The Division of Economics and the Economic Growth Centre cordially invite you to a seminar by Dr Alfons Palangkaraya

Speaker : Dr Alfons Palangkaraya  
Senior Research Fellow  
Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, and Intellectual Property Research Institute of Australia (IPRIA), The University of Melbourne  

Topic : “Are IPRs really trade related (and why)?”  
(with Paul Jensen and Elizabeth Webster)  

Chairperson : Associate Professor Yohanes Eko Riyanto  
Division of Economics  
School of Humanities & Social Sciences  

Date : Friday, 14 March 2014  
Time : 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm  
Venue : HSS Meeting Room 4 (HSS-04-71)  
Nanyang Technological University  
School of Humanities and Social Sciences  
14, Nanyang Drive  
Singapore 637332  

About the Speaker:  

Dr. Alfons Palangkaraya is a Senior Research Fellow of the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economics and Social Research and a Research Fellow of the Intellectual Property Research Institute of Australia, both at The University of Melbourne. Dr. Palangkaraya’s works are mostly micro-data based studies on issues such as the efficiency of the global patent system, innovation, IPRs, and the market for technology, productivity and firm performance, inventor mobility and knowledge spillovers, and empirical health economics (hospital efficiency and impacts of private health insurance). In addition, Dr. Palangkaraya has been engaged in various research consulting roles for institutions in Australia and overseas. For examples, he has been engaged in the microdata study of globalisation with ERIA and, most recently, completed a consulting project for the ASEAN Secretariat to produce the ASEAN Community Progress Monitoring System report.  

Abstract:  

This study tests the empirical relationship between intellectual property rights protection and international trade flows. While the Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) rests on such relationship, empirically the evidence is at best mixed. In addition, due to the use of aggregate measure of IPRs protection and trade flows, the existing literature may suggest counter-intuitive results such as the positive IPRs protection effect on trade flows but mostly in industries which are less patent intensive (Maskus and Penubarti, 1995) and the negative IPRs protection effect on trade probabilities of high-tech goods (Fink and Primo-Braga, 2005). Unlike these studies, ours investigates the relationship using detailed disaggregated data of IPRs protection and trade flows. Specifically, we exploit the recent findings that there is cross-industry variation in the success rate of foreigners in getting a patent in a foreign jurisdiction. We find that import flows into thirteen European Union countries and Japan (at either three or four digit industry classification) are on average lower in industries in which the success rate of foreign patent applicants in getting patents are lower than the success rate of domestic applicants. Our evidence further suggests that patent matters because the lack of patent protection in the importing markets may lead to potential foreign exporters facing increased competition or infringement suits from domestic companies.  

Reservation:  

Admission is free. Please reply to Christina, e-mail: achristina@ntu.edu.sg or Tel: 6790-5689 to confirm your attendance.