SOUTHWESTERN ECONOMIC PROCEEDINGS

SELECTED PAPERS

OF THE

2005 and 2006 CONFERENCES

Dallas, Texas and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

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

Volume 33 2007 Number 1

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SELECTED PAPERS OF THE 2005 and 2006 MEETINGS OF THE SOUTHWESTERN SOCIETY OF ECONOMISTS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Freedom, Oppression and Corruption in Sub-Saharan Africa David Braddock	1
Naysayers, Behold! Outsourcing is Beneficial to the United States RamMohan R. Yallapragada, Ron M. Sardessai and Madhu R. Paruchuri	17
The Impact of 2003 Dividend Tax Cut on Stocks in the S&P 500 Geungu Yu	27
Relationship of Economics and Business Core Course grades and Rating Ralph May, Victoria Falconer and Harry Nowka	,

PREFACE

The articles appearing in the **Southwestern Economic Proceedings, Selected Papers**, Volume 33, Number 1, were presented at the 32nd and 33rd annual meetings of the Southwestern Society of Economists held in Dallas, Texas and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma in March 2005 and 2006. All papers selected for publication 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. Fourth, Howard Horne and his staff of at the TCU Printing Services Department took the papers and produced this volume. Finally, John Lovett of the TCU Department of Economics provides the expertise for the electronic version of this publication (www.ser.tcu.edu). 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 the Society is \$35 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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