2013 Winter Workshop
“Is banking a Phoenix?”

11 December 2013

Associazione Bancaria Italiana
Palazzo Altieri, Piazza del Gesù 49, Rome, Italy

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FINEST
Financial Intermediation Network of European Studies

The Financial Intermediation Network of European Studies (FINEST) acts as a research and discussion forum for Banking and Financial Intermediation researchers and practitioners throughout Europe. FINEST operates as an open research network facilitating research and other analytical synergies among academic staff involved in various European Universities as well as policymakers and financial sector practitioners.

The FINEST is a private non-profit association (network) of researchers from various universities, central banks, financial authorities, other research institutes and practitioners who are interested in exploring all aspects of banking and finance. The FINEST is currently hosted by the University of Rome III, Italy.

All those that wish to cooperate with FINEST activities can join the Network. Membership can be asked by individual researchers from universities, central banks, financial authorities, other research institutes and practitioners who are interested in exploring all aspects of banking and finance.

Activities

1. **Working papers.** The working paper series gives the possibility to share the research effort among all interested researchers dealing with banking and Financial Intermediation issues. At the same time, working papers will be highly viewed in the academic environment. Working papers will be reviewed following a double-blind review system.

2. **Research Projects.** FINEST promotes research groups, surveys and observatories on specific complex areas of Banking and Financial Intermediation in Europe with the aim to originally contribute to international research on these issues.

3. **Conferences.** FINEST organizes periodical (e.g. annual or bi-annual) conferences on a specific Banking and Financial Intermediation issue.

4. **Workshops.** FINEST promotes workshops to present high quality papers providing authors with a deep and open discussion before the paper submission to top academic journals.

5. **Summer schools.** FINEST organizes short summer courses on issues related to banking and financial intermediation in Europe for undergraduate and postgraduate students in accounting, economics, finance and management.

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Notes on the Discussants

**N.K. Chidambaran** is professor of finance at the Fordham Schools of Business. Prior to his career at Fordham, he served on the faculty at Rutgers University and Tulane University. Professor Chidambaran teaches corporate finance, corporate governance and risk management, and he does research in corporate finance and financial derivatives. His work has been published in leading academic journals such as the Journal of Financial Economics, the Journal of Risk and Insurance, the Journal of Derivatives and the Financial Analysts Journal.

**Bill B. Francis** is Warren H. and Pauline U. Bruggeman Distinguished Professor of Finance at the Lally School of Management of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, US, where is also Director of the Ph.D. Program, Area Coordinator of Accounting and Finance. He conducts his research on issues in initial public offerings, corporate restructurings, and international asset-pricing. He has published numerous articles in reputed finance and economic journals such as the Journal of Financial Economics, the Review of Financial Studies, the Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, the Journal of International Money and Finance, and the Journal of Macroeconomics. He is currently on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Financial Stability.

**Giorgio Gobbi** is an economist at the Bank of Italy since 1990. He is currently the Head of the Financial Structure and Intermediaries Division in the Structural Economic Analysis Department. His research interests include bank competition and bank structural issues, small business lending, corporate finance and consumer finance. His work has been published in international academic journals, including the Journal of Finance, the Review of Finance, the Journal of Banking and Finance, and the Journal of Financial Services Research.

**Iftekhar Hasan** is the E. Gerald Corrigan Professor of Finance at the Fordham University and concurrently serves as a scientific advisor to the Central Bank of Finland. A Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Hasan, has held visiting faculty positions at various European universities and has been a consultant or visiting scholar for numerous international organizations, including the World Bank, IMF, FITD and Banque de France. He is the managing editor of the *Journal of Financial Stability* and has served as an associate editor in several academic journals. Dr. Hasan has over 275 publications in print, including 14 books and edited volumes, and over 165 journal articles in reputed finance, economics, management, and accounting journals including JFE, JFQA, JB, JME, RoF, JFI, JMCB, JCF, JIMF, JEF, JBF, FM, JCE, SMJ, RP, CAR, JAAF, and JMIS.

**Antonio Mele** holds a Senior Chair at the Swiss Finance Institute, and a full professorship in Finance at the University of Lugano sponsored by the Ticino Bankers Association, after having been a Professor of Finance at the London School of Economics for a decade. He is also a Research Fellow for the Financial Economics program at the Centre for Economic Policy Research in London. He holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Paris. His expertise spans a variety of fields in financial economics, pertaining to capital market volatility, interest rates and credit markets, macro-finance, capital markets and business cycles, and information in securities markets. His research has been published by top journals in Finance and Economics such as the Journal of Financial Economics, the Review of Economic Studies, the Review of Financial Studies, and the Journal of Monetary Economics. Professor Mele’s research and expertise have spillovers outside academia. He is the co-inventor of the CBOE Interest Rate Swap Volatility Index (CBOE-SRVX), the first standardized volatility measure in the interest rate swap market, designed to standardize and simplify swap rate volatility trading, much in the spirit of the CBOE-VIX index in the equity market.
After two successful workshops (Rome 2012: “Competing for survival in the banking industry”; and Limoges 2013: “The never ending crisis”), the 2013 winter workshop aims to analyze if the banking industry has been regenerating after the crisis or not (In Greek mythology, a phoenix is a long-lived bird that is cyclically regenerated or reborn). The financial crisis from 2007 onwards (labeled by the former Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan as a "once in a century credit tsunami") has seriously put at risk the survival of the banking systems. The workshop aims to discuss the lessons learned from the financial crisis and the new perspectives of the banking industry.

Program

8.30-9.00 Registration

9.00-9.15 Welcome remarks
- Vincenzo Chiorazzo, Associazione Bancaria Italiana, Italy
- Mario Panizza, Chancellor of the University of Rome III, Italy
- Giovanni Sabatini, General director, Italian Banking Association, Italy

Session 1
Financial Crisis I
chairman: TBA

09.15-9.45
Title: Lending Concentration, Bank Performance and Systemic Risk: Exploring Cross-Country Variation
Authors: Thorsten Beck, Olivier DeJonghe
Presented: Olivier DeJonghe, Tilburg University, The Netherlands
Discussant: N.K. Chidambaran, Fordham University, U.S.

9.45-10.30
Title: Euro at Risk: the impact of member countries’ credit risk on the stability of the common currency
Authors: Lamia Bekkour, Xisong Jin, Thorsten Lehnert, Fanou Rasmouki and Christian C. Wolff
Presenter: Thorsten Lehnert, Luxembourg School of Finance, Luxembourg
Discussant: Antonio Mele, University of Lugano and Swiss Finance Institute, Switzerland.

Coffee Break
Session 2
Bank performance
chairman: Giorgio Gobbi, Banca d’Italia, Italy

11.00-11.45
Title: Bank Efficiency and Shareholder Value in Asia Pacific
Authors: Xiaoqing (Maggie) Fu, Yongjia (Rebecca) Lin, Philip Molyneux
Presenter: Phil Molyneux, Bangor Business School, U.K.
Discussant: Giorgio Gobbi, Banca d’Italia, Italy

11.45-12.30
Title: The Cost of Equity of non-listed banks
Authors: Franco Fiordelisi, Giovanni Puopolo, Nemanja Radic
Presenter: Nemanja Radic, Middlesex University, U.K.
Discussant: Bill Francis, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, U.S.

12.30-13.15
Title: Convergence in Bank Efficiency during the Global Financial Crisis: Lessons from EU 15
Authors: Roman Matousek
Presenter: Roman Matousek, Sussex University, U.K.
Discussant: N.K. Chidambaran, Fordham University, U.S.

Lunch

Session 3
Financial Crisis II
chairman: Giorgio di Giorgio, Luiss University, Italy

14.15-15.00
Title: Effective Policy Actions in Banking in time of crisis
Authors: Franco Fiordelisi, Ornella Ricci
Presenter: Franco Fiordelisi, University of Rome III, Italy
Discussant: Iftekhar Hasan, Fordham University, U.S.

15.00-15.45
Title: Bank Fragility and Contagion: Evidence from the CDS market
Authors: Laura Ballester, Barbara Casu, Ana González-Urteaga
Presenter: Barbara Casu, Cass Business School, U.K.
Discussant: Antonio Mele, University of Lugano and Swiss Finance Institute, Switzerland.

Coffee Break
Session 4
Banking Market Conditions
chairman: Giovanni Ferri, Lumsa University (Italy) and European Banking Association (UK)

16.00-16.45
Title: Entry, Exit and Growth in the US banking industry
Authors: John Wilson
Presenter: John Wilson, University of St. Andrew, U.K.
Discussant: Bill Francis, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, U.S.

16.45-17.30
Title: Market Conditions and Soundness: Islamic and Conventional Banks in MENA
Authors: Samah Issa, Stuart Snaith and Claudia Girardone
Discussant: Iftekhar Hasan, Fordham University, U.S.

Concluding remarks

17.30-17.45
• Franco Fiordelisi, president of FINEST, University of Rome III, Italy

Gala dinner

20.30-23.00
(To Be Announced)
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The FINEST is hosted by the University of Rome III, Italy. The FINEST is widely supported by various academic research centers as:

- Institute for European Finance, Bangor University, U.K.
- Centre for Responsible Banking and Finance, University of St. Andrew, U.K.
- The Institute of Finance, University Leicester, U.K.
- Centre for Banking Research, Cass Business School, U.K.
- Laboratoire d’Analyse et de Prospective Economiques, Université de Limoges, France
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For further details, please visit: www.finest.uniroma3.it/membership.

In 2013, FINEST activities have been supported by:

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