



Center for the Study of Innovation and Productivity  
Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

## Productivity Growth: Causes and Consequences

Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco  
First Floor, November 18-19, 2005

### Friday, November 18

8:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast

8:45 a.m. **Welcoming Remarks**  
Frederick T. Furlong, *Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco*

### *Morning Session*

Chair: John Fernald, *Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco*

9:00 a.m. **“Why Did Europe’s Productivity Catch-up Sputter Out? A Tale of Tigers and Tortoises”**  
Presenters: Robert Gordon and Ian Dew-Becker, *Northwestern University*  
Discussants: Bart van Ark, *University of Gronigen and Conference Board*  
Susanto Basu, *Boston College*

10:15 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. **“The Burden of Knowledge and the Death of the Renaissance Man: Is Innovation Getting Harder?”**  
Presenter: Ben Jones, *Northwestern University*  
Discussants: Sam Kortum, *University of Minnesota*  
Joel Mokyr, *Northwestern University*

12:00 p.m. Lunch, Market Street Dining Room, Fourth Floor

### *Afternoon Session*

Chair: Dan Wilson, *Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco*

1:30 p.m. **“The Value of Life and the Rise in Health Spending”**  
Presenters: Robert Hall, *Stanford University*  
Chad Jones, *UC Berkeley*  
Discussant: Robert Topel, *University of Chicago*  
Joseph Paul Newhouse, *Harvard University*

2:45 p.m. **“Increasing Global Competition and Labor Productivity: Lessons from the U.S. Automotive Industry”**  
Presenters: Martin Neil Baily, *Institute for International Economics*  
Diana Farrell, *McKinsey Global Institute*  
Ezra Greenberg, *McKinsey Global Institute*  
Jan-Dirk Henrich, *McKinsey Global Institute*  
Naoko Jinjo, *McKinsey Global Institute*  
Maya Jolles, *McKinsey Global Institute*  
Jaana Remes, *McKinsey Global Institute*

Discussants: Timothy Bresnahan, *Stanford University*  
George Hall, *Yale University*

- 4:00 p.m. Break
- 4:30 p.m. **“Identifying Technology Spillovers and Product Market Rivalry”**  
Presenters: Nick Bloom, *Stanford University*  
Mark Schankerman and John Van Reenen, *London School of Economics*  
Discussants: C. Lanier Benkard, *Stanford University*  
Scott Stern, *Northwestern University*
- 6:00 p.m. Reception, West Market Street Lounge, Fourth Floor
- 7:00 p.m. Dinner, Market Street Dining Room, Fourth Floor  
Keynote Speaker: Dale W. Jorgenson, *Harvard University*  
**“Information Technology and the World Economy”**

**Saturday, November 19**

- 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast

***Morning Session***

- Chair: Mark Doms, *Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco*
- 9:00 a.m. **“Learning About a New Technology: Pineapple in Ghana”**  
Presenters: Tim Conley, *Chicago GSB*  
Christopher Udry, *Yale University*  
Discussants: Yaw Nyarko, *New York University*  
Giorgio Topa, *Federal Reserve Bank of New York*
- 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:45 a.m. **“Technology Adoption From Hybrid Corn to Beta Blockers”**  
Presenters: Jonathan Skinner and Douglas Staiger, *Dartmouth*  
Discussants: Bart Hobijn, *Federal Reserve Bank of New York*  
Pete Klenow, *Stanford University*
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch, First Floor Conference Center
- 1:00 p.m. Adjourn