



**USITC RD International Trade Seminar**

**Thursday, Jan. 18, 2006**

**11:30-1:00 p.m., Room 615P\*\*\*Please note new time\*\*\***

Jan. 18            "A Trade Restrictiveness Index for the United States"  
**Doug Irwin, Dartmouth**

**Abstract**

This paper calculates a variant of the Anderson-Neary (2005) trade restrictiveness index (TRI) for the United States annually from 1867 to 1961. The TRI is defined as the uniform tariff that yields the same welfare loss as existing tariffs. The import-weighted average tariff understates the TRI by about 60 percent over this period. Estimates of the static deadweight losses associated with the tariff structure are highest in the late nineteenth century (at about one percent of GDP) but fall almost continuously thereafter (to less than one-tenth of one percent of GDP by the early 1960s).

Paper will be available at the seminar

Spring 2007 seminar information and directions are posted at  
[http://www.usitc.gov/ind\\_econ\\_ana/research\\_ana/seminars/index.htm](http://www.usitc.gov/ind_econ_ana/research_ana/seminars/index.htm).

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