



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

EconNewsletter

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JUNE 17 – JUNE 21, 2019

NEWSLETTER 2019-15

SEMINAR CALENDAR

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

David Castells-Quintana, Univ. Autònoma de Barcelona:

*Climate, Urbanisation and Conflict: The Effects of Weather Shocks
and Floods on Urban Social Disorder*

Tuesday June 18

12:15–13:45

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Environmental and Development Economics

Richard Bluhm, Universität Hannover:

*Connective Financing: Chinese Infrastructure Projects and
the Diffusion of Economic Activity in Developing Countries*

Wednesday June 19

12:15–13:45

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

PhD Seminar

René Glawion, University of Hamburg:

*A general equilibrium model of earnings, income, and wealth
heterogeneity*

Thursday June 20

12:15–13:15

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Sophie Bade, Royal Holloway, University of London:

Cooperative Implementation

Thursday June 20

17:15–18:45

R. 0029 (VMP 5)

HCHE Research Seminar

- no seminar -

Research Seminar “Labour Economics”

- no seminar -

Hamburg Lectures on Law & Economics

- 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

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

David Castells-Quintana, Univ. Autònoma de Barcelona:

Climate, Urbanisation and Conflict: The Effects of Weather Shocks and Floods on Urban Social Disorder

Abstract:

In this paper, we study the effect of displacement of population into (large) cities on conflict in urban areas. In particular, we test the effect of people displaced by floods on urban social disorder, for a panel of large cities in developing countries. To do so, we use a novel dataset on floods—distinguishing those that affected large cities directly from those that occurred outside of our sample of large cities. Floods outside large cities are found to be associated with faster growth of the population in the largest city, and in turn with a higher likelihood (and frequency) of urban social disorder events. Our evidence suggests that the effects of floods on urban social disorder occur (mainly) through the displacement of population, and the “push” of people into large cities.

Environmental and Development Economics

Richard Bluhm, Universität Hannover:

Connective Financing: Chinese Infrastructure Projects and the Diffusion of Economic Activity in Developing Countries

Abstract:

How do development projects influence the geographic distribution of economic activity within low-income and middle-income countries? Existing research focuses on the effects of Western development projects on inter-personal inequality and inequality across different subnational regions. However, China has recently become a major financier of economic infrastructure in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and Central and Eastern Europe, and it is unclear if these investments diffuse or concentrate economic activity. We introduce an original dataset of geo-located Chinese Government-financed projects in 138 countries between 2000 and 2014, and analyze the effects of these projects on the spatial distribution of economic activity within host countries. We find that Chinese development projects in general, and Chinese transportation projects in particular, reduce economic inequality within and between subnational localities. Our results suggest that Chinese investments in “connective infrastructure” produce positive economic spillovers that lead to a more equal distribution of economic activity in the localities where they are implemented.

PhD Seminar

René Glawion, University of Hamburg:

A general equilibrium model of earnings, income, and wealth heterogeneity

Abstract:

We develop a general equilibrium model of earnings, income and wealth heterogeneity in continuous time. We extend existing analytical and numerical methods to solve the model. We calibrate the model to U.S. data and find that stochastic interest rates provide a mechanism to link earnings, income and wealth distributions. We use this connection to demonstrate that an increase in unemployment benefits leads to a rise in steady state wealth inequality measured by the Gini coefficient.

Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Sophie Bade, Royal Holloway, University of London:

Cooperative Implementation

Abstract:

Cooperative mechanism design uses cooperative instead of non-cooperative game forms to implement social choice functions. In line with standard implementation theory, a game form implements a social choice function, if the outcome of the social choice function at any given profile of preferences equals the solution of the game induced by the game form and the given profile of preferences. While different solution concepts for cooperative games yield different concepts of implementation, I focus on core implementation. Since core-implementable social choice functions are strategyproof and Pareto optimal, the Gibbard-Satterthwaite Impossibility Theorem applies. I therefore study core-implementability in four domains that are not afflicted by the Gibbard-Satterthwaite result: social choice with single peaked preferences, house matching, house matching with single peaked preferences and division with single peaked preferences.

ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

New Publications

- **Chen, H., Funke, M., Lozev, I. and A. Tsang (2019)**, “To Guide or Not to Guide? Quantitative Monetary Policy Tools and Macroeconomic Dynamics in China”, *International Journal of Central Banking*, forthcoming.

The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday, June 24, 2019.

Editorial deadline: Friday, June 21, 2019.

EconNewsletter

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