



# This Economist Is on his Game

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## FACULTY PROFILE



Larry Samuelson, the A. Douglas Melamed '67 Professor of Economics, is an expert in microeconomic theory, game theory, repeated games, and the evolutionary foundations of economic behavior. At Yale's Cowles Foundation in Research Economics, he conducts groundbreaking research while teaching courses popular with both undergraduates and graduate students.

Samuelson is widely known for his unconventional ways of thinking about economics. "Economic theory has long emphasized impersonal market forces," he says. "My work seeks to inject a more personal element into economic theory." Using game theory as a research tool, Samuelson studies strategic interactions in which many individuals have an impact on the outcome and recognize how their actions affect others. He also looks at how people use personalized relationships, as opposed to anonymous markets, to allocate resources. Samuelson is the author of two books, *Evolutionary Games and Equilibrium Selection* and *Repeated Games and Reputations: Long-Run Relationships*, with George J. Mailath, and many articles and book chapters. A fellow of the Econometric Society, he is coeditor of *Econometrica* and serves on the editorial boards of several prestigious academic journals.

Samuelson came to Yale 2007, following a seventeen-year tenure at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and was named the inaugural A. Douglas Melamed '67 Professor of Economics. "I am honored not only to be the first holder of the Melamed chair, but to be a part of a University that attracts such selfless support from its alumni," Samuelson said. "This type of generous support plays a critical role in keeping the Department of Economics at Yale in the forefront of both research and teaching."

Endowed professorships are an important resource at Yale, providing the essential tools to recruit and retain faculty members like Larry Samuelson. To learn more about ways to support Yale's faculty, please visit [www.yale.edu/yaletomorrow](http://www.yale.edu/yaletomorrow) or call 800.395.7646.

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—Larry Samuelson