SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF ECONOMIC THEORY (SAET)

Message from the newly elected SAET President

On behalf of the Executive Committee and the Board of the society, I am delighted to wish all members and friends of SAET a happy and fruitful year, bringing new ideas and new projects and advancing even more theoretical economics.

Since its founding, SAET has achieved an impressive course, extending successfully the number, the size and the topic range of the conferences it organizes worldwide, and patronizing two well-recognized academic journals with impact factors steadily increasing.

Last year's accomplishments, with the annual conference taking place in Santiago de Chile and the European conference taking place in Manchester, were a perfect proof of this remarkable momentum. For that I would like first to thank and congratulate Hervé Moulin, our last President, for his commitment, his enthusiasm and his talent to communicate. The presidential address was a clear and convincing presentation together with the plenary talks by Vassili Skreta, Matthew Jackson, Laura Duval, and Rabah Amir in Santiago and by Aloisio Araujo, Carlos Hervès Beloso, and Peter Hammond in Manchester.

Many thanks also to Chris Pissarides, for accepting to be our First Vice-President, meaning that he will be our next President. We are also glad to let you know that John Geanakoplos has been elected Second Vice-President, and he will become President of the Society after Chris Pissarides.

The conference in Santiago, which gathered over 300 participants, was fantastically organized and I would like to express our gratitude to the local team and, in particular, to Juan Escobar, Alejandro Joffré, and Adriana Piazza for this great success. Our European Conference gathered over 80 participants and our host Leonidas Koutsougeras should equally be thanked for its organization and its success.

Our next annual conference will take place in Ischia (Italy) from June 29 to July 5, 2025; we plan for the following year to organize the 2026 SAET Conference in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) on July 14-18, 2026. We warmly thank the local organizers of these events. Their success, of course, fundamentally relies on a large participation of our members.

The world is experiencing challenging times, with several major risks threatening our economies. The acceleration of global warming and the associated energy choices, migration and refugee movements, the crisis of democracy, increasing inequality, the weakening of free trade and competition and the emergence of Artificial Intelligence - all these issues require decisions and new rules based not only on facts and numbers, but also on innovative theoretical and conceptual thinking using the tools of economic theory and its related fields. The SAET events are privileged international meetings where the results of such innovative thinking can be presented and discussed. Now more than ever, the scientific community needs to keep in mind that data never speaks for itself. It only answers the questions we ask, and asking the right question is a task for which the role of theory is fundamental.

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Finally, let me also mention another matter for which member participation is crucial. This is the election of 34 new fellows in 2024, supervised by the Fellowship Committee chaired by Jean-Charles Rochet on the basis of nominations made by the Economic Theory Fellows and the SAET Board. We are deeply grateful to Jean-Charles for his commitment and effectiveness. The list of new 2024 Economic Theory Fellows is available on the web site of our Society at https://saet.uiowa.edu.

I wish you a wonderful year, and I look forward to seeing you in Ischia next June.

Warm regards,

Pierre-André Chiappori