religion and morality in Boulding's ideas, communication and persuasion and power. Each section includes a seminal article by Boulding with one or two interpretative articles that follow discussing the content of Boulding's work.

What might perhaps better be described as the second section of the book turns attention more directly to Boulding's contributions to economics in what might be characterized as an eclectic heterodox approach that incorporates both institutional and Post-Keynesian ideas. Boulding's contributions to economics extend much beyond that by describing economics as an evolutionary and ecological system with an emphasis on stocks instead of flows as the unit of measure where it is the social betterment 'end' that matters rather than the 'means'.

At a time when orthodoxy in economics has come into question as the only prescription for solving many social problems, this collection on interdisciplinary economics provides a valuable (re)introduction to Boulding's transdisciplinary body of work. It provides a useful summary of his many contributions to the advancement of knowledge and should reignite interest in the importance of systems theory across disciplines and Boulding's ideas in particular as a more unified approach to addressing the social issues of the day.

*Development and Financial Reform in Emerging Economies*
K Ruziev and N Perdikis (eds)
Pickering and Chatto, 2015
ISBN 13: 978184894580

*Nikos Stravelakis*
*National and Kapodistrian University of Athens*

Over the last twenty years the history of economic thought and economic history have had limited influence on current research in the various fields of economics. Economic research was dominated by neoclassical theory summarized in the Chicago School motto: 'economics ended with Marshal'. This intellectual environment imposed strict limits on the ideas and perspectives economists could consider in their work, save for a few exceptions. The volume under review challenges this mainstream approach and contributes to the field of economic development using a different methodological and conceptual approach.

Market fundamentalism, summarized by the term the 'Washington Consensus', is criticized mainly for the marginal importance it places on the vitality and role of institutions. However, the volume commences with six papers in the history of economic thought, implicitly or explicitly addressing development issues in classical political economy as well as Keynesian and Kaleckian economics.

The first three chapters consider the development of classical political economy and economics itself in the context of the Enlightenment. Important ideas for economic development are considered, including: development based on knowledge rather than resource allocation; the impact of the distinction between productive and unproductive labor in understanding the dynamics of surplus economies; and differences in the perception of basic economic concepts in different philosophical and religious cultures.

The remaining three chapters take up one of the key theoretical issues considered in development economics, namely, the implications of a labor surplus for Keynesian demand-management policies. It may seem that Keynesian demand driven growth would work in underdeveloped economies with a labor surplus because employment would rise in response to a boost in demand, leading to growth and development. But this was not the opinion held by economists. The profession followed the position of Lewis which suggested that demand driven growth would lead only to inflation when applied to underdeveloped countries. The argument was that labor transfer from agriculture to industry would cause food shortages, leading to wage increases and consequently inflation. Chapters four and five, coauthored by Dipak Ghosh, in whose memory the volume is dedicated, analyze this assertion. The important, and quite relevant in present times, policy suggestion of 'commodity control' suggested by Keynes in 1938 is presented in this regard. Keynes argued that international buffer commodity stocks should be built up to avoid unpleasant fluctuations in commodity prices hampering growth in resource-constrained economies. In the same fashion, some implications of the Kaldorian two sector growth model are considered.

In the final chapter of the first section Jan Toporowski challenges the idea that the 'paradox of thrift' does not hold in underdeveloped economies. He elaborates the Kaleckian idea of junior industrial sector protection, according to which the state invests in production destined for the domestic market in order to avoid inflation and maximize exports, in order to finance imports of industrial machinery. Vital to this type of development is land reform to prevent food shortages for the growing working class, and political leadership based on the 'lower middle class', the urban professional classes and all other social groups benefitting from economic development.

Following this foray into the history of development economic thought, the middle four chapters present theoretical and empirical analyses of the impact of financial reform in transition economies. Washington Consensus-inspired price liberalization, and the resulting hyperinflation and financial crisis of the late 1990s, are discussed here, along with the empirical assessment of risk and efficiency of the banking system, the role of central banks and 'central bank-led financialization', and financial reform in the context of authoritarian regimes. All papers focus on the negative impact of mainstream policy prescriptions, which gave rise to a whole literature around the term 'unintended consequences'. This literature represented something of an embarrassment for neoliberals, because it concerned the malfunctions 'unintentionally' triggered by neoliberal policies in place of the harmonious results they predicted. Policy suggestions focusing on institutional and political change, as well as traditional financial intermediation, are also presented.

The last three chapters are case studies of emerging and developing economies. Chapter eleven includes a study of securities market reform in India and China. It points out that, although reforms commenced in the 1980s, both countries have been unable to establish the appropriate institutions to oversee their markets. This is a rather astonishing finding given the rates of growth experienced by these economies. Africa has presented a challenge for development economics for some time, especially in the area of financial reform. Chapter twelve surveys the relevant literature with regard to the correlation between financial development and economic growth, the link between financial liberalization and financial deepening, bank competition and, finally, bank efficiency. It concludes that most traditional studies are questionable because social factors are not properly researched. This last point is addressed in a different geographical area, that of Bangladesh, in the final chapter, which looks at women's integration into mainstream society through micro-enterprises. The study emphasizes the constraints imposed on women's self- employment by the lack of external finance and stresses gender as a factor as well. The study shows that women who obtained funds used them to support their husbands' self- employment rather than their own, reflecting patriarchal social structures.

Overall, the volume provides a useful, critical discussion of some key issues in contemporary financial reform and economic development issues, while covering a broad range of countries and perspectives. This is enough to recommend it irrespective of whether the reader agrees with the authors' arguments or not.

G Gorton
*Misunderstanding Financial Crises: Why Don't We See Them Coming?*
Oxford University Press, 2012
ISBN 978-0-19-992290-1

*Stefanos Ioannou*
*University of Leeds*

This is a book about the nature of financial crises. Written by Gary Gorton, an economist who has not only taught in the academy, but also worked for several years in the financial sector, the book provides an excellent blend of theory and evidence. Beyond the usual figures and plots that often accompany books dealing with financial crises, Gorton also elucidates his argument with historical sources. The use of extracts from testimonies of journalists