



John S. Latsis
Public Benefit Foundation



UNIVERSITY
OF TRENTO - Italy

Tenth Trento Summer School

Intensive course in Networks and Innovation

CEEL program in Adaptive Economic Dynamics

13 - 24 July 2009

Centro Congressi Panorama, Trento - Italy

Summary of the Course

Both network analysis and innovation studies are thriving fields, but have not always been integrated, in spite of the acknowledged importance of each to the other. Economic, political and scientific innovations occur in distributed networks of participants collaborating with each other. And social and biological networks of all types are evolving and dynamic, even if data about them often come as snapshots. The purposes of the summer school are to use network analysis to better understand the generation and diffusion of innovations, to use insights from innovation studies to develop models of network dynamics, and to develop the science of the co-evolution of networks and innovations.

The summer school at Trento is simultaneously a school, teaching contemporary theories and methods, and a workshop, wherein participants, both faculty and students, develop research and ideas to advance this frontier. The school is a call to the community of present and future researchers interested in pursuing this objective.

Across diverse application areas, the research questions asked will include:

- what are social mechanisms of recombination and learning?
- what are system dynamics of emergence and tipping?

Application topics will include:

- Santa Fe Institute style models of autocatalytic network in biological evolution
- Organizational invention in Renaissance Italy
- Innovation in the Life Sciences
- Innovation in the computer industry.

Specific methods in network analysis (e.g., structural cohesion, small worlds, diffusion and contagion, dynamical systems) will be covered in the context of the application areas in which they are used. Background readings will be drawn in part from a forthcoming book by Padgett and Powell, entitled "The Emergence of Organizations and Markets."

The course will be taught by **Professors John Padgett**, University of Trento and University of Chicago, **Woody Powell**, Stanford University, **Lee Fleming**, Harvard Business School, and **Massimo Riccaboni**, University of Trento, with visiting lecturers by Professors **James Evans**, University of Chicago, **Sanjeev Goyal**, University of Cambridge, and **Fernando Vega-Redondo**, European University Institute.

In addition to overview lectures in the mornings, the school will feature intensive seminar-style discussions in the afternoons of participants' research. Applicants therefore need to include statements about their current or projected research, along with relevant research papers, if any.

Application Procedure

Persons interested in participating in the Summer School should submit the following:

- the electronic application form
- a detailed Curriculum Vitae
- a two-page essay describing their interest in Networks and Innovation
- a course transcript from their Ph.D program including advanced examinations passed
- two letters of recommendation
- statements about their current or projected research, along with relevant research papers, if any

The Trento Summer Schools are intended for Ph.D students and post-doctoral scholars.

Please send all the above documents and information to Prof. Enrico Zaninotto

We encourage electronic submissions (pdf format): ccschool@economia.unitn.it

Prof. Enrico Zaninotto

Facoltà di Economia
Università degli Studi di Trento
Via Inama 5, 38100 Trento (ITALY)
Fax: 0039 0461 882222

The deadline for application is **24 April 2009**

Admissions decisions will be made and announced by 30 April 2009. All applicants will be informed by e-mail about the results.

Participation at the summer school is free of charge. Participants will be provided with full board and lodging for the two-weeks period of the summer school (meals during the weekend and travel expenses are due to the participants). Note: students are required to attend the entire two weeks of the school.

A limited amount of travel grants are available for applicants from outside Western and Northern Europe and North America. A request of travel grant together with the motivational letter should be submitted together with the application.

For logistical questions and application forms please contact the Summer School secretary at ccschool@economia.unitn.it or consult our web page at

<http://www-ceel.economia.unitn.it>

This is the Tenth of a series of intensive courses to be offered by CEEL with the financial support of John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation.

Program Directors
Axel Leijonhufvud
Enrico Zaninotto

Co-Directors of the School

John Padgett
Woody Powell
Lee Fleming
Massimo Riccaboni

Guest Lecturers

James Evans
Sanjeev Goyal
Fernando Vega-Redondo

**Computable and Experimental
Economics Laboratory (CEEL)**
Dipartimento di Economia
Università degli Studi di Trento
Via Inama 5, 38100 Trento (ITALY)
Fax: 0039 0461 882222