Leibniz Network

Non-Cognitive Skills
Acquisition and Economic Consequences

Supported by the Leibniz Association within the "Pakt für Forschung und Innovation"

Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), Mannheim
Centre for the Economics of Education, London
Center for Quantitative Methods and Survey Research, University of Konstanz
Center for Research on Intentions and Intentionality, University of Konstanz
Central Institute of Mental Health, Mannheim
Economics Research Center, University of Chicago
German Socio-Economic Panel at DIW, Berlin
SÜDWESTMETALL Bildungswerk, Stuttgart

Activities, October 2008
Dear colleagues,

This newsletter provides information on the scientific activities of our multidisciplinary and international Leibniz Network **Non-Cognitive Skills: Acquisition and Economic Consequences**. It is divided into five subsections (see below), summarizing our main network and research activities. We plan to collect the information on a regularly basis and to distribute the newsletter four times during the duration of the network. The newsletter also aims at documenting network activities for evaluation purposes. We kindly ask you to include a sentence, such as “We gratefully acknowledge support from the Leibniz Association, Bonn, in the research network ‘Non-Cognitive Skills: Acquisition and Economic Consequences’” in all discussion papers and publications that have been written with support from the Leibniz network. Whenever you feel the need or have a suggestion, please feel free to contact Karsten Reuß at Reuss@zew.de or myself at Pfeiffer@zew.de.

Our second conference will take place at Lake Constance, **March 19-21, 2009**, and will be organized by Anja Achtziger and Peter Gollwitzer. Our third conference will take place at SOEP, DIW Berlin, **October 22-24, 2009**, and will be organized by Jürgen Schupp and C. Katharina Spieß from the SOEP group.

Best wishes, Friedhelm Pfeiffer

Network Coordination, ZEW Mannheim

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3. Papers, Publications
4. Mobility, Projects
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**Imprint**

Network Activities – published regularly
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You may unsubscribe with an email to: pfeiffer@zew.de. Mail text: Unsubscribe NCS Activities
1. Institutions, People

Center for Research on Intentions and Intentionality, University of Konstanz
   PD Dr. Anja Achtziger, Dr. Ute Bayer, Prof. Peter M. Gollwitzer, Ph.D.

Center for Quantitative Methods and Survey Research, University of Konstanz
   Prof. Dr. Winfried Pohlmeier, Laura Wichert

Central Institute of Mental Health, Mannheim
   Dorothea Blomeyer, Prof. Dr. Manfred Laucht

Centre for the Economics of Education, London School of Economics and Political Science
   Prof. Joan Blanden, Ph.D., Clair Crawford, Prof. Steve Machin, Ph.D., Emma Tominey

German Socio-Economic Panel Study at DIW, Berlin
   Prof. Dr. Jürgen Schupp, Prof. Dr. C. Katharina Spieß, Prof. Dr. Gert G. Wagner, Dr. Silke Anger and Eva Berger.

Economic Research Center, University of Chicago
   Prof. James J. Heckman, Ph.D., Pia Pinger

BBQ Berufliche Bildung, Bildungswerk der Baden-Württembergischen Wirtschaft, Stuttgart
   Stefan Küpper, Johannes Krumme, Gerhard Selzer

Centre of European Economic Research, Mannheim
   Katja Coneus, Philipp Eisenhauer, Prof. Dr. Dr. hc. mult. Wolfgang Franz (Chairman of the Network Committee), Johannes Gernandt, Dr. Andrea Mühlenweg, PD Dr. Friedhelm Pfeiffer (Network Coordination), Verena Niepel, Pia Pinger, Karsten Reuß
2. Talks / Discussions


Gernandt, Johannes, Earnings Prospects for People with Migration Background in Germany, Humboldt University, Berlin, June 19th 2008.


Gollwitzer, Peter M., Chair, "Perceptual consequences of threat and prejudice: Misperceiving weapons and other dangerous objects" (Randy Larson) at the XXIXth International Congress of Psychology, Berlin, Germany, 2008.

Gollwitzer, Peter M., Chair, "Groups as adaptive devices: Free-rider problems, the wisdom of crowds, and evolutionary games" (Tatsuya Kameda) at the XXIXth International Congress of Psychology, Berlin, Germany, 2008.

Gollwitzer, Peter M., Mentor, "Meet your favorite mentor" at the XXIXth International Congress of Psychology, Berlin, Germany, 2008.


Mühlenweg, Andrea, Educational Effects of Alternative Secondary School Tracking Regimes in Germany, International Conference on Educational Economics, Athen, August 28th.


Pfeiffer, Friedhelm, Mobility as a dimension of human capital formation, Pathways to worksite, University of Paderborn, March 6th 2008.


Pfeiffer, Friedhelm, Initial risk matrix, home resources, ability development and children’s achievement, Annual Meeting of the European Economic Association, Milano, August 28th 2008.


Reuß, Karsten, Age dependant skill formation and returns to education, Annual Meeting of the Canadian Economic Association, Vancouver, June 6th 2008; Economics of Education Conference, University of Zurich, June 26th 2008.

Reuß, Karsten, Preventative and Remedial Policies to Reduce Lifetime Earnings Inequality in Germany, European Society for Population Economics, June 20th 2008; Annual meeting of the EALE, Amsterdam, September 19th 2008.


3. Papers, Publications


Achtziger, Anja, Fehr, Torsten, Oettingen, Gabriele, Gollwitzer, Peter M., & Rockstroh, Brigitte (in press). Strategies of intention formation are reflected in continuous MEG activity. *Social Neuroscience.*


Blanden, Jo, Steve Machin (2008), *Up and Down the Generational Income Ladder in Britain: Past Changes and Future Prospects, NIESR working paper.*


Blomeyer, Dorothea, Coneus, Katja, Laucht, Manfred and Pfeiffer, Friedhelm (2008), Self-productivity and Complementarities in Human Development: Evidence from the

Blomeyer, Dorothea, Katja Coneus, Friedhelm Pfeiffer and Manfred Laucht (2008), Initial risk matrix, home resources, ability development and children’s achievement, IZA Discussion Paper 3692.


Borghans, Lex, Angela L. Duckworth, James J. Heckman, and Bas ter Weel (2008), The Economics and Psychology of Personality Traits, forthcoming Journal of Human Resources.


Coneus, Katja, Johannes Gernandt and Marianne Saam (2008), Noncognitive Skills, Internet Use and Educational Dropouts, ZEW Discussion Paper No. 08-043.

Coneus, Katja and Friedhelm Pfeiffer (2008), Self-Productivity in Early Childhood, ZEW Discussion Paper No. 07-053, SOEPpapers No. 39.


Gernandt, Johannes and Friedhelm Pfeiffer (2008), Wage Convergence and Inequality after Unification: (East) Germany in Transition, *ZEW Discussion Paper No. 08-022, SOEP Papers No. 107.*


Laucht, Manfred, Katja Becker, Dorothea Blomeyer and Martin H Schmidt (2007), Novelty seeking involved in mediating the association between the DRD4 exon III polymorphism and heavy drinking in male adolescents: Results from a high-risk community sample. *Biological Psychiatry*. 61, 87-92


Pfeiffer, Friedhelm and Karsten Reuß (2008), Intra- und intergenerationale Umverteilungseffekte in der bundesdeutschen Alterssicherung auf Basis humankapitaltheoretischer Überlegungen, Deutsche Rentenversicherung 63 (1), 60-84.


4. Mobility / Projects

Anger, Silke, Research stay at the Economics Department of the University of Chicago, July 2008, Research stay at the Scottish Institute for Research in Economics (SIRE) at the University of Edinburgh, October 2008.

Coneus, Katja, Research stay at the SOEP, Berlin, December 2007.

Pinger, Pia, Research stay at the ERC University of Chicago, September 12 – December 12, 2008.

Mühlenweg, Andrea, *Education Economic Measures for the National Educational Panel Study* (NEPS), August to December 2008, funded by the Leibniz University Hannover and the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. In this new project, we support the development of specific questions which will be included in the questionnaire of the "National Education Panel Study" (NEPS). The focus of these questions is on topics which are central in educational economists. For instance, one interest is in investigating the returns to education based on "natural experiments" in the German education system.
## 5. Conferences, Workshops

Public discussion often focuses on the shortcomings in educational institutions and the spotlight has been particularly trained on the German school system. Recent discussion in the social sciences (led by the Nobel Prize laureate in economics, James J. Heckman) emphasises deficits in noncognitive skills (such as motivation, persistence, self-regulation and social integration) alongside problems related to the formation of cognitive skills (e.g. mathematical skills, memory capacity). Incomplete skill formation can result from poverty, physical violence or neglect in early childhood, as well as school failure, unemployment and social change. In this conference we discussed theories and research methods from different disciplines in order to study noncognitive skills in the modern economy.

- Inaugural Conference Non-cognitive Skills: Acquisition and Economic Consequences, Centre for European Economic Research (ZEW), Mannheim, Germany, May 15 – May 17 2008

### Thursday, May 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Registration at the ZEW, Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 – 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Welcome Address and Keynote Lecture</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Welcome Address and Introduction: Wolfgang Franz</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Keynote Lecture: James J. Heckman</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-cognitive skills: Acquisition and economic consequences</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner at EURO Bistro, ZEW</td>
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### Friday, May 16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Matthias Kliegel&lt;br&gt;The realization of delayed intentions - Developmental trends and underlying mechanisms</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Angela L. Duckworth&lt;br&gt;Self-control, IQ, and academic achievement in adolescents</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Anja Achtziger / Ute Bayer / Peter M. Gollwitzer&lt;br&gt;Self-regulation skills and achievement in university students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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### Session 2, Chair: Jo Blanden

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Seong Hyeok Moon / Rodrigo Pinto&lt;br&gt;Cognitive and noncognitive effects of early childhood intervention: the case of Perry Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 – 12:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Dorothea Blomeyer / Katja Coneus / Friedhelm Pfeiffer / Manfred Laucht&lt;br&gt;Initial conditions, cognitive and noncognitive skill formation and school outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Ute Bayer / Anja Achtziger / Peter Gollwitzer&lt;br&gt;Stress and self-regulation in freshman at the University of Konstanz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 – 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch Break at the ZEW</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Session 3, Chair: <strong>Holger Bonin</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 – 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Emma Tominey</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 – 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Silke Anger</strong></td>
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<td>2:30 – 3:00 p.m.</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 4, Chair: <strong>Andrea Mühlenweg</strong></th>
<th>The effects of simple plans under conditions of induced stress by Verena Michalski, Anja Achtziger, and Peter M. Gollwitzer; First pre-test evidence of the new SOEP childhood survey by C. Katharina Spieß; Measuring the impact of noncognitive skills by structural equation mixture models by Remi Piatek; Childhood temperaments: Assessment and findings from the Mannheim Study of Children at Risk by Dorothea Blomeyer</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:30 – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Verena Michalski</strong> / Anja Achtziger / Peter M. Gollwitzer:</td>
<td>The effects of simple plans under conditions of induced stress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 – 5:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>C. Katharina Spieß</strong></td>
<td>First pre-test evidence of the new SOEP childhood survey</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Remi Piatek</strong></td>
<td>Measuring the impact of noncognitive skills by structural equation mixture models</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 – 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Dorothea Blomeyer</strong></td>
<td>Childhood temperaments: Assessment and findings from the Mannheim Study of Children at Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Dinner, Delta Park Hotel in Mannheim</td>
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**Saturday, May 17**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 5, Chair: <strong>Winfried Pohlmeier</strong></th>
<th>Effects of fine arts’ competencies on educational outcomes by Jürgen Schupp; Cost-benefit analysis of psychological therapy by Richard Layard, Davic Clark, Martin Knapp, Guy Mayraz; Longitudinal research into child development from birth to adolescence: Findings from the Mannheim Study of Children at Risk by Manfred Laucht; Heart rate variability, bio-markers and non-cognitive skills: Preliminary evidence from a day reconstruction study by Liam Delaney</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Jürgen Schupp</strong></td>
<td>Effects of fine arts’ competencies on educational outcomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 – 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Richard Layard</strong> / Davic Clark / Martin Knapp / Guy Mayraz</td>
<td>Cost-benefit analysis of psychological therapy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Manfred Laucht</strong></td>
<td>Longitudinal research into child development from birth to adolescence: Findings from the Mannheim Study of Children at Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>Liam Delaney</strong></td>
<td>Heart rate variability, bio-markers and non-cognitive skills: Preliminary evidence from a day reconstruction study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 11:30 a.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Lecture, Goodbye</td>
<td>Keynote Lecture: <strong>Peter M. Gollwitzer</strong> - The power of planning: Effective self-regulation of goal striving Friedhelm Pfeiffer - Farewell until our next conference at the University of Konstanz, March 19 - 21 2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 – 2:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Coffee and Lunch Break at the ZEW</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Excursion to Heidelberg (optional)</td>
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- **Summerschool on Self-Regulation** (organized by Anja Achtziger, Research group “Limits of Intentionality”, July 2007, Konstanz)