

CALL FOR PAPERS

Assessing well-being when preferences are incoherent

4-6 April 2016

University of East Anglia, Norwich, United Kingdom

The Network for Integrated Behavioural Science (NIBS) is hosting an interdisciplinary international conference on 'Assessing well-being when preferences are incoherent'. Economists have always been concerned not only with description and prediction, but also with the evaluation of alternative economic policies and institutions. Traditionally there has been a broad consensus in favour of using preference-satisfaction as a principal criterion in such work. However, this approach has been undermined by recent work in cognitive psychology and behavioural economics which shows that individuals' revealed preferences are often influenced by contextual and framing factors that seem unrelated to well-being. A lot of work has been done to uncover the causal mechanisms behind these effects, and to explore how policy-makers can use these effects to promote specific behaviour changes that are deemed desirable. But behavioural welfare economics, in the sense of general and operational criteria for evaluating alternative policy options when individuals lack coherent preferences, is still a relatively undeveloped research terrain. The problem of developing such criteria is a major research theme of the ESRC Network for Integrated Behavioural Science (NIBS). We believe that a solution to this problem will require the integration of ideas from economics, psychology, public policy analysis, and moral, legal and political philosophy.

NIBS is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and is a collaborative research initiative between three of the UK's primary centres for behavioural science research: the CeDEx group at University of Nottingham; the CBESS group at University of

East Anglia; and the Behavioural Science groups (Warwick Business School and Psychology) at University of Warwick.

The scientific programme will include 7 plenary lectures, a round-table discussion, and a number of talks organized in parallel sessions, and a poster session.

Keynote Speakers

Gerd **Gigerenzer** (Max Planck Institute for Human Development)

Till **Grüne-Yanoff** (Royal Institute of Technology)

Daniel **Hausman** (University of Wisconsin-Madison)

David **Laibson** (Harvard University)

Julian **LeGrand** (London School of Economics)

Paola **Manzini** (University of St Andrews)/ Marco **Mariotti** (Queen Mary University)

Robert **Sugden** (University of East Anglia)

Round Table contributors

Francesco **Guala** (Università degli Studi di Milano)

Richard **Layard** (London School of Economics)

George **Loewenstein** (Carnegie Mellon University)

Albert **Weale** (University College London)

Submission procedures and Deadlines:

Submissions to present your research should be emailed to NIBS.2016@uea.ac.uk by **November 16, 2015**. Contributions should address some aspect of the conference topic, but they may do this from the perspective of any academic discipline. Notification of acceptance should be expected by **December 7, 2015**. Authors should submit an extended abstract of maximum 1000 words along with a one-page CV, and indicate if they are submitting their work for a 'regular talk' or for a 'poster presentation'. Submissions for 'regular talks' should also indicate whether the author is willing to make a 'poster presentation' (instead of a regular talk) if, because of the limited number of parallel session slots, their contribution is not accepted as a 'regular talk'.

Registration and Fees:

The deadline for registration is **March 4, 2016**. The standard registration fee is £180.00, with a reduced fee of £100.00 for PhD students. Fees include coffee breaks, lunches, welcome drinks at the Sainsbury's Centre for Visual Arts, and the conference dinner at the Assembly House (Norwich).

Organization Committee: Gerardo Infante, Jessica Pointer, David Robson, and Robert Sugden.

For further information, please visit the [conference website](#) or contact us at NIBS.2016@uea.ac.uk. Further details will be provided once the program is confirmed.