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Musiksaal  
Adolf-Reichwein-Str. (AR)

Hölderlinstr. (H)

Artur-Woll-Haus (AE)

Paul-Bonatz-Str. (PB)

Scoutopia  
Weidenauer Straße 167

Organization:

Prof. Dr. Gustav Bergmann, University of Siegen  
Prof. Dr. E.Fozzy Moritz, Innovationsmanufaktur,  
Munich  
Prof. Dr. Uwe Schneidewind, Wuppertal Institute of  
Climate, Environment and Energy  
Prof. Dr. Christoph Strünck, University of Siegen  
Prof. Dr. Till van Treeck, Research Institute for  
Science-Based Societal Development (FWGW)  
Prof. Dr. Volker Wulf, University of Siegen

Coordination:

Stefanie Bingener; Anne-Kathrin Schwab;  
Kathrin Zimmermann  
Artists: Gustav and Robert Bergmann



Symposium

**"Economics Reconsidered:  
Towards New Economic Thinking"**

09.-10.09.2015 in Siegen,  
Adolf Reichwein Campus (Musiksaal) and Scoutopia





The economic mainstream is characterized by theoretically, research-methodologically, and normatively rather narrow assumptions and conventions. This seems to be specifically true for the German discourse. The recent macro-economic crises and the dissatisfying modes of explanation underline this fact. Since the academic discourse influences public opinion and political decision making, we need to open up the debate. Therefore, the University of Siegen, in association with a network of international partners, is hosting a symposium to question the current state of economic thinking. Our goal is to implement a more pluralistic, empirical and critical approach towards economics, re-linking economics and social sciences at the University of Siegen.

The objective of the symposium is to provide a critical positioning on the current state of research. Derived from this objective, a research agenda will be developed for a research institute which is in the making at the University of Siegen. The institute is to be created where economics and social science meet. Focusing on the concept of economic, social and ecological sustainability, research activities at the institute will try to link findings from a micro and macro perspective. The research paradigm is intended to be interdisciplinary, pluralistic in methods and directed towards key social issues. Additionally, we intend to enrich our study programs in economics and social science. Forthcoming master programs will integrate perspectives from economics, law, political science, and sociology, using state-of-the art teaching methods.

## Schedule

### Tuesday, 8th September 2015

19.00 "Get Together" in 'Restaurant Bar' (Löhrstraße 51, Siegen)

### Wednesday, 9th September 2015

9:00 Arrival and Registration in AR Campus, Musiksaal

9:30 Opening by:

*Prof. Dr. Holger Burckhardt*, President, University of Siegen,

*Detlef Wetzel*, First Chairman, Metalworkers' Union

*Prof. Dr. Volker Wulf*, Dean of the Faculty III, University of Siegen

10:00 **Panel and Discussion:**  
*Franz Fehrenbach*, Chair of the Supervisory Board at Bosch (requested)  
*Eckehard Fozzy Moritz*, Innovationsmanufaktur  
*Harald Peter*, Member of the Management Board, Sparkasse Savings Bank, Siegen  
*Detlef Wetzel*, First Chairman of the Metalworkers' Union

12:00 Lunch break

#### 13:00 **Session 1: Criticizing the mainstream perspectives**

*Thomas Ferguson*, Institute for New Economic Thinking, USA:

**Economic inequality and the political process: theory and evidence?**

*Till van Treeck*, University Duisburg-Essen and Research Institute for Science-Based Societal Development (FWGW):

**Income Inequality and macroeconomic instability**

*Achim Truger*, Institute of economics and law:

**The catastrophe that could have been prevented: (German) mainstream economics, 'debt brakes' and austerity in Europe**

*Matthias Thiemann*, Institute of Sociology, University of Frankfurt:

**Macroprudential regulation after the financial crisis: cosmetic changes or paradigm shift?**

15:00 Coffee break

#### 15:30 **Session 2: Methodological alternatives**

*Sebastian Dullien*, HTW Berlin:

**The problem of monoculture in macroeconomics: Why we need to think beyond the DSGE approach**

*Friederike Welter*, Ifm Bonn and University of Siegen:

**It's all about context, isn't it? Why we need a contextualized perspective in entrepreneurship research**

*John B. Davis*, Marquette University, USA, and University of Amsterdam:

**Economics imperialism vs. multidisciplinary**

*David W. Randall*, University of Siegen:

**Rationality and where to find it: Concepts, methods and the disciplines**

17:30 Break

#### 18:00 **Session 3: Towards future economics**

*David Audretsch*, Indiana University, USA

**Economics and the contemporary university**

*Nils Goldschmidt*, University of Siegen:

**The history of economic thought and its continued contribution to economic education**

*Oliver Richters*, Student Initiative for Plural Economics:

**Rethinking Economics - pluralist, interdisciplinary, critical**

*Bonnie Nardi*, School of Information and Computer Sciences, University of California, Irvine:

**The political economy of Human-Computer Interaction**

19:30 Dinner Buffet with open end

### Thursday, 10th September 2015

8:30 Arrival in Scoutopia, Weidenau

9:00 Opening of the Graduate School of the Faculty III of the University of Siegen by Prof. Dr. Petra Moog

9:30 Uwe Schneidewind, Director, Wuppertal Institute of Climate, Environment and Energy; and University of Wuppertal:

**Why sustainability research needs a debate about the transformation of capitalism**

10:15 Coffee break

10:30 Gustav Bergmann, University of Siegen:

**Towards a society of true wealth**

11:00 Workshops

Moderation: Gustav Bergmann, Stefanie Bingener, Anne-Kathrin Schwab

13:00 Lunch

14:00 Workshops

16:00 Wrap up

17:00 End of Symposium