



UNIVERSITY
OF TRENTO



John S. Latsis
Public Benefit Foundation

Institute for
New Economic Thinking



TRENTO SUMMER SCHOOL IN ADAPTIVE ECONOMIC DYNAMICS

DIRECTED BY **AXEL LEIJONHUFVUD** UCLA and University of Trento, Professor emeritus
ENRICO ZANINOTTO University of Trento

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NEW THINKING ON THE FIRM: BRINGING TOGETHER LAW, ECONOMICS, ORGANIZATION AND HISTORY

AIMS AND SCOPE

The financial crisis has accelerated the debate on the nature and working of institutions that rule the functioning of markets. However, a number of arguments also trace the crisis to firm organization. There is therefore a need for an approach that links both the institutional level and the players regulated by institutions.

Nevertheless both the theory of the firm and the legal debate, are adapting slowly and seem to employ concepts better fit to the economic environment and the industrial enterprises of the past century, rather than animated by efforts at rethinking the nature of the firm itself as fundamental institution of modern knowledge-intensive economies and democratic societies.

A major concern of the school is therefore to re-open a debate on the nature of the firm, complementing economic theory with organizational, historical and juridical perspectives; building on and promoting dialogue among research perspectives that are already interdisciplinary and have already taken steps in that direction, such as 'new institutional economics', 'law, economics & organization', 'organization and management theory', 'business history', 'evolutionary economics', and 'economic sociology'.

The program has been designed, and the faculty constituted, so as to build on contributions highlighting different responses to some key issues, organized in four main teaching modules.

INTENDED AUDIENCE AND FORMAT

Advanced/candidate phds, post docs and junior scholars. Each module will include sessions dedicated to debate among faculty members and with the students, as well as to students' project presentation and development.

LECTURERS

- **AVNER BEN-NER** UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
- **MARGARET BLAIR** VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL
- **NICOLAI FOSS** BOCCONI UNIVERSITY
- **ROBERT GIBBONS** MIT, SLOAN BS
- **ANNA GRANDORI** BOCCONI UNIVERSITY
- **THOMAS KOCHAN** MIT, SLOAN BS
- **SIEGWART LINDENBERG** UNIVERSITY OF GRONINGEN
- **SCOTT MASTEN** UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
- **COLIN MAYER** UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD, SAID BS
- **RENATE MEYER** UNIVERSITY OF VIENNA
- **LORENZO SACCONI** UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO

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- **NICOLAI FOSS** BOCCONI UNIVERSITY
- **ANNA GRANDORI** BOCCONI UNIVERSITY

MAIN TOPICS/MODULES

- The evolution of theories of economic organization and governance (Extensions of transaction cost economics and property rights theory, of contract theories, and of governance mechanisms).
- The microfoundations of theories of economic organization extended to capture innovation and knowledge governance.
- The history and evolution of alternative forms of enterprise and their governance.
- The evolving relations of firms with labor and financial markets.

PARTICIPANTS, FORMAT AND ADMISSIONS

The School is intended for advanced/candidate phds, post docs and junior scholars. Each module will include sessions dedicated to debate among faculty members and with the students, as well as to students' project presentation and development.

People interested in participating in the Summer School are encouraged to fill in the application on line <http://www.unitn.it/en/apply/summerschool> and are asked to submit a curriculum vitae, a two-page essay describing their interests in the area, two letters of recommendation, and statements about their current or projected research.

The application window will be from January 9 to March 31, 2017.

Admissions decisions will be announced by April 30. The maximum number of participants is 30. All applicants will be informed by e-mail about the results.

The sessions will be held at Hotel Villa Madruzzo, Trento, Italy. All participants are required to stay for the entire duration of the event. Food and accommodation will be covered by the School (except for meals during the weekend) and participants will have to cover travel expenses.

LINK OF THE SCHOOL <http://events.unitn.it/en/aed-summerschool2017>

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION IS MARCH 31, 2017 (h.1.00 pm - GMT+1).

Dipartimento di Economia e Management

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