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**THE PROCEEDINGS OF
THE “FRONTIERS OF BEHAVIORAL AND EXPERIMENTAL
ECONOMICS” CONFERENCE**

INTRODUCTION

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On January 14, 2012, the Keio Economic Society hosted an international conference entitled “Frontiers of Behavioral and Experimental Economics” at the International Conference Center of Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan. This was a joint conference with the second international young scholars’ conference hosted by Waseda University GCOE GLOPE II, Political Economy of Institutional Construction: Toward an Expectation-Realizing Society. The GLOPE II conference was held on January 14 and 15, 2012 and entitled “Political Economy of Institutional Construction Institutions and Expectations III ~Towards Start of Seed Research by Young Scholars~.”

This issue of the *Keio Economic Studies* contains proceedings of the “Frontiers of Behavioral and Experimental Economics” conference. As the conference organizer, I wish to thank the members of the organizing committee for cooperation to put together the joint conference program and especially Professor Kazumi Shimizu for working with me on various aspects of the joint conference. I also wish to thank: the authors of the proceeding papers in this issue for their research and presentations at the conference; conference participants for stimulating comments; the Keio Economic Society and Waseda University GLOPE II for devoting staff and financial resources to produce an exceptionally nice conference.

Simon Gächter gave the keynote speech for the joint conference, which is summarized in his “Strong Reciprocity and Norms of Cooperation: Is there Cross-Cultural Variation?.” This paper describes the main results of his recent research with Benedikt Herrmann and Christian Thöni in their 2008 *Science* paper and 2010 *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences* paper together with the background literature. Their research is based on experiments on cross-cultural variation in cooperation behavior with careful experimental procedures to make results comparable across cultures as much as possible.

Andrew E. Clark’s conference presentation is summarized in his “Beneath, Behind and Between: Social Comparisons and Adaptation.” This paper reviews his recent series of research with many collaborators on effects of income comparisons in the determination of well-being.

Conchita D'Ambrosio's paper entitled "Economic Insecurity and Individual Well-Being" summarizes her conference presentation on her recent research with Walter Bossert. This research developed a measure of economic insecurity. The uniqueness of this measure is that it is a measurement of economic insecurity at the individual level. With Nicholas Rohde, she has applied the method to measure the distribution of economic insecurity in Italy and the USA.

Masaya Sakuragawa's conference presentation is summarized in his "Saving Boost and the Boom-Bust Cycle of Bubbles." This paper explains his recent theoretical research on bubbles, in which he introduces the story of the saving boost into the model of Farhi and Tirole in their 2011 *Review of Economic Studies* paper. This story plays an important role in explaining why bubbles crowd in investment as in many episodes of asset market bubbles rather than crowd out investment as in standard macroeconomic models with bubbles.

My conference presentation is summarized in "Worldviews, Temptation, and Intergenerational Altruism" by Kohei Kubota, Akiko Kamesaka, Masao Ogaki, and Fumio Ohtake. This paper explains their research concerning effects of cultural differences on parents' attitudes toward children. For the purpose of considering cultural differences, they use the concept of worldviews. They use a theoretical model of temptation to interpret their empirical evidence.

For the purpose of introducing frontiers of behavioral and experimental economics to the conference participants and readers of these conference proceedings, wide ranging contributions were sought. I thank God for the conference and pray that this purpose be fulfilled.