

PRESS RELEASE

The Amsterdam Center for Law & Economics (ACLE) of the University of Amsterdam organizes an international workshop on

**Forensic Economics in Competition Law Enforcement**

Friday March 17, 2006

University of Amsterdam  
Faculty of Law  
Oudemanhuispoort 4  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Competition law enforcement increasingly applies sophisticated economic techniques, for example in detecting cartels and collecting evidence. Competition policy decisions and court proceedings rely more than ever on corroborated economic theories and academic expertise. Likewise, the practice of private antitrust damage claims actions presently stimulated by the European Commission is likely to involve advanced econometrics. On the question what constitutes good forensic economics, the recent GE/Honeywell case revealed a transatlantic divide. In the years to come, competition agencies and courts need to develop rules of engagement, as well as their own access to relevant economic expertise.

The ACLE hosts an international workshop, bringing together academics, competition authorities, legal counsellors and economic consultants, to discuss this emerging practice. Renowned US academics, versed in the use of economics in competition law proceedings, give key-note lectures on the lessons that Europe can learn from American experiences. Contributed paper presentations offer a platform to discuss merits and limitations of forensic economics in competition law enforcement.

Franklin M. Fisher is Professor of Microeconomics (emeritus) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Fisher is one of the world's foremost authorities on antitrust and competition. He served as chief economic witness on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice in the Microsoft antitrust case.

John M. Connor is Professor of Industrial Economics at Purdue University in Indiana, where he teaches a short-course on forensic economics.

Professor Andrew I. Gavil is a member of the faculty of the Howard University School of Law in Washington D.C.. He is an active participant in the work of the American Bar Association.

Julian M. Joshua is a partner in Howrey LLP's Brussels office. As a senior official at the European Commission for 27 years, Mr. Joshua led many of the Commission's successful investigations into Europe-wide price-fixing conspiracies.

More information is available at the workshop website: <http://forensics.acle.nl>