



PhD – Workshop Series in Advanced Quantitative Methods in Economics & Finance

The School of Economics & Finance of the University of St Andrews is pleased to announce that the first event of the 2nd PhD – Workshop Series in Advanced Quantitative Methods in Economics & Finance is scheduled for Monday 18th January 2010.¹

The Workshop Series serves as a vehicle to provide additional training to young researchers willing to develop their skills at an advanced level and to apply them in various fields. International scholars present a portfolio of techniques. Young researchers have the opportunity to present and discuss their own research, exchange ideas, interact with the guest lecturer and participate in discussions.

The Workshop Series is mainly sponsored by SIRE and to a lesser extent GRADskills.

Workshop Series Aims and Objectives

The Workshop Series seeks to develop clarity in the conceptualisation of the research process. It especially encourages the use of rigorous techniques. It raises researchers' awareness of their use in various fields. It promotes efforts to look for problems in the real world which can be solved by using these techniques.

The Workshop Series aims at developing the presentation skills of the participants. They are encouraged to present their own work and interact with the guest lecturers. It also fosters networking between young researchers from various fields.

Workshop Series Structure and Content

The Workshop Series consists of an Inaugural Event and four intensive workshops held by renowned experts coming from inside and outside Scotland. It provides a forum of discussion of quantitative methods and their applications in economics and finance.

Each workshop has two lectures on specific techniques given by the guest lecturer. Some PhD students can present case studies applying these techniques issued from their own work or the literature. There is time for a special Question and Answer session in which participants can ask any questions (basic questions, recommended articles and books, problems with own research... etc) related to the seminar topic. Questions can also be sent via e-mail prior to the Workshop Series e-mail address: seminar.network@st-andrews.ac.uk.

The two lectures are podcasted. Lectures notes and guest speakers' presentations will be made available from the SIRE website.

¹ Information about the first Series:

http://economicsnetwork.ac.uk/events/phd_seminars.htm

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dr Paul Elhorst is Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. Previously he was Assistant Professor of Regional Science at the University of Groningen, and also Economist at the Agricultural Economics Research Institute (LEI) in the Hague. He has degrees in Economics (PhD, University of Amsterdam) and Econometrics (MSc, University of Amsterdam). He was awarded the Martin Beckmann Prize for the best paper in Papers in Regional Science 2007 (Jury: Masahija Fujita, Jean Paelinck, John Quigley, Jouke van Dijk). He is Educational Coordinator of the Bachelor and Master Economics at the University of Groningen and member of the Editorial Board of Eurasian Review of Econometrics, Papers in Regional Science and Letters in Spatial and Resource Sciences. His research interests lie in Spatial Econometrics and Labour Economics.

Professor George Evans's first full-time academic appointments were at the University of Stirling, Scotland, and then at Stanford University from 1981-1987. In 1983-4 he visited the London School of Economics and then in 1987 he joined the Economics Department at the LSE, where he remained until 1993. During 1993-4 he was the George Watson and Daniel Stewart Professor of Political Economy at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. In September 1994 he came to the University of Oregon as the first John B Hamacher Professor of Economics, a newly endowed Chair. He was named a College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor in 2005. From October 2007 he is also Part Time Professor of Economics and Finance, University of St Andrews, Scotland. His research interests lie in the role of expectations and learning in business cycles, macroeconomic policy, and asset markets.

Professor Russell Davidson holds the Canada Research Chair in Economics at McGill University in Canada. He also teaches at GREQAM in Marseilles in France and previously taught for many years at Queen's University in Canada. He has a PhD in Physics from the University of Glasgow and a PhD in Economics from the University of British Columbia. He is a Fellow of the Econometric Society and the author of many scientific papers. He is the co-author with J. G. MacKinnon of *Estimation and Inference in Econometrics* (OUP, 1993) and *Econometric Theory and Methods* (OUP, 2004).

Professor Kaushik Mitra did his BSc and MSc at the University of Calcutta before obtaining his PhD from Cornell University. He was previously a lecturer in the University of York and, before arriving at St Andrews, Professor at Royal Holloway College, University of London. He is currently the Director of Postgraduate Studies (Research) at St Andrews University. His research interests lie in Macroeconomics and Monetary Economics.

Professor Bernt Øksendal is Professor of Mathematics at the University of Oslo, Norway. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the Institute of Finance and Management Science, Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration (NHH), Bergen. From 2005 he holds the Chair of the European Science Foundation program "Advanced Mathematical Methods in Finance (AMaMeF)". Starting this year he is also chairing the new ERC Advanced Research project "Innovations in Stochastic Analysis and Applications (Innostoch)". His research interests lie in stochastic control, stochastic differential games and asymmetric information, stochastic differential equations and applications, mainly to finance and biology.

PARTICIPANTS

It is assumed that each participant has prior knowledge of quantitative methods. Participants must be either Post-Doctoral Fellow or PhD Student actively working on a research project involving quantitative techniques. Participants from the fields of mathematics, statistics, biology, geography, economics and finance are welcome.

How to Participate?

St Andrews PhD Students/ St Andrews Young researchers

If you wish to book a place, please visit the GRADskills website: www.st-andrews.ac.uk/GRADskills, the Series events are listed under the category "Research Skills & Techniques" on both the Postgrad list of courses and the Postdoc list of courses.

SGPE PhD Students

Please complete and return the application form available from the SIRE website and submit it to seminar.network@st-andrews.ac.uk. Places are limited. Please book your place ASAP.

For further information, please contact the organiser:

Dr Laurence Lasselle

E-mail: seminar.network@st-andrews.ac.uk

Tel: 01334 462451

Fax: 01334 462 444

PROGRAMME

Monday 18 January, Inaugural Event – 9.30am – 11am – Room F2 in the School of Economics & Finance

The event will head off with a short introduction and objectives of the Workshop Series given by Dr Lasselle.

The Inaugural Lecture will be delivered by Professor Mitra on "What Quantitative Methods does a Macroeconomist need to know".

Monday 18 January, First session – Topics in Econometrics: Spatial Panels presented by Dr Elhorst – 11.30am – 4pm – Room F2 in the School of Economics & Finance

Friday 26 March, Topics in Macroeconomics presented by Professor Evans – 10am – 4pm – room to be announced

Tuesday 6 April, Topics in Econometrics presented by Professor Davidson – 10am – 4pm – Room F2 in the School of Economics & Finance

Friday 21 May, "Malliavin calculus for Lévy processes and applications to finance" presented by Professor Øksendal – 10am – 4pm – Room F2 in the School of Economics & Finance