Programme - Evolving utility functions: can evolutionary biology explain why homo is not economicus?



Venue: the workshop will take place in Balliol College (Broad Street, OX1 3BJ), in the Old Common Room.

Tuesday May 29				
10:00 - 10:45	Registration / Coffee & Tea			
10:45 - 10:50	General Introduction & Welcome	Rick van der Ploeg, Department of Economics, Oxford		
Session 1. Chair: Rick van der Ploeg				
10:50 - 11:30	Why might an evolutionary perspective be useful for (behavioural) economics?	Gijsbert Werner, Department of Zoology, Oxford		
11:30 - 12:10	Measurement of Social Preferences	Max Burton-Chewell, Department of Economics, Lausanne		
12:20– 1:00 pm	Lunch at Balliol			
Session 2. Chair: Laura Fortunato				
1:00 – 1:40 pm	On the Biological Foundation of Risk Preferences	Balázs Szentes, Department of Economics, London School of Economics Melissa Bateson, Centre for Behaviour and Evolution and		
1:40 – 2:20 pm	Why are there individual differences in risk preferences? Insights from behavioural ecology.			
2:20 – 3:00 pm	Coffee/Tea Break	Institute of Neuroscience, Newcastle		
Session 3. Chair: Jean-Baptise André				
3:00 – 3:40 pm	Behavioural and neural basis of inequity aversion in rats	Tobias Kalenscher, Institute of Experimental Psychology, Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf Christophe Heintz, Department of Cognitive Science,		
3:40 – 4:20 pm	Homo-economicus is dead, long live homo-economicus			
4:20 – 4:30 pm	Short break	Central European University, Hungary		
4:30 – 5:30 pm	Discussion Session 1. What have we learned so far? What are the big open questions/challenges for an evolutionary synthesis / perspective of behavioural economics?	2 Chairs/Discussion Leaders: Alex Teytelboym & Claire el Mouden		
5:30 – 07:00 pm	Free time, get to Dinner location.			
07:00 pm	Conference Dinner at Lebanese Restaurant Al-Shami (25 Walton Crescent, OX1 2JG)			



Wednesday May 30

08:45 – 09:15	Coffee/Tea		
09:15 - 09:20	Opening /Welcome Day 2	Gijsbert Werner	
Session 4. Chair: Willemien Kets			
09:20 - 10:00	The biological contract theory of human cooperation	Jean-Baptiste André, Evolution and Social Cognition, Ecole Normale Supérieure, France	
10:00 - 10:40	The effects of group identity, competition, and inter-group relationship on human cooperation: initial results from a case study in a historic Italian city	Laura Fortunato, School of Anthropology, Oxford; Santa Fe Institute, New Mexico, USA	
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee/Tea	Samu To Institute, New Memos, OSIT	
Session 5. Chair: Tobias Kalenscher			
11:00 - 11:40	Paranoia: when and why might people have biased utility functions?	Nichola Raihani, Experimental Psychology, UCL	
11:40 - 12:20	To be announced	Willemien Kets, Department of Economics, Oxford	
12:20 – 1:20 pm	Lunch at Balliol		
1:20 – 2:30	Discussion Session 2. Where do we go from here? What do we need for an evolutionary analysis of human economic biases/behaviours. What theoretical, experimental, comparative, observational, mechanistic work do we need (most)? Why?	2 Chairs/Discussion Leaders: Nichola Raihani & Gijsbert Werner	
2:30 - 2:45	Closing Words	Rick van der Ploeg	
3:00 - 5:00	Optional working/discussion time : We still have the room for two more hours, if people are keen to stay to work/discuss further (outlining a perspective paper?, collaborations?, Funding applications?).		