors were promised a dedicated outlet for the papers and a fast turnaround time for review. Twenty papers were submitted. This pool contained more quality papers than could be included in the special issue. I reviewed the papers and selected a subset of these to be refereed and carefully edited. This process resulted in the acceptance of the two papers included here, an acceptance rate of 10%. It should be emphasized that this group of papers in the special issue were refereed and edited according to the usual standards of the *Review*, and thus should be given similar regard as any of the top quality papers published in the *Review*. One of the papers (Bottazzi and Secchi, 2004) is an empirical study of growth and diversification patterns of multinational pharmaceutical companies. The second (Comino and Manenti, 2004) is a theoretical evaluation of public policies to stimulate consumers to adopt open-source software.

It would not have been possible to publish this special issue as rapidly, following the end of the conference, as it was without the cooperation of a number of parties. Special thanks are due to the referees for returning thoughtful reviews in record time and to the authors for turning around revisions quickly. I am grateful to the sponsors of the 2004 International Industrial Organization Conference: Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management, the University of Chicago's Stigler Center, the Industrial Organization Society, the Analysis Group, Charles River Associates, and Chicago Partners.

References

- Bottazzi, G., and A. Secchi (2005) 'Growth and Diversification Patterns of the Worldwide Pharmaceutical Industry,' *Review of Industrial Organization*, this issue.
- Comino, S., and F. M. Manenti (2005) 'Government Policies Supporting Open Source Software for the Mass Market,' *Review of Industrial Organization*, this issue.
- Joskow, P. L. (2005) 'Regulation and Deregulation after 25 Years: Lessons Learned for Research in Industrial Organization,' *Review of Industrial Organization*, this issue.
- Porter, R. H. (2005) 'Detecting Collusion,' *Review of Industrial Organization*, this issue.