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**SOUTHWESTERN  
ECONOMIC PROCEEDINGS  
SELECTED PAPERS  
OF THE  
2001 MEETING**

**New Orleans, Louisiana**

*Edward M. McNertney, Editor  
Department of Economics  
Texas Christian University*

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**Volume 29**

**2002**

**Number 1**

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# SOUTHWESTERN ECONOMIC PROCEEDINGS

## SELECTED PAPERS OF THE 2001 MEETING OF THE SOUTHWESTERN SOCIETY OF ECONOMISTS

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## PREFACE

The articles appearing in the **Southwestern Economic Proceedings, Selected Papers**, Volume 29, Number 1, were presented at the 28<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Southwestern Society of Economists held in New Orleans, Louisiana in March 2001. All papers selected to be published in this issue were reviewed either by outside reviewers or by the editorial staff of the *Southwestern Economic Review*.

The objective of publishing the *Southwestern Economic Review (SER)* and the *Southwestern Economic Proceedings, Selected Papers*, is to promote the goals of our organization, the *Southwestern Society of Economists*, and enrich the academic environment of our discipline.

This is the first year the *Review* and the *Proceedings* of the *Southwestern Society of Economists* were published by the Department of Economics at Texas Christian University. For the past eight years the *Review* and the *Proceedings* of the *Southwestern Society of Economists* were published by the College of Business at Arkansas State University under the editorship of John S. Kaminarides. I am thankful that John and the Southwestern Society of Economists have given me the opportunity to succeed him as editor. I greatly appreciate John's efforts over the years to publish excellent journals, and I am honored to have the opportunity to continue to promote the publications of our organization.

The continued success of the *Review* and the *Proceedings* has been the result of the efforts of a number of dedicated people. The extremely demanding job of reviewing the papers submitted to this journal has been ably performed by a number of reviewers who will remain anonymous to the authors of the paper, but heroes and saviors to me. The arduous task of turning the submitted papers into final publishable form was accomplished by Tami Freeman of Arkansas State University. I am very grateful for her technical expertise and for her help in solving the inevitable myriad of problems associated with the transition from the old to the new editor. Finally, I would like to thank Barbara Goodman of the TCU Department of Economics for providing much needed secretarial help and Howard Horne of the TCU Printing Services Department for turning a stack of 8.5"x11" pages into this volume. I hope this issue of the *Proceedings* will promote and advance our organization to new educational and professional horizons.

Edward M. McNertney, Editor  
*Southwestern Economic Review and Proceedings*



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