

IRPS NEWSLETTER

INSTITUTE FOR REGULATORY POLICY STUDIES

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From the Executive Director, David G. Loomis



I am happy to bring you this inaugural issue of the Institute's newsletter. This newsletter is part of an initiative to keep you better informed of the Institute's work and activities. I hope you enjoy it and I would welcome comments on how this newsletter can better serve you.

July 2005 has brought many changes to the Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies. My longtime Co-Director, Dean Hiebert, retired and I became the Executive Director. We added two new people to the organization: Lon Carlson became the Director of Outreach and Rajeev Goel became the Director of Research for the Institute. You can read more about them on page 2.

The Institute sponsored its first training course this past summer. On July 14-15, 2005, over 60 people packed into the ICC's Main Hearing Room for a course titled "Introduction to Rate Cases and Rate Design," taught by me and Sherman Elliott, Manager, State Regu-

latory Affairs for MISO. Sherman is also an IRPS Board Member. Attendees included over 25 members of the Illinois Commerce Commission including 3 Commissioners and the Chairman of the Kentucky Commission. The other 35 attendees came from utility companies, state government and consumer advocates.

The Institute has launched an ambitious new research agenda that will result in both an industry white paper series published by the Institute and a stream of publications in academic journals.

The Institute also helps support the Master's Degree program in Applied Economics in Electricity, Natural Gas and Telecommunications.

Energy Conference, December 1, 2005

The Institute will be hosting a one-day Energy Conference titled, "Ensuring Adequate Energy Supplies in a Volatile Environment" at the Springfield Hilton, Springfield, IL on December 1, 2005. Registration and the most current agenda are available on the Institute website at <http://www.irps.ilstu.edu>

Confirmed Speakers include:

- Gary Hunt, President, *Global Energy Advisors*
- Thomas L. Welch, General Manager, *Market Strategy, PJM*
- Ron McNamara, Vice President of Market Management, *MISO*
- John E. Shelk, CEO, *Electric Power Supply Association*
- Paul Peterson, Senior Associate, *Synapse Energy Economics*
- William Massey, Partner, *Covington and Burling*

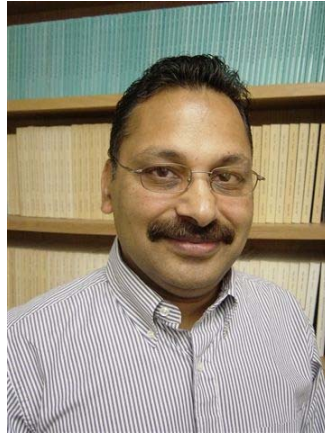
Upcoming Events

- ENERGY CONFERENCE: *ENSURING ADEQUATE ENERGY SUPPLIES IN A VOLATILE MARKET*, DECEMBER 1, 2005, SPRINGFIELD HILTON, SPRINGFIELD, IL. REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.IRPS.ILSTU.EDU OR CALL 309-438-8625 FOR MORE INFORMATION
- TELECOM WORKSHOP COMING SPRING 2006!

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Rajeev Goel, Director of Research



Dr. Rajeev Goel started as the Director of Research with the Institute in July, 2005. Dr.

Goel received his Ph.D. from the University of Houston and is Professor of Economics at Illinois State University. He is the author of a recent book, *Economic Models of Technological Change*. His research in industrial organization, energy economics, economics of corruption and applied microeconomics appears in numerous academic outlets, including the *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Managerial and Decision Economics*, *Research Policy*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*

and *The Energy Journal*. Professor Goel served as a visiting faculty member with the Indian Institute of Management and Tata Energy Research Institute. He joined Illinois State University after spending two years at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

As Director of Research, Dr. Goel will be supervising the Graduate Student Research Fellows employed by the Institute as well as conducting his own research on regulation.

“DR. CARLSON HAS A LONG HISTORY WITH THE INSTITUTE AND IT IS A PLEASURE TO WELCOME HIM BACK AS DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH.”

Lon Carlson, Director of Outreach



Dr. Lon Carlson started as the Director of Outreach with the Institute in July, 2005. Dr. Carlson is an Associate Professor and the Undergraduate Program Director in the Department of Economics at Illi-

nois State University. He received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with emphasis on environmental and natural resource economics, and economic analysis of law. Prof. Carlson has co-authored articles that have appeared in several outlets, including the *Journal of Economic Education*, the *Natural Resources Journal*, the *Boston College Environmental Affairs Law Review*, and the *Journal of Applied Economics Letters*. Dr. Carlson also has been a co-investigator on a number of major funded research projects, including a study of hazardous waste regulations and policy options for solid waste management conducted for

the Illinois Department of Energy and Natural Resources, and research for the Northern Illinois Alliance to Support Least-Cost Utility Planning. In addition to his current position in the Department of Economics at Illinois State University, Dr. Carlson has held positions with the Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies (and its predecessor Center for Regulatory Studies), Argonne National Laboratory (ANL), and the U.S. General Accounting Office, and has worked as a consultant for a number of government agencies.

As Director of Outreach, Dr. Carlson will be planning workshops such as the December 1st workshop referenced on the front page.

Alumni Spotlight

The Institute supports the Master's Program by providing and funding internships, and Graduate Assistantships, for the Regulatory Sequence. At Illinois State University Brian Prusnek, a 2001 graduate of the Applied Master's Program in Electricity, Natural Gas and Telecommunications was recently promoted to Chief of Staff for Commissioner Susan Kennedy at the California Public Utility Commission.

Brian Prusnek is a specialist in

energy efficiency, natural gas infrastructure, natural gas policy and electric deregulation policy. Prior to joining Commissioner Kennedy's staff, he served in the Commission's Energy Division as the sole federal natural gas analyst. Much of Prusnek's work in the Energy Division involved conducting analysis of the California energy crisis, and representing the Commission at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. One such case resulted in a settlement with El Paso Natural Gas

Company and its affiliate, El Paso Merchant Energy, of \$1.69 billion - the largest energy settlement in U.S. history.

Prusnek holds a Master's degree in Regulatory Economics from Illinois State University, and received his undergraduate degree from Mount Union College.



Brian Prusnek, Chief of Staff for Commissioner Susan Kennedy, California Public Utility Commission

Rate Case Course July 14-15, 2005, Chicago, IL



"I ENJOYED THE TWO-DAY SEMINAR THAT SHERMAN AND YOU JUST COMPLETED. I ALSO ENJOYED PUTTING ON THE EXTRA FIVE POUNDS FROM EATING SO MUCH."
- RATE CASE COURSE ATTENDEE



The premier institution for research and education in regulatory economics and public policy

INSTITUTE FOR REGULATORY POLICY STUDIES

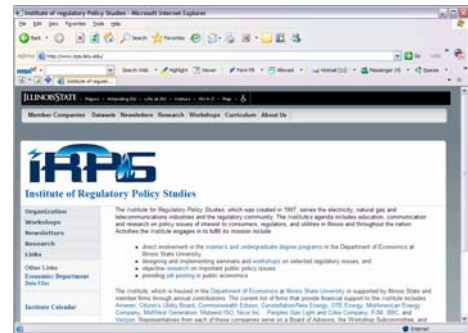
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The *Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies* is the premier institution for research and education in regulatory economics and public policy in the State of Illinois and has a national reputation for excellence in Midwestern regulatory issues. The *Institute* maintains this reputation by:

- Supporting and maintaining the best Master's Program in Electricity, Natural Gas and Telecommunications Economics in the nation.
- Designing and sponsoring statewide, regional and national workshops, conferences and courses to educate external stakeholders.
- Publishing an industry-focused research white paper series and publishing articles and books in peer-reviewed academic outlets.

We're on the web at
www.irps.ilstu.edu



How to Become a Member

The *Institute for Regulatory Policy Studies* is a public-private partnership between Illinois State University and the electricity, natural gas and telecommunications industries and the regulatory community. The *Institute* was created in its current form in 1997 from the former Center for Regulatory Studies and is part of the Economics Department of Illinois State University.

The *Institute* is supported by Illinois State University and member institutions through annual contributions. Every member organization has a seat on

the Board of Advisors, Workshop Committee and Curriculum Committee. Other benefits include:

- Assisting in setting the agenda for conferences, seminars and training sessions
- Discounted registration for the conferences, seminars and trainings sessions
- Eligible for an *Institute*-paid intern for 6 weeks during the summer
- Meeting Commissioners and staff in an informal setting
- Gain input to *Institute*-sponsored research

- First look at Graduate students for future employment

The current list of firms that provide financial support to the Institute includes Ameren, Citizen's Utility Board, Commonwealth Edison, Constellation/New Energy, DTE Energy, MidAmerican Energy Company, MidWest Generation, Midwest ISO, Nicor Inc., Peoples Gas Light and Coke Company, PJM, SBC, and Verizon.

For more information, please contact David Loomis, Executive Director, at 309-438-7979 or dloomis@ilstu.edu.