Meet Pierre Dubois…

TIGER FORUM

SPECIAL EDITION

Research highlights from the event

Exclusive interviews with Joseph Stiglitz, 2014 Jean-Jacques Laffont Prize laureate & Bruno Sire, UT Capitole President

A look back at the event in pictures & videos

TIGER Forum Economic Survey results

PARTNERSHIPS

Pfizer: evaluating the social value of cancer treatments

Meet Pierre Dubois…
Dear friends,

Economics has evolved in many ways over the last four decades. On the theoretical front, the game theory and information economics revolution provided economists with new tools to deepen their knowledge of a wide range of topics, from antitrust and regulation to labour and political economics, finance and macroeconomics. Departing from the paradigm of perfectly competitive markets has allowed theorists to gain relevance and formulate more robust and well-founded policy interventions. Meanwhile, the profession has made great strides in refining empirical strategies. While data are meaningless without a clean theoretical lens to interpret them, theory also builds on existing facts and offers hypotheses to be tested. The to-and-fro between theory and empirical work is the hallmark of much of today’s research excellence. The development of new econometric approaches, the diffusion of randomised experiments, and the lab and field experiment revolution have all contributed to making economics a more solid-founded field.

TSE researchers not only contribute to the advancement of knowledge through contributions published in the best scientific journals; they also strive to help public and private decision-makers design better policies. The TIGER Forum, our “science meets policy” event, reflects this identity: this year’s many scientific conferences allowed participants from all over the world to exchange on state-of-the-art research. The daily “TIGER insights” and “Roaring debates” provided not soundbites, but well-informed, high-level discussions on topical economic issues. We are delighted that this issue of the TSE Mag focuses on this event, and thank all those involved for making the Forum happen.

Jean Tirole - Christian Gollier

Jean TIROLE, TSE Chairman
Christian GOLLIER, TSE Director

look out for the TIGER Forum logo for special features
Stéphane Straub

The Brasília experiment

TSE professors Stéphane Straub and Émmanuelle Auriol organised a two-day workshop at the TIGER Forum on “Development economics: from frontier research to policy issues”. The event brought together some of the world’s leading experts in the field for presentations focusing on redistribution, health, productivity, networks and agricultural markets, financial and human capital, and countrywide studies, all applied to developing economies.

Stéphane Straub, Director of TSE’s development economics department, presented a paper co-authored with TSE PhD student Julia Bird on the long-term impacts of rapid road construction in Brazil:

Large-scale investment programmes in infrastructure are often hailed as an important element of development strategies. However, they also have important spatial redistribution effects on population and production, thereby affecting the long-term growth pattern. To date the empirical knowledge on this process is still limited.

Brasília, Brazil’s current federal capital city, was built from scratch between 1956 and 1960 in a previously unpopulated area selected because of its geographic centrality, at the initiative of then President Juscelino Kubitschek who wanted to shift the country’s centre of gravity away from the Southern coastal region. The following decades were characterized by one of the largest post-war infrastructure development programmes worldwide, as Brazil paved over 150,000 km of roads. The resulting radial highway system, meant to connect the new capital to other main economic centres also incidentally connected other inland municipalities along the way. Proximity to the roads built after the creation of Brasília was a key factor in explaining the subsequent changes in local access to major centres. However, whether municipalities were close or far from the new corridors was mostly due to luck rather than to their specific economic characteristics. We exploit this ‘historical natural experiment’ to study the impact of the rapid expansion of the Brazilian road network on the growth and spatial allocation of population and economic activity across the country’s municipalities between 1970 and 2000.

We uncover a dual geographical pattern. In the more developed South, improved transport connections resulted in an increased concentration of population and economic activity, especially services, in radiuses of up to several hundred kilometers around the main urban areas. Northern State capitals underwent the opposite process, with a concentration of population and economic activity away from the main urban centers, generating the emergence of numerous secondary urban centres.

The causal growth effect of the radial highway network development for the country was huge, accounting for almost half of the 136% growth in per capita GDP over the period. Looking at changes across the country’s municipalities between 1970 and 2000.

Estelle Malavolti is TSE associate researcher and member of the French Civil Aviation University (ENAC). Estelle presented a paper at the ITEA conference studying whether revenues from retail activities in airports should be included airport profit regulation or not.

Large airports are generated more and more often from commercial activities such as retailing. This non-aeronautical income, such as parking fees, food & beverage sales, advertising and shop profits is vital to airports, accounting for almost half of total airport revenues worldwide. However, these commercial services are relatively far from the original mission of the airport: providing airlines with aviation services such as ground handling, terminal management or airside operations.

Whether or not to include these activities in airport activity changes is a hot debate. One can advocate for the separation of the two activities, i.e. for a dual till approach, in which only the aeronautical activity is regulated, hence focusing only on the regulated business to avoid distorting the commercial, non-aeronautical airport service provisions. We, instead, suggest that a single till regulation, in which the total profit of the airport is examined, is relevant because it allows to take into account the externalities existing between retailing and aeronautical services.

Using a two-sided market approach (Armstrong 2006, Rochet-Tirel 2003, 2006), we show that the airport is a platform which makes the shops and the passengers meet. The retailing activity depends on how many passengers are circulating and connecting at the airport, as well as the time they spend in the airport, while passengers value the least commuting time as possible. We show that the aeronautical tax can be either higher or lower under single till depending on the impact of the passengers demand or of the waiting time is the more important for the shops. In short, single till appears to be the fairest mechanism for charging airline users.
Caring for aging baby boomers

One special feature of the TIGER Forum was a conference devoted to long-term care (LTC), a timely issue given that LTC needs are expected to grow in most countries over the coming decades as the “baby boom” generation ages. The event presented empirical and theoretical papers sharing a common approach, addressing the question of dependency and the practice of LTC insurance via the interactions between the three actors involved: the market, the government and the family. This three-way interaction approach is a novel and unique way of tackling the LTC issue.

During the conference, Chiara Canta (Norwegian School of Economics) presented a recent paper co-authored with the conference co-organizers Emmanuel Thibault (Professor at TSE / University of Perpignan) and Pierre Pestieau (CORE / Université de Liège / TSE). Their paper underlines the need for serious long-term care reform taking into account the interactions between States, families and markets:

The aging baby boom generation has been described as a coming earthquake that will shake the foundations of the LTC system. In the face of such a challenge, one recognizes the need for serious LTC reform. This issue goes beyond the economic sphere to become a public health issue. Carers are paying the ultimate price for providing LTC: elderly spousal carers (aged 66-96) who experience caregiving-related stress have a 63% higher mortality rate than non-caregivers of the same age.

In this article the authors focus on the provision of LTC in a lifetime context with joint interaction of the State, the family and the market. In such a context it is essential to understand the motives behind familial solidarity and the influence thereon that (public or private) insurance programmes exert. Finally, it is important to analyse the impact that alternative ways of financing LTC may have on capital accumulation and, consequently, on economic growth.

The authors present a theoretical model that explores the consequences (both at the micro and macro level) that the different LTC financing sources entail. The innovative aspect of the article lies in including in the same framework all possible LTC funding sources (unfunded public insurance scheme, private insurance, family help and precautionary savings) and their interplay, the psychological bias of the dependent towards family support, intergenerational imitation for insurance scheme, private insurance, family help and precautionary savings) and their interplay, the psychological bias of the dependent towards family support, intergenerational imitation for the carer, dynamic intergenerational aspects and the role of prices such as wages and interest rates.

As expected, the presence of family help and/or public insurance changes both individual behaviour and the dynamics of capital accumulation. However, the main message of the article is countereintuitive: in presence of family support individuals choose private insurance if the pay-as-you-go social insurance is generous enough; and the more generous the pay-as-you-go social insurance is, the higher the economic growth. Thus, the fact that an aging population leads the State to establish generous unfunded public insurance also encourages individuals to ensure themselves privately and is therefore beneficial for growth.

On the road to heaven

The TIGER workshop on Economics & Religion, organised in collaboration with the Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse (IAST), featured the latest research advances in the economic analysis of the impact of beliefs, norms and religious arrangements on the organisation of societies in a historical perspective. It also proposed debates between economists and decision-makers around the issues of secularism at the workplace and the causes of modern wars: economics or religion?

Why do we observe this phenomenon? The social science literature points to a causal impact of religion: perhaps some religious beliefs are more conducive to economic success than others. In this paper, I provide a different answer: historical processes of self-selection (on income) across religions, which were induced by economic incentives, might have shaped religious group membership, generating the observed correlation between religion and socioeconomic outcomes.

The paper focuses on Egypt, where Copts (Egyptian Christians) were traditionally better off than the Muslim majority. I trace the origins of the phenomenon to a historical process of self-selection across religions, which was induced by a purely economic incentive: the imposition of poll tax on non-Muslims upon the Islamic Conquest of the then-Coptic Christian Egypt in 640. The regressive tax, which was induced by a purely economic incentive: the imposition of poll tax on non-Muslims upon the Islamic Conquest of the then-Coptic Christian Egypt in 640. The regressive tax, which remained until 1856, led to the conversion of poor Copts to Islam to avoid paying the tax, and to the shrinking of Copts to a better-off minority. I test this hypothesis using new data sources that

Long-term care and capital accumulation: the impact of the state, the market and the family

Chiara Canta, Pierre Pestieau and Emmanuel Thibault; Working paper

Mohamed Saleh (TSE-IAST junior chair) co-organised the workshop with Marc Ivaldi (TIGER Director). Mohamed also presented a recent paper on the links between self selection, religion and socioeconomic status:

A correlation between religion and socioeconomic outcomes (e.g. education, occupation, and wages) is observed throughout history in various parts of the world. For example, a very old and widely known empirical fact is that Protestants in Western Europe have, on average, better socioeconomic outcomes than Catholics. The phenomenon is not confined to the Protestant-Catholic divide though. In the United States, Jews seem to be doing better than other religious groups, while in India, Hindus are traditionally better off than Muslims. In the Middle East, a region where religious divisions remain the major source of social segmentation, native non-Muslim minorities are, following a long medieval tradition, better off than the Muslim majority.

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Pharmaceutical innovation & regulation

What are the major challenges for innovation in the pharmaceutical industry today?

Pierre Dubois. Growth and innovation in the pharmaceutical industry have traditionally been driven by “blockbuster” drugs, that’s to say the commercialisation of a wide-reaching drugs which achieve global acceptance by prescribing doctors, dominating the market and leading to billion dollar profits for the owner of the blockbuster patent. Examples include the well-known Tagamet (trade name of the Cimetidine molecule) for stomach ulcers and Lipitor (trade name of Atorvastatin) for cholesterol.

In today’s market, pharmaceutical companies struggle to find new molecules to patent such blockbusters. Quite simply, the low-hanging fruits have already been picked!

Your work suggests that innovation today depends on market sizes?

PD. As recent research I carried out with colleagues has shown, there is a clear link between market structure and innovation in the pharmaceutical industry. As a general rule, larger markets attract investment, leading to high levels of innovation. Cancer blockbuster patent. Examples include the well-known Tagamet (trade name of the Cimetidine molecule) for stomach ulcers and Lipitor (trade name of Atorvastatin) for cholesterol.

In today’s market, pharmaceutical companies struggle to find new molecules to patent such blockbusters. Quite simply, the low-hanging fruits have already been picked!

What are the major challenges of the pharmaceutical industry for the future?

PD. The challenge is for society and regulation. Companies react as best as they can to policies and market forces. The best regulation policies are difficult to design in a world where we want to improve health care and foster innovation efficiently and are difficult to design in a world where we want to improve health care and foster innovation efficiently and are difficult to design in a world where we want to improve health care and foster innovation efficiently and are difficult to design in a world where we want to improve health care and foster innovation efficiently and are difficult to design in a world where we want to improve health care and foster innovation efficiently and are difficult to design in a world where we want to improve health care and foster innovation efficiently and are difficult to design in a world where we want to improve health care and foster innovation efficiently and are difficult to design in a world where we want to improve health care and foster innovation efficiently and are difficult to design in a world where we want to improve health care and foster 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The TIGER forum 2014, displaying the scientific excellence and policy outreach of Toulouse School of Economics, took place from 2 to 6 June at the University Toulouse 1 Capitole. Relive the highlights from the event in video:

**THE TIGER INSIGHTS**
- **Tuesday 3 June**
  - New Stances on Globalization
- **Wednesday 4 June**
  - Cyber-Criminality
- **Thursday 5 June**
  - Reforms and Challenges of the Chinese Economy
- **Friday 6 June**
  - The Causes of Modern Wars: Economics or Religion?

**THE ROARING DEBATES**
- **Tuesday 3 June**
  - Pharmaceutical Industry Challenges
- **Tuesday 3 June**
  - Welfare State Crisis in the Western world
- **Thursday 5 June**
  - Industrial Policy for Sustainable Mobility and Energy: Economic and Prospective Analysis
- **Friday 6 June**
  - Secularism in the Company: Which Frontiers?

**Full highlights**

You can also have a look at the photos from the event on our official Flickr account.

**TIGER Forum 2014 in numbers**
- **1500+ views on flickr**
- **250+ Speakers**
- **8 Scientific Conferences**
- **500+ Tweets**
- **700+ participants**
- **44 Press Articles**
- **4 TV broadcasts**
- **9000 views on YouTube**
- **372 Online viewers**
- **20 000+ Photos shared**
- **23 Nationalities**

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**www.tiger-forum.com**

#TIGERForum
Joseph E. Stiglitz

Professor at Columbia University.

2001 Nobel Prize in Economics laureate for his analyses of markets with asymmetric information.

Former economic advisor to President Clinton.

Former chief economist and senior vice president of the World Bank.

Your JJ. Laffont lecture was focused on “creating a learning society”.

Please tell us more.

Joseph E. Stiglitz: Over the last two hundred years standards of living have increased enormously, and we’ve come to understand that most of those increases are due not to the accumulation of capital but to learning; learning how to do things better, how to get more output from a given amount of input, etc. If that’s the case then it makes sense to think systematically about how we learn and how to create a society that is more efficient in learning. One hears a lot about how to improve resource allocation and how to save more but we don’t talk enough about how to learn more.

You suggest we need to “learn to learn”. How can we do so?

JES: Obviously the education system is the most important but one of the theses of my new book* is that some sectors of the economy are better at learning and have more externalities, more spillover to other sectors. If that’s the case then it makes sense, in my view, to encourage those sectors to grow.

How do you feel about receiving the Jean-Jacques Laffont Prize?

JES: It’s a special pleasure for me to receive this prize because I was a good friend of Jean-Jacques. We had many interests in common, obviously interests in information centres, but he was also interested in bringing these ideas to the developing world and he was very instrumental in pushing certain reforms in the developing countries; competition policy, good regulatory policy, things that I myself have been very concerned about. So it was a real pleasure for me to receive this prize in his memory.


How makes sense to think systematically about how we learn and how to create a society that is more efficient in learning.
Interview with Bruno Sire

Bruno Sire, President of the University Toulouse 1 Capitole, looks back at the TIGER Forum that took place on the campus. He also introduces his new international initiative, the European Law School.

About the TIGER Forum

What does the TIGER Forum bring to your university?

Bruno Sire: I think of the TIGER Forum as the tip of an iceberg, one of the most noticeable activities of Toulouse School of Economics, at least for the general public and policy makers. I am delighted about this visibility, which reflects very positively on our university.

And vice-versa?

BS: If I think again of the iceberg, it’s important to have a high-reaching visible tip, but it’s also important to have solid foundations. Our university is that base. At the UT Capitole we have a collective energy that enables the TIGER Forum to “roar”, via the different research fields (mathematics, computer science, law, management, and political science) that feed and strengthen the economists’ reflections.

On a more practical aspect, TIGER is an exceptional event that requires a huge investment by all the university teams. Likewise, we have been gradually renovating our lecture halls for years, and I believe our infrastructure today meets the international high standards required by such an event.

How do you picture, in the future, a greater synergy with other components of the UT Capitole?

BS: Economic science has been designed to explain the relationship between the different actors of economic processes, be they individuals or corporations and private or institutional organisations. In my view, much research in economics cannot be separated from legal and/or management issues: the issue of competition from competition laws; the question of incentives from taxation; the issue of institutional risk from the functioning of the banking system or the operation of insurance systems; etc... I consider interdisciplinary approaches to be very productive. This is why I also believe strongly in the dynamics behind the Institute for Advanced Study in Toulouse (IAST). The interdisciplinary research carried out in this “laboratory of excellence” designed and led by Jean Tirole, as well as the very valuable team which is gradually taking shape around him, is truly exemplary and particularly promising.

At the UT Capitole we have a collective energy that enables the TIGER Forum to “roar” via the different research fields that feed and strengthen the economists’ reflections.

A highlight of the Forum?

BS: My thoughts go, of course, to the attendance of Joseph Stiglitz, a «star» who is very familiar with the general public, and whose presence possibly helped to renew the image that some may have of our university. Whilst it would be unfair to reduce the forum solely to his attendance, it illustrates the fact that UT Capitole is an open institution which does not function as a clique. All relevant individuals are welcome to join the discussion here. This is a place where in fact many sensibilities coexist with only one shared concern: scientific excellence.

About the European Law School

Why was this school created?

BS: It is the logical consequence of the Bologna Process Treaty, signed 15 years ago between European countries to encourage the convergence of our educational systems. In the fields of economics, mathematics, management, IT, etc. students across Europe now learn the same things, and their mobility is therefore not as essential as it is in the study of law, where each country still has its own laws. The problem is that many actors, not only companies but also governments and individuals, operate in several European countries with very different legal environments. They need lawyers able to assist and guide them in this international context. Thus, we have spent five years developing joint degrees with the best law schools in Europe. The European School of Law is a step further along this path, quite similar to the model of Toulouse School of Economics. Students will be able to enroll either immediately after the post-secondary education level or at the undergraduate level, and will graduate after 5 years, or after 8 years with a PhD. The idea is to train lawyers with a common knowledge that will enable them to work across several law systems in Europe.

What obstacles did you encounter when creating the school, and what potential obstacles may you face in order to make it work?

BS: It’s always difficult to innovate in a world that is still relatively conservative, but the progress has been quite positive so far.

Especially thanks to the high-level jurists involved, including the project leader, Sylvaine Peruzzetto, as well as many other colleagues who I unfortunately cannot list exhaustively here. We now need to motivate the troops and gather the required resources. Generally speaking, our university and law school have realised that if we are to get involved in this project, we need to allocate significant resources to get this very innovative project running at full speed on the right track.

Now we also have to work hard with our European partners to ensure that all exchanges run as smoothly as possible, and so that we can develop the project ambitiously, in particular through the creation of a European doctoral program.

The idea is to train lawyers with a common knowledge that will enable them to work across several law systems in Europe.

You mentioned earlier similarities to TSE, can you elaborate?

BS: The general philosophy is the same: the creation of a top-notch school (Grande École) within the university. We strive to provide our academic best by putting high-level researchers in front of the students for all courses, but also going one step further by offering additional services such as close student mentoring, an alumni network, and a number of tailored events geared towards creating a “Grande École” spirit and hence developing of a feeling of pride to belong to our high-level school.

Nowadays, large law firms obviously recruit very good lawyers, but they also value an in-depth culture of economics and international vision of potential issues. Thus, students who follow joint economics & law studies at TSE and who want to work in international law firms should consider enrolling in courses at our new European law school.
Pfizer: evaluating the social value of cancer treatments

DEI has a long-run relationship with Pfizer Inc. who has provided central support for research in the field of health and pharmaceuticals.

Today, the contract with Pfizer is a project-oriented short-term contract on cancer treatments. Signed in January 2014, the aim of this research project is to estimate the benefits of cancer treatments. Whilst a team of researchers from Harvard University is working on this for the US markets, Pfizer contacted IDEI for the European market.

This study is very important to evaluate the social gains of expenses incurred in cancer treatments and to identify whether and where healthcare policy needs additional resources.

In most countries outside the United States, the government plays an important role in determining the price of new pharmaceutical treatments and in promoting access to such treatments. While a number of studies have documented substantial variation in overall health outcomes across countries, very few are able to pinpoint specific policies that generate these differences. Pierre Dubois, professor of economics at TSE, is an expert in industrial organization applied to health and pharmaceutical economics and is heading this research contract for IDEI alongside Margaret Kyle, also Professor in health economics at TSE. “The study will enable to estimate the value of new pharmaceutical treatments, and compare this to the costs incurred by the health care system within each country” states Pierre.

Over the last 20 years, we have seen a certain level of innovation in cancer medications and treatments, as well as a remarkable change in the survival rate within cancer-detected patients for some types of tumours. This research will examine the shift in the survival curve associated with the introduction of new medications to treat a particular cancer and then compare the economic value of these gains relative to the costs of these treatments.

The research team is in the phase of data collection, aiming to provide results for France, and possibly other European countries like the UK and Germany. Data needs to be collected from many sources from France and abroad, including the Assurance Maladie (French National Health Insurance) for data collection of patients detected with cancer and a follow-up of their course of treatment, and the Institut National du Cancer for data on the long-term evolution of the cancer survivals.

This is a very challenging project, since the evaluation is related to many factors, like the nature and stage of the disease as well as the use of different medicines. However, the study is very important to evaluate the social gains of expenses incurred in cancer treatments and to identify whether and where healthcare policy needs additional resources. It can help governments as well as pharmaceutical industries assess the efficiency of their R&D investment and accordingly re-work on their R&D strategy.

There is no substitute for robust, data-driven analysis as a guide for health policy decisions. We look forward to the results of this very important collaboration with IDEI.

A word from
Tamer Abdelgawad,
Senior Director, International Policy, Pfizer Inc.

There is no substitute for robust, data-driven analysis as a guide for health policy decisions. We look forward to the results of this very important collaboration with IDEI.
TSE Doctoral School: a wealth of career opportunities

TSE’s doctoral programme provides advanced PhD courses and research studies to some 100 students. To prepare these students for their future careers, whether they are inclined to stay in academia or choose a professional path, TSE offers a full palette of preparatory training to ensure our students rival the very best outgoing PhDs for the “academic job market”. As well as the close collaboration with their direct supervisors, our PhDs are also encouraged to present and discuss their ideas and results with other researchers, internal or visitors, junior or senior, to gather as much feedback as possible and keep them on the best track. All through their studies, PhD students present their work at many TSE seminars as well as at international conferences.

Here is a flavour of the career opportunities that TSE PhD students can expect, from both the academic and the business/policy perspective:

A life in academia?

The TSE students aiming for a career in academia are prepared for a very competitive world-level selection process, the annual “Economics Job Market”, organised by the American Economics Association (AEA). Charles Angelucci, one of the ten outstanding TSE PhD candidates on the 2014 Job Market, was offered a place at Columbia Business School. Charles gives us his personal insight into the long and gruelling “job market” process:

“I started working on my job market paper idea last year and, after hitting a few bumps, eventually converged to a stable research question in the summer. Most of the fall was then dedicated to writing up the draft, with significant back and forths with my advisors. I also presented the paper in various seminars, and used the feedback to complete my analysis and construct a “spiel” about my job market paper and more generally my research agenda. That part involved significant rehearsal and fine-tuning and I was lucky to receive feedback from TSE faculty on several occasions. This period also coincided with the phone calls and emails from universities to schedule the 30-minute interviews at the AEA meeting. I flew to snowy Philadelphia in early January. The interviews were challenging but rewarding at the same time. Most often the atmosphere would be relaxed and constructive. The month of January was then dedicated to flying out to various universities. Each fly-out would involve around ten interviews with faculty, as well as the job talk. Although rather tiresome, I was lucky enough to meet numerous colleagues. Particularly rewarding was the fact that I got to meet many researchers whose work I cited in my job market paper. The job talks ended by mid-February, at which point I anxiously waited for my phone to ring. Overall, the experience was difficult but very formative. I am delighted to join Columbia Business School as an assistant professor next year.”

A more inclined towards business and policy?

The TSE doctoral school not only prepares candidates for the academic job market but also paves the way to many challenging opportunities in business and policy. Daniel Coublucq, TSE PhD in 2013 and now Economist at the European Commission, tells us his story:

“I am working as an Economist at the Chief Economist Team at DG Competition of the European Commission. I contribute to the economic analysis on competition cases. For example, I participate in antitrust investigation by gathering and analysing economic data. These tasks require an excellent level of rigour and knowledge on various economic models and methods – knowledge that I definitely gained from TSE. I believe that the renowned academic excellence of TSE has provided me with the tools to grow in my career. In particular, the important theoretical and empirical backgrounds I received allow me to face the challenges in my job successfully. Being an economist at DG Competition provides me with the unique opportunity to translate into practice and build upon the knowledge that I obtained from the TSE doctoral program.”

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**NEWS FLASH**

**Awards**

**Augustin Landier**

*2014 Best Young Economist Prize*

Augustin Landier, TSE researcher, has been awarded the 2014 Best Young Economist Prize by French think tank Le Cercle des économistes and French journal Le Monde in partnership with the French Senate. This award acknowledges the forefront research of Augustin Landier on the financial contracts of companies and their incentive properties, as well as the numerous insights he brings to public debate on economic and financial issues.

**Appointment**

**Franck Portier**

*has been appointed senior member of the Institut Universitaire de France*

Franck Portier, TSE Professor and expert in macroeconomics, has been appointed Senior Member of the Institut Universitaire de France for 5 years by the French Ministry of Research and Higher Education. This distinction rewards faculty members whose research quality is internationally recognized.

**TSE News**

**TSE hosts major congress**

TSE is proud to organise this year a joint event bringing together the 29th annual congress of the European Economic Association (EEA) and the 68th Econometric Society European Meeting (ESEM). More than 1500 researchers and students are expected this summer for the largest European event in economics. The congress will take place at the University Toulouse 1 Capitole on 25-29 August.

**TSE takes part in FUTURAPOLIS**

Toulouse hosts every year a 3-day public forum dedicated to innovation: Futurapolis. Organized by the French media Le Point, this year’s edition took place on 15-17 May. Several TSE researchers were invited to showcase their vision of the future at the forum: Nicolas Treich exposed his views on the precautionary principle, David Alary discussed the future of learning, Claude Crampes defended a European management of energy, and Karine Van der Straeten detailed her work on voting systems and their future.

**Closing Global IQ meeting**

The concluding conference of Global IQ, a major European project on global warming coordinated by TSE and financed by the European Commission (FP7), took place on 17 June in Brussels. Three years after the launch of the project, members from the nine countries involved presented the results of their research. Christian Gollier, TSE director, presented the plenary session. TSE researchers Norbert Ladoux and Nicolas Treich attended the meeting, which was organised by Céline Claustre, TSE European Project manager.

**TSE Debate, our official blog, is live**

TSE Debate is the new platform dedicated to TSE researchers, where they will regularly publish informed comment and perspectives on policy debates, as well as results and insights from their work. Since its launch, 18 articles have already made their way onto this new blog, dealing with many different subjects such as energy, finance, development or public policies.

**TsE News**

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Visit the blog >>

**More information via the official event website >>**

**Entree Gratuite**

**FUTURAPOLIS**

**Electricité, Mon Amour**

**TsE Debate**

the new TSE blog
debate.tse-fr.eu
#TSEDebate
A primer on Auction Design, Management, and Strategy

David J. Salant

TSE researcher David J. Salant presents his upcoming book, a guide to modelling and analysing auctions, with the applications of game theory and auction theory to real-world auction decision-making.

A quick overview:

Auctions are highly structured market transactions primarily used in thin markets (markets with few participants and infrequent transactions). In auctions, unlike most other markets, offers and counteroffers are typically made within a structure defined by a set of rigid and comprehensive rules. Because auctions are essentially complex negotiations that occur within a fully defined and rigid set of rules, they can be analysed by game theoretic models more accurately and completely than can most other types of market transactions.

This book offers a guide for modelling, analysing, and predicting the outcomes of auctions, focusing on the application of game theory and auction theory to real-world auction design and decision making. After a brief introduction to fundamental concepts from game theory, the book explains some of the more significant results from the auction theory literature, including the revenue (or payoff) equivalence theorem, the winner’s curse, and optimal auction design. Chapters on auction practice follow, addressing collusion, competition, information disclosure, and other basic principles of auction management, with some discussion of auction experiments and simulations.

Finally, the book covers auction experience, with most of the discussion focused on energy and telecommunications auctions, which have become the proving ground for many new auction designs. A clear and concise introduction to auctions, auction design, and auction strategy, this Primer will be an essential resource for students, researchers, and practitioners.

New book

David J. Salant

A Primer on Auction Design, Management, & Strategy

A quick introduction to fundamental concepts from game theory and auction theory, this Primer will be an essential resource for students, researchers, and practitioners.

TIGER Forum Economic Survey results

During the TIGER Forum 2014, participants and online viewers were asked to answer several questions about the debates that took place during the event. Here are some of the results:

New Stances on Globalization

What are the most important risks raised by globalization today?

- Environmental (or ecological) crisis: 32%
- Instability of global governance and regulation: 46%
- Instability of inequalities: 4%

Reforms and Challenges of the Chinese Economy

What are the most important challenges faced by China today?

- Inadequate marketization: 27%
- Lack of maintenance of social fabric: 31%
- State ownership and corruption: 27%

Cyber Criminality

What are the most important risks for society posed by cyber criminality?

- Loss of government control: 43%
- Loss of personal freedom and security: 16%
- Loss of government control: 7%

The Causes of Modern Wars: Economics or Religion?

What are the major causes of armed conflicts today?

- Fanatism: 51%
- Systematic technological failures: 26%
- Military opposing views: 8%
- Systematic technological failures: 3%