



Leverhulme Centre for Research on Globalisation and Economic Policy

Annual conference set to maintain high standard

Academics from around the world are converging on GEP as the Centre stages its eighth annual Postgraduate Conference.

First held in 2002, the prestigious event provides a forum for disseminating student research relating to issues of globalisation and economic policy.

Already firmly established as one of the leading events of its kind, it continues to attract a wide and distinguished array of contributors.

This year students and staff from universities in countries including France, Germany, Spain and Denmark are due to attend.

Foreign direct investment, trade and productivity, migration and labour market adjustment will be among the general themes addressed.

Having helped make 2008's conference a record-breaking success, GEP Internal Research Fellows Tom Ivlevs and Liza Jabbour are again organising the event.

Dr Ivlevs said: "We're very proud of how the conference has grown into one of the most respected and popular anywhere in the world in the space of just a few years.

"Its standing is reflected year in, year out by the high calibre of submissions we receive and the superb standard of presentations and discussions.

"Judging by the quality of the papers submitted to us this year, we have no doubt that 2009 will prove just as impressive as 2008 – if not more so."

The conference has become so popular and has attained such standing that since 2007 it has been organised as a two-day residential event.

It is open to graduate students engaged in or

Conference briefing

approaching the preparation of a doctoral dissertation, with speakers chosen on the basis of submitted abstracts.

Since the start the aim has been for PhD students to discuss their own ideas with established researchers in a relaxed and open atmosphere.

This year students from universities including Aachen, Aarhus, Corisca, Hamburg, Göttingen, Mannheim, the Sorbonne and Zaragoza will present papers.

A diverse range of research will be discussed, including:

- how low business tax rates attract the HQs of multinational firms;
- the effect of financial factors on employment in Chinese manufacturing;
- how cultural and religious ties influence networks and trade;
- whether international outsourcing truly harms low-skilled labour;
- how China's technological progress might affect global pollution.

Dr Ivlevs added: "Obviously the conference provides a marvellous opportunity for students to visit a facility like ours and discuss their work with experienced researchers.

"Equally, though, it's always interesting for us to exchange ideas, approaches and methodologies with them. It's a very valuable exercise for everyone involved."

The conference takes place at the University of Nottingham on March 26 and 27.

Conference organisers

Tom Ilevs joined GEP as a Research Fellow in March 2007. He is currently researching the role of ethnicity in determining migration flows, aging-related determinants of attitudes towards immigration and dual migration flows in Central and Eastern Europe.



Liza Jabbour joined GEP as a Research Fellow in July 2007. Her research interests are in applied international and industrial economics, outsourcing and offshoring decisions, productivity and multinational firms' behaviour.



GEP is based at the University of Nottingham and is substantially funded by grants from the Leverhulme Trust.

In January 2008 it opened GEP in Malaysia at the University of Nottingham's purpose-built Semenyih campus, 30km from Kuala Lumpur.

In November 2008 it launched GEP in China at the University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China.

GEP is keen to promote its research work and is committed to communicating its expertise through the media and to assisting journalists whenever able.

Website: www.gep.org.uk

Papers to be presented at the conference

- *Trade Liberalisation and Self-Control Problems*
- *Lobbying for Tariffs: an Analysis of the Interaction Between Domestic Policy and Trade Policy*
- *How Low Business Tax Rates Attract Multinational Headquarters: Municipality-Level Evidence From Germany*
- *Do Financial Factors Affect Firms' Employment? Evidence From Chinese Manufacturing Firms*
- *Information, Incentives and Multinational Firms*
- *Why Don't Labour and Capital Flow Between Young and Old Countries?*
- *The Source of Inter-Industry Wage Differentials*
- *Networks and Trade: Evidence From the Jewish Diaspora*
- *Intransparent Prices: a Model of Intra-Industry Trade Due to Incomplete Information*
- *Growth and Offshoring*
- *International Outsourcing and Wage Rigidity: a Formal Approach and First Empirical Evidence*
- *Threshold and Interaction Effects in the Trade-Poverty Relationship*
- *Plant Exit and Productivity Performance: Evidence from Japan*
- *Regional Heterogeneity and China's International Trade: Sufficient Lumpiness Or Not?*
- *Uncertainty and Coordination Cost in Vertically-Linked Industries: a Model of New Economic Geography*
- *An Empirical Study of the World Economic Geography of Manufacturing Industries (1980-2003)*
- *The Effects of Liberalisation on Air Passenger Traffic: an Event Study of the Enlargement of the EU and the Single European Aviation Market*
- *The Relationship Between Trade Openness and Public Expenditure – the Spanish Case*
- *Determinants of East-West Migration in Germany: a Macroeconomic Analysis*
- *The Pollution Content in China's Trade*

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