



SIRE Young Researchers Forum at University of Dundee



Date: Wednesday 4th November 2009 1:30-5pm and dinner afterwards
Venue: Room 2.12 Old Medical School Building, University of Dundee

Programme

- 1:30-2pm** Coffee, Tea and Snack
- 2-2:50pm** Professor Sascha Becker (University of Stirling)
Title: **Catch Me If You Can: Education and Catch-up in the Industrial Revolution**
- 2:50-3:05pm** Coffee and Tea break
- 3:05-3:55pm** Dr Yin Zhang (University of Dundee)
Title: **Multidimensional Measurement of Poverty: An Application to China**
- 3:55-4:10pm** Coffee and Tea break
- 4:10-5pm** Professor Andrew Street (University of York)
Title: **Getting out what we put in: how productive is the NHS?**
- 5:30-7pm** Speakers along with the young Scottish researchers will be taken out to dinner.

SIRE will cover reasonable travel expenses and the cost of the dinner of those young Scottish researchers who attend.

For catering purposes individuals are asked if possible to confirm if they will be attending by Wednesday 28th October and also to state whether or not they will be staying for the dinner.

This can be done by emailing Dennis Petrie at d.j.petrie@dundee.ac.uk.

Travel Details

Travel details on how to get to Dundee can be found at,

<http://www.dundee.ac.uk/general/travel/maps.htm>

The railway station is only a few minutes walk from the main University campus.

Once you are at the main campus please refer to the following campus map regarding how to get to the Old Medical School building (Building 8). The room is on level 2.

<http://www.dundee.ac.uk/general/campusmap/>

**Travel claim forms will be available at the workshop – please keep all receipts.
If you have any questions please feel free to email Dennis (d.j.petrie@dundee.ac.uk)**

Seminar Topics

Professor Sascha Becker (University of Stirling)

Catch Me If You Can: Education and Catch-up in the Industrial Revolution

Abstract:

Existing evidence, mostly from British textile industries, rejects the importance of formal education for the Industrial Revolution. We provide new evidence from Prussia, a technological follower, where early-19th-century institutional reforms created the conditions to adopt the exogenously emerging new technologies. Our unique school-enrollment and factory-employment database links 334 counties from pre-industrial 1816 to two industrial phases in 1849 and 1882. Controlling extensively for pre-industrial development, we use pre-industrial education as an instrument to identify variation in later education that is exogenous to industrialization itself. We find that basic education significantly accelerated non-textile industrialization in both phases of the Industrial Revolution.

<http://www.economics.stir.ac.uk/DPs/SEDP-2009-19-Becker-Hornung-Woessmann.pdf>

Dr Yin Zhang (University of Dundee)

Multidimensional Measurement of Poverty: An Application to China

Abstract:

TBC

Professor Andrew Street (University of York)

Getting out what we put in: how productive is the NHS?

Abstract:

The NHS has received significant increases in funding over the last few years. We assess what this funding has achieved. We construct an index of output growth, incorporating all care provided to NHS patients. Quality is captured by survival rates, waiting times and disease management. We measure growth in labour, intermediate and capital inputs. Productivity is assessed by comparing output growth with growth in inputs. We analyse data from sources including the hospital episode statistics, reference cost returns, workforce census, financial returns and prescription pricing authority. Between 1998/9 and 2003/4 output growth lagged behind growth in inputs, driven by pay awards, the European Working Time Directive and investment in equipment and buildings. Since 2004/5, NHS output has increased at a faster rate and input growth has slowed, particularly as less use is made of agency staff. Consequently recent NHS productivity growth has been constant, at least.

About the Speakers

Professor Andrew Street (Centre for Health Economics, University of York)

Professor Andrew Street is director of the Health Policy team at the Centre for Health Economics, University of York and has a visiting position at the Health Services Research in Copenhagen. Specialising in health economics, he has published extensively on productivity measurement, organisational efficiency, and activity based funding. He is co-editor of the Journal of Health Economics and member of the editorial boards of the Bulletin of Economic Research and the Revista Española de Economía de la Salud. He currently serves as a board or committee member for the NHS Workforce Review Team, DoH Connecting for Health, DoH Payment by Results, and the NIHR Health Services Research programme.

SIRE Speakers:

Professor Sascha Becker (University of Stirling)

Sascha studied Economics at the Universities of Bonn, Germany, and at the Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Administration Economique (ENSAE) in Paris, France. He obtained his Ph.D. at the European University Institute (EUI) in Florence in 2001. In Spring 2000, he was a visiting scholar at the Center for Labor Economics at the University of California in Berkeley (UCB). From September 2001 until April 2008, he worked at the Center for Economic Studies of the Ludwig-Maximilians-University (LMU) Munich. In 2006, he spent 7 months at the University of California in San Diego (UCSD).

His research interests are in labour economics and education economics as well as in international macro and trade. Over the last years, he has been using historical data from 19th century Prussia to look into the relation between religion, education and economic success.

Dr Yin Zhang (University of Dundee)

Yin Zhang obtained her PhD in Economics at the University of Sydney in 2004. Prior to joining Dundee in August 2006, she had worked as Post-Doctoral Fellow at the World Institute for Development Economics Research, United Nations University, Helsinki. Yin's research interests are the measurement of poverty and inequality, applied macroeconomics and Asian economies.