



ALFRED-WEBER-INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN
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Upcoming Seminars

Monday, 11.11.2019

Departmental Seminar

13.30-14.30

AWI 00.010

James M. Snyder, MIT

(invited by Christina Gathmann)

"The Growth of Campaign Advertising in the U.S., 1880 to 1930"

Tuesday, 12.11.2019

Guest Lecture

10.15-11.45

AWI 02.026

Hans-Ulrich Mühlenfeld, Statistik NRW

(invited by Christina Gathmann)

"Das Datenangebot der Statistischen Ämter"

Wednesday, 13.11.2019

Internal Seminar

12.15-13.15

AWI 00.010

Alvaro Chacon

(invited by Stefan Trautmann)

"Punishing misbehaving algorithms"

Departmental Seminar

James M. Snyder

"The Growth of Campaign Advertising in the U.S., 1880 to 1930"

When did candidate-centered campaign advertising take off in the U.S., and what accounts for this growth? In this paper, we analyze a novel dataset of political advertisements in newspapers between 1880 and 1930. We show that there was a sharp increase in candidates' newspaper advertising beginning around 1910. We also exploit the panel structure of this data to investigate the impact of political reforms on advertising. The results suggest that the introduction of the direct primary substantially increased the number of campaign advertisements in general election races for statewide offices and for the U.S. House. We do not find similar effects either for the Australian ballot. Also we find little evidence that the reforms affected advertising in U.S. presidential races or by political parties. Finally, candidates with previous office holding elected office did as much campaign advertising during this period as "new" candidates.

Internal Seminar

Alvaro Chacon

"Punishing misbehaving algorithms"*

There is a general agreement among researchers that algorithms predict better than humans in different fields. Nevertheless, in the last 65 years, various studies have shown the preference of people for utilizing human rather than algorithmic advice, a phenomenon that has been termed "algorithm aversion" (Dietvorst et al., 2015). Despite the growing popularity of this idea, there are different findings, and even a recent study found evidence for "algorithm appreciation" (Logg et al., 2019): People are more likely to use advice from algorithms than from humans. Most previous studies employed a cross-sectional methodology, which does not fully address how people experience repeated interactions with these decision aids during the adoption process. Using a Judge Advisor System (JAS) framework, we conduct a longitudinal study to analyze algorithm adoption in daily decisions over time. Our main finding is that inaccurate algorithms are more likely to accrue a negative reputation than inaccurate humans are.

*with Edgar E. Kausel, and Tomas Reyes

Talks and Research Visits

Zeno Enders presented the paper: "Cross-country unemployment insurance and trade-offs in international risk sharing" (joint with David Vespermann) at the EU Commission, DG ECFIN, November 6, Brussels.

Malte Faber participated at the "Panel discussion: Economists for Future- the social-ecological transformation of economy and society?" with Achim Wambach (ZEW), Henrika Meyer, (Plurale Ökonomik), Saná Strahinjc (Fridays for Future) and Caludia Kammann (Geisenheim University) in Forum Mannheim on November 1, 2019. It was organized by Network Plurale Ökonomik.

New Publications

Aguiar-Conraria, L., Magalhães, P.C. & Vanberg, "What are the best quorum rules? A laboratory investigation", *Public Choice* (forthcoming).

Miscellaneous

Valentin Lang, former PhD student of Axel Dreher, has received the *Fritz Grunebaum-Preis* from Heidelberg University for his thesis: "Political Decisions, Economic Effects: How International Organizations Govern the Globalized Economy" (2018), Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences.

In winter semester 2019/2020, Malte Faber and Marc Frick are giving jointly with Andreas Lange a block seminar on "MINE - Mapping the Interplay between Nature and Economy" at the Fakultät für Wirtschafts- und Sozialwissenschaften, Hamburg University.

Editorial deadline for issue 26/2019 of the newsletter:
Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 12 p.m.
newsletter@awi.uni-heidelberg.de