

<b>Institution:</b> University of Southampton
<b>Unit of Assessment:</b> 18 Economics & Econometrics
<p><b>a. Overview</b></p> <p>Economics at Southampton is a truly international community of academics, proud of our vibrant and collegial environment. We have a long history of research excellence, with each RAE placing us among the best in the UK. We have consistently been ranked in the top-tier of economics departments worldwide (top 25% in the IDEAS ranking; top 10% in the Tilburg ranking for the REF period). We conduct high-quality, original research with international impact and relevance for both the discipline and policymakers. We are committed to high-quality research training. We were recently awarded ESRC Doctoral Training Centre (DTC) status and have used this opportunity to further strengthen our rigorous PhD programme. Our research has deepened and expanded over the REF period with new appointments and research areas. For example, strategic hiring and investment in an experimental lab, underline our commitment to expand Experimental Economics. We have recruited well, with an emphasis on recruiting the most able young scholars and nurturing this talent in a collegial and cohesive research environment. Our members have published important papers, and have been widely involved in key conferences and user engagement (see Section e.) We have active research collaborations with numerous institutions worldwide (see Section e.), and secured extensive external funding for our research (see Section d.). While the personnel profile has changed, the overall balance of research output has closely followed the plans set out at the last RAE. The overall effect of staff turnover has been to raise the quality and breadth of our research, while maintaining a community of young and dynamic scholars. Overall, and relative to the RAE 2008, <b>we strongly believe that we have significantly improved our submission across all criteria.</b></p> <p>The UoA18 submission is 21.8 FTE staff: 21 full-time tenured staff on teaching and research contracts, and 2 distinguished Adjunct Professors on part-time contracts (<b>Phillips</b> and <b>Zenou</b> at 0.2 FTE each), and 1 Reader (<b>Schluter</b> at 0.4 FTE). A breakdown by position of the first group is: 6 Professors, 3 Readers, 3 Senior Lecturers and 9 Lecturers. A notable development is the increase in the number of female staff from 2 to 5 since RAE2008. We have four research clusters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Microeconomics:</b> We have a long-standing reputation in both theoretical and applied microeconomics. The common expertise areas are game theory (<b>Chen, Galanis, Gall, Ioannou, Kwiek, Makris, Maniadis</b>), learning and decision theory (<b>Galanis, Makris</b>), public and political economics (<b>Chen, Kwiek, Makris, Vlassopoulos</b>), networks (<b>Zenou</b>), finance and general equilibrium (<b>Calvo-Pardo</b>). Publications of this group include papers in <i>Econometrica</i>, <i>American Economic Review</i>, <i>Journal of Economic Theory</i>, <i>Games and Economic Behaviour</i>, <i>International Economic Review</i>, <i>Journal of the European Economic Association</i>.</li> <li>- <b>Macroeconomics:</b> This is a highly skilled group in designing equilibrium models and algorithms for the analysis of diverse aspects of the aggregate economy such as macroeconomics and the family, consumption theory and dynamic taxation. Its members are <b>Calvo-Pardo, Knowles</b> and <b>Makris</b>. We have published in <i>Review of Economic Studies</i>, <i>Journal of International Economics</i> and <i>European Economic Review</i> to name a few.</li> <li>- <b>Econometric Theory:</b> Our econometric theory group is among the strongest in the UK. On the basis of publications in Econometrics journals, the Tilburg ranking places the group at number 8 in the UK for the REF period, and joint first in 2012. The group's research embraces virtually the whole of modern econometrics: stationary and non-stationary time series models with an emphasis on persistence, predictability and nonlinear dynamics, first- and higher-order asymptotic theory, exact distribution theory, IV and structural models, weak and partial identification, spatial models and structures, bootstrap and Jack-knife methods, and inference in panel data models. <b>Hillier, Kyriakou, Magdalinos, Olmo, Phillips, Pitarakis</b>, and <b>Rossi</b>, have published in <i>Econometrica</i>, <i>International Economic Review</i>, <i>Journal of Econometrics</i>, <i>Journal of Business and Economic Statistics</i> and <i>Econometric Theory</i> to name a few.</li> <li>- <b>Applied Economics:</b> Common research themes of this highly skilled and influential group are: migration (<b>Calvo-Pardo, Schluter, Wahba, Zenou</b>), social networks (<b>Schluter, Vlassopoulos, Wahba, Zenou</b>), development (<b>Binelli, Vlassopoulos, Wahba</b>), behavioural economics (<b>Calvo-Pardo, Ioannou, Tonin, Vlassopoulos</b>), financial econometrics (<b>Olmo</b>), health economics (<b>Mentzakis, Olmo</b>) and industrial organisation (<b>Ornaghi</b>). We have published in <i>Review of Economic Studies</i>, <i>Review of Economics and Statistics</i>, and in journals of <i>Econometrics</i>, <i>European</i></li> </ul>

*Economic Association, Banking and Finance, Public Economics, and Health Economics.*

## **b. Research strategy**

**Achievement of strategic aims:** In the RAE 2008, our key future plans and strategy were: a) to consolidate the then research groupings by establishing three research centres (the Centre for Research in the Information Economy (CRIE), the Centre for Research in Development and Labour, and the Centre for Quantitative Macroeconomics), and b) to manage the growth of our research groups organically through further hiring and the prompt promotion of our most promising researchers. The recent restructuring of the University into fewer faculty groupings that bring together a wider range of disciplines meant that our **first plan had to be adapted to the emerged interdisciplinary research opportunities**. As a result, CRIE ceased its operation. The applied labour and quantitative macroeconomics groups joined the exciting new ESRC Research Centre for Population Change (CPC) - where the migration strand has been led by an economist (**Wahba**). The **second plan was fully achieved** by several **strategic hirings and promotions**, which are outlined in Section c. As a result of our staffing policy, the division's core **strengths** lie in the **fundamental core areas of Economics**. We have a mix of senior and younger staff in each research cluster. There is sufficient overlap between clusters that facilitates cross-fertilisation of ideas and techniques, and encourages development and evolution of exciting research synergies.

**Future aims and goals:** Our objectives for the next five years are to maintain Economics at Southampton as an internationally leading centre of research excellence. This will be seen in our **publications in leading journals**, strengthened **PhD programme**, research **collaborations**, increased **external research funding**, **visibility** in professional organisations and at major conferences, and **research impact**. The key elements of our research strategy are:

- **Recruitment** of a new cohort of talented young researchers for each of the research clusters from leading universities around the world, and provision of strong incentives and a supportive environment for research.
- An **expanding PhD programme** increasing from 22 (2013) to 35 (2020) full time students with an enhanced skills-based component, good research facilities such as an experimental lab and high performance computing, and support mechanisms to promote research quality, progression and successful completion.
- Strong **commitment to economic and econometric theory** and **deep engagement between theory and empirical applications**, with **new strengths** particularly in market design, political economics, computational macroeconomics, financial econometrics, and experimental economics.
- **Promotion of policy-relevant research** and engagement with the wider community, especially in areas such as health economics, migration and labour economics.

To achieve our goal of research excellence, we will build on the synergies that our strategic appointments (see Section c.) are already creating in fostering new and emerging areas of research with great potential for very high impact and publications in leading journals, while continuing to support existing important strengths. Given current intellectual trends and salient policy debates, new research topics with high scope of breaking new ground and further development of existing important and high-impact areas include:

- **Computational Macroeconomics:** an area that the Division will be developing with enthusiasm. Under the leadership of **Knowles** we will consolidate and further develop our research in *search and matching* with applications to labour and marriage markets, and break new ground in the economics of family. We will also be focusing on incorporating computational analysis into dynamic general equilibrium models for the study of taxation (**Makris**).
- **Information economics** will be pursued in various contexts such as information and communication (**Chen, Kwiek**), auctions and market design (**Gall, Kwiek, Makris**), learning and experimentation (**Makris**), dynamic contracting (**Makris**), political economics (**Chen, Kwiek, Makris**) and epistemic game theory complemented by work on the foundations for unawareness (**Galanis**).
- Research on health risk behaviours, health-care markets and pharmaceutical industries will reflect our growing strength in **Health Economics** (**Ornaghi, Mentzakis**).
- A particularly promising development, reflecting recent strategic appointments and supported by our newly established Experimental Lab, is a set of exciting projects in **Experimental Economics:** social incentives (**Tonin, Vlassopoulos, Ioannou**), overconfidence and cheating/lying (**Galanis, Vlassopoulos**), experimental methodology (**Maniadis**), strategic coordination (**Ioannou, Makris**).
- **Social networks** is another very promising area where we see ourselves pushing the theoretical

## Environment template (REF5)

frontiers (**Zenou**) as well as investigating them through experimental work (**Tonin, Vlassopoulos**) and state-of-the-art applied analysis (**Schluter, Wahba, Zenou**).

- **Labour Economics** is a very important area where we will continue to be influential (See end of Section e.) The very important topic of migration will continue to be a **high-impact** focus of the applied group (**Calvo-Pardo, Schluter, Wahba, Zenou**). New ambitious directions will include research on labour markets in developing countries with a focus on the impact of regulations (**Binelli, Tonin, Wahba**) and the role of subjective expectations on activity choice (**Binelli**).

- High-potential developments in **Econometrics** research will include an important new agenda on spatial econometrics (**Hillier, Phillips and Rossi**) following recent work by Hillier and the hiring of Rossi. **Magdalinos** will expand his work with **Phillips** on refining asymptotic theory under unknown degrees of persistence in time series settings. Some of this work is already having a major impact on the discipline (e.g. it has been used for the construction of uniform confidence intervals for autoregressive roots (Mikusheva, *Econometrica* 2007) and in prediction with financial variables (Gonzalo and Pitarakis, *JBES* 2012)). **Pitarakis** will expand his ESRC-funded work on the econometrics of threshold models under persistence to the modelling of investment strategies and further develop his work on modelling and detection of change in factor models. **Kyriacou** will continue her work on simulation methods such as jack-knife and bootstrap, designed to improve inferences in models with persistent variables, and adapt these methodologies to improve inferences in predictive regressions. Supported by our **newly established Bloomberg terminals**, **Olmo** will expand our expertise in financial econometrics.

Our research strategy is fully aligned with the University's goal of **changing the world for the better**. We use institution-wide and local support frameworks to implement and monitor our research and staffing strategies. At the University level, **Research & Innovation Services** plays a key role in supporting our research strategy by supporting research applications, collaborations, and monitoring the shifting landscape of external research funding. At the Faculty and School levels, there are **Research and Enterprise Advisory Groups**, which provide further support for grant applications, ethics, and contracts. To ensure the attainment of individual research targets, **appraisal** in the form of **Personal Performance and Development Review (PPDR)** is used extensively. PPDR is a formal process through which each academic staff member puts forward her/his research plans, publication and grant targets etc. The performance of each staff member in relation to the set targets is assessed at the end of the academic period and an overall performance summary and action points are laid out.

### c. People, including:

#### i. Staffing strategy and staff development

**Staffing strategy:** To achieve our strategic goal, we aim to **recruit and retain high quality academic staff**. We nurture talent at all levels and have mechanisms to ensure that each individual achieves their personal best. The division devotes considerable effort and resources to **appointing academic staff with high research potential**, and accepts as a cost of success that some of our staff will receive attractive outside offers. In fact, it is a measure of our success in achieving our goals that our staff members often receive lucrative offers from economics hotbeds. Since RAE 2008, a number of the senior staff have left to pursue their careers elsewhere include Gervais (to Iowa), Klein (to Simon Fraser), Kugler (to Waterloo, Canada), Mateos-Planas (to Queen Mary, UK), Rodriguez-Mora (to Edinburgh), Sauer (to Bristol), Valentinyi (to National Bank of Hungary), Valimaki (to Aalto School of Economics). The time at Southampton has also provided a valuable foundation for the career development of Benjamin (moved to State University of N.Y. at Buffalo), Bluedorn (moved to IMF), Schoonbroodt (moved to Iowa) and Gill (moved to Oxford). Two of the people we lost are editors of leading journals (*European Economic Review* and *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*).

As part of our **retention strategy**, we have **promoted staff** members who have demonstrated significant achievements and research leadership or those with great potential in both scholarship and research. **Gervais, Magdalinos, Makris, Mateos-Planas, Pitarakis** and **Wahba** have been promoted to Chairs during the REF period; **Calvo-Pardo** to a Readership, and **Galanis, Ornaghi** and **Tonin** to Senior Lectureships. Our ability to sustain research excellence and to recruit and retain high quality academic staff is, we believe, an indicator of our excellent and enabling research environment and a strong collegiate culture.

Since RAE 2008, we have made a total of **12 new appointments**. These appointments have been used consistently to strengthen research quality at the senior level and to recruit junior staff with

## Environment template (REF5)

exceptional talent and research potential in order to ensure the achievement of our research strategy. We have two committees that coordinate recruitment: the **Senior** and the **Junior Recruitment Committees**. The **Senior Recruitment Committee** is constantly on watch for new hires among the best talents globally. It conducts preliminary information-gathering of prospective hires and puts forward a short list who is invited to visit, present research work and meet members of the division prior to formal interviews. Senior appointments in the REF period include **Knowles** (as a Professor), and **Chen, Magdalinos, Makris** and **Olmo** (as Readers). Hiring staff at the junior level is coordinated by the **Junior Recruitment Committee** and follows the normal junior recruitment cycle in the profession. We consciously target the appointment of excellent junior staff, with the aim of nurturing them through to seniority as they develop their careers. We are confident that this strategy will pay off in the medium term. Since 2008, we have recruited from the best in recent cohorts of PhDs from some of the top universities around the world. Junior recruitments since 2010 include (with PhD institution and year of award): **Ioannou** (Minnesota, 2009), **Kyriakou** (Essex, 2011) and **Rossi** (LSE, 2011) all of whom have established ambitious research agendas and shown evidence of great potential. We have recruited some exceptional talent after finishing their post-doctoral fellowship, all of whom made very promising starts: **Binelli** (Oxford) and **Maniadis** (Bocconi).

The appointments of **Binelli, Kyriakou** and **Rossi** add new vitality to our traditional strengths in Econometrics. **Ioannou** and **Maniadis** add a new and ambitious dimension in theoretical and experimental economics; **Mentzakis** strengthens our research in health economics, while the appointment of **Gall** expands and deepens our strengths in applied theory. We have also adopted an explicit strategy of appointing a small number of **distinguished economists** with whom we have had long and established research collaborations to fractional posts. These are **Phillips, Zenou**, and **Schluter** all of whom have contributed in full proportion to their appointments. They are involved in teaching PhD courses (e.g. **Zenou** teaches a PhD course on networks) and supervising PhD students, and they have been fully engaged colleagues who have provided a stimulating presence, particularly for junior staff (e.g. **Phillips** has organised with **Kyriakou** the 29<sup>th</sup> Spring Econometrics Event).

**Staff development at the Division level:** As part of its wider strategic goal, the Division puts a high priority on **promoting and nurturing research excellence**. As a general policy, research-active staff should have at least one day free of any teaching commitments each week. Teaching can also be concentrated in a single semester. We also ensure that teaching and marking loads allow adequate research time. This is accomplished through the use of full-time and part-time temporary lecturers/teaching fellows (currently three) and graduate teaching assistants (currently ten). The University has a generous study leave allowance of one term after seven terms of service to facilitate concentrated periods of research in order to complete substantive research projects and to develop research contacts overseas (see Section e for more details). Divisional funds support research expenses, travel and conference attendance by staff and research students. Provisions also include strong flexibility for research-intensive leave funded by outside sources (e.g. **Tonin** has a UniCredit Foscolo Europe Fellowship and taken up a leave to the Central European University). The commitment to research excellence is reinforced through retention and promotion decisions, which are conditioned mainly upon research potential and performance. As part of our commitment to research excellence, **ECRs are extensively supported**. There is a formal **mentoring system**, where each ECR is assigned a senior staff member with related interests who meets with them regularly to set targets, monitor progress, provide them support and act as an advisor on career development. Junior staff is encouraged to present at **international conferences**, for which generous support is provided, and to apply for **research grants**. Junior staff members are spared from heavy administrative burdens so that they can concentrate on rapidly developing their research. New staff, and hence ECRs, have a **lower than average teaching load** for three years to protect their research time. We also have been careful to match teaching to ECR's areas of expertise. ECRs are involved in the Faculty Ethics, Faculty Research and Enterprise, and Faculty Graduate School Committees. The Faculty **induction programme** includes awareness-raising of the Concordat (see also below), Vitae and introductions by professional services. There is also Faculty financial support for networking among disciplines.

**Staff development at the University level:** The **Professional Development Unit (PDU)** facilitates the individual development of staff and postgraduate researchers in ways that contribute significantly to the University's Strategy. Development needs arising from PPDR (outlined under

*Research Strategy*) contribute to the School Staff Development Plan. PDU produce an annual University Staff Development Plan informed by the Strategic Planning Process, which is the main driver for staff development activity in the University. The **Research Staff Development Team (RSDT)** provides information, advice and resources to support research staff, particularly Research Assistants, ECRs and Senior Research Fellows, in their careers and professional development. The University's '**Adventure in Research' Grant Scheme** provides research funds to newly appointed junior members of the research staff. The University and Faculty organise various **research workshops targeted at ECRs**. The '**Personal Best Scheme**' has been introduced in the Faculty as a friendly/informal forum for ECRs to discuss their progress. Finally, the University was a grantee of the 'Roberts Funding' which formalised the support for enterprise and employability activities ECRs. Regarding the implementation of the **Concordat** to support the career development of researchers, the University has identified areas for action, produced an implementation plan, and established a formal Concordat Working Group with operational responsibility for the implementation of the Concordat. As part of the implementation, a dedicated site through HR services that contains relevant information was created.

**Equal opportunities:** The **Equality Plan** establishes the University's strategy for equality and diversity. It outlines key targets for each of the protected characteristics, as defined by the Equality Act 2010. The Equality Plan was developed with the support of students and staff from all areas of the University and provides a structure for improving equality and diversity support. It includes monitoring and accountability through data collection and publication, and the development of training programmes to improve cultural, ethnic and religious awareness to meet the demands of an increasingly internationalised campus. Reflecting its importance, the University's Equality and Diversity is Championed by one of the Deans.

**Ethics and governance:** The Economics Division follows the University guidelines on ethics and governance. All research involving human participants requires prior approval by the **Faculty of Social and Human Sciences Ethics Committee (FEC)**, which carries out this responsibility on behalf of the University Ethics Committee. The FEC reports to the Faculty's Research and Enterprise Advisory Group as well as the University's Ethics Committee. The University (through its Research Support Office, Legal Services and Research Governance Office) ensures that all reviewers and members of FECs are kept up to date with all relevant legislation, Codes of Practice, and Professional Guidelines that affect the research process.

## ii. Research students

The Economics Division operates a dynamic and rigorous MPhil/PhD programme with more than 20 full time students working in the core areas of Economics and the completion of 22 PhD theses since January 2008. Our aim is to produce economists and social scientists that are well-rounded and well-prepared for careers in research and teaching at leading academic institutions, research centres, consulting or financial firms and international organisations. We also recognise that a competitive postgraduate programme is a crucial component of the academic quality of a research group and an important channel of diffusion of research ideas.

The quality of our programme can be gauged through the **large number of ESRC scholarships** we have been able to award, and our recent **DTC accreditation** (as a sole entity, and one of only 21 ESRC DTCs across the UK) which has allowed us to further enhance the structure of our programme and increase the pool of available research funding. About half of our current PhD students are ESRC-funded, and we are able to offer up to 5 new full PhD grants every year covering both tuition and maintenance. We run a **formally structured PhD programme** that offers substantial PhD level **course-based training** in Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and Econometrics, followed up by further training that takes the form of **compulsory staff-supported PhD workshop presentations** and further quantitative and qualitative training modules delivered as part of the Southampton Social Sciences DTC. Each student is supported by a **supervisory group** that consists of three staff members, one of whom acts as the main supervisor. The above, combined with the fact that most of our PhD students are directly involved in our teaching programmes as Teaching Assistants creates a **close-knit intellectual environment** in which our PhD students feel highly valued, closely supported and active members of our Division.

The quality of our research environment is also reflected in the **numerous activities and successes** of our PhD students. A current Southampton PhD student was awarded the prestigious **Royal Economic Society Junior Fellowship** for 2011-2012. Southampton was one of only 5 UK universities that sent a team of Economics PhD students to the prestigious "Econometrics Game

## Environment template (REF5)

2012" event organised yearly by the University of Amsterdam and supported by the Royal Economic Society. Our students regularly see their first papers accepted for presentation in prestigious **conferences** (e.g. Royal Economic Society) and are often involved in **academic visits** overseas (recent such visits include UC Davis, Dartmouth College and the World Bank). Finally and most importantly, since 2008 our students were successful in **gaining academic and research positions** in UK and overseas universities (e.g. EUI, Oxford, York, Durham, University of Malaysia), research institutes and International organisations (IZA, WTO, the World Bank), Central Banks (Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency, Central Bank of Iran) and Government Agencies (Ministry of Finance of Chile, Croatian Energy Institute) amongst others. Regarding our **future plans**, an important objective is to use the success of our DTC to join the **European Network for Training in Economic Research (ENTER)** which will give our students the opportunity to be involved with other leading European Departments.

**d. Income, infrastructure and facilities**

**Income:** Members of the division have generated research funding in **excess of £2 million** during the REF assessment period from most of major bodies. Awards include:

**NORFACE:** Calvo-Pardo, Schluter, Wahba and Zenou for collaborative international research on migration (€850,000). **Forum Euromediterranean des Instituts de Sciences Economiques (FEMISE):** Schluter and Wahba to study Return Migration in South Mediterranean Countries (€80,000).

**DANISH ROCKWOOL FOUNDATION:** Binelli to study subjective expectations of returns to agricultural activities and activity choices in rural Malawi (\$80,000).

**ESRC-DFID:** Schluter and Wahba to study Temporary Migration and Economic Development in North Africa (£326,000).

**ESRC:** Ornaghi and Tonin to study the effects of information and prices on water consumption (£347,942); Tonin and Vlassopoulos to study Intrinsic Motivation (£300,000); Magdalinos to study "Robust econometric inference in cointegrated systems and systems of predictive regressions" (£204,000); Calvo-Pardo to work on Risk and Limited Asset Market Participation (£116,000); Pitarakis for the project "Episodic Predictability in Models with Persistent Variables" (£56,000).

**BRITISH ACADEMY:** Makris for the experimental study of signalling in auctions (£10,000); Galanis and Vlassopoulos for project "Distinguishing Real From Apparent Overconfidence" (£8,000); Tonin and Vlassopoulos for the study of "Referral Incentives in Crowdsourcing" (£7,900); Ornaghi to study the effects of generic entry in the pharmaceutical industry (£7,000).

**EPSRC:** Tonin and Vlassopoulos to study "Meaningful Consent in the Digital Economy" (£830,000); Out of their ESRC grants, Calvo-Pardo, Mirco and Vlassopoulos, and Pitarakis have published, among others, excellent papers in the *Journal of International Economics*, *Journal of Public Economics* and *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*. Wahba and Schluter have published an outstanding paper in the *Review of Economics and Statistics*, and Wahba has a revise-resubmit paper in the *Journal of Public Economics*, out of the NORFACE grant.

To encourage external grant applications, the School's **Strategic Research Development Fund** provides seed-corn funds for pilot research projects and research network formation and consolidation. **Research and Innovation Services** provide bid support, funding advice, and support on ethical aspects and contract management. Mentors advise ECRs on their grant-seeking strategy to facilitate successful applications.

**Research infrastructure and facilities:** In 2009-10, the University went through a major restructuring, with some 20 'Schools' merged into 8 'Faculties'. Economics became a Division within the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences. Integration of services (e.g. a Faculty Graduate School with excellent facilities for PhD students and one research support office serving the whole Faculty) has led to a strengthened and more interdisciplinary research structure for both staff and postgraduates. For example, there is now considerable **cross-fertilisation with other disciplines** in the Faculty such as Social Statistics and Mathematics. In line with the University's aspiration to be a world-leading research university, the **Division has all the facilities required for high-quality research**, as found in top-5 research-active departments. In addition to PhD facilities, research infrastructure/facilities include an excellent library, with subscriptions to all major online libraries and databases, a **High Performance Computing cluster** - the largest in UK and 74<sup>th</sup> out of 500 in the world - and, both housed within the division, an **Economics Experimental Lab** and **15 Bloomberg Terminals** that offer a very rich data source.

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**e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base**

**Interdisciplinary research:** Members of the division are successfully involved in interdisciplinary research projects and networks. **Schluter** and **Wahba** are partially funded members on the migration strand of Southampton's ESRC CPC, and **Wahba** collaborated on an interdisciplinary project led by Social Statistics funded by ESRC, focusing on the impact of migration on the left behind in China and South Africa. Our division, alongside the Social Statistics group, have also set up a **research network** with ENSAI in France (top engineering grande ecole) that includes annual workshops and staff visits. **Tonin** and **Vlassopoulos** are collaborating on EPSRC and BA/Leverhulme funded projects with Southampton Computer Scientists. Interdisciplinary research is supported by the **Faculty Strategic Interdisciplinary Fund**, which provides pump-priming funds to develop interdisciplinary research bids.

**Research culture:** We contribute to the discipline and research base in a number of ways. We run a **seminar series programme for external speakers**, drawn from institutions in the UK, Europe and the USA. During the REF period, we have had more than 80 external speakers, e.g. Kennan (Wisconsin) in 2013, Manski (Northwestern) in 2012 and the ESRC-funded workshop on "The Determinants and Implications of Prosocial Behaviour" in May 2011 to which keynote speakers included Charness (UCSB), Ellingsen (Stockholm School of Economics), and Rasul (UCL). We strive for an intellectual environment that is open and outward-looking and we encourage **visitors** to spend time at Southampton, interacting with staff and students. During the REF assessment period, **visitors from overseas** included Razin (Cornell), Manski (Northwestern), Arrondel (PSE), Rauh (Indiana), and Gonzalo (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid). A great deal of postgraduate research training takes place in these **seminars**, as this is where research students see their more senior colleagues and external experts thinking through research problems. We organise the **Spring Econometrics Event** and the **Winter Workshop in Economic Theory (WWET)**; the latter is designed to foster interdisciplinary links and collaborations with Computer Science, Psychology and other related fields.

We have especially **strong international research links**. During the REF assessment period, we had significant research collaborations with economists at Cornell, Bocconi, Rochester, Yale, University of Pennsylvania, New York University, University of Illinois at Urbana, UC San Diego, Simon-Fraser, McMaster, Aarhus, University of Iowa, Chass Business School at Toronto, Tilburg, Carlos III de Madrid, University of California in Santa Barbara, University of Mohamed V. The majority of these collaborations led to important publications (e.g. in *Econometrica*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Journal of Econometrics*, *Journal of Business and Economic Statistics*, *Journal of European Economic Association*, *Econometric Theory*, *Games and Economic Behavior*, *European Economic Review*, *Journal of Health Economics*) and significant research grants (e.g. from NORFACE, ESRC-DFID). We also have **strong national research links** with economists at Queen Mary, Bristol, York, Nottingham, Durham, Aberdeen, which have led to publications in *Journal of Econometrics*, *International Economic Review*, *Economic Journal*, among others. We actively participate in **international conferences** (e.g. the North American Winter Meetings of the Econometric Society, the European Meetings of the Econometric Society, the World Congress of Game Theory Society, NBER meetings, Society for Nonlinear Dynamics and Econometrics, the Computational and Financial Econometrics Conference, the International Health Economics Association World Congress).

**Honours, awards and recognition:** Our economists have received a variety of academic distinctions. **Phillips** is a Fellow of the Econometric Society, Fellow of the American Statistical Association, Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy. **Calvo-Pardo** received the "Best paper on Heterogeneous Firms and Trade Policy" Chair Jacquemin Award in 2009 (ETSG), **Tonin** received "Best Paper Award" in the 9th Young Economists' Workshop on Social Economy (2012), and **Zenou** was awarded the 2011 O.E. Williamson prize for the best article published in the *Journal of Law, Economics and Organization*. **Knowles** was awarded the Harry G. Johnson Prize by the Canadian Economics Association for the best paper published in the *Canadian Journal of Economics* in 2009.

**Learned society involvement:** **Zenou** is a member of the Council of Academia Europaea and a Fellow of the Regional Science Association International. **Calvo-Pardo** has been a member of the ESRC Peer Review College (2010-12), and **Wahba** is a member of the College since 2012.

**Wahba** is also a Member of the Scientific International Migration Panel of International Union for the Scientific Study of Population since 2011. **Makris** is a member of the panel for the evaluation of Greek Universities.

**Fellowships and visiting appointments:** Southampton economists are well-represented as **research fellows and associates** of international research networks. These include the Centre for Economic Policy Research (**Zenou**); the Institute for the Study of Labor/IZA (**Knowles, Tonin, Wahba, Zenou**); the Institute for Fiscal Studies (**Binelli, Hillier**); Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration (**Wahba, Zenou**); the European Development Research Network (**Binelli**); Dale Mortensen Labor Markets Dynamics Group (**Knowles**), the International Network on Expectational Coordination (**Calvo-Pardo**) and CESifo (**Tonin**). Our economists have also held **funded research fellowships and research visits**. **Tonin** was awarded a two-year UniCredit Foscolo Europe fellowship at the Economics Department of the Central European University in Budapest. **Makris** received a Royal Economic Society Grant to visit Northwestern University, **Ornaghi** was a Visiting Scholar at Purdue University, and **Binelli** was a Visiting Researcher at the Croft Institute for International Studies at the University of Mississippi. **Makris** visits regularly and teaches on the PhD programme of Verona University. Other **visiting destinations** by our members include Cowles Foundation (Yale), St Louis Fed, Carlos III, Universities of California in Santa Barbara and Munich, and Maastricht, McMaster, Cornell, Duke and Tel Aviv Universities. All these have led to a plethora of collaborative work and an extensive research network.

**Keynote addresses and invited/plenary talks:** Members of the Economics Division have often been invited as keynote speakers at international conferences. These include the Far Eastern Meetings of the Econometric Society, (**Phillips**, Singapore 2008); Memorial Conference for Nobel Laureate Sir Clive Granger (**Phillips**, Nottingham 2010); Coalition Theory Network (**Zenou**, Venice 2008 and Paris 2012); International Symposium on Labor Economics (**Zenou**, Xiamen 2011). In addition to several invited seminars/talks in economics departments/institutes in UK and abroad, round table discussions and international organisations, keynotes and invited talks at themed conferences include the Ministry of Health, Catalunya – Task Force on “New Pharmaceutical Policy in the European Union” (**Ornaghi**, 2010), Workshop on “Fat Tails, Bad Economic Times & Rare Events” (**Pitarakis**, Rennes 2012), Workshop on Econometric Aspects of Price Transmission (**Pitarakis**, Göttingen, Courant Centre, 2010), Workshop on Economic Dynamics (**Makris**, Rennes 2012), Conference on “Economy and Space” (**Zenou**, Dijon 2009) and Workshop on “Geographical Mobility of Workers and Firms” (**Zenou**, Belgium 2012).

**Editorial contributions:** Members of the division have been prominent as journal editors. **Hillier** has been an Associate Editor of *Econometric Theory* (1987 – 2012), while **Magdalinos** is an Associate Editor since 2012; **Magdalinos** is also an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Time Series Analysis* since 2013; **Phillips** is Foundation Editor of *Econometric Theory* since 1984; **Wahba** is a Managing Editor of the *IZA Journal of Labor and Development* since 2012, and in the Editorial Board of the *Routledge MENA Series* since 2008; **Zenou** is the Editor of *Regional Science and Urban Economics* since 2007, and an Associate Editor, among others, of *Journal of Public Economic Theory* since 2010, *Journal of the European Economic Association* since 2012, and *Journal of Urban Economics* since 2004.

**Conference organisation:** Our economists have a high level of involvement in organising international conferences and conference sessions, and serving as members of conference programme committees. These include the Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association (**Zenou**); the Royal Economic Society Conference (**Makris**); European Economic Association Congress (**Zenou**); European Meetings of the Econometric Society (**Pitarakis**); Association of Southern European Economic Theorists (ASSET) Conference and Association for Public Economic Theory’s (APET) Annual Congress (**Zenou**); Conference on Logic and the Foundations of Game and Decision Theory (**Galanis**). **Kwiek** has been the Chair of the scientific committee for the Best Paper Prize for Young Economists. Others have initiated/organised international workshops on themes such as the Social Dimension of Organisations (**Tonin, Vlassopoulos**), Migrants Choices (**Wahba**), Social Networks (**Wahba, Zenou**).

**Policy advice, external links and advisory bodies:** **Wahba** is a Member of the Home Office’s Migration Advisory Committee, and has been invited by ESRC to join their new Europe Initiative Advisory Group. **Mentzakis** has been a consultant for Qatar’s Supreme Court of Health. Other engagements include Southern Water (**Tonin, Ornaghi**); International Labour Office (**Tonin**); World Bank (**Tonin, Wahba**); Asian Development Bank (**Calvo-Pardo**); European Commission (**Wahba**); OECD (**Wahba**). Many have also commented at and been interviewed by **media** (e.g. *Independent*, *Vox*, *Elliniki Gnomi* (in Greek), *Akhbar Elyom* (in Arabic), *Montreal Gazette*) on topical economic issues.