



ECON NEWS 50

25 NOVEMBER 2013

TWO PHD STUDENTS RECEIVE TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS



PhD students [Maria Elbek Andersen](#) and [Mikkel Mulvad Bennedsen](#) have received the Aage and Ylva Nimb's Foundation Travel Scholarship and will go abroad to, respectively, the research centre CIRRELT Montreal, Canada, and Harvard University.

Maria Elbek Andersen is working within the field of logistics, and the overall theme of her project is Transportation Problems in Waste Management. Maria is one year into her PhD studies and is well underway with her first two articles, both of which present methods for planning transportation in the collection of recyclable materials.

Maria will spend the spring of 2014 at CIRRELT - Interuniversity Research Centre on Enterprise Networks, Logistics and Transportation in Montreal, Canada.



Mikkel Mulvad Bennedsen started as a PhD student in the autumn of 2012, and he is almost finished with his first research project and the second has been launched. The first project deals with the use of a new type of mathematical model - called Brownian Semistationary (BSS) processes - for modeling commodity prices with a particular focus on electricity prices. The preliminary results are very promising.

Mikkel is going on an exchange to Harvard University where he will be working with Professor Neil Shephard, who is one of the world's leading researchers in the field in which Mikkel is working.

Congratulations to both of you!

AARHUS QUANT FACTORY



The [Finance Research Group](#) at the Department organizes the Aarhus Quant Factory, which is a series of events with focus on Quantitative Finance. It will be held on 14-17 January 2014 at Fuglesangs Allé and the programme will consist of the following events:

- **14 January - PhD course: Understanding and Managing Model Risk.**
Intensive PhD course lectured by Massimo Morini, IMI Bank of Intesa San Paolo.
- **15-16 January - PhD course: Lectures on Capital Requirements, Credit Risk, Collateral and Centralized Clearing.**
Intensive PhD course lectured by Leif Andersen, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, and Jesper Andreasen, Danske Bank.
- **17 January - Symposium: Aarhus Quant Day.**
Talks given by:
 - Leif Andersen, Bank of America Merrill Lynch
 - Jesper Andreasen, Danske Bank
 - Rama Cont, Imperial College, London
 - Brian Hüge, Danske Bank
 - Jan Kallsen, Christian Albrechts University, Kiel
 - Vladimir Piterbarg, Barclays
 - Chris Rogers, University of Cambridge
 - Wim Schoutens, Catholic University of Leuven

[See the invitation.](#)

[Read more about the Aarhus Quant Factory here.](#)

VISITING PROFESSOR: MONIKA GEHRIG-MERZ



Professor [Monika Gehrig-Merz](#), University of Vienna, is visiting the Department from 11 November to 30 November 2013.

Her research areas include: Interactions between labour markets and financial markets; labour supply and business cycles; and labour supply and aggregation in heterogeneous labour markets.

During her stay Monika will be located in the building 2621(B), office 7b.

FULL-DAY WORKSHOP - THE WELLBEING OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH



[TryqFonden's Centre for Child Research](#) invites all AU researchers with an interest in the well-being of children and youth to a full-day AU workshop on 17 January 2014.

The aim of the workshop is to establish a platform to share ideas and stimulate collaboration between the research groups at AU that work within the field of well-being of children and youth.

Professor Erika Hoff, Florida Atlantic University, will attend the workshop and present some of her work.

Exact time and place of the workshop will be announced here:

www.childresearch.au.dk.

[Read the invitation here.](#)

CUL COURSES - SPRING 2014



The Centre for Teaching and Learning (CUL) has sent out their course catalogue for the spring 2014. They offer in-service training courses in teaching and learning for lecturers at all career levels at School of Business and Social Sciences and most courses are offered in both English and Danish.

[See the course programme here.](#)

DEIC NEWSLETTER



[DeiC](#) (Danish E-Infrastructure Cooperation) has sent out a newsletter with the latest news about e-infrastructures (computing, storage and network) in relation to research and research-based teaching.

If you are interested in supercomputing/HPC you may find it useful to be added to their mailing list and receive information about international calls, news etc. – read more about the mailing list in the newsletter.

[Read the newsletter here](#) (in Danish).

HR DEPARTMENT'S CHRISTMAS PARTY IN OUR LUNCH ROOM



Like last year, the HR Department at Business and Social Sciences will borrow our staff lunch room for their Christmas party, which will be held on Friday 29 November.

The organizers of the party will start preparing and setting the tables at 2 pm and the party will start at 3 pm.

We are sorry for the inconvenience that this will have for those of you who will be working later than 3 pm on Friday 29 November.

STAFF PORTRAIT

STAFF PORTRAIT: MICHAEL ROSHOLM



This time [Michael Rosholm](#) has agreed to answer the questions for the staff portrait. Thank you, Michael. Michael is professor at the Department and is head of [TrygFonden's Centre for Child Research](#).

How long have you been employed at the Department of Economics and Business?

I started here as a PhD student in 1994, and since then I have been switching back and forth between two of the three departments that are now merged.

What is your background?

I have a Masters from 1993 and a PhD degree in economics (1998) from Aarhus University.

What are your main areas of research?

It used to be labour economics and treatment effects of labour market policies, but a couple of years ago I felt it was time for a change and now I am the head of TrygFonden's Centre for Child Research, located in the B-wing of the Department.

I am desperately trying to finish some projects in labour market policy, will probably retain a few con amore projects in that area, but my main focus now is on the impact of interventions aimed at children and youth, which I find very interesting and highly under-researched in Denmark - and many other places.

What research projects are you working on at the moment?

Too many to mention them all here, but here is a few:

- A randomised field experiment of a mentoring project aimed at young welfare recipients.
- A setup for conducting cost-benefit analyses across all the studies at

the Centre.

- A randomised field experiment on intensifying case management aimed at disadvantaged families with children.
- With my labour market policy PhD students, I look at a randomised field experiment aimed at sick-listed workers, and at the importance of meetings between case workers and unemployed workers for unemployment and vacancy durations and the number of matches made.

What are you involved in teaching-wise at the moment?

I normally supervise 4-6 PhD students, and then I have been excused for a while from ordinary teaching to start the Centre, but from spring I will be teaching introductory macro, which I find to be great fun. I was chairman of the Danish Economic Council (the 'wise men') for 7 years, so I know basic macro quite well and a few stories to spice it up.

Are you planning to take part in any conferences or the like abroad in the near future?

Yes. Inside Denmark, I am co-organising a conference on active labour market policies in Vejle in December, and I am co-organising an internal AU workshop for all researchers at AU doing children and youth research in mid-January.

I will be going to New Zealand late November/early December, where I am invited to talk about our research centre and on our use of administrative register-based data for children and youth.

I will go to Philly for the AEA meeting early January, and I will be co-teaching a course on randomised field experiments in Cape Town late January.

In February I will be giving a presentation at CREST in Paris.

Are you expecting any visiting researchers from abroad in the near future (or have you had any visitors from abroad recently)?

We held our opening conference at the Centre in August, where we had many visitors, among them Nobel Laureate James Heckman. At the December conference in Vejle, we will, among others, have Jeff Smith from UMich over.

Are you cooperating with researchers from other departments at AU at the moment?

Yes, Psychology and Political Science and Department of Education are all involved in our Centre, and all major research projects at the Centre have interdisciplinary research teams.

What do you do when you are not at work?

Every other week I have my kids (4, aged 11-20), so obviously I spend a lot of time with them. I play chess (not well), so I am always up for a game. I enjoy travelling and do so as often as possible, workwise or otherwise. I desperately

try to find the motivation to do some physical exercise, but I have yet to find a more boring place than Fitness World, so motivation wise I am open for good suggestions:). I enjoy reading, so I do that a lot. I enjoy cooking as well, so I often invite friends over for dinner and wine.

Please give us your suggestion for the next department staff member to be presented:

[Preben Bo Mortensen](#)

What specific supplementary question would you like him or her to answer?

How is it to suddenly be part of an economics department? :)

EVENTS

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR THE ECON CHRISTMAS PARTY



Don't forget to sign up for this year's Christmas Party at the Department.

The party will be held on Friday 13 December at 5:30 pm in the Aula at Fuglesangs Allé.

- Traditional Danish Christmas Menu
- Pakkeleg ([What is Pakkeleg?](#))
- DJ
- Free bar
- Klubben will be open
- Price DKK 150

[See the invitation.](#)

Sign up before 29 November via this link:

<https://auws.au.dk/ChristmasParty2013>.

Don't forget to bring a small gift (approx. DKK 20).

CHRISTMAS TREE PARTY FOR ALL EMPLOYEES AT BSS



[The Staff Association at BSS](#) invites all employees at BSS and their families to the annual Christmas tree party, which will be held on Saturday 14 December 2013 from 2:00 to – 5:00 pm at Fuglesangs Allé in the lower multi room of Building S.

Coffee and sweets will be served while you make your own Christmas crafts (bring scissors, paper and Christmas cutting shapes). There will be a Christmas play for the children and dancing around the Christmas tree, and all the children will get a bag of sweets.

Admission is free for all employees at BSS and their families.

Register no later than Monday 2 December (remember to state the number of adults and children participating).

[Read more and register here.](#)

EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTION DAY



AU HR has organised the next employee introduction day to take place on Wednesday 11 December 2013 from 9 am to 2 pm. The event is open to all new employees. The meeting takes place at Fredrik Nielsens Vej 4, 8000 Aarhus C, and the programme includes the following:

- Welcome by the senior management team
- Introduction to AU
- Liaison committee and union representatives at AU
- Information from the International Centre
- Lunch and guided tour of the University Park in Aarhus
- Practical AU information for researchers

In addition to the practical information, the introduction day gives new members of staff a good opportunity to build a network at the university right from the start.

For more information and to register for the event, follow [this link](#).

ALL EVENTS



[See the list of all coming events at the Department: seminars, workshops, PhD defences, PhD courses etc. here.](#)

Do you know of an event that is not mentioned on the list, please let me know: bhoejklint@econ.au.dk.

ALL ABOUT FUNDING

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED CALLS



Previously announced calls etc. regarding funding that are still valid can be found on the staff portal, see:

<http://econ.medarbejdere.au.dk/research/external-funding/calls-for-applications/>.

For information about where to get assistance etc. when applying for external funding, see: <http://econ.medarbejdere.au.dk/research/external-funding/>.

PUBLICATIONS

NEW PUBLICATIONS - SEND ME YOUR FRONT PAGE



I have received the front pages and abstracts of 4 new publications. Thank you for that. See them below. Have you also published something new and would you like to share it with the rest of us? Send me the front page of your publication (and, if possible, an abstract) - then I will announce it in the next issue of ECON News: bhojklint@econ.au.dk.

- [Valerie Smeets](#), Sharon Traiberman and [Frederic Warzynski](#): [Offshoring and Patterns of Quality Growth: Evidence from Danish Apparel](#), Economics Working Papers 2013-25.
- Christian Bender, [Mikko S. Pakkanen](#) and Hasanjan Sayit: [Sticky continuous processes have consistent price systems](#), CREATES Research Paper 2013-38.
- [Juan Carlos Parra-Alvarez](#): [A comparison of numerical methods for the solution of continuous-time DSGE models](#), CREATES Research Paper 2013-39.
- Daniel Ventosa-Santaulària and [Carlos Vladimir Rodríguez-Caballero](#): [Polynomial Regressions and Nonsense Inference](#), CREATES Research Paper 2013-40.

ALL PUBLICATIONS



[All ECON publications and working papers may be seen here](#). Please note that some publications may be missing – the list will be updated on a regular basis.

THE PHD CORNER

PHD DEFENCE: ANDERS BRUUN JONASSEN



In order to obtain the PhD degree in Economics and Business [Anders Bruun Jonassen](#) will defend his PhD thesis entitled “Regression Discontinuity Analyses of the Disincentive Effect of Increasing Social Assistance” on Tuesday 26 November 2013 at 13.15 in Auditorium E1, building 2624, Fuglesangs Allé 4.

The thesis can be downloaded from [Anders Bruun Jonassen's staff profile](#). For a paper copy, please contact [Susanne Christensen](#): sla@asb.dk.

The assessment committee consists of the following members:

- Professor Anders Forslund, IFAU Uppsala
- Research Programme Director Nicolai Kristensen, KORA
- Professor [Peter Jensen](#), Aarhus University (chairman).

The defence will be chaired by Professor [Peter Jensen](#), Department of Economics and Business.

The defence is public and open to all. It will be followed by a reception in room L162 (Tuborg Atrium), building 2632.

PHD COURSES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS



[See the list of all PhD courses at the Department.](#)

Would you like to announce a PhD related event in ECON News or on the website - please let me know: bhoejklint@econ.au.dk.

SEMINARS



[Get an overview of forthcoming seminars at the Department here.](#)

We have the following seminar series:

[Accounting Research Lunch Seminars](#)

[Brownbag Lunch Workshop](#)

[CIRRAU Lunch Seminar Series](#)

[CORAL Seminars](#)

[CREATES lunch seminars](#)

[CREATES weekly seminars](#)

[Distinguished Speaker Seminar Series](#)

[Economics Seminar Series](#)

[Finance Seminar Series](#)

[Public Sector Research Seminar Series](#)

[Trygfonden's Child Research Seminar Series](#)

[Tuborg Research Centre Seminars](#)

COLOPHON

ECON News is issued every second week, on Mondays.

Next issue: Monday 9 December 2013

Deadline for input: Thursday 5 December at 12. E-mail: bhoejklint@econ.au.dk.

ECON News is the bi-weekly internal newsletter for Department of Economics and Business. ECON News has the purpose of gathering overall information in order to minimize the flow of information. Urgent information will still be circulated now and then by e-mail.

ECON News will contain information related to overall news not provided by the Departmental News (written by Allan, Head of Department). To attain the goal of having a comprehensive information platform, I need your ideas and input. So please provide me with info on new grants, events, publications, guests, funding opportunities etc. Please send me an e-mail: bhoejklint@econ.au.dk.



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