



## Department New Faculty Members

*In the academic year 2011/12 two new members joined our faculty. We would like to introduce them to you.*

**Derya UYSAL**  
*(Microeconometrics, Labor Economics)*



Derya Uysal was born in Turkey. She received her Bachelor degree in Economics at Bogazici University in Turkey and her Master as well as PhD degree at the University of Konstanz in Germany. Her PhD thesis was on "Doubly Robust Estimation of Treatment Effects". During her PhD she worked as teaching and research assistant. After her doctoral stud-

ies she joined the Department of Economics and Finance at IHS. She is teaching Statistics for the first year and Econometrics IV for the second year master students. Her main areas of research are microeconometrics, applied labor economics and econometrics of treatment evaluation. Recapitulating her first few months she says, "I really enjoy working at IHS not only because of the inspiring academic environment with highly qualified researchers and students but also because of the friendly work atmosphere. Moreover, seminars and lectures by internationally well-known researchers give us the opportunity to follow cutting-edge research in our work place and to get very valuable comments on our own research."

**Justinas PELENIS**  
*(Bayesian Econometrics)*

Justinas Pelenis has joined IHS in the summer of 2011 after completing his Ph.D. at Princeton University. His paper on "Bayesian modeling of joint and conditional distributions" was published in the Journal of Econometrics (June 2012, issue 2). About his time at IHS he says, "It has been a great

pleasure to meet my new colleagues and master students that have made the experience of teaching and conducting research



at IHS very exciting and rewarding. My research focuses on the theoretical and methodological aspects of nonparametric Bayesian methods with particular interest in density estimation procedures and their applications to various problems in economics."

### Info Study Programs

The IHS Department of Economics and Finance offers, together with its partners, high-quality Master and PhD programs that give students the opportunity to orient themselves towards the top universities in their fields. For more details: <http://economics.ihs.ac.at>

## Alumni Update

*In June IHS alumni Stefan Schneeberger, who is currently pursuing his PhD in Economics at Yale University, came to visit and took the Elective Course "Topics in Econometrics" by Maximilian Kasy from Harvard University. We took the opportunity to talk to Stefan about his studies in Yale, a review of his studies at IHS and an outlook of his future career.*



*Stefan at the IHS Happy Hour in June*

Stefan considers IHS as the perfect preparation for PhD studies and as his gateway for his PhD program.

Looking back one year after finishing the MSc he says that he really enjoyed studying at IHS, the faculty was easy to approach, but the biggest asset was the individual mentoring.

Stefan would definitely apply again for the MSc of Economics Program at IHS. "Only when I

started studying in the US, I began to appreciate the high work load at IHS" he says, smiling. "The demand and pressure in Yale is extremely high, but IHS prepared me well for that. I definitely had an advantage in comparison to students from other universities in terms of experience and knowledge."

Stefan will stay in the US for the next couple of years, but when returning to Europe he would not decline an offer from IHS for an Economist position...

Follow us on Facebook!





Students Recent Placements

This year four very successful students graduated from the joint IHS and Vienna University of Technology MSc in Economics program. We asked them about their impressions.

Béla SZABADI (Northwestern University)



"After obtaining my master's degree in Quantitative Economics at the Corvinus University of Budapest, I felt I needed more preparation before being accepted to a high-level PhD-program in the U.S. My teachers recommended the IHS MSc. It is the perfect prep-

aration for a leading PhD program. It is tough and thorough and has a good theoretical structure. During the application for PhD programs I got all the support from the faculty, be it writing recommendation letters or in determining which program suits my research interests best. I was, among others, admitted to the Department of Economics at Northwestern University and to NYU, therefore could choose between these two impressive universities. When visiting both, I was amazed by the good reputation IHS and its faculty have there."

Gábor UHRIN (Toulouse School of Economics)

"At IHS saw the pure academic world and became prepared for a life in academia. Here you know every faculty member and all fellow students personally. At the same time you get the chance to meet an international scientific community on a regular basis. The Workshop in honor of Harold Kuhn in June was an impressive gathering of top researchers in the field. In autumn I will commence my PhD at the Toulouse



School of Economics and after that I am planning on going back to Hungary. The network in Vienna is an invaluable asset for me and I definitely want to keep in touch."

Rainer WIDMANN (Kellogg School of Management)

"The IHS master program was the essential asset for making me competitive for a U.S. PhD by putting me through two years of thorough studies. In my areas of interest, political economy and applied microeconomics, the Kellogg School of Management is the prime place in the world. My plan

for the future is to embark on a career in academia and IHS is a place where you are in the midst of active academic life, for example by participating in the research seminars and electives with internationally renowned guest professors."



Richard FOLTYN (Stockholm University)

"After completing my studies at the Vienna University of Economics and Business, the IHS MSc program was the next logical step to prepare for a PhD: it has a strong emphasis on analytical

competence and conveys a solid foundation in macro, micro, econometrics and computational methods. In macroeconomics, my personal field of interest, the IHS has a competitive advantage with top faculty members. Additionally, IHS gives students the chance to prepare for future university teaching positions by requiring second-year students to work as teaching assistants. The weekly seminars at IHS, in which most of the leading researchers working in Vienna as well as visiting international scholars participate, are well-suited to introduce students to the discourse and current topics in economics."

