

Introduction to the 2005 International Industrial Organization Conference Special Issue

CHRISTOPHER M. SNYDER

Department of Economics, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH 03755, USA
E-mail: Christopher.M.Snyder@dartmouth.edu

This special issue of the *Review of Industrial Organization* is devoted to papers presented at the third annual International Industrial Organization Conference held in the Georgia Institute of Technology's Conference Center, April 8–9, 2005. The conference included invited and submitted papers, keynote addresses, and panel sessions covering all aspects of industrial organization.¹ It was a huge event, with over 500 submissions, 275 presenters, and 325 attendees. 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 is drawn from the keynote addresses delivered at the conference. Margaret Slade delivered the first of the two keynote addresses. She is Leverhulme Professor of Industry and Organization in the Department of Economics at the University of Warwick, previously having taught at the University of British Columbia. She has served on the editorial boards of numerous journals in the field (including this *Review*) and as a past President of the European Association for Research in Industrial Economics (EARIE). She has published widely on all aspects of empirical industrial organization. Her keynote speech, a comprehensive survey of the empirical literature on exclusive contracting and vertical restraints, is not included in this special issue because it will be published in another forum (Lafontaine and Slade, forthcoming).

David Sappington delivered the second of the two keynote addresses, included in this issue (Sappington, 2006). He is Director of the Public

¹Vivek Ghosal chaired the local arrangements committee and Ken Boyer chaired the program committee. The other program committee members were Kenneth Corts, Gary Fournier, Vivek Ghosal, Gautam Gowrisankaran, Marc Ivaldi, Francine Lafontaine, Catherine Matraves, Scott Stern, and Catherine Wolfram.

Policy Research Center and Lanzillotti–McKethan Eminent Scholar in the Department of Economics at the University of Florida. He has served on the editorial boards of numerous journals and held the position of Chief Economist at the U.S. Federal Communications Commission. He has written over 100 articles focusing on incentive regulation and optimal contracting. His keynote address argues that intuition from simple industrial organization models may go awry when applied to industries that involve multiple vertical stages of production, such as telecommunications.

The second group of papers (Agostini, 2006; Baudry and Dumont, 2006; Caprice, 2006) contains three 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. Fifteen 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 three papers included here, an acceptance rate of 20 percent. 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 given similar regard as any papers published in the *Review*.

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. The Industrial Organization Society and this *Review* are grateful to the sponsors of the 2005 International Industrial Organization Conference: the Department of Economics at the Georgia Institute of Technology, Troutman Sanders LLP, the Robert F. Lanzillotti Public Policy Research Center at the University of Florida, the Center for Paper Business and Industry Studies (a Sloan Foundation Industry Center at the Georgia Institute of Technology), and Charles River Associates.

References

- Agostini, C. A. (2006) 'Estimating Market Power in the U.S. Copper Industry', *Review of Industrial Organization*, this issue.
- Baudry, M. and B. Dumont (2006) 'Patent Renewals as Options: Improving the Mechanism for Weeding Out Lousy Patents', *Review of Industrial Organization*, this issue.
- Caprice, S. (2006) 'Multilateral Vertical Contracting with an Alternative Supply: The Welfare Effects of a Ban on Price Discrimination', *Review of Industrial Organization*, this issue.
- Lafontaine, F. and M. E. Slade (forthcoming) 'Exclusive Contracts and Vertical Restraints: Empirical Evidence and Public Policy', in P. Buccirossi (ed.), *Handbook of Antitrust Economics*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- Sappington, D. E. M. (2006) 'Regulation in Vertically-Related Industries: Myths, Facts, and Policy', *Review of Industrial Organization*, this issue.