**CURRENT ISSUES IN
INDUSTRIAL ECONOMICS**

CURRENT ISSUES IN ECONOMICS

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Series Editor's Preface

As I said in the Preface to *Current Issues in International Trade*, which was the pilot to the *Current Issues* series, the reason for its creation was the difficulty of finding suitable references on 'frontier' subjects for undergraduate students. Many of the issues which excite professional economists and which dominate the journal literature take quite a time to percolate down into texts, hence the need for a volume of *Current Issues*. The reception which *Current Issues in International Trade* received persuaded me that it may be worth doing something similar for the other subject areas we teach. Macmillan agreed with my judgement, hence the series. Thus each volume in this series is intended to take readers to the 'frontier' of the particular subject area. Each volume contains nine or ten essays, one of which provides a general overview whilst the remainder are devoted to current issues.

As series editor the main challenge I faced was finding suitable editors for each of the volumes – the best people are generally the busiest! I believe, however, that I have been fortunate in having such an impressive and experienced team of editors with the necessary skills and reputation to persuade first-class authors to participate. I would like to thank all of them for their cooperation and assistance in the development of the series. Like me all of them will, I am sure, hope that this series provides a useful service to undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as faculty.

Current Issues in Industrial Economics is the tenth in the series. Industrial economics is a core subject area and a prominent component of undergraduate programmes. It has also been a very fertile field for research over the last ten years, with major developments in the analysis of product differentiation, innovation, entry and game theory. Much of this work is only just beginning to

percolate into the textbooks. John Cable therefore faced a real challenge in putting together an appropriate range of topics and a suitable group of authors – a challenge which he has met admirably. The blend of topics chosen covers the range of current issues very effectively and complements *Current Issues in Microeconomics* nicely. I hope that readers find it as informative and interesting as I did.

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