Sharon Oster is the 2011 recipient of the Carolyn Shaw Bell Award. This award will be presented at the annual business meeting of the American Economics Association’s (AEA) Committee on the Status of Women in the Economics Profession (CSWEP) on Friday, January 6, 2012, from 12:30 - 2 p.m. in the Plaza B Room of the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Chicago. A reception will follow in the evening from 6 – 7:30 p.m. in the Columbus G Room in part to honor Professor Oster. It is not necessary to register for the AEA/ASSA meetings to attend these two events.


Professor Oster joined the faculty at the Yale School of Management as associate professor of economics and management in 1982, and was the first woman to receive tenure at SOM, in 1983. She is also the first recipient of the Yale School of Management Award for Excellence in Teaching, in 1988, and received this recognition a second time in 2008. Since joining the SOM faculty, she has played a leadership role in the growth and development of the school’s economics group. Professor Oster served as Dean of the Yale School of Management from 2008-2011.

Professor Oster has consulted widely to private, public, and nonprofit organizations, and currently serves on the boards of a number of for-profit and nonprofit organizations, including Health Care REIT, Yale University Press, and Amistad Academy. She is a 1970 graduate of Hofstra College, from which she also received an honorary doctorate in 2001. She received her PhD in economics from Harvard University in 1974.
The Carolyn Shaw Bell Award was created in January 1998 as part of the 25th Anniversary celebration of the founding of CSWEP. Carolyn Shaw Bell, who was the Katharine Coman Chair Professor Emerita of Wellesley College, was also the first Chair of CSWEP. The Bell award is given annually to an individual who has furthered the status of women in economics profession, through example, achievements, increasing our understanding of how women can advance in the economics profession, and the mentoring of others.

Previous winners included Alice M. Rivlin of the Brookings Institute; Sandra Ohm Moose of the Boston Consulting Group; Eva Mueller, deceased, formerly Professor Emerita of the University of Michigan; Francine Blau of Cornell University; Marianne Ferber, Professor Emerita of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Margaret Garritsen de Vries, deceased, formerly from the International Monetary Fund; Robin L. Bartlett of Denison University; Barbara Bergmann, Professor Emerita of the American University and the University of Maryland; Claudia Goldin of Harvard University; Barbara M. Fraumeni of the University of Southern Maine, and Olivia S. Mitchell of the University of Pennsylvania, Anne P. Carter of Brandeis University, Elizabeth E. Bailey of the University of Pennsylvania and Elizabeth Hoffman of Iowa State University.

Carolyn Shaw Bell wrote in the CSWEP’s 25th Anniversary Newsletter in fall 1997:

“We need everyday to herald some woman’s achievements, to tout a woman’s book or painting or scholarly article, to brag about a promotion or prize and to show admiration for the efforts and influence of women, in their professional and technical and social and human endeavors of all kinds.”

In the spirit of her words, the award requires that the “master” plaque be displayed prominently in a public place in the winner’s local area so that others can see the achievements of the winner.

CSWEP represents women’s points of views in the committee work of the American Economic Association (AEA), monitors the progress of women within the profession, and makes an annual report to the AEA on the status of women in economics. CSWEP associates are women and men in diverse professional environments – academia, government and business.

All nominations should include a nomination letter, updated CV and two or more supporting letters, preferably at least one from a mentee.

Inquiries, nominations and donations may be sent to:
Marjorie McElroy, CSWEP Chair
Duke University
Department of Economics
319 Social Sciences Building
Campus Box 90097
Durham, NC 27708
cswep@econ.duke.edu

Closing date for nominations for the 2012 award is September 14, 2012.