



Invitation to Attend the CSLS Seminar Series on Living Standards

“The Measurement of Economic Insecurity in Uncertain Times: What Are the Key Issues?”

Dr. Helen Boss Heslop

4:00-5:30 PM

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Karsh Room
Rideau Club
99 Bank Street, 15th floor
Ottawa, Ontario

If you wish to attend, please RSVP by June 12 to andrew.sharpe@csls.ca.

During the current crisis, it is widely recognized that economic insecurity has risen. But how do we best measure or capture this concept? To reply, Dr Heslop first surveys a number of composite measures of economic security, including the Economic Security Index developed by the International Labour Organization, the Personal Security Index of the CCSD, the Elder Index and its cognates, and the economic security sub-index of the CSLS's Index of Economic Well-being. She then identifies and discusses key issues related to the concept of economic security. These include whether economic security should be estimated separately from income and income distribution, how to identify supply and demand for economic security in democracies, and what an ideal measure of economic security might be.

Lars Osberg, University Research Professor of Economics at Dalhousie University, will be the lead commentator on the presentation.

Dr Helen Boss Heslop is an economic consultant based in London, England. She has a BA from Harvard University in Russian History and Literature and an MA and PhD in Economics from McGill University. She has been a professor of economics at the Université du Québec à Montréal, a Fellow of the Russian Research Centre at Harvard University, and Principal Economist for Ukraine, Kazakhstan and other CIS at the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (WIIW). She is the author of the acclaimed *Theories of Surplus and Transfer: parasites and producers in economic thought* (Unwin Hyman, 1990), a book on ‘what we are trying to measure and why’.

Attendance at this event is by invitation only. Subscribers to the CSLS Publication Subscription Program are invited to attend. For more information on this program please visit www.csls.ca/subscription.asp.