

peration with the Faculty of Economics and Management of Dokuz Eylul University. The deadline for submissions is

set for December 31, 2009. Please see <http://www.epcs2010.org> for more information on this event.

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## PET09

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association for Public Economic Theory

National University of Ireland, Galway

17–20 June, 2009

Martin Gregor\*

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The Association for Public Economic Theory (APET) held its 10th international meeting at the National University of Ireland, in the crisis-hit but scenic and beautiful Irish city of Galway. The local organizers Brendan Kennelly and Ashley Piggins, plus the program chairpeople John P. Conley and Myrna Wooders of Vanderbilt University invited, out of upcoming submissions, approximately 300 research papers. These were comprised primarily of classic micro topics in public economics, such as local public goods, experiments with public goods, but also essentially public finance topics of optimal taxation, and the political economy of social security, tax competition, or tax evasion.

A significant part of the conference was devoted to advances in pure theory, especially in general equilibrium, games, contests, mechanism design, social choice, voting, and spatial modeling. Many of the twelve parallel sessions dealt with theory developments in applied fields of labor economics, networks, education, health, crime, migration, and environmental economics. The macro dimension has also been significant and of large interest, and dominated sessions on macro dynamics, international trade, growth, law and eco-

nomics, development and income inequality. To name but one example of the discussions' spicy flavor, let me mention a session on the economics of body parts featuring Ted Bergstrom of University of California at Santa Barbara.

Three keynotes speeches marked the conference. Ehud Kalai (Northwestern University) spoke of a “co-co” (competitive-cooperative) protocol, designed in order to separate conflict from cooperation within a single game. Hubert Kempf (Banque de France, Paris School of Economics) introduced a fairly general idea on how the shape and size of a bargaining set depends on key features such as the sign of externalities, strategic complementarity, and agents' heterogeneity. Myrna Wooders (Vanderbilt University) spoke of the past, present and future of small group behavior in large economies. Interestingly, her talk coincided with her gala dinner speech, where she applauded the richness of the Association, and called for using their events not only to promote research, but also to maintain a robust academic community.

For more about the conference and activities of the Association, please visit: <http://www.apet.org/>

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