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.

Editorial: Big Data at the HSG

Big Data is not only about data! Even though, high quality datasets are undoubtedly priceless for the data analysis, analytical methods play an important role in the world of big data. The transformation of data into information and into knowledge results from an appropriate data analysis. That is also the main goal of the National Research Program 75 “Big Data” (NFP 75) which aims to provide scientific foundations for the effective and appropriate use of big data.

The chair of Prof. Michael Lechner participates in the NFP 75 with a project devoted to “Causal analysis with Big Data”. The statistical machine learning methods are further developed in order to be applicable on big data and yielding a statistically sound causal analysis. Check the NFP 75 interview with Prof. Lechner and the latest blog article “Personalisierung von «Was wäre wenn?»-Fragen” (both in German) for more details.

The newest analytical methods are not hiding only in the research and the HSG offices. In the new teaching portfolio of MEcon and MiQE/F the widely used data analysis methods are going to be taught together with the state-of-the-art machine learning methods. The new “Data Analytics” courses will deepen the knowledge in predictive modeling and causal analysis and focus on theory and empirics of the introduced methods. The additional emphasis on programming and critical thinking completes the formation of data analytical skills and opens a way to data-driven decision making for individuals, companies, institutions and society based on the recent scientific advances. Specialisation in Digitization and Data Analytics.
Welcome!

108 Econ Bachelor, 41 MEcon and 32 MiQE/F students started in Autumn Semester 2019. We wish them a good start!

30 Under 30: An Economist’s Career

Massimo Mannino, MEcon alumnus of 2014, made it on the prestigious list of most influential young pioneers “30 Under 30” of the renowned U.S. business magazine Forbes. Massimo is a data analytics specialist and serial start-up entrepreneur. Why is a sound training in economics a good investment for a private sector career? Why is data analytics the key to success in the new digital economy? What is the biggest challenge in starting up a new firm? Read more.

Where are they now?

Endowed with an internationally competitive degree, our graduates start rewarding careers to take responsibility in science, policy and business.

Corinne Knöpfel, MiQE/F 2019
Consultant Data & Analytics, PwC Switzerland

Sarim Khan, MEcon 2019
CHF Bond Trader at BNP Paribas CIB

Faculty & Research
**What is the impact of economics?**

**Roland Hodler**, professor of economics, teaches and does research in economic development, political economics and public finance. He won this year’s HSG Impact Award. What is the impact of economists? Is the university striking the right balance between research, teaching and social impact? [Read more](#).

**Latsis Prize 2019 for Prof. Beatrix Eugster**

The [Fondation Latsis Internationale](#), Geneva, annually awards a generous prize at selected universities for the purpose of promoting young researchers. The prize was awarded to Prof. Beatrix Eugster at the Dies Academicus 2019 for her research on the inclusion of people with disabilities into society. [Read more about her research](#).

**Next Generation**

HSG students inform policy debate by 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:

**Eric Offner, MiQE/F**

Eine sparsame Finanzpolitik fällt vielen Ländern schwer. Sollen die Gläubiger einen Teil der Schulden streichen, wenn der Staatshaushalt ausser Kontrolle gerät? Nützen die Länder den Schuldenenerlass tatsächlich für eine nachhaltige

**Céline Diebold, MEcon**

Wie wirksam ist die Regionalförderung? Kann die Regionalpolitik die Entwicklung benachteiligter Gebiete mit zusätzlichen Investitionen anstossen? Oder erschöpft sie sich in reinen Mitnahmeeffekten ohne
Next step PEF?

The Ph.D. Programme in Economics and Finance (PEF) at the University of St.Gallen trains you to achieve academic excellence in the areas of economics, econometrics and finance. The curriculum starts with intensive courses, followed by two years of advanced studies and own original research. State-of-the-art courses cover a broad range of topics including theoretical and empirical research methodology. Graduates are regularly selected for very reputable academic and non-academic positions. More information and application.

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.

Mehrere Einstiegspositionen beim Bundeskartellamt in Bonn für verschiedene Einsatzbereiche

Student Assistant (Bachelor/Master) am Lehrstuhl von Prof. Matthias Fengler

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

Interested in submitting a contribution for the next Econ@HSG newsletter? Get in touch with us: mecon@unisg.ch

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

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