



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

EconNewsletter

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JUNE 27 – JULY 1, 2022

NEWSLETTER 2022-16

SEMINAR CALENDAR

Quantitative Economics

[Marek Giebel, Copenhagen Business School:](#)

Tuesday June 28

*Fiscal Transparency and the Social Benefits of Government Funded
Research*

12:15–13:30

The seminar is held in a digital format. For participation via Zoom please register via the following link:

<https://uni-hamburg.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYvc-itqzgpHNVhBUWXWPX6bv3WwEHioDq5>

Hamburg Lectures in Law and Economics

[Anastasia Litina, University of Macedonia:](#)

Wednesday June 29

*The Implications of the Populations Exchange between Greece and Turkey
on Literacy and Employment Rates of the Native Population*

18:15–19:45

R. 110, Johnsallee 35

This seminar will also be live streamed. To register for **Online participation** via Zoom please click the following link and fill in the necessary information: <https://forms.office.com/r/2xKLpqVJKR>

You will then receive an Email with the access link prior to the lecture.

Microeconomics Seminar and Interdisciplinary Research Seminar

[Yves Zenou, Monash University:](#)

Thursday June 30

Centrality-Based Spillover Effects

17:15–18:45

R. S28 (VMP 9)

The seminar is also live-streamed on Zoom. Please see

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

if you want to register for the seminar.

ABSTRACTS

Quantitative Economics

Marek Giebel, Copenhagen Business School:

Fiscal Transparency and the Social Benefits of Government Funded Research

Abstract:

I investigate the effect of increasing transparency on the social benefits of government funded research. For this purpose, I exploit two laws enacted in the United States related to government funding and improved information provision. Using these, I analyze how the change in information disclosure affects follow-on innovation of government funded research. The results show an elevated degree of innovation building on federally funded patents after fiscal transparency increased due to additional information. I find that this effect could be attributed to a decrease in search costs and asymmetric information. Further results imply that patents funded by procurement contracts show a stronger increase in follow-on innovation compared to those funded by grants. Considering the actual amount awarded, I find a positive relationship and that patents from projects with a medium level of funding benefit in particular. These results imply a positive effect of more transparency on innovation.

Hamburg Lectures in Law and Economics

Anastasia Litina, University of Macedonia:

The Implications of the Populations Exchange between Greece and Turkey on Literacy and Employment Rates of the Native Population

Abstract:

We exploit a major historical event for Greek history, i.e., the 1923 population exchange between Greece and Turkey, to explore the how the interplay of native and refugee population affected native literacy, employment and divorce rates shortly after the refugee inflow as well as modern day norms towards women in Greece. Our findings suggest that in the short-run, while the presence of the refugee population has led to an increase in the literacy of both men and women, men experienced stronger effects. Similarly from employment the native male population shifted from agriculture to industry, transportation, stock farming and trade sectors whereas no effect is detected for the female population. As for divorce rates, they increased comparatively more for women compared to men. Interestingly, taking into account the norms of the era, which were overly conservative for women, those effects were non-trivial and gave rise to new dynamics. Various mechanisms could explain these results, including an increase in the growth rate of Greece driven by the presence of skilled and cheap labour force, competition between natives and refugees and positive externalities of the presence of refugee population who were on average more educated and skilled compared to natives.

Microeconomics Seminar and Interdisciplinary Research Seminar

Yves Zenou, Monash University:

Centrality-Based Spillover Effects

Abstract:

We study the role of social network structure in peer-to-peer educational spillovers by leveraging a two-year field experiment in primary schools in rural Bangladesh. We implement a randomized educational intervention – the provision of free after-school tutoring – offered to a random subsample of students in treatment schools. We exploit the experimentally induced across-classroom variation in the centrality of treated students to provide the first causal evidence of centrality-based spillover effects. We find that a one standard deviation (SD) increase in the average centrality of treated students within a classroom leads to improvements in the test scores of their untreated classmates of 0.57 SD in English and 0.62 SD in math. Further evidence indicates that more central students have higher academic ability, better social skills, and interact more with classmates on matters related to learning, which suggests that they can be more influential for their peers. In addition, we offer the private tutoring intervention to the most central students on a separate group of schools. We find that this targeted approach provides larger educational benefits both for treated and untreated students than the policy that treats a random subset of students. We conclude that targeting the most central students in a network to offer an intervention can be a cost-effective way to improve the educational outcomes of all students in a classroom.

ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

New Publications

- **Maennig, W. and Mueller, S. Q. (2022)**, “Consumer and employer discrimination in professional sports markets - New evidence from Major League Baseball”, *International Journal of Sport Finance*, forthcoming.

Miscellaneous

- **Workshop Decision-Making and the Rule of Law, 8-9 July**

We are delighted to announce the forthcoming of the *Workshop Decision-Making and the Rule of Law* held on 8-9 July 2022 in the Graduate Program "Collective Decision-Making". The international workshop brings together scholars from different disciplines to discuss their latest research on the relationship between the rule of law and collective decision-making.

A limited number of seats is available for guests. If you would like to register for the workshop please send an email to cdm.wiso@uni-hamburg.de.

For more information <http://uhh.de/wiso-cdm-workshop2022>

▪ **Visiting scientist at the department of economics**

Prof. Hong Hwang from the National Taiwan University (NTU) will visit our department throughout the month of July (host: Gerd Muehlheusser) as part of the strategic partnership between the UHH and the NTU. His research areas are in applied micro, in particular IO and trade. Whoever wants to meet with him can contact him directly via email (echong@ntu.edu.tw) or drop by his office (VMP 5, R. 2004).

The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday, July 4, 2022.

Editorial deadline: Friday, July 1, 2022.

EconNewsletter

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