

## HONORING ROBERT M. SOLOW

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The EPS Annual Dinner, held in on January 8, 2005 in Philadelphia, PA, honored one of our founding Trustees, Dr. Robert M. Solow. It was a glittering evening. A veritable who's who of economists gathered to acknowledge Dr. Solow's contributions to ECAAR/EPS and to the profession. Guests included George Akerlof, Karen Arenson, Martin Baily, Olivier Blanchard, Alan Blinder, Peter Diamond, Ray C. Fair, Stanley Fischer, Barney Frank, Robert J. Gordon, Robert E. Hall, Paul Krugman, and Sylvia Nasar, all members of the Host Committee chaired by EPS Board member Allen Sinai.

EPS Board Chair James K. Galbraith introduced Dr. Solow with warm thanks for his long service to the organization. Dr. Galbraith closed his remarks by reading a letter from another EPS Trustee, John Kenneth Galbraith.

After dinner, Dr. Solow gave a talk entitled "Last Thoughts on Investment and Growth," in which he revisited the question of the elasticity of capital and labor. Following his talk, a number of people, many his former students, rose from the audience to speak. They told stories: one remembered how, as a young post-doctoral student, Dr. Solow had encouraged him to publish a joint paper and had insisted on his appearing as the primary author. One remembered Dr. Solow "bounding" into the London School of Economics to give a lecture; by the end of the talk Dr. Solow's incisive wit and energy had determined him to do graduate work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Colleagues spoke of his essential role in building the fine economics department at MIT. The evening as a whole emphasized Dr. Solow's tremendous influence in the profession.

In his remarks, Representative Barney Frank (D-MA) followed Dr. Solow's own lead in "remembering whose party this is." Representative Frank spoke of the importance of Economists for Peace and Security, of the military budget's crowding out of social spending, and the need for our voices to be raised on Capitol Hill.

Paul Krugman remarked: "I simply wanted to be Bob Solow," to share his talent for a joyful, rich and balanced life.

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<http://www.epsusa.org/newsletter/march2005/solow.htm>