Yale University Economics Professor to Present Series of Lectures

June 15, 2001. New Haven, CT

Gustav Ranis, the Henry R. Luce Director of the Yale Center for International and Area Studies, will present four lectures during a visit to Venezuela from June 19 to 26. Professor Ranis holds the Frank Altschul Chair of International Economics at Yale University.

This visit to Venezuela by Yale's top-level coordinator of international studies is in celebration of the 300th birthday of the University and comes on the heels of a successful visit to China by Yale's President Richard Levin which heralded the University's efforts to reach out to other parts of the world in the new millennium. Professor Ranis was invited by the Venezuelan Academic Community in concert with the Yale Alumni Association of Venezuela.

Professor Ranis will address several aspects of development theory and policy during his visit speaking on such topics as "Economic Growth and Human Development in Latin America" and "Decision Making in Natural Resource-Rich Countries." He will speak before the National Academy of Economic Sciences, the Economics Faculty at Carabobo University, as well as at IESA, the Institute of Higher Administration Studies. He will also speak before the Asociacion Ejecutivos alongside major U.S. businessmen and the U.S. Ambassador to Venezuela. He is to be decorated with the "Sol de Carabobo", by the Governor of the state, Henrique Fernando Salas-Romer on the occasion of his visit to Valencia.

Professor Ranis has served on the Yale faculty since 1960. He is a world renowned expert on development economics and has published extensively on development theory and policy, focusing on Latin America, Taiwan, Pakistan, Japan, and the Philippines, among others, as well as on the economic relationships between rich and poor nations. He has worked at the Ford Foundation, was Assistant Administrator for Program and Policy, Agency for International Development at the U.S. Department of State during the Johnson Administration, and served as Joint Director of the Pakistan Institute for Development Economics for three years. At Yale he served as the Director of the Economic Growth Center.

In addition to his long and distinguished career as an economist, Professor Ranis has served as the Director of Yale's Center for International and Area Studies since 1996. This Center and its affiliated faculty coordinate international activities throughout the University. During Professor Ranis' tenure at the Center its annual resources have grown from US$ 3 million to over US$ 10 million.

Professor Ranis will be the guest of Henrique Salas Romer, who is himself a Yale graduate. Mr. Salas Romer currently serves on the President's Council on International Activities, established in 2000 to advise Yale's President Levin on international issues.
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