

**NEWSLETTER 2019-14****CALENDAR:****Departmental Seminar**

Valerie Karplus (MIT):

Closing the energy efficiency gap in industrial firms: The role of management practices

Monday, June 24

16:30–18:00

H25

IOS Seminar

Miriam Frey (Universität Bayreuth):

Order Matters: Standardize and Interact or Interact and Standardize?

Special Time

Tuesday, June 25

14:00–15:30

WiOS 109 (Landshuter Str. 4)

ABSTRACTS:

Departmental Seminar

Valerie Karplus

Closing the energy efficiency gap in industrial firms: The role of management practices

Abstract: We study the relationship between general and specialized management practices and energy use outcomes in machine components manufacturing firms in Shandong Province, China. First, we present results from a baseline survey that show electricity use intensity (electricity use divided by output) declines as management score increases, consistent with studies in other settings. However, cost is reduced more than energy: moving from the 25th to 75th percentile on management score is associated with a reduction in electricity intensity of 17% in value terms (electricity expenditure divided by real output value) but only an 8% reduction in physical terms (electricity use in kilowatt-hours divided by real output value). Second, we differentiate between general management practices and energy management practices, and show that firms that score highly on energy management also tend to have strong general management practices, but not necessarily the reverse. Third, in preliminary results from a randomized controlled trial, we find evidence of complementarity between the adoption of energy management practices and the adoption of technical recommendations, and show that treatment firms realize statistically-significant reductions in their imputed unit energy price, but not in the quantity of energy used. Our results suggest that management practices may help firms to save money but, in the absence of additional pressure, physical energy savings may be limited.

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