SEMINAR CALENDAR

Research Seminar “Labour Economics”
Manoel Bittencourt, University of Pretoria: Monday November 27
Trade Openness and Fertility Rates in Africa: 16:30-18:00
Panel-data Evidence R. 0029 (VMP 5)

HCHE Research Seminar
Dr. Tabea Bucher-Könen, MEA München: Monday November 27
Double trouble: the burden of child rearing and working on maternal mortality 16:30-18:00
R. 4011 (Esplanade 36)

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“
Philipp J. König, Deutsche Bundesbank: Tuesday November 28
Information Acquisition, Sponsor Support and (Shadow) Bank Runs 12:15–13:45
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Hamburg Lectures on Law & Economics
Dr. Miriam Frey, Universität Bayreuth: Wednesday November 29
R. 1083a (VMP 5)

PhD Seminar
Janne Kaluzca, Universität Hamburg: Thursday November 30
Emotional Reactions to Red Tape 12:15–13:15
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Research Seminar “Microeconomics”
Georg Weizsäcker, HU Berlin and DIW: Thursday November 30
Learning from unrealized versus realized prices 17:15–18:45
R. 0029 (VMP 5)
Research Seminar “Labour Economics”
Manoel Bittencourt, University of Pretoria:
*Trade Openness and Fertility Rates in Africa: Panel-data Evidence*

*Abstract:*  
Trade openness, or globalisation, is one of the new Kaldor facts of economic growth. And unified growth theory advances that the process of economic development is characterised by an increase in demand for human capital which in turn creates incentives for lower fertility rates. Bearing that in mind, we study the role of trade openness, a characteristic of economic development, on fertility in Africa during the 1962-2010 period. Contrary to expectations, the results, based on panel-data analysis, suggest that trade openness in itself is (in fact) associated with lower fertility in Africa. More interestingly, by digging deeper in our dataset the results then suggest that trade openness in manufacturing and with the former European colonial powers are strongly associated with lower fertility as well. The results are significant for the obvious reasons: lower fertility, caused in this case by openness and its technologies, knowledge diffusion and learning, implies more capital per worker, higher productivity and higher growth rates, but even more significantly because in accordance to unified growth theory they suggest that Africa is transitioning from the Malthusian epoch into sustained growth.

Hamburg Lectures on Law & Economics
Dr. Miriam Frey, Universität Bayreuth:
*Steps of Contract Enforcement: the Lawyer's Guide for the Applied Economist*

*Abstract:*  
Recent empirical literature on international trade has highlighted the importance of the quality of legal institutions for trade flows and trade patterns. Contract enforcement, usually described by one country-specific variable in empirical trade studies, appears to be specifically relevant. The aim of this paper is to critically assess the role of the enforceability of transnational contracts in empirical trade analysis. When studying international trade issues, transnational contracts on the delivery of goods and services require an interaction between the legal systems of different countries in case of a dispute. Therefore, we argue for the need to have a closer look at the distinct phases or steps of contract enforcement.
Research Seminar “Microeconomics”
Georg Weizsäcker, HU Berlin and DIW:
Learning from unrealized versus realized prices

Abstract:
Our experiments investigate the extent to which traders learn from the price, differentiating between situations where orders are submitted before versus after the price has realized. In simultaneous markets with bids that are conditional on the price, traders neglect the information conveyed by the hypothetical value of the price. In sequential markets where the price is known prior to the bid submission, traders react to price to an extent that is roughly consistent with the benchmark theory. The difference's robustness to a number of variations provides insights about the drivers of this effect.

ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

New Publications


Miscellaneous

- On Friday, December 1, Marc Buggeln, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, and Martin Daunton, University of Cambridge, will speak on Post war welfare state in Germany and UK in the PhD seminar „The state and the economy in historical perspective” (13.30-17.00, Room B 537 VMP9). Guests are very welcome.

The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday December 4, 2017.

*Editorial deadline: Friday, December 1, 2017.*

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