

**SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND
FINANCE
NEWSLETTER NO. 24
MARCH 2005**

The School Newsletter is published three times a year on 1st July, 1st November and 1st March. It contains news of activities of school staff and postgraduates during the four months before publication.

The Newsletter is edited by the Head of School and the School Secretary. Any queries or items for publication can be sent to the School Secretary.

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EDITORIAL

The new school has got off to a good start and the new MScs in Finance and ISE are now underway with nearly 30 postgraduates in all.

Oliver Kirchkamp, University of Mannheim has been appointed to a chair in Economics and Helmut Rainer (Essex) has been appointed to a lectureship.

Professor Chadha resigned in January and Professor Charles Nolan became Director of CDMA. Simon Betts resigned as Administrator. Mark Casson became external examiner for the new MSc in ISE.

Christoffer Koch, a final year student, won a German Rhodes Scholarship to Oxford for next academic year.

PUBLICATIONS

1st October 2004 – 31st January 2005

Cobham, D., Athanasios Papadopoulos and George Zis, 'The cost of political intervention in monetary policy', *International Finance*, **7**, 471-93, 2004

FitzRoy, F., and Fathi Fakhfakh 'Rent - sharing in French Manufacturing', *Labour*, **18**, 615-31. 2004

FitzRoy, F., and **Smith, I.**, 'Welfare, Growth and Environment: A Sceptical Review of "The Skeptical Environmentalist" by B. Lomborg', *Scottish Journal of Political Economy*, **51**, 707-717, 2004.

Sutherland, A., 'Cost-Push Shocks and Monetary Policy in Open Economies' *Oxford Economic Papers*, **57**, 1-33, 2005

Ozkan Gulcin, Anne Sibert and **Sutherland A.**, 'Monetary Union and the Maastricht Inflation Criterion: The Accession Countries', *The Economics of Transition*, **12**, 635-652, 2004

Senay Ozge and **Sutherland, A.**, 'The Expenditure Switching Effect and the Choice Between Fixed and Floating Exchange Rates' in Driver, Sinclair and Thoenissen (eds), *Exchange Rates, Capital Flows and Policy*, London: Routledge, 2004

Senay Ozge and **Sutherland A.**, 'Can Endogenous Changes in Price Flexibility Alter the Relative Welfare Performance of Exchange Rate Regimes?' NBER Working Paper No 11092, 2005

Driver, R., Sinclair, P., and **Thoenissen, C.**, *Exchange Rates, Capital Flows and Policy*, London: Routledge, 2004

Driver, R., Sinclair P., and **Thoenissen, C.**, 'Real exchange rates, current accounts and the net foreign asset position', in *Exchange Rates, Capital Flows and Policy*, London: Routledge, 2004

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

1st October 2004 – 31st January 2005

Arnab Bhattacharjee

- attended the 15th EC² Conference on '*The Econometrics of Industrial Organization*', Marseille, December 2004 and presented a paper titled 'Models of Firms Dynamics and the Hazard Rate of Exits: Reconciling Theory and Evidence using Hazard Regression Models'.
- attended the *International Sri Lankan Statistical Conference: Visions of Futuristic Methodologies*, Kandy, Sri Lanka, December 2004 and gave an invited presentation on 'Locally Adaptive Kernel Regression: A Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space Approach' (with S. Chatterjee).

David Cobham

- attended a DFID-funded meeting 'Towards an economically-viable Palestinian state' at LSE in November 2004.

Christoph Thoenissen

- presented a paper on 'Labour markets and firm-specific capital in New Keynesian general equilibrium models' at staff seminar at York University, November 2004.
- presented a paper on 'Labour markets and firm-specific capital in New Keynesian general equilibrium models' at staff seminar at Universität Köln, December 2004.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

1st October 2004 – 31st January 2005

Arnab Bhattacharjee

- visited Cambridge and London Business School several times to work on ongoing projects with Sean Holly, Chris Higson and Paul Kattuman.

John Beath

- member of the Higher Education Academy Committee on the Future of the LTSN Network (Burgess Committee). The committee met on various occasions over this period and submitted a report at the end of December 2004.
- was Economics external on a panel reviewing the PPE degree at Oxford University, 8th -10th November 2004.
- had meetings most Mondays of the Doctors Dentists Review Board to take oral evidence from the BMA, BDA, DoH and Health Ministers and to draft our report and recommendations on salary and fee uplifts, between 15th November 2004 and 31st January 2005.
- was external examiner on a PhD viva at Heriot-Watt University on 9th November 2004.
- attended a meeting of the Steering Committee and also the main meeting of CHUDE in November 2004.
- chaired Board meetings of ERINI in Belfast in December 2004 and January 2005.
- undertook a Dry Run RAE Assessment for Queen Mary, University of London during December 2004.

Chris Jensen-Butler

- was external reviewer for the ESRC, the Leverhulme Trust and the Norwegian Research Council.

Laurence Lasselle

- visited the Department of Economics of the European University Institute between 8th November and 3rd December 2004.

Gavin Reid

- acted as External Examiner, MBA, University of Durham, 3rd November 2004.
- chaired, as President and organizer, the meeting of the National Conference of University Professors (NCUP), at Kings College, London, 28th October 2004 on 'The Role of the Modern Professor'. This was extensively reported in the media, including two pages of coverage and an editorial in the Times Higher Educational Supplement.
- attended, and participated in, a meeting of the Edinburgh Finance and Investment Seminar, on the theme 'Statistics for Policy Making' led by Christopher Allsopp, (Oxford University, Bank of England), 8th November 2004.

- presented a briefing paper (with Gorham Partners) to Scottish Enterprise (Atlantic Quay, Glasgow), on high technology clusters in the Scotland, 19th November 2004.
- had private meeting with Prof. Paul Geroski, Chairman of the Competition Commission, St Andrews, 3rd December 2004.
- attended the university course on Diversity Training, 11th January 2005, New Hall.
- chaired, as President, the Council and AGM of the National Conference of University Professors, Kings College, London, and participated in debate on the Annual Assembly Lecture by Stephen Schwartz on the theme 'The University as a Public Good, and its Ethical Implications', 15th January 2005.
- attended the meeting of the Sustaining Profitable Growth (SPG) Programme, Cardiff Castle, 27th January 2005.

CRIEFF NEWS

1st October 2004 – 31st January 2005

Gavin Reid and Vandana Ujjual have been continuing work on the ScotEcon.net funded project , on high technology agglomerations in Scotland. The field work phase has been drawing to a close, with further visits to high tech enterprises, and direct interviews with Professor Wilson Sibbett, 25th October; Professor Sir Philip Cohen, Dundee University 10th November; and Spiro Rombotis, CFO, Cyclacel, 19th October 2004.

Gavin Reid had a research visit to Cardiff University Business School to engage in joint work with Dr J.A. Smith on a new Carnegie funded project on risk management in high technology firms in Scotland 15th -17th Dec 2004.

Dr J.A. Smith was a research visitor within CRIEFF, 5th - 6th Jan 2005, working on post-investment performance of long lived SMEs that have received venture capital investment.

POST-GRADUATE NEWS

1st October 2004 – 31st January 2005

The two new MSc degrees of the School have been safely launched: the MSc in International Strategy and Economics (ISE) and the MSc in Finance. The former degree has 23 students and the latter degree six students. There are 23 PhD/MPhil enrolments, full and part time. New entrants include six CDMA scholars (Nikola Bokan, Michal Horvath, Vladislav Damjanovic, Elisa Newby, Qi Sun and Alex Trew), five ORS/Chevening scholars, (Sandjar Kozubaeu, Elozotbek Rustambekov, Olga Skorabogatova, Muzaffar Zuhurov, and Jafar Fazilov), and a Gibson/Sikorski scholar (Jacob Wiezbicki).

Miroslav Beblavy had his viva voce examination (external examiner David Vines) on his PhD thesis on central bank independence and monetary policy in Eastern Europe; the thesis was accepted with no changes required.

PERSONAL

1st October 2004 – 31st January 2005

Arnab Bhattacharjee

- was elected a member of the International Statistical Institute in recognition of contributions to the advancement of Statistics.

Felix FitzRoy

- was appointed to Research Fellowship, IZA, Bonn, December 2004.

Gavin Reid

- was elected for a further period of one year, as President of the National Conference of University Professors, NCUP, until January 2006, at the Council and AGM of the NCUP on 15th January 2005, Kings College, London.