Basic income is a universal income grant available to every citizen without means test or work requirement. Academic discussion of basic income and related policies has been growing in the fields of economics, philosophy, political science, sociology, and public policy over the last few decades — with dozens of journal articles published each year, and basic income constituting the subject of more than 30 books in the last 10 years. In addition, the political discussion of basic income has been expanding through social organizations, NGOs and other advocacy groups. Internationally, recent years have witnessed the endorsement of basic income by grassroots movements as well as government officials in developing countries such as Brazil or South-Africa.

As the community of people working on this issue has been expanding all over the world, incorporating grassroots activists, high profile academics — including several Nobel Prize winners in economics — and policymakers, the amount of high quality research on this topic has increased considerably. In the light of such extensive scholarship on this topic, the need to coordinate research efforts through a journal specifically devoted to basic income and cognate policies became pressing. **Basic Income Studies (BIS)** is the first academic journal to focus specifically on basic income and cognate policies.

*BIS* publishes peer-reviewed research papers, book reviews, and short accessible commentaries that discuss a central aspect of the debate on basic income and related schemes. Contributions to *BIS* will typically discuss the empirical or normative analysis of basic income but may also include articles on related policies such as citizens’ pensions, stakeholder and sabbatical grants, negative income tax or earned income tax credits, and various job guarantee policies. Articles that discuss the state of modern welfare regimes or aspects of social security or employment regulation in more general terms will be considered provided there are clear implications for basic income research. Although *BIS* places considerable emphasis on rigorous conceptual development and/or thorough empirical analysis, all articles must be written in clear, non-technical language to ensure that they are accessible to non-specialists.

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Language of Publication: English

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Of Interest to: Basic Income Studies (BIS) is the first peer-reviewed journal devoted to basic income and related issues of poverty relief and universal welfare. An exciting venture supported by a major international network of scholars, policymakers, and activists, Basic Income Studies is the only forum for scholarly research on this leading edge movement in contemporary social policy. Articles discuss the design and implementation of basic income schemes, and address the theory and practice of universal welfare in clear, non-technical language that engages the wider policy community. The journal’s editors represent the forefront of research in poverty, political theory, welfare reform, ethics, and public finance, at institutions such as the University of Montreal, Georgetown University-Qatar, Université Catholique de Louvain, Australian National University, Stockholm University, National University of La Plata, University of York, University of Hamburg, Columbia University, Universitat de Barcelona, and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

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BIS encourages publication both by established scholars and by researchers at the beginning of their careers.

BIS has an international scope, aims to publish original articles and review essays on basic income in all countries, and strongly welcomes papers from non-Western countries.

**BIS Essay Prize**

Basic Income Studies awards an annual essay prize for the best academic essay on basic income in the preceding year submitted for the prize.

The deadline for nominations for the BIS Essay Prize is September 28, beginning with the 2018 prize.

Papers to be considered for the BIS Essay Prize can be nominated by a recognized group or organization hosting an academic conference at which papers on basic income are presented. Recognition by the editors of BIS is a precondition for nomination of papers. Congresses of the Basic Income Earth Network (BIEN) and the North American Basic Income Guarantee Congress (NABIG) are automatically recognized, and papers presented at these congresses should be submitted by the authors by the deadline. Organizers of other conferences and panels* should request recognition from the BIS editors before the deadline.

Submission: Send essays by email in Word or PDF format to mhoward@maine.edu, with ”BIS Essay Prize 2018” in the subject heading. For the purpose of determining eligibility, indicate in the body of your email at which conference your paper was presented.

A panel of judges chosen by the editors of BIS will choose the best English language essay from authorized submissions received by the deadline.

*A recognized group (other than BIEN or NABIG) representing a conference focused on basic income may nominate up to 5 papers. A recognized coordinator for a panel on basic income at a conference may nominate one paper from the panel.

In recognizing a group, BIS editors may require involvement in the nomination process by one or more members of the BIS editorial board.

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BIS was initiated by the Spanish basic income network, Red Renta Básica (RRB), the Spanish Instituto de Estudios Fiscales (IEF), and the Basic Income Earth Network (BIEN), and supported by the U.S. Basic Income Guarantee Network (USBIG). BIS gratefully acknowledges the support of these organizations.

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**What scholars are saying about Basic Income Studies**

Philippe Van Parijs, Chaire Hoover d'éthique économique et sociale, Université Catholique de Louvain and Visiting Professor of Philosophy, Harvard University

Basic Income is on the cusp of becoming a veritable social movement, with this journal serving as its intellectual wing. It will serve as an important source of information about the movement for outsiders, and as an important venue for key debates within the movement. I will be watching its development over the coming years with the keenest of interest.

Robert E. Goodin, Joint Professor of Social and Political Theory and Philosophy, Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University

Basic Income Studies will help bring what is an already flourishing debate to the attention of a larger number of scholars, and help develop, sharpen and clarify the issues for all those involved in universities, policy arenas and in the growing grass roots campaigns in a wide variety of countries. The editors deserve thanks for their very welcome initiative.

Carole Pateman, Professor of Political Science, Department of Political Science, University of California, USA

Basic Income Studies provides an innovative and valuable venue for research on one of the most vital and intractable social problems facing the discipline of economics and the social sciences in general.

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News
The 2009 BIS Essay Prize has been awarded to Wesley Pech (Wofford College) at the 7th USBIG Congress in New York for his paper "Behavioral Economics and The Basic Income Guarantee". Chandra Pasma (Citizens for Public Justice) received an Honourable Mention for her paper "Working Through the Work Disincentive".

The 2008 BIS Essay Prize has been awarded to Ian Gareth Orton (International Labour Organisation) at the 10th BIEN Congress in Dublin for his paper "Eliminating Child Labour: The Promise of a Basic Income". Bill Jordan (University of Plymouth) received an Honourable Mention for his paper "Basic Income and Social Value".

The 2007 BIS Essay Prize was awarded to Laura Bambrick (University of Oxford) at the 6th USBIG Congress in New York for her paper "A Big response to Wollstonecraft’s Dilemma.” Richard Caputo (Yeshiva University) received an Honourable Mention for his paper “The Death Knoll of BIG or BIG by Stealth: A preliminary assessment of BIG political viability around the globe.”

The 2006 Essay Prize was awarded to Michael Howard (University of Maine) for his article “A NAFTA Dividend: A proposal for a guaranteed minimum income for North America.” Three other essays were awarded an Honourable Mention: “Good for Women? Advantages and risks of basic income from a gender perspective” by Julieta Elgarte (Universidad Nacional de La Plata/Université Catholique de Louvain); “Why Switzerland? Basic income and the development potential of Swiss Republicanism” by Eric Patry (University of St. Gallen); and “Australia’s Disabled...

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Income Support System” by Jennifer Mays (Queensland University of Technology).

The BIS Essay Prize, organised annually in association with Basic Income Earth Network (BIEN) and USBIG respectively, encourages promising research on basic income and related policies and is awarded to an essay that exemplifies a high standard of quality and original basic income research. BIS Prize Essays are published in a forthcoming issue of Basic Income Studies.

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