WORKSHOP ECONOMIC GROWTH IN ANTIQUITY

18–21 NOVEMBER 2016



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The basic attitude of the world community is that there was very little economic growth before 1800 AD. Even if one accepts the idea, one would still have to admit that England was already a wealthy country in 1700 AD – and thus one wonders about Renaissance Florence, Medieval Regensburg, Imperial Rome, Hellenistic Alexandria, Egyptian Memphis, Akkadian Agade, Uruk, ... We ask about the How? What happened? When? Where? Why is it significant?

What is relevant? What can we say about economic growth before the recent outbreak? Where did economic growth begin? How do you define it? What contributes to it? What pushes it? ...

18 FRI

REGISTRATION · WELCOME

16:00 REGISTRATION • COFFEE

16:30 INTRODUCTION

Michael Meyer (Berlin), David A. Warburton (Berlin)

16:45 GROWTH

Nikolaus Wolf (Berlin) Long-run Growth in Economic Theory

KEY NOTE LECTURE

18:15

Larry Neal (Illinois)

From Babylon to Bernanke: What was Critical, When, and Why?

17:30 DISCUSSION

20:00 RECEPTION

OPENING HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN HEILIG-GEIST-KAPELLE SPANDAUER STRASSE 1 10178 BERLIN

19 sat

LONG TERM HISTORY

09:30 INTRO **David A. Warburton (Berlin)** Long Term History

9:45 GREECE

Donald Jones (Tennessee)

Transformations from the Neolithic to the Bronze Age in Greece: A Model of a Household in an Egalitarian Neolithic Village

10:15 SUMER

Piotr Steinkeller (Harvard) Can Economic Growth be Detected and Quantified during the Third Millennium - and if so How?

10:45 EGYPT

Tobias Gutmann (Bonn) Usage of Proxy Data for Middle Kingdom Economy: Indications for Economic Growth?

11:15 COFFEE

11:45 ASSYRIA

Jan Gerrit Dercksen (Leiden) Trade and Finance among the Old Assyrian Merchants

12:15 ATHENS

Graham Oliver (Brown) Athens over the *longue durée*

12:45 DISCUSSION Chair: David A. Warburton (Berlin) Rome, Middle Ages

13:15 LUNCH

WORKSHOP, 19–21 NOV TOPOI BUILDING DAHLEM HITTORFSTR. 18 14195 BERLIN

THEMES

14:00 INTRODUCTION

David A. Warburton (Berlin) Introduction to Themes

14:15 GROWTH

Johannes Renger (Berlin) Thinking about Growth

14:45 LABOUR

Christian Langer (Berlin) The Political Economy of Foreign Labour in Pharaonic Egypt

15:15 COFFEE

15:45 TRADE & INDUSTRY

Elsbeth van der Wilt (Berlin) Metal Usage and Economic Growth in Pre-Ptolemaic Egypt

16:15 DISCUSSION Growth, Labour, Industry in Antiquity

17:00 DISCUSSION

Chair: Florian Klimscha (Berlin) Technology, Innovation

THEMES

09:30 ADMINISTRATION & ECONOMY

Gebhard Selz (Vienna) Particularization and Economic Growth as reflected in the Documentation of Late Pre-Sargonic Lagash

10:00 WARFARE

Ingo Schrakamp (Berlin) The Military and the Spread of Private Landed Property

10:30 COFFEE

11:00 TAXATION **Richard von Glahn (UCLA)** The Fiscal State in Late First Millennium BC China

11:30 DISCUSSION Administration, Laws, Welfare, Warfare, Land

12:30 LUNCH

THEMES

13:30 PRICES

Hagan Brunke (Berlin) Prices and Equivalencies in Third Millennium Mesopotamia

14:00 MONEY

Juan Carlos Moreno-García (Paris) Silver, Markets and Growth in Pharaonic Egypt

14:30 COFFEE

15:00 MONEY

Alain Bresson (Chicago) Money, Debt and Economic Growth in Greece and Rome (7th c. BCE-1 c. CE)

15:30 DISCUSSION

Detail Questions about Market Prices, the Role of Money, the Nature of Money

16:00 COFFEE

16:30 PERFORMANCE

Giacomo Benati (Bologna) Growth and Institutional Management of Agricultural Production in Early Third Millennium BC Southern Mesopotamia

17:00 DISCUSSION

Chair: Giacomo Benati (Bologna) Performance

17:30 DISCUSSION Value, Land, Labour, Power, Money, Prices, Moral Values, Legitimacy

ORGANISED BY EXCELLENCE CLUSTER TOPOI AREA A, KEY TOPIC ECONOMY DAVID A. WARBURTON david.warburton@topoi.org

20 sun

THEMES

09:45 TEXTILES

Xianhua Wang (Sichuan) Textile Production in Southwest China under the Han Dynasty

10:15 FINANCE

Alex Stomper (Berlin) The Bourse of Babylon Revisted

10:45 DISCUSSION Trade & Finance

11:15 COFFEE

11:45 CLIMATE

Joseph Manning (Yale) Constraints on Real Growth: Inter-Annual Climate Variability

12:15 DISCUSSION

Chair: Joseph Manning (Yale) Land, Labour, Enterprise Crops, Demography, Ecology

13:00 LUNCH

THEMES

14:00 URBANISATION

Reinhard Pirngruber (Vienna) A Tale of Two Cities: Economic Growth in Athens and Babylonia Compared

14:30 DISCUSSION

Urbanisation: Cities, Transport Networks, Resources

15:30 COFFEE

16:00 DISCUSSION

Chair: Hermann Elendner (Berlin) General Equilibrium, Markets, Firms, Coase, Malthusian Stagnation

17:00 DISCUSSION

Chair: David A. Warburton (Berlin) Closing Remarks

18:30 CONFERENCE DINNER

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21 MON