Tributes in Memory of Frederic S. Lee

2015

Edited by Tae-Hee Jo
Frederic Sterling Lee (1949-2014) was Professor of Economics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He received his Ph.D. from Rutgers University (1983). He taught at UMKC from 2000 to 2014; and before that he taught at De Montfort University in England (1991-2000), at Roosevelt University in Chicago (1984-1991), and at the University of California-Riverside (1981-84). Lee has authored and edited sixteen books, including Post Keynesian Price Theory (1998) and A History of Heterodox Economics (2009); fifty-six articles; and over a hundred book chapters, book entries, book reviews, and notes of one sort or another. His articles have appeared in various heterodox journals, including Journal of Economic Issues, Journal of Post Keynesian Economics, Review of Social Economy, Review of Radical Political Economics, Review of Political Economy, Cambridge Journal of Economics, Capital and Class, Bulletin of Political Economy, and Metroeconomica. Lee was the President of the Association for Institutional Thought (2012), President of the Association for Evolutionary Economics (2015), Executive Director of the International Confederation of Associations for Pluralism in Economics (2006-10), and the founder and Honorary President of the Association for Heterodox Economics in the UK. He was a member of the editorial board of Journal of Economic Issues, Journal of Post Keynesian Economics, Review of Social Economics, and Forum for Social Economics; was the founder and past editor of the Heterodox Economics Newsletter (2004-2009) and the book series Advances in Heterodox Economics (University of Michigan Press and, later, Routledge); and was a past editor of the American Journal of Economics and Sociology (2009-2013). His primary research areas include heterodox microeconomic theory, history of heterodox economics, the research assessment exercise in the UK, and the ranking of journals and articles; and his areas of teaching are microeconomics, heterodox economic theory and modeling, American economic history, and radical political economics. Frederic S. Lee was born on November 24, 1949 in Nyack, New York and died on October 23, 2014 in Webster Groves, Missouri. For his detailed biography, list of scholarly works including working papers, unpublished manuscripts, and other archival materials, visit Lee’s website (http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs), which is maintained by Tae-Hee Jo. The Frederic S. Lee Archive is located at the State Historical Society of Missouri, Research Center–Kansas City, 5123 Holmes St. Room 302, Kansas City, MO 64110, USA (http://shs.umsystem.edu).

Tae-Hee Jo is Associate Professor of Economics at the State University of New York, Buffalo State. He is a former student of Frederic Lee. Following Lee’s theoretical legacy, Jo has been working on various theoretical issues in heterodox microeconomics.

Contact info: Economics and Finance Department, the State University of New York—Buffalo State. 1300 Elmwood Ave. Buffalo, NY 14222, USA. Email: taeheej@gmail.com
Frederic S. Lee in his office at UMKC
“Heterodox economics is not out to reform mainstream economics. Rather it is an alternative to mainstream economics: an alternative in terms of explaining the social provisioning process and suggesting economic policies to promote social well-being.”


“All too often I hear a conversation that boils down to two statements: What can heterodox economics do for me? and I am too busy publishing or teaching to do anything to help advance heterodox economics. Advancing heterodox economics involves much work that does not per se advance one’s professional career. The selfless work I am referring to involves organizing conference-seminars, refereeing papers, publishing newsletters, editing journals, and doing the administrative/institutional work necessary to establish and run heterodox undergraduate and post-graduate economic programs. If all heterodox economists would contribute to this in some small way, then heterodox economics will advance.”

— Fred Lee’s 100 words on heterodox economics in Heterodox Economics Directory (2011)

“You basically have to be twice as good as any neoclassical economist, even to teach in a heterodox program. If you want to do economics, you give your students the best opportunities and know what various viewpoints are out there in a coherent manner.”

— Fred Lee’s last UMKC lecture (April 24, 2014)

“You either walk the walk or you do not; and my career (along with my colleagues from around the world) have indeed walked the walk to ensure that heterodox program exist and heterodox economists have jobs. And this has meant significant hardships for students and colleagues (not to mention loss of employment—see my book, A History of Heterodox Economics) to critically study the mainstream theory that calls into question the arguments that supports the 1%. And it also means that you have to go beyond the critical and develop an alternative that draws upon the different heterodox approaches.”

— Fred Lee’s last email to heterodox economists (October 2, 2014)
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Preface and Acknowledgments

The life of Professor Frederic S. Lee (also called “Fritz” in his family and “Fred” in academia) was cut short by lung cancer. He was born on November 24, 1949 in Nyack, New York and died on October 23, 2014 in Webster Groves, Missouri. During his unfortunately short life, Fred Lee made tremendous contributions to heterodox economics—in terms of theory building as well as community building—and touched on many people’s life. He was predestined to follow the “less traveled road” that many economists are afraid of taking because it would put their career and reputation in danger. He fought tirelessly and fearlessly for the good cause against absurdities in economics and, at the same time, against the injustice of the real world. He showed in his work that it is possible to make economics sensible and, hence, serviceable to the majority of the population. His contributions to heterodox economics and the community of heterodox economists will be recognized for many years to come.

This is a collection of tributes read at the Memorial Service on November 8, 2014 (Chapter 1), obituaries written by his family and colleagues (Chapter 2), and messages sent in after his passing (Chapter 3). Tributes appear in the Festschrift for Fred Lee, and various events, such as conference sessions in honor or memory of Fred Lee, are also included in Chapter 3.

I must thank Ruth Lee for providing me various documents included here and also for her kindness that encouraged me to make the Tributes so that I can repay a small part of my intellectual debt to my remarkable mentor (the debt can never be repaid in full). I also thank John K. Lee for sharing with me his own tribute to his brother, and Dr. Zdravka Todorova for corrections and suggestions.

This Tributes is made for Fred Lee’s family and for his friends and colleagues. One copy of Tributes will be placed in the Frederic S. Lee Archive located at the State Historical Society of Missouri, Research Center–Kansas City, 5123 Holmes St. Room 302, Kansas City, MO 64110. The on-line version of Tributes is available here: http://heterodox-economics.org/archive/lee/tributes2015.pdf.

Tae-Hee Jo
February 5, 2015
Chapter 1

Memorial Service

At the Ethical Society of St. Louis, MO. November 8, 2014
1.1 Introduction

[John Wilson] Good afternoon. Today we are gathered to remember and bid farewell to Frederic Lee. Collectively, we know him by many names: Fritz, Fred, dad, uncle, professor, grandpa; and collectively, we mourn.

I am John Wilson. I am his oldest nephew on the Lee-Crawford side of the family, and as a young child I may have been one of the first that Fritz tickled mercilessly, aside from his own siblings. I will introduce our speakers today and read aloud written tributes that have come in from around the world.

Fritz was a role model for many of us here. For many, it was for his incessant concern for the poor and his deep desire to correct the inequalities and iniquities of the world. For me, he was a role model for how to be very goofy. He was the perfect uncle, at least from my perspective. He tickled my siblings and I unceasingly, insisted that we were missing numerous toes and fingers, and generally got us all jazzed up and laughing hysterically. Then he would go and leave us with my parents, who sighed heavily and shook their heads wearily.

One of the recurring themes of this service is that Fritz has died, yet he lives on. I have carried on his zany uncle behavior with my own nephews and nieces, with similar results in both the children and in the parents. I frequently discount my own self-interest and jazz up my own children. There have been many times after many tasteless jokes when my boys and I are lying on the floor incapacitated by laughter while Beth smiles, sighs, and shakes her head.

There is another way that Uncle Fritz lives on in our family. I did not grow up with Fritz, but I can imagine that, while exceedingly bright, he may not have been a teacher’s pet. I can imagine him interrupting and correcting teachers, dismissing traditional tenets with a “ah, that’s ridiculous!” and in general, pointing out repeatedly that the emperor isn’t wearing any clothes.

Now I don’t know if this is the fate of all second-borns, but like Fritz, but our younger son, Kyle, may be a Fritz in the making. He is very unencumbered by the expectations of others. But his passion for that which interests him—well, I frankly have a lot to learn from him. On my bad days, I fret and worry at the challenges ahead of him. On my good days, I wonder if, like Fritz, he will go further and burn brighter than any of us. It is comforting to know that Fritz’s good-natured mischief, insatiable curiosity, and mind-expanding nonconformity will continue after he has gone.

Now it is time to introduce our first speaker.
1.2  Kathy Wilson

[John Wilson] Family was always very important to Fritz. He originally had one brother and one sister but later gained 7 step-brothers and sisters which were all melded into one big family. The tales they tell of their early years together are legendary. Despite a few tales of sibling abuse, Fritz always looked up to his big sister Kathy Wilson.

(Kathy Wilson speaking on behalf of family. Kathy had not written down her talk. Following is the note taken by John K. Lee, Fred’s brother.)

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- St Agnes and the time Fritz step out and picked up the pick and started digging.
- How Fritz and dad got into the Evening Star newspaper for building a teepee and bow and arrows.
- Great snowstorm while living on Hoose Road that is now under now under the Springfield by-pass today.
- Vacation to Maine and Fritz picking blueberries.
- Fishing on Arnold Lake and watching their brother fall into the lake and sinking to the bottom and our parents asking where John was. They just pointed down into the water.
- Ravensworth Road house back porch once was glass and Fritz one day walking through it by mistake.
1.3 Ali Awadh Asseri

[John Wilson] Fritz and Ruth met on a hayride at Frostburg State College in Maryland. They were married in September 1973 and lived their first year in New York City. On their first anniversary, they flew to Saudi Arabia where they lived for two years. Fritz was working for the US Army Corps of Engineers and ran a warehouse furnishing houses for the Corps in Riyadh. In Saudi Arabia, they met a young Saudi, Ali Asseri, when they signed up for an informal Arabic class that he taught. Thus began a long and very rewarding friendship.

(In the absence of Ali Asseri, the following tribute was read aloud by John Wilson.)

***

I am sorry to hear about the death of my dearest friend Professor Fritz. I have known Fritz since the early seventies when he was working in a warehouse which belonged to the United States Corps of Engineers in Saudi Arabia. I was a student at the Police Academy then.

Fritz was a very humble and kind person. He was a hard-working individual, and he studied really hard because his ambitions were beyond imagination. His dedication and his sincerity both had a positive impact on me. He became a Professor and I became an Ambassador.

Ruth really contributed to this. She taught me more English to improve my vocabulary. They both embraced me, gave me the key to their house and their garage so I could park my poor little car. I was not allowed to leave the Academy except on weekends, and most of my weekend was spent at their house. My treat was a nice and delicious American breakfast, waffles to be specific, freshly cooked by Ruth. My argument with Fritz was always about who was going to clean up afterwards and who would vacuum the house. Obviously it was always me because Fritz was addicted to reading and he wouldn’t move one meter without carrying a book in his hand.

Fritz loved to help poor people and I witnessed his good deeds to some Saudi families who didn’t have refrigerators. I am qualified to say those things because I literally lived with Ruth and Fritz and, today, I feel like a little orphan who has lost a parent. We stayed in touch all along thanks to Ruth, because Fritz was too lazy to write. I had the honour of their visit when I was the Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan and they spent some time with me and my family in Islamabad.

To you Ruth, I know it is a very hard time for you, as it is for me. But I also know that you did everything in your power to make him happy through his life and to take good care of him when he was sick. Ruth, you have been a great and caring wife to Fritz and a great and wonderful friend of mine. So, let me assure you that my friendship and my commitment to continuing to support you will be even stronger.

My heart goes out to you and Sally. Please accept my sincerest condolences. His memory will live on forever in my heart and in the hearts of all those he touched. As Ernest Hemingway once said: “Every man’s life ends the same way. It is only the details of how he lived and how he died that distinguish one man from another.”

Love,

Ali Awadh Asseri
Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Lebanon
1.4 Jon Bekken

[John Wilson] After Saudia Arabia, Fritz went back to school to study economics one year at Columbia University in New York City; one year at Edinburgh University in Edinburgh, Scotland; and finally at Rutgers University in New Jersey where he earned a PhD in economics. His first job teaching economics was at the University of California at Riverside. During their three years in California, their daughter Sally was born. In 1984 they moved to Chicago where Fritz taught for six years at Roosevelt University. While living in Chicago, Fritz came across the Industrial Workers of the World, a labor union affectionately known as the Wobblies. He joined in 1985 and was a proud dues-paying member of the IWW for the rest of his life.

(In the absence of Jon Bekken, the following tribute was read by John Wilson.)

***

Farewell, Fellow Worker

I first met Fred in 1985, when I was General Secretary-Treasurer of the Industrial Workers of the World. He was teaching at Roosevelt University at the time, and came by the office one day to discuss Wobbly activities and our approach to building a new society based upon real democracy on the job, meeting everyone’s material needs, and creating the possibilities for all to live satisfying, fulfilling lives. I knew Fred was a Wobbly at heart the first time we met, but we talked several times over the next few months before he took out a red card.

Over the decades that followed, Fred kept up his IWW membership; more importantly, he stayed true to those Wobbly ideals. He played the key role in reviving a moribund IWW organization in the British Isles while teaching there, served as chair of the IWW’s General Executive Board, and spearheaded the successful effort to liberate Joe Hill’s ashes from the National Archives, where the federal government was quietly holding them captive, and to scatter them around the world in accordance with Joe Hill’s last wishes.

He joined the IWW Hungarian Literature Fund as veteran Wobblies were handing off this legacy to a younger generation, helping to support the publication of new IWW and labor literature, including the annual labor history calendar he and I worked on together for so many years. In this work, as in all his work for the IWW, he did not hesitate to take on the drudge work of stuffing envelopes and hauling mail to the post office, realizing that there is little point to producing Wobbly literature without making sure it gets into workers’ hands.

In 2005, as we were celebrating the 100th anniversary of the founding of the IWW, Fred suggested a conference of radical economists

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and labor activists interested in economics, to explore the intersection of Wobbly ideas and economic theory, and he made it happen. The paper he presented at that conference was a concrete example of how rigorous economic theory and workplace strategies derived from on-the-job struggles lead to a common emphasis on job control and struggles over the conditions of our labor. Such struggles are fundamentally battles to assert our human dignity against an economic system determined to treat us as a cogs in the capitalist apparatus, as agents of profit-making, as subjects. It is in refusing subjugation and exploitation, Fred knew, that we discover our capacity and realize our humanity. Fred was a Wobbly through and through; a rebel worker who never abandoned the cause. He knew the struggle was often difficult, but also that it was well worth fighting. Our power, he knew, lies in organization, and in action. He will be missed.

Jon Bekken
Albright College

Fred Lee, Chair of the General Executive Board of the IWW signing for Joe Hill’s Ashes at the National Archives. Utah Phillips as the member/signer of the IWW stands behind Fred Lee. And Trudy Peterson stands next to Utah as the representative from the National Archives (November 18, 1988). Source: Walter P. Reuther Library, Archives of Labor and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University. http://reuther.wayne.edu/node/12333
1.5 John F. Henry

[John Wilson] While still at Roosevelt University in Chicago, Fritz met fellow economist, John Henry at a conference. Although John was then teaching at California State University in Sacramento, California, through their mutual interest in radical economics and their shared peculiar sense of humor, they became good friends, as well as colleagues.

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I first met Fred in the flesh at a Post Keynesian conference in 1985. We found ourselves seated next to each other at one of the conference dinners and one of us—I think it was I—brought up the I.W.W. in the conversation. Well! The following 30 minutes were given over to talk about Big Bill Haywood, Joe Hill, Eugene Debs and other notables associated with that organization. From that point forward, I recognized in Fred a kindred spirit, and one who went far beyond the self-imposed limits that aberrant academics set for themselves. Fred did not give into what I term “the sin of respectability.”

I was planning at this point to read some of the testimonials that our fellow economists sent to the various lists on which notice of Fred’s death appeared. However, there are too many and it proved difficult to make a judgment as to which few should be selected. Instead, I merely serve notice that I have never seen so many testimonials appearing on so many lists. Literally, well over one hundred tributes poured forth, from colleagues, students—both former and current—and non-academics with whom Fred had associated over the years.

I now want to turn to reading portions of a foreword I’ve written for a collection of essays honoring Fred’s work, and edited by two of his former students, Zdravka Todorova and Tae-Hee Jo. (I note that many very distinguished economists have contributed to this collection. I also note, in passing, that after ten or so years working with him, Fred never pronounced Tae-Hee’s name correctly.)

The following is written in the present tense, and I read it as such as it’s difficult to think of Fred as no longer with us.

Fred Lee, Heterodox Economist Extraordinaire

In 2005, Fred organized a small conference at the University of Missouri-Kansas City to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Industrial Workers of the World. As conferences go, this was a piddling affair and papers presented would hardly advance one’s standing in traditional economics departments. Yet, notable members of the heterodox community were in attendance, several travelling from Australia, England, and lengthy distances in the U.S. Curious, I asked a few, “why,” why undertake the journey and expense of coming to Kansas City for such an event? To the letter, the answer was, “we owe it to Fred.” The “Heterodox Economics Newsletter” had been organized by Fred the previous year, and people were so grateful for this sole means through which economists of a non-orthodox persu-
CHAPTER 1. MEMORIAL SERVICE

I shall make a claim: no one sharing the theoretical orientations associated with “deviant” theories is more important to heterodoxy than Fred. No one has worked harder to build a heterodox community; no one has provided more encouragement and guidance to students in advancing heterodox economics. Fred has been the center, the Northern Star of the attempt to organize a viable, effective, activist public face of heterodoxy. In this, he has pleaded, cajoled, and—yes—pressured people into doing what is necessary to advance this cause.

As is well known, Fred has been active in almost every heterodox organization extant—AFEE, AHE, AFIT, ASE, EAEPE, URPE. (Please excuse the acronyms.) In particular, Fred was the main force (along with Alan Freeman) in the formation of the Association for Heterodox Economics. As well, Fred has always been active in Post Keynesian circles, in both the U.S. and the U.K. Additionally, he has been involved in the major history of economic thought associations (HES, ES-HET), which clearly spill over into the heterodox community. He has served as editor of the American Journal of Economics and Sociology, president of AFEE and AFIT, and has received numerous awards for his work in promoting heterodoxy. In particular, in 2009, he was the recipient of the Ludwig Mai Service Award given for exceptional service to the Association for Social Economics. One should also mention his efforts in supporting the International Confederation of Associations for Pluralism. In addition to participating in conferences hosted by the organization, he was (in typical style) often the organizer of the ICAPE booth at the Allied Social Science Association meetings. In this, Fred’s ability to pressure people into doing their duty will be recognized by those reading this tribute: for one holding quasi-anarchist views, he’s quite the disciplinarian!

Something must be said about Fred’s work in the Association for Heterodox Economics and his relationship to the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). The IWW originally was structured along the lines of the “Chicago” form of organizing. No single orientation was demanded of its members, but all members had to adhere to a general position that the main objective of the organization was to emancipate labor from “wage slavery” through the elimination of capitalism. Hence, the IWW enlisted Marxists, anarchists, radical trade unionists, etc., in the formation of industrial unions in working toward that objective. All were loosely socialists or adherents of a “cooperative commonwealth,” but no specific political program was put forward as the only “correct” path to follow. The main point was to bring the disaffected, the discontented, the outcasts together to work for social change.

Fred is a long-time member of the IWW, and the AHE has adopted this approach in attempting to fulfill its mission. It does not restrict its membership to those hewing to a Marxist, institutionalist, post Keynesian, Sraffian or any other theoretical orientation, but welcomes all—with the exception, of course, of straight-arrow neoclassical economists (though even those adhering to a neoclassical line are welcome if they are willing to engage in pluralist discussion and debate, and to learn from heterodoxy). That is, the AHE, through open discussion and debate seeks to develop something of a synthetic approach to heterodoxy, one that will advance this program through an ongoing dialogue among non-mainstream economists. As long as the main objective of emancipating economists (and other social scientists) from
the intellectual slavery of conventional economics is accepted, “all are welcome.” After all, we are the disaffected, the discontented, the outcasts of the economics order. It might be noted that it’s difficult to categorize Fred himself. On some days, he’s mainly a Marxist; on others, an institutionalist, a post Keynesian, a Sraffian. (I’ve even accused him of being a quasi-Austrian!)

Fred’s work on ranking economics departments and journals, in concert with his critical analysis of the UK Research Assessment Exercise, should not go unmentioned. While the massive effort that has gone into this work is likely to be underrated, it is important. From the neoclassical perspective, heterodox economists make no contribution to the discipline, and thus, publications by these economists should receive little or no respect, Fred has been able to demonstrate that neoclassical rankings are subject to an internal bias, and, applying a similar bias to heterodox departments and journals produces a ranking order much more favorable to heterodoxy. This conclusion, buttressed by the data collection and statistical analysis that lies at the foundation of the argument, has proven (sometimes) useful in fending off attempts to denigrate our efforts and eliminating heterodox courses and faculty from academic curricula and departments.

All the above which speaks to Fred’s efforts in building a heterodox community should not overshadow his work as a heterodox theorist. His 1998 Post Keynesian Price Theory in particular, coupled with his A History of Heterodox Economics (2009), along with many edited collections and journal articles have established Fred as a leading contributor to the theoretical approach he so tirelessly promotes. In honor of his theoretical work, Fred received the 2000 Gunnar Myrdal Prize, awarded by the European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy.

Since affiliating with UMKC, I’ve lived down the hall from Fred’s office. As we both tend to be in our respective offices five days a week, we’ve spent a goodly amount of time discussing theory, politics, the administration, students, and the future of heterodox economics. While we certainly don’t agree on any number of specific issues, we do know where the other is coming from and don’t have to undertake what can be fairly heated exchanges in merely establishing foundations for our respective positions. This speaks to a certain quality in Fred’s approach to heterodoxy. Fred does have strong positions, and has no fear in expressing these. But he is respectful of others’ positions—assuming they’re defensible—and enjoys lively debate. Thus, while he promotes heterodox economics in general, he does want to move people toward a theoretical stance that is on firm ground, coherent, internally consistent, and better equipped to both engage neoclassicism in intellectual combat and to advance our understanding of the economy and the larger social order in order to promote the social provisioning process. One thing that he will not tolerate is the sneaking of neoclassical theory in whatever form into the heterodox camp. Pluralism can be carried just so far, and pluralism does not include dogmatic neoclassicism. I close by mentioning his work with students, for students represent the hope for the future of heterodoxy. When I first arrived at UMKC in 2001, Fred had very few students with whom to work directly: most came to work in modern money theory. Over the last five years or so, an increasing number began working with Fred, influenced by his modeling of the economy based on Leontief and Sraffa. Fred’s approach has attracted the attention of students as it allows a conjoining of money, production, and distribution, shedding much needed light on the fundamentals
of a monetary production economy.

Fred has always been very generous with his time, has always been encouraging—and demanding!—and has imparted an ethic to “do your duty” in the promotion of heterodoxy, not uncritically to be sure, but to advance the argument by drawing on the various branches which constitute this alternative to conventional economics. To this end, he and his wife, Ruth have established the “Frederic S. Lee Heterodox Economics Scholarship,” in the “hope for the future of heterodoxy.”

In April of this year (2014), when it was clear that Fred could not carry on, graduate students organized a tribute to Fred. Student after student spoke to how much Fred meant to their academic and personal lives, and promised to carry on in his tradition. No finer accolade could honor Fred’s work in the service of heterodox economics.

John F. Henry
University of Missouri–Kansas City
[John Wilson] In 1990, Fritz, Ruth and Sally moved to England where they lived for the next 10 years. They lived one year in Stoke-on-Trent and nine years in Leicester. Ruth and Fritz always enjoyed traveling throughout the United States and the world, and they saw living in England as a wonderful opportunity to expand their horizons. While living in Leicester, Fritz stumbled across the Leicester Secular Society, which held weekly educational meetings in their 130 year-old Victorian building.

(In the absence of Lyn Hurst, the following tribute was read aloud by John Wilson.)

***

I had the pleasure and privilege of working with Fred on the Leicester Secular Society committee for ten years, I was secretary and worked with Fred, who firstly was treasurer, and later was the first American to be President of the Society. Fred’s knowledge of economics was crucial in his role as treasurer. The Society was well over a hundred years old at this time and our financial system was “Dickensian.” Fred simplified the whole banking arrangements and brought us forward a hundred years, and prepared us for the 21st century.

As President he was hands on with lots of good ideas, an admiration for Leicester Victorian Society, as well as his love of Leicester Secular Society, and a way of bringing the principles of the American constitution into the debate, particularly regarding free speech for all. Fred was instrumental in our program, and most importantly in our increase in membership. The Society had been in decline, and Fred, with a few other new members, possibly saved the Society from extinction, thus playing a truly important role in the history of Leicester Secular Society, for which we will be forever grateful.

Fred’s ever-cheerful personality made it easy to work with him, and I remember those years as happy times, and I will always remember them, and him, with fondness and a smile. Thank you Fred and a sad farewell from all your comrades here in Leicester.

Love & Solidarity,

Lyn Hurst
Past President, honorary member & Trustee of the Leicester Secular Society
1.7 Tae-Hee Jo

[John Wilson] In 2000, Ruth, Fritz and Sally moved back to the United States where he began teaching at the University of Missouri–Kansas City. Fritz was glad to be able to spend the last years of his career with valued colleagues in a department that shared his commitment to heterodox economics. For the first time in his career, Fritz had the opportunity to teach in a doctoral degree program. Fritz always found teaching to be a rewarding experience, but he particularly valued the opportunity to teach doctoral students who were interested in the pluralist approach to economics that he fostered his entire career and who would become the future of heterodox economics.

It was especially rewarding for him when students chose to do their doctoral dissertation with him. Tae-Hee Jo was the first student to do his dissertation with Fritz and he has since become a valued colleague and more than a friend. The last thing Fritz was working on, until he could work no more, was a letter of recommendation for Tae-Hee. In that letter, he said: “Tae-Hee’s interests shadow mine and go beyond. I always have someone to talk to at conferences and debate with ... We made different contributions to heterodox economics and we did it with a smile; we believed in what we did. These contributions can never be repaid and we do not want them to be repaid ... but they need to be acknowledged. For these reasons, I have a very deep interest in writing one last letter for him, just to say thanks.”

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I am “Ta-Hee” Jo. That’s my name Fred Lee called me all the time.

I first met Professor Lee in July 2003 in his Manheim Hall office. Before I moved to Kansas City to start the doctoral study at UMKC, I visited Professor Lee to get some information about the program since he was a graduate advisor.

To be honest, I had never heard of his name before, because I was not interested in microeconomics at all. I transferred to UMKC to study macroeconomics and international finance which were, and still are, most popular fields in heterodox economics. Nor did I know that there was such thing as heterodox microeconomics.

My interest in economics completely changed while I was taking Professor Lee’s microeconomics course in the first semester. From the first class on I was surprised that microeconomics could make good sense to me. So I got interested in heterodox microeconomic theories. After passing the comprehensive exam, I decided to do heterodox microeconomic theory and asked him: “Professor Lee, I want to write my dissertation on the Microfoundations of Effective Demand.” I chose this particular topic because in the lecture notes he provided to students this topic seemed less-developed compared to other theoretical issues. In response to my question, he asked, “Ta-Hee, are you going to work on this topic for the following 30 years?” I said “YES,” without understanding what exactly his question meant. Now I understand that he wanted me to make contributions to the development of heterodox economics, which is rendered possible if one actively and continu-
ously engages in scholarly activities for many years.

I am still not satisfied with my dissertation—a lot more work to be done, perhaps, I need thirty more years from now. However, Professor Lee never gave me negative comments. Instead, he always encouraged me to do more and better work. He even organized many sessions at various conferences in order for his students to engage in scholarly activities with other established heterodox economists. In particular, he organized a session on “Micro-Macro Linkages in Post-Keynesian Theory” at the MVEA 2005 conference and another session on “Microfoundations of Heterodox Macroeconomics” at the URPE-ASSA 2007 conference. I presented parts of my dissertation at those conferences and I was hired by SUNY Buffalo State after the 2007 conference. In 2006, he gave me an opportunity to teach a couple of his classes in Radical Political Economy. He was sitting in the class watching me and then after the class he told me how I could improve teaching skills, which I never learned before.

Since I graduated from UMKC, we have worked together on various occasions—writing papers, organizing conference sessions, and other projects including the *Heterodox Economics Newsletter*. He was always supportive of what I was trying to do. We had numerous conversations through emails and at various conferences—for example, I have over 1,000 emails from Fred Lee; and after the end of the day at a conference, he always offered me a beer while he had a hot chocolate. And then we talked until midnight.

Last April, I told Professor Lee that I was lucky to have him as my mentor. Then he said, “A good mentor always starts with a good student.” Now I must reverse this: “A good student always starts with a good mentor.” Without Professor Lee I could not become a heterodox economist in any meaningful sense. He showed me and his other students what a heterodox economist should do and care about. I learned from Professor Lee that his “leave-no-stone-unturned” approach coupled with his “don’t-let-the-idiot-win” attitude is most needed for the survival and reproduction of heterodox economics.

I cannot forget his last phone call on October 9th, just two weeks before his passing away, while he was struggling with breathing and coughing. That night he talked me on the phone about a paper on the social provisioning process that he was supposed to write for the *Handbook of Heterodox Economics*. He told me what he wanted to say in the paper. He wanted me to write this paper on his behalf. He also wanted me to deliver a 2016 AFEE presidential address on his behalf.

I know that Fred trusted me as a colleague. Fred and I wanted to do a number of things together. But that is not possible any more.

Although we have to let him go now, we—his students—will not let him down.

Thank you, Fred.

Tae-Hee Jo
SUNY Buffalo State
[John Wilson] One of the files Fritz always kept in a desk drawer in his office at the university, was a file labeled “Sally S. Lee.” It contained such random items as her first tooth, letters to Santa, birthday cards she had given him, and an economics book co-authored by Sally and Koko the cat when she was around age 7. The main thesis of the book Sally and Koko wrote is that “economics is very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very, very boring.”

Less than two weeks before he died, Fritz wrote in Sally’s birthday card:

“What you mean to me is beyond the words found in books; but words is how we express them. Without words, we could not say and or mean anything that is substantive. So, we must choose them carefully. And for me, it is that I have loved you, and that your life has given mine meaning ever since you were born.”

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I used to think I was an only child but looking back I see now that I was wrong. Dad’s students were as much his children as I was. Since his death we have had floods of emails from past students telling us just how much dad had done for them and meant to them, how much he inspired them to achieve their true potential and I see that I do in fact have the brothers and sisters I begged my parents for when I was 8.

I want to share with you just a few of the many tributes we received that made me smile:

The first is from Doug Meador, “Even greater than Fred’s commitment to the advancement of knowledge was his unwavering commitment and concern for all of us, his students. Never was there any one who demanded more but did everything within his power to help each of achieve our full potential.”

The next is from Tung-Yi Kho, “Despite the short time I spent at UMKC, I remember him well. I’ll always remember him for his kindness to us and for his commitment to fighting the cause of the oppressed. Will definitely remember the Harry Potter movie we watched together and the wonderful Thanksgiving dinner he and his wife made us in 2005. May his legacy live on in his work and the many lives he touched.”

Karl Petrick wrote “I first met Fred Lee when I was starting out as a PhD student. A bunch of us had taken the train to London to attend a Post Keynesian Study Group meeting. After the first presentation, a voice pipes up from behind where I was sitting: ‘I have one question....part one....’ Each part of Fred’s four part question was a fundamental challenge to the presenter that needed to be addressed in some way. I said to a fellow student ‘I hope if I ever present at one of these sessions, that guy is absent that day.’ But Fred never missed a PKSG meeting, so he was there when every one of us eventually made our first presentation. But he was nice to us because we were students. He only asked...”
three-part questions. When Fred left England to go work in the United States, he asked four of us to take over running the Association for Heterodox Economics annual conference. That’s all you need to know about Fred Lee that it took four people to continue doing something that Fred did on his own. A great mentor, a great friend, and I miss him very badly.”

Finally I think it is this tribute from a fellow economist, Peter Dorman, that really captured best the man we all know and love, he wrote: “When I remember Fred it is always the half smile, accompanied by some weird speculation about an argument or trend taken to its illogical conclusion.”

To me though he will always be a father first and an economist second.....

When I was little dad opened up an imaginary world for me. Everywhere we lived there always seemed to be imaginary alligators hiding in our back yard, when I was sick he would always ask me if I had Tri-Die-decapophobia (a disease my grandfather made up, so I guess it’s hereditary) and when I was bored he would make up sleeping sally stories about a little girl that went on big adventures.

As a dues paying member of the IWW dad was always very concerned about the plight of the working person and this worked well for me as a kid. When he would pay me to do his share of the household chores it was always a very decent wage. When he paid me to sell the IWW song books or calendars in our neighborhood I am pretty sure he paid me more than the profit he was making on them...although the woman who marched me back home after I knocked on her door to give dad, of all people, a lecture about Child Labor Laws was probably not aware of all this.

Dad never went anywhere without a book, an economics book of course, whether it was out to dinner or to the movies (I am not really sure how much reading he thought he was getting done in a dark theater). Sometimes on family vacations mom would force him to take just one fiction book, though it usually ended up being a biography. But at my bedtime he always put down the economics books, to read to me Little House on the Prairie for the 500th time or Matilda or James and the Giant Peach. And though dad won’t be around to read these books to his grandkids, Molly and Chloe, I still have those books and we will be sure to carry on the tradition and I will tell them who first read these stories to me. As they get older I will also try to pass on to them, as he did for me, a love of cheesy action movies; our favorites of course being Die Hard, Lethal Weapon, and Indiana Jones.

In the end I guess I knew dad really loved me on the day I told him my wedding was going to be the same weekend as the 10th anniversary conference of the Association for Heterodox Economics which he had founded.... He still showed up to walk me down the aisle.
1.9 Ruth Lee

Thank you to everyone who is here, as well as to the hundreds who have sent cards and tributes. I am deeply touched and heartened to know just how much Fritz was loved and will be remembered.

To my new neighbors at the Ashford Condo: Fritz and I have moved many times in the 41 years we were married. I have never felt so instantly welcomed and so quickly made new friends. Looking forward to a new life is so much easier knowing you are there.

To Tae-Hee. Thank you for your kindness and your devotion to my husband. You, more than anyone have already ensured, and I know will continue to ensure, that his legacy will not be forgotten.

To Fritz’s original family: Thank you for all the funny stories from before I knew him, and for keeping him humble.

To my original family: Thank you for your love and support and for welcoming Fritz into our family, despite his many idiosyncrasies.

To my son-in-law Scott, thank you, not only for giving me two beautiful granddaughters, but for being such a wonderful father to them and such a wonderful husband to Sally that she could drop everything and give her Dad and I the support that we have needed through the last months. Fritz and I both were happy to welcome you into our lives.

To our daughter Sally. As your father said, words cannot express the love we have for you and the joy you have brought to our lives. I will simply say: Without your support, I could not have made it through. Thank you.

And lastly to Fritz: Thank you for 41 years together. It was a helluva ride! I miss you.
1.10  Closing

[John Wilson] This concludes the speaking part of this memorial service. Thank you all for coming and sharing in this memorial to Fritz. They say, we die twice—once when the last breath leaves our body and once when the last person we know says our name. Clearly, Fritz will live on in us for a long time to come.

A few last items before we retire to the foyer for the reception. First, a very grateful thank you to the Ethical Society of St. Louis for hosting us. Second, please write down a short story or memory you have of Fritz. There will be paper on the table in the foyer for this. Your stories will be collected and kept in an album for his family. Third, please feel free to take a complimentary 2015 labor history calendar which has a small picture of Fritz on the last page.

We will conclude this memorial service with a song, “I Dreamed I Saw Joe Hill Last Night” sung by Paul Robeson. If you listen to the words and substitute Fritz for Joe and a few words here and there, you will have Fritz’s last imperative to us—to carry on and organize. The last thing Fritz would want us to do is walk about with our heads hung low, defeated and dispirited. I can imagine him looking at us, his arms waving to his side, his voice rising, “What are you guys doing? Don’t go around moping! Carry on! Organize!”

Thank you all for coming.

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I Dreamed I Saw Joe Hill Last Night, sung by Paul Robeson

I dreamed I saw Joe Hill last night,
Alive as you or me
Says I, “But Joe, you’re ten years dead,”
“I never died,” says he
“In Salt Lake, Joe,” says I to him,
Him standing by my bed,
“They framed you on a murder charge,”
Says Joe, “But I ain’t dead,”
Says Joe, “But I ain’t dead.”
“The copper bosses killed you, Joe,
They shot you, Joe,” says I.
“Takes more than guns to kill a man,”
Says Joe, “I didn’t die,”
Says Joe, “I didn’t die.”
And standing there as big as life
And smiling with his eyes
Joe says, “What they forgot to kill

Went on to organize,
Went on to organize.
“Joe Hill ain’t dead,” he says to me,
“Joe Hill ain’t never died.
Where working men are out on strike
Joe Hill is at their side,
Joe Hill is at their side.
“From San Diego up to Maine,
In every mine and mill,
Where workers strike and organize,
Says he, “You’ll find Joe Hill,”
Says he, “You’ll find Joe Hill.”
I dreamed I saw Joe Hill last night,
Alive as you or me
Says I, “But Joe, you’re ten years dead,”
“I never died,” says he
“I never died,” says he
Chapter 2

Obituaries
2.1 Ruth Lee

Lee, Frederic Sterling (known to his family as Fritz) died October 23, 2014 in Webster Groves, Missouri.1 He was a Professor of Economics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City since 2000. He fought his whole life for social and economic justice for all people. Dr. Lee was internationally known for his work on alternative microeconomic theory. His approach to economics was always grounded in the real world which kept him outside the mainstream of orthodox economics. He authored two books: *Post Keynesian Price Theory* and *A History of Heterodox Economics*. He authored, co-authored and edited numerous other books and articles, including: *Oxford Economics & Oxford Economists* with Warren Young; *Radical Economics and Labor* with Jon Bekken; *The Heterodox Economics of Gardiner C. Means* with Warren Samuels; *Evaluating Economic Research in a Contested Discipline* with Wolfram Elsner; and *Social Provisioning, Embeddedness and Modeling the Economy*. He was also internationally recognized for his work to promote a community among alternative approaches to economic theory under the umbrella term of heterodox economics. He was founder of the Association for Heterodox Economics in England and the international *Heterodox Economics Newsletter*. He was active in many other economic associations and served as editor of the *American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, 2009-2013.

Dr. Lee previously taught at the University of California-Riverside in Riverside, CA, 1981-1984; Roosevelt University in Chicago, IL, 1984-1990; Staffordshire Polytechnic in Stoke-on-Trent, England, 1990-1991; and De Montfort University in Leicester, England, 1991-2000. He was a proud, card-carrying member of the Industrial Workers of the World (known as Wobblies) since 1985. While living in Chicago he was President of the IWW General Executive Board. In that role, he was instrumental in retrieving for the IWW a remnant of the ashes of Joe Hill, which had found its way into the National Archives in Washington, DC. While living in Leicester, England, he was active in the Leicester Secular Society, which works for an inclusive and plural society free from religious privilege, prejudice and discrimination. He served as President of the Secular Society from 1994 to 2000, promoting their activities and preserving their 130 year-old Victorian building.

Born in Nyack, NY on November 24, 1949, Dr. Lee grew up in Fairfax County Virginia with his father Sterling Lee, a lawyer with the National Labor Relations Board and his mother Marian Burks Keddy who was active with the League of Women Voters. He earned a BA in History from Frostburg State College in Maryland in 1972 and a PhD in Economics from Rutgers University in New Jersey in 1983. At Frostburg he met his wife, Ruth (nee Buschman) on a hayride. Happily married for 41 years, they enjoyed living and traveling all over the US and the world. Places they lived include: New York City; Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; Edinburgh, Scotland; New Jersey; Riverside, CA; Chicago, IL; Stoke-on-Trent and Leicester, England. They also traveled in India, China, Australia, Pakistan, Lebanon, Iran, Mexico, Canada and throughout Europe and the United States. In addition to his wife, he is survived by his beloved daughter, Sally Sterling Anderson who is married to Michael Scott Anderson and two beautiful granddaughters, Molly Ruth Anderson and Chloe Viola Anderson. He is also survived by

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his stepmother Patricia Lee; sister, Kathryn Lee Wilson; brother John Keddy Lee; stepbrothers Mark Crawford, John Crawford, and Peter Crawford; and stepsisters Jane Webster, Maura Blomquist, Anne Collins, and Suzanne Crawford. Tragically, he died of lung cancer despite having never smoked.

Services: A Memorial Service will be held Saturday, November 8th, 1:00 pm at the Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis, Missouri. His ashes will be scattered at a later date at the Haymarket Martyrs Monument in Chicago, IL. Memorial contributions can be made to the Frederic S. Lee Heterodox Economics Scholarship Fund which is housed at the Kansas City Community Foundation. Donations can be made at https://gkccfonlinedonations.org/give/leeh00.asp.
CHAPTER 2. OBITUARIES

2.2 Tae-Hee Jo

Frederic Sterling Lee passed away on October 23, 2014, just one month before his 65th birthday, after a brave battle against cancer. He was diagnosed with stage four lung cancer at the end of February. He, however, never stopped working for his students and for the community of heterodox economists until the end of his life, as he always did over the past 30 years of his academic career. The entire community of heterodox economists across the world is saddened by the passing of Fred Lee.

Fred Lee was born in 1949 in Nyack, NY and grew up in Virginia. His father, Sterling Lee, was a labor lawyer and his mother, Marian Burks Lee, was a politically active person. With this family background he was aware of progressive politics and civil and workers rights even in his early days. He went to Frostburg State College (Maryland, 1968-1972) and obtained a BA degree in history. While doing his undergraduate study, he was interested in philosophy and later in economics because he found that social questions in the 19th century were mainly examined by economists. After two years of working in Saudi Arabia (a supply clerk position with the Corp of Engineers in Riyadh), he returned to the United States and continued his study at Columbia University in New York City. In 1977 Fred Lee met Alfred S. Eichner who later became his “mentor, dissertation advisor, and friend.” He once noted that the “discovery of Eichner” was “the most important in my academic career.” With Eichner’s encouragement and support, Fred Lee started his PhD study in economics at Rutgers University in 1978, where he was taught by Alfred Eichner, Paul Davidson, Jan Kregel, Nina Shapiro, and Alessandro Roncaglia, among others. After graduating from Rutgers University in 1983, he taught at University of California–Riverside (1981-1984), Roosevelt University (Chicago, 1984-1990), Staffordshire Polytechnic (Stoke-on-Trent, UK, 1990-1991), De Montfort University (Leicester, UK, 1991-2000), and the University of Missouri–Kansas City (2000-2014).2

His contribution to heterodox economics and his influence on younger heterodox economists are enormous and invaluable. First of all, he will be remembered as the heterodox economist who endeavored to develop heterodox microeconomics that would completely replace neoclassical microeconomics. Through his magnum opus, Post Keynesian Price Theory (1998) he shows that the neoclassical price mechanism does not exist in the real world, and that there are alternative-heterodox theory of price and pricing which can be drawn from the work of Gardiner C. Means, Michal Kalecki, and P.W.S Andrews and Oxford Economists’ Research Group. This means that the entire neoclassical microeconomic framework is incoherent and irrelevant and, hence, a new theoretical framework that explains how the capitalist economic system (or the social provisioning process) works needs to be developed. He was working on this grand project toward the end of his life.3

He will also be remembered as a tireless organizer and institution builder who established the Association for Heterodox Economics (1999) and the Heterodox Economics Newsletter (2004). He also served a number of heterodox economics organizations and jour-
nals, including the editorship of the *American Journal of Economics and Sociology* (2009-2013). He believed that institution building is as important as theory building insofar as we are concerned with the continuation and reproduction of heterodox economics. Fred Lee’s commitment to heterodox economics is also demonstrated by his book, *A History of Heterodox Economics: Challenging the Mainstream in the Twentieth Century* (Routledge, 2009). This is the only book ever published that deals with the institutional history of heterodox economics from 1900 to 2006 in the US and UK. More importantly, the objective of the book is to show that not only heterodox economics did/does exist, but also it can continue only if heterodox economists develop alternative theories and build institutions in the face of the dominance of mainstream economics. In fact, he spent over ten years to complete this book. Once I asked him why he spent so much time to write this history book and then he said: “Because someone had to do it.” I now understand that it is not just someone, but someone who has a clear vision, unflagging energy, and willingness to sacrifice oneself for a better future of heterodox economics.

Lastly, he will be remembered as an inspirational teacher and wonderful mentor who taught students how to do heterodox economics in a pluralistic, realistic, and integrative manner, and who cared about his students from the bottom of his heart. Although he did not have many students who wrote a PhD dissertation under his supervision, there are lots of young heterodox economists who are largely influenced by his work. This is evidenced by all the messages collected after his passing as well as a forthcoming festschrift, *Advancing the Frontiers of Heterodox Economics: Essays in Honor of Frederic S. Lee* (Routledge, 2015).

Right after he was told that he got terminal lung cancer, the first thing he told me was: “We need to establish a fund that helps heterodox doctoral students in heterodox doctoral programs.” As many of us remember, this is Fred Lee, the person who always cared about young heterodox economists— that is, the future of heterodox economics.

In closing, I’d like to quote Fred Lee’s last email to heterodox economists (which was sent to various mailing lists on October 2, 2014; he personally told me that this was his “last project”):

The 2015 Solidarity Forever Labor History Calendar is now available. It features Joe Hill. If you do not know who Joe Hill is, I suggest that you do a little bit of work and find out or better yet hum to yourself, “Would you have freedom from wage slavery,” And if you think you know something about the 1% versus the 99% and do not know who Joe Hill is then I suggest checking out the song “Preacher and the Slave” on the internet or some other strange contraption that did not exist in 1911. In the inside back page you will find a picture of myself with Joe Hill’s ashes—this is about as close as you will get to any real hero of the working class whose life was indeed put on the line—he was executed by the capitalists in 1915.

You either walk the walk or you do not; and my career (along with my colleagues from around the world) has indeed walked the walk to ensure that heterodox programs exist and heterodox economists have jobs. And this has meant significant
hardships for students and colleagues (not to mention loss of employment–see “A History of Heterodox Economics”) to critically study the mainstream theory that calls into question the argument that supports the 1%. And it also means that you have to go beyond the critical and develop an alternative that draws upon the different heterodox approaches.

Through the Heterodox Economics Association Booth at the ASSA 2015, 60 Joe Hill calendars will be provided free to anyone. In return, all that is asked is that you look at the literature in the booth, in particular the scholarship material for graduate students. It is not cheap to go to graduate school; and at times it appears that those who have obtained their PhD have no interest in helping those who would like to get a PhD—in this case, they are certainly not walking the walk nor caring about the community of heterodox economists in which they operate. Do something—give a damn. For more information about the Joe Hill calendar go to http://iwwhlf.org; http://www.joehill100.com. Information about the Frederic S. Lee Heterodox Economics Scholarship Fund can be found at: http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs/fsl-scholarship.

Fred Lee is survived by his wife, Ruth, their daughter, Sally, and two granddaughters. A memorial service for Fred Lee will be held Saturday, November 8th, 1:00 pm at the Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis, Missouri. His ashes will be scattered at a later date at the Haymarket Martyrs Monument in Chicago, IL. Condolences may be sent via Fred Lee’s website at http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs and memorial contributions can be made to the Frederic S. Lee Heterodox Economics Scholarship Fund which is housed at the Kansas City Community Foundation. Donations can be made at https://gkccfonlinedonations.org/give/leeh00.asp.

Tae-Hee Jo
SUNY Buffalo State
October 30, 2014

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4A revised version of this obituary is published in the Economic and Labour Relations Review 26 (1): March 2015.
2.3 Robert McMaster

Professor Frederic Sterling Lee (1949-2014): An Appreciation

Fred Lee passed away on 23rd October 2014 following a brave fight against lung cancer. It is a significant honour for me that the President of the Association for Social Economics (ASE), Prof. Mark White, invited me to write a few words commemorating and celebrating Fred’s substantial, and valued contribution to the ASE, and to the wider community of heterodox economics. This task fills me with considerable sadness as I count myself as one of the many fortunate people whose lives were enriched by Fred, both professionally and personally, and I will miss him dearly. I feel deep sympathy for Fred’s family: Ruth, his wife, Sally, their daughter, her husband, and Fred’s two granddaughters. I hope that appreciations such as this, the many condolences posted on Fred Lee’s website (http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs), and the moving tribute from Fred’s former PhD student, Dr. Tae-Hee Jo, are of some comfort to Fred’s family and friends.

Fred was born in November 1949 in New York and grew up in Virginia. From an early age Fred was interested in progressive politics, and never lost this interest or enthusiasm. After graduating with a History degree in the 1970s, Fred, together with Ruth, worked in Saudi Arabia for a few years. Later in the 1970s he returned to education, embarking upon his economics studies initially at Columbia University in New York. It was here that he met Alfred Eichner who encouraged Fred to study for a PhD. During this period, Fred and Ruth spent time in Edinburgh, Scotland. Despite the PhD programme at Edinburgh not being to his liking, Fred later told me that he rated the city as one of his favorite places. I’m sure he didn’t just tell me this because I’m a native of Glasgow.

Fred graduated from Rutgers University in 1983 with a PhD, writing his dissertation on Post Keynesian micro theory. As Fred observed in his short autobiography: “Predestined to Heterodoxy or How I Became a Heterodox Economist”:

When I entered Rutgers I was a Post Keynesian-heterodox economist; and with (Paul) Davidson, (Jan) Kregel, Eichner, and Nina Shapiro as my professors, there was no chance that I would deviate. (http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs/cv/predestine/)

From his PhD thesis Fred started to publish papers on Post Keynesian microeconomics, especially related to Gardiner Means’ approach to pricing. Alfred Eichner was a major influence on Fred’s approach, Fred describing Eichner as his “mentor and friend.”

Following graduation from Rutgers, Fred taught at the University of California–Riverside; Roosevelt University, then crossing the Atlantic to England to teach at Staffordshire Polytechnic (Stoke-on-Trent) and De Montfort University (Leicester); returning to the US in 2000 to the University of Missouri at Kansas City (UMKC) where he spent the rest of his career. Fred retained a great affinity and affection for the places he taught.

In the summer of 2014 he revisited his old stomping grounds in Stoke and Leicester.

Fred served on the editorial board of the Review of Social Economy from 2006 until he assumed the editorship of the American Journal of Economics and Sociology in 2009-13. He also served as a trustee of the ASE, and was a highly active member of the association and the editorial board. He was awarded the Helen Potter Prize in 1988 for his article entitled: “A New Dealer in Agriculture: G. C. Means and the Writing of Industrial Prices” published in the Review.

Of course, Fred’s work was recognized by other fraternal associations, such as the European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy, EAEPE, which awarded him the Gunnar Myrdal Prize in 2000 for his monograph entitled: Post Keynesian Price Theory. The Myrdal Prize is awarded to the best monograph that broadly reflects the theoretical perspectives of EAEPE. Fred’s academic interests were many and varied, transcending the boundaries of the heterodox economic associations. Nonetheless, he was especially noted for his work on price theory from a Post Keynesian perspective; developing the work of institutionalist economist, Gardner Means, Post Keynesian, Michal Kalecki, and industrial economist, Philip W. S. Andrews. Later in his career, Fred worked on the history of heterodox economics, particularly in the Anglophone world, and strategies to develop the impact of heterodox economics journals. He also made telling contributions to the debate over the impact of the research assessment exercise on the evolution of economics in the UK, and how this further marginalized heterodox economists. Last year he assumed the role of President-Elect of the Association for Evolutionary Economics, AFEE, a position he vigorously and enthusiastically served until his passing.

Despite his numerous academic achievements, Fred is perhaps best known for his tireless work in promoting the causes of heterodox economics and economists. Fred was passionate about the institution building and reproduction of heterodox economics. In this his contribution is enormous. He was instrumental in establishing the UK-based Association for Heterodox Economics (AHE) in 1999. The AHE was initially established to offer economists the opportunity to present heterodox work that they were not afforded at the annual conference of the Royal Economic Society (RES). Fred was struck how North American economists could present heterodox work at the premier US economics meetings, under the auspices of the Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA), but that no such facility existed in the UK. However, the RES had no desire to adopt the ASSA model, and hence the AHE swiftly became established as a successful heterodox economics association hosting an annual conference that attracts many scholars from all over Europe and beyond. Fred was awarded honorary life membership of the AHE. Indeed, despite battling cancer, he was able to present a keynote lecture to the 2014 AHE conference at the University of Greenwich in July. Fred’s address was typically powerful and provocative as he presented a finely crafted critique of mainstream price theory. It is a testament to his enthusiasm, stamina, and willingness to advance the cause of heterodox economics that he presented his lecture and answered questions following his address in a session that lasted around two hours.

As part of his innovative institution-building strategy for heterodox economics, Fred launched the Heterodox Economics Newsletter in 2004, passing the editorial baton to Tae-Hee Jo and Ted Schmidt in 2009. This was a significant undertaking as the Newsletter seeks to collate and disseminate informa-
tion about conferences, job vacancies, journal publications, edited volumes, and books within heterodox schools of thought.

Fred’s enthusiasm for the reproduction of heterodoxy is also evident from his contribution to teaching and learning. Having visited UMKC on a number of occasions, I have no doubts of his popularity among his students, who saw him as generous with his time, enthusiastic for his subject and his students: in short, inspiring. Indeed, Tae-Hee Jo highlights Fred’s concern about heterodox economics students when recounting that upon learning that he had terminal cancer, Fred and Ruth immediately moved to establish a fund to finance heterodox economics students in heterodox PhD programmes.

Again, whether it was establishing associations, foundations, newsletters, welcoming visiting scholars to UMKC, contributing his time to the varied heterodox economics associations, or manning the International Confederation of Associations for Pluralism in Economics, ICAPE, booth at ASSA meetings, Fred was prepared to advance the cause of pluralism in economics and progressive economic thought in whatever way he could. His energy and enthusiasm were astounding. Quite simply, he was inspirational.

From a personal perspective, two episodes of my encounters with Fred illustrate what a special individual he was. First: on the occasions I visited UMKC, Fred organized a series of events around guest lectures and seminars to staff and students. These events were designed to introduce UMKC students to international scholars, and for these scholars to exchange knowledge within a vibrant and exciting heterodox economics campus. The atmosphere was intellectually stimulating, and participants were supportive and highly encouraging in seeking to progress research and teaching in heterodox economics. Fred expended much time and effort to ensure that visitors were welcomed and supported in their work. Having been a beneficiary of this hospitality, I am extremely grateful. Second, during the summer of 2014, Fred observed that he was fortunate in that he was receiving excellent medical care. Many in his position may have (with understandable justification) observed their misfortune. For me, this was the measure of the man: his glass was always at least half-full. He was a caring, affable, and optimistic person with seemingly boundless energy and enthusiasm. I count myself as privileged to have known Fred and count him as a friend. I’ll miss his intellectual drive at conferences and other gatherings. More than this, I’ll miss Fred the person: his beaming, mischievous smile, and good humour.

A memorial service for Fred will be held on Saturday, November 8th, at 1:00 pm in the Ethical Society of St. Louis, 9001 Clayton Road, St. Louis, Missouri. His ashes will be scattered at a later date at the Haymarket Martyrs Monument in Chicago, IL. Condolences may be sent via Fred Lee’s website at: http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs and memorial contributions can be made to the Frederic S. Lee Heterodox Economics Scholarship Fund which is housed at the Kansas City Community Foundation. Donations can be made at: https://gkccfonlinedonations.org/give/leeh00.asp.

Robert McMaster
Adam Smith Business School
University of Glasgow, Scotland

October 31, 2014

(I thank Profs. Tae-Hee Jo and John Henry for their guidance in ensuring the accuracy of this appreciation. Of course, any remaining errors are mine alone.)
2.4 Ioana Negru

Frederic S. Lee (1949-2014): A Tribute

Frederic Sterling Lee passed away on October 23, 2014, having been diagnosed with stage 4-lung-cancer earlier this year. The heterodox community has lost a prominent economist and scholar as well as a supportive colleague and mentor for younger generations of heterodox economists. In “How I became a Heterodox economist” (http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs/cv/predestine), Fred Lee explains how he was predestined to become a dissenting economist. The family backgrounds of both his parents together with his father’s interests in pressing economic and social issues as well as contact with Marxist and Institutionalist writings culminated in an environment where politics, civil and workers’ rights were frequently discussed. Having majored in History, and attending graduate classes in philosophy and philosophy of science, Fred Lee realised early on that economists posed very interesting social questions. Under the mentorship of Alfred S. Eichner he undertook doctoral studies at Rutgers University. Although Fred’s initial ambition was to create a coherent Post-Keynesian theoretical framework, this evolved into bigger concerns over the foundations of heterodox economics.

The Economics Department in the School of Oriental and African Studies is organizing a tribute and fundraising event in the honour of Frederic Sterling Lee on 22 of November. The event will take place at SOAS, Russell Square from 09:00-19:00. This event will celebrate his activities towards establishing a truly heterodox and pluralist community of economists and not least his theoretical contributions towards developing foundations for heterodox economics. Invited speakers include Professor Geoff Harcourt, Professor Sheila Dow, Professor Jan Toporowski, Professor Paul Downward, Dr. Andrew Brown, Dr. Bruce Philip, Dr. Andrew Mearman, and Dr. Gary Slater.

Fred and his wife, Ruth, have recently established the Heterodox Economics Scholarship Fund, which is designed to financially support doctoral heterodox economics students. The Scholarship is open to all doctoral students studying in a heterodox economics programme, although currently preference is given to UMKC doctoral students due to the limited amount of funds.

For programme and registration visit here. To make a contribution to the Frederic S. Lee Heterodox Economics Scholarship Fund, visit here.

To learn more about the Fund, visit here.

Ioana Negru
School of Oriental and African Studies
University of London

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7http://tinyurl.com/lf55xau
8https://gkccfonlinedonations.org/give/leeh00.asp (minimum donation of 16).
Chapter 3

Tributes
3.1 UMKC Graduate Students

Today we remember the life of a great teacher, scholar, and rabble-rouser – Professor Frederic S. Lee (1949-2014). His life and accomplishments inspire us to strive to live up to the example he set for us.

Each time he stepped into the classroom, Prof. Lee brought a fiery passion to his teaching. In an era of hyper-specialization, he drew on his immense knowledge of heterodox economics to connect with students, no matter what their interest. We knew that Prof. Lee’s door was always open to students. He would happily spend hours helping us develop our research and ourselves. Even when we weren’t always confident in our own theories, Prof. Lee believed in us.

Prof. Lee’s steadfast commitment to intellectual pluralism stood as an inspiration for all who met him. As a scholar, he engaged with a wide range of alternative approaches to economics. He went even further with his commitment to interdisciplinary scholarship. Prof. Lee encouraged students and colleagues alike to learn the traditions and methods of other disciplines in order to create better explanations for how the world really works. Through his own interdisciplinary work, he played a critical role in the establishment of heterodox economics qua theory.

As an organizer, Prof. Lee put his theories into practice by advocating for social justice. Economists around the world remember him for his legacy of building an inclusive community of researchers and activists. He never wanted us to separate ourselves from the real world, becoming cloistered in the ivory towers of academia. To the very end, his dedication to social justice burned like a torch in the night, guiding our path forward. At the 2014 Interdisciplinary Conference, he called on us to fight for justice and solidarity. Although our hearts ache with loss, we will celebrate his life by answering that call.

May he rest in peace.

The Economics Graduate Students of the University of Missouri at Kansas City

November 2014
This volume\textsuperscript{1} is a fine testament to a remarkable man who played a unique role in heterodox economics. The range of contributors to the volume and the enthusiasm with which they and the editors have sought to honor Fred is testament to the extent to which he touched and shaped not only the thinking but also the lives of so many people.

Fred was above all an activist. Having formed strong views as to what he saw as the best way of approaching economics, he then sought to promote this approach by argument and by action. The aim was not only to encourage others, but also to facilitate the development of their work in the face of the substantive obstacles placed in their path by the dominant orthodox approach to economics. This he did through numerous activities, ranging from the formation of the Association for Heterodox Economics (AHE) to promoting the education in heterodox economics of new generations of heterodox economists at UMKC to gingering others up to activism. Fred latterly displayed remarkable courage and the depth of his convictions by continuing in his activism in spite of his declining health.

The approach that Fred promoted so effectively was not so much a specific methodology (although he did that too) as an overall approach to economic theorizing and discourse. Specifically he advocated and promoted pluralism in the sense of openness to a range of methodologies and theories, an obligation to engage in debate and the need for justification by reason and evidence. Pluralism is often misunderstood as ‘anything goes,’ but this is clearly contradicted by Fred Lee’s approach and by the aims and practices of the AHE. The AHE was developed under Fred’s influence as a forum which welcomes and facilitates a wide range of methodological and theoretical approaches to economics, the common factor being a willingness to engage in both collaboration across approaches, and critical debate. The heterodox critique of orthodoxy is fundamentally a critique of its refusal to engage with other approaches—or worse, where there has been active suppression of heterodoxy. But engagement within heterodoxy means an ability and willingness to defend one’s own approach to methodology and theory. Nobody could accuse Fred of holding back from direct criticism of positions with which he did not agree. Indeed his challenges were posed within heterodox economics as a means of fostering constructive theoretical developments. His theoretical focus was much less on challenging mainstream economists who refuse to engage—but he did sustain a continuing challenge to mainstream economics, at the level of academic politics, to engage with heterodox economics. The (pluralist) point is that Fred engaged and expected others to do likewise. Indeed, thinking further about Fred Lee’s approach suggests to me what may be a new term to capture this robust form of pluralism: ‘critical pluralism.’

The definition of heterodoxy in terms of a shared pluralism was central to Fred’s account of the history of heterodox economics (Lee 2009). This history is valuable in its own right. But it is also strategically important in that it further cements the identity of the heterodox approach which Fred did so much to foster. This strategy was additional to the setting up of institutional structures and using them to good effect. In the UK Fred made a particular contribution by running successful heterodox sessions alongside

\textsuperscript{1}This is a pre-publication version of “Foreword” to \textit{Advancing Frontiers of Heterodox Economics: Essays in Honor of Frederic S. Lee}, edited by Tae-Hee Jo and Zdravka Todorova, Routledge, 2015.
the annual Royal Economic Society conference and by documenting the damaging effects for heterodoxy in the UK of the Research Assessment Exercise which guided research funding. Overall Fred Lee was a pluralist in the strategies he employed to promote heterodox thinking.

As if this were not a sufficient contribution, Fred also made a substantive mark on methodology and theory within heterodox economics, notably in his ‘grounded theory’ approach and his development of microeconomics, drawing on and contributing to the Post Keynesian, Institutionalist, Marxian-radical political economy, and social economics traditions. Fred also made his own contributions to the history of economic thought. He used history of ideas, as well as economic history, in order to generate more grounded developments for application to emerging contexts. But his interests and contributions were broader still. The various chapters in this volume not only provide fine indications of this breadth of interests, but also demonstrate the fruitfulness of pluralism. The pluralist engagement across approaches, which has become increasingly evident in heterodox economics, leads to productive cross-fertilizations which take heterodox economics forward. The range of approaches used and topics addressed in this volume admirably reflect the scope of Fred’s own contributions to heterodox economics.

Fred was tireless in his efforts to promote heterodox ideas and those who sought to develop them. His career exemplified his approach to economics: developing theory, forming institutions, focusing on education and encouraging debate, all drawing on real experience and a strong sense of social justice, and all with a view to action. We owe him a great debt.

Reference

3.3 John E. King

Frederic Sterling Lee (1949-2014)²

On 23 October 2014 the heterodox micro theorist Fred Lee, a tireless advocate of heterodox economics for more than three decades, succumbed to lung cancer at the absurdly early age of 64. He is survived by his wife, Ruth, their daughter Sally, and two granddaughters. He also leaves behind a magnificent legacy of published work and substantial organizational achievements, not to mention many friends and colleagues.³

When he entered Rutgers, Fred recalled, he already thought of himself as a Post Keynesian-heterodox economist.⁴ In the late 1970s Rutgers was a stronghold of heterodoxy. He was taught by Eichner, Paul Davidson, Jan Kregel and Nina Shapiro, who were members of the faculty, and in Fall 1978 he took a course in the history of economic thought with Alessandro Roncaglia, who was a visiting professor. In his second year at Rutgers (1979-80), Fred himself taught an introductory microeconomics course. He was already working on his first major article, on the Oxford Economists’ Research Group (Lee 1981). The Post Keynesian group at Rutgers was soon dispersed (see Lee 2009, 88-89, 93-94), but not before Fred had benefited very greatly from it.

In a sense its failure was good for Fred, who was now able to spend the second half of his career in the much more hospitable environment provided by the University of Missouri Kansas City. It was certainly good news for his new employer. Between 2001 and 2014 Fred was ‘Mister Micro’ to Randall Wray’s ‘Mister Macro’ at UMKC—an allusion, of course, to the roles played by George Stigler and Milton Friedman forty years earlier in Chicago. Between them Fred, Randall and their colleagues established Kansas City as the global capital of Post Keynesian economics. Fred’s own detailed account of his department’s organization, ideals and progress

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²[Editor’s note] This is a pre-publication version of a tribute published in the Advancing the Frontiers of Heterodox Economics: Essays in Honor of Frederic S. Lee, edited by Tae-Hee Jo and Zdravka Todorova, Routledge, 2015.

³Biographical information, along with a brief autobiography, a complete list of Fred’s publications, a number of anecdotes and more extended tributes from friends and colleagues, and details of how contributions can be made to the Frederic S. Lee Heterodox Economics Scholarship Fund, can be found at http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs (consulted November 12, 2014).

⁴Details of Fred’s life before he became a student at Rutgers University in the fall of 1978 are given in his autobiography in this book.
(Lee 2012) ends by listing some of its brightest young graduates, all of whom he had taught: Flavia Dantas, Gyun Cheol Gu, Tae-Hee Jo, Joëlle Leclaire, Yeva Nersisyan, Robert Scott, Pavlina Tcherneva, Zdravka Todorova, and Éric Tymoigne. As Jo noted in his obituary for Fred, “he will be remembered as an inspirational teacher and wonderful mentor who taught students how to do heterodox economics in a pluralistic, realistic, and integrative manner, and who cared about his students from the bottom of his heart.”

As if teaching and research were not enough, Fred also played an important role in the institutions that sprang up around heterodox economics in the final quarter of the twentieth century. In the United Kingdom he set up the Association for Heterodox Economics in 1999, angered by the refusal of the august and ultra-orthodox Royal Economic Society to permit a heterodox presence at its annual conferences (Lee 2009, 197-200; see Mearman and Philp 2015 for the subsequent history of the AHE). Fred’s achievement inspired heterodox economists around the world, not least Peter Kriesler of the University of New South Wales, who established the Society of Heterodox Economists in Australia a couple of years later.

Fred remained involved with the AHE after his return to the United States. In 2004 he was one of the academics who took part in the third post-graduate workshop in Manchester on advanced research methods organized by the AHE, coordinated by Paul Downward and funded by the United Kingdom’s Economic and Social Research Council. Fred had recently published a paper on the use of grounded theory (Lee 2002), and his session at the workshop was on the application of grounded theory research methods to the study of pricing. One of the student participants, Therese Jefferson, found all the sessions to be extremely useful for a doctoral student interested in heterodox economics and research methods—Fred’s most of all (see Jefferson 2015). “Fred was also very generous with his time,” she recalled ten years later, “and seemed to be present at any gathering that was officially part of the workshop or otherwise. Several other academics at the workshop were similarly generous, but it was Fred who had engaged seriously with debates about grounded theory and this definitely left its mark” (personal communication, 17 November 2014).

On his return to the United States, Fred had moved into cyberspace as the publisher and founding editor of the Heterodox Economics Newsletter, which soon became an indispensable source of information and mutual support for dissident economists all over the world. He edited the Newsletter from 2004 to 2009, when two of his former students, Tae-Hee Jo and Ted Schmidt at SUNY Buffalo State, took over (it is now in the capable hands of Jakob Kapeller of the University of Linz), and was then editor of the American Journal of Economics and Sociology between 2009 and 2013. Somehow Fred also found time to become deeply involved in the activities of other heterodox societies, including the Association for Evolutionary Economics (AFEE), the Association for Institutional Thought (AFIT), the Association for Social Economics (ASE), the European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy (EAEPE), the International Confederation of Associations for Pluralism in Economics (ICAPE, of which he was Executive Director from 2006 to 2010), and the Union for Radical Political Economics (URPE). He was also a member of the Business History Conference, the (UK) Conference of Socialist Economists, the Progressive Economics Forum, and history of economic thought associations on three continents. In 2000 Fred was...
honored by EAEPE with its Gunnar Myrdal Prize, awarded for his theoretical achievements, in particular for Lee (1998), and in 2009 he received the Ludwig Mai Service Award from the ASE for exceptional service. At the time of his death he was president-elect of AFEE.

In England, an old friend remembered, Fred was a member of the Leicester Secular Society and had at one time been its president, holding it together in quite difficult times. Back in Chicago, in 1989, he had joined the Industrial Workers of the World, the anarcho-syndicalist organization also known as the ‘Wobbles.’ He played a key role in reviving a moribund Wobbly organization in the British Isles while he was teaching there, served as chair of the IWW’s General Executive Board in the United States, and spearheaded the successful effort to liberate Joe Hill’s ashes from the National Archives, where the federal government was quietly holding them captive, and to scatter them around the world in accordance with Joe Hill’s last wishes. In 2005 Fred organized a small conference at UMKC to celebrate the centenary of the IWW’s foundation, and co-edited the volume in which the proceedings were published (Lee and Bekken 2009). He never doubted the profound gap that separated the interests of employers and workers. “Those of us with an IWW background,” he reminded me, “have never thought that capitalism changed its stripes from the 1930s to the 1970s—there was no labor-capitalist accord, just a time period until the capitalists could again show their claws” (personal communication, 22 April 2014).

I cannot remember exactly when Fred and I first began to correspond with each other, or who initiated our first contact. It would have been in the early 1980s, and the occasion would have been our common interest in the maverick British price theorist P.W.S. Andrews (1914-1971), my first boss and one of Fred’s earliest intellectual heroes. I do remember that he shared with me not just his ideas but also his sources—large quantities of unpublished documentary material soon arrived (in those pre-digital days) in the post. Fred was a true socialist, not just in theory but also in his attitude to intellectual work: he really did believe that knowledge was a public good, and should be distributed as widely as possible. We met every now and then at conferences in Britain, and I stayed with him and Ruth in Leicester in 1992 when I was presenting a paper at the (then) Polytechnic. We kept in contact over the next 20 years, first by post and then by email. I think our last meeting was in Ballarat in 2006, when he was the invited keynote speaker at the 19th conference of the History of Economic Thought Society of Australia (see Lee 2007). He was fascinated by the dark secrets of the Australian labor movement, as revealed by the custodian of the Melbourne Trades Hall. And I have a photograph of the two of us in a bushland setting with an emu standing between us—presumably my wife Mary and I had taken him to the Healesville Sanctuary outside Melbourne and introduced him to the native wildlife.

Nature (and labor history) aside, Fred’s interests centered on two areas, one very broad and the other slightly narrower: the first was heterodox economics and its history, and the second was Post Keynesian microeconomics (especially pricing theory) and its history. (Agreeing with Hegel that to know a thing is to know the history of that thing, Fred was incapable of divorcing economic theory from the history of economic thought). Thus his pugnacious and controversial interpretation of what heterodox economics is all about cannot be dissociated from his equally combative and contentious history of the movement(s) in the United States and Britain in
CHAPTER 3. TRIBUTES

the twentieth century (Lee 2009). This was based on many years of meticulous research into the overlapping memberships of the various heterodox associations (AFEE, AFTT, ASE, URPE, and IAFFE, the International Association for Feminist Economics) and— in the absence of a formal association of Post Keynesians—subscriptions to the Journal of Post Keynesian Economics, which led him to conclude that “heterodox economists in the United States [had] coalesced into a professional community by 2000” (Lee 2010, 25). There was also clear evidence of theoretical integration, he claimed, citing a substantial volume of published work between 1990 and 2006 that engaged two or more heterodox approaches (27, Table 1.3). From all this he proclaimed the emergence of “a group of broadly commensurable economic theories—specifically Post Keynesian-Sraffian, Marxist-radical, Institutional-evolutionary, social, feminist, Austrian, and ecological economics” (19). He also documented the damage done to this community in the United Kingdom by the government’s pernicious Research Assessment Exercise. The often-cited paper by Harley and Lee (1997) warned us in Australia of the consequences when our own authorities introduced an even less defensible scheme early in the new century.

Fred’s important contributions to the theory of pricing in Post Keynesian microeconomics can be found in his magnum opus, Post Keynesian Price Theory (Lee 1998) and in his more recent entries in handbooks (Gu and Lee 2012; Lee 2013b), but these should all be read in conjunction with his earlier analyses of the work of Andrews (Lee 1981), Eichner (Groves, Lee, and Milberg 1989), and Gardiner Means (Lee and Samuels 1992). His last published contributions on pricing remain within the Andrews-Eichner-Means tradition, since they emphasize that prices do not just happen in ‘the market,’ and are not announced by some omniscient Walrasian auctioneer, but instead are administered by companies. Hence prices do not vary continuously with day-to-day fluctuations in demand, and are almost invariably determined by the imposition of a profit mark-up over some estimate of normal unit cost. Fred went into great detail on the ways in which firms allocated overhead costs between different products, the role played by product life-cycles, and the effects of business decisions to target specific classes of consumers. He stressed the need for Post Keynesian theorists to take account of “recent developments in accounting systems and pricing practices in the business world since the early 1990s” (Gu and Lee 2012, 457), especially the emergence of ‘activity-based costing’ (ABC). Fred himself drew on such unlikely sources as the Journal of Business-to-Business-Marketing, the Journal of Comparative Accounting and Finance, the Journal of Applied Accounting Research, and Management Accounting Quarterly (Lee 2013b, 482-484).

Despite his exhaustive research into business pricing decisions, many important questions appeared to him to remain open. As he told me, shortly before his death: “The Harcourt-Eichner argument that enterprises vary their profit mark up to finance investment has never had much empirical support. My position is that we really do not know how the profit mark-up is really determined because no one has done the hard work of going into enterprises to find out—also no one has done the archival work as well” (personal communication, 22 April 2014). He had already made this point in print. Post Keynesians, he noted, had tended to stress the importance of market structure and internal finance for investment plans in the determination of the mark-up. “However,” he concluded, “neither argument has much empirical support. Thus the mark-up remains theoretically unexplored
in Post Keynesian theory” (Gu and Lee 2012, 461). And so “the major area” for future research “lies in detailed, enterprise-specific case study work on the determination of the profit markup” (Lee 2013b, 481).

Somehow, despite the huge workload that he had imposed upon himself, Fred always found time to keep in touch with old friends. He and I continued to debate by email about the nature of heterodox economics and the case(s) for pluralism in economics; see King (2013) and Lee (2013a) for our—very different—views on these fundamental questions. He was working on his forthcoming text on heterodox microeconomics almost until the end, synthesizing his work on the business enterprise, its behavior and governance, and its role in the social provisioning process; at the time of writing it is unclear whether he had made enough progress on the manuscript for it to be published. However, there are certainly two further books to look forward to, one a co-edited handbook on heterodox research techniques (Lee and Cronin 2015) and the other a festschrift for his long-time friend and colleague, John Henry (Jo and Lee 2015).

Fred travelled to England for one last time in July 2014 and was able to present a keynote lecture to the AHE conference at the University of Greenwich. Then he went north. “Ironically,” he told me in the last message I was to receive from him, “the best day I have felt was when I was in Kirkcaldy visiting Adam Smith—sort of coming around in a full circle” (personal communication, 5 October 2014). Fred’s circle is now complete, and I will not be able to have the protracted and vigorous argument with him that I was looking forward to on the implications of financialization and the rise of Shareholder Value Maximization for the Post Keynesian theory of the firm and its pricing and investment decisions (see Lazonick 2013). But I can imagine what his position would have been: clear, firm and vigorously expressed, but always open to fresh arguments and new evidence. He will not be soon forgotten.

Acknowledgments

This is an abridged version of an obituary that first appeared in the April 2015 issue of the Review of Keynesian Economics, 3 (2). The author is grateful for corrections and comments from John Henry, Therese Jefferson, and Tae-Hee Jo. The usual disclaimer applies.

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Chapter 3. Tributes


3.4 Jan A. Kregel

In Memoriam: Frederic S. Lee, 1949-2014

Readers of the Journal will join the editors in lamenting the recent early death of Fred Lee.

Fred Lee’s mentor, Alfred Eichner, sent him to do graduate work at Rutgers University, hoping that he could benefit from the Post Keynesian faculty that was growing up around Paul Davidson including Jan Kregel, Nina Shapiro, Lourdes Beneria, and Bruce Steinberg at Rutger’s Livingston College—and which subsequently came to include Eichner himself. His early interest in Post Keynesian price theory was evidenced in his objection to the dominance of monetary and macro phenomenon in Post Keynesian growth and distribution theory.

When it was suggested to him by one of us who served as his graduate instructor and supervisor, that Roy Harrod, a major contributor to growth and dynamic theory, was also involved in the imperfect competition revolution, inventing the marginal revenue curve, as well as having been a participant in the Oxford Economists’ Research Group which engaged in the investigation of real world business and pricing decision, he quickly followed this lead to concentrate on what would become the focus of his work in developing a Post Keynesian approach to pricing and production. Indeed, as a result of this background to his research he resolutely refused to recognize the standard dichotomy between micro and macroeconomics.

The first fruits of this investigation produced a paper on the Oxford Economists’ Research Group which was accepted for publication in Oxford Economic Papers. A March 1980 letter reporting on his progress on his thesis sets out a schematic representation of the various influences on the work of the Oxford group and notes that “further work such as on the influence of the Balfour Committee on Industrial Efficiency and on the influence of MacGregor (who was Professor of Political Economy at Oxford) might provided [sic] better evidence of the eclectic nature of Oxford economics. (This would support my contention that in the underworld of economics of the 1920-30s, there lurked the basis for an non-supply & demand approach to a theory of prices and the firm).” In section II of the letter he reports that “I have also done a bit of work on pricing in the American literature. Surprisingly, I am finding quite a bit of information in accounting and cost accounting journals and management journals. I am getting an inkling that it will be relevant or useful for what I want to do—but then I am probably wrong.” Fred was not usually prone to self-doubt and in this case he was clearly wrong as the study of cost accounting practices and the US approach led to a highly fruitful line of research and publications.

His analytical and historical research on administered and mark-up pricing culminated in his Post Keynesian Price Theory (1998).

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Shortly after the publication of this important contribution, he moved to the University of Missouri at Kansas City where he devoted much of the rest of his life to promoting and protecting heterodox economics and economists from the onslaught of rankings and “research assessments” that would eliminate variety from the economics discipline by enforcing conformity with established orthodoxy.

To those who came in contact with him, Fred had a deserved reputation for principled argumentativeness. When he came to UMKC, he announced that he was through with fighting orthodoxy and intended to work quietly in his office for the remainder of his career. He kept the first part of that promise for about a week, after which he took on innumerable causes to right the multitude of wrongs within the university and the profession at large. However, his commitment to the second never varied. Fred was in his office from 9 to 5 like any union employee—albeit a Wobbly—punching a clock. He volunteered for every service commitment that came along. His door was always open to students. He hesitated only if a commitment was to extend into the weekend—which was always set aside for his family.

Fred never gave up the idea of writing a magnum opus on Post Keynesian micro—indeed over the years he found traditional Cambridge Post Keynesian theory to be far too constraining as he pursued a microeconomic foundation for all heterodoxy. Indeed, he insisted that traditional micro was too constraining since the behavior of households, firms and governments must be grounded in the historically specific capitalist economy—a non-ergodic, monetary, circular, capitalist process of surplus production. He needed to include not only the Sraffian version of Post Keynesian economics, but also Marxian and Institutionalist insights as well as the economic sociology and historical literature. In his vision, the firm as well as the monetary production process itself must be treated as a “going concern” that reproduces itself with a surplus to support growth.

UMKC was an excellent home for Fred. It already had an Institutionalist tradition that stretched back more than four decades—to John Hodges, who was later joined by Bob Brazelton, Jack Ward, Jim Sturgeon, Ben Young, Bill Williams, and Jim Webb. John Henry also joined the faculty, with interest in uncovering the similarities between Marx and Veblen. Fred had a large group of PhD students on which he could practice his ideas—students with a background in heterodox micro, Institutionalist theory, and also heterodox macro.

At first, there was some inconsistency between the micro and macro theory taught within the department—with Fred insisting that firms internally finance investment, while the macro theorists stressed the Kaleckian reverse causation in which investment creates the profits, as well as Minskyan financial fragility that results from the addition of external to internal finance of investment.

However, over the years, Fred gradually reconciled the differences as he continued to develop his theory of the surplus production economy. He knew production begins with money and ends with more money, so he had to learn about money and banking. Fred was stubborn but he also cared deeply about getting it right. He would meet for hours with the macroeconomists to discuss how to get money into his models. As what would become “modern money theory” was developed, Fred began to realize that this was perfectly consistent with his arguments. He had long rejected the “supply and demand” and
scarcity approaches of neoclassical economics. Money could not be introduced into his microeconomics as a scarce commodity. Money is not a commodity and it is not scarce. Why does it have value, and why is “more money” the object of production? Fred pursued solutions to these puzzles within his search for heterodox economic foundations.

In the final years of his life, Fred worked to complete a manuscript that would integrate his pricing theory, his view of the enterprise as a “going concern” and his model of circular production of a surplus. That production process is directed by an elite composed of the capitalist class and the political elite. The state, as issuer of the state money and as supporter of the capitalist class, plays the deciding role. There is no capitalism without a state, and no money without state money. While exchange is carried out in markets, it takes place in what Fred called “state money prices” that are correlated with “state money incomes and the social rules governing the continually changing provisioning process.”

Fred’s analysis begins with state creation of “its own money income for spending by crediting the bank accounts of enterprises and employees with state money that are located in bank corporate enterprises that constitute the banking sector.” But why would enterprises produce for state money? Because taxes “create demand for the state’s fiat money—in short taxes are the ‘cost’ of having state money.”

Fred argues that by “[a]ccepting state money for its goods and services, the capitalist class in turn demands that all market exchanges for its goods, services, and resources are carried out in state money and the working class is paid with state money. By requiring all payments be made with state money, the capitalist class makes their own as well as the working class access to the provisioning process dependent on having it.” He concludes “every exchange, every transaction that involves state money prices is a public manifestation of the dominant-subordinate social relationship between the ruling and the working-dependent classes.” In this way, Fred brings together his approach to heterodox pricing theory and the Marx-Veblen-Keynes monetary theory of production approach—with “state money prices” at the micro level and reproduction at the macro level accomplished through receipt of “more state money” than production had started with.

In an important sense, Fred’s foundation reunites the micro and macro theories that were separated after Keynes’s General Theory. The Bastard Keynesians had tried to synthesize neoclassical microeconomics based on scarcity prices with a Keynesian theory of effective demand. Fred had always rejected neoclassical pricing in favor of cost-plus pricing to ensure survival of firms as going concerns. But how could that be placed in a Keynesian monetary theory of production, in which social provisioning occurs within a social, political, and economic system that is directed by capitalists and their representatives in the state? The coordination is largely accomplished through the monetary system—a system that is dominated by the state because it is the issuer of its own currency.

What Fred has attempted is to see through the same “haze where nothing is clear and everything is possible” that Keynes noticed in the conventional theory—the division between the “Theory of Value” and the “The-

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7 Microeconomic Theory: A Heterodox Approach, manuscript, preliminary draft, September 2013. All quotes here are from that draft.

ory of Money and Prices.” Which side of
the moon are we on? How can we “escape
from this double life” and “bring the theory
of prices as a whole back to close contact with
the theory of value”? It would be too much
to claim that Fred has resolved the issue, but
he has certainly pointed us in the right di-
rection by linking “the theory of state money
prices” with the theory of the operation of the
monetary system as a whole.
Dear IAFFE\textsuperscript{9} members,

By now many of you may know about the passing of one of the most passionate and prominent heterodox economists Fred Lee. In February 2014 Fred was diagnosed with a non-smoker lung cancer. Fred Lee was Professor of Economics at the University of Missouri–Kansas City, where he worked tirelessly to advance heterodox economics as a movement, the success of the department, and the development of heterodox economic theory.

Fred has published in Feminist Economics, and in his 2009 book, *A History of Heterodox Economics*, he writes about sexism in the Economics profession, among other injustices. He has emphasized many times publicly and privately that he drew on feminist economics, on social economics, as well as on institutional economics to develop his most current analysis of social provisioning. He wanted to break divisions between heterodox economic approaches, and he was for intellectual pluralism. As you probably know, among other undertaking and hard work, he was also the founder of the *Heterodox Economics Newsletter* and the *Heterodox Economics Directory*, two important pieces of the infrastructure of heterodox economics and community: http://www.heterodoxnews.com.

I think Fred’s most important concerns were:

1) building a growing community of heterodox economics; 2) reproducing teachers of heterodox economics; 3) building bridges across heterodox approaches and people; 4) a methodology that breaks the micro-macro split and allows a heterodox vision of agency; 5) a heterodox theory grounded in reality, including dispelling of the “price mechanism” and articulating an empirically supported alternative; and building heterodox micro-foundations; and 6) economics centered on and supportive of people’s lives. His work along these lines is visible in the AFEE program that he put together for the ASSA conference in Boston 2015, while battling cancer.

There is a website created and maintained through the years by Tae-Hee Jo, you can find not only statements in memory of Fred Lee, but also other valuable material about economics: http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs.

Here is information about the Frederic S. Lee Heterodox Economics Scholarship Fund that was created by Fred and Ruth Lee: http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs/fsl-scholarship.

Zdravka Todorova
Wright State University

October 27, 2014

\textsuperscript{9}International Association for Feminist Economics
3.6 Zdravka Todorova and Tae-Hee Jo

Frederic S. Lee’s Contributions to Heterodox Economics

We are still coming to grips with the reality that we won’t see Fred Lee, our teacher and mentor, at the next conference. It is difficult to imagine that Fred Lee has departed. Our e-mail-boxes are emptier, our hearts are heavier, and we would feel his absence at the following conferences. But we know that he will always be with us in our work of heterodox economics. After graduating from UMKC (both of us graduated in 2007), we were always excited to meet and talk to Fred Lee at various conferences, at least three times a year. He showed up wearing his checkered shirt; 3-4 pens of different colors in his chest pocket; holding a paper or two in his hands, either reading or commenting; and with a ton of energy to spread. He came to the conference before the beginning of the first session and stayed until all the sessions ended. He certainly enjoyed talking to and debating with other heterodox economists—especially young ones. Whenever he found a young heterodox economist whom he had never met before, he approached to her or him and asked: “Who are you? What are you working on? How did you know about heterodox economics? Are you subscribing the Heterodox Economics Newsletter?” Besides, one of nights at every conference we had a big UMKC dinner organized by Fred Lee. Not only UMKC students and faculty but also any friends and heterodox economists were welcomed to the dinner.

All these indicate that Fred Lee was the heterodox economist who cared much about the future of heterodox economics and, therefore, who always tried to organize heterodox economists, often at the expense of his time and energy for his own research. He, together with others around the world, tirelessly worked to build a heterodox community, heterodox economic theory, and the identity as heterodox economists. Because of Fred Lee and his work, heterodox economists have a better chance to get hired, get published, and get recognized. This is the legacy that Fred has left to all of us—his students, colleagues, and friends. It is never too many times to repeat: Fred has been, is, and will be an inspiration!

We chose Fred as our dissertation adviser because we were inspired by his lectures and work. We believed that his approach to heterodox economics was something to be developed further. Fred taught us not only heterodox economic theories but also how to do heterodox economics in a pluralistic and integrative manner. His encouragement and support helped us to become responsible and open-minded heterodox economists.

He had a constructive vision of heterodox economics—that is, developing an integrated theoretical framework of heterodox economics based upon various heterodox approaches. He was never hesitant of putting his vision into practice; and never afraid of entering into debate and discussion on theories. Yet, he was always ready to hear different ideas. He was not dogmatic. Nor was he eclectic in terms of theory. Over the years we saw him evolving, and opening up even more. Fred had high standards—not only for his students, but also for his colleagues. He had high expecta-

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10This is a remark read (in absentia) at the SOAS event honoring Frederic S. Lee on November 22, 2014. An expanded version appears in the “Introduction” to Advancing the Frontiers of Heterodox Economics: Essays in Honor of Frederic S. Lee, edited by Tae-Hee Jo and Zdravka Todorova. Routledge, 2015.
tions for everybody’s involvement and efforts, he wanted to see people being energized and driven.

We would like to point out Fred Lee’s most important contributions to heterodox economics.

1. Building a community of heterodox economists.

The notion and practice of a heterodox community makes us stronger in developing a heterodox theory. He did not want to see heterodox economists as isolated “loners” who think they could survive on their own. This is attested by social networks such as the Heterodox Economics Newsletter and Heterodox Economics Directory that he established, AHE and ICAPE that he established or directed, AJES (American Journal of Economics and Sociology) that he edited, and numerous conferences, workshops, seminars, conference panels that he organized. For Fred, building a heterodox community and developing heterodox economic theory were as much as activism as his work with the IWW (Industrial Workers of the World).

2. Reproducing heterodox economics by making institutions.

Building and retaining heterodox economics programs is one of the most challenging and important tasks for heterodox economics in the face of the theoretical and ideological dominance of mainstream economics. His work on journal rankings and research evaluation has direct bearings on the career of critical heterodox economists in academia and, thereby, on the reproduction of heterodox economics by promoting pluralistic practices in the economics discipline. In this context, his book, A History of Heterodox Economics (2009), does a great service for making the identity of heterodox economists, and for showing the hardships and importance of maintaining heterodox programs and pluralism.


Fred expressed on a number of occasions a pain that he felt, when he was not accepted as a Post Keynesian, although he played an important role in the making of Post Keynesian economics. This is in part because he dealt with micro theory, while many erroneously assume that Post Keynesian economics is only macro. Educated in Rutgers University in late 1970s and early 1980s and largely influenced by his mentor, Alfred Eichner, Fred Lee did not accept the separation between Post Keynesian and Sraffian, and between micro and macro. Evidently, in his early academic career he read most of the new developments in Post Keynesian-heterodox macro as well as heterodox micro. He wanted to broaden Post Keynesianism by developing its microeconomic theory. This is most visible in his book Post Keynesian Price Theory (1998), which draws on the work of Gardiner Means, Michal Kalecki, Piero Sraffa, Philip Andrews, Paul Sweezy, Josef Steindl, Paolo Sylos-Labini, Adrian Wood, Alfred Eichner, among others. Later he went beyond price theory and started working towards heterodox microeconomic theory that builds on various heterodox traditions, and that could completely replace neoclassical microeconomics. In doing so, he deliberately used the concept “social provisioning process,” which emerged out of, in particular, American institutionalism, feminist economics, and social economics, in order to develop an integrated heterodox theoretical framework.
4. Developing heterodox microeconomics and heterodox microfoundations.

His microeconomic theory does not stay within the scope of conventional microeconomics. He endeavored to develop heterodox micro theory that was free of relative scarcity, optimizing individual behavior, equilibrium, market-clearing, the distinction between short- and long-period, and the split between micro and macro, and the law of supply and demand. In his theoretical framework, it is social agency in historical time that makes the entire system open by way of changing existing structures of the economy. More specifically, it is business enterprises’ and state’s expenditure decisions that drive economic activities in capitalist economy. This is heterodox microfoundations of the analysis of the economy as a whole. If he’d had more time towards the end of his life, this grandiose project could have been fully articulated in his planned book, Microeconomic Theory: A Heterodox Approach.

5. Developing a heterodox theory grounded in reality.

Fred’s main theoretical point was to replace the neoclassical “price mechanism” with an alternative organizing principle of economic activities, which is theoretically coherent and empirically grounded. This is Fred Lee’s critical realist grounded theory approach, which is the ontological and methodological basis of his heterodox theory. Trained in history as an undergraduate, Fred had background and respect for history, and emphasized that any historical analysis ought to be theoretical, and that any theory ought to be historically grounded. He also wanted to see heterodox economists engaging in varieties of research methods both “quantitative” and “qualitative.” He was, with Bruce Cronin, finalizing Handbook of Research Methods and Applications in Heterodox Economics (to be published in 2015 by Edward Elgar).

6. Doing economics that is centered on and supportive of people’s lives.

At the end of the day human lives is what we ought to be concerned in economics. This is a point also fitting Fred’s personality—he was direct to his students and colleagues; and he was direct in his economics. Fred’s activism in the IWW also speaks for his human-centered economics developed to deal with the realities of capitalism.

Fred Lee’s work along those lines is in part visible in the AFEE program that he put together for the ASSA conference in Boston 2015, while battling cancer. Fred could not finish everything he had started to write because he was doing so much, and because his life was cut too short. Yet he has left us his theoretical contributions, a community, an infrastructure, and his goodwill that must be preserved and continued.
Last night (Oct. 23) at 11:20 PM, CDT, prominent heterodox economist, Fred Lee of the University of Missouri-Kansas City, died of cancer. He had stopped teaching during the last spring semester and was honored at the 12th International Post Keynesian Conference held at UMKC a month ago. While I do not know if he was a card-carrying member of the IWW, as was a friend of mine, Bill Grogan, who died over a month ago and about whom I blogged here then; on more than one occasion, including at this conference at UMKC last month, I heard Fred called an “old Wobbly,” and I never heard him dispute this description. For any who do not know, “Wobbly” has always been the nickname for a member of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), a pro-working class universal union anarcho-syndicalist group.

Whatever one thinks of heterodox economics in general, or of the views of Fred Lee in particular, he should be respected as the person more than any other who was behind the founding of the International Conference of Associations for Pluralism in Economics (ICAPE), and also the Heterodox Economics Newsletter. While many talked about the need for there to be an organized group pushing heterodox economics in all its varieties, Fred did more than talk and went and organized the group and its main communications outlet. He also regularly and strongly spoke in favor of heterodox economics, the unity of which he may have exaggerated. But his voice in advocating the superiority of heterodox economics over mainstream neoclassical economics was as strong as that of anybody that I have known. I also note that he was the incoming President for the Association for Evolutionary Economics (AFEE), and they will now have to find a replacement.

It was both sad and moving to see Fred at the PK conference last month in Kansas City. He was in a wheelchair with an oxygen tank, with his rapidly declining health condition stunningly apparent. There were several sessions honoring his work. However, at one of the major ones, he spoke at the end. Although he was having trouble even breathing and could barely even speak, he rose and made his comments, at the end becoming impassioned and speaking up forcefully to proclaim his most firmly held positions. He declared that his entire career had been devoted to battling for the downtrodden, poor, and suffering around the world, “against the 1% percent!” and I know that there was not a single person in that standing room only audience who doubted him. He openly wept after he finished with those stirring words, as those who were not already standing rose to applaud him with a standing ovation.

Fred’s own research agenda focused on developing a heterodox microeconomics, one based on the idea of markets being dominated by oligopolistic firms with price-setting powers and more. In the Post Keynesian camp he drew heavily on the work of Alfred Eichner as well as Michal Kalecki, although he was also influenced by American Institutionallists such as Gardiner Means, hence his Presidency-Elect of the Old Institutionalist AFEE. He

\[11^{11}\text{Published on EconoSpeak Blog, October 24, the-passing-of-fred-lee-another-old.html}\]
wrote on many other topics as well, and in more recent years on the broader issue of the meaning and application of heterodox economics and how to develop a coherent alternative heterodox economics. But his most famous work was and will probably remain his work on a heterodox, arguably Post Keynesian, approach to microeconomics.

At this point I must note that while we were always friends, and I knew Fred for a long time, we had some fairly strong differences of opinion in recent years. A decade ago, I with David Colander and Ric Holt, wrote a book and an article, followed up by another book and some other articles, the first book being The Changing Face of Economics: Conversations with Cutting Edge Economists (2004, University of Michigan Press) and the first article being “The Changing Face of Mainstream Economics” (Review of Political Economy, 2004). We argued that “mainstream” is a sociological category, those running the show in the profession (top departments, journals, etc.), while “orthodox” is an intellectual category, the hardline version of which is widely called “neoclassical economics.” We argued that “heterodox” was both: not running things and also intellectually anti-orthodox. This opened the door for a category of “non-orthodox mainstream economists,” with people like George Akerlof being possible examples. Several heterodox economists disagreed with this argument and viewed us as weakening the criticism of “the orthodox mainstream” with this sort of divisionist argument, and quite a few of those expressed their disagreements in print, with there actually being an entire book dedicated essentially to reading the riot act on us as a bunch of namby-pamby wafflers or worse. Fiercest of all in this crusade, both verbally and in print, was good old Fred Lee, who saw us as undercutting and undermining and demoralizing the movement for a unified and strong heterodox economics battling that “orthodox mainstream.”

I note that at the meeting in Kansas City I stood up to speak about this and to praise what I considered to be the strong and principled position held by Fred, despite our disagreements. I also spoke to him privately afterwards, and we parted on friendly terms. However, I note that he laid out in his public remarks a distinction between a “heretic” and a “blasphemer,” both of these terms positives for him. A heretic is someone who questions orthodox doctrine, but still at some level believes it, while a blasphemer is someone who utterly and totally rejects it. He told me in our final private conversation that he viewed me as being a mere heretic, while he was a true blasphemer.

RIP, Fred.

Barkley Rosser
James Madison University

Addendum: The book criticizing Colander, Holt, and me is In Defense of Post-Keynesian and Heterodox Economics: Responses to Their Critics, edited by Fred Lee and Marc Lavoie, 2012, Routledge. In effect the bottom line may boil down to our saying that the heterodox can be the source of cutting edge ideas that the mainstream sometimes adopts, such as behavioral economics, whereas they say that any idea that can be accepted by the mainstream is simply being co-opted, and that the heterodox must overthrow the mainstream orthodoxy root and branch. This may be what separates “heresy” from “blasphemy.”

Further Addendum: I have been informed by email from Steve Ziliak, a former colleague of Fred’s from when he was at Roosevelt University in Chicago, that like my late friend
Bill Grogan, he was a card-carrying member of the IWW from 1985, and that indeed he became the Chair of the General Executive Council, with the IWW’s national HQ in Chicago. As a result of that and at that time, he ended up becoming the recipient and owner of the ashes of Joe Hill, which had apparently gone on some long odyssey. But, given that Joe Hill was an honest-to-gosh Wobbly, maybe the most famous of them all aside from Big Bill Haywood, the IWW ended up getting at least some of his ashes, and it was Fred who was their overseer, at least for some time. A link from Steve Ziliak to see Fred signing for Joe Hill’s ashes on 11/18/1988, http://reuther.wayne.edu/node/12333.
3.8 Heterodox Economics Newsletter

Last week, I got the saddening message that Frederic S. Lee, a strong voice of economic heterodoxy as well as the founding editor of this Newsletter, passed away on October 23. His death came much too early given Fred’s tremendous efforts and enthusiasm in promoting heterodox economics and economic pluralism. He will be deeply missed by the community of heterodox economists.

In reaction to Fred’s untimely passing a number of old friends, colleagues, students, and even those who have never met Fred have sent statements of mourning and retrospection. You may have a look at Fred’s obituary (written by Tae-Hee Jo). Personally, I also found his autobiographical essay to be very inspiring.

In spite of his untimely passing, I should point out that Fred’s intellectual heritage will continue to flower. He left behind an impressive academic oeuvre as well as a whole generation of dedicated and well-trained heterodox economists, to whose education he contributed. Moreover, Tae-Hee Jo and Zdravka Todorova are currently preparing a Festschrift dedicated to Fred’s various areas of academic interest (publication is planned for 2015).

One way to honor Fred’s efforts is to have a look at his publications. Since Fred was a vivid, versatile, highly prolific and very active author of scholarly publications anyone interested in heterodox economics may find some inspiration in his workings. There are some archival materials he wanted to share with us on his website. Additionally, you will also find two events related to Fred’s heritage—one at SOAS on 22 November as well as a special session on Fred’s work at the meeting of the Eastern Economic Association — in this issue of the Newsletter.

Finally and most importantly, Fred also set up a fund for heterodox scholarships, dedicated to financing PhD-studentships in the area of heterodox economics. If you want to honor Fred’s attitude and efforts posthumously you may donate to this fund.

In mourning,

Jakob Kapeller, Editor

Heterodox Economics Newsletter

November 3, 2014\[12\]

\[12\]Published in the *Heterodox Economics Newsletter*, Issue 171. [http://www.heterodoxnews.com/n/htn171.html](http://www.heterodoxnews.com/n/htn171.html)
3.9 Heterodox Economics Associations

3.9.1 Association for Evolutionary Economics

We were fortunate to work with Fred over the past year on a number of important AFEE projects, and as Dave commented, Fred was indefatigable and always prepared for our many conversations. He has put together an excellent program for our upcoming meetings in Boston, and we will be certain to make a point of remembering his work on behalf of AFEE and heterodox economics. And his legacy going forward will be a strong one, in the work he produced, in the students he mentored, and in the many projects to promote heterodox economics. To his students and colleagues, my deep sympathy.

– Jan Knoedler (Bucknell University and the President of AFEE)

3.9.2 Association for Institutional Thought

Our heart goes out to the students, associates, and family at the passing of Fred Lee, who served as President of AFIT during 2011-2012. Fred was always a tireless defender of the underprivileged and marginalized, and a tireless advocate of heterodox economics. I had the opportunity to spend time with Fred at the AFEE meetings in Philadelphia last January. No one was more passionate about promoting heterodox economics. Fred will be sorely missed.

– John Watkins (President, AFIT)

3.9.3 Association Francaise d’Economie Politique

It is with great sadness that the French Association of Political Economy has learnt that Fred Lee passed away on October 23rd. Fred was an active organizer of the heterodox community, providing others with invaluable resources while developing original research. He has played an essential role to promote heterodox economics understood as a set of theories clearly distinct from the mainstream. He showed that heterodoxy is not only a pure intellectual matter but also a community of economists with its own institutions based on integrative pluralism. He was not only a pioneer, he was a prominent voice. Here in France we are always eager to receive the Heterodox Economics Newsletter that he initiated (then managed by Tae-Hee Jo and Ted P. Schmidt, and now by Jakob Kapeller) and we are grateful to him for the links he created between heterodox economists all over the world. His generosity and kindness will be greatly missed.

– Gilles Raveaud and Bruno Tinel
3.9.4 Association for Heterodox Economics

Following the recent untimely death from cancer of Professor Fredric S. Lee, the Association for Heterodox Economics would like to recognize his unique contribution to heterodox economics. Not only was Fred instrumental in the establishment of the AHE, he also remained a tireless participant in its otherwise mundane administration and a passionate participant in its academic activity. He was one of those rare individuals whose enthusiasm was inspirational. His generosity of spirit caused him to see the best in others. His intellectual legacy extends across many areas of economics, whilst his institutional legacy extends to all those graduates who had the privilege to experience his teaching and all those postgraduates for whom he was a mentor. Fred’s obituary, written by his colleague Tae-Hee Jo, can be accessed via the Heterodox Economics Newsletter number 171. The Newsletter is another now well-established pillar of the heterodox academic community for which Fred was the prime mover. The vibrancy of that community also forms part of his legacy. The Newsletter contains links to a series of other sites with commentaries and condolences via: http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs/in-memory-of-fred. We would also like to encourage you to make a donation to the Frederic S. Lee Heterodox Economics Scholarship Fund: http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs/fsl-scholarship.

Fred will be sadly missed.

– The Management Committee on behalf of the Association for Heterodox Economics

3.9.5 European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy

It is with great sadness that we inform the EAEPE community that Fred Lee passed away the night between 23 and 24 October 2014. His contribution to EAEPE and to other pluralist and heterodox associations was huge, and his death is a terrible loss for the entire scientific community.

3.9.6 International Association for Feminist Economics

Recently, we were made aware that Frederic S. Lee, a strong voice of economic heterodoxy passed away on October 23. His death came much too early given Fred’s tremendous efforts and enthusiasm in promoting heterodox economics and economic pluralism. He will be deeply missed by the community of heterodox economists. Fred was a supporter of IAFFE’s efforts is so many ways and a tireless supporter of pluralism in economics. He will be deeply missed.
3.9.7 World Economics Association

One of the characteristics of broad exclusion is that the excluded find themselves in isolated groups and thereby too demoralized and powerless to confront the order that excludes. Fred Lee will be remembered for his success at opening communications and initiating cooperation between the disparate economists who were victims of the toxic blend of ideology and scientism that came to rule economics at the end of the millennium. Fred Lee’s success was a beginning of the hope for regeneration, moral and intellectual, of the economics profession that now lives in the hearts and minds of thousands of its members.

– Edward Fullbrook

3.9.8 Leicester Secular Society

This is sad and unexpected news. Quite a few members of the Leicester Secular Society spent time with Fred when he visited in the summer and he attended our evening lecture which was on social housing - by another long-time De Montfort University personality, Tim Brown. Apart from being a member of the Leicester Secular Society, Fred had at one time been its President and I believe held it together in quite difficult times. Now, fortunately, we are going through a period of some flourishing and we are sure Fred would have taken heart from that on his visit.

[Image of a person with a mustache]

Leicester, UK (2013)

3.10 Blog Posts


- Sebastian Thieme: Frederic S. Lee (1949-2014) (in German)

- World Economics Association (German Chapter)
  http://worldeconomicsassociation.net/germany/2014/10/26/frederic-s-lee-1949-2014/

  http://nakedkeynesianism.blogspot.com/2014/10/frederic-s-lee.html

  http://larspsyll.wordpress.com/2014/10/25/fred-lee/

  http://neweconometricsperspectives.org/2014/10/moment-mourning.html
3.11 Heterodox Economists

Dr. Lee was my academic advisor for my MA in economics until that duty was transferred to another professor. Dr. Lee always had an open door and was willing to discuss any of my problems/issues pretty much anytime he was in his office, which happened more frequently than I care to admit. I never once experienced a closed door, despite knowing the fact that he was always very busy. His classes at UMKC were known as the ones that were very, very rigorous. And he expected each student to strive to be their best at whatever subject they were challenging themselves currently. I will truly miss Dr. Lee and he will be forever remembered by myself for the following statement that he made in January 2014 in Advanced Microeconomics (which is truly one of my favorite quotes of all time): “Who has time for all this real life crap when there is serious economic research to do?!” – Amelia Natt och Dag Carlsen

I have just learned of the untimely passing of my old friend and RU colleague Fred Lee. Fred was simply one of a kind: Wobbly, quintessential anglophile, humanist, unrelenting secularist who battled the celebration of Christmas in Sally’s Oak Park public school, historian who loved getting dirty in archives, and an unwavering and indefatigable commitment to heterodox economics. I think Fred would be really touched by this global outpouring of condolences. But it is a testament of the effectiveness of his multi-decade battle against the hegemonic tide of neoclassical economics. He will be sorely missed. – Howard Stein (University of Michigan)

The world is a lesser place without Fred Lee in it. He was a wonderful person. My first year of graduate school at UMKC two of us current students were responsible for meeting with Fred when he was interviewing for a faculty position. I remember taking Fred to the Corner Cafe in Westport for breakfast and having a great discussion. Then my friend and I drove Fred around Kansas City and tried to answer all the questions he asked. Fred was always student-friendly. We spent the rest of the day with Fred and had a great time. Fred accepted the job and a better person at a better time could not have been chosen. Fred was an ever-present figure at UMKC from then on. I’ll always remember him as the professor who would sit in front of coffee shops around the university meeting and talking with a cadre of students. He was always giving of his time and energy in many ways that has inspired me. In fact, Fred is responsible for me becoming a professor. He helped me secure my first teaching position and ways always available for advice and guidance. Fred’s lessons and dedication will live on with his students and colleagues. – Robert Scott (Monmouth University)
I was saddened to hear that Fred has died. I can add little new to the numerous tributes that have been made here. In his research, publications and teaching Fred contributed greatly to the development of heterodox perspectives in political economy on both sides of the Atlantic. But his greatest and, I hope, most lasting legacy lies in his huge contribution to the building of an international community of heterodox economists. Personally I will always remember Fred’s smiling friendliness and generosity, and his courage in challenging established power. He leaves the world of economics and the world in general a better place. – Alan Hutton (Glasgow Caledonian University, Scotland)

I have never met Dr Lee in person but only communicated with him via email. His comments were always about building a community of economics that is aware of alternative views. He has implanted a new sense of purpose for me in economics as I was beginning to be disillusioned by the lack of reality in the analysis and teaching. I was on the verge of leaving the discipline altogether when I googled heterodox economics and came a number of sources mostly developed by Dr Lee and heterodox books, blogs, newsletters, etc. And my thinking in economics has changed for the better and I haven’t looked back! THANK YOU DR LEE FOR SHARING YOUR INVALUABLE THOUGHTS WITH US! – Kopano Matsaseng (Pretoria, South Africa)

I had a pleasure of hosting Fred Lee when he consented to be part of a debate that we at Western New England College (now University), the current home of Karl Pettrick, ran every year featuring Hayekians from the Foundation for Economic Education and left-wing heterodox economists. Previously, I had only known Fred through his work and through his creation and running of the *Heterodox Economics Newsletter*. What struck me about him was that though he did not concede any of the theoretical and empirical ground in the debate with the Hayekians, he remained cordial and respectful. To be really brief, he struck me as a MENSCH. It is a terrible loss we have suffered and we can only hope that the last words of Joe Hill (prophetic that his last post should have been about a Joe Hill calendar which by the way is great, I just got my five copies!) will be followed by those of us who admired and respected Fred: “Don’t mourn for me, Organize!” – Mike Meeropol

Fred was extremely kind and warm. A wonderful example as a teacher and adviser. I remember we had a coke after the closing of the AHE 2010 conference in Bordeaux, France, and we discussed about Sraffian economics (it was a sunny and hot day). That was my first time giving a paper at an international conference and he was very interested in what I had to say. I am still very impressed by his attention regarding the new generation of economists and I believe we all should listen more often what our students think. The struggle for a humane and progressive economic science continues. – Tiago Camarinha Lopes (Universidade Federal de Goiás, Brazil)

Where would we be without Fred Lee? I don’t know, but I am sure it would be a worse place than we found ourselves. Fred led by example, his energy, intellect, passion, compassion and generosity seemingly limitless. As someone who used to be a young heterodox economist, my personal debt to Fred Lee is immense. He rallied us, gave us a home and a voice, and most of all helped us develop the confidence to find our own direction. He is a huge loss to heterodoxy. Above all, he was a good man. – Andrew Mearman (University of the West of England, Bristol, UK)
I first met Fred Lee when I was starting out as a PhD student. A bunch of us had taken the train to London to attend a Post Keynesian Study Group meeting. After the first presentation, a voice pipes up from behind where I was sitting: “I have one question... part one...” Each part of Fred’s four part question was a fundamental challenge to the presenter that needed to be addressed in some way. I said to a fellow student “I hope if I ever present at one of these sessions, that guy is absent that day.” But Fred never missed a PKSG meeting, so he was there when every one of us eventually made our first presentation. But he was nice to us because we were students. He only asked three-part questions. And he was the biggest champion for that group of PhD students, even though none of us attended the university that he taught at. When AFEE had its first summer school, there was a group of students from the UK, because Fred made sure we applied. And over time countless job references, chances to present at conferences, etc. He’s even (very, very) indirectly responsible for two marriages that I can think of, one of which is mine. When Fred left England to go work in the United States, he asked four of us to take over running the Association for Heterodox Economics annual conference. That’s all you need to know about Fred Lee – that it took four people to continue doing something that Fred did on his own. A great mentor, a great friend, and I miss him very badly. – Karl Petrick (Western New England University)

I still remember discussing the nature of reality with Fred. At one point he asked “Is love real?” Evidence in the affirmative lies within the comments on this page. He was a wonderful contributor to the heterodox tradition and will be sadly missed. – Therese Jefferson (Curtin University, Australia)

I would like to add my voice to the many remembering the generosity of spirit of Fred Lee and his enormous contribution to heterodox economics. Fred was never too busy to help someone else and was selfless in his efforts to promote a more honest and less ideological economics. As much as anyone, he is responsible for the emergence of heterodox economics as an integrative framework for strengthening and cross fertilizing non-neoclassical economics paradigms. I admired Fred and will miss him. – Steve Cohn (Knox College)

Fred Lee will be sorely missed within the heterodoxy and his passing is a tremendous loss. I think as Heterodox economists we should better strive towards Fred’s vision of greater unity within the heterodoxy and amongst ourselves in confronting and challenging the orthodoxy. That is one way Fred’s legacy can remain alive. – Scott Carter (University of Tulsa)

I am truly sorry to hear of Fred’s passing away, he has been integral to the efforts at opening up economics, and a staunch supporter of pluralism in the field. I remember how, at times when many of our male heterodox colleagues imagined feminist economics as simply the ‘application’ of their approach to ‘the woman question,’ Fred was among the earliest from the broader field of heterodox economics to provide it with the respect it deserved as a distinctive and independent intellectual formation, listing it as one of the heterodox economics traditions on Het-econ. His effort to break down barriers was never done by ‘absorbing’ others into some ‘bigger’ extant approach as a form of economics-imperialism, but respectfully, conversationally, and with due regard for genuine exchange across intellectual traditions. I also remember his presence at conferences, and his tireless efforts at institutional building and opening up spaces for conversations across varied dissident traditions. A real loss...
for all economists, whatever their own approach, who value open intellectual exchange and analytic pluralism in the field. – S. Charusheela (U of Washington-Bothell)

I had the privilege of knowing Fred since 1980 when we were both just starting out. He had just had a year at Edinburgh University and Gavin Reid, then a young lecturer there and a fellow P.W.S Andrews enthusiast, sent Fred a copy of one of my first discussion papers, which was about the neglect of Andrews and other real-world focused economists. Fred passed it on to Alfred Eichner and it led to the edited collection Why Economics is Not Yet a Science. Much more importantly, Fred and I began corresponding about PK price theory and his PhD work, and we eventually ended up editing Andrews’s collected papers as a result of a dozen years of writing to each other (The Economics of Competitive Enterprise, Elgar 1993). It was only after this was finished that I met Fred face to face for the first time, at the Leeds Keynes conference. That period of close interaction with Fred had a big impact on my views about scholarship, one that I try to convey to my students, especially the PhD students: Fred was exemplary in his pursuit of a ‘leave no stone unturned’ approach to thorough scholarship that is all too rare these days. It was simply amazing to see the lengths he would go to try to fill in missing bits of the Andrews/OERG story. With this kind of scholarship, it is not surprising his major books did not come out as quickly as one might otherwise have expected.

if that also is not the easy way. With best wishes to you and to Fred’s family, and with fond memories of Fred, – Peter E. Earl (University of Queensland, Australia)

He really did work hard to keep heterodox economic vibrant and collaborative. And he was a really nice guy. I had been meaning to donate the scholarship and your thoughtful note helped me to pull out my wallet and just do it! Walking the walk... – Randy Albelda (UMass Boston)

Thank you for the moving obituary of Fred Lee, a man I knew through our common union, the Industrial Workers of the World. The man is an inspiration and I am saddened by his passing. In solidarity, – Peter Moore (Canada)

Many of us in Canada knew Fred. I had only met him twice, but my impression of him was quite favourable. ... his scholarship was exceptional, he was a community-builder and a greater supporter of his (and other) students. – Jordan Brennan (York University and Unifor, Canada)

We have lost a great colleague, a better person and one of the key bases of heterodox economics worldwide. Extremely sad news and very bad times for heterodoxy. – Jorge Garcia Arias (University of Leon, Spain)

It is so sad but I am glad I saw him in July at the AHE conference and heard his talk. – Marlene Kim (UMass Boston)

I met Fred Lee just one time in 2006, but I wrote him several emails for having some suggestions in the Italian debate on research output evaluation in economics. He was always very kind. – Stefano Lucarelli (Università degli studi di Bergamo, Italy)
Fred will be missed, and will remain with us. – Michele Naples (The College of New Jersey)

I am shocked and very saddened. May he rest in peace. I have met Fred a number of times in the UK and elsewhere during various gatherings organized by the PKSG and AHE. We had also wonderful “heterodox” cooperation and interaction via email. With my deepest sympathy, – Nikolaos Karagiannis (Winston-Salem State University)

I remember Fred (who did not know me at the time) filling me on the Roosevelt Economics Dept. on the steps of a Hotel in New Orleans at an ASSA meeting many years ago, a job I eventually got (thought not that year). He could very critical - did not mince his opinions! (I had this experience with Fred’s comments on some of my ASSA presentations), and my Friends in Oak Park (cc’d above) told me stories when I moved here 20 years ago after Fred had left for England and then Missouri, about his outspoken atheism not always sitting well with fellow Oak Parkers (not them or I - all atheists ourselves) , but a great human being and a tireless organizer for the cause of radical/heterodox economics! It was this unwillingness to “bend” his opinions to convention - a true critical thinker - that led him to the enormous contributions that marked his life. – Ron Baiman (Benedictine University)

My condolences on the passing of our good and distinguished friend. – James K. Galbraith (University of Texas Austin)

It’s very sad to hear that. It would have been nice if we could have told him how much his research has helped us. – Post-Crash Economics Society, University of Manchester, UK

I’m directing this to you as Chair of the fantastic UMKC Econ Department, but why I’m writing I don’t really know. I never met Fred Lee or even corresponded with him, but his work on post-Keynesian price theory, and in particular his expertise on Gardiner Means, has been indispensable for my own work. I’m a graduate student in history at UC-Santa Barbara, studying with the labor historian Nelson Lichtenstein, and am currently at work on a dissertation on inflation in the post-war US, in particular how it served to regulate labor relations and delimited the prospects for social democracy in this country. My current focus is on the durability of an anti-monopoly tradition in Congress after the war, and in particular on John Blair and the Subcommittee on Antitrust and Monopoly. I recently learned Dr. Lee had been working on similar issues, and just last week had begun to compose a message to him on the subject. I was stunned to see this terribly saddening news. I just thought I’d write to provide one datum on Dr. Lee’s far ranging influence. I am in history (though I’d probably be in economics were it not for the dismal state of the field, UMKC excepting), which I think provides evidence enough that his work crossed disciplinary boundaries. From everything I read, it seems like he was a wonderful person, in addition to a great mind. We need more economists like him. – Samir Sonti (UC Santa Barbara)

So sorry to hear about Fred’s passing. He was one of the few really good guys in the profession. And I always admired his ‘don’t let the idiots win’ attitude. – Steve Pressman (Monmouth University)

My deep sympathy to all who knew Prof Lee. I regret that I only knew him via this listserv, yet even so, I got a great sense of his impact and contributions. I wonder if someone could re-send information about how to contribute
CHAPTER 3. TRIBUTES

to the scholarship fund Prof Lee had set up with AFEE. – Carol Scotton (Knox College)

Fred was a colleague of mine at U.C. Riverside for a few years, when we were constantly under attack from a phalanx of hostile and often vicious deans and Monsanto grantees and others for our “Marxism.” That was a wide umbrella that covered almost anyone left of Dick Cheney, plus some deeper Marxists and probably some CIA agents and agents provocateurs. That is probably why Fred hit the road before long. Anyway, Fred had an obsessive work ethic. He came to meetings of the Department but rarely looked up from his sheaf of papers, rarely spoke. I hardly got to know him personally. I never knew of his IWW connection. If I had I would have marked it in his favor, but how could he have known that? Surrounded by spies, in whom could he confide? I thought his obsession with being “heterodox” was not an optimal stance. I’ve generally found it more positive to say “Orthodoxy is my doxy; heterodoxy is the other fellow’s doxy.” And yet in our brief intersections I came to admire his independence and courage and self-sacrifice and conscientiousness. So year’s later, when Larry Moss died and we needed a new Editor for the American Journal of Economics and Sociology, I nominated Fred – and he got the job, much to the disgust of some Austrians who had wanted it. Larry, who had an Austrian tendency in his form of heterodoxy, had left an inventory of accepted manuscripts, which Fred duly edited and published – it must have been hard on him, but he had no fear of hard work. After about 4 years his original contract ran out, and the Board had turned over a bit (as Boards do), and the new Board let him go. He conscientiously completed his duties to the end, and, like Jesus on the cross, “He never said a mumbling word.” I never knew he had health problems, let alone fatal ones. So God bless you, Fred, in the place where you have gone, whether you believed in one or not. We will remember you down here for your courage and good works. – Mason Gaffney (UC Riverside)

I am deeply saddened by this great loss. Fred understood heterodox economics in its broadest sense and his scholarship reflected this judgment. More than anyone else, he established heterodox economics as a subject of historical inquiry. Heterodox economics was for Fred primarily a community, which he nurtured and shaped, through newsletters, networks, conferences and organisations. Fred and I co-wrote a paper on oral history and the history of heterodox economics. The collaboration emerged after years of his unfailing encouragement and generosity, sharing archives, ideas, and patient corrections as I wrote a doctoral thesis on the history of post Keynesian and radical economics. Fred’s research was unfailingly serious, sourced, and thorough, and I learned so much from him. – Tiago Mata

I am very sad to hear of Fred’s passing. I didn’t expect it quite this soon. We have lost a great colleague. – Fred Moseley (Mount Holyoke College)

A great loss for Heterodox Economics! My deep sympathy for his family. – Jairo Parada (Universidad del Norte, Colombia)

I feel very sad to read that Fred is no longer. I met him over 40 years ago and then from time to time at the Post Keynesian Economics Study Group seminars in London. I corresponded with him on several occasions. The last time when he asked me to pass on to him what information I had about the Conference of Socialist Economists in Cambridge some 40+ years ago. He has been instrumental in fostering alternative approaches to eco-
ECONOMICS. We owe him a lot and he will be remembered. – Grazia Ietto Gillies

Despite the short time I spent at UMKC, I remember him well. I’ll always remember him for his kindness to us and for his commitment to fighting the cause of the oppressed. Will definitely remember the Harry Potter movie we watched together and the wonderful Thanksgiving dinner he and his wife made us in 2005. May his legacy live on in his work and the many lives he touched. – Tung-Yi Kho (SOAS)

Fred Lee was more than a “card-carrying member” of the Wobblies. A member of the IWW since 1985, Fred was elected soon afterwards Chair of the General Executive Board at the same time that he was Professor of Economics at Roosevelt University in Chicago. Here are two 1988 interviews Chairman Lee did with the Chicago Reader and L.A. Times, explaining the strange migration and history of Joe Hill’s ashes. (Some of the ashes were mailed to Fred, he told me and other colleagues, at his Roosevelt University address.)

– Steve Ziliak (Roosevelt University)14

I had planned on writing some brief comments about Fred, but you captured most of what I was going to say. However, I do want to add one other area where I believe Fred made a very nice contribution, which justifies in my mind why he deserved the president slot for AFEE. From a number of talks that Fred gave over the years, I recognized that for him the central raison d’etre of an economy is the provisioning of goods and services for people, and for him that’s the purpose of an economy. By focusing on provisioning it avoids the neoclassical error of confusing all pecuniary activities with human well-being. Though there was more class struggle and Sraffa analysis in Fred’s view then this, I believe he recognized the importance of the institutionalist view of the interaction of technology (knowledge and innovation) and social institutions – the process to provision, which is often impeded by the inherently conservative nature of social and economic institutions, some of which are much more powerful than others. While improving provisioning may be universal, things and institutions change over time and place. This means that Institutional economics relies on observation and measurement of the real world as it changes, instead of being caught up in an ideological bubble. This follows the definition of provisioning by Gruchy, “the study of the part of the evolving social system that is concerned with the provision of scarce material goods and services” (1972, 337). And Veblen’s definition of the economy as “a process for the provision of the aggregate material means of life” ([1919b] 1990, 285). Veblen’s contrast between the pecuniary and the industrial is central here. Only if production goes through the market process does it have a pecuniary value, and only then does it count. Or to express it in a way Fred would approve, I believe: since prices measure value in exchange they cannot always be relied on to establish value in use, which more closely parallels provisioning. This leads markets to be an imperfect measure of provisioning and must be supplemented by non-market goods through the public or nonprofit sector. Yes, as Barkley mentioned, we had our differences with Fred, but I always found him a passionate man who cared very deeply that economics be there to serve people and not

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- http://www.roosevelt.edu/CAS/Programs/ECON/History.aspx
the other way around. I will miss him. – Ric Holt (Southern Oregon University)

I am so sorry to hear this. I will always remember Fred for his 'stubborn heterodoxy', always bringing in a perspective in discussions that is solid, historically grounded, and to the point. And I will always remember that we shared the Gunnar Myrdal Prize in 2001, 2000 euro each, from which he bought his daughter a violin and I bought myself a double bass. – Irene van Staveren (International Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands)

Really sorry to hear about Fred, though I knew he didn’t have long. – Ronnie Phillips (Colorado State University)

I have met with Fred Lee in Utah in 2007 at the ICAPE conference, and still remember his compassion for the advancement of heterodox economics. He will not be forgotten for his efforts to promote heterodox economics. May he rest in peace. – Hüseyin Özel

I am so deeply moved by the sad news: how could this be? I didn’t know he was ill. I really can’t say we were very close, but I know he knew who I am, always, no matter where or how much time had passed since the last time we met. At a meeting, a conference, he always had a kind smile and generous words towards our latest research topic. May he rest in peace. – Jose A. Cordero (Universidad de Costa Rica)

I am sad to hear about Fred. However, his life and work will continue to be a great inspiration for the young heterodox scholars and generations to come. To my work in the history of heterodox economics, he will always be a huge influence. – Marco Cavalieri (Brazil)

I join a long line of folks that regret Fred’s passing. I am one of his doctoral students, but unlike some I’ve not had the privilege of finishing with him. He taught me so much and changed the way I think of the economy and society in general. I’ll never be the same. Fred taught me that economics is about social provisioning, and that social provisioning is about people. I’ll never forget that and I’ll never forget him. He’ll always be in my economics. The last thing he told me was that, “You should never hold back, even if it makes them uncomfortable.” I won’t disappoint him. Rest in peace Fred. – Mitch Green (UMKC student)

I share the grief of those who have already posted about Fred’s death. I wish to note that despite his illness, Fred worked tirelessly in helping to ensure that AFEE, and especially the JEI, continue to be strong. In Fact, Jan Knoedler, Eric Hake, and I received an e-mail from Fred just a week ago in which he asked us to keep him engaged in the work we have been doing with various publishers on the future of the JEI. Irrepressible and irreplaceable in the world of heterodox economics, Fred’s legacy will always endure. – David Zalewski (Providence College)

Some untimely deaths are indeed. I have known Frederic Lee since the URPE-ASSA meetings of 1984 (Dallas), where we were both presenting a paper in the same session. We, again, where in the same session at the URPE-ASSA in 2013 (San Diego); I saw him for the very last time in the 2014 URPE-ASSA in Philadelphia and I did not know. Please convey my condolences to his family, friends, and students. – Cyrus Bina (University of Minnesota Morris)
3.11. HETERODOX ECONOMISTS

Very sorry to hear this.......very sorry. Sad news. I thought Fred was a good guy and outstanding scholar. He definitely will be missed. – Thomas Lambert (Northern Kentucky University)

I am very sorry to hear the loss of Professor Lee. My deepest sympathies go out to you [Jo] and his family. May God give you and his family the comfort and peace that you seek and may the soul of Professor Lee rest in peace. My condolences. – Tuna Baskoy (Ryerson University, Canada)

That’s sad, what a big loss. – Mary King (Portland State University)

Fred was a tremendous force for good economics. I’m sorry he suffered at the end. He will be greatly missed. – Robin Hahnel (American University and Portland State University)

It is so sad to lose Fred, a tireless champion of the left and heterodox economics. I first met Fred at a Post Keynesian conference in the early 80s when we were both graduate students? Fred working with Al Eichner at Rutgers and me working with Ed Nell and others at the New School. We maintained our friendship over 3 decades and supported one another during times when the frustration of dealing with mainstream economics and even difficult heterodox personalities became overwhelming. He will be sorely missed. – Steve Pressman (Monmouth University)

I, like many, receive this news with sadness. We have observed Fred’s tireless commitment to the advancement of economic knowledge and education. His accomplishments have been many and noteworthy. Good bye, Fred Lee. – Daniel Underwood (Peninsula College)

Wow. I am ever so sorry to hear this. Fred was an exceptionally well read economist & colleague. He was also a tireless organizer & institution builder. Our conversations invariably pushed me to think harder and/or more clearly. We were all richer for having known him. RIP Fred. – Robert Prasch (Middlebury College)

Even greater than Fred’s commitment to the advancement of knowledge was his unwavering commitment and concern for all of us, his students. Never was there any one who demanded more but did everything within his power to help each of achieve our full potential. – Doug Meador (University of Saint Francis)

This is very sad news indeed! My thoughts are with Fred’s family and also with his colleagues and students. – David Dequech (University of Campinas, Brazil)

My goodness. I had no idea. My thoughts are with his family and in recognising his huge contribution to all our work. We all owe him a huge and overwhelming debt of gratitude for his wonderful and innovative work. – Miriam Kennet (Green Economics Institute, UK)

Very sad! Still remember our discussions confronting Marxism and Post-Keynesianism. A great loss. – Fabien Tarrit (Université de Reims Champagne Ardenne)

I echo others’ sentiments in greatly appreciating all that Fred Lee did for heterodox economics over many years. – Richard Wolff
It is very, very sad to hear that Fred is no longer with us. It was only 3 weeks ago that I invited him to join again the Scientific Advisory Board of the 2nd World Keynes Conference which I am planning with a few Turkish colleagues to hold in 2015 that I learned about Fred suffering from lung cancer but I had no idea that it was that serious. The heterodox community lost one of its most hard working, most challenging, most innovative and most helpful members. Deeply sorrow. – Arne Heise (Hamburg University, Germany)

This is shocking news. Fred was such a tireless worker towards the development of heterodox thinking. Please pass my condolences to his family. – Tidings P. Ndlovu (MMU Business School)

Extremely sad news. The greatest paladin of our just quest is no more. – Luis Francisco Carvalho (ISCTE - University Institute of Lisbon, Portugal)

I just learned of the passing of Fred Lee. I’m deeply, deeply sorry. With all of you having been very close to him as colleague, teacher and friend, please accept my heartfelt sympathies. I am happy at least that I was able to see him last month in Kansas City (indeed that was the third time since last January that we saw each other) and I shall always retain some very good memories of having crossed path with him over the last few decades beginning with when he was still a graduate student of Al Eichner at Rutgers. I am truly very sad and, although I shall not be able to come to the funeral service, please give my sincere condolences to all his loved ones that he left behind. Yours sincerely, – Mario Seccareccia (University of Ottawa, Canada)

It is with profound sorrow that I just found that Professor Lee passed away last night. I was now working on the paper for the book [Fred Lee Festschrift] and just received an email from the PKSG list informing that. It is an enormous loss for the academic world. Let us hope that his extremely important research be continued. – Nuno Martins (University of the Azores, Portugal)

Fred Lee was our distinguished guest at the 2006 HETSA conference held in Ballarat, Australia. He later stayed at my house in Carlton where he took a great interest in my cat! Jackson. The Australian HET community salute him. Kind regards. – Alex Millmow (Federation Business School and President of the History of Economic Thought Society of Australia)

A great economist and a better person. – Guillermo Cavazos

I am very sorry to hear of the death of Fred Lee, a distinguished economist. – Giancarlo de Vivo (Università di Napoli “Federico II,” Italy)

Very sad news, though (of course) not unexpected. ... – John King (La Trobe University, Australia)

I was very sorry to hear about Fred. – Michael V. White (Monash University)

Thank you for informing the AFEEMAIL community about the sad news of Fred’s passing. Eric, Dave and I had received a very concerning note three weeks ago, so this news is not entirely a surprise. Sad all the same. We will make certain to honor him at the upcoming AFEE meetings. Keep us posted on any information you receive. – Jan Knoedler (Bucknell University and the President of AFEE)

It is with sadness that I write to inform you of
3.11. HETERODOX ECONOMISTS

the passing of one of our long-standing faculty members, Fred Lee. Fred was an internationally recognized scholar who was incredibly devoted to his students and his department. He was active in the life of the College and will be greatly missed. My thoughts go out to the faculty of Economics and Fred’s family. I have been told a memorial is planned in St. Louis and will provide more information as it becomes available. Sincerely, – Wayne Vaught (Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, UMKC)

I want to thank you for all that you have done for me. I know that things would likely have gone very differently for me without your assistance. You are a friend, a colleague, and a fellow worker, and I am grateful for these things. Your dedication to improving the lives of working people is an inspiration. Concern for the well-being of poor and working people is uncommon among academics, but through your work and actions you have shown that you are unwilling to compromise your commitment to social justice, your personal convictions, or, ultimately, your integrity. This is an example that we should all do our best to emulate. Your impact on students, colleagues and our discipline will be measured for decades to come. I hope you and your family find some comfort in the difficult days ahead. But I want you to know that you two were close and so I’m thinking of you [John Henry]. Peace. – Reynolds Nesiba (Augustana College)

Fred was much liked and respected in this country, inside and outside of Stoke. I was lucky enough to see him for a few minutes last summer when he was visiting Paul Downward, across the street from whom I live. I have fond memories of all our visiting scholars, including Fred, your good self and Susan (M’Gowan?). Recently started my 15th year of retirement - much to my surprise. Still see Jean Mangan and Steve Hurd on walks, and Jamie Roper, Ian Jackson and John Wyld at beer festivals. John has recently retired, as has Jean although she has some PhDs to see through to completion. – Alistair Dawson

This is so sad. Fred was a great scholar, mentor and friend. – Paul Downward (Loughborough University, UK)

We are all going to miss him. However, I know that you two were close and so I’m thinking of you [John Henry]. Peace. – Reynolds Nesiba (Augustana College)

Thank you for spreading the word about Fred. He was an original – there is no one with his righteous anger, his energy in defending inconvenient ideas, his enthusiasm in explaining mark-up models. Please add my condolences to what must already be a mountain of expressed feelings of loss and sadness. I will try, as everyone who knew him must, to carry on the fight for something approximating a better world and a truer economic compass to steer it by. Warmest regards, – Gary Dymski (Leeds University, UK)

I first met Fred at Warren Samuels’ house when I was a grad student, and we spent an hour arguing about whether there was any usefulness in the idea of a demand curve. That was my first clue that there were not many things in the world which Fred and I would see eye-to-eye! We had many wonderful disagreements over the years, and I would always greet him with a shout of “How’s my favorite radical doing?!” But Fred was an incredibly generous scholar. I met him when
Warren and I were working up our article and book on Gardiner Means, and Fred graciously put all of the voluminous means material that he had acquired (and most of which he had not yet himself used) at our disposal. I will miss him, but it is good to know that his suffering has come to an end. Best wishes, – Steve Medema (University of Denver)

I am so sorry to hear your sad news about Fred. Fred was such a wonderful person. With deepest sympathy. Yours sincerely, – Spencer Pack (Connecticut College)

Fred was a force for heterodoxy and had a deep moral view of the world. He did good work and was a role model. It will be strange not to have his presence. I feel sorry for Ruth. It is not easy to be left behind after so many years. – John Davis (Marquette University)

I just received word that Frederic S. Lee, who taught Post Keynesian economics at the University of Missouri-Kansas City for the past fourteen years, died last night. I first met Fred when he was at Roosevelt University, and we had been in touch (at conferences and presentations as well as through his articles and books on heterodox economics) many times since. – David Ruccio (University of Notre Dame)
3.12 Events in Honor/Memory of Frederic S. Lee

3.12.1 AHE 2014

Association for Heterodox Economics Annual Conference, University of Greenwich, UK. July 2-4, 2014.

Note: Following three sessions are based on the essays in the Fred Lee festschrift volume (2015).

Heterodox Economics: History and Methodology

- Carlo D’Ippoliti and Alessandro Roncaglia (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy): On the Importance of History of Economics for Heterodox Economists
- Bruce Philp (Nottingham Trent University, UK) and Andrew Mearman (University of the West of England, UK): The Association for Heterodox Economics: Past, Present and Future
- Ioana Negru (Anglia Ruskin University, UK): Reflections on Fred Lees Heterodox Methodology

Social Provisioning Process

- Zdravka Todorova (Wright State University, USA): From Monetary Theory of Production to Social Provisioning within a Culture-Nature Life Process
- Henning Schwardt (University of Bremen, Germany): Development Effects and the Social Provisioning Process
- Bruce Philp (Nottingham Trent University, UK) and Andrew Trigg (The Open University, UK): Heterodox economics, Distribution and the Class Struggle

Heterodox Microeconomics

- Tae-Hee Jo (SUNY Buffalo State, USA): Heterodox Microeconomics and Heterodox Microfoundations
- Ruslan Dzarasov (Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia): Investment and Pricing Theory in American Post-Keynesian Tradition
- Lynne Chester (University of Sydney, Australia): Analysing Real-World Markets
AHE also organized a plenary keynote session for Fred Lee.

- Frederic S Lee (University of Missouri-Kansas City): The role of microeconomics in heterodox economics: A view of a micro theorist.
- Video of this session is available here: http://heterodoxnews.com/leefs/fsl-ahe2014

3.12.2 Post Keynesian Conference 2014


Graduate Student Panel in Honor of Professor Frederic S. Lee

Moderator: Drew Westberg

- Christian Spanberger: Scarcity, Environmental Resources, and the Heterodox Production Model
- Drew Westberg: Towards a Heterodox Theory of the Spatial Economy
- Nicola Matthews: Modeling the Classical Surplus Approach: Contributions to the Heterodox Tradition

Heterodox Microeconomics and Social Provisioning: A Session in Honor of Frederic S. Lee

Moderator: Zdravka Todorova (Wright State University)

- Zdravka Todorova (Wright State University): Culture-Nature Processes and Social Provisioning
- Tae-Hee Jo (SUNY Buffalo State): Heterodox Microeconomics and Heterodox Microfoundations
- Gyun Cheol Gu (Korean Institute of Local Finance): A Post Keynesian View of Price Stability
- Erik Dean (Portland Community College): Market Equities and the Going Enterprise
- Tuna Baskoy (Ryerson University): Social Provisioning Process, Market Instability, and Managed Competition
Connecting Approaches in Heterodox Economics: Session in Honor of Frederic S. Lee

Moderator: Zdravka Todorova (Wright State University)

- John Henry (University of Missouri-Kansas City)
- Gary Mongiovi (St. John’s University)
- Marc Lavoie (University of Ottawa)
- Jan Kregel (Levy Economics Institute and UMKC)

3.12.3 SHE 2014


Youtube video is available here: http://youtu.be/XYAshGVMFPU

3.12.4 SOAS 2014

Saturday 22nd November 2014, 9.30am – 5pm. SOAS, University of London, UK.

Professor Frederic Lee has been an active promoter of heterodox economics movements over the past 30 years with a major institutional contribution towards the development of heterodox economics in United Kingdom. He played a major role in establishing the Association for Heterodox Economics, founded and edited the Heterodox Economics Newsletter, edited the American Journal of Economics and Sociology, has been actively involved in heterodox associations such as AFEE, AFIT, AHE, ASE, EAEPE, HES, ICAPE, URPE, and so on.

This event will celebrate his activities towards establishing a truly heterodox and pluralist community of economists and not least his theoretical contributions towards developing foundations for heterodox economics.

Fred and his wife, Ruth, have recently established the Heterodox Economics Scholarship Fund, which is designed to financially support doctoral heterodox economics students. The Scholarship is open to all doctoral students studying in a heterodox economics program, although currently preference is given to UMKC doctoral students due to the limited amount of funds.
CHAPTER 3. TRIBUTES

Program

- 10.00am-11.30am: Opening: Professor Chris Brammall (Head of the Economics Department, SOAS), Professor Jan Toporowski (SOAS), Dr Ioana Negru (SOAS), Dr. Jamie Morgan (AHE Coordinator)
- 10.30am-11.30am: Conversations with Geoff Harcourt (via Skype)
- 11.45am-1.00pm: Andrew Trigg, Bruce Philp and Paul Downward (Tales about AHE and Fred Lee)
- 2.00pm-2.30pm: Alan Freeman: Fred Lee’s contribution to pluralist economics (via Skype)
- 2.30pm-3.30pm: Andrew Mearman, Richard Van den Berg, Bruce Cronin
- 4.00pm-4.30pm: Sheila Dow: Fred Lee as a Critical pluralist (via Skype)
- 4.30pm-5.00pm: Andrew Brown: The Nature of Heterodox Economics. Including messages from Ben Fine, Tae-Hee Jo and Zdravka Todorova, Erik Olsen, and Steve Keen.
- 5pm-7pm: Professor Jan Toporowski, Gary Slater and Bob McMaster

3.12.5 EEA 2015


Three Sessions jointly sponsored by Association for Social Economics, Union for Radical Political Economy, and Association for Evolutionary Economics

Radical and Heterodox Economics I: First of Three Sessions in Memory of Frederic S. Lee

Chair: Robert Scott, Monmouth University

- Telling Better Stories – The Role of Behavior in Lees Heterodox Microeconomics
  John Moreau, University of Missouri Kansas City
- Smart Person and Human Development: The Missing Ingredient in Behavioral Economics
  John F. Tomer, Manhattan College
- Behavioral Indifference Curves
  John Komlos, University of Munich
Discussant: Tae-Hee Jo, and among participants

**Radical and Heterodox Economics II: Second of Three Sessions in Memory of Frederic S. Lee**

Chair: Tae-Hee Jo, SUNY Buffalo State

- **Paradigm Switch in Economics**
  John Komlos, University of Munich

- **Women, Race, Workers, and Ecology in Oklahoma: A Radical History and Analysis of Political Economy**
  Stephanie Cole, University of Missouri-Kansas City

- **Some thoughts on the use of economics in the Scottish independence referendum debate**
  Andrew Cunmers, Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow
  Robert McMaster, Adam Smith Business School, University of Glasgow

- **Historical Method and Data in Heterodox Economics**
  Natalia Bracarense, North Central College
  A. Reeves Johnson, Roosevelt University

**Radical and Heterodox Economics III: Third of Three Sessions in Memory of Frederic S. Lee**

Chair: John Komlos, University of Munich

- **Classical Economics, Production, and Time**
  Michael J. Murray, Bemidji State University

- **Notes on Linear Production Models**
  Scott Carter, University of Tulsa

- **Social Provisioning Process and the Development of Heterodox Economics**
  Tae-Hee Jo, SUNY Buffalo State
  Zdravka Todorova, Wright State University

- **Modelling Environmental Resources in a Heterodox Production Framework**
  Christian Spanberger, University of Missouri Kansas City

**3.12.6 AFIT 2015**

Association for Institutional Thought Annual Conference in conjunction with Western Social Science Association / April 8-11, 2015 / Portland, Oregon
CHAPTER 3. TRIBUTES

Systems of Time, Money, and Provisioning: Session in Memory of Frederic S. Lee (AFIT/ASE Joint Session)

Moderator: Ted P. Schmidt, SUNY Buffalo State

- “Social Provisioning Process and the Development of Heterodox Economics”
  Tae-Hee Jo (SUNY Buffalo State) and Zdravka Todorova (Wright State University)

- “Local Food Systems and Economic Development”
  Brian Werner (University of Missouri – Kansas City)

- “Time Systems and Their Adoption”
  Neal Wilson (University of Missouri Kansas City)

- “A Financial Analysis of Monetary Systems”
  Eric Tymoigne (Lewis and Clark College)

Social Provisioning for a Just Society: Session in Memory of Frederic S. Lee

Moderator: William Dugger (University of Tulsa)

- “Notes towards a Heterodox Theory of Pay”
  Ryan A. Dodd (Gettysburg College)

- “Good for the Economy, Bad for People”
  BJ Unti (Bellevue College)

- “Rational Irrationality: an Institutional Analysis of the Unsustainable Nature of Capitalism”
  Will Fisher (Humboldt State University)

- “The Emergence of Qualitative Change in the Social Provisioning Process”
  Mitch Green (Franklin & Marshall College)
Dear IDSC Executive Board Members:

Please accept Professor Frederic S. Lee as our nomination for the 2007 IDSC Outstanding Interdisciplinary Faculty Member Award. We are sure that Professor Lee is an exceptional interdisciplinarian in terms of his teaching, research, and supporting students and, hence, very deserving of this recognition.

Let us briefly introduce Professor Lee’s academic background. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in history awarded by Frostburg State University in 1972. He began studying economics in various institutions at the graduate level, such as Columbia University (1976-77), University of Edinburgh, Scotland (1977-78), Centro di Studi Economici Avanzati, Italy (1981), and Rutgers University, where he received both a Master’s Degree and a Ph.D. Degree in 1982 and 1983 respectively. Professor Lee has been affiliated with the University of California, River-side (1981-84), Roosevelt University (1984-91), and De Montfort University, U.K (1991-2000), prior to joining the Economics Department at UMKC in 2000.

Professor Lee is a fantastic educator and a recognized scholar. He has published six books, including Post Keynesian Price Theory (1998) which was awarded the Gunnar Myrdal Prize for the best monograph of the year. He is the author of over 30 book chapters, and many book reviews and comments in economics, history, and methodology of social science. In addition, he has published over 40 articles in professional journals such as: Journal of Post Keynesian Economics, History of Political Economy, Journal of Economic Issues, Review of Social Economy, Cambridge Journal of Economics, Research in the History of Economic Thought and Methodology as well as many others. One needs to look no further than the journals that he has chosen to publish in to realize his interdisciplinary nature. All these journals focus on the importance of bridging economics back into social science. Professor Lee has dedicated his career to bringing economics back into the rest of the social sciences. He is not a pure economist, and finds little relevance for that term. Rather he takes the utmost pride in classifying himself as a heterodox economist, focusing on the importance of sociology, anthropology, and history within the broad field of economics. As such, Professor Lee is truly an interdisciplinarian in the broadest sense of the term, as well as internationally renowned teacher and scholar in his academic character. Professor Lee brings this interdisciplinary approach in the classroom. In his graduate courses he stresses the importance of analyzing economics within a historical context. When studying utility and preference, most graduate programs would simply focus on the calculus to derive consumer demand curves. Professor Lee not only puts emphasis on the mathematics, but also puts emphasis on the

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15[Editor’s note] This is a letter nominating Professor Frederic Lee for the 2007 Outstanding Interdisciplinary Faculty Member Award, University Missouri–Kansas City.
16[Editor’s note] Awarded by European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy
geo-historical context of a particular economic theory, that is, for example, the theory of business enterprise must be grounded in the real economic history. Therefore after having taken his courses, students not only leave with solid understanding of economic theory, but also are aware of history which leads to a theory. Additionally he stresses the importance of analyzing microeconomics within a society as a whole. Bringing in societal influences back into microeconomics causes one to reject most mainstream economic theory. He starts anew with a grounded theory methodology, focusing on society, to achieve a greater understanding of why economic agents behave. As such, he has indoctrinated his students with the tools necessary to study economics within the context of the broader social theory. This further inspires students to pursue the interdisciplinary approach to economics.

At UMKC, Professor Lee has been a valuable asset for graduate students and is the strongest advocate of interdisciplinarity in the graduate program. He has actively organized regular seminars in methodology and economic theory. His primary devotion is to us, the students. He is an active participant in his student’s education. He helped set up graduate research seminars and actively participated in Social Science Consortium seminars which focus in large part on methodology, philosophy of social science and social theories beyond the economics discipline.

Professor Lee has co-taught a course on Karl Marx with Dr. Andrew Bergerson (History Department, UMKC) and Dr. Shannon Jackson (Sociology Department, UMKC) and has taught American Economic History and Radical Political Economics which are interdisciplinarily oriented. Professor Lee has also regularly attended courses taught by other professors and offered input when allowed and, thus, benefiting everyone with his intellectual curiosity. Regarding Professor Lee’s support for graduate students, we should appreciate his tremendous effort to organize conferences and workshops. For instance, Professor Lee organized three sessions on Microfoundations of Macroeconomics at the Allied Social Science Association Annual Conference held in Chicago in January 2007. One of reasons for him was to give opportunities of engaging in communications with renowned scholars to his doctoral student who was working on the same topic for the dissertation. Professor Lee’s student participated in different sessions as a presenter and a discussant at the conference. Furthermore, Professor Lee has also organized various conferences such as the Conference on Radical Political Economics in the 20th Century (September 2005 at UMKC), the ICAPE Conference on the Future of Heterodox Economics (June 2003 at UMKC), and the Conference on the History of Heterodox Economics in the 20th Century (October 2002 at UMKC), which provided UMKC students with valuable professional and academic experiences.

Moreover, Professor Lee has been contributed to enhancing academic resources in UMKC. For example, he has purchased economic materials for the UMKC library (2004), back issues of six heterodox economic journals amounting to $2,000 in 2002, and a reference set in the history of economics, $1,100, for UMKC Library in 2002. Not to mention, he has opened the economic department library (located in Manheim Hall 202J) in which students as well as faculty can find many books and journals that the UMKC library does not hold.

Professor Lee’s office door is always open from 8 am to 5 pm, so any student can meet and talk to him without hesitation. No matter what he may be in the middle of doing something, he drops everything when a student...
walks through his door whether it is to ask him something trivial or of great relevance to their studies. Even during the current sabbatical year (Fall 2006 - Winter 2007), he comes to school everyday and advises students who ever want to talk to him.

Last, but certainly not least, we should note that Professor Lee has been issuing the *Heterodox Economics Newsletter* twice a month since September 2004. By this, not only UMKC graduate students but also many students around the world obtain valuable information such as job openings, upcoming conferences and workshops, new journals and books, and so on. Although those subscribers of the Newsletter do not know Professor Lee personally, they know his name and appreciate his efforts for the scholarship greatly.

We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tae-Hee Jo, Michael J. Murray, Heather Starzynski, Kurt Christensen, Xuan Pham, Alla Semenova, Daniel Conceicao, Shakuntala Das, Jonathan Watkins, David Harris, Karol Gil-Vasquez, Franziska Pircher, Erik Dean, Kyong Ho Kim, Ryan Dodd, Stephanie Sheldon, Gianluca Rossi, Jinsuhk Suh, Chun-Kai Huang, Naphon Phumma, Richard Dadzie, Ato Anderson, Uddhab Thakuri, Yeva Nersisyan, Flavia Dantas, Felipe Rezende, Zdravka Todorova, Yan Liang
At the Alfred S. Eichner Memorial Service (1986)

Paris, France (2012)
Oxford University, UK (2013)

AHE Conference, UK (2014)