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Newsletter edited by Sara de la Rica, ESPE Secretary, University of the Basque Country, Spain

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1. Executive Committee and Council 2006

President Patricia Apps, University of Sidney, Australia
President-Elect Barry Chiswick, University of Illinois at Chicago
Treasurer Regina Riphahn, University of Erlangen, Germany
Secretary Sara de la Rica, University of the Basque Country, Spain

Council Members

Alison Booth Australian National University (Australia)
Simon Burgess University of Bristol (UK)
Daniela Del Boca University of Torino (Italy)
Christian Dustmann University College London (UK)
Marco Francesconi University of Essex (UK)
Valerie Lechene Oxford University (UK)
Catherine Sofer Université Paris I (France)
Jan Van Ours Erasmus University Rotterdam
Rudolf Winter-Ebmer University of Linz (Austria)
Klaus F. Zimmermann IZA – Institute for the Study of Labor (Bonn)
2. Message from the President

ESPE 2006 Report from the President

It was my very good fortune to be elected as ESPE President for the year that saw the 20th Anniversary of the Society. It was founded in 1986 by Pierre Pestieau, Bernard van Praag, Jo Ritzen, Gerhard Schmitt-Rink and Klaus Zimmermann, with its statutes apparently being typed out on an old typewriter in Schmitt-Rink’s kitchen. Bernard van Praag was elected the first President, followed by Pierre Pestieau, and Gerhard Schmitt-Rink and Klaus Zimmermann were respectively the Treasurer and Secretary. The first Conference, organised by Jo Ritzen, was held at the University of Rotterdam on September 17-19, 1987.

It was fortunate for ESPE that the founding fathers were not only outstanding economists, but also were firmly of the belief that economic and statistical analysis should focus on contributing to the solution of current and pressing problems of economic policy. They correctly foresaw the problems that would be created for the maintenance of expenditures on social programmes by declining fertility and population ageing, and placed high priority on stimulating academic research and informed debate on the issues emerging out of this. Their vision and leadership has had much to do with the rapid growth of membership of ESPE and the remarkable expansion in the range of disciplines and scope of the research presented at the annual conference. From an initial focus on the economics of population, the range has widened to encompass labour economics, the economics of the household, public economics and health economics. The Journal of Population Economics, based at IZA, the research institute headed by Klaus Zimmermann, has rapidly established itself as one of the leading international journals, and a top address for papers in these areas. As exemplified by last year’s conference in Paris and this year’s conference in Verona, authors of around five hundred papers compete to present their research at this annual forum, and the 200 or so accepted papers present a rich array of research ideas and approaches.

In recognition of all this, it was my pleasure to present, together with President-Elect Barry Chiswick, a plaque to Klaus Zimmermann which recorded his “inspiration and leadership in creating the European Society for Population Economics and for 20 years of dedicated guidance to ESPE”. The setting could not have been more perfect: a terrace in the garden of the beautiful Palazza Verita Poeta in Verona, on a warm Summer’s evening, just before the Conference dinner. This was for me the high point of my year as President.
Once again the annual conference in Verona was a great success, and I would like again to thank all those involved with making it so. Special thanks go to the local organising committee chairman Federico Peralli, to the scientific program chairman, Barry Chiswick, as well as to Nicola Sartor, Giam Pietro Cipriano, Martina Menon, Eugenio Peluso, and Veronica Polin, who worked so hard on the local organising committee, and Heather Antecol, Holger Bonin, Amelie Constant, Christian Dustmann, Sherrie Kossoudji, Jin Man LEE, Mariola Pytlikova, Paul Miller, Karen Mumford, Dan-Olof Rooth and Shoshana Grossbard, who gave up so much of their time to serve on the Program Committee. The success of the academic programme was due to the warmly received plenary lectures given by Steve Machin and Thomas Lemieux, and to the high quality of the contributed papers. 533 papers were submitted, 211 of which were accepted. There were just under 230 participants at the meeting.

Finally, I wish my successor as President, Barry Chiswick, as rewarding a year in office as I have had.
3. Twentieth ESPE Conference and General Assembly in Verona 2006

Report, General Assembly

The Twentieth General Assembly of the European Society for Population Economics was held on Saturday, June 24, 2006 in Verona, at the Gran Guardia Palace. More than 100 members attended the meeting. The President, Patricia Apps, led the Assembly. She thanked those involved with making the Verona meeting a success, especially the local organiser committee led by Federico Peralli as well as the scientific program chairman, Barry Chiswick, who was assisted by Heather Antecol, Holger Bonin, Amelie Constant, Christian Dustmann, Sherrie Kossoudji, Jin Man LEE, Mariola Pytlíková, Paul Miller, Karen Mumford, Dan-Olof Rooth and Shoshana Grossbard.

This year’s meeting was very successful, which can be seen by the highly acclaimed plenary lectures of Steve Machin and Thomas Lemieux, but also by a very high quality of the contributed papers. 533 papers were submitted, 211 of them were accepted. Attendance at the meeting reached close to 230 participants.

The next conference of ESPE will be held in Chicago, June 15-17, 2007 at the University of Illinois. Christian Dustmann (University City College, London) will serve as the program chair, Barry Chiswick, from the University of Illinois at Chicago will be the President of the Local Committee. The Call for Papers will announce the precise electronic address where abstracts and papers must be sent to. Preference will be given to submissions that include a complete paper, other things equal. The submission deadline is February 1, 2007.

The secretary of the Society, Sara de la Rica, reported on the results of the elections that took place over the autumn of 2005. In total, more than 230 ballots were received. Barry Chiswick was elected President for 2006. Sara thanked the outgoing Council Member Stephen Jenkins for his service to the Society. She welcomed Jan Van Ours as the new member of the Council. The positions are effective from January 2006. Further information about the Society is to be found on the Web-page of the Society. (www.espe.org). The books of the Society (kept by the Treasurer Regina Riphahn) have been audited by René Böheim (University of Linz) and Mark Taylor (University of Essex), their positive report has been approved by the Assembly.

Finally, ESPE gave 10 fee waivers to the following PhD students: Astrid Wurth, Anna Batyra, Berndhard Ganglmair, Sara Borelli, Josep Mestres, Laura Crespo, Martin Halla, Patrizio Piraino, Xiaoyang Li and Yergou, S. Besides, 50% waivers were given to the following participants from Eastern Europe: Jiri Vecernik, Ioana Albu, Ivan Kitov and Paligorova Teodora.
4. Call for Contributions to the Newsletter

The ESPE newsletter provides information on the society’s activities, on past, present and future events within or outside the Society’s framework. All members are kindly invited to use the ESPE Newsletter to make announcements of events in the field of population economics. Please send all contributions to the Secretary.

5. Call for Papers: ESPE Meeting 2007

The Twenty First Annual Conference will take place on June 14-16, 2007, at the University of Illinois at Chicago, USA. The aim of the Conference is to facilitate the exchange of research ideas and results across a range of fields, including the economics of the household, labour economics, public economics, demography, and health economics. Examples of research topics are: human capital investment, gender issues, intrahousehold distribution, aging and social security, taxation, population and economic growth, domestic and international migration, income distribution and redistribution within and between generations, technological change and the environment.

Christian Dustmann (University College London, UK) will serve as the program chair and Barry Chiswick as the local organizer. Papers and abstracts should be submitted electronically using the on-line submission form on the conference web-page, http://web.econ.uic.edu/espe2007. Submissions should include an abstract and, when possible, the paper itself in pdf format (one single file, including tables and figures). Preference will be given to submissions that include a completed paper, other things being equal.

The submission deadline is February 1, 2007. Acceptance decisions will be communicated in March. We particularly encourage graduate students to apply. Waivers of the conference registration fee will be provided for 10 graduate students. It is necessary that students apply for the waiver in the on-line submission and that his/her supervisor confirms the student status. ESPE wants actively to increase participation from East European countries. Presenters from these countries who are within ten years of having completed their PhD can apply for a 50% reduction
in the registration fee. Information on conference location, registration, and hotel reservations will be available at the conference web page, http://web.econ.uic.edu/espe2007.


President-Elect 2007: Christian Dustmann

Christian Dustmann is Professor at the Department of Economics, University College London. He is also Director of CREAM, the Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration. He has a Ph.D. in Economics from the European University Institute (1992), and received his "Habilitation" from the University of Bielefeld in 1997. He is an editor of the *Journal of Population Economics*, an associate editor of the *Economic Journal*, and research fellow of the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), London, and the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA); he is a research associate of the Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS) and the Centre for Economic Performance (CEP), London. His main research interests are in population economics (migration, economics of the family), and labour economics (education, wage structures, and earnings mobility), and he has widely published in these areas.

President-Elect 2008: Jan Van Ours


6.2. Candidates for the Council

Five council members need to be elected. As we did last year, we will implement the E-voting system facilitates voting procedures for all members for whom we have e-mail addresses. To be valid, it must be returned to the office of the Secretary before November 30, 2006.

The candidates and their biographical details are listed alphabetically below.
1. **James Albretch:**

James Albretch does research in both theoretical and empirical labor economics. His theoretical research concentrates on the microfoundations of unemployment, specifically on how unemployment can be understood as the result of search frictions. This is his primary area of research, and he has published papers about search unemployment in *The Journal of Political Economy, The Quarterly Journal of Economics, the Review of Economic Studies*, etc.

On the empirical side, he has done work on gender issues (male-female wage gaps across the distribution, the effects of parental leave on wages, etc.) and on education as a signal. This work has been published in outlets like *The Journal of Labor Economics, The Journal of Human Resources, and The Journal of Public Economics*. Much of his empirical work uses Swedish data, as he has a long-term research connection there.

2. **Thomas Bauer:**

Thomas Bauer studied economics at the University of Munich and received his degree as Diplom-Volkswirt in 1993. From 1993-1997 he worked as research associate at SELAPO, University of Munich and obtained his doctoral degree from the University of Munich for his dissertation on the labor market effects of immigration and migration policy in Germany. From 1997-1998 he visited the Rutgers University, USA, under the auspices of a Feodor-Lynen-Fellowship of the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation. In September 1998 he joined IZA as Senior Research Associate and became IZA Program Director for the Research Area “Mobility and Flexibility of Labor” in July 1999. Since 2003 he is professor of economics at the University of Bochum (Ruhr-Universität Bochum) and since 2004 member of the executive board of the RWI in Essen. He is research affiliate of the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) in London and the Center for Comparative Immigration Studies (CCIS) at the University of California-San Diego, USA.


3. **Deborah Cobb-Clarke**

Deborah Cobb-Clarke is a Professor of Economics in the Economics Program, Research School of Social Sciences at the Australian National University and is currently co-editor of the *Journal of Population Economics*. She earned a PhD in economics from the University of Michigan (1990) and has held previous positions in the U.S. Labor Department (1989 – 1991) and Illinois State University (1991 – 1997). She has also been Director of The Social Policy Evaluation, Analysis and Research (SPEAR) Centre (2000-2005) and Associate Director of Research School of Social Sciences (2004-2005), Australian National University.

Professor Cobb-Clarke’s research agenda centres around the use of economics and applied econometric methods to evaluate the impact of social policy—e.g., immigration, income-support, health care or equal-employment opportunity policy—on the labour market outcomes of individuals. This emphasis on rigorous evaluation of policy outcomes has led to a number of projects linked to various government agencies both in Australia and abroad. She has published more than three dozen academic articles on the subject of immigration, sexual harassment, health, old-age support and job promotion in top international journals, including *American Economic Review, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Industrial and Labor Relations Review, Labour Economics, and Journal of Population Economics*.  


4. Marco Francesconi

Marco Francesconi is a Reader in the Economics Department at the University of Essex. Marco's main area of research is labour economics, with special interest in family economics, intergenerational links and labour market dynamics. His recent work has appeared in the Economic Journal, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Applied Econometrics, European Economic Review, and Journal of Human Resources.

5. Steve Machin

Stephen Machin is currently Professor of Economics at University College London, Research Director of the Centre for Economic Performance at the London School of Economics and Director of the Centre for the Economics of Education. He is one of the Editors of the Economic Journal. Previously he has been visiting Professor at Harvard University (1993/4) and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2001/2). He is an elected fellow of the British Academy.

Some selected recent publications are:


6. Eric Plug

Erik Plug is a senior researcher at the University of Amsterdam. At the same university he obtained his Ph.D in 1997. Erik is further research fellow at the Tinbergen Institute and IZA. His current research interests relate to family, education and labor economics. His work is published in among others American Economic Review, Economic Journal, Industrial and Labor Relations Review,
Robert Pollak

Robert A. Pollak is the Hernreich Distinguished Professor of Economics at Washington University in St. Louis where he has taught since 1995. He received his Ph.D. from MIT in 1964. He began his academic career at the University of Pennsylvania, where he was named the Charles and William Day Professor of Economics and Social Sciences in 1983. From 1990 to 1995 he was professor of economics at the University of Washington. Pollak’s research interests include demography and the economics of the family. He is the author of more than 70 articles, and three books: The Theory of the Cost-of-Living Index, (1989), Demand System Specification and Estimation, (joint with Terence J. Wales, 1992), and From Parent to Child: Intrahousehold Allocations and Intergenerational Relations in the United States, (joint with Jere R. Behrman and Paul Taubman, 1995).

In 1999-2000 Pollak held a John Simon Guggenheim Foundation fellowship and in 2000 he received the Mindel C. Sheps Award for mathematical demography from the Population Association of America. He co-chairs the MacArthur Foundation Network on the Family and the Economy. Pollak is a fellow of the Econometric Society, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Society of Labor Economists. Pollak is also a fellow of the CESifo Research Network and IZA and is a Research Associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Catherine Sofer

Catherine Sofer is a Professor of Economics at the University Paris 1-Panthéon-Sorbonne and professor at the Paris School of Economics. Her main fields of research are Labour Economics, especially women’s work, Economics of the family and of gender. She is co-editor of the Review of Economics of the Household (REHO). She was co-organizer of the ESPE Conference 2005 in Paris), member of the Organizing Committee of the JMA (Journées de Microéconomie Appliquées) annual conference since 2002, She was co-ordinator of European Research Programmes: STT,Schooling, Training and Transitions (1997-1999). STT d&v (2001-2002).

Selected Publications:


2003: « Comparaison de l’accès au premier emploi des apprentis et des lycéens » (with Bonnal L., Mendès S.) Annales d’Economie et Statistiques, n° 70, p.31-52

2000: “Are the lone parent households often poor in France today?” (with David Clément), in Gender and the labour market. Econometric evidence on obstacles in achieving gender equality, Siv Gustafsson and Danièle Meulders editors, Macmillan.


9. Cecile Wetzels

Cecile Wetzels graduate (economics) from Tilburg University, received her Ph.D. from the University of Amsterdam in 1998 (population economics). Her research interest is to explain individual’s behavior as regards labour markets and household decisions including fertility. Her core interest is to analyse implications from human capital theory across welfare states and furthermore understand the potential impacts of social policies, migrant background, and culture. Her empirical work is based on national and European household panel data, public health data, and web based national and European survey data. The evaluation of the impact of social policy on the labour market outcomes of individuals and on (the timing) of events such as family formation, has led to a number of projects linked to various government agencies both in the Netherlands and in Europe such as for the European Commission.

7. Call for Papers

7.1. Ruhr Graduate School in Economics

International Conference on Contemporary Economics 2007

The first Annual Conference of the Ruhr Graduate School in Economics will take place on February 28, 2007, at the University of Dortmund, Germany. The conference consists of presentations of papers and posters.

The aim of the conference is to bring together a large number of PhD students to present their work, facilitate the exchange of research ideas and results and established contact to researchers across a range of fields that are influenced by demographic change, such as

- labor economics,
- social security,
- human capital investment,
- taxation,
- income distribution and redistribution within and between generations,
- domestic and international migration,
- health economics and public economics.

Keynote Speaker:

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Wiegard, German Council of Economic Experts, University of Regensburg.

Application Procedure:

We invite the submission of theoretical, empirical and policy-oriented papers. Submissions should include an abstract and, if possible, the paper itself. Please send the following documents to rgs@rwi-essen.de:

- An electronic version of an abstract (250 words maximum) as a MS Word file for inclusion in the book of abstracts.
- If possible, an electronic version of the paper as one pdf-file (including tables and figures).
- An electronic version of your CV.

Submission deadline is December 15, 2006. Acceptance decisions will be communicated until January 15, 2007. Selected participants must deliver a complete paper by February 9, 2007. We particularly encourage PhD students to apply.

Funding: Lecturers will be granted a fixed fee, covering accommodation and traveling.

Scientific Committee: Erwin Amann, Thomas Bauer, Justus Haucap, Wim Kösters, Kornelius Kraft, Wolfgang Leininger, Reinhold Schnabel, Christoph M. Schmidt

For further information contact www.rgs-econ.org or Dr. Stefan Rumpf

++49 201 8149 279, rumpf@rwi-essen.de

7.2. Call for Papers - NRW Undergraduate Science Award in Economics 2007
Seven International Graduate Schools in the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia (“NRW Graduate Schools”) have announced an undergraduate award to foster the early development of research experience and practice during undergraduate studies.

Representing the field of economics the Ruhr Graduate School in Economics (RGS Econ) awards a prize of 1,500 Euro for an outstanding research paper in a relevant field of modern economics (e.g. covering formal theoretical and/or empirical econometric analyses in labor and population economics, industrial economics, microeconomics, macroeconomics or public economics).

An applicant should be author or co-author of an outstanding publication in a high ranking scientific journal or proceeding of an international conference. The date of acceptance of the paper should be in 2005 or 2006. Deadline for submission is December 31, 2006. The following materials must be submitted:

- a copy of the paper or accepted manuscript
- the student's curriculum vitae
- a letter from the research advisor or department dean, stating that the applicant for this award had not finished his/her master or diploma degree by the time the paper was submitted for publication
- a copy of the letter of acceptance, if the paper has not been published yet
- a filled in application form (download PDF at homepage www.undergraduate-award.de)

The laureate will be invited to receive the prize during an honorary reception at the North Rhine-Westphalian state capital of Düsseldorf.

Applications/nominations from students or faculty advisors should be send to:

Dr. Stefan Rumpf, Ruhr Graduate School in Economics, c/o RWI Essen, Hohenzollernstraße 1-3, 45128 Essen, Germany

Prof. Christoph M. Schmidt, PhD
Speaker of the RGS Econ

Prof. Wolfgang Leininger, PhD
Vice-Speaker of the RGS Econ

7.3. 10TH IZA EUROPEAN SUMMER SCHOOL IN LABOUR ECONOMICS
APRIL 23-29, 2007, at Buch, Ammersee Lake, Germany

CALL FOR PAPERS

The IZA European Summer School in Labor Economics was created in 1998, as an annual event taking place at the conference center of Deutsche Post World Net at the Ammersee Lake (near Munich) in Bavaria, Germany. The Summer School is supported by the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR), the European Economic Association (EEA), the European Association of Labour Economists (EALE), and the European Society for Population Economics (ESPE). It is funded by the European Union, under the Sixth Framework Programme, Marie Curie Conferences and Training Courses.

The objective of the Summer School is to bring together a large number of PhD students and senior lecturers to study new areas in labor economics. Students have the opportunity to present their work and discuss ideas with established researchers in a relaxed and open atmosphere.

The School is open to advanced graduate students from European universities, or Europeans studying abroad, engaged in the preparation of a doctoral dissertation or approaching that stage. Around 35 students will be selected, based on their preparation to participate in advanced study on the subject.

Lecturers:
Giuseppe Bertola (University of Turin) “Labor Markets and Economic Integration: Imperfections, Regulation, and Reforms”

Richard B. Freeman (Harvard University, NBER, and Centre for Economic Performance, LSE) “Searching for the Soul of Capitalism: Greed vs. Cooperation in the Labor Market”

Funding:
Local expenses and traveling are covered.

Application:
Applications to participate should be submitted by February 1, 2007, using the online submission form at [http://www.iza.org](http://www.iza.org). Please submit your CV and an abstract for a potential presentation of your research work; a letter of support from your PhD supervisor must be sent by regular mail to Ana Rute Cardoso (IZA, P.O. Box 7240, D-53072 Bonn, Germany).
Selected participants must deliver a complete paper by March 24, 2007.

8. Job Openings

The empirical economics group at the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg (Chair of Prof. Riphahn) is looking for a

**Research Associate (wiss. Mitarbeiter/in)**

...to start January 1, 2007. The completion of a Ph.D. thesis will be supported.

The research will consist of an empirical analysis of the determinants of the German wage structure. Therefore prior experience in working with microdata such as the GSOEP is essential. Since the position also requires a small amount of teaching knowledge of German is indispensable.

The remuneration will be equivalent to 80 percent of a BAT IIa position.

We seek candidates with excellent training in economics, statistics or social sciences with solid knowledge of econometric methods and an interest in empirical research.

Please submit your application (with Curriculum Vitae, copies of transcripts and letters of recommendation) by November 30, 2006 both by email and in print to

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Email: parvati.truebswetter@wiso.uni-erlangen.de

For further information contact Prof. Riphahn (regina.riphahn@wiso.uni-erlangen.de) or Dr. Trübswetter (parvati.truebswetter@wiso.uni-erlangen.de), or see [http://www.lsw.wiso.uni-erlangen.de](http://www.lsw.wiso.uni-erlangen.de).
9. New Books