Debt

Faculty Member: John Geanakoplos

Proposal Description:

The greatest international economic crises in history, such as the recent Great Recession in the United States and in Europe, have been caused by debt. Some of the most common and debilitating afflictions of individuals have also been caused by too much personal debt. I am leading an interdisciplinary project to propose guidelines for how society and individuals should manage and resolve debt. This includes building models to understand how debt crises emerge, proposing changes to the rules by which the Federal Reserve and the ECB conduct monetary and macro-prudential policy, by proposals to empower institutions to enforce debt forgiveness, by educating people, especially the poor, in how to cope with debt, and proposing guidelines for how student loans should be structured. I am looking for help in organizing a history of debt, and a history of debt modeling. I am also seeking help planning a large multidisciplinary conferences on debt for 2018.

Requisite Skills and Qualifications:

Curiosity and Analytical Ability are the main prerequisites. It would be very helpful to have taken intermediate micro and macro. If you are mathematically inclined, then you can devote more of your time to the modeling aspect of the project.

HSSRO Application Link: HSSRO Application Link

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