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### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

# 3<sup>rd</sup> ERSA Workshop on the Economics of Competition and Industrial Organization

## 9-10 March 2015, Mont Fleur, Stellenbosch

Economic Research Southern Africa (ERSA) funds regular workshops to promote research in industrial organization and related areas. The workshops attract both local and international participants, with Prof Daniel Rubinfeld counting among the previous keynote speakers. The 2015 workshop will take place on 9-10 March 2015 on the Mont Fleur estate close to Stellenbosch.

The aim of the workshop is to consider theoretical and empirical advances in the economics of competition. Previous workshop papers covered a range of applied microeconomics and industrial organization topics, but theoretical work is also welcome. The aim of the workshop is to afford researchers the opportunity to build networks with local and international colleagues. International participants include the keynote speaker Prof Luke Froeb (Vanderbilt University) as well as Prof Katja Seim (University of Pennsylvania Wharton School) and Prof Caroline Buts (Vrije Universiteit Brussel).

#### **Keynote speaker: Prof Luke Froeb**

Prof Luke M. Froeb holds the William C. Oehmig Chair of Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship at the Owen Graduate School of Management at Vanderbilt University. He received his PhD from the University of Wisconsin and his research is focused on the economics of competition policy. Prof Froeb is a distinguished scholar and has published extensively in the leading industrial organization, competition policy, and management journals. His work on merger analysis has had a significant impact on the literature, but his 70+ publications also cover other competition topics including vertical restraints, collusion, auctions, market definition, and antitrust policy as well as econometric issues. Prof Froeb's textbook on managerial economics is in its third edition. Beyond academia, Prof Froeb has extensive policy experience at a senior level. In particular, from 2003 to 2005 he has served as Director of the Bureau of Economics at the US Federal Trade Commission, which provides economic analysis to support the enforcement of US competition law. In this capacity, he managed over 75 PhD economists. He continues to be involved in antitrust matters and policy discussions.

#### Scientific committee

Dr Willem Boshoff (Department of Economics, Stellenbosch University)
Prof Lukasz Grzybowski (School of Economics, University of Cape Town & Telecom ParisTech)
Ryan Hawthorne (Centre for Competition, Regulation and Economic Development, University of Johannesburg)

# **Target audience**

The intended target audience are researchers, academics and graduate students working on industrial organization, competition policy and applied microeconomics issues. Competition policy practitioners with an interest in research will also benefit from this workshop.

ERSA wishes to encourage South African researchers from historically-disadvantaged backgrounds to apply. Please contact the organizers with any questions in this regard.

#### **Submissions**

We welcome submissions of theoretical, empirical or policy-oriented papers. Submissions may take the form of either abstracts (of 200 words) or completed papers. Researchers who are not ready to present their own research may still apply to participate, but should indicate their research interests, so that they may be involved as discussants.

Abstracts or papers can be sent to Dr Willem Boshoff: wimpie2@sun.ac.za

Applications to attend the workshop can be sent to: <a href="workshops@econrsa.org">workshops@econrsa.org</a> with the subject title: **Industrial organization.** 

Deadline for submission: 15 January 2015

# **Financial support**

ERSA covers the travel and accommodation expenses for participants from South African institutions. Places are limited and funding to attend the workshop is at the discretion of the workshop organisers.

Financial support for private-sector participants is conditional on their active participation and at the discretion of the workshop organisers.

Please forward this announcement to anyone you think might be interested.