Zurich 2012

Saturday 30 June

1.45-2.30 Welcome and summer institute goals

Irchel Campus, Winterthurerstrasse 190

Jamie Peck and Christian Berndt

Welcome from Professor Michael Hengartner, Dean of

the Faculty of Science, UZH

2.30-3.45 Gernot Grabher plenary: "Temporality, virtuality,

hybridity: Exploring knowledge ecologies"

Chair/discussant: Michael Ewers

Discussant: Teis Hansen

4.15-5.30 Richard Wolff Plenary: Politics and urban projects in

Zurich - Dealing with growth?

Presenter: Richard Wolff, INURA Zürich, Institut and Zentrum Urban

Landscape, ZHAW

Chair: Karin Schwiter

5.30-7:30 Reception and introductions

7:30-8:00 Transfer to Hotel Rothaus

8.30 Restaurant Volkshaus: dinner

Zurich 2012

Sunday 1 July

9.30-11.00 Evolution, revolution, love: towards a truly pluralistic

discipline?

Chair: Jamie Peck

Panelists: Christian Berndt

Stephen Fitzherbert

Heidi Haugen

Wendy Larner

Lili Wang

11.30-1.00 Just do it? Method and practice in economic

geography

Chair: Becky Mansfield
Panelists: Abigail Cooke

Amanda Fickey Gernot Grabher Jamie Peck

Nuri Yavan

2.15-3.30 Dariusz Wójcik plenary: Finance and economic

geography: a challenging affair

Chair/discussant: Daniel Haberly
Discussant: Clarisse Coutinho

3.30 Transfer to Conference Venue

Herzberg – Haus für Bildung und Begegnung

5025 Asp ob Aarau

http://www.herzberg.org/

Questions and talking points might include:

- 1. Does economic geography possess a canon, a set of core concerns, a focal point, or a guiding "project?" Did it? Should it?
- 2. What does economic geography's propensity for "turning" (e.g. the cultural, relational, evolutionary turns) say about the field?
- 3. What does/did/might economic geography stand for, normatively and/or theoretically?
- 4. If economic geography did not exist (why) would we need to create it?

- 1. How is economic geography typically practiced, in methodological terms? What islands of practice can be identified?
- 2. What can be said about the range and depth of methodological commitments in the field? How has this changed over time?
- 3. If economic geography possesses a relatively "liberal" attitude towards methodology, does this mean that "anything goes"?
- 4. Is there mutuality of respect between qualitative and quantitative approaches?

Zurich 2012

Monday 2 July

9.00-10.30 Regional development and the creative economy

Chair: Becky Mansfield
Panelists: Shiri Breznitz

Ann El Khoury Dai Juncheng

Catherine Robin (Geography, Zurich)

Andrew Warren

11.00-12.30 Worlds after neoliberalism

Chair: Jennifer Bair

Panelists: Marcos Barcellos

Stelios Gialis Wendy Larner Jamie Peck Shaina Potts

1.45-3.00 Becky Mansfield plenary: A New Environmental

Economic Geography: Thinking Through the

Biopolitical Economy of Nature

Chair/discussant: Matthew Himley

Discussant: Catherine Guimond

3.30-5.00 Policy, politics, and public economic geographies

Chair: Gernot Grabher
Panelists: Martón Czirfusz

Aman Luthra Jamie Peck

Simon Sontowski (Geography, Zurich)

Dariusz Wójcik

Questions and talking points might include:

- 1. What is special/different about the creative economy?
- 2. Is the hype about the creative economy over? What did it signify?
- 3. Does the creativity script (re)perform the neoliberal city?
- 4. Need policies and programs pursued in the name of creativity necessarily be bad?

Questions and talking points might include:

- 1. Is neoliberalism dead? (If so, who/what killed it? How do/would we know?)
- What might "after" or "post" neoliberalism" look like?
- 3. What does a "world after neoliberalism" mean for the global south?
- 4. What role(s) can theory play in exploring worlds after neoliberalism?

- 1. Which parts of economic geography are more/less politicized, or politically engaged? Why?
- 2. What does it mean for economic geography to aspire to "relevance?"
- 3. Life amongst the policymaking weeds: making a difference or selling out?
- 4. Public economic geographies—what strategies, pitfalls, role models?

Zurich 2012

Tuesday 3 July

Excursion to Zurich

10.30-12.30 Werkerei Schwamendingen

Bäckerstrasse 52 CH-8004 Zürich

Rahel Kamber (Economic Development Unit, City of

Zurich)

Gert Christen (BlueLion Incubator)

14.00-16.00 Zürich West

Philipp Klaus (ETH Zurich, INURA)

16.00-18.00 Urban renewal and resistance in Zurich-Altstetten

Rahel Nüssli (ETH Zurich)

Simon Sontowski (Geography, University of Zurich)

18.00- Enjoying the evening in Zurich

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Wednesday 4 July

9.00-10.30 Constructing research proposals and research

programs in economic geography

Chair: Gernot Grabher
Panelists: Jennifer Bair

Stacy Coppock
Becky Mansfield
David Wachsmuth

11.00-12.30 Markets for the poor? Market-driven development in

the global south

Chair: Dariusz Wójcik
Panelists: Katharina Abdo

Dena Aufseeser Christian Berndt

Johanna Herrigel (Geography, Zurich)

Thomas Sigler

1.45-3.15 Teaching strategies for economic geographers

Chair: Wendy Larner
Panelists: Christian Berndt

Sarah Knuth Becky Mansfield Giselle Valarezo Dariusz Wójcik

3.45-5.00 Jennifer Bair plenary: On the trail of the global

commodity chain: Analytical construct, policy tool or

critical research paradigm?

Chair/discussant: Beth Gutelius
Discussant: Adrian Duhalt

Questions and talking points might include:

- 1. What makes for a "good" (and/or fundable) research proposal?
- How can I obtain support for my research from research councils/ foundations/international agencies?
- 3. The pleasure and pain of research collaboration
- 4. What's in a research *program*? Should I be following the field, or cutting my own path? How do I decide what to do next?

Questions and talking points might include:

- 1. Is/was there a paradigm shift in development?
- 2. What understanding of "the market" informs market-driven development?
- 3. Is there a role for economic geography here, widely understood?
- 4. Is market-driven development a bad thing? What alternatives can we imagine?

- How was it for you? What makes a great economic geography class?
 (Sharing examples of interesting or provocative syllabi is encouraged. We can circulate these in advance to all participants if supplied early enough.)
- 2. Economic geography 101: are there (still) "foundational" concepts, frameworks, approaches? What *has* to be covered in weeks 1-4?
- 3. What are the strengths and limitations of economic geography textbooks?
- 4. How economic has good economic geography teaching to be?

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Thursday 5 July

9.00-10.30 Building careers in the social sciences

Chair: Christian Berndt
Panelists: Jennifer Bair

Leigh Johnson (Geography, Zurich)

Wendy Larner Siobhan McPhee Erica Pani

11.00-12.30 Nature at risk: Economic Geography and

environmental change

Chair: Jennifer Bair
Panelists: Sean Field

Ralitsa Hiteva Nicholas Howarth

Leigh Johnson (Geography, Zurich)

Becky Mansfield

1.45-3.15 Wendy Larner plenary: Situating Neoliberalism,

Prefiguring Politics

Chair/discussant: Teo Ballvé
Discussant: Sarah Lake

3.45-5.00 Writing and publishing economic geographies

Chair: Dariusz Wójcik
Panelists: Christian Berndt

Gernot Grabher (Economic Geography)

Kean Fan Lim

Jamie Peck (Environment and Planning A)

William Terry

Questions and talking points might include:

- Getting to, and then through, an academic "job talk"
- 2. Social scientists in the wild: careers in consulting and policy research
- 3. Surviving life on the tenure track
- 4. Why do a postdoc (And where to find one)? What (on earth) has happened to the postdoctoral job market?

Questions and talking points might include:

- 1. How has economic geography dealt with climate change?
- 2. Is it possible to engage critically with the climate change debate?
- 3. Which new approaches are being developed to address the nature/economy problem?
- 4. What roles might economic/human geographers play in collaborative research with physical geographers and natural scientists?

- 1. What can we learn from the best writing/writers in the field of economic geography?
- 2. Should I turn my dissertation into a book?
- 3. What do publishers, editors, and reviewers really want?
- 4. What are the challenges and joys of writing for different audiences, in different registers?

Zurich 2012

Friday 6 July

10.00-11.30 Interdisciplinary conversations

Chair: Wendy Larner
Panelists: Jennifer Bair

Gernot Grabher Jamie Peck Dariusz Wójcik

All participants!

11.30-12.00 Wrap up and loose ends

Jamie Peck and Christian Berndt

1.30 Transfer to Zurich

- 1. Whom do economic geographers talk to? Are they (really) listening?
- 2. How have economic geographers responded to the crisis of mainstream economics and emerging alternatives to the neoclassical orthodoxy?
- 3. Is there a special relationship between economic sociology and economic geography?
- 4. What does economic geography offer to other disciplines?