

**NEWSLETTER 2016-22****CALENDAR:****Departmental Seminar**

Andreas Schäfer (ETH Zürich)

Dirty history versus clean expectations: Can energy policies provide momentum for growth?

Monday, November 7

16:30–18:00

VG H26

IOS Seminar

Stephan Huber (University of Regensburg)

Labor Standards and Disaggregated Bilateral Trade Flows

Tuesday, November 8

13:30–15:00

WiOS 109 (Landshuter Str. 4)

Economic and Social History Seminar

Clàudia Kirchner-Vives (University of Regensburg)

Die spanische Post zu Zeiten Maffeo de Tassis (1519-1535)

Wednesday, November 9

18:00–20:15

PT 1.0.6

ABSTRACTS:**Departmental Seminar**

Andreas Schäfer

Dirty history versus clean expectations: Can energy policies provide momentum for growth?

(joint work with Lucas Bretschger)

Abstract: We study the impact of economic policy on the importance of history and expectations for the macroeconomic performance of an economy. In our model the energy mix is based on the conversion of heterogeneous energy sources. Markups over marginal costs are endogenous so that the marginal revenue product of capital becomes non-monotonic in capital. We derive multiple steady states and identify regions in which initial conditions are insufficient as a selection criterion for development. In these situations, pure expectations determine the equilibrium selection process which is crucial for long-run performance. Energy policy affects the interplay between history and expectations by shifting the region where expectations matter and by affecting the location of the equilibria in the dirty and the clean economy. We find that taxes and subsidies should be used simultaneously to guide an energy transition. We argue that expectations and momentum effects are important for the energy transition because they decrease policy costs and thus raise political acceptance.

IOS Seminar

Stephan Huber

Labor Standards and Disaggregated Bilateral Trade Flows

Abstract: The linkage of labor standards and international trade has been discussed a lot in research on law and economics. The awareness that both issues cannot be discussed separately were boosted recently by the public interest concerning the free trade agreements CETA and TTIP. However, evidence on the impact of labor standards on bilateral trade flows is rare. We review this literature, discuss its ambition and econometric challenges. Moreover, we offer an empirical approach to investigate the linkage with bilateral and disaggregated global trade data. In particular, we are interested in how ILO labor market conventions determine the network of global trade.

Economic and Social History Seminar

Clàudia Kirchner-Vives

Die spanische Post zu Zeiten Maffeo de Tassis (1519-1535)

Abstract: Das Ankommen der Habsburger in Spanien, das auch mit den Tassis und vor allem Maffeo de Tassis verbunden ist, stellt eine neue politische, organisatorische und wirtschaftliche Dimension zwischen den Herrschern und dem Oberpostmeister dar. Im Königreich Kastilien und unter der Krone Aragoniens wurde versucht, das königliche, städtische und händlerische Nachrichtensystem unter der Leitung der Tassis zu verbinden. Aus den umfangreichen Gehaltsabrechnungen der Boten und Kuriere lassen sich Merkmale der königlichen Post dieser Zeit in ganz Spanien erkennen. Diese betreffen die Entwicklung der Aufträge, deren Erledigungsgeschwindigkeit, deren Auftragsgeber und Empfänger sowie die Art der Sendung. Parallel zur königlichen Post existierten die Stadtkuriere, die Händlerpost oder die Post mit der neuen Welt. Die Tassis versuchten mehrmals, diese zu übernehmen, jedoch blieb es bei einem jahrzehntelangen Konflikt.

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