SOUTHWESTERN ECONOMIC PROCEEDINGS

SELECTED PAPERS

OF THE

2003 MEETING

Houston, Texas

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

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SELECTED PAPERS OF THE 2003 MEETING OF THE SOUTHWESTERN SOCIETY OF ECONOMISTS

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PREFACE

The articles appearing in the **Southwestern Economic Proceedings, Selected Papers**, Volume 31, Number 1, were presented at the 30th annual meeting of the Southwestern Society of Economists held in Houston, Texas in March 2003. 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 support and efforts of a number of dedicated people were necessary in order for the *Southwestern Economic Review (SER)* and the *Southwestern Economic Proceedings, Selected Papers* to be published. First, the faculty of the TCU Department of Economics and Mary L. Volcansek, Dean of AddRan College of Humanities and Social Sciences at TCU provided much needed support for this endeavor. Second, the reviewers of the manuscripts submitted to the journals provided much needed expertise in helping to decide which papers should be accepted for publication. Third, Tami Freeman of Arkansas State University magically turned the accepted papers into final publishable form. Finally, Barbara Goodman of the TCU Department of Economics provided much needed secretarial help and Howard Horne of the TCU Printing Services Department turned a stack of 8.5"x11" pages into this volume. The editor is grateful for all of this help and hopes this issue of the *Proceedings* will promote and advance our organization, the Southwestern Society of Economists, to new educational and professional horizons.

The Southwestern Society of Economists is affiliated with the Federation of Business Disciplines. The annual membership fee of Society of Economists is \$19 and includes a subscription to the *Southwestern Economic Review* and the *Southwestern Economic Proceedings, Selected Papers*. Correspondence on membership, change of address and information about Southwestern Society of Economists should be addressed to:

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Edward M. McNertney, Editor

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