

**Report from the XV. Carroll Round Conference – Mihaly Abel**  
21-25 April, 2016. Washington DC, USA



*XV. Carroll Round Organisation Committee and Participants*

First and foremost, I would like to thank my tutor Dr. Daniel Sgroi for encouraging me to apply for the Carroll Round Conference. Equally, I would also like to thank Dr. Gianna Boero for delivering the RAE module which has been a highlight of my time at the University of Warwick, and helped me in carrying out independent research.

In the following few lines, I will try to give you a few reasons for why it is worth applying.

1. You will gain great feedback from conference participants and your tutor on preparing an academic presentation. In the process of the conference, you will meet with students around the globe pursuing research in your chosen topic.
2. You can travel to the capital of the United States with the support of the Economics Department to deliver a presentation on your chosen topic and meet an amazing group of students from around the globe.
3. It is a great opportunity to motivate you to do your best during your RAE.  
As the prospect of submitting your RAE seems very distant in the beginning of Term 1, you might find it convenient to procrastinate and put off project work until later.

The conference application can be a great motivating factor and a commitment device helping you stay on top of your work.

I will now continue with a recollection of my time at the conference.

### **Thursday**

With our flight scheduled at noon, we met with fellow Warwick participants Mike and JJ at Heathrow Airport. All three of us had high hopes for the conference and were excited to begin our journey, even though we did not know what the future would hold for us.

After checking into our hotel, and receiving our conference packs, we met with fellow participants, venturing out to a nearby restaurant for dinner. Over the course of the dinner, I was often surprised to hear the aspirations and career destinations of the participants, which were very diverse. Some were continuing onto further study, research assistantships while others were going into consulting, technology or finance.

We concluded our day with orientation, where we heard from Mitch Kaneda, the Dean of the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, who is also the organizer of the very first Carroll Round Conference, and has been involved with the conference ever since. He congratulated our group for our work, extending a special thank you to the University of Warwick, which has been a long standing contributor to the Carroll Round.



*Mike, Ahwaz (Georgetown), myself and JJ at the Georgetown campus*

## Friday

After coffee and breakfast on the Georgetown campus, we began our first day of the conference with the first round of talks. After a talk about the evolution of bank specific and systemic risk by Tim Rudner of Yale University, our very own Michael Gill was up at the stage to present his RAE project on the impact of endogenous and exogenous monetary policy on the UK yield curve. Mike delivered an excellent presentation, which was met with a lot of questions from the audience and a collection of an outstanding feedback from other participants. The format of presentations followed that of a professional academic presentation, with a 20 to 25 minute presentation leading into a 5 minute discussion and 10 minutes of further Q&A. As we received a digital copy of all selected papers prior to the conference, we were able to get in touch with our respective discussants to prepare questions.

## Saturday

With Saturday came the second full day of talks. It is important to note that although two sections were running concurrently, participants were able to move in-between talks to attend other speakers' presentations. We heard a great selection of papers on topics ranging from the impact of football scores on domestic violence in greater Manchester, to the relationship between A and H listed stock on the Hong Kong stock exchange. The afternoon also included a Q&A with Eugene Fama himself, the "Father of Finance", and the originator of the efficient markets hypothesis. The evening concluded with a dinner with Carroll Round alumni and students, and a run-around of the DC area!



*JJ, Lukas (LSE) and myself at the Washington Monument*



## Sunday

Sunday included a closing address and awards celebration, where I was honoured to receive the prize of “Outstanding Participant” and a signed copy of George A. Akerlof’s and Rachel E. Kranton’s book *Identity Economics*. We also received a copy of Conference Proceedings of last year’s conference a book containing revised papers of each conference participant from the previous year’s conference. We shared our parting thoughts after being welcomed into the Carroll Round alumni group.



Finally, I would like to thank my supervisor Dr. Daniel Sgroi for his help on my project, and my RAE module leader Dr Gianna Boero for endorsing my application. It was a great honour to be selected to attend this conference where I was very happy to represent the University of Warwick and the Department of Economics.

If you would like to get in touch to ask the applications process, or any other aspect of the conference in particular, please do not hesitate to email me at: [a.mihaly1993@gmail.com](mailto:a.mihaly1993@gmail.com) and I will be able to share my experiences in greater detail.

Mihaly