



Universität Hamburg

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Fakultät Wirtschafts- und  
Sozialwissenschaften



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

# EconNewsletter

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APRIL 4 – APRIL 8, 2016

NEWSLETTER 2016-5

## SEMINAR CALENDAR

### Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Simeon Schudy, LMU München:

*I lie? We lie! Why?*

- *Experimental evidence on dishonesty in groups*

Thursday April 7

17:00–19:00

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

### Research Seminar “Labour Economics”

- *no seminar* -

### HCHE Research Seminar

- *no seminar* -

### Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

- *no seminar* -

### PhD Seminar

- *no seminar* -

## ABSTRACTS

### Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Simeon Schudy, LMU München:

*I lie? We lie! Why? - Experimental evidence on dishonesty in groups*

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#### *Abstract:*

Unethical behavior such as dishonesty, cheating, and corruption frequently occur in environments in which decisions are made by groups. Recent experimental evidence suggests that groups tend to lie more than individuals. This paper asks how the individual decision to be (dis)honest translates into the group context. Do groups lie more because they “need to” cooperate due to payoff commonalities? Do dishonest groups consist of more (dis)honest individuals? Or does communication in groups suffice to change beliefs in others’ honesty and thereby causes (dis)honest behavior? Our experimental setup excludes several likely reasons for increased lying in groups (such as better understanding of lying possibilities, eased disguise of lying in groups or other-regarding concerns) and tests specifically whether payoff commonalities among group members or communication itself increases dishonesty. We find that, compared to individual lying, the inclination to behave dishonestly is strongly increased in an anonymous group interaction (chat), even when payoff commonalities are absent. Communication also leads to more coordinated behavior and to pessimistic beliefs about others’ honesty.

## ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

### New Publications

- Maennig, W. (2016): *Preventing corruption in the planning of major sporting events: open issues*, in: Transparency International (Ed), Global Corruption Report Sport, 169-173.
- Ahlfeldt, G., . Maennig, W. und Richter, F. J. (2016): *Urban renewal after the Berlin wall: A place-based policy evaluation*, in: Journal of Economic Geography (forthcoming).
- Dräger, L., Lamla, M. J. und Pfajfar, D. (2016): *Are survey expectations theory-consistent? The role of central bank communication and news*, downloadable at <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0014292116300149>, European Economic Review, 85, 84-111.

### Miscellaneous

- Wolfgang Maennig trug am 23.3. in der Ural Federal University, Institute of Social and Political Sciences vor zum Thema:  
Mega-sport events and referenda: insights and consequences from empirical economics
- Wir begrüßen Herrn Hamza Polattimur, der am Montag, den 01.02.2016 eine PostDoc Stelle im DFG Projekt „Zeitstetige Formulierung von Dynamischen, Stochastischen Gleichgewichtsmodellen - Theorie und Anwendungsbeispiele“ angetreten hat (Professur Methoden der Volkswirtschaftslehre, Raum 2080 VMP 5).

*The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday, April 11, 2016.*

***Editorial deadline: Friday, April 8, 2016.***

**EconNewsletter**

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