

A.P. GIANNINI AND THE GIANNINI FOUNDATION OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

he Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics of the University of California was founded in the late 1920s from a \$1.5 million gift made by Bancitaly Corporation (later renamed Bank of America) to the University of California in tribute to its founding president and successful businessman, Amadeo Peter Giannini of San Francisco. The endowment has grown to around \$20 million today and the annual payout from the endowment supports the broad mission of the Foundation, which is to promote and support research on the economics of California agriculture. As the endowment's corpus grew over the past seventy-five years, so did the body of research that it has funded. A.P. Giannini's investment in agricultural economics research continues to generate large returns.

In 2005/06 the Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics marked its 75TH ANNIVERSARY with several events, including an all-day symposium on May 3, 2006, on the Davis campus. This volume contains the edited papers presented at that symposium plus the annals of the Foundation and a rich body of archival material.

Today, there are more than seventy members and associate members of the Giannini Foundation. Most of these economists are University of California faculty and Cooperative Extension specialists in agricultural and resource economics on the Berkeley, Davis, and Riverside campuses.

The Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics is a unique world-class organization and there is really no other similar economics research group in the world. It is accurate to say that collectively the Foundation's members make up the strongest and most productive group of agricultural and resource economists on the globe. What is even better is that the Foundation is situated in California. And California agriculture is not only unique but also innovative and dynamic. In many ways, the Golden State is a perfect laboratory for agricultural economics and that is one reason why the Giannini Foundation has been so successful over the past seventy-five years, as this book attests.

All of the members of the Giannini Foundation are extremely grateful to Warren Johnston and Alex McCalla for pulling together this book in recognition of the 75TH ANNIVERSARY of the Foundation. Natalie Karst and Julie McNamara provided excellent technical support to Warren and Alex. The editors have provided a tremendous service by documenting the rich history and research accomplishments of the Giannini Foundation.

Colin A. Carter Director Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics







EDITORS' INTRODUCTION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

he publication of this book completes the celebration of the 75TH ANNIVERSARY of A.P. Giannini's substantial monetary gift to the University of California in 1928. The funds supported an earmarked endowment for the establishment of the Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics and construction of Giannini Hall on the Berkeley campus.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the 1930 completion of Giannini Hall was held in September 2005 at Berkeley. In May 2006, the 75TH ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM of the Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics featured both retrospective presentations regarding A.P. Giannini and the Giannini Foundation and discussions of the contributions of the Foundation to the changing context of California agriculture.

Much has changed since 1928 and the beginning of the Giannini Foundation. Foundation members are now located on three campuses. The majority have been appointees since 1980. Most members are far removed from the early history of agricultural economics at the University of California. Therefore, in addition to the compiled proceedings of the 75TH ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM, we include historical information about the Foundation for current and future generations.

We have organized this volume in three major parts:

- Part I is the proceedings of the symposium and contains two major sessions (papers and panel discussions).
- Part II contains the annals of the Giannini Foundation summarizing salient features of the Foundation, including the roster of founding members in 1929, a brief history of the Foundation, current and emeriti members, Foundation leadership (1926–2009), a chronology of faculty and specialist appointments, American and Western Agricultural Economics Association honors and awards, Ph.D. recipients, and Foundation publications.
- Part III contains archival materials that include written histories of agricultural economics in the University of California; early histories and reflections abridged from oral history materials; biographical records of selected members (University of California *In Memoriam* materials and American Agricultural Economics Association Fellow awardees); a compiled chronology of campus appointments and Giannini Foundation members at Berkeley, Davis, Los Angeles, and Riverside; and, finally, a miscellaneous collection of historical documents, the majority of which are housed in the Bank of America Historical Collection.



This endeavor could not have been completed without the contributions and counsel of many colleagues and staff.

We are indebted to the leadership of the Foundation, in particular to David Zilberman who was the strong advocate for a universitywide celebration.

While the two editors were co-chairs of the 75TH ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM, it would not have occurred without the able administrative assistance of Phyllis McCalla. Her efforts contributed significantly to a successful event.

Coordinating committee members provided valuable input for the symposium's organization—thanks to Roberta Cook, W.R. Gomes, Karen Klonsky, Keith C. Knapp, Gordon C. Rausser, Richard J. Sexton, Jerry Siebert, Daniel A. Sumner, David L. Sunding, and David Zilberman.

Cornelius (Corny) Gallagher, Bank of America agribusiness executive, provided advice and support. He also provided financial support from the Bank of America for this book and provided archival materials about the gift and early events.

Duncan Knowles, retired Bank of America historian, and David Mendoza of Bank of America's Historical Collection also provided historical materials from Bank of America's archive.

Grace Dote, librarian emerita (1970–2001) of the Giannini Foundation Library at Berkeley, documented those associated with the Foundation on the Berkeley, Los Angeles, and Riverside campuses.

We are especially indebted to Julie McNamara, outreach coordinator at Davis and managing editor of Giannini Foundation publications, for moving all of the contributions toward final publication. Her oversight and management made our tasks less onerous, if that is possible.

Natalie Karst provided valuable publication assistance by formatting materials and managing the publication process. Her touch and careful review contributed much to the readability and, we hope, the usefulness of this effort.

Warren E. Johnston Alex F. McCalla