



XI. Summer School on Accounting Theory

At the beginning of June, several DART students had the opportunity to participate in the Summer School on Accounting Theory in Munich. During insightful and entertaining sessions, John Christensen (University of Southern Denmark) illustrated an information-contents approach to accounting theory. The topics discussed included income determination, accounting information, and accounting regulation. Furthermore, he aimed to facilitate the participants' critical thinking about issues in accounting theory and encouraged them to take risks when conducting research.



Presentations at the Practitioner's Forum in Vienna

In June, the Institut Österreichischer Wirtschaftsprüfer (IWP) in Vienna organized its annual science forum, a half-day dialogue session to support the exchange between science and practice for audit issues. All three presentations in this year's forum came from the University of Graz. CAR's Ralf Ewert opened with a comprehensive overview of highly topical research results on audit and enforcement issues. Michael Vorraber (Institute of Accounting and Auditing) provided first empirical insights into capital market reactions following qualified or adverse auditors' opinions in light of the recent OGH judgment on causality of investors' damage. CAR's David Windisch presented his paper 'Enforcement, Managerial Discretion, and the Informativeness of Discretionary Accruals,' which deals with the potential unintended consequences of stricter enforcement of financial reporting, to a plenum of practitioners.



New Journal of FARS



CAR's Alfred Wagenhofer has been involved in founding the Journal of Financial Reporting (JFR), which is the official journal of the Financial Accounting Research Section (FARS) of the American Accounting Association. He served as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee of FARS to establish the journal and is now co-chair of the newly formed Publications Committee of FARS. Furthermore, he has become a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of JFR.

Economic Relations among Earnings Quality Measures (Abacus)

A new paper by CAR's Ralf Ewert and Alfred Wagenhofer titled 'Economic Relations among Earnings Quality Measures' has been published in Abacus. The paper provides a theoretical assessment and comparison of several widely-used earnings quality measures such as value relevance, persistence, predictability, smoothness, and discretionary accruals.



IAAER Biennial Conference and Paper Development Workshop – East London



CAR's Alfred Wagenhofer served as a faculty member at the Paper Development Workshop, co-sponsored by ACCA, in East London, South Africa, at the end of June 2015, and attended the subsequent IAAER Biennial Conference, jointly organized with the South African Accounting Association. At the beginning of the workshop, a panel with Mary Barth (Stanford), Katherine Schipper (Duke), and Wagenhofer discussed 'The Role of Academic Research in Evidence-Informed Standard Setting' to provide participants with opportunities and challenges in conducting research that aims at addressing contemporary debates in international standard setting.



AAA Annual Meeting 2015 in Chicago

CHICAGO 2015

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American Accounting Association Annual Meeting

Several CAR members participated in this year's American Accounting Association (AAA) Annual Meeting in Chicago in August. CAR's Rainer Niemann presented two papers: 'A Theory of Tax Avoidance-Managerial Incentives for Tax Planning in a Multi-Task Principal Agent Model,' which is a joint work with CAR's Ralf Ewert, and 'Management Incentives under Formula Apportionment – Tax-Induced Distortions of Effort and Compensation in a Principal-Agent Setting,' co-authored with Jan Thomas Martini (University of Bielefeld) and Dirk Simons (University of Mannheim). CAR's Georg Schneider presented his paper 'Mandatory Disclosure, Generation of Decision-Relevant Information and Market Entry,' which is co-authored by Andreas Scholze (Osnabrück University). CAR's Alfred Wagenhofer participated in a panel moderated by Mary Tokar (IASB). Together with Mary Barth (Stanford) and Kazuo Hiramatsu (Kwansei Gakuin University), he discussed the proposed revisions of the IASB's New Conceptual Framework.

9th Accounting Research Workshop in Zurich

CAR and DART members were represented at the 9th Accounting Research Workshop in Zurich from June 18–19 by Anna Boisits, Aikaterina Ferentinou, Sebastian Kronenberger, Georg Schneider, and Alfred Wagenhofer. Boisits presented her paper 'Information Updating and Optimal Contract Adjustment in a Multiperiod RPE Model,' co-authored by Daniel Kauth (University of Zurich). Schneider and Wagenhofer served as discussants to presented papers.

DAR Workshop on Analytical Research in Zurich

In June, four DART students participated in the Swiss DAR seminar on Analytical Research in Financial Accounting at the University of Zurich. The doctoral seminar was held by Frank Gigler (University of Minnesota) and Thomas Hemmer (Rice University). Gigler and Hemmer provided an in depth understanding of seminal papers on the Revelation Principle and its possible applications in Accounting Theory. Furthermore, they put strong emphasis on open questions concerning research on disclosure and conservatism in accounting. On the second day of the seminar, Gigler presented his paper 'Necessary and Sufficient Conditions for the Communication of Post-Decision Private Information to Have Value.' He shared his personal views, and received useful feedback from course participants.

Ewert to be National Representative in EAA

CAR's Ralf Ewert has been elected the new national representative of Austria in the Board of the European Accounting Association (EAA). He follows in this role CAR's Rainer Niemann who represented Austria from 2009 to 2015.

IAAER ACCA Emerging Accounting Scholars Paper Development Workshop – Bucharest

 CAR's Alfred Wagenhofer served as a faculty member at this workshop that preceded the AMIS 2015 Conference in Bucharest, Romania, in June 2015. He gave a plenary presentation on 'Linking Theoretical and Empirical Research.' He was also a discussant for several paper presentations by emerging accounting scholars from transitional economies and helped them develop their research skills capacity and build their international network.



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