

# Highlights at the Institute of Economic Studies

## Fall 2011, Spring 2012

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# Strategy

## We are building and maintaining a unique school.

- ▶ Quantitative background
  - ▶ B: 4 maths, statistics, 2 econometrics
  - ▶ M: demanding micro, macro, econometrics
- ▶ International environment
  - ▶ 90% Master courses in EN
  - ▶ 750+ international students from 28 countries in last 12 years
  - ▶ 50+% Master students come from abroad
  - ▶ 42 Erasmus exchange agreements + opportunities in the US, Australia etc.
- ▶ Attracting talents
  - ▶ efforts at promotion in top CZ high schools
  - ▶ easy transfer abroad: Cambridge, Oxford, LSE, UCL
  - ▶ manageable family size
  - ▶ extra opportunities: theses prizes, team competitions, scholarships, thesis publishing

# Strategy

We are running the following programs in Economics and Finance:

- ▶ Bachelors (CZ): 80 graduates
- ▶ Bachelors (EN): 17 students in the opening year
- ▶ Masters (CZ): 60 graduates
  - ▶ 45 in track Finance and Banking
  - ▶ 5–10 in track Economic Policy
  - ▶ 5–10 in track Economic Theory (Joint Masters in Economics with CERGE-EI)
- ▶ Masters (EN): 10–20 graduates
- ▶ Master (double degree) Corporate Finance and Strategy: just opening
- ▶ PhD (EN): 5 graduates

## Quality matters.

### SCIO admission score

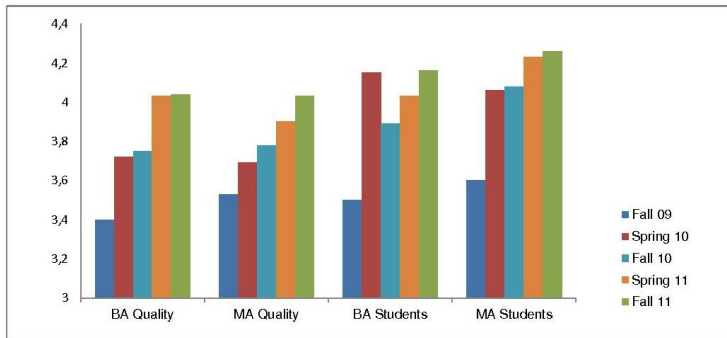
- ▶ Our admission score (60% MAT, 40% OSP) has been increasing.

AY	Percentile
2012/2013	85,0
2011/2012	80,1
2010/2011	80,0
2009/2010	75,5
2008/2009	76,9

## Quality matters.

### Course evaluations

- ▶ There is a clear upward trend in both quality and satisfaction with courses.



- ▶ We collect both formal and informal assessments ('Aunt Sally').

## Quality matters.

### Major recognition activities

- ▶ ACCA accreditation (The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants)
  - ▶ our graduates exempted from F1–F3 exams
  - ▶ 3rd school in CZ
  - ▶ valid for 5 years
- ▶ CFA University Recognition Program
  - ▶ invited by CFA Institute
  - ▶ a brief procedure of recognition based on course match
  - ▶ our aspiration is to be the 1st (and preferably only) school in CZ
- ▶ World Development Institute's co-branding of courses
  - ▶ an opportunity of brand of the World Bank
  - ▶ ECA Regional Stakeholders Consultations
  - ▶ next steps depend on the WDI's offer
- ▶ The Palms of Centre des Professions Financieres
  - ▶ awarded to universities whose students succeeded in international competition of Master's Theses on Economics and Finance
  - ▶ our 2012 ranking = London Business School, Frankfurt University, Humboldt University, HEC Montreal, University of Mannheim and Toulouse Graduate School of Management

Plus two strategic local partnerships: MFF UK, CERGE-EI.

## Quality matters.

### Bloomberg Assessment Test

- ▶ We have organized the first official BAT session in CZ.

Averages for test takers from:	Math	Economics	Ethics	Analytics	Modeling	Verbal
Charles University	74,80	70,00	73,80	72,70	61,00	65,70
North & South America	54,60	53,10	68,30	47,70	58,20	59,70
Europe, Middle East, Africa	55,60	53,50	62,40	48,50	57,40	54,30
Asia Pacific	57,90	49,40	61,70	56,60	54,60	53,10

## Competitions

- ▶ Thanks to our corporate sponsors, we have organized four competitions:
  - ▶ CSOB Thesis Prize Banking, Trust and Finance
  - ▶ Ceska sporitelna Best Thesis Prize
  - ▶ Renomia Award for Theses in Development Economics
  - ▶ RWE Young Ladies Contest
- ▶ Management competitions
  - ▶ BCG Strategy Cup 2011
    - ▶ Team Awesome Foursome (3 IES, 1 VSE)
    - ▶ 1st in CZ
  - ▶ Peak Time 2011
    - ▶ Team of 4 IES students
    - ▶ World Finals in Riga, Latvia: only 16 out of 650 teams
    - ▶ 5th in the world
  - ▶ The CFA Institute Research Challenge 2012
    - ▶ 3rd in CZ



# Research

- ▶ Center of Excellence
  - ▶ 7 years
  - ▶ dynamics models in economics and mathematics
  - ▶ jointly with CERGE-EI, MFF, UTIA, VSE
- ▶ Charles University Center of Excellence (UNCE)
  - ▶ 6 juniors IES, 6 juniors CERGE-EI
- ▶ individual grants
  - ▶ TACR OMEGA project
  - ▶ 3 grants by Grant Agency of the CR (doc. Benacek, doc. Horvath, dr. Novak)
- ▶ research affiliates
  - ▶ Martin Burda, University of Ontario
  - ▶ Zuzana Fungacova, BOFIT, Bank of Finland
  - ▶ Jan Fidrmuc, Brunel University

## High-quality publications

- ▶ A+, A tiers (= AI 1.5+)
  - ▶ Burda, Martin; Harding, Matthew; Hausman, Jerry (2012) A Poisson Mixture Model of Discrete Choice, *Journal of Econometrics*, 166(2), 184-203
  - ▶ Burda, Martin; Harding, Matthew (2012) Panel Probit with Flexible Correlated Effects: Quantifying Technology Spillovers in the Presence of Latent Heterogeneity, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, forthcoming
  - ▶ Dominguez, Kathryn; Fatum, Rasmus; Vacek, Pavel (2012) Do Sales of Foreign Exchange Reserves Lead to Currency Appreciation? *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*, forthcoming
  - ▶ Rusnak, Marek; Havranek, Tomas; Horvath, Roman (2012) How to Solve the Price Puzzle? A Meta-Analysis. *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*, forthcoming

## High-quality publications

- ▶ B, C tiers (= AI 0.3–1.5, selection)
  - ▶ Baxa, Jaromir; Horvath, Roman; Vasicek, Borek (2012) Time-Varying Monetary Policy Rules and Financial Stress: Does Financial Instability Matter for Monetary Policy? *Journal of Financial Stability*, forthcoming
  - ▶ Campos, Nauro; Horvath, Roman (2012) Reform Redux: Measurement, Determinants and Growth Implications, *European Journal of Political Economy*, 28(2), 227-237
  - ▶ Gregor, Martin; Smith, Michael (2012) Civic Initiatives in the Context of Legal Uncertainty, *Journal of Theoretical Politics*, forthcoming
  - ▶ Gregor, Martin; Stastna, Lenka (2012) The decentralization tradeoff for complementary spillovers, *Review of Economic Design* 16(1): 41-69
  - ▶ Havranek, Tomas; Havrankova Zuzana (2012) Publication Bias in the Literature on FDI: Spillovers, *Journal of Development Studies*, forthcoming
  - ▶ Horvath, Roman; Smidkova, Katerina; Zapal, Jan (2012) Central Banks Voting Record and Future Policy, *International Journal of Central Banking*, forthcoming
  - ▶ Schwarz, Jiri (2012) Impact of Institutions on Cross-Border Price Dispersion, *Review of World Economics*, forthcoming

# Energy Economics Project

An example of how to successfully combine private and public funding.

- ▶ Funding
  - ▶ public: Grant Agency P402-11-0948
  - ▶ private: RWE Chair; Mero Chair
- ▶ Team
  - ▶ seniors: Janda, Hruba, Lukasek
  - ▶ juniors: Havranek, Havrankova, Chvalkovska, Klimesova, Kristoufek, Prusa, Skuhrovec
  - ▶ external: Barunik, Vacha
- ▶ Cooperation
  - ▶ UC Berkeley
- ▶ Energy Economics Contest 2011 (FFU VSE)
  - ▶ The 1st prize for Lukas Vacha and Jozef Barunik for the article “Co-movement of energy commodities revisited: Evidence from wavelet coherence analysis”

## Energy Economics Project

- ▶ Finished articles (2012 or forthcoming)
  - ▶ Kristoufek, Ladislav; Janda, Karel and Zilberman, David. Correlations Between Biofuels and Related Commodities Before and During the Food Crisis: A Taxonomy Perspective. *Energy Economics* 2012, 5(34), pp. 1380-1391.
  - ▶ Janda, Karel; Kristoufek, Ladislav and Zilberman, David. Biofuels: Policies and Impacts. *Agricultural Economics* 2012, 8(58), pp. 372-386.
  - ▶ Havranek, Tomas; Irsova, Zuzana and Janda, Karel. Demand for Gasoline Is More Price-Inelastic than Commonly Thought. *Energy Economics* 2012, 1(34), pp. 201-207.
  - ▶ Vacha, Lukas and Barunik, Jozef. Co-Movement of Energy Commodities Revisited: Evidence from Wavelet Coherence Analysis. *Energy Economics* 2012, 1(34), pp. 4863-4874.
  - ▶ Slaba, Monika; Gapko, Petr; Andrea Klimesova. Main drivers of natural gas prices in the Czech Republic after the market liberalisation. *Energy Policy*, forthcoming.
- ▶ Articles under review
  - ▶ Prusa, Klimesova, Janda. Economic Loss in Czech Photovoltaic Power Plants. Submitted to *Energy Policy*.
  - ▶ Vacha, Janda, Kristoufek, Zilberman. Time-Frequency Dynamics of Biofuels-Fuels-Food System. Submitted to *Energy Economics*.
  - ▶ Kristoufek, Janda, Zilberman. Mutual responsiveness of biofuels, fuels and food prices: New elasticity approach. Submitted to *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*.

## Prizes received by faculty members

Corporate chairs help to finance excellent work in economics and finance.

- ▶ Jozef Barunik (CEZ Chair): Otto Wichterle Award 2012 (Academy of Sciences)
- ▶ Michal Bauer (Renomia Chair): Otto Wichterle Award 2011
- ▶ Julie Chytilova (Renomia Chair): Neuron Prize 2011 (Karel Janecek Foundation)
- ▶ Jozef Barunik (CEZ Chair): The Czech Econometrics Society Prize 2011

## Events

- ▶ We have organized or hosted 30+ public lectures.
- ▶ ICT Academy
  - ▶ a joint 3-year project of Telefonica Czech Republic and the IES
  - ▶ doc. Tomáš Cahlík, Telefonica Chair
  - ▶ invited only, with top executives: CSOB, C.S. CARGO, DHL, ESA, FIO bank, KB, RWE Transgas, Telefonica, Z-GROUP
  - ▶ motivated by Technology Surveys in *The Economist*
  - ▶ 2011: Cloud Computing, Big Data, Smart Systems
  - ▶ 2012: Legal Barriers to Outsourcing and Cloud Computing, Disaster Recovery & Business Continuity Management, Enterprise Architecture

## Public relations

- ▶ PR coordinator Eva Svitáková
  - ▶ Alumni relations
    - ▶ Career profiles
    - ▶ Testimonials
    - ▶ To exploit the potential
  - ▶ BEF, MEF, DD communication
    - ▶ Identification of our position on the market
    - ▶ A campaign to acquire new students
  - ▶ High school relations
    - ▶ Process update
  - ▶ Brand
    - ▶ Corporate identity of IES
    - ▶ Materials (booklets, posters, advertisement, newsletter)
    - ▶ Web
- ▶ Contact: [esvitakova@fsv.cuni.cz](mailto:esvitakova@fsv.cuni.cz)



## Annual review

Recall challenges from the 2011 meeting:

- ▶ To cope with research metrics and funding: inflation, distortions, volatility
  - ▶ revenues analysis, three-year financial projection (available upon request)
- ▶ To develop an internal journal ranking
  - ▶ 6-tier objective ranking based on the recursive IF (Article Influence index)
- ▶ To regularly publish good theses
  - ▶ thesis publishing policy announced: 12 thesis in 2011
- ▶ To work on academic promotion
  - ▶ recent promotions: doc. Roman Horvath, prof. Oldrich Dedek
  - ▶ application: dr. Adam Gersl
- ▶ To maintain and develop the brand in targeted audiences
  - ▶ **1st place** in the HN ranking of CZ schools of economics
  - ▶ a new PR coordinator
- ▶ To build capacity for temporary projects
  - ▶ a new project coordinator
- ▶ To start 'business degrees' or not
  - ▶ double degree with U of Strasbourg approved by Accreditation Committee

## New challenges

- ▶ To increase the number of fee-based students (BEF, MEF)
- ▶ To win external recognition labels (CFA, WDI)
- ▶ To apply for funding of a mid-size international research project (IRSES)
- ▶ To increase the quality and quantity of research
- ▶ To maintain or improve all financial and quality indicators

We would thank to our corporate sponsors for their support.

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