Welcome to the Newsletter for Economics students, alumni and faculty staff. Twice a semester we inform you about news, articles, job opportunities and special events.

News from the Programmes

Economics and Digitalisation: New curricula to get you prepared for big data

The digitalisation development of recent years has brought forth a number of newly available data and data formats, for which new methods of data analytics were developed. In the professional environment, it is therefore an advantage to be able to handle various data formats and to analyse data with suitable methods. To respond to these needs, the economic programmes will introduce new curricula as of Autumn Semester 2019. For more information on transition provisions and transfer rules, please see the StudentWeb pages:

- Major Economics
- MEcon
- MIQE/F

Future career paths for Economists?

A recently published NBER working paper by Susan Athey, Stanford University, and Michael Luca, Harvard Business School, on "Economists (and Economics) in Tech Companies" confirms that the technology sector is also seeking for talented economists and describes
“[…] three broad skillsets that are part of the economics curriculum that allow economists to thrive in tech companies: the ability to assess and interpret empirical relationships and work with data; the ability to understand and design markets and incentives, taking into account the information environment and strategic interactions; and the ability to understand industry structure and equilibrium behavior by firms.”

"The degree of personal freedom and responsibility is unique!"

Contextual Studies are an integral part of the curriculum and a unique feature of the HSG degree programmes. However, curricula are crowded and students overworked. So, what is the value added? How can economists benefit? Are Contextual Studies translating into better careers? Caspar Hirschi, Professor of History and Academic Director of Contextual Studies at the HSG, answers the questions. Read more.

From our Students and Alumni

Well-deserved success

27 MEcon and MiQE/F graduates were awarded their degrees. We congratulate all graduates to this achievement and wish you all the best for your future careers. Additionally, the students with the best degree in 2017/2018 were honoured.

Michael Knuchel was awarded the Jöhr-Price by FGN-HSG for the best overall degree in MEcon. Marko Mlikota received the MiQE/F price sponsored by LGT Capital Partners. The price was handed over from the LGT representative Walter Pfaff. Congratulations to you and all the best for your future.
Integration Week Economics: First steps in R, mock exams and Vadian

New MEcon and MiQE/F students were provided with selected programme-specific fundamentals to get a perfect start at the HSG. Therefore, the Integration Week started with a warm welcome, coffee and Gipfeli. However, the agenda was pretty full and wide-ranging: Covering statistics, mathematics, micro- and macroeconomics and including group presentations and mock exams. This year our students also had the chance to get hand-on insights into programming with R.

To get familiar also with St.Gallen and their fellow students an Apéro, a city tour, where Saint Gallus and Vadian crossed our paths, and a pizza night complemented a very intensive week.
Where are they now?
Endowed with an internationally competitive degree, our graduates start rewarding careers to take responsibility in science, policy and business.

Richard Faltings, MEcon 2018
Ph.D. Student, University of Texas at Austin

Theresa Goop, MEcon 2018
Analyst, Copenhagen Economics

Events
"My passion has always been understanding human behavior"

Just in time for the start of the Autumn Semester we were very happy to welcome Pau Agullo. The Managing Director and co-founder of Kernel Analytics, one of the fastest growing data science boutique consultancies in Europe, was excited to discuss with our Bachelor and Master students the big data revolution and some case studies in marketing, operations and pricing in industries such as telecom, retail, utilities and travel.

Moreover, this was the chance to interview him about his career path and to discuss how Economics can improve our understanding of the digital transformation.

Read the interview with Pau Agullo and find out what skills do economists need in the new era of big data and how Economics can contribute to a better design of public policy and to the development of new business models in the private sector.

Next Generation
HSG students inform policy debate
summarizing new empirical research from leading economists. The project is aimed at decision makers in government, policy institutions and business. The research summaries appear online here and are published in the economics blog Free-Lunch of the renowned Handelszeitung.

Latest submissions:

**Elisabeth Essbaumer, DIA**
Zivile Tugenden und die Pflege eines korrekten Verhältnisses der Bürger und Bürgerinnen zum Staat zahlen sich aus. Eine hohe Steuermoral und verantwortungsvoller Umgang mit sozialen Leistungen ermöglichen eine bessere Politik. [Lesen Sie mehr.](#)

**Adrian Jäggi, PEF**
Die Sieger räumen den Markt ab. Sie haben ein sehr niedrige Lohnquote. Die steigenden Marktanteile der Superstar-Firmen sind für den Rückgang der gesamten Lohnquote verantwortlich. [Lesen Sie mehr.](#)

**29'190: MEcon and MiQE/F students launch a download hit**
The open access eBook, containing the first 30 contributions of the "Next Generation" project, recorded 29'190 downloads as today, and the number of downloads is growing each day. [Get your own copy.](#)

Interested in submitting a contribution as well? Check our [homepage.](#)

**From the Faculty**
The Department of Economics welcomed as of the start of the semester the new Assistant Professor [Arnau Valladares-Esteban](#) based at SEW-HSG. Arnau completed his Ph.D. in Economics at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and was a Lecturer in Economics at the University of Southampton for four years. Arnau's research lies in the intersection of
quantitative macroeconomics and labour economics. He works on topics such as unemployment, human capital, and inequality. At the University of St.Gallen, Arnau will be teaching courses on monetary economics (BVWL), quantitative economic policy (Master) and programming skills (Contextual Studies).

**Behavioral Finance for Private Banking: From the Art of Advice to the Science of Advice**

Prof. Enrico De Giorgi published a new book. Behavioral Finance for Private Banking provides a complete framework for wealth management tailored to the unique needs of each client. Merging behavioral finance with private banking, this framework helps you gain a greater understanding of your client's wants, needs, and perspectives to streamline the decision making process.

**Jobs for HSG Economists**

Our Economics degree programmes train for promising career options ranging from public policy, economic science and the world of banking and business.

**Ph.D. Position in Economics**

The Chair of Microeconomics, Prof. Dennis Gärtner, is looking for an Assistant. The chair specializes in applied microeconomic theory, with a methodological focus on game theory and incentives, and with a contextual focus on industrial organization and business economics.

**Data Science Intern**

Data Science Startup Bern/Zürich is a start-up that develops data products using novel data science methods and visualization tools with the aim to support decision makers with data-driven insights.
Volkswirt/in für den Bereich Makroökonomie
Sachverständigen Rat zur Begutachtung der gesamtwirtschaftlichen Entwicklung

Look at our facebook page for continuous listing of many more job offers from science, policy institutions, international organizations and the private sector.

Do keep in touch and join us at LinkedIn and facebook.