

Call for Papers

ECONOMICS of the INFORMATION ECONOMY

On May 7 and 8, 2004, the National Bureau of Economic Research will hold a Universities' Research Conference in Cambridge, Massachusetts on issues relating to the economics of the information economy.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

The program is being organized by Judy Chevalier of Yale University and NBER, and Joel Waldfogel of the University of Pennsylvania and NBER. The program will consist of eight or nine papers with formal discussants for each paper. There will be no published proceedings, but the conference will be summarized in the *NBER Reporter*.

CONFERENCE THEME

While information technology has not sustained the enormous increases in shareholder wealth that many investors predicted a half a decade ago, advances in information technology nonetheless have had an enormous impact on the structure and functioning of the economy. New information technologies have enabled changes in the production processes and organization of "traditional" manufacturing and service industries. Entirely new industries have emerged as an outcome of these technologies. Finally, the creation of new technologies has had important competitive effects on existing sectors utilizing older technologies. The goal of this conference is to examine theoretical and empirical work pertaining to the economics of information technology and information goods.

We are interested in papers that explore a wide variety of issues relating to effects of new information and communications technologies on the economy and society. Such topics include, but are not limited to: competition between various

entertainment media, the economics of e-commerce, analysis of telecommunications regulations, the effect of public policy initiatives to increase Internet adoption, the effect of information technology on production and distribution processes in traditional manufacturing and service sectors, etc.

SELECTION PROCESS

In keeping with the Bureau's tradition, priority will be given to empirical research or theoretical work with direct empirical applications. We encourage submissions from researchers early in their careers and also from non-NBER affiliates.

Papers will be selected on the basis of papers or abstracts of about 500 words, with a strong preference for papers. Any research that will not be published at the time of the conference can be submitted. The deadline for submissions is **February 5, 2004**. Authors chosen to present papers will be notified by the beginning of March. Final drafts of papers will be due at the NBER on **April 15, 2004**. The NBER will pay the domestic travel and hotel expenses of one author per paper and discussants at the conference.

Please send two copies of your abstracts or papers to the following address:

**Professor Judith Chevalier
Professor Joel Waldfogel
National Bureau of Economic Research
1050 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138**

You may also email your submissions to: confer@nber.org in a pdf, Word or WordPerfect file. U.S. paper format only please.