On 22 February, the Obra Social la Caixa and the Catalan Association of Public Universities (ACUP) announced the research grants to be conferred on projects selected in the third call of the RecerCaixa program. This program has two main objectives: to promote scientific research of excellence in Catalonia and to ensure society participates in the progress of science and benefits from the advances made of a human and social nature.

In the Public Health field (Healthy Active Aging), the Riskcenter-IREA Research Group received an award for its project entitled “Cost-benefit analysis of functional adaptation in the home for the elderly”.

Dr Joan Calzada (GiM-IREA) in collaboration with Dr Iñigo Herguera (Comisión del Mercado de las Telecomunicaciones) organized the Workshop on Telecommunications Economics on March 13 in the Sala de Recepcions at the UB Faculty of Economics and Management.

The study comprises various sections that examine aspects of the regulatory projects of the DGS, the European directives on insurance and other current issues of concern for the sector. The study was sponsored by the Foundation for Financial Studies.

The closing address was given by Mr Jordi Òliva, Director-General of Financial Policy and Insurance in the Catalan Government.

On February 13 in the Assembly Rooms of the Barcelona Stock Exchange, the study entitled “The Insurance Sector’s response to the transformations of the welfare state”, directed by Pilar Blanco-Morales (University of Extremadura) and Montserrat Guilién (Riskcenter-IREA), was officially presented.

The study comprises various sections that examine aspects of the regulatory projects of the DGS, the European directives on insurance and other current issues of concern for the sector. The study was sponsored by the Foundation for Financial Studies.

The closing address was given by Mr Jordi Òliva, Director-General of Financial Policy and Insurance in the Catalan Government.

On 6 February 2012 in the Sala de Graus Ernest Lluch at the UB Faculty of Business and Economics, Professor Santiago Carbó, from Bangor Business School, was this year’s guest lecturer.

Speakers:

- Paula Bel (GiM-IREA)
  “Winners and Losers in Toll Motorway Renegotiations An empirical evaluation of the Spanish pioneers”

- Esther Goya (AQR-IREA)
  “Productivity and innovation spillovers: Micro evidence from Spain (2004-2009)”

- Marta Gómez-Puig (Riskcenter-IREA)
  “Análisis de causalidad en los mercados periféricos de deuda pública de la zona euro: un enfoque dinámico”

- Santiago Carbó (Bangor Business School)
  “Reflexiones sobre la crisis financiera que no cesa”

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Recent Events
Mercedes Ayuso appointed member of the Committee of Experts on Pensions

Dr Mercedes Ayuso (Riskcenter-IREA) has been appointed by the Council of Ministers to the Committee of Experts on Pensions, comprising 12 leading figures from a range of different disciplines, including sociology, economics, the actuarial sciences, law and taxes.

The job of the Committee of Experts is to define the sustainability factor of the public pension system, with the aim of establishing a model that can maintain the proportionality between the system’s contributions and benefits, as well as guaranteeing its future viability.

AQR-Lab presented the economic study about “La Alhambra”

Jordi Suriñach, Joaquim Murillo, Javier Romaní and Esther Vayá (AQR-Lab) presented the study “Study of the economic impact of the monumental set of the Alhambra and Generalife (CMAG) on the city of Granada”.

The aim of the study was to quantify the economic impact that Alhambra and Generalife (CMAG) generates on the city of Granada and the CMAG contribution in the development of Granada in 2010. Also to analyze possible effect at projection and attraction economic activity level, as well as investments in infrastructures and equipment.

This study was realized for “Patronato de la Alhambra y Generalife” and “La Caixa”.

Germà Bel appointed Advisor to the Council for National Transition

Dr Germà Bel (GIM-IREA) has been appointed Advisor to the Council for National Transition comprising figures of recognized prestige from a range of disciplines. The Advisory Council for the National Transition, founded on April 11, has set itself the following objectives: to identify and analyze all available legal alternatives for promoting national transition; to advise the Government regarding strategic structures for the future functioning of Government and of Catalonia’s institutions, optimizing the resources available; to propose actions for diffusing the national transition process among the international community and to identify points of support.

“Societat Econòmica d’Amics del País” awarded to Jordi Rosell (GiM-IREA)

Jordi Rosell (GI-M-IREA) is the winner of one of the prizes awarded by the “Societat Econòmica d’Amics del País”, aimed at promoting the economic development of the city of Barcelona and its suburbs, for his comparative analysis of public-private bus services. The article published in Catalan is entitled: “Ciutat, creixement econòmic i eficiència dels serveis públics: Anàlisi econòmic del model de gestió del servei d’autobusos a l’àrea metropolitana de Barcelona”.

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► On January 11, Ernest Miguélez (AQR-IREA) read his doctoral thesis titled “Essays on the geography of innovation: Knowledge worker’s mobility, networks and spillovers”, directed by Dr. Rosina Moreno and Dr. Francesco Lissoni.

► Germà Bel, director of the Research Group on Governments and Markets, teaches a graduate course at the Master in Public Administration / Public Policy at the Wilson School - Princeton University. Princeton University - Spring 2013- WWS582a Urban Economics and Policy (Syllabus)


► In Madrid, Riskcenter presented a report on the insurance sector, sponsored by Fundacion de Estudios Financieros.

► Riskcenter debated on alternative dispute resolution in insurance at the Law School UB

► Ana Mª Osorio Mejia (Riskcenter-IREA), defended her thesis dissertation titled “Socioeconomic determinants of early childhood health in Colombia: exploring the role of context” directed by Dr Catalina Bolancé.

► Mercedes Ayuso and Diego Valero (Riskcenter-IREA) presented “La reforma del sistema público de pensiones después del Informe de Sostenibilidad” at the conference “Reforma del Sistema de Pensiones” organized by VidaCaixa.

► Riskcenter in LSE presented estimates of LTC lifetime cost in the UK

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Evaluation of public policies for Sustainable Long-Term Care in Spain Workshop

Riskcenter-IREA Research Group will host the Evaluation of public policies for Sustainable Long-Term Care in Spain Workshop on July 4-5 in the Faculty of Economics and Business. The Workshop is organized in collaboration with the “International Long-Term Care Policy Network”, with the main aim of provide a forum for researchers in the area of Long-Term Care Policy in Spain to discuss their work.

For further information: [+]
2013 Barcelona Workshop on Regional and Urban Economics: Agglomeration Economies

AQR-IREA will host the Workshop on Agglomeration Economies on November 28th-29th 2013 in Barcelona. The aim of this workshop is to bring together cutting-edge research papers on agglomeration economies and urban economics in general.

Call for papers: [+] 
Deadline for papers submission: September 6th 2013

Barcelona Insurance and Risk Management Summer School 2013

The BIRMss is the a yearly event held at Riskcenter-IREA. In 2013, the Summer School is composed of three courses:

• International Long-term Care Policy Network Evaluation of public policies for Sustainable Long-Term Care in Spain Workshop. July, 4-5.
• Jean-Philippe Boucher (Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada) Models for panel count data. July, 9-10.

For further information: [+]


Sistema público de dependencia y reducción del coste individual de cuidados a lo largo de la vida. Bolancé, C.; Alemany, R.; Guillén, M. *Revista de Economía Aplicada*, 21(61), 97-117.


**Books and book chapters**


## SEMINARS

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## IREA-UB 2013 WORKING PAPERS

| WP 2013/01            | “How systemic is Spain for Europe?” Claeyss, P. and Vašícek, B. |
| WP 2013/02            | “Beyond Value-at-Risk: GlueVaR Distortion Risk Measures” Belles-Sampera, J.; Guillén, M. and Santolino, M. |
| WP 2013/03            | “Determinants of Broadband Access:.Is Platform Competition always the Key Variable to Success?” Fageda, X.; Rubio, R. and Termes, M. |
| WP 2013/04            | “GLS based unit root tests for bounded processes” Carrion-i-Silvestre, J.Ll. and Gadea, M.D. |
| WP 2013/05            | “Informality and Overeducation in the Labor Market of a Developing Country” Herrera-Idárraga, P.; López-Bazo, E. and Motellón, E. |
| WP 2013/06            | “Fiscal sustainability and fiscal shocks in a dollarized and oil-exporting country: Ecuador” Mari Del Cristo, L.M. and Gómez-Puig, M. |
| WP 2013/07            | “Firm exports, innovation, … and regions” López-Bazo, E. and Motellón, E. |
| WP 2013/08            | “Double Penalty in Returns to Education: Informality and Educational Mismatch in the Colombian Labour market” Herrera-Idárraga, P.; López-Bazo, E. and Motellón, E. |
### Press Summary

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Participation in Conferences

Albalate, D.; Fernández, L.; Yarigyna, A. The Road against Fatalities: Infrastructure Spending vs. Regulation? XVI Encuentro de Economía Aplicada, Granada, Spain. (June 6-7)


Alcàñiz, M.; Ayuso, M.; Pérez-Marin, A.M. Innovando en el seguro del automóvil: los productos pay-as-you-drive. IV Congreso Ibérico Actuarios, Barcelona, Spain. (June 19-21)

Alcàñiz, M.; Santolino, M.; Riera i Prunera, M.C. Experiències d'aprenentatge col·laboratiu: doble correcció i feedback entre iguals. UNIVEST 2013, IV Congreso Internacional, Girona, Spain. (June 4-5)


Alemany, R.; Bolancé, M.; Guillén, M. Using kernel smoothing to estimate Value at Risk and Tail Value at Risk. IV Congreso Ibérico Actuarios, Barcelona, Spain. (June 19-21)


Ayuso, M. Lucro cesante en la incapacidad permanente desde el punto de vista del actuario. XX Congreso de Responsabilidad Civil y Seguro, Barcelona, Spain. (March 21-22)

Ayuso, M.; Bermúdez, LL.; Santolino, M. Costes y duraciones en la resolución de conflictos de siniestros de automóviles por negociación y juicio. IV Congreso Ibérico Actuarios, Barcelona, Spain. (June 19-21)

Ayuso, M.; Bermúdez, LL.; Santolino, M. Factors affecting delay in motor injury settlements. IV Congreso Ibérico Actuarios, Barcelona, Spain. (June 19-21)

Badillo, E.; Llorente, F.; Moreno, R. La Cooperación en I+D en el sector automovilístico español. XVI Encuentro de Economía Aplicada, Granada, Spain. (June 6-7)

Badillo, E.; Moreno, R. Do firms cooperate in R&D persistently? Evidence from Spain. XVI Encuentro de Economía Aplicada, Granada, Spain. (June 6-7)

Bahraoui, Z.; Bolancé, C.; Alemany, R. Estimating risk with Sarmanov copula and nonparametric marginal distributions. International Conference on Modeling and Simulation-AMSE 2013, Castellón, Spain. (June 6-7)

Bahraoui, Z.; Bolancé, C.; Pérez-Marin, A.M. Inferencia para cópulas de valor extremo y su papel en la estimación del valor en riesgo. IV Congreso Ibérico Actuarios, Barcelona, Spain. (June 19-21)

Belles-Sampera, J.; Guillén, M.; Santolino, M. Generalizing some usual risk measures in financial and insurance applications. International Conference on Modeling and Simulation-AMSE 2013, Castellón, Spain. (June 6-7)

Belles-Sampera, J.; Guillén, M.; Santolino, M. GlueVar risk measures in insurance and financial applications. IV Congreso Ibérico Actuarios, Barcelona, Spain. (June 19-21)

Belles-Sampera, J.; Guillén, M.; Santolino, M. A generalization of some quantile-based measures commonly used in financial and insurance applications. Applied Stochastic Models and Data Analysis (ASMDA2013), Mataró, Barcelona, Spain. (June 25-28)

Bermúdez, LL.; Santolino, M. Ajuste paramétrico de los días de baja hospitalarios e impeditivos asociados a la indemnización básica por incapacidad temporal. IV Congreso Ibérico Actuarios, Barcelona, Spain. (June 19-21)

Castillo, J.I.; Castro, M.; Fageda, X. Análisis Económico de la Efectividad del Tercer Programa Europeo de Seguridad Vial (ERSAP). XX Encuentro Economía Pública, Universidad de Sevilla. Sevilla, Spain. (January 31- February 1)

Claeys, P.; Sanz, H. Fiscal consolidation in hard times. III Workshop in Time Series Econometrics, Zaragoza, Spain. (April 11-12)

Di Paolo, A. (Endogenous) occupational choices and job satisfaction among recent PhDs: evidence from Catalonia. XVI Encuentro de Economía Aplicada, Granada, Spain. (June 6-7)

Gómez-Puig, M.; Sosvilla, S. Causality in peripheral EMU public debt markets: A dynamic Approach. XVI Encuentro de Economía Aplicada, Granada, Spain. (June 6-7)


Herrera, P.; López-Bazo, E.; Motellón, E. Double Penalty in Returns to Education: Informativity and Mismatch in the labor market, Evidence From Colombia. XVI Encuentro de Economía Aplicada, Granada, Spain. (June 6-7)

Larrú, J.M.; Castells, D. Does aid reduce inequality? Evidence from Latin America. XVI Encuentro de Economía Aplicada, Granada, Spain. (June 6-7)

Goya, E.; Vayá, E.; Suriñach, J. Do intra- and inter-industry spillovers matter? CDM model estimates for Spain. XVI Encuentro de Economía Aplicada, Granada, Spain. (June 6-7)
Moreno, R.; Miguélez, R. Skilled labour mobility: Tracing their spatial distribution. HSE Academic Conference, Moscow, Russia. (April 4)

Naticchioni, P.; Matano, A. The Extent of Rent Sharing along the Wage Distribution. 3rd Linked employee data (LEED) Workshop, Lisbon, Portugal. (June 27-28)

Nonell, R. Política económica y docencia: la oferta en los grados. XI Jornadas Política Económica, Bilbao, Spain. (May 30-31)


Ornelas, A.; Guillén, M.; Alcañiz, M. Implications of unisex assumptions in the analysis of longevity for insurance portfolios. International Conference on Modeling and Simulation-AMSE 2013, Castellón, Spain. (June 6-7)

Ornelas, A.; Guillén, M.; Alcañiz, M. Repercusiones del uso de tablas de mortalidad unisex en el riesgo de mortalidad. IV Congreso Ibérico Actuarios, Barcelona, Spain. (June 19-21)


Perdigueiro, J.; Albatale, D. Entry Regulation Asymmetries and Gasoline Competition in a Mixed Motorway Network. XVI Encuentro de Economía Aplicada, Granada, Spain. (June 6-7)

Ramos, R.; Matano, A. Remittances, education and return migration. Evidence for Moroccan’s immigrants in Spain. HSE Academic Conference, Moscow, Russia. (April 4)


Visiting Lecturers

Ágnes Orosz
Associate Professor in the Urban Junior researcher at the Research Centre for Economics and Regional Studies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Her research interests include impact of migration on the evolution of European welfare states and fiscal decentralization. Has published “Crisis management on a German way – a role model approach” and “Science and technology policy in the European Union – innovation leaders with different outcomes”.

Massimiliano Bratti
Associate Professor in Economics at the Department of Economics, Management, and Quantitative Methods (DEMM), University of Milan. His main research topics are Education Economics, Household and Demographic Economics, among others. His main publications are “Should you compete or cooperate with your schoolmates?” and “Non-pecuniary returns to higher education: The effect on smoking intensity in the UK”.

Gonca Konyali
Teaching Assistant at the Department of Economics in the Dokuz Eylül University. Her research interest includes political economy, and two of her main publications are “The Main Cause of Current Account Deficit: Overvalued TL or Economic Growt?” and “Trade Structure and Export Performance of Turkish Glass and Ceramic Industries in EU Market”.

Fredrik Thuring
He is enrolleed in the Danish Industrial PhD program which is funded by the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation. His research is a collaboration between Cass Business School and the international insurance company RSA, where he is employed. His PhD topic is “Actuarial methods for cross-selling financial services products”

Raimondo Manca
Full Professor in Mathematics for Applications in Economics, Finance and Actuarial Science, University “La Sapienza”, Rome, Italy. Two of his leading publications are: “An algorithmic approach to discrete time non-homogeneous backward semi-Markov reward processes with an application to disability insurance” and “Full backward non-homogeneous semi-Markov processes for disability insurance models: a Catalunya real data application”.

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