
EDITORIAL
Answering Georgescu-Roegen

This special issue is devoted to the work of Nicholas Georgescu-Roegen (G-R). Herman Daly, a former student of G-R, served as editor, and assembled a stellar group of papers elaborating on some of G-R's important ideas. Daly's own paper in this collection, titled 'Georgescu-Roegen vs. Solow/Stiglitz', raised some interesting possibilities to expand the debate on some issues which had been ignored in G-R's own day. Daly's paper restates some of G-R's criticisms of standard growth theory (particularly as developed by Robert Solow and Joseph Stiglitz). Since the paper was almost a direct challenge to Solow's and Stiglitz's ideas, we felt it created a good opportunity for them to respond to this long-standing critique. Solow and Stiglitz accepted the invitation to respond and their contributions are included in this issue.

But (as in most debates) these responses

seemed to raise more questions than they answered. We therefore decided to take the opportunity to go a little further in exploring these issues by inviting an additional group of distinguished authors to write short commentaries on the issues raised in Daly's paper and/or in the responses. These commentaries are included as a 'forum' following the paper and the responses. Finally, since Solow and Stiglitz's responses seemed to be directed more toward Daly than G-R, we decided to include Daly as one of the contributors to this forum.

I think the group of papers included in this special issue touch on questions of fundamental concern to readers of *Ecological Economics*. The debate is far from over, but at least we are beginning to look for answers to G-R's many unanswered questions, or at least for better ways to ask the questions.