The profession of academic economics has been widely criticized for being excessively dependent on technical models based on unrealistic assumptions about rationality and individual behavior, and yet it remains a sparsely studied area. This volume presents a series of background readings on the profession by leading scholars in the history of economic thought and economic methodology. Adopting a fresh critique, the contributors investigate the individual incentives prevalent in academic economics, describing economists as rational actors who react to their intellectual environment and the incentives for economic research. Timely topics are addressed, including the financial crisis and the consequences for the discipline, as well as more traditional themes such as pluralism in research, academic organizations, teaching methodology, gender issues, and professional ethics. This collection will appeal to scholars working on topics related to economic methodology and the teaching of economics.

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The Economics of Economists

_Institutional Setting, Individual Incentives, and Future Prospects_

Edited by

Alessandro Lanteri and Jack Vromen
We dedicate this volume to our friend, colleague, and mentor, the late Mark Blaug.

Alessandro and Jack
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