

Call for Papers

Firms and the Evolving Structure of Global Economic Activity

On May 19 and 20, 2006, the National Bureau of Economic Research will hold a Universities' Research Conference "Firms and the Evolving Structure of Global Economic Activity" in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION

The program is being organized by Professor Andrew Bernard of Dartmouth College and NBER and Professor Marc Melitz of Harvard University and NBER. The program will consist of eight or nine papers with formal discussants for each paper. There will be no published proceedings, but the conference will be summarized in the NBER *Reporter*.

CONFERENCE THEME

Multinational firms increasingly dominate cross-border trade and investment. We are interested in papers which explore the interactions of firms and the cross-border structure of production, investment and trade. These might include issues related to intra-sectoral responses to international shocks, the organization of the multinational firm, multi-product firms, labor markets, intellectual property, pricing, and the role of financial markets. We are interested in issues related to developing as well as developed economies.

SELECTION PROCESS

In keeping with the Bureau's tradition, priority will be given to empirical research or theoretical work with direct empirical applications. We encourage submissions from researchers early in their careers and also from non-NBER affiliates.

Participants will be selected on the basis of papers or abstracts of about 500 words, with a strong preference for papers. Any research that will not be published at the time of the conference can be submitted. The deadline for submissions is February 10, 2006. Authors chosen to present papers will be notified by the beginning of March. Final drafts of the papers will be due at the NBER on April 26. The NBER will pay the domestic travel and hotel expenses for one author per paper and for discussants at the conference.

Please email your submissions to: confer@nber.org in a pdf, Word or WordPerfect file. U.S. paper format only please. Please indicate 'Universities' Research Conference, May 2006' in the subject heading.

You may also send two copies of your abstracts or papers to the following address:

**Professor Andrew Bernard
Professor Marc Melitz
URC Conference
National Bureau of Economic Research
1050 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138**