Center for Accounting Research

Newsletter

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Wagenhofer received the Anthony G. Hopwood Award for Academic Leadership

CAR's Alfred Wagenhofer received the Anthony G. Hopwood Award for Academic Leadership from the European Accounting Association (EAA). The EAA Award for Academic Leadership was established in 2005 and renamed to honour Professor Anthony G. Hopwood, who played a prominent role in the creation and development of the EAA and is intended to recognize academic excellence, combined with academic leadership and contribution to the EAA. The laudatory speech was given by Robert Göx from the University of Zurich, who is also member of CAR's Advisory Board. The award ceremony took place during the opening session of the EAA Annual Congress 2025 in Rome, which was attended by around 1,600 international researchers.

The award is presented to Wagenhofer by the EAA President Mark Clatworthy.

47th Annual Congress of the European Accounting Association (EAA) in Rome

From the 28th to the 30th of May, the Luiss University in Rome hosted the 47th Annual Congress of the European Accounting Association (EAA). Several CAR researchers and PhD students participated in the event. Current DART students Emanuel Lederer and Kerstin Trummer, CAR members Bernhard Haberl, Silke Rünger and Theresa Wittreich, DART alumni Martin Klösch (University of Vienna) and Felix Niggemann (University of Zurich), as well as former CAR member Stefanie Pendl (WU Vienna) were invited to present their current working papers at the congress and benefited from high-level feedback from internationally recognized accounting researchers. CAR members Alfred Wagenhofer, David Windisch and DART alumna Negin Attar-Niggeman also attended the conference. In addition to the highly productive research sessions, congress participants attended engaging symposia and several social events, providing opportunities to network with international research fellows. The conference ended on Friday with a gala dinner at the stunning Palazzo Brancaccio & Spazio Field, marking a memorable conclusion to the conference program.

Spring conference of the Commission of Business Taxation 2025 in Hannover

From March 13th to 14th, CAR's Rainer Niemann, Martina Rechbauer, and Silke Rünger (all from the Institute of Accounting and Taxation) participated in the spring conference of the Commission of Business Taxation 2025. The event was hosted by the VHB (Association of University Professors of Business Administration) at Leibniz University Hannover. Empirical and theoretical tax research were presented and discussed over two days. CAR's Rainer Niemann took part in a panel discussion, highlighting the possibilities of third-party funding through the DFG and the FWF.

Ewert and Wagenhofer are "Editor of Distinction 2025"

In May 2025, CAR's Ralf Ewert was awarded the "Springer Nature Editor of Distinction Award 2025" for his editorial contributions to Review of Managerial Science (RMSc). The RMSc was founded in 2007, and Ewert has been one of the founding editors and co-editor-in-chief since 2007. RMSc is now achieving top rankings in the list of international journals on business and management. CAR's Alfred Wagenhofer was also awarded the "Springer Nature Editor of Distinction

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Award 2025" for his editorial contributions to Schmalenbach Journal of Business Research (SBUR). The SBUR was founded in 2021, and Wagenhofer has been one of the founding editors and co-editor-in-chief since 2021. The awards are granted for their exceptional services regarding the journal's management and author services.

Meeting of committees of the Verein für Socialpolitik

In April, CAR's Rainer Niemann, Alfred Wagenhofer and David Windisch participated in the annual meeting of the Committee on "Accounting" of the Verein für Socialpolitik, which took place at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT). At the meeting, David Windisch gave a presentation on "(Mis-)Matching and Earnings Properties: Implications of Dynamic Investments," and became a member of the Committee. In May, the Committee "Theory of the Firm" held its annual meeting at the University of Graz. The meeting was organized by CAR's Michael Kopel and Alfred Wagenhofer, and Ralf Ewert also participated in the meeting.

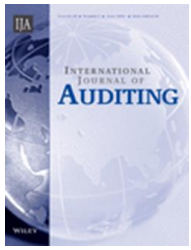
Martin Klösch joins University of Vienna as PostDoc Researcher

DART alumni and CAR member Martin Klösch has accepted a PostDoc position at the Department of Accounting, Innovation, and Strategy at the University of Vienna. Martin joined the chair of Management Accounting of Prof. Thomas Pfeiffer in April 2025 where he will continue his research on financial and sustainability accounting, capital market valuation, stakeholder activism, and auditing. Martin defended his dissertation at the University of Graz in July 2023 and joined CAR as a PosDoc researcher in September 2023.

"Environmental Certification, Consumer Greenness, and Greenwashing" (MDE)

In this article, published in Managerial and Decision Economics, CAR's Theresa Wittreich analyzes the welfare effects of imperfect environmental certification and its efficacy as an environmental policy tool within a partially covered product market and price competition among firms. Using a game-theoretic model, she finds that a truth-revealing certification mechanism – that emerges for a sufficiently precise certification mechanism or high certification fee – can enhance welfare while consistently outperforming a pooling mechanism. While greenwashing cannot benefit the economy in price competition, it may have different implications in quantity competition. The study highlights that a truth-revealing certification mechanism is crucial for effectively reducing environmental damage, offering valuable insights for policymakers.

"How Sustainability Audits Impact Audit Effort Choices" (Int. J. Audit.)



In this article, published in the International Journal of Auditing, former CAR member Martin Klösch (University of Vienna) and former DART student Anna Kasmanhuber analyze how the introduction of mandatory audits of sustainability reports conducted by the auditor of the financial report changes audit effort and quality choices. In their model, the auditor decides on effort allocation between a financial audit and a sustainability audit. Their analysis reveals that, in a competitive market, legislators may not consistently drive higher financial (sustainability) audit efforts solely through increased litigation payments for financial (sustainability) audit errors. Based on the cost structure, there exists either a substitutive effect or a complementary effect; that is, increasing litigation for errors in the financial audit increases the financial audit effort while simultaneously increasing or decreasing the sustainability audit effort and vice versa. In both scenarios, an overall improvement in audit quality is observed with increased litigation. They extend their analysis to a two-provider setting, where the above results hold structurally under some conditions. The overall audit quality can be higher or lower than in the one-provider setting. These findings represent novel insights not previously explored in the existing literature.

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