

LAW & ECONOMICS CENTER, GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
LEC Workshop for Law Professors on Public Choice Economics
Thursday, March 20 through Sunday, March 23, 2014

Agenda

Thursday, March 20

Classes held in the Oak Room at the Sheraton Palo Alto, 625 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA 94301

- 4:00 – 4:30 pm** **Registration**, *Piazza Court Yard*
- 4:30 – 4:35 pm** **Welcome and Introductions**
Discussion Leader: Todd J. Zywicki, George Mason University Foundation Professor of Law, George Mason University School of Law
- 4:35 – 6:00 pm** **CLASS 1: Introduction to Public Choice: Economic Reasoning, Interest Group Theory, and Rent-Seeking | Zywicki**
- Reading Assignment:
- Stearns and Zywicki, *Public Choice Concepts and Applications in Law*, West (2009), [Chapter 1: Introduction to Economic Analysis of Collective Decision Making](#)
- 6:00 – 8:30 pm** **Reception and Dinner**, *Piazza Court Yard and Sequoia Room*
History of the LEC
Henry N. Butler, George Mason University Foundation Professor of Law, George Mason University School of Law, and Executive Director, Law & Economics Center

Friday, March 21

Classes held in Encina Hall, Stanford University, 616 Serra Street, Stanford, CA 94305

- 8:00 – 8:30 am** **Breakfast**, *Oksenberg Room Lobby*
- 8:30 – 10:00 am** **CLASS 2: Introduction to Positive Political Theory**
Barry R. Weingast, Ward C. Krebs Family Professor, Department of Political Science, Stanford University, and Senior Fellow, Hoover Institution
- Reading Assignment:
- Stearns and Zywicki, [Chapter 5: The Legislature](#)
- McCubbins and Rodriguez, "[The Judiciary and the Role of Law](#)," from Weingast and Wittman, *The Oxford Handbook of Political Economy*, Oxford University Press (2006)
- 10:30 am – 12:00 pm** **CLASS 3: Regulation and Rent-Extraction**
Michael C. Munger, Professor of Political Science, Economics, and Public Policy, and Director, PPE Program, Duke University
- Reading Assignment:
- Stearns and Zywicki, Chapter 2: Interest Group Theory and Rent-Seeking
- McChesney, "[Historic Self-Preservation](#)," Library of Economics and Liberty.
- Munger, "[Rent-Seek and You Will Find](#)," Library of Economics and Liberty.
- 12:00 – 1:00 pm** **Group Lunch**, *Oksenberg Room Lobby*

Friday, March 21 continued

1:00 – 2:30 pm

CLASS 4: Statutory Interpretation and Constitutional Political Economy | Zywicki

Reading Assignment:

Stearns and Zywicki, [Chapter 8: Constitutions](#)

2:30 pm

Adjourn for Day

Saturday, March 22

Morning classes held at Encina Hall, Stanford University, 616 Serra Street, Stanford, CA 94305

8:00 – 8:30 am

Breakfast, Oksenberg Room Lobby

8:30 – 10:00 am

CLASS 5: Delegation and Agency Decision-Making | Weingast

Reading Assignment:

Stearns and Zywicki, [Chapter 6: The Executive Branch and Agencies](#)

Weingast, "[Caught in the Middle: The President, Congress, and the Political-Bureaucratic System](#)" from Aberbach and Peterson, *The Executive Branch and American Democracy*, Oxford University Press (2005)

McCubbins, Noll and Weingast, "[Structure and Process, Politics and Policy: Administrative Arrangements and the Political Control of Agencies](#)", 75 (2) *Virginia Law Review* 431 (1989)

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

CLASS 6: Empirical Studies of Public Choice | Munger

Reading Assignment:

[Empirical Studies of Antitrust and Public Choice Packet:](#)

Stearns and Zywicki, "Antitrust and Public Choice", pp 1-3 (note these are the page numbers in the packet)

Stigler, "The Origin of the Sherman Act", 14 *Journal of Legal Studies* 1,4 (1985), pp 3-4

Boudreaux, et al, "Antitrust Before the Sherman Act", *The Causes and Consequences of Antitrust* (McChesney and Shughart, eds, 1995), pp 4-9

Libecap, "The Rise of the Chicago Packers and the Origins of Meat Inspection and Antitrust", 30 *Economic Inquiry* 242 (1992), pp 9-21

DiLorenzo, "The Origins of Antitrust: An Interest-Group Perspective", 5 *International Review of Law and Economics* 73, 75 (1985), pp 21-27

Hazlett, "The Legislative History of the Sherman Act Re-Examined", 30 *Economic Inquiry* 263, 264 (1992), pp 27-31

Baumol and Ordover, "Use of Antitrust to Subvert Competition", 28(2), *Journal of Law & Economics* 247 (1985), pp 31-36

Coate, et al, "Bureaucracy and Politics in FTC Merger Challenges", 33 *Journal of Law & Economics* 463 (1990), pp 36-41

Faith, et al, "Antitrust Pork Barrel", 25 *Journal of Law & Economics* 329 (1982), pp 41-43

Shughart and Tollison, "The Positive Economics of Antitrust Policy: A Survey Article", 5 *International Review of Law and Economics* 39, 40 (1985), pp 43-48

Saturday, March 22 continued

Wiley, "A Capture Theory of Antitrust Federalism", 99 *Harvard Law Review* 713-715 (1986), pp 48-55

Delacourt and Zywicki, "The FTC and State Action: Evolving Views on the Proper Role of Government", 72 *Antitrust Law Journal* 1075, 1075-77 (2005), pp 55-59

Cooper, et al, "Theory and Practice of Competition Advocacy at the FTC", 72 *Antitrust Law Journal* 1091 (2005), pp 59-64

12:00 – 4:30 pm

Lunch on your Own and Study Break

Afternoon class held in the Oak Room at the Sheraton Palo Alto

4:30 – 6:30 pm

CLASS 7: Discussion Session, Research Topics | Zywicki, Weingast, Munger

6:30 – 7:00 pm

Reception, Piazza Court Yard

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Dinner, Sequoia Room

9:00 pm

Adjourn

Sunday, March 23

Departure