

What is Money and where does it come from?

Interdisciplinary Scholars Come to UMKC for an International Conference Explaining the Nature, Origins and Role of Money

[Zdravka Todorova](#) Mar. 29 . 2004

Have you ever asked yourself where does money come from? How is it that it permeates our lives? The International Conference on the *Nature, Origins and Role of Money* at UMKC, on March 31 – April 1, 2004 (9:00am – 5:15pm, Plaza Room, Administrative Center, 5100 Oak Street), will focus on these questions and their implications to contemporary economic issues.

Organized and sponsored by the Center for Full Employment and Price Stability (C-FEPS), and co-sponsored by the UMKC Economics Club, the conference is free and open to the public; and gathers experts across countries, states, and disciplines such as History, Political Science, Economics, Philosophy, Sociology, Finance, and International Relations.

“The panelists will make positive contributions to our conception of the operation of modern currencies, which will reveal new possibilities for the future,” said Pavlina Tcherneva, Associate Director for Economic Analysis at the Center for Full Employment and Price Stability.

“Presently, issues of the looming federal budget deficit, the state budget crisis, and the viability of the social security system concern everyone in the academic, political and social circles. The purpose of this workshop is to offer insights into the theoretical and applied aspects of these problems,” explained Tcherneva.

Tcherneva, who is also an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. student in Economics and Social Science Consortium at UMKC, pointed out that the dialogue “aims to uncover shortcomings in our theoretical understanding of money, which informs current monetary and fiscal policy.”

“Understanding the nature, origins and role of money informs not only the issues of domestic policy-making but also problems that pertain to the global economy,” explained Tcherneva.

“Is the US dollar losing ground relative to the Euro? Will the European economy replace the US as the engine of growth for the world? What policies can different countries implement to stabilize their economies and how do policy choices differ under various monetary regimes? All these questions and more will be subject of the present discussion.”

The conference will gather researchers from Germany, United Kingdom, and U.S. universities such as California State University-Sacramento, Wartburg College, and UMKC; as well as speakers from international organizations: Jan Kregel, High-level Financial Expert at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and Distinguished Professor at UMKC; and Rogério Studart, Economist at the Inter-American Development Bank.

Topics at the conference will include: the relations between taxes and money; the archaeology of money; origins of money in Egypt; money and the State; interest rates setting; stability in the Eurozone; financial crisis in Argentina and Russia; monetary research methodology; balance sheets; finance for development; and financial integration, instability and macroeconomic performance.



The conference programme echoes the aim of its organizer - C-FEPS - to promote interdisciplinary research and public discussion of issues related to macroeconomic policy.

C-FEPS is a non-partisan, non-profit policy institute, which is based at UMKC since 1999, under the program-directorship of UMKC Professor Mathew Forstater. The institute's activities include sponsoring interdisciplinary scholarship, collaborating with universities, organizing symposia, conferences and lectures, and participating in community programs.

For more information visit:

<http://www.cfeps.org/>

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