



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

EconNewsletter

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NOVEMBER 16 – NOVEMBER 20, 2015

NEWSLETTER 2015-24

SEMINAR CALENDAR

Research Seminar “Labour Economics”

Markus Pannenberg, FH Bielefeld:

*Let Bygones be Bygones? Socialist Regimes and Personalities
in Germany*

Monday November 16

16:30-18:00

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

Alexander Kriwoluzky, Universität Halle:

*Monetary-Fiscal Policy Interaction and Fiscal Inflation:
A Tale of Three Countries*

Tuesday November 17

12:15–13:45

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Forschungsseminar “Environmental Economics and Management“

Nicolas Treich, Toulouse School of Economics:

Consumption, Risk and Prioritarianism

Wednesday November 18

12:15–13:45

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

PhD Seminar

Jascha Tutt, University of Hamburg:

*The Benefits of Studying Abroad: an Analysis of Foreign
Tertiary Education on Domestic Technological Progress*

Thursday November 19

12:15–13:15

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Ralph Bayer, University of Adelaide:

*Does the Double dividend of relative auditing exist?
Experiments on corporate tax enforcement*

Thursday November 19

17:00–19:00

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Hamburg Lectures on Law & Economics

- no seminar -

HCHE Research Seminar

- no seminar -

ABSTRACTS

Research Seminar “Labour Economics”

Markus Pannenberg, FH Bielefeld:

Let Bygones be Bygones? Socialist Regimes and Personalities in Germany

Abstract:

This paper investigates the influence of political regimes on personality, using the separation of Germany into the socialist GDR and the democratic FRG and its reunification in 1990 as a natural experiment. We show that there are significant differences between former GDR and FRG residents regarding important attributes of personality (particularly the locus of control, neuroticism, conscientiousness, and openness). To understand the influence of the GDR's socialist regime on personality, we test an important channel by exploiting regional variation in the number of unofficial state-security collaborators across East German counties. Our results indicate that local surveillance intensity is indeed an important determinant of the personality of former GDR citizens. The differences in personality imply that former citizens of the GDR have economic prospects rather different from former FRG citizens and help to understand behavioral differences established in the prior literature.

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

Alexander Kriwoluzky, Universität Halle:

Monetary-Fiscal Policy Interaction and Fiscal Inflation: A Tale of Three Countries

Abstract:

We provide further evidence for the notation that the low-frequency relationship between inflation and deficits depends on the interaction between monetary and fiscal policy. To do so, we contrast the low-frequency relationship for the US with estimates for Germany and Italy from 1955-1999. While the low-frequency relationship for the US is around one during the 60's and 70's and becomes zero with Paul Volcker taking office, it is higher for Italy throughout, where it only becomes zero once the Maastricht treaty foreshadows. In contrast to that, the low-frequency relationship for Germany has been around zero throughout. Using narrative evidence, we relate these differences to the monetary and fiscal policy in place.

Forschungsseminar “Environmental Economics and Management“

Nicolas Treich, Toulouse School of Economics:

Consumption, Risk and Prioritarianism

Abstract:

In this paper, we study a canonical cake-eating problem from the precautionary savings literature commonly used in resource and climate economics. The novelty in our model is that we consider a “prioritarian” social welfare function. This leads to a distinction between ex ante and ex post prioritarian consumption rules. Under standard assumptions, there is always more current consumption under ex ante prioritarianism than under utilitarianism. Thus, a concern for equity (in the ex ante prioritarian sense) means less concern for the risky future. In contrast, there is usually less current consumption under ex post prioritarianism than under utilitarianism. We discuss the robustness of these optimal consumption rules to learning, and to more general forms of prioritarianism.

ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Miscellaneous

- We welcome Prof. Ralph-Christopher Bayer (University of Adelaide) who will visit the department throughout the whole month of November 2015. His main field of research is Behavioral Economics and he will teach a Ph.D. course on that topic and also give a talk in the microeconomics seminar. Everyone interested can get in touch with him directly via Email to ralph.bayer@adelaide.edu.au
- On Thursday, November 12, Annekathrin Krug (Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung) gives a speech on “Kann man mit Marx die aktuelle Krise erklären?” Her presentation is part of the lecture series „Wirtschafts- und Finanzkrisen aus pluraler Perspektive“, organized by the student’s initiative „Arbeitskreis Plurale Ökonomik“ and starts 6.15 p.m. at ESA B (Edmund-Siemers-Allee 1). For more information please click the link below:
<http://www.plurale-oekonomik-hamburg.de/index.php/category/ringvorlesung-2016/>

*The next EconNewsletter will be published **on Monday, November 23, 2015.***

*Editorial deadline: **Friday, November 20, 2015.***

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