

BONN ECON NEWS

April 14–18, 2025

Overview

Workshops and seminars

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Bonn Applied Microeconomics Seminar (CRC TR 224 Seminar)

Patrick Agte (Stockholm School of Economics)

“Fighting Silent Killers: How India’s Public Healthcare Staffing Expansion Saves Lives by Improving Access and Market Quality”

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

CASFI Seminar (Macro/Econometrics), Kolleg-Forschungsgruppe

João Ritto (University of Toronto)

“Real effects of monetary policy under product market search frictions”

Finance/CRC Seminar

Harald Hau (University of Geneva)

“What is the Purpose of Board Overlap?”

Preview: May 13, 2025

ReStart Talk (ECONtribute)

Regina Riphahn (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg)

“Geringfügige Beschäftigung und der Arbeitsmarkterfolg junger Mütter”

Workshops and seminars

Tuesday, April 15, 2025

Bonn Applied Microeconomics Seminar (CRC TR 224 Seminar)

Patrick Agte
(Stockholm School of Economics)

"Fighting Silent Killers: How India's Public Healthcare Staffing Expansion Saves Lives by Improving Access and Market Quality"

Coauthor

Jitendra Kumar Soni

Time

14:15–15:45 CET

Location

IZA, Conference Room, Schaumburg-Lippe-Straße 9

Abstract

Millions of adults in low- and middle-income countries die from treatable conditions every year. This paper highlights that an understaffed public healthcare system contributes to high premature mortality, both directly by affecting public provision and indirectly by allowing low-quality private providers to remain competitive. We evaluate a large-scale reform to India's public healthcare system that adds a mid-level healthcare worker to village clinics. Exploiting quasi-experimental variation due to assignment rules, we find that adding a worker reduces all-age mortality in the catchment area by 10% within two years, making the reform highly cost-effective. Eighty percent of the decline is attributable to a decrease in deaths of adults aged 56+, increasing their life expectancy by at least three months. We conduct audit visits, patient exit interviews, and provider surveys to study mechanisms and find that the program improves performance and service availability in the public sector and also induces private providers to increase their quality. To quantify the importance of each of these channels and evaluate counterfactual policies, we estimate a structural model of patient demand. Ten percent of the decrease in all-age mortality can be attributed to the private sector response, while the remaining 90% is due to simultaneous improvements in public sector quality and access. Only improving public sector quality or access in isolation has limited effects. Model estimates further demonstrate large heterogeneity in predicted treatment gains; we show that an optimal reallocation of the new providers that accounts for local market conditions could achieve a substantially greater reduction in mortality.

CASFI Seminar (Macro/Econometrics), Kolleg-Forschungsgruppe

João Ritto
(University of Toronto)

"Real effects of monetary policy under product market search frictions"

Time

12:15–13:30 CET

Location

Juridicum, Faculty Meeting Room (U1.040)

Abstract

Search frictions in the product market have been widely studied as a foundation of monetary theory. More recently, they have also been advanced as a possible explanation for demand-side fluctuations. This paper develops a monetary model with product market search frictions to evaluate the quantitative relevance of these frictions to the short-term effects of monetary policy on output. In the model, due to matching uncertainty in the product market, firms operate with unutilized capacity and households carry unused liquidity, and changes to the nominal interest rate have effects on output. I discipline the degree of matching uncertainty by its implications on money velocity and capacity utilization. Absent matching uncertainty, a one percent reduction in the nominal interest rate increases consumption by 0.07%. Matching uncertainty can amplify this effect by a factor of four.

Finance/CRC Seminar

Harald Hau
(University of Geneva)

"What is the Purpose of Board Overlap?"

Coauthors

Heng Geng, Roni Michaely, Binh Nguyen

Time

14:45–16:00 CET

Location

Juridicum, Faculty Lounge (0.036)

Abstract

We investigate if the primary motivation of board overlap is to mitigate competitive spillovers or to manage technology spillovers. We focus on the staggered introduction of Corporate Opportunity Waivers (COWs) in nine U.S. states since 2000, which reduced legal risk to directors serving on multiple boards and increased intra-industry board overlap. Only firm pairs with strong competitive spillovers experience new board overlap, whereas strong technology spillovers do not trigger new board overlap. New intra-industry board overlap results in higher firm profitability and increased operating margins and is achieved through reduced investments and greater differentiation in product development.

ReStart Talk (ECONtribute)

Regina Riphahn
(Friedrich-Alexander-Universität
Erlangen-Nürnberg)

"Geringfügige Beschäftigung und der Arbeitsmarkterfolg
junger Mütter"

Time

12:00–13:00 CET

Online

Zoom-Link will be sent after registration.
Click [here](#) to register.

For more details please see the [program](#)

Abstract

Im Jahr 2024 betrug der Gender Pay Gap in Deutschland 16%. Ein Großteil der Ungleichheit zwischen Männern und Frauen am Arbeitsmarkt entsteht mit der Geburt von Kindern, nach der Mütter häufiger und länger ihre Erwerbstätigkeit pausieren. Sind Minijobs in diesem Kontext ein Sprungbrett für die Karriere, weil sie es jungen Müttern erlauben, früh nach der Geburt des Kindes den Anschluss an den Arbeitsmarkt nicht zu verlieren? Oder sind sie eher eine Sackgasse, die junge Mütter in weniger qualifizierte Beschäftigung mit geringeren Aufstiegschancen lockt?