



ALFRED-WEBER-INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN  
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## AWI This Week

**Monday, 22.10. 12**

### Departmental Seminar

17.15-18.45

AWI 00.010

Claudia Keser, University of Göttingen

"Rich man and Lazarus – Asymmetric Endowments in Public-Goods Experiments"

## Jour Fix

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.

## Abstract

### Departmental Seminar

Claudia Keser

"Rich man and Lazarus – Asymmetric Endowments in Public-Goods Experiments"\*

In a series of experiments, we compare voluntary contributions to a public good in a symmetric setting to those in two asymmetric settings, where the players have different, randomly allocated endowments. We distinguish between a weakly and a strongly asymmetric situation. We observe that the group contribution levels are not significantly different between the symmetric and the weakly asymmetric situation. In both situations, participants tend to contribute the same percentage of their respective endowment. In the strongly asymmetric situation, where one of the players has a higher endowment than the three other players together, we observe a significantly lower group contribution level than in the other situations. The "rich" player in this situation does not contribute significantly more than the average contribution of the "poor" players and thus contributes a significantly lower percentage of his endowment. He is not as greedy as the rich man in the parable but leaves not more than "breadcrumbs" to the poor players.

\*with Andreas Markstädter, Martin Schmidt and Cornelius Schnitzler

## Talks and Research Visits

**Daniel Römer** presented the poster "On the stability of ambiguity aversion" (joint with Peter Dürsch and Benjamin Roth) at the one-day congress "Ambiguity in the Economy and in Economics" in Nijmegen, October 5.

**Jürgen Eichberger** gave a talk on "Randomization and Dynamic Consistency" during his research visit at the University of Queensland, August 27-31, and during his research visit at the University of Cergy-Pontoise, October 1-5.

**Zeno Enders** worked as a Visiting Scholar at the Research Department of the International Monetary Fund, Washington, September 24 - October 7.

**Daniel Römer** presented the paper "On the obligation to provide environmental information in the 21st century – empirical evidence from Germany" (joint with Philipp Massier) at the 29th Annual Conference of the European Association of Law and Economics (EALE) in Stockholm, September 20-22.

## New Publications

Israel Waichmann: "Equal Split in the Informal Market for Group Train Travel", (with Till Requate and Artem Korzhenevych) was accepted for publication in *Economics Letters*.

Axel Dreher: "Development (Paradigm) Failures" (with Roland Hodler), *Journal of Development Economics*, forthcoming.

## New and Leaving Staff

Kathrine Veie joined the Chair of Environmental Economics held by Professor Timo Goeschl for winter term 2012/13. She is a doctoral student at the University of Copenhagen and has previously studied economics at the EUI in Florence and University of Essex, UK. Her interests are applied (spatial) econometrics and valuation of environmental amenities using housing market transactions.



**Editorial deadline for issue 22/2012 of the newsletter:  
Wednesday, October 24, 2012, 12 o'clock  
[newsletter@awi.uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:newsletter@awi.uni-heidelberg.de)**

If you would like to receive the newsletter by email,  
please contact the address above.