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special issue

Convergence to Long-Period Positions

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Announcement

With this double issue, *Political Economy*, *Studies in the Surplus Approach* discontinues its publication.

When we launched the Journal in 1985, we set ourselves a number of goals. We hoped to stimulate the broadening of the critique of the dominant theory and, at the same time, reconstructive work along the lines of the classical economists. We also aimed to promote the study of actual situations and basic policy issues in relation to countries with diverse economic and institutional characteristics. It can be said that our enterprise was ultimately fuelled by the wish to help make our discipline as interesting and intellectually stimulating as it was until twenty or so years ago.

In these six years of work we have come up against two serious difficulties. The first concerns the number of subscriptions, which failed to reach the level necessary to make the enterprise financially viable. On account of this, the project could only be continued thanks to generous support from the Publisher. The second difficulty arose when trying to increase the circle of contributors, which obviously had to be done without causing a decline in the quality of the work published. It may be that the goals we set ourselves in the beginning were too ambitious: whether in the editorial committee's abilities to gain substantial support from an increasing number of authors and to find a wide enough readership, and also in view of the objective obstacles in the way of realizing our aims, on account of the rather unpromising state of economic studies at the present moment in time. It may also be that, if these various problems find a solution at some future date, than it may be possible for the enterprise to be taken up once again.

This is certainly what we very much hope as we offer our thanks to those who have taken out subscriptions to the Journal, to our Referees and to all those who, in one way or another, have given their support to this undertaking.

The Editorial Committee