

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### CONFERENCE

#### FORECASTING AND MONETARY POLICY

Organized by

Helge Berger, Chair of Monetary Economics, Freie Universität, Berlin  
Jörg Breitung, Research Professor of the Deutsche Bundesbank, University of Bonn  
Heinz Herrmann, Head of the Research Centre, Deutsche Bundesbank  
Pierre L. Siklos, Wilfrid Laurier University, Viessmann European Research Centre, Waterloo,  
Canada, and Bundesbank Professor, Freie Universität, Berlin

Central banks now routinely release, and comment, on forecasts for macroeconomic and financial variables, using a variety of methodologies in preparing and presenting forecasts. Some publish a staff forecast, others rely on professional forecasts, while still other forecasts may be from the monetary policy committee or its members. Central banks also compete with forecasts made by financial institutions and private foundations or research organizations, with potential implications for their credibility and the monetary policy environment. Against this background, the organizers are interested in empirical and methodological papers that examine forecast uncertainty, the use and construction of fan charts, the performance of forecasts from various modeling approaches (e.g., DSGE versus VAR type models), forecast comparisons and combinations, the debate about whether central bankers should release their own forecasts, whether conditional forecasts of the future policy track are advisable and current experiences with such forecasts. Additionally, as there are growing concerns over central banks' ability to anchor inflationary expectations, the organizers are also keen on papers that are concerned with long-run forecasts of inflation. Finally, we are also interested in papers that examine the record of institutional forecasters, in particular Europe and Germany.

#### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Professor Axel Weber, President, Deutsche Bundesbank

Professor Francis X. Diebold, Joseph M. Cohen Professor of Economics, University of Pennsylvania

Professor Jon Faust, John Hopkins University.

LOCATION: The workshop will take place on March 23-24, 2009, in the Berlin branch of the Bundesbank.

TOPICS: Any papers that fit the topics outlined above will be considered for presentation.

EXPENSES: Expenses for travel (economy class round-trip) and accommodation will be covered for speakers and discussants.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION: The organizers will consider extended abstracts. However, preference will be given to completed papers. Proposals should be sent to: Pierre L. Siklos, Email: [psiklos@wlu.ca](mailto:psiklos@wlu.ca) by November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Only completed papers, however, will be accepted for the final program. Drafts will be due by February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Notifications of conditional acceptance will be sent by January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Authors should confirm their acceptance of the offer by January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

WEBSITE: More detailed information on the workshop will eventually be posted at <http://www.wlu.ca/viessmann>, and [www.bundesbank.de](http://www.bundesbank.de).