

Forces of concentration in European financial geographies

**A two-day residential workshop funded by the British
Council – NWO ‘Partnership Programme in Science’**

January 11-12th 2007, Lancaster University, UK,



Workshop timetable

The workshop is designed to be an informal event, giving participants the space and time to think and reflect. Therefore, rather than being based upon extended papers, the workshop is built around a number of readings relating to important themes in discussions of financial geographies.

Each session starts with short (10 – 15 minute) reflections on the papers and the way they intersect with the current research of the nominated discussants. There is a guiding question associated with each themed session to help inspire some initial thoughts. The rest of the time of each session is dedicated to extended discussion and can involve questions to those providing reflections or more general discussion.

All participants should read all of the papers in advance to facilitate useful discussions.

Delegates List

Manuel Aalbers, Universiteit van Amsterdam

Bastiaan van Apeldoorn, Free University
Amsterdam

Jon Beaverstock, Loughborough University

Gordon Clark, Oxford University

Adam Dixon, Oxford University

Ewald Engelen, Universiteit van Amsterdam

James Faulconbridge, Lancaster University

Rodrigo Fernandez, Universiteit van
Amsterdam

Marieke de Goede, Universiteit van
Amsterdam

Joyce Goggin, Universiteit van Amsterdam

Michael Grote, University Frankfurt

Sarah Hall, Loughborough University

Michael Hoyler, Loughborough University
Pin Hesin Chen, Oxford University

Martijn Konings, Universiteit van Amsterdam

Paul Langley, Northumbria University

Niall Majury, Queen's University Belfast

Yuval Millo, University of Essex

Ashby Monk, Oxford University

Katia Netchitailova, Universiteit van
Amsterdam

Louis Pauly, University Toronto

Sam Randals, University of Oxford

Dariusz Wójcik, University College London

Timetable

Day 1

Arrival 12:00 for pre-workshop lunch

13:00-13:30

Introduction to workshop and outline of workshop objectives and long term aims. *James Faulconbridge*

How can we study European financial Geographies?

Agenda setting paper for all to read:

Clark, G. 2005. Money flows like mercury: The geography of global finance. *Geografiska Annaler B: Human Geography* 87B, 2, 99-112

13:30-15:15

Theme 1: Liquidity: its importance to different financial products and geographies.

Chair: James Faulconbridge:

Discussants: Dariusz Wójcik, Yuval Millo, Paul Langley

How does liquidity influence trade in different financial instruments?

Reading:

Carruthers, B G Stinchcombe, A L. 1999. The social structure of liquidity: flexibility, markets, and states. *Theory and Society* 28 353-382

Coffee break

15: 45 - 17:30

Location assets 1: the role of skilled labour and financial epistemic communities.

Chair: Michael Hoyler

Discussants: Sarah Hall, Joyce Goggin, Jon Beaverstock

How can we move from the micro-scale where we study individuals to the meso-scale where we study epistemic communities and their geographies? What characteristics do financial epistemic communities take today, both geographically and socially?

Readings:

Knorr-Cetina, K Bruegger, U. 2002. Global microstructures: the virtual societies of financial markets. *American Journal of Sociology* 107, 4, 905-950

Storper, M Venables, A J. 2004. Buzz: face-to-face contact and the urban economy. *Journal of Economic Geography* 4 351-370

Day 2

9:00: - 10.30

Location assets 2: the role of regulation and impacts on financial products, innovation, and geographies.

Chair: Ewald Engelen

Discussants: Manuel Aalbers, Bastiaan van Apeldoorn

How does regulation facilitate innovation and the rise/demise of financial centres? At what level should we study regulation, national, transnational or other?

Readings:

Gotham, K. 2006. The secondary circuit of capital reconsidered: globalization and the US real estate sector. *American Journal of Sociology* 112 1, 231-275

Lütz, S. 2004. Convergence within national diversity: the regulatory state in finance. *Journal of Public Policy* 24 2, 169-197

Coffee

10.45 – 12:15

Responses to discussions: *Prof. Gordon Clark and Prof. Michael Grote.*

Roundtable discussion.

Lunch

12:45– 14:15

Group discussions: formulating a future research agenda

Here we will consider avenues for future research. In small groups, each chaired by a member of the workshop, we will discuss how future collaborations could develop. This will be fed back to the whole group by the chairs and be followed by a roundtable discussion.

Group chairs/discussants:

Niall Majury, Sam Randalls, Marieke de Goede, Martijn Koning

14:15 – 14:30

Closing of workshop, summary of outcomes, next steps for future research and activities.



Regions and Regionalism in and Beyond Europe

Institute for Advanced Studies Annual Research Programme



Forces of Concentration in European Financial Geographies

Why do geographical processes of financial concentration affect
financial centres within Europe differently?

The aim of the workshop and future programme is to foster new and extended discussions of the forcing mechanisms (see topics below) affecting financial geographies.



Using a **product-based** approach the influences upon the geography of trading in financial products will be examined to reveal the inner workings of the financial system and begin to develop new ways of thinking about the role of:

- (a) the linkages between market liquidity, financial geography and innovation.
- (b) the continued importance of 'place' to financial markets.
- (c) policy measures in a financial centre's success and the impact of policy on wider European financial geographies.



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Date of event: **January 11th - 12th 2007**

Venue: **Institute for Advanced Studies, Lancaster University, Meeting Room 2/3**

For more information contact:

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