FOCUS

A New Start for Louvain Economic Review

Founded in 1929, *Recherches Economiques de Louvain* - *Louvain Economic Review* is a quarterly journal published by members of the Department of Economics of UCL. It publishes peer reviewed articles, theoretical and empirical, in the main fields of economics. In 2015, it will take a new beginning, switching to English-only content, and specializing into demographic economics, a field where Louvain is strong and could exploit its established networks. IRES and Cambridge University Press are proud to announce the birth of *JODE, the Journal of Demographic Economics*.

Its primary objective is to promote research in the field of study that lies at the intersection of economics and population studies. Papers will tackle questions raised by the challenges we are facing today: How should the developed world cope with population ageing? When will the very poorest countries begin to see a demographic transition? Should global migration be encouraged? What are the implications of the fast family transformations we presently observe? Answering these questions requires understanding economic incentives. It follows that research with a strong methodological discipline that exploits the complementarities between theory and empirics, and between demography and economics, will be an important focus for *JODE*.

Visit our brand new website:
http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=DEM

PEOPLE

New Members and Visitors

In September 2013, *Ilse Ruyssen* joined IRES for a one-year postdoc under the ARC convention on “Geographical mobility of workers and firms”. Ilse obtained her PhD from Ghent University. In her dissertation, she empirically investigated the determinants of international migration and migrants’ location choice. The focus was on identifying the driving forces of migration to the OECD and between African countries, with specific attention to dynamic processes and spatial dependence. She also analyzed to what extent immigrants’ choice of residence within Belgium is driven...
by networks versus the genuine appeal of municipalities. Another part of her research involves the role of European immigration policies in shaping migration streams from African countries. At IRES, she is exploiting new micro-data on desired migration. She compares desired migration with actual migratory movements and study how removing legal migration barriers could affect migration flows. She is also involved in another research project on bilateral migration and international conflicts.

Ilse’s webpage: http://uclouvain.be/ilse.ruyssen

Maurice Schiff visited IRES between September 16 and 20, and between October 24 and 29, 2013. Maurice got his PhD from the University of Chicago. He spent two years as Professor and Research Director of the Faculty of Economics and Business of the University of Concepcion in Chile. He then served as a Lead Economist in the World Bank International Trade Unit (Development Research Group) and directed the Research Program on International Migration until 2012. He is presently International Consultant in the Development Economics Research Group at the World Bank. His fields of expertise are international trade, agriculture, regional integration, trade and technology diffusion, and international migration. He published more than ten books and many articles in journals such as Journal of International Economics, European Economic Review, Journal of Development Economics, World Bank Economic Review, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Canadian Journal of Economics, etc. During his stay at IRES, Maurice collaborated with Frédéric Docquier, Fabio Mariani and Ilse Ruyssen on several issues such as (i) the relationship between bilateral migration, trade and international conflicts, (ii) the labor market integration of immigrants in the OECD countries, and (iii) political economy models of immigration policies. Maurice’s stay at IRES was funded by the ARC convention on “Geographical mobility of workers and firms”.

They are on the Job Market this Year:

Andrea Ariu
Andrea is expected to defend his PhD thesis on “Essays on Trade in Services” during this academic year. He is supervised by Giordano Mion and Frederic Docquier. His research interests include International Trade in Goods and Services, Migration and Applied Microeconometrics. He uses trade data at the firm level to compare the features, determinants and dynamics of trade in goods and trade in services. He will be available for interviews during the SAE, AEA, RES and ADRES meetings.

Andrea's webpage: perso.uclouvain.be/andrea.ariu

Paula Gobbi
Paula is a postdoctoral researcher at Paris School of Economics. She received her PhD in 2013 from the Université catholique de Louvain, supervised by David de la Croix. Her research fields are demographic economics, quantitative macroeconomics, development and growth. She studies the incentives shaping parenthood decisions and how family structures have changed over the last decades. She will be available for interviews during the AEA, RES and ADRES meetings.

Paula's webpage: https://sites.google.com/site/gobbipaula/

Morgane Laouénan
Morgane joined IRES in October 2012 as a postdoctoral researcher. She received her PhD from Aix-Marseille University. Her research interests include labor economics and applied microeconometrics. She focuses on discrimination against African immigrants in France and against Afro-Americans in the US. In particular, she uses individual-level data to study the impact of racial prejudice on labor market outcomes of minorities, such as employment, wages and probability of occupying a job in contact with consumers. She will be available for interviews during the AEA meetings.


Lara Lebedinski
Lara joined IRES in September 2012. She received a PhD in Economics from Bocconi University in 2012. Her research fields are human capital and labour economics. She will be available for interviews during SAE, AEA and RES meetings.

Lara’s webpage: https://sites.google.com/site/lebedinski/home

Aminata Sissoko
Aminata is postdoctoral researcher supervised by prof. Vandenbussche. She received her Ph.D. from IRES last May. Her research interests are industrial economics, international trade and applied econometrics. She evaluates the influence of R&D subsidies for the formation of research joint ventures on the behaviour of firms. She will be available for interviews at the AEA and RES meetings.

Aminata’s webpage: https://sites.google.com/site/aminatasissoko18/
Job Market Placement

Alexandre Simons
In his PhD dissertation, Alexandre has dealt with issues linked to North-South Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), delocations, technology transfers and innovation. He is now working at the Itinera Institute, where he writes articles and opinion papers which participate to the public debate on important issues such as immigration, education, pensions and poverty.

Chrysovalantis Vasilakis
In September 2013, Chrysovalantis Vasilakis moved to University of Warwick where he serves as visiting assistant professor in Economics and Econometrics.

Academic Positions

The Université catholique de Louvain invites applications for the following faculty positions for the academic year 2014-2015:

Full-time Professor in Econometrics
This is a tenure-track or tenured full-time professor position. The successful candidate will carry out research mainly in the field of Econometrics. Applicants must show a genuine interest in the development of high level research in econometric modelling in relation to the ongoing research questions in economics. Possible subfields of interest include, but are not limited to, time series or spatial data analysis, financial econometrics, econometrics of panel or multilevel data, duration or choice models. The successful candidate will have teaching assignments in the above-mentioned field within the various degree programmes organised by the Faculty. Depending on the background of the candidate, teaching can include courses in mathematics and statistics for economists, in addition to intermediate and advanced econometrics.


Full-time Professor in Economics
This is a tenure-track or tenured full-time professor position. The successful candidate will carry out research in the field of business cycle and/or growth and development. We are looking for candidates with evidence of an high potential for successful research in areas including, but not limited to, macroeconomics and the evaluation of macroeconomic policies, comparative development and growth, environmental macroeconomics, international economics and the macroeconomic analysis of the labor market. Priority will be given to candidates with a strong theoretical background as well as an interest for empirical applications. The successful candidate will have teaching assignments in the above-mentioned field(s) within the various degree programmes organised by the Faculty.


IRES IN THE PUBLIC DEBATE

Regards économiques

4 new issues of the IRES free on-line review Regards économiques have been published since May 2013:

- Issue 104: “Jonas plutôt que Okan ? Discrimination ethnique à l’égard des jeunes diplômés en Flandre” by Stijn Baert (UGent), Bart Cockx (UGent), Niels Gheyle (UGent) and Cora Vandamme (Argenta).
- Issue 105: “Perspectives économiques 2013-2014” by Rytis Bagdziunas (CORE, UCLouvain), Vincent Bodart (IRES, UCLouvain), Vanessa Lutgen (IRES, UCLouvain), Joël Machado (IRES, UCLouvain) and Catherine Smith (IRES, UCLouvain).
IRES IN THE PUBLIC DEBATe

• Issue 106: “La collecte des déchets en Wallonie : organisation et performances” by Axel Gautier (ULg – CORE, UCLouvain) and Sophie Reginster (ULg).
• Issue 107: “Indexation et compétitivité en Belgique” by Vincent Bodart (IRES, UCLouvain) and Fatemeh Shadman (IRES, UCLouvain).

On the top of that, two “focus” (short articles) of Regards économiques have been published since May 2013:
• 16 juillet 2013: “Quelles orientations pour soutenir l’emploi en Wallonie suite à la sixième réforme de l’Etat” by Muriel Dejemeppe (IRES, UCLouvain) and Bruno Van der Linden (IRES, UCLouvain).

All these issues and focus are downloadable in French on: http://www.regards-economiques.be

Report for External Institutions

The Belgian Social Model: which future?
The Labor Market as Component of the Social Model.

“The Belgian Welfare State is questioned”. How many times haven’t we heard this warning! The banality of the statement does not remove anything from the reality of the challenge. How to take it up? Three major questions were at the heart of the debates of the 20th Belgian economists congress that took place on 21st November in Charleroi. These debates have been prepared by commissions who gather scientific contributions from various Belgian and foreign institutions and universities.

The first question, the best-known one, is about the sustainability of the Belgian social model. The second question is about the performance of the system. The third question is about risks prevention. To which extent do our training and employment systems reduce the long-term unemployment and low-income risks?

The commission chaired by Bruno Van der Linden (IRES, UCLouvain) dealt with employment in Wallonia and Brussels. It starts form the observation that Brussels and Wallonia have had a high unemployment rate for almost 40 years. This commission dealt with the following questions. Beyond simplistic statements, how can we assess the German experience and what can be learnt from it about social dialogue? Can the Belgian collective dialogue find innovative compromises? Between the status quo of the current automatic wage indexation and those in favour of its abrogation, isn’t there a median way of reforming? Are our wage-setting mechanisms disconnected from the persistent unemployment reality and from the consequences of an ageing workforce in a monetary union? What is the coherence of our various minimum wages? And what implications do they have? Which first lessons can be learnt from the recent unemployment-insurance reform? Does the future of active labor market policies lie in individual counselling and job-search assistance?

PUBLICATIONS

Macroeconomics

Journal articles
**IRES Discussion Papers**


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**International Economics**

**Journal articles**


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**IRES Discussion Papers**


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**Labor Economics, Social Policies and Policy Evaluations**

**Journal articles**


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**IRES Discussion Papers**


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**Interdisciplinary Topics**

**Journal articles**


IRES Discussion Papers

PAST SEMINARS

IMMAQ Trade and Economic Geography Seminar

The Trade and Economic Geography seminar aims at favoring the presentation of recent research in international trade, economic geography and urban economics, by both experienced and more junior researchers. It is regularly organized jointly with the IRES Research Seminar, and the Economic Theory and the Econometrics seminars at CORE.


September 17 Ina Simonovska (University of California, Davis, United-States) “Different Trade Models, Different Trade Elasticities” (Joint with the Macrolunch Seminar)
October 1 Volodymyr Vakhitov (Kyiv School of Economics, Ukraine) “Effect of Negative Clusters’ on the Productivity of Manufacturing Firms: Evidence of Ukrainian Firm-level Data” (Joint with the Macrolunch Seminar)
5 John Morrow (London School of Economics, United-Kingdom) “Productivity as If Space Mattered: An Application to Factor Markets Across China”
November 7 Miren Lafourcade (Paris School of Economics, France) “The Carbon Footprint of Suburbanization: Evidence from French Household data” (Joint with the IRES Research Seminar)

IRES Research Seminar


September 26 Matthias Wrede (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg – CESifo, Germany) “Wages, Rents, Unemployment, and the Quality of Life”
October 3 Lex Borghans (Maastricht University, The Netherlands) “Low Stakes, High Stakes: the Predictive Power of Math Achievement Tests”
10 Ilse Ruyssen (IRES, UCLouvain) “Location Choice of Immigrants in Belgium 1994-2007”
24 Sophie Béreau (LSM, UCLouvain) “An Agent-based Modelling of the Exchange Rate Disconnect Puzzle”
31 Christine Valente (Bristol University, United-Kingdom) “Primary Education Expansion and Quality of Schooling: Evidence from Tanzania”
November 7 Miren Lafourcade (Paris School of Economics, France) “The Carbon Footprint of Suburbanization: Evidence from French Household data” (Joint with the IMMAQ Trade and Economic Geography Seminar)
14 Roland Rathelot (Centre de Recherche en Economie et Statistique, France) “The Geography of Job Search and Mismatch Unemployment”
Macroeconomics Lunch Seminar

The Macroeconomics Lunch Seminar is an informal forum where researchers present their work in progress in details and receive criticism and feedback from colleagues. Presentations on the blackboard are also welcome. PhD students entering the job market this year are strongly encouraged to present their job market paper.

Organizers: Hélène Latzer (helene.latzer@uclouvain.be)
Luca Pensieroso (luca.pensieroso@uclouvain.be)

September

17  Ina Simonovska (University of California, Davis, United-States)
   “Different Trade Models, Different Trade Elasticities”
   (Joint with the IMMAQ Trade and Economic Geography Seminar)

October

1   Volodymyr Vakhitov (Kyiv School of Economics, Ukraine)
   “Effect of Negative Clusters’ on the Productivity of Manufacturing Firms: Evidence of Ukrainian Firm-level Data”
   (Joint with the IMMAQ Trade and Economic Geography Seminar)

15  Alain de Crombrugghe (FUNDP)
   “Loans, Aid and Incentives”

22  Manachaya Uruons (Chulalongkorn University, Thailand)
   “Entrance Examination, Private Tutoring and Economic Growth”

29  Manuel-Garcia-Santana (ULB)
   “Foreign, Firms, Distribution on Income, and the Welfare of Developing Countries”

November

12  Ewoud Quaghebeur (UGent)
   “Learning and the size of the Fiscal Multiplier”

NBB Seminar

- Macroeconomics seminar

This seminar on macroeconomic and monetary issue is organized by the National Bank of Belgium, in collaboration with KULeuven, UC Louvain (INES) and ULBrussels.

Seminar’s webpage:
http://www.nbb.be/pub/06_00_00_00_00/06_03_01_00_00/06_03_01_01_00/07_02_01_04_08+macroeconomic+seminar.htm?l=en

October

2   Andrea Tambalotti (Federal Reserve Bank of New York, United-States)
   “The FRBNY DSGE Model”

DON’T MISS

- 3rd Conference on “Immigration in OECD countries” – 6 December, 2013

The 3rd Conference on “Immigration in OECD countries” will be held in Paris on December 6, 2013. This conference is jointly organized by the OECD, the French research center in international economics (CEPII), the research team Equipe of the University of Lille, the Fondazione Rodolfo Debenedetti, the University of Luxemburg and IRES (Université catholique de Louvain). It is part of the ARC research project on “Geographical Mobility of Workers and Firms”. This 3rd edition aims at shedding light on the consequences of economic downturn in OECD countries on migration flows and migrants’ behavior.

Registration is mandatory: Participants should register by sending an email to immigrationworkshop2013@cepii.fr.
EQUIPPE (University of Lille 2), IRES (UCLouvain) and ULg are jointly organizing a “Macroeconomics in Perspective Workshop” in Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium). The conference will be held on January 23-24, 2014. Keynote speakers: Roger Farmer (University of California), Frank Smets (European Central Bank-KU Leuven).
Organizers: Lionel Artige (ULg) Michel De Vroey (IRES, Uclouvain), Luca Pensieroso (IRES, UCLouvain), Goulven Rubin (University of Lille 2).

• “International labor mobility and inequality across nations” – 23-24 January, 2014
An International Conference on “International labor mobility and inequality across nations” will be held in Clermont-Ferrand on January 23-24, 2013. This conference is jointly organized by FERDI, IRES (UCLouvain) and CERDI (UdA). It is funded by the ARC research project on “Geographical Mobility of Workers and Firms”.
The conference is devoted to investigating the effects of international migration on the geographic distribution of human capital and its implications for the world economy. Questions to be addressed are: How large are migration flows (by education and by gender)? How does labor mobility affect inequality across nations? What are the determinants of migration flows/stocks? Are policy barriers quantitatively important? How would the world economy respond to a (selective or non-selective) liberalization of labor mobility? The conference will include 24 presentations organized in 8 thematic sessions and presentations by invited speakers: Michel Beine (University of Luxembourg), Paul Collier (University of Oxford), Jesús Fernández-Huertas Moraga (FEDEA-IAE-CSIC), Mäelan Legoff (CEPII), Andrew Mountford (Royal Holloway London), Çaglar Özden (World Bank), Chris Parsons (University of Oxford), Hillel Rapoport (Bar Ilan University), Sara Salomone (IRES, UCLouvain). A selection of papers from the conference will be considered for a special issue of The World Economy.
Participation is open and free, but registration is mandatory: Participants should register by sending an email to conference@ferdi.fr.
Organizers and members of the scientific committee: Simone Bertoli (Université d’Auvergne), Jim de Melo (University of Geneva), Frédéric Docquier (IRES, UCLouvain) and Patrick Guillaumont (FERDI).