Highlights of Washington D.C. Meeting

This year we have had an unusually large number of abstract submissions for our January 2003 Annual Meeting. Details of the program will be circulated after the program has been accepted by the ASSA. Nevertheless we have some highlights to look forward to. Please make note of some of these so that you can avoid time conflicts.

Last year, we experimented with a Poster session. It was very well received in general. I myself presented a paper in this session and found it quite challenging to give the highlights of the paper in about five minutes. A big advantage of such a session is the variety of topics and on-going research that one can get exposed to in a short period of time. Given the success and popularity of this experience we will have another poster session this year. Hence, for an extremely informative session at which you get to meet a number of people and share research experience with them on a one-on-one basis, please plan to attend this session. We will try to have this on the first day of the conference Friday January 3 at the 8 AM session. We have asked some of the “star” presenters in this format last year to present some of their new research in this session this year.

Given the considerable uncertainties about the current and future prospects and constraints on economic development and stability of the MENA region, Tarik Yousef has organized for us a Panel of the top policy analysts at the IMF, World Bank and other institutions to lead a discussion in which we hope there will be lots of dialogue with the audience on “What’s Ahead for MENA?” We have requested this session to be on Saturday afternoon.

Other promising panels include one organized by Ragui Assaad on female labor force participation, and others on poverty, exchange rates, and goods and labor flows, and capital markets and flows. For those planning to attend the ASSA meetings, please reserve time to attend these meetings of the MEEA. See you in January if not before.

Jeffrey B. Nugent, University of Southern California
ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW JOURNAL IN 2003
REVIEW OF MIDDLE EAST ECONOMICS AND FINANCE


*Review of Middle East Economics and Finance* aims at addressing applied original research in the fields of economics and finance pertaining to the Middle East and North Africa region including Turkey and Iran. Topic areas, although not exhaustive, encompass: Monetary and fiscal policies; Labor and welfare economics; International trade and finance; Banking; Financial markets and institutions; Financial instability and crisis; Investment and portfolio analysis.

Strong emphasis is placed on empirically based papers. The Journal includes a review section of books dealing with the above topics.

Manuscripts to be considered for publication should be submitted to: Wassim Shahin, Editor, MEEF, School of Business, Lebanese American University, PO Box 36, Byblos, Lebanon. Electronic submissions in a format other than pdf are encouraged and preferred at meef@lau.edu.lb

For more information on the journal or to request a free sample copy please visit our website at www.tandf.co.uk/journals.

IBN KHULDUN PRIZE

Reminder that submissions for the Ibn Khaldun Prize for the best paper on one or more Middle Eastern countries by a junior economist (no more than three years after receiving Ph.D.) must be received no later than December 10, 2002 at the following address: Prof. Jeffrey B. Nugent, Dept. of Economics, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0253, USA. The entries will be evaluated by a three person committee.

MEEA-CHRAF

MEEA's Committee on Human Rights and Academic Freedom (CHRAF) monitors infringements of human rights and academic freedom of economists in the Middle East. For information, please contact Co-Chairs of MEEA-CHRAF, Abbas Alnasrawi or Sohrab Behdad. Professor Alnasrawi may be reached at the Department of Economics, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405, USA. phone 802.656.3064, fax 802.656.8405, email alnasra@moose.uvm.edu Professor Behdad is at the Department of Economics, Denison University, Granville, OH, 43023 USA. phone 740.587.6404, fax 740.587.6348, email behdad@denison.edu.


The Institute of Arab & Islamic Studies, University of Exeter announces and International Conference on the Arab Countries and the World Trade Organization: Economic and Social Impact and the Prospects for Inter-Arab Cooperation.

Possible topics include: The experiences of individual Arab countries in liberalising foreign trade: macro and/or sectoral perspectives Intra-Arab trade agreements and the WTO: short-term policies or long-term strategies; The WTO and the problems of Economic Development and of debt and external finance in Arab countries; The Arab countries in WTO negotiations; and Problems and Issues for the Arab Countries and the WTO.

All invited participants will be scholars and specialists who have made significant contributions in a relevant field. Abstracts (up to 500 words) are required as soon as possible. Please send to: Dr Kamil Mahdi. Email: k.a.mahdi@ex.ac.uk Fax: (44 1392) 264035 Tel: (44 1392) 264029. Postal Address: Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter, Stocker Road, Exeter EX4 4ND, UK.

CONFERENCE ON THE JORDANIAN ECONOMY

A Conference on “The Jordanian Economy in a Changing Environment” organized by the Economic Studies Unit of the Center For Strategic Studies (CSS) will be held during the period from 15 to 17 May 2003 in Amman, Jordan.

You are invited to submit an abstract for an original piece of research for this Conference (in Arabic or English language). Authors should submit a proposal consisting of no more than 600 words describing the proposed outline of the papers. Proposals should include the theoretical underpinning of the research and the empirical investigation that the researcher intends to conduct. In addition researchers are asked to outline how their work would enhance the understanding of Jordanian economic current behavior and its future prospects. The deadline for submitting abstracts, along with a CV is the 30th of November 2002.

Please contact: Prof. Atheel Jomard css@css-jordan.org or Dr. Ibrahim Saif I.saif@css-jordan.org Economic Studies Unit Center for Strategic Studies University of Jordan Amman, Jordan Tel (+962) 6 5355666 Fax (+962) 6 5355515or visit our web site at www.css-jordan.org
Recent Journal Articles

As part of the information services to MEEA members, the Newsletter will list and abstract recent academic journal articles on the economics of the Middle East. Authors who would like their articles to be listed or abstracted are encouraged to send them directly to the editor. Preference is given to articles from journals that are indexed by the Journal of Economic Literature.


The Middle East Economic Association, a non-profit international organization, was formed in 1978 and is affiliated with the American Economic Association and the Middle East Studies Association. The main objective of MEEA is to foster scholarship and to establish lines of communication among specialists interested in the Political Economy of the Middle East. Web: www.meeaweb.org

Membership

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Middle East Economic Association, please fill out this form and return it to the Treasurer. The membership fee is $25 for faculty and other professionals, $20 for students, and $10 for all members residing in a MENA country.

Name: 

Rank & Affiliation

Professional Address

Telephone: 
Fax
Email

Send to: Bulent Uyar, Treasurer, Middle East Economic Association, College of Business Administration, University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0129

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Send us news about yourself, other organizations, forthcoming conferences and new publications. Address all communications to the editor: Edward Sayre, Dept. of Economics, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, GA 30030, esayre@agnesscott.edu

Hans Lofgren and Alan Richards. “Food Security and Economic Policy in the Middle East and North Africa”

Julia Devlin. “Agricultural Trade in MENA: The Building Blocks of Dynamic Comparative Advantage”

J. Anthony Allan and Jennifer Olmsted. “Trading water to solve the MENA water deficit: the political economy of MENA water, food and trade in a global context”

Peter Hazell, Peter Oram, and Nabil Chaherli. “Managing Livestock in Drought-Prone Areas of the Middle East and North Africa: Policy Issues”


Channing Arndt and Wallace E. Tyner. “Policy and Progress in Moroccan Agriculture: A Retrospective and Perspective”


John Kerr. “Price Policy, Irreversible Investment and the Scale of Agricultural Mechanization in Egypt”

Mylène Kherallah, Nicholas Minot, and Peter Gruhn. “Adjustment of Wheat Production to Market Reform in Egypt”


Serdar Sayan and Nazmi Demir. “The Structural Change in Agriculture and Water Requirements in Turkey”

Jeremy D. Foltz. “Micro-Economic Perspectives on Tunisia’s Agro-Export Strategy”

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