

15 March 2019

BOJ TO HOST MAJOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMICS WORKSHOP

On Monday March 18 through Tuesday March 19, 2019, Bank of Jamaica (BOJ) will host an elite gathering of international research economists in a high-level annual academic workshop in international economics and finance – the **XXII 2019 Workshop in International Economics and Finance**.

The workshop, founded in 1988, is organized by the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, (UTDT) of Buenos Aires, Argentina, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and Latin American and Caribbean Economics Association (LACEA).

The goal of the workshop is to gain a better understanding of the macroeconomic problems faced by Latin American countries and to encourage research on those subjects. Eleven papers on a wide range of economic issues will be presented and discussed, but a major focus will be inflation targeting and monetary policy in emerging economies.

The workshop is usually staged in a different country each year and in recent years has been hosted by central banks. The central banks of Mexico, Argentina and Colombia were the last three hosts.

It is a unique event that brings together top researchers and policymakers within the Western Hemisphere to discuss recent theoretical and empirical advances in international economics and finance. Over the years it has developed and maintained a reputation for the high quality of its presentations, including the work of Robert E. Lucas and Joseph Stiglitz, both of whom won the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics.

The keynote speaker for this year's event is Carlos Fernandez Valdovinos, governor of the central bank of Paraguay, while presenters and panellists will come from the IDB, IMF, United States Federal Reserve, the Spain-based Centre for Research in International Economics (CREI), the central bank of Argentina, UTDT, Boston College, Brown, Cornell, Columbia, Princeton, Yale and New York Universities, as well as the universities of Michigan, Minnesota, Southern California and Pennsylvania.

Accommodating this array of economists comes on the heels of BOJ, in February 2019, hosting and having consultations with Dr. Manuel Ramos-Francia, Director General

of the Centre for Latin American Monetary Studies (CEMLA) and former Deputy Governor of the Bank of Mexico.

Bank of Jamaica places a high priority on economic research and hosting this conference and providing high-level exposure to our economists is in keeping with this priority.

BOJ's Robert Stennett, Division Chief for Research, notes that "...this opportunity is timely, given our ongoing transition to full-fledged inflation targeting and related modernization."

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