University of Ljubljana

## FACULTY OF ECONOMICS

The Research Centre of the Faculty of Economics cordially invites you to a research seminar on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 13 p.m. in room P-119 at the Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana

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will present the article:

## "The role of open repositories in scholarly communication: the case of SSRN"

"The appearance of open access repositories is changing the nature of scholarly communication in all scientific disciplines including business and management. A particularly interesting object of enquiry are working papers posted on open repositories, as the rationale for posting them is less obvious than the rationale for posting published/accepted papers.

The study herein attempts to answer two research questions. The first research question concerns the subsequent faith of working papers posted in open repositories. More specifically, we are interested in what proportion of papers materializes in traditional publications, and in which final outlets in terms of quality. The second research question revolves around the hypothetical potential of open repositories to discern impactful papers to journal constituents. More precisely, we investigate whether greater paper and author popularity in open repositories is associated with journal publication success, greater quality of final products and greater citation impact. The context examined is accounting discipline and SSRN open repository.

The research questions are analysed, using manually collected data publicly available and retrieved from two databases. Working papers data, including the popularity statistics such as downloads and abstract views, was retrieved from SSRN open repository. Matching final publications data was retrieved from Google scholar database. This database was used as it is the most comprehensive and inclusive of all research databases and also provides citation data for the final publications.

The analysis was conducted in three steps. In step 1, we identified a sample of working papers (not published or accepted for publication) posted on SSRN in category accounting. In phase 2, we identified matching final publications (journal articles and book contributions) for the working papers identified in step 1. Finally, in step 3, we investigated which characteristics of working papers are influential for publication success, the quality of final publication outlet and the impact of final publication in terms of citations using the multivariate regression techniques. We develop three models including control variables such as the number of authors, elite schools affiliation, international author team and others.

Kardeljeva ploščad 17 SI - 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia Tel.: +386 1 5892 400 Fax: +386 1 5892 698 info@ef.uni-lj.si www.ef.uni-lj.si Tracking the publishing success of working papers in category accounting revealed that 63.5 % of them eventually got published in traditional outlets, predominantly academic journals. The examination of the quality profile of final publishing outlets revealed that almost half of them are elite journals in the field (rated 4 stars by AJG). Concerning the signalling potential, paper popularity on SSRN does not affect journal publication success nor the quality profile of journals hosting final publications. It is however a strong predictor of research impact (citations) of the final publication."

You can register for the free seminar by phone (01) 58-92-490, or via e-mail: <u>research.seminars@ef.uni-lj.si</u> by Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2017. You can find all information regarding future research seminars on following link: <u>http://www.ef.uni-lj.si/raziskovanje/seminarji in konference</u> **We look forward to seeing you!** 

