



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

EconNewsletter

Editorial Contact: Michael Paetz
tel: +49 40 42838-5561; e-mail: econ.newsletter@wiso.uni-hamburg.de

NOVEMBER 20 – NOVEMBER 24, 2017

NEWSLETTER 2017-24

SEMINAR CALENDAR

Research Seminar “Labour Economics”

Andrea Weber, Central European University:

Job Displacement, Family Dynamics, and Spousal Labor Supply

Monday November 20

16:30-18:00

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

Mathias Klein, DIW:

Monetary Policy and Household (De-)Leveraging

Tuesday November 21

12:15–13:45

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Hamburg Lectures on Law & Economics

Prof. Katia Bianchini, Max Planck Institut Göttingen:

Stateless Children and the Right to a Nationality

Wednesday November 22

18:15–19:45

R. 1083a (VMP 5)

PhD Seminar

Oliver Hofmann, Universität Hamburg:

*Bargaining under Property and Liability Rules with
Asymmetric Information*

Thursday November 23

12:15–13:15

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Holger Herz, Universität Fribourg:

*Do Preferences and Biases predict Life Outcomes? Evidence
from Education and Labor Market Entry Decisions*

Thursday November 23

17:15–18:45

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

HCHE Research Seminar

- no seminar -

Forschungsseminar “Environmental Economics and Management“

- no seminar -

Sollten Sie Interesse haben, sich mit einem/r der Vortragenden zu treffen, wenden Sie sich bitte an den entsprechenden Veranstalter. Weitere Infos finden Sie auf unserer Homepage: <https://www.wiso.uni-hamburg.de/fachbereich-vwl/forschung/forschungsseminare.html>

ABSTRACTS

Research Seminar “Labour Economics”

Andrea Weber, Central European University:

Job Displacement, Family Dynamics, and Spousal Labor Supply

Abstract:

We study interdependencies in spousal labor supply and provide new empirical evidence on the added worker effect, the change in labor supply in response to an income shock to the spouse. Our focus are married couples in which the husband loses his job due to a mass layoff or plant closure using data from the Austrian Social Security Database.

Couples in our sample are relatively young and the shock hits households at crucial stages of family formation. The high volatility in wives' pre-displacement labor market careers requires a careful choice of a control group to the model the counterfactual outcome at the household level. We examine three quasi-experimental counterfactual scenarios that are potentially affected by different types of selection on unobservables. Our analysis shows that husbands' and wives' labor market responses are remarkably consistent across all three scenarios and leads to four main conclusions. First, while husbands suffer large and persistent employment and earnings losses over the first 5 years after displacement, wives' labor supply increases only moderately but persistently. Second, wives respond predominantly at the extensive margin. The implied participation elasticity with respect to the husband's earnings shock is very small, about 0.05 in the full sample and 0.08 in the sample of wives not employed at displacement. Third, in terms of non-labor market related outcomes we find a small positive effect on the probability of divorce but no effect of the husband's job displacement on fertility. Fourth, the effect of wives' labor supply responses on household income is negligible compared to the effects of unemployment insurance, which dampens especially the large initial earnings shock from job displacement. A plausible explanation for the very limited spousal labor response are gender identity norms, which prevent mothers of young children to enter the labor force.

Hamburg Lectures on Law & Economics

Prof. Katia Bianchini, Max Planck Institut Göttingen:

Stateless Children and the Right to a Nationality

Abstract:

One of the most pressing problems with respect to the avoidance of statelessness concerns securing children's right to a nationality. Children are often especially vulnerable to statelessness, or the lack of a nationality. This results from a number of reasons, such as the potential for legal conflict in attributing nationality to a newborn child, the situation of children born to migrants, or lack of birth registration. Childhood statelessness threatens access to education, to an adequate standard of living, and to social assistance, as well as to health care. In many areas childhood statelessness has also an impact on the country's development. For these reasons, a child's right to acquire a nationality is laid down in numerous international legal instruments, including the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child, the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness as well as under Council of Europe standards. Yet, new cases of childhood statelessness surface constantly around the world, raising the issue of whether international standards are adequate. This lecture will look at the scope and implementation of the right to a nationality, both generally and from the specific perspective of the avoidance of childhood statelessness. I will address the challenges to childhood statelessness through specific issues such as the attribution of nationality to foundlings and children born in a migration or displacement context. After presenting a complex legal picture, I discuss a set of propositions to address childhood statelessness.

PhD Seminar

Oliver Hofmann, Universität Hamburg:

Bargaining under Property and Liability Rules with Asymmetric Information

Abstract:

We revisit the longstanding debate about remedies in contract law and, more broadly, the choice between property or liability protection of entitlements. In a simple model of contract renegotiation with private information of the buyer about his valuation, we show that the option to breach and pay expectation damages hampers bargaining and reduces overall efficiency. In contrast to specific performance, the buyer's valuation affects both the buyer's demands and the seller's payout because damage awards reflect the buyer's valuation. This interdependency interferes with the parties' ability to determine when performance remains efficient. Our result also speaks to the alleged market-fostering effects of liability rules and property rules.

ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

Miscellaneous

- Am Institut für Recht und Ökonomik (ILE) der Universität Hamburg ist zum **01.02.2018** im Rahmen des **Forschungsprojekts "Economics of Compliance with Constitutions"** die Stelle einer Wissenschaftlichen Mitarbeiterin/eines Wissenschaftlichen Mitarbeiters zu besetzen.
Die Bewerberin/der Bewerber sollte über sehr gute volkswirtschaftliche Methodenkenntnisse verfügen. Interesse an Themen aus der Politischen Ökonomie oder der Neuen Institutionenökonomik ist ebenfalls wichtig. Nähere Informationen finden Sie in der [Ausschreibung](#). Für darüber hinausgehende Informationen wenden Sie sich bitte per E-Mail an Dr. Jerg Gutmann (jerg.gutmann@uni-hamburg.de).
Bewerbungsschluss ist der 03.12.2017.

The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday November 27, 2017.

Editorial deadline: Friday, November 24, 2017.

EconNewsletter

Department of Economics
University of Hamburg
Von-Melle-Park 5, 20146 Hamburg

To un/subscribe from/to this newsletter, please
send an e-mail to econ.newsletter@wiso.uni-hamburg.de