



NEWSLETTER 2021-09

CALENDAR:

Economic and Social History Seminar

Julius Koschnick (London School of Economics):
Flow of Ideas: Economic Societies and the Rise of Useful Knowledge

Wednesday, April 21
 17:15-19:30
 Zoom-meeting

Departmental Seminar

Danila Serra (Texas A&M University):
Gender and Leadership in Organizations: Promotions, Demotions and Angry Workers

Monday, April 26
 16:00-17:30
 Zoom-meeting

IOS/UR Seminar (Prof. Frensch)

Eva Sierminska (Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research):
Gender Differences in Economics PhD Field Specializations with Correlated Choices

Tuesday, April 27
 15:00-16:30
 Zoom-meeting

Lunch Seminar

Denise Huber (University of Regensburg):
Shifting Responsibility - On Authority and Pro-Social Behavior

Wednesday, April 28
 12:00-13:30
 Zoom-meeting

Economic and Social History Seminar

Cormac O'Grada (University College Dublin):
Tracking the Famine Irish in New York and Beyond: Genealogy and Automated Linkage

Wednesday, April 28
 17:15-19:30
 Zoom-meeting

ABSTRACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION:

Economic and Social History Seminar

Julius Koschnick (London School of Economics):

Flow of Ideas: Economic Societies and the Rise of Useful Knowledge

Abstract: In this paper, we argue that economic societies, established during the eighteenth-century, contributed to industrialization through the diffusion of new ideas generated during the Scientific Revolution in Europe. Local societies functioned as catalyst for the translation of scientific knowledge into useful knowledge and the diffusion to interested parties. We test this hypothesis by combining information on more than 3,300 society members from the membership lists of all active economic societies in the German lands with several measures of innovation and upper-tail human capital. We find a robust positive relationship between the local member density and the number of valuable patents, exhibitors at world fair, and highly skilled mechanical workers. We further show that grid-cell pairs with members from the same society show a higher technological similarity. We interpret it as evidence that economic societies generated information networks which fostered spatial knowledge diffusion and shaped the geography of innovation.

Info:

Zoom Link: <https://uni-mannheim.zoom.us/j/9840371383?pwd=M0ltYlRrN1Z3ekdHeGMvRG05anZYUT09>

Departmental Seminar

Danila Serra (Texas A&M University):

Gender and Leadership in Organizations: Promotions, Demotions and Angry Workers

Abstract: Managerial decisions, such as promotions and demotions, please some employees and upset others. We examine whether having to communicate such decisions to employees, and knowing that employees may react badly, have a differential impact on men's and women's self-selection into leadership roles and their performance if they become leaders. In a novel laboratory experiment that simulates corporate decision-making, we find that women are significantly less likely to self-select into a managerial position when employees can send them angry messages. Once in the manager role, there is some evidence of gender differences in decision-making, but no difference in final outcomes, i.e., overall profits. Male and female managers use different language to motivate their employees, yet differences in communication styles emerge only when workers can send angry messages to managers. Finally, low-rank employees send more angry messages to female managers, and are more likely to question their decisions.

Info:

Zoom Link: <https://uni-regensburg.zoom.us/j/92822525842?pwd=YTdPY2l1RHJGK2NjSitxOEpYbU5Edz09>

Meeting-ID: 928 2252 5842

Password: 581926

IOS/UR Seminar (Prof. Frensch)

Eva Sierminska (Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research):

Gender Differences in Economics PhD Field Specializations with Correlated Choices

Abstract: We model the process of field specialization choice among beginning economists within a multivariate logit framework that accommodates single and dual primary field specializations and incorporates correlations among field specialization choices. We investigate whether gender differences in fields are driven by economic or by non-economic factors. We add field specific monetary components (salaries) and expected probabilities of academic employment, which is an additional novel aspect of this research. Conditioning on personal, economic, and institutional variables reveals that women graduate students are less likely to specialize in Labor/Health, Macro/Finance, Industrial Organization, Public Economics, and Development/Growth/International and are more likely to specialize in Agricultural/Resource/Environmental Economics.

Info:

Zoom Link: <https://ios-regensburg-de.zoom.us/j/82763229407>

Lunch Seminar

Denise Huber (University of Regensburg):

Shifting Responsibility - On Authority and Pro-Social Behavior

Abstract: When it comes to pro-social behavior, individuals oftentimes point the finger at the responsibility of authorities and call for regulations instead of focusing on their individual behavior. The question arises whether the existence of regulatory authorities may hamper pro-social behavior on an individual level by shifting responsibility from the individual to the authority. To answer this question, I conduct an online experiment on the effect of the existence of a (democratic) authority and social justice beliefs on pro-social behavior. In a real donations game, the extent of pro-social behavior of two treatments is compared: one treatment with, and one without a regulation authority. To address differences in social justice beliefs, a cultural comparison between participants of a liberal (UK) and participants of a social-democratic welfare state regime (Sweden) is additionally drawn.

Info:

Zoom Link: <https://uni-regensburg.zoom.us/j/92822525842?pwd=YTdPY2l1RHJGK2NjSitxOEpybU5Edz09>

Meeting-ID: 928 2252 5842

Password: 581926

Economic and Social History Seminar

Cormac O'Grada (University College Dublin):

Tracking the Famine Irish in New York and Beyond: Genealogy and Automated Linkage

Abstract: The records of the Emigrant Savings Bank in New York City for the 1850s may be the single richest archival source on Irish America. This study uses the archive to examine the social mobility of Irish immigrants in New York City in the wake of the Great Famine. This entails linking information in the bank's ledgers to U.S. census and other records, and comparing bank's account holders with the immigrant Irish generally. A picture emerges. But the exercise raises several questions about the quality of census data and the challenges and pitfalls they pose for automated linkage algorithms currently in vogue.

Info:

Zoom Link: <https://uni-mannheim.zoom.us/j/9840371383?pwd=M0ltYlRrN1Z3ekdHeGMvRG05anZYUT09>

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email to econ.news@ur.de

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Wednesday, April 28 – 11 am

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