Institutions in Context: Inequality

3-9 June, 2013
Tampere, Finland

Call for Papers

The University of Tampere is delighted to invite Master’s and doctoral students of all appropriate fields and disciplines to participate in a week long workshop on Inequality. The workshop is organized and hosted by the North American Studies Program and funded by the Jane and Aatos Erkko Foundation.

This workshop involves cooperation between the North American Studies Program at the University of Tampere and the Finnish national doctoral program of work and welfare studies (LabourNet). The purpose of the workshop is to bring together a diverse group of leading scholars* from Europe and North America – including political scientists, economists, historians, and sociologists – to discuss the issue of inequality from all angles. The theme of the workshop is broad to encourage a multidisciplinary approach to major institutional questions involved in inequality, its causes and its effects. Inequality is a crucial issue in world affairs. It is both a political and economic issue, and the problem is addressed very differently around the world, with strong policy differences perceived between the United States and the Nordic countries. We will examine the issue of inequality from a range of perspectives. Subjects include: economic causes of inequality, political causes of inequality, economic and political repercussions from inequality, the measurement of inequality, the impact of inequality on family life, on demand for public goods and income redistribution, labor policy and inequality, health and inequality and welfare state policy and inequality.

Part of each day will be devoted to speaker presentations. The other part is devoted to student presentations to give the students opportunities for comments and suggestions from the scholars and their peers.

Room and board is covered for all students. For U.S. and Canada based students we will also provide a stipend of €1100 which can be used to cover travel expenses. (Europe and Nordic/Baltic based students, please inquire regarding the travel stipend.) For Finnish students we will cover domestic travel at the lowest cost rates. The deadline for applications is the 18th of April 2013. More information and the application form are available at the following link:


Applicants should send the application form and the listed documents and abstract to katri.sieberg@uta.fi
* Speakers: Christopher Anderson, Cornell University; Rita Asplund, ET LA (Elinkeinoelämän tutkimuslaitos – The Research Institute of the Finnish Economy); Marianne Bitler, University of California, Irvine; Yan Chen, University of Michigan; Mary Corcoran, University of Michigan; Antonio Filipin, University of Milan; James Foster, George Washington University; Pertti Haapala, University of Tampere; William Heller, Binghamton University; Kaisa Herne, University of Turku; Olli Kangas KELA (Kansaneläkelaitos – The Social Insurance Institution of Finland); Elina Kestilä-Kekkonen, University of Tampere; Pekka Kettunen, University of Jyväskylä; Pertti Koistinen, University of Tampere; Leslie McCall, Northwestern University; Ailsa McKay, Glasgow School for Business and Society; Per Molander, Director-General, Swedish Social Insurance Inspectorate; Stefan Napel, Bayreuth University; Emerson Niou, Duke University; Maurice Salles, University of Caen; Norman Schofield, Washington University Saint Louis; Jillian Schwedler, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Olga Shvetsova, Binghamton University; Pekka Valkama, University of Tampere; and Bruce Western, Harvard University.