

Call for Papers

The Economics of Vocational Education and Training

Markets • Institutions • Systems

Conference on 5 and 6 November 2015

in Bonn, Germany

The recent financial crisis has been triggering high levels of youth unemployment in several countries within the European Union. As a reaction to the crisis, many policy makers and researchers have proposed a (re)enforcement of vocational training structures as a measure to facilitate the integration of young workers into the labour market. The main argument is that VET, and especially programmes involving a strong work-based component, increase the labour market attachment of young people and thereby enhance employment and wage prospects compared to more general schooling.

Although the research field of the economics of VET has received an increasing amount of attention over the past years, many essential questions about the effectiveness and efficiency of VET remain an open issue of discussion. Exemplary research questions are:

- What medium to long-term benefits may firms and individuals have from participating in VET?
- How do labour market institutions and policy changes influence the training behaviour of firms and individuals in different countries?
- How do training markets react to exogenous shocks to the supply of and demand for qualifications?
- What can we learn from VET systems in other countries operating under different economic and institutional conditions?

We encourage the **submission** of **extended abstracts** (1000 to 1200 words) or **full papers** presenting new empirical or theoretical evidence on these and related questions. The conference will be held in English.

The *Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BiBB)* will bring together researchers from a variety of countries during this international conference. We are honoured that the conference will benefit from the contributions of our keynote speakers **Uschi Backes-Gellner** (University of Zürich), **Giorgio Brunello** (University of Padova) and **Andries de Grip** (ROA and Maastricht University).

A selection of the accepted papers will be published in a special issue of the peer-reviewed journal “**Empirical Research in Vocational Education and Training**” (<http://www.ervet-journal.com>). Please notify us whether you wish your article to be taken into consideration for this special issue.

Important dates are:

- Abstracts and papers can be submitted via email to economics_of_vet_2015@bibb.de from **2 February until 31 May 2015**
- Notification of acceptance by **3 August 2015**
- Registration between **1 August and 26 October 2015**

Scientific Committee

Katja Görlitz
(FU Berlin)

Samuel Mühlemann
(LMU München)

Reinhold Weiß
(BiBB)

Thomas Zwick
(JMU Würzburg)

Contact information:

For enquiries regarding the contents of the call, please contact:
Felix Wenzelmann, Anika Jansen, Harald Pfeifer, Gudrun Schönfeld:
economics_of_vet_2015@bibb.de

For enquiries regarding organisational issues, please contact:
Sabina Pohl: pohl@bibb.de / Monika Lessenich: lessenich@bibb.de