



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

EconNewsletter

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DECEMBER 6 – DECEMBER 10, 2021

NEWSLETTER 2021-29

SEMINAR CALENDAR

HCHE Research Seminar

[Marisa Miraldo, Imperial College London:](#)

Innovation Diffusion and Physician Networks:

Keyhole Surgery for Cancer in the English NHS

This lecture will be held in a digital format. For participation via Zoom please use the following link:

<https://uni-hamburg.zoom.us/j/66922547523?pwd=SE5pK2o3TXdJNzNLditFVWJpdk1QT09>

Monday December 6

16:30-18:00

Esplanade 36, R. 4011/13

Quantitative Economics

[John Cochrane, Stanford University:](#)

Fiscal Theory of the Price Level

This seminar will be held in a digital format. For participation via Zoom please register via the following link:

<https://uni-hamburg.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYvc-itqzgpHNvhBUWXWPX6bv3WwEHioDq5>

Tuesday December 7

16:30–17:45 (!)

Hamburg Lectures in Law and Economics

[Máximo Langer, UCLA:](#)

Migration and the Demand for Transnational Justice

This lecture will be held in a digital format. For participation via Zoom please register via the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/4u2Ez54RFa>

Wednesday December 8

18:15–19:45

Interdisciplinary Research Seminar

[Frank Hindriks, University of Groningen:](#)

Functionalism Without Relentless Optimism: The Dark Side of Institutions

This lecture will be held in a digital format. For participation via Zoom please register via the following link:

<https://www.wiso.uni-hamburg.de/en/forschung/verbundprojekte/rtg-collective-decision-making/events/register-for-irs-talk.html>

Thursday December 9

17:15–18:45

ABSTRACTS

HCHE Research Seminar

Marisa Miraldo, Imperial College London:

Innovation Diffusion and Physician Networks: Keyhole Surgery for Cancer in the English NHS

Abstract:

We examine the effect of a physician network on medical innovation using novel matched patient-physician-hospital panel data. The data include every relevant physician and all patients in the English NHS for 15 years and physicians' workplace histories for more than 20. The dynamic network arising from physician mobility between hospitals over time allows us to separate unobserved physician and hospital heterogeneity from the effect of the network. We build on standard peer-effects models by adding cumulative peer behaviour and allow for particularly influential physicians ('key players'), whose identities we estimate. We find positive effects of peer innovation take-up, number of peers, and proximity in the network to both pioneers of the innovation and key players. Counterfactual estimates suggest that early intervention targeting young, connected physicians with early take-up can significantly increase aggregate take-up."

Quantitative Economics

John Cochrane, Stanford University:

Fiscal Theory of the Price Level

Tuesday, December 7, 2021, **John Cochrane, Hoover Institution**, will give a seminar at **16.30** hrs. via Zoom. Please note the special time this week due to the different time zone. If you'd like to talk to John in a personal meeting, please **sign up** for a preferred time slot via this link:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LBkOZ9dAFGJ-vcBWHetsdCZg8p3iXcMyjWAphkufPwE/edit#gid=0>

I'm flexible regarding the time so if you'd like to have my slot, please let me know.

John will present parts of his new book with the title: "The fiscal theory of the price level".

See here for more information:

<https://www.johnhcochrane.com/research-all/the-fiscal-theory-of-the-price-level-1>

Kind regards,

Ole (Wilms)

Hamburg Lectures in Law and Economics

Máximo Langer, UCLA:

Migration and the Demand for Transnational Justice

Abstract:

Domestic courts sometimes prosecute foreign nationals for severe crimes—such as crimes against humanity, genocide, torture, and war crimes—that are committed on foreign territory against foreign nationals. What factors explain such cases? We argue that transnational justice is driven fundamentally by the political economy of migration. The movement of people across borders, as both economic migrants and refugees, exerts pressure on local governments to conduct criminal investigations and trials for crimes that occurred in other states, by and against foreign nationals. The legacy of colonialism can have an indirect effect by shaping migration decisions and the location of diaspora communities. However, the underlying driver of transnational justice is migration.

Interdisciplinary Research Seminar

Frank Hindriks, University of Groningen:

Functionalism Without Relentless Optimism: The Dark Side of Institutions

Abstract:

According to functionalism, certain things persist because they perform a function. This is meant to be an explanatory claim about how the effects that an entity has reinforce its functioning. But functionalism is often criticized for being overly optimistic, as if things with a function are always good or valuable. Here, I respond to this criticism by distinguishing realistic functionalism from optimistic functionalism as views about social structures. And I argue that social institutions can persist even if they are objectively bad, for instance harmful or unjust. Their function is to generate subjective benefits and they can do so irrespective of the objective value they have. Thus, realistic functionalism avoids the relentless optimism of its rival. In fact, it can accommodate the dark side of institutions. In the process of defending these claims, I explain when and why functionalism provides for a respectable kind of explanation.

The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday, December 13, 2021.

Editorial deadline: Friday, December 10, 2021.

EconNewsletter

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