IK AWARD

2010
New York

FUNDAÇÃO GETULIO VARGAS

Isaac Kerstenetzky

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Isaac Kerstenetzky Award

Launched by the FGV (Getulio Vargas Foundation) at the CIRET 2008 Conference, the Isaac Kerstenetzky Award (IK Award) promotes research dedicated to economic cycles and surveys describing economic developments. The Awards are given to the best papers presented at the biennial CIRET Conference.

In 2010, the Awards will be handed to the authors of the three best papers presented at the CIRET Conference, in New York. A fourth award will be granted to the author(s) of the best paper written by young economists, under the age of 35.

The total prize sum will be €3,200, after tax deduction.

Furthermore, the IK Award Committee will hand out the Scholarly Achievement Award for an outstanding scholar, in recognition for his/her path-breaking research in fields relevant to the CIRET community.

For more information related to the IK Award please check out the CIRET website at www.ciret.org.

Papers running for the IK Award in 2010

There are 91 papers running for the Isaac Kerstenetzky Award 2010. Of these, 22, marked with the letter y, are also eligible for the Young Economist Award. All papers running for the Award were received by the CIRET before August, 23, 2010.

Papers including at least one member of the IK Award Judging Committee among its authors are not eligible.

Title | Authors

1 A common-feature model for coincident and leading indices of Brazilian economic activity C. Rodrigues, J. Issler, H. Notini

2 A dynamic probit indicator for real time business cycle forecasting C. Proaño (y)

3 A Markov-Chain approach to business cycle measurement C. Mueller, E. Koeberl

4 A mixed frequency model and a common-feature approach for a coincident index for Brazil J. Issler, H. Notini, C. Rodrigues

5 A multi-step probit forecasting model for the Ifo business expectations index F. Seitz, J. Clostermann, A. Koch, A. Rees

6 A new composite indicator for the production of Made in Italy sectors C. Rapacciuolo, M. Rodà

7 A new method to quantify directional survey responses K. Lahiri, Y. Zhao

8 A non-balanced survey-based indicator to track industrial production A. D'Elia, O. Biau

9 Actual versus perceived Taylor rules. How predictable is the European Central Bank? N. Markov (y)

10 Alternative coincident and leading indicators for the Euro Area F. Charpin

11 Are survey data useful to anticipate Italian GDP growth rates? C. Cicconi, S. Simonelli

12 Assessing the real-time informational content of macroeconomic data releases B.Siliverstovs, K. Kholodilin

13 Beating the random walk in Central and Eastern Europe by survey forecasts A. Naszodi (y)

14 Business cycles across regions and sectors of the Brazilian economy P. Picchetti

15 Business cycles on a sub-national level P. Cohan, L. D'Jorge, C. Sagua (y)

16 Business survey data in forecasting macroeconomic indicators with combined forecasts P. Bialowolski, T. Kuszewski, B. Witkowski

17 Combining individual survey forecasts and time series information: the case of the Euribor F. Krueger, W. Pohlmeier, F. Mokinski

18 Composite indicators for small open economy: the case of Slovakia M. Klúcik (y)

19 Composite leading indicators in forecasting the cyclical fluctuations in the banking market R. Skikiewicz, J. Garczarczyk

20 Constructing a conditional GDP fan chart with an application to French business survey data M. Cornec (y)

21 Constructing an index for the Bank of Canada Business Outlook Survey L. Pichette, A. Gagnon

22 Constructing coincident indices of economic activity for the Latin American economy H. Notini, J. Issler, A. Santos, C. Rodrigues

23 Consumer confidence and consumption forecast: a non-parametric approach G. Bruno

24 Consumer confidence indexes in new EU member states M. Kokocinska, J. Jankiewicz

25 Dating business cycles in the South African and predicting their turning-points I. Venter

26 Detecting regime changes in the French services sector with business survey data D. Ast

27 Did the Euro affect the extensive and intensive margins of Italian exporters? C. Vicarelli, S. Nardis, C. Pappalardo

28 Did the freight transportation services index lead the recent recession? K. Notis, P.Young

29 Did the world crisis boost consumers innovative behaviour? B. Martelli, L. Crosilla, E. Matera

30 Did we miss the onset of the recent recession? Follow the leaders A. Garcia-Ferrer, M. Bujosa, A. de Juan

31 Disagreement and biases in inflation expectations and their response to economic news M. Lamla, C. Conrad, M.Burmeister (y)

32 Do the managers' expectations predict tendency of recession of Ukrainian economy? O. Kuziakiv

33 Early estimate of the quarterly GDP growth of Euro Area F. Charpin, G. Mazzi

34 Economic recession in Russia: usefulness of consumer surveys in its prediction D.Ibragimova, E. Belyanova, S. Nikolaenko

35 Employment and labour productivity effects of foreign investors F. Fortanier, S. Moons (y)

36 Euro area GDP forecast using large survey dataset O. Biau, A. D'Elia

37 Financial crisis and its effects on real economies in the light of quantitative and survey data E. Adamowicz, S. Dudek, D. Pachucki, K. Walczyk

38 Flash estimation of the turnover index in retail trade V. Bayardin

39 Forecasting industry and services in Slovakia based on BTS results J. Juriová (y)

40 Forecasting US private consumption with news sentiment M. Uhl (y)

41 Globalization of consumer confidence S. Çelik, H. Günes, E. Aslanoglu

42 Heterogeneous expectations and the predictive power of econometric models M. Bovi

43 How to improve timeliness of turning signals of the business cycle by using monthly data? P. Chou, T. Chou (y)

44 Impact of delays in receivables on economic activity of enterpises P. Bialowolski (y)

45 Lessons in simplicity: the creation of an effective business confidence index in Canada T. Mallett

46 Leveraging HR management professionals' insight into employment change J. Schramm, A. Benedict, J. Coombs, S. Director

47 Local business cycles in Italy: evidence from a micro-econometric analysis R. Basile, A. Girardi (y)

48 Market's expectations on the stability and growth pact: evidence from survey data M. Ribeiro, J. Rulke (y)

49 Measuring the intermittent synchronicity of macroeconomic growth in Europe P. Crowley, A. Schwartz

50 Measuring uncertainty and disagreement in the European survey of professional forecasters C. Conflitti (y)

51 Measuring uncertainty during the financial crisis: evidence from the CFS (Frankfurt) Index H. Entorf, C. Knoll, L. Sattarova

52 Monthly recession forecasts based on survey data R. Schenker, S. Elmer (y)

53 New development of leading indicators for asset bubbles in real and financial markets B. Herzog (y)

54 Non-linear Taylor rules C. Conrad, M. Lamla, K. Yu

55 Non-linearities in BTS results G. Schwarz

56 Non-response and weighting systems in business tendency surveys B. Kowalczyk, E. Tomczyk

57 On the design of data sets for dynamic factor models G. Rünstler

58 Predicting growth and recessions using leading indicators: evidence from Greece E. Tsouma

59 Predicting recessions and upturns in real time: the Euro Area-Wide Leading Indicator E. Hahn, G. Bondt

60 Real time monitoring and forecasting of business cycle turning points in the USA S. Nikolaenko, E. Belyanova

61 Real, monetary and financial indicators to monitor turning points in Euro Area business cycle L. Maurin

62 Reasons why Poland avoided the 2007-2009 recession M. Drozdowicz-Biec

63 Reconciling the system of US National Accounts B. Chen

64 Responses of Hungarian enterprises to the economic crisis A. Makó, A. Czibik, I. Tóth

65 Should we trust in leading indicators? R. Scheufele, K. Drechsel (y)

66 Statistical confidence intervals for the Bank of Canada's Business Outlook Survey D. Munnik (y)

67 S-Time-Distance perspective: providing new insights of the current crisis P. Sicherl, M. Remec, J. Cirjakovic

68 Stress-testing Austrian households P. Fessler, N. Albacete (y)

69 Thailand Business Cycle Index S. Dermtoranin, N. Kanjanaudomkan

70 The best real time coincident business cycle indicator: a medium N approach A. Hecq, G. Cubadda, B. Guardabascio

71 The development of leading indicators for Chinese exports Y. Zhang, H. Gao

72 The effects of EU climate legislation on business cycles P. Bíró, K. Pocsarovszky (y)

73 The effects of seasonal adjusted methods on turning point detection F. Moauro, G. Mazzi, M. Billio

74 The European public opinion during the financial crisis L. Stracca, M. Ehrmann, M. Soudan

75 The good, the bad and the ugly: analyzing forecasting behavior I. Nolte, S. Nolte, W. Pohlmeier

76 The impact of weighting on the reliability of business tendency surveys G. Kershoff

77 The influence of work day and temperature variations on industrial production and surveys M. Scheiblecker

78 The ISAE Manufacturing Survey sample B. Martelli, P. Chiodini, G. Manzi, F. Verrecchia

79 The level of financial literacy of Russians: before and during the crisis of 2008-2009 O. Kuzina

80 The NIRCU and the Phillips Curve – an approach based on micro data E. Koeberl, S. Lein (y)

81 The recent economic crisis as a crash-test for competing cyclical indicators S. Smirnov

82 The US business cycle, 1867-2006 A. Ritschl, S. Sarferaz, M. Uebele

83 The use of economic tendency survey methods – experts' evaluations S. Bialowas

84 The zero lower bound, ECB interest rate policy and the financial crisis J. Lewis, S. Gerlach

85 This is what the indicator told us M. Nguiffo-Boyom

86 Trusting the bankers: a new look at the credit channel of monetary policy A. Maddaloni, J. Peydró, M. Ciccarelli

87 Unobserved component model with observed cycle S. Dudek, D. Pachucki

88 Weighted-covariance factor decomposition of Varma models applied to forecast US GDP P. Zadrozny, B. Chen

89 What affects the views about the economic sentiment? J. Kangasniemi, P. Kangassalo, K.Takala

90 Why is the PMI smoother than industrial production growth?: evidence for the Euro Area M. Sánchez

91 Yield curve for Brazil and business cycles prediction P. Pereira, P. Ribeiro

Judging Committee

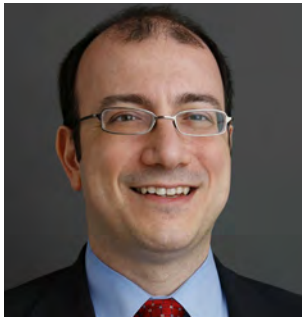
The rules and the selection of members for the Judging Committee are an exclusive responsibility of the FGV. The Judging Committee for the CIRET 2010 IK Award consists of the following experts in the field of economic cycles measurement and analysis:

Michael Graff | Coordinator

Michael Graff is the Head of the Business Cycle Division of the KOF Swiss Economic Institute at ETH Zurich, and Editor-in-chief of the Journal of Business Cycle Measurement and Analysis. He is also lecturing Economics at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland, and at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.

Michael Graff's research is directed to various fields of economics with a strong emphasis on applied econometric work related to economic cycles, growth and development and trade, as well as socio-economic issues.

Michael Graff received two Ph.Ds. in economics: the first (Dr. rer. pol.) from the University of Hamburg (1994) and the second (habilitation) from the University of Dresden (2000).



Ataman Ozyildirim

Ataman Ozyildirim is Associate Director of Economic Research in the Economics Program of The Conference Board in New York.

Dr. Ozyildirim's research interests span from applied macroeconomics to forecasting, forecast evaluation, international economics, and development economics. He has specialized in the development of business cycle indicators, and in forecasting aggregate economic activity worldwide.

He received his Ph.D. in economics from Pennsylvania State University.

Gernot Nerb

Gernot Nerb is Head of Department Industry Branch at the Ifo Institute for Economic Research, Germany. He is also a lecturer at the Hochschule für Politik which belongs to the University of Munich and a member of the CIRET Council.

The main focuses of his research are business cycle analysis, forecasting methods, market research, economic and monetary policy and consumer research.

Dr. Nerb got his PHD from the University of Munich in 1974.

Jan-Egbert Sturm

Jan-Egbert Sturm is Professor of Applied Macroeconomics and Director of the KOF Swiss Economic Institute at the ETH Zurich, Switzerland. He is also President of CIRET.

Prof. Sturm's research interests are on monetary economics, macroeconomics as well as political economy all with a special interest in fields which are closely related to practical and current problems. He has published several books and contributed articles to various anthologies and international journals.

He received his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Groningen, 1997.

Marcelle Chauvet

Marcelle Chauvet is Professor of Economics and Chair of the Latin American Studies Program at the University of California Riverside.

Professor Chauvet's main research interests are time series analysis and forecasting, empirical macroeconomics, financial markets, Latin American economic policy, and development and growth.

She received her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania.

Marco Malgarini

Marco Malgarini is a Senior Economist at ISAE, in charge of the Survey Unit, and responsible for the coordination of the periodical ISAE Report "Monitoring Italy".

He is a member of the Group of Experts in Business and Consumers Surveys of the European Commission-DG ECFIN, of the Euro Area Business Cycle Network (EABCN) and the Vice-President of CIRET. He is also a reviewer of several national and international economic journals.

Dr. Malgarini has graduated in Economics at the University of Rome "La Sapienza" in December 1991, with a specialization in Econometrics.

Richard Curtin

Richard Curtin is a Research Professor at the University of Michigan and the Director of the Consumer Sentiment Index surveys at the Institute of Social Research.

Prof. Curtin's main research interests are behavioral economics, including the theory and measurement of expectations, consumer saving and spending behavior, household income and wealth, reactions to changing economic opportunities, and public policy preferences.

He is a member of the American Economic Association, the National Association for Business Economics, the Association for Consumer Research, the International Association for Research in Economic Psychology and the CIRET Council.

Prof. Curtin received his Ph.D. in economics from the University of Michigan in 1975.

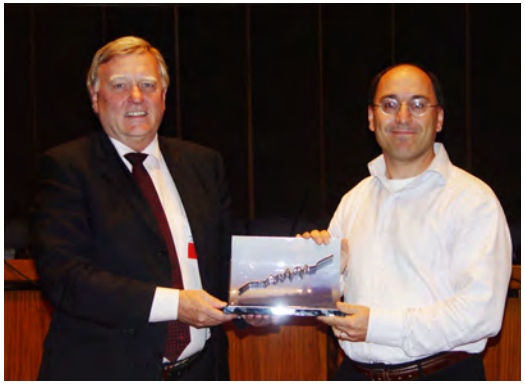
Vagner Ardeo

Vagner Ardeo is Deputy Director of the Brazilian Institute of Economics of the FGV (Getulio Vargas Foundation), Brazil.

Prof. Ardeo is also Head of the Statistics Department of the FGV, responsible for statistics and applied economic research on prices and economic cycles in Brazil, and a member of the CIRET Council.

He received his MsC in Mathematical Economics from the Instituto de Matemática Pura e Aplicada (IMPA), Rio de Janeiro, 1990.

Winners of the IK Award 2008



Best Paper | Maurizio Bovi

Maurizio Bovi is a Researcher at the Italian ISAE (Institute for Studies and Economic Analyses). His main research interests are national accounts, underground economy, tax evasion and consumer confidence. He received his PhD from the University of Rome "Tor Vergata".

Prof. Bovi was granted the award for Best Paper at the CIRET Conference, 2008, for the study "Economic v. Psychological Forecasting".

Life Achievement | Victor Zarnowitz

Victor Zarnowitz was a leading scholar on business cycles, indicators, and forecast evaluation. He was Professor Emeritus of Economics and Finance, Graduate School of Business, The University of Chicago, member of the Business Cycle Dating Committee at the National Bureau of Economic Research and Research and, since 1999, a Senior Fellow and Economic Counselor to The Conference Board.

Born in Poland, 1919, Dr. Zarnowitz earned his Ph.D. in economics at the University of Heidelberg in Germany, 1951. In 1952 he went to the United States where he be-

came Professor at the University of Chicago. He was a Fellow of the National Association of Business Economists, Fellow of the American Statistical Association, Honorary Fellow of the International Institute of Forecasters, and Honorary Member of the Center for International Research on Economic Tendency Surveys (CIRET).

His numerous papers and books include An Appraisal of Short-Term Economic Forecasts (1967), The Business Cycle Today (1972), Orders, Production, and Investment (1973), and Business Cycles: Theory, History, Indicators, and Forecasting (1992).

Dr. Zarnowitz was granted the Life Achievement Award at the CIRET 2008 for his outstanding contribution for the measurement and prediction of events related to economic cycles. At the age of 89, Victor Zarnowitz amazed participants at the Conference for his brilliant view of the events taking place in the American and World economies after the Lehman Brothers bankruptcy just one month before. In February, 2009, still active at the Conference Board, he died in New York.

Other Awards and Honorable Mentions

At the CIRET Conference 2008 there were also granted four Honorable Mentions at the "World Category", an Award for Best Paper and two Honorable Mentions for papers produced in Brazil.

Life and work of Isaac Kerstenetzky

Isaac Kerstenetzky was a Brazilian economist, pioneer of the modern statistical system in the country, and of its integration with the activities of monitoring and economic planning. FGV, by choosing his name for the Award to be granted for the best studies presented at the CIRET Conferences, seeks to honor his legacy, which is related to that of many researchers who biennially gather to share their ideas and experiences in this forum.

Born in 1926 in Rio de Janeiro, Isaac Kerstenetzky graduated in Economics at the age of 20, from the University of Rio de Janeiro. Between 1952 and 1960 he complemented his academic background with a Masters degree at McGill University (Canada), and a specialization in Economic Planning at the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague (Netherlands), where he was supervised by Jan Tinbergen (1903-1994), winner of the 1969 Nobel Prize in Economics.

Mr. Kerstenetzky was linked professionally to the FGV since 1946. There he helped creating the Brazilian National Accounts, published the Brazilian Journal of Economics, and became Director of Statistics and Research. He also created the first Tendency Survey in Latin America, the Manufacturing Survey, in 1966.

In 1970, he became President of the Brazilian Institute of Statistics and Geography (IBGE), where, over nearly a decade, he expanded and refined the official system of

economic statistics. Up to that point, the IBGE focused its efforts on statistics related to geology and demographics. Meanwhile, the FGV had already implemented the standard Brazilian economic statistics since the 40s. Since then, FGV's economic statistics have played a complementary role to the official IBGE's system of statistics.

Isaac Kerstenetzky held a view that statistics and economic studies must provide the nation indispensable tools to be used by economic policy makers, with an eye on reducing social inequalities, among other goals. This multidisciplinary approach, implemented in the country between the years 1950 and 1970, mixing quantitative and qualitative methods, is responsible for what scholars know objectively about Brazil to this date.

Like Victor Zarnowitz, Isaac Kerstenetzky rejected economic controversies devoid of empirical evidence. Aiming to discover statistically the Brazilian reality, he appeared little publicly, and kept a low-profile. Every time someone asked him for a new academic work, he alleged to have nothing **new to say** about what others had just published. In his professional life, he applied what he considered to be essential in the formation of an economist: the diversity of knowledge.

Isaac Kerstenetzky, at the height of his intellectual production, died at the age of 65, in Rio de Janeiro. To this day, we reaffirm the great values and legacy we inherited from his school of research. May his inspiration, and above all, the ability to reflect, continue to influence the current and future generations, by fostering the development of social and economic research in Brazil and worldwide.

Biography

1926: August 14, born in Rio de Janeiro

1946: Graduates in Economics and enters the Brazilian Institute of Economics (IBRE) from the Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV), where he heads the Center for National Accounts (1954-59), becomes Director of Research (1964-70) and directs the Journal of Economics (1965-70)

1953: Completes Masters in Economics at McGill University (Canada)

1960: Specialization in Economic Planning at the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague (Netherlands)

1963-64: Serves as a visiting professor at Yale University (USA)

1966: Starts the FGV´s Manufacturing Survey, the first Economic Survey in Latin America

1970-79: chairman of the IBGE, where he promotes deep reforms at the institution and in the official national statistics system

1979: left the IBGE and became the director of Education of the Graduate School of Economics of the FGV

1980-85: becomes Dean of the Center for Social Sciences at the Catholic University (PUC) of Rio de Janeiro, where he was already a History Professor

1988: Teaches as a visiting professor in the Department of Economics, University of Illinois (USA)

1991: July 20, dies at the age of 65, in Rio de Janeiro

Getulio Vargas Foundation

The Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV) is a non-profit organization founded in 1944 to contribute to the social and economic development of Brazil.

FGV created the first undergraduate and postgraduate stricto sensu courses in Administration in the country, as well as the postgraduate programs in Economics, Accounting and Education. Today, FGV holds four of the five best Business and Economics courses in Brazil, as recognized by the Ministry of Education.

FGV has also pioneered research and statistic activities related to the Brazilian economy through its Brazilian Institute of Economics (IBRE).

In the statistics field, FGV created the first consumer price index of Brazil (1947), the first National Accounts System (1950) and the first Tendency Surveys, with the Manufacturing Survey (1966) being also the first of its kind in Latin America.

During the 2000's FGV expanded its activities in the economic cycle field by launching consumer, services, commerce, construction monthly surveys and a quarterly investment survey. In a partnership with Ifo Institute, FGV started producing a Latin American Economic Survey. In 2008, FGV created the Brazilian Economic Cycle Dating Committee - CODACE.

FGV/IBRE produces academic and applied economic research related to economic growth, external sector, agriculture, regulation, oil and gas, economic cycles and prices.

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