

Call for Papers

Household Indebtedness, House Prices and the Economy

September 19-20, 2008
Sveriges Riksbank, Stockholm, Sweden

Sveriges Riksbank, the Swedish Central Bank, is pleased to announce that it will host a workshop on **Household Indebtedness, House Prices and the Economy**.

Aim: In the last few decades, house prices have undergone major medium-run fluctuations in many industrialized economies. Boom-bust cycles in house prices, coupled with a substantial increase in household indebtedness, have drawn the attention of policymakers and academics towards the developments in housing markets and their impact on economic activity and financial stability. In that context, the aim of this workshop is to discuss recent swings in house prices and the increasing indebtedness of households, and their impact on the economy. We are interested both in theoretical and empirical work addressing the following topics: (i) household finance and the determinants of household indebtedness, (ii) credit markets, institutional change, and household indebtedness, (iii) household indebtedness, housing markets, and their implications for economic activity and financial stability, (iv) the impact of household indebtedness and housing markets on monetary policy. To address the last topic, we also plan for a panel session with representatives from academia as well as policymakers.

Format: Papers will be presented in plenary presentations of 40 minutes, followed by 10 minutes of comments by a discussant and an additional 10 minute plenary discussion. Approximately 11 papers will be presented, and overall participation at the workshop will be limited to 40 people. Lunch and a workshop dinner will be provided. Participation in the conference is confirmed by Nobuhiro Kiyotaki and José-Víctor Ríos-Rull.

Expenses: Sveriges Riksbank will reimburse economy-class travel expenses and cover accommodation for paper presenters and discussants.

Paper submission: A PDF file containing the paper should be e-mailed to the organizing committee, at lana.lofgren@riksbank.se by April 28th, 2008. Authors will be notified by June 16th, 2008. Authors submitting papers should also indicate whether they are willing to act as discussants.

Organization: The workshop program and other information about the conference will be posted on the Riksbank website (www.riksbank.com/workshop) as they become available. The organizing committee consists of Franklin Allen, Tor Jacobson, Daria Finocchiaro, Martin Johansson, Virginia Queijo von Heideken and Karl Walentin. Questions can be directed to lana.lofgren@riksbank.se.