From the Editor

It has been our hope for some time to organize Methodus in a more systematic manner. We have in mind a number of themes which can serve as focal points for discussion. In this issue, we have two groups of papers each dealing with a major theme on economic methodology. The first group is on the question “Has Formalization in Economics Gone Too Far?” It consists of papers by Professors Katzner and McCluskey and comments by Solow, Leamer and Caldwell presented at a joint AEA-INEM (International Network for Economic Method) session in the annual AEA meeting of December 1991, Washington, D.C. The second group consists of a number of papers in response to our call on the question “How Scientific is Economics?”

To help map out our discussions in the future, we are thankful to Social Research for permission to reprint Professor Amartya Sen’s article “Economic Methodology: Heterogeneity and Relevance” in this issue. Moreover, we have another crop of interesting papers on various topics. They can certainly widen our perspective in these days of specialization. We are especially happy to initiate a Book Review section which is edited by Professor Kevin D. Hoover. We are especially happy to initiate a Book Review section which is edited by Professor Kevin D. Hoover. We expect to have critical and in-depth reviews of works on economic methodology, so it is not going to be a run-of-the-mill section.

As another innovation, we have in this issue an interview with Professor Arjo Klamer done specially for Methodus by Professor Young Back Choi on how he comes to and what he thinks about interviews. To make it a regular feature, we would welcome more people to do interviews for us.

It is most gratifying to see the continuing expansion of the INEM. Methodus has truly become an international and interdisciplinary publication. Its fast growing volume has taken us by surprise. We are grateful to all those who care to point out our mistakes and shortcomings. There is of course no excuse but to improve. We must apologize for all those typos and more serious errors. We are equally grateful to all the encouragement we receive.

We have also received enquiries, for consideration of ‘promotion boards’, whether