FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEY ECONOMICS INSTITUTE SENIOR SCHOLAR JAMES K. GALBRAITH ELECTED TO PRESTIGIOUS ITALIAN SCIENCE ACADEMY

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, N.Y.—James K. Galbraith, senior scholar at the Levy Economics Institute of Bard College, has been elected to the “Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei,” also known as the Lincean Academy, the oldest honorific scientific academy in the world. Founded in 1603, the academy counts Galileo Galilei among its original members and has remained an elite organization of only 540 members, with 180 of those from outside Italy. Although the academy covers all scientific and literary fields, Galbraith will be a member of the division for moral, historical, and philological sciences, specifically for the social and political sciences. Robert Solow, Amartya Sen, and the late Paul Samuelson are among the other American economists who have been a part of the academy.

Senior Scholar James K. Galbraith is Lloyd M. Bentsen Jr. Chair in Government/Business at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin. He also chairs the board of Economists for Peace and Security and is director of the University of Texas Inequality Project. He is a former executive director of the Joint Economic Committee and was an architect of the modern procedures of congressional monetary policy oversight. From 1993 to 1997, he served as chief technical adviser to China’s State Planning Commission as part of a UNDP project on macroeconomic reform.

A focus of Galbraith’s research is examining issues pertaining to employment and inequality, especially determinants of global inequality. His books include The Predator State: How Conservatives Abandoned the Free Market and Why Liberals Should, 2008;
Galbraith held a Fulbright Distinguished Visiting Lectureship in China in the summer of 2001, and was named a Carnegie Scholar in 2003. His recent research has focused on the measurement and understanding of inequality in the world economy, while his policy writing ranges from monetary policy to the economics of warfare, with forays into politics and history. Galbraith studied economics as a Marshall Scholar at King’s College, Cambridge, and holds economics degrees from Harvard University (B.A.) and Yale University (Ph.D.). For more information, visit www.levyinstitute.org.

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