



ALFRED-WEBER-INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN
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Upcoming Seminars

Monday, 27.6.2016

Departmental Seminar

17.15-18.15

AWI 00.010

Florian Englmaier, LMU München

(invited by Jürgen Eichberger and Christina Gathmann)

"Incentives and Creativity in Teams -
Evidence from a Natural Field Experiment"

Tuesday, 28.6.2016

Economics and Politics Seminar

13.45-14.45

AWI 01.030

Marius Busemeyer, University of Konstanz

"Trade-offs between Social Investment and Passive
Transfers in the new Welfare State:
New Political Coalitions in European Welfare States?"

Wednesday, 29.6.2016

Internal Seminar

12.15-13.15

AWI 00.010

Johannes Diederich

"Direct Prices of Giving"

Wednesday, 29.6.2016

Macro & Econometrics Seminar

17.00-18.00

AWI 01.030

Thomas Eife

"The Shale Gas Revolution and the Recent Structural
Change in the US"

Departmental Seminar

Florian Englmaier

"Incentives and Creativity in Teams - Evidence from a Natural Field Experiment"*

In modern economies many jobs require workers to work in teams, to deal with problems they have never encountered before and to generate creative solutions. It is thus crucial to understand how incentives affect such creative team performance. However, evidence on incentive effects for creative team work is scarce. In a natural field experiment, we investigate how financial incentives in form of bonuses for particularly good performance, framed as either gains or losses, affect creative team performance. Bonuses significantly increase creative team performance while the framing of bonuses does not impact performance.

*with S. Grimm, D. Schindler, and S. Schudy

Economics and Politics Seminar

Marius Busemeyer (Universität Konstanz)

"Trade-offs between Social Investment and Passive Transfers in the new Welfare State: New Political Coalitions in European Welfare States?"

In the wake of the global economic and fiscal crisis, welfare states are now entering a new phase of austerity. At the same time, new social risks related to single parenthood or care for the elderly lead to new demands and expectations vis-à-vis the welfare state. This paper engages in an analysis of how these competing demands come into conflict with each other by using new and original survey data on individual-level attitudes and preferences towards social investments and passive social transfers in eight European countries. I find strong evidence for citizens' dislike of trade-offs. When confronted with the reality of trade-offs between different parts of the welfare state, citizens are less likely to support additional social investment in education, in particular when this would have to be financed by cutbacks in social transfers such as pensions. I also find evidence for the implication of the "new politics" school that in the era of retrenchment, distributive conflicts within existing welfare states exhibit a different political dynamic compared to the large-scale conflict about the scale and size of the welfare state. In particular, self-interest more narrowly defined as membership in particular welfare state constituency groups becomes a more important determinant of preferences when analyzing distributive conflicts within existing welfare states rather than the conflict about redistribution in general.

Internal Seminar

Johannes Diederich

"Direct Prices of Giving"*

We report the results of a framed field experiment in which workers in an online labor market are given the opportunity to donate to a charitable good. The experiment is designed to compare the response of donors to subsidies in the form of (1) rebate subsidies, (2) matching subsidies, and novelly, (3) direct reductions in the price of

giving. Rebate subsidies are used in many tax systems to encourage giving while matching subsidies and direct prices are used by many charitable organizations as fundraising instruments. Our design includes a control group and two price levels of each instrument and is carried out using both within-subjects and between-subjects treatment variation. Our results confirm previous findings that despite the functional equivalence of the different subsidy types, matches induce higher and more elastic contributions than rebates. In a similar manner, direct prices outperform rebates while the difference between direct prices and matches is largely insignificant.

*with Catherine Eckel, Timo Goeschl, and Philip Grossman

Talks and Research Visits

Zeno Enders and **David Vespermann** participated in the *International Conference on Structural Reforms in Advanced Economies* where Zeno Enders discussed the paper "Labor and Product Market Reform at the Zero Lower Bound" by Fabio Ghironi, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin, June 16-17.

Christian Conrad presented the paper "Testing for an Omitted Long-Term Component in Multiplicative GARCH Models" (joint with Melanie Schienle) at the 9th Annual Conference of the Society for Financial Econometrics, Hong Kong, June 14-17.

Axel Dreher presented his paper Workshop on "Global Challenges" jointly organized by BAFFI CAREFIN Center (Bocconi University), Centro Studi Luca d'Agliano (University of Milan), Laboratorio di Analisi Monetaria (Università Cattolica) and DEMS (University of Milan Bicocca), University of Milan Bicocca, Milan, Italy, June 13, 2016, *Aid on Demand: African Leaders and the Geography of China's Foreign Assistance*.

Jonas Dovern presented his paper "How well anchored are inflation expectations in the euro area?" (joint with Geoff Kenny) at the workshop "Low Inflation, Inflation Expectations and Uncertainty" at the ECB on June 10.

New Publications

The paper "Forecast Performance, Disagreement, and Heterogeneous Signal-to-Noise Ratios" by **Jonas Dovern** and **Matthias Hartmann** has been accepted for publication in *Empirical Economics*.

Two new regional studies of the National Welfare Index have been published:

Dorothee Rodenhäuser/Benjamin Held/**Hans Diefenbacher** (2016): Der Regionale Wohlfahrtsindex Nordrhein-Westfalen 1999 – 2013 *und* Leben in Nordrhein-Westfalen: subjektive Einschätzungen. [URL](#)

Hans Diefenbacher/Dorothee Rodenhäuser/Benjamin Held (2016): Regionaler Wohlfahrtsindex Rheinland-Pfalz 2015. [URL](#)

Jonas Dovern's paper "Beyond Fisheries: Common-Pool Resource Problems in Oceanic Resources and Services" (joint with Martin Quaas and Wilfried Rickels) has been accepted for publication by *Global Environmental Change*.

Miscellaneous

Karin Loch has left the AWI to take up a position as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Finance department of the Kellogg School of Management (Northwestern University). She receives a two-year research fellowship from the DFG. Before leaving, she got married and changed her name to Karin Stürmer.

Christina Gathmann was appointed to the Editorial Panel of "Economic Policy" for 2017-2018.

**Editorial deadline for issue 16/2016 of the newsletter:
Wednesday, June 29, 2016, 12 p.m.
newsletter@awi.uni-heidelberg.de**

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please contact the address above.