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Contracting & Organizations Research Institute

The Contracting and Organizations Research Institute (CORI) is an interdisciplinary research institute dedicated to the study of the organization and structure of economic enterprise and of the effects of legal, political, social, and economic institutions on the structure and performance of economic organizations. CORI was founded in 2000 to encourage and enable empirical research on contracting and organizational structure, drawing on such fields as economics, law, business, and related social sciences.

Ronald Coase (1910-2013)

Professor Ronald Coase died yesterday (Sept 2) at the age of 102. Coase received the [Nobel Prize in Economic Science in 1991](#) for his seminal works in economics and law. Coase was directly inspirational for the founding of CORI and supported it with his time and financial support for CORI's first several years. Coase's 2001 lecture at Missouri (see the photo to the right) explained the importance of the type of work CORI is about-- supporting empirical research on how businesses structure their business relationships. In his address Coase stated, "We need empirical work which actually changes the way we look at the problem." The text of his lecture is available [here](#).

Even at age 102, Coase was actively involved in scholarly research and was making plans to visit China and to launch a new journal. The dismal science is a bit more dismal with his passing, but his legacy lives on for those who continue to question and to change the way we look at the problem. A fuller reflection on Professor Coase's work is [available here](#).

"Elgar Companion to Transaction Cost Economics"

CORI Associate Director Dr. Peter Klein and Director Dr. Michael Sykuta recently edited a new volume on transaction cost economics, which provides a review of the theory's origins, its influence on a range of research fields, and some critiques. [The Elgar Companion to Transaction Cost Economics](#) will be of particular interest to practitioners of business law and antitrust, corporate executives and management consultants. Additionally, academic researchers, scholars and students of economics, business and law will find it an invaluable reference.



Ronald Coase delivers the inaugural CORI Lecture at MU in 2002.