

Monday, 30. 05. 11

Newsletter 12/2011

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AWI This Week

17.15-18.45 AWI 00.010	Céline Nauges, Toulouse School of Economics "Water Hauling and Girls' School Attendance: Some New Evidence From Ghana"
Wednesday, 1. 06. 11	Departmental Workshop
17.15-18.45	Johannes Diederich, University of Heidelberg
AWI 00.010	"Giving in a Large Economy: Price vs. Non-Price Effects in a Field Experiment"

Departmental Seminar

Jour Fixe

The AWI JOUR FIXE takes place at the Lounge on a weekly basis on Mondays from 16:30 till 17:15 (i.e., just before the departmental seminar). There you will have the opportunity to meet the speaker, enjoy a coffee, and exchange news and discuss research with other members of the AWI.

Abstracts

Departmental Seminar

Céline Nauges

"Water Hauling and Girls' School Attendance: Some New Evidence from Ghana" *

Access to water at home is far from universal. In such cases, the household is burdened as the water must be brought to the house from outside, at great expense in terms of effort and time. Traditionally in developing countries, water hauling is an activity carried out largely by women and girls. The purpose of this article is to investigate further the question of water hauling and its relationship with girls' school attendance. The empirical application is based on household data from four rounds of Demographic Health Surveys made in Ghana. Using panel data techniques for fractional dependent variables, we find that a 15-minute reduction in the time to haul water would increase the proportion of girls aged 5-15 attending school by 12%. Household's wealth and household's composition are other factors explaining girls' school attendance.

* with Jon Strand

Departmental Workshop

Johannes Diederich

"Giving in a Large Economy: Price vs. Non-Price Effects in a Field Experiment"

We conduct a large-scale field experiment with 2,440 subjects in which we exogenously vary the price of contributing to the closest empirical counterpart of an infinitely large public good, climate change mitigation. We find that the price effect is robust and negative, but quantitatively weak, with a price elasticity of -0.25. Socioeconomic variables such as education, situational variables such as meteorological conditions around the time of the experiment, and attitudinal variables that can be linked to guilt and moral responsibility dominate the price effect. The latter also explain better than price arbitrage the decision of subjects to declare to be field price censored. The results provide an experimental window on the absolute and relative role of price effects on public goods contributions in a large economy and inform current attempts to build a coherent theory of charitable giving.

Talks and Research Visits

Christian Conrad has presented his paper "On the transmission of memory: inflation persistence and the Great Moderation" (joint with Simone Elmer and Menelaos Karanasos) at the 2nd Humboldt-Copenhagen Conference on Financial Econometrics, Copenhagen, May 13 and at the BMRC-QASS Brunel Conference on Macro and Financial Economics London, May 24.

Jan Schnellenbach has given a talk on "Informal Institutions in Political Economics" at the Wartensee Seminar on Evolutionary and Institutional Economics, Schloss Wartensee in Switzerland, May 21.

Wendelin Schnedler has presented the paper "Motivational Crowding Out: An Economic Rationale" (joint with Christoph Vanberg) at the European School of Management and Technology, May 5.

Wendelin Schnedler has visited the Free University Berlin, May 2-6, and has presented his paper on "Hidden action, identification and organization design" at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin, May 2.

Editorial deadline for issue 13/2011 of the newsletter: Wednesday, June 1, 2011, 12 o'clock newsletter@awi.uni-heidelberg.de

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