

Global Faculty Initiative

The Faculty Initiative seeks to promote the integration of Christian faith and academic disciplines by bringing theologians into conversation with scholars across the spectrum of faculties in research universities worldwide.

Preview Response

VIRTUES / BUSINESS

lan Harper

Dean and Director of the Melbourne Business School

Co-Dean of the Faculty of Business and Economics at the University of Melbourne

Member of the Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia

I very much enjoyed reading Jennifer's Preview of *The Virtues*.

I related most directly to her discussion in the context of my work as a public policy economist. Here I regularly bump up against the limits of purely technical analysis and reach for (primarily) the cardinal virtues in making a decision, for example, about the setting of interest rates or minimum wages. It's one thing to interpret the predictions/forecasts of formal models but quite another to discern what is just or prudent, let alone courageous! And, of course, the Christian virtues overarch my thinking as I pray about how best to love my neighbour in applying the technical discipline of economics to reaching *virtuous*, i.e., loving, hopeful and charitable, public policy decisions.

For more information

www.globalfacultyinitiative.net