

It is a great honour to be recognized by my Russian colleagues with the award of the Leontief Medal. But it becomes a special pleasure because Vassily Leontief was my main teacher of economics, beginning as long ago as 1941 and continuing after the war. In those days Leontief was struggling to establish a scientific approach to economics in universities unaccustomed to such rigor in the social sciences. His contribution, to me and to economics, thus goes far beyond the creation of the input-output model. We remained friends for the rest of his life.

I regret that I could not be here in person, and I hope some day soon to come to St. Petersburg to receive the Medal directly.

Thank you for the honour.

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