



NEWSLETTER 2017-21

CALENDAR:

Departmental Seminar

Till Stowasser (LMU Munich)

Power Politics: Electoral Cycles in German Electricity Prices

Monday, October 23

16:30–18:00

VG H26

IOS Seminar

Kamila Cygan-Rehm (FAU Erlangen-Nürnberg)

Do working hours affect health? Evidence from statutory workweek regulations in Germany

Tuesday, October 24

13:30–15:00

WiOS 109 Landshuter Str. 4

Center of Finance Seminar I

Prof. Dr. Armin Schwienbacher (SKEMA Business School Lille)

The Information Content of Non-Binding Investment

Commitments: Lessons from Equity Crowdfunding

Wednesday, October 24

12:00–13:00

VG 2.35

Center of Finance Seminar II

Prof. Dr. Armin Schwienbacher (SKEMA Business School Lille)

The Narcissism of Crowdfunding Entrepreneurs

Wednesday, October 24

16:30–17:30

VG H26

Economic and Social History Seminar

Michael Rösser (Erfurt)

Von Ostafrika nach Eurasien? Deutsche Bauunternehmen zwischen kolonialem Eisenbahnbau und geopolitischer Planungsphantasie während des Ersten Weltkrieges

Wednesday, October 25

18:00–20:15

VG 1.30

Nobel Lecture

The *Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel* 2017 was awarded to Richard H. Thaler "for his research on psychology behind economic decisions". This lecture aims at explaining the meaning of the laureate work.

Thursday, October 26
18:00–19:00
VG H24

ABSTRACTS:

Departmental Seminar

Till Stowasser

Power Politics: Electoral Cycles in German Electricity Prices

(joint work with Florian Englmaier, Elisabeth Hinreiner, and Andreas Roider)

Abstract: We provide evidence that German public energy providers, over which municipality-level politicians hold substantial sway, systematically adjust the pricing of electric energy in response to local electoral cycles. The documented pattern is in line with both, an artificial reduction in prices before an election that needs to be countermanded by future price increases, and an artificial postponement of market-driven price increases until after the election is over.

IOS Seminar

Kamila Cygan-Rehm

Do working hours affect health? Evidence from statutory workweek regulations in Germany

Abstract: This study estimates the causal effect of working hours on health. We deal with the endogenous labor supply by exploiting exogenous variation in working hours from statutory workweek regulations in the German public sector. Using individual panel data, we run two-stage least squares regressions controlling for unobserved heterogeneity. We find adverse consequences of increased working hours for self-assessed health and the number of doctor visits. These effects are mainly driven by women and parents of minor children who generally face heavier constraints in organizing their workweek.

Economic and Social History Seminar

Michael Rösser

Von Ostafrika nach Eurasien? Deutsche Bauunternehmen zwischen kolonialem Eisenbahnbau und geopolitischer Planungsphantasie während des Ersten Weltkrieges

Abstract: Die Zentralbahn im kolonialen „Deutsch-Ostafrika“ war eines der größten Infrastrukturprojekte der deutschen Kolonialgeschichte. Finanziert durch die Deutsche Bank wurden die Bauarbeiten von den Firmen Philipp Holzmann und MAN mit Baumaterialien der Firma Krupp zwischen 1905 und 1914 durchgeführt. Auch während des Ersten Weltkrieges wurde in Ostafrika an zusätzlichen Eisenbahnbauteilen gearbeitet. Zeitgleich arbeiteten sowohl Holzmann als auch MAN in den besetzten Ost- und Westgebieten in Europa am Wiederaufbau zerstörter Infrastruktur unter den Regularien des sogenannten „Kolonialvertrages“. Im Rahmen des geopolitisch-wirtschaftlichen Denkens der Zeit entwarf MAN zudem Erschließungspläne Eurasiens von teilweise kolonialem Charakter. Obwohl von einem Transfer deutscher Kolonialpolitik nach Europa kaum gesprochen werden kann, ergänzen die genannten Indizien die Geschichte des deutschen Kolonialismus um ein weiteres Detail.

TALKS AND PRESENTATION:

On August 24, **Elisabeth Hinreiner** presented her paper "Power Politics: Electoral Cycles in German Electricity Prices" (joint with Florian Englmaier, Andreas Roider and Till Stowasser) at the 2017 annual meeting of the European Economic Association (EEA) in Lisbon.

On September 6, **Stephan Huber** presented his papers "Indicators of Product Sophistication and Factor Intensities: Measurement Matters" and "Labor Market Rigidity and the Factor Content of Disaggregated Trade Patterns" at the 2017 annual meeting of the German Economic Association (Verein für Socialpolitik) in Vienna.

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Editorial deadline for Newsletter No. 2017-22:
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