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Foreword

JFI special issue: Financial Structure and Monetary Policy Channels

The papers in this issue come from a conference organized by the journal along with the Centre for Economic Policy Research and CREI, Universitat Pompeu Fabra. The goal of the conference was to explore the ways in which the financial structure of the economy might influence the transmission of monetary policy for the economy. Reflecting this goal, the organizing committee was a mix of central bankers and academics: Ignazio Angeloni, Charles Bean, Xavier Freixas, Jordi Gali, Anil Kashyap, Benoit Mojon, Eric Rosengren, Anjan Thakor, and David Wilcox. My many thanks to the organizing committee for all their hard work.

The organizers were delighted that over 90 papers were submitted, and 13 were selected for presentation on July 10 and 11, 2003, in Barcelona. The 4 papers that we are publishing reflect well the themes of the conferences. In particular, these papers offer both theoretical and empirical lessons and draw on data, institutions, and regulations from different countries.

The theme of this conference is very much in line with issues on which the *JFI* is interested in encouraging substantial further research. I hope that this serves to encourage our readers to submit future papers on these topics to the journal.

Anjan V. Thakor

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