Objective
In the last decade, household debt has been rising, relative to income, in several industrialized countries. At the micro level, household surveys report an increase in the number of families who are unable to save, or who experience some other kind of financial or economic stress. This is sometime related to a decrease in self-reported happiness. This evidence may be at odds with growth in output, which has not decelerated and has actually increased in some countries. Consumption and saving patterns may also be related to changes in the distribution of income, which has been substantial, although with different characteristics across countries.

So, was Keynes entirely wrong in his “Economic possibilities for our grandchildren”, where he predicted in 1930 that “the economic problem may be solved, or be at least within sight of solution, within a hundred years”, through income growth enjoyed by a growing share of the population, and resulting in a decrease of working hours and an increase in leisure?

The aim of the conference is to collect state-of-the-art contributions on these issues, at the micro, macro and policy levels. Sections will be devoted to problems related to how we measure well-being, poverty and happiness, to differences between perceived and effective well-being, to how well-being is related to income growth and the distribution of income, to the role of economic policy.

Papers on these or related topics are welcome. Authors are free to submit more than one paper for different sessions. If you wish to organize a session (4 papers on the same topic) please contact the organizing committee. A discussant will be assigned to each paper. All papers will be distributed through the conference website. A selection of papers will be published in the conference proceedings.

Deadlines
Paper proposals, including an abstract and JEL codes, should be submitted by email no later than June 30th, 2008. Papers accepted for the conference should be submitted no later than September 1st, 2008.

Location
The conference will be held in Cassino, which is located half-way between Rome and Naples. We will provide transportation to/from Rome airport. All participants will be required to provide for
their own expenses; details on accommodation opportunities at special rates will be provided on the conference web site.

**Registration and Conference Fee**
You may register on the conference web site, or directly at the conference. There is a Conference fee of €150, which will cover for all meals and coffee breaks, and for conference materials.

**Scientific Committee**
*Philip Arestis*, University of Cambridge & Levy Economics Institute  
*Marina Bianchi*, Università di Cassino  
*Dimitri B. Papadimitriou*, Levy Economics Institute  
*Maurizio Pugno*, Università di Cassino  
*Gennaro Zezza*, Università di Cassino & Levy Economics Institute

For additional information please contact:  
Gennaro Zezza  
zezza@unicas.it  
Tel +39 0776 2994641  
Fax. +39 0776 2994834