



Cass Business School
CITY UNIVERSITY LONDON

BFWG-Members-2008-10-27
Behavioural Finance Working Group

From Finance :

From the US :

Werner DeBondt, DePaul University, Chicago, US
David Hirshleifer, University of California, Irvine, US
Brian Kluger, University of Cincinnati, US

From the UK :

Jerry Coakley, Essex Finance Centre, University of Essex
Richard Fairchild, School of Management, University of Bath
William Forbes, Business School, Loughborough University
Yilmaz Guney, Business School, Hull University
Jim Steeley, ARCREF, Aston University

From Cass :

Meziane Lasfer, Faculty of Finance
Mario Levis, Faculty of Finance
Gulnur Muradoglu, Faculty of Finance
Sotiris Stoikouras, Faculty of Finance
Natasha Todorovic, Faculty of Finance

From Psychology:

Peter Ayton, City University, UK
Nigel Harvey, University College London, UK
Stian Reimers, University College London, UK

From Sociology :

Emre Tarim, Edinburgh University

PhD Students :

Jiayi Balasuria
Sirajum Munira
Kristina Vasileva



1st Meeting of the BFWG
Cass Business School

1. During the first session colleagues introduced themselves and discussed their expectations from the Behavioural Finance Working Group. We have membership from diverse backgrounds; Academics and practitioners, PhD students and prominent academics, psychologists and finance people, economists and sociologists. The mixed nature of the working group is an attraction for all members. Members feel their methods of data sets don't cut ice with other disciplines and they would like to understand better others' mind frames, research questions and data sets. Members would like to get something from those members in other fields to enrich their understanding and their work.
 - a. Personal stories revealed most people came across behavioural finance accidentally while they were working on mainstream issues. They realised the irrational elements in financial decision making and started working on them to have a better understanding of the world around them.
 - b. The common expectation was the benefits of meeting and working with people that are from other fields. This in fact is the major reason this working group was established. I am happy to see that it fits the purpose and hope it will increase interaction among the different disciplines and help produce truly multidisciplinary work.
 - c. One colleague put the expectation about future as: How many psychologists are working for the Treasury? In fact how many economists or finance professionals in the FSA or the BoE or investment banks, or banks or hedge funds have a through understanding of the psychology or sociology? Under the current crisis it is clear that there is a lot to benefit from the interaction between these parties.
2. During the second session we first discussed the formats of the seminars and then their organisation.
 - a. There was discussion about the format of the seminars. We discussed whether they should be one day or two days. The benefit of one day seminars is the convenience for UK colleagues in terms of attendance. If we have invited sessions this seems to be a better format. The benefit of two day seminars is the convenience of having more diverse participation from the rest of the world including the US and Europe. If we have a general call for papers and have refereed sessions this seems a better format. The working group will be open to both formats depending upon the nature of the meeting.
 - b. There was discussion about whether or not to have separate PhD sessions. In some fields like finance they are pretty common, and in other fields they are not and perceived to be degrading. The regular sessions will be open to PhD students with complete papers that can be presented. The PhD sessions will be concentrated on first year students' proposals only. The working group will be open to both depending upon the nature of the meeting.

c. We discussed the organisation of seminars for the next 3 years. It was agreed that we would have 2 meetings every year, one in Fall and 1 in Spring. For each of them we would have a keynote speaker and an invited session. GM will work with a co-chair for each meeting. The co-chairs will be active in organising an invited session with a theme and helping Gulnur with the recruitment of a key-note speaker and reviewing of the applications from the SSRN disseminated call for papers. Dates to be confirmed later after confirmations with keynote speakers. The following tentative times and themes were agreed:

1. Fall 2009. Unfolding Financial Crisis: to be organised and chaired by Professor William Forbes, Loughborough Business School and Professor Gulnur Muradoglu, Cass Business School. William has sent apologies for not being able to attend the meeting. Gulnur presented the proposal. The enclosed call for papers was distributed.
2. Spring 2010. Fairness, trust and empathy in financial decision making: organised and chaired by Dr Richard Fairchild, Reading School of Management and Professor Gulnur Muradoglu, Cass Business School. Richard presented the proposal and the enclosed call for papers was distributed.
3. Fall 2010. Experimental Finance or Financial Forecasting: organised and chaired by Professor Nigel Harvey, University College London Psychology Department and Professor Gulnur Muradoglu. Nigel Harvey Presented the proposal. Theme to be confirmed after the keynote speaker is confirmed.
4. Spring 2011. Financial Decision Making in Cross-border investments: FDI and M&A. organised and chaired by Ms. Kristina Vasileva, Cass Business School and Professor Gulnur Muradoglu. Gulnur Muradoglu presented the proposal.
5. Fall 2011. How the underprivileged manage their finances: Organised and Chaired by Professor Peter Ayton from the School of Psychology and Professor Gulnur Muradoglu from Cass Business School of City University. Peter Ayton presented the proposal.