FACT SHEET

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Singapore, 27 March 2008

Speaker: Dr Robert Klitgaard, President of Claremont Graduate University
Date/Time: Thursday, 27 March 2008, 6 – 7pm
Venue: LT301, Level 3, NTU@one-north campus

Synopsis

Corruption distorts growth, undermines justice, and harms the poor. Why, then, does it persist? What can be done to reduce corruption, if alas never to eliminate it completely? Economics has much to teach, and its lessons are confirmed by experience in Singapore and around the world.

About the Speaker

Dr Robert Klitgaard is the President of the Claremont Graduate University. He previously served as Dean of the Pardee RAND Graduate School, where he was also the Ford Distinguished Professor of International Development and Security. He has been a Professor of Economics at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban; Lester Crown Professor of Economics at Yale’s School of Management; and Associate Professor of Public Policy at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, where he also served half-time as Special Assistant to Harvard President Derek Bok.

Dr Klitgaard has advised many governments on economic strategy and institutional reform, and his consulting work and research have taken him to more than 30 countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. He has been called “the world’s leading expert on corruption” (The Christian Science Monitor). In recent years he has served on the faculty of the World Economic Forum, the editorial boards of the Journal of Economic Literature and Theoria, and the Board of the International Development Evaluation Association.

In addition to many articles, he has written eight books, some of which focus on public management and how to reduce corruption in developing countries.

About the Singapore Economic Review

The Singapore Economic Review (SER) is a triannual journal devoted to the publication of high-quality theoretical and empirical papers on all aspects of economics with a special emphasis on the economic problems related to Asian countries. The journal has a long history of publication of a broad range of economic issues impinging on Southeast Asia and...
the broader Asia-Pacific region. It was initially published as the Malayan Economic Review (MER) in 1956, which was renamed the Singapore Economic Review in 1969.

Being a peer-reviewed journal, SER has always adhered to a stringent review process and international editorial conventions. The SER's editorial board consists of prominent scholars with different areas of specialisations from across the world. Among the NTU faculty serving on the editorial board is Associate Professor Euston Quah, Head of NTU's Division of Economics, who has been the Editor of SER since 2002.

With World Scientific as the journal's publisher, the SER has sections devoted to public policy, applied economics, markets and industry, commentaries, and short papers or notes. The journal also publishes selected book reviews. Specially invited papers by eminent economists are also featured.

The SER has also been active in organising seminars and conferences. The inaugural SER Conference held at Pan Pacific in August 2005 was a resounding success, attended by some 280 economists from more than 40 countries. In addition, past speakers in the SER distinguished public lecture series included Professor Sir James Mirrlees (1996 Nobel Laureate in Economics), Professor David Greenaway (Pro-Vice Chancellor and in-coming President of University of Nottingham), Professor John Whalley (University of Western Ontario and renowned economist on computer general equilibrium, and Professor Arye Hillman (University of Bar-Ilan and Editor of European Journal of Political Economy).

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