



## NEWSLETTER 2018-10

### CALENDAR:

#### Departmental Seminar

Monika Schnitzer (LMU Munich):  
*Universities and Science-Based Innovation in the Private Sector*

Monday, May 07  
 16:30–18:00  
 VG H26

#### IOS Seminar

Florian Freund (Johann-Heinrich von Thünen- Institute,  
 Braunschweig):  
*Losing Preferential Access to Third Countries after Brexit  
 – What is at stake?*

Tuesday, May 08  
 13:30–15:00  
 WiOS 109 (Landshuter Str. 4)

#### Lectures in Leadership

Jens Neundorff von Enzberg (Intendant at the theatre of  
 Regensburg):  
*Kann man Künstler führen?*

**Registration required**  
 Tuesday, May 08  
 18:00  
 D001 (OTH Regensburg)

#### Lunch Seminar

Tommaso Reggiani (Masaryk University, Brno):  
*"We have good news!" Media Negativity Bias and Tax  
 Compliance*

Wednesday, May 09  
 12:00–13:30  
 VG 2.35

**ABSTRACTS:****Departmental Seminar**

Monika Schnitzer

*Universities and Science-Based Innovation in the Private Sector*

*Abstract:* This paper shows that expanding a university by hiring more professors increases science-based innovation in the local private sector. To establish causality we use data on newly hired professors for a German university, along with data on the runners-up for the same position. When a new professor is hired, the patents of local companies start to cite her work relatively more than those of runners-up, and regional patents become more similar to her scientific articles. Furthermore, patent classes associated with the new professor start to grow relatively more. At face value, our estimates imply that a new professor is responsible for corporate science-based innovation with a value of more than one million dollars per year. The change in regional science-based innovation is driven primarily by PhD graduates who move to the private sector. This suggests that universities produce not only scientific research but also the absorptive capacity necessary for corporate science-based innovation.

**IOS Seminar**

Florian Freund

*Losing Preferential Access to Third Countries after Brexit – What is at stake?*

*Abstract:* A pending question concerns the UK's future status of TAs that have been negotiated between the EU and third countries. Legally those contracts are only valid for EU members and leaving the EU while retaining the status quo enshrined in the TAs would contradict with the MFN principle. In order to retain TAs, the UK will have to re-negotiate these trade deals - a difficult task given that the EU has negotiated 36 TAs with 58 different countries. In this regard, it is likely that UK and third countries would just apply MFN tariffs on each other's imports to comply with WTO rules. In this paper we are taking a closer look into the economic consequences of this scenario. This is important since we lack an understanding of how significant these effects might be relative to the changing trade environment vis-à-vis the EU. The results indicate that the effects with third countries are indeed quite large and add up to one fourth of the total (trade policy induced) loss in GDP in the UK, whereas three fourth of the loss is induced by imposing tariffs with the EU. Additionally, there are interesting trade diversion effects. For example, it would be beneficial for the United States (no TA with EU) if the UK and Canada (TA with EU) impose MFN tariffs on each other's imports as a consequence of the Brexit.

**Lunch Seminar**

Tommaso Reggiani

(joint work with Miloš Fišar and Jiří Špalek)

*"We have good news!" Media Negativity Bias and Tax Compliance*

*Abstract:* We study the effect of the Media Negativity Bias on tax compliance. The Media Negativity Bias is defined as the systematic tendency of media to focus on negative news. We design a framed laboratory experiment to analyze how the systematic exposure to real negative vs. positive news affects subjects' compliance in a repeated taxation game. Resembling the real world setting, experimental manipulations are based on news tickers running on subjects' screens during a taxation game. News tickers report about real media news focusing on public policy/finance issues. Employing a between-subjects design, we contrast tax compliance outcomes under three different conditions: neutral, positive and negative news bias. We found that systematic provision of positive news significantly increases tax compliance. This

result calls for a more balanced and pluralistic information provision. The dissemination of positive news sustains tax morale.

## TALKS AND PRESENTATION:

**Andreas Roider** presented the paper "Whistleblower Protection: Theory and Experimental Evidence" (joint with Lydia Mechtenberg and Gerd Muehlheusser) at the 2018 International Industrial Organization Conference (IIOC) in Indianapolis on April 21, 2018.

## SAVE THE DATE:

Next **Lectures in Leadership** with Jens Neundorff von Enzberg: Tuesday, May 08, 2018 at 18:00.  
Details at <http://www.roots-lecture.de/>.

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Editorial deadline for Newsletter No. 2018-11:  
Wednesday, May 09 – 11 am

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