



Press Release from Bournemouth University
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Law academic honoured to receive Seldon Award

Dr Stephen Copp, Associate Professor in Law, from Bournemouth University's (BU) Business School, has been presented with the Arthur Seldon Award for Excellence in honour of the late Arthur Seldon CBE. The award is given to the author who has written the best monograph, article or chapter for the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA) in the previous two years.

The awards ceremony took place at the IEA, Westminster, London, as part of the launch of a new biography of Seldon. Dr Copp was recognised for his book, '*The Legal Foundations of Free Markets*'. He shared the award with Dr Razeen Sally, from London School of Economics as the judges were unable to decide between them.

The prize is named after Arthur Seldon who was a founder-president of the IEA and a highly influential figure, notably within the rise of Thatcherism. The ceremony was a poignant affair, given that both the families of the late Arthur Seldon and Friedrich Hayek, the 1974 Nobel Prizewinner in Economics, attended.

Reflecting upon his award, Dr Copp said: "I am delighted and privileged to receive this award for the success of '*The Legal Foundations of Free Markets*', which has been well received around the world.

"When Seldon and Harris, co-founders of the IEA, wrote to celebrate its first 20 years they observed how: 'We set out to examine everything *ab initio*. Nothing was too sacred for economic analysis – from advertising and hire purchase, where we started, through fire, blood and water, to nuclear power, medical care, education, fuel, transport, broadcasting and pollution, even politics itself'.

"I trust that Seldon, in whose name the award was given, would have enjoyed this book that seeks to follow in this intellectual tradition. In it, I set out to challenge conventional wisdom as to why we need the law, how law is made and what the law should be so that we can all have the opportunity to enjoy greater economic freedom and prosperity."

Notes to Editors:

1. For more information on Dr Copp's book, '*The Legal Foundations of Free Markets*', visit: <http://www.iea.org.uk/record.jsp?type=book&ID=438>
2. BU is the UK's Number One New University (first place among all institutions that became universities since 1992) according to The Guardian University Guide 2009 & 2010 (www.guardian.co.uk/education).
3. In the 2008 [Research Assessment Exercise](#) (RAE) BU is the fourth most improved university in the UK for the quality of its research (according to *Times Higher Education*).

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