

1 Some remarks on the Second Ph.D. Presentation Meeting

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February 27, 2006

Alena, a former student, has already given a good account of the job search in Europe. One should really stress in the application that one wants to go to Europe for some good reason like family ties, homesickness and so on. Schools in Europe are often concerned that candidates would prefer a job offer in America.

Recently, the Royal Economic Society and the LSE have tried to set up a job market conference for the European market. I have attended the second of these conferences and want to share my observations. The job market conference took place January 27-28, 2007 in London, and this is already part of the problem. If you are planning to apply for jobs both in Europe and America (or somewhere else overseas) then end of January will hopefully be a very busy time for you with campus fly-outs. In that case, it is really hard to schedule in a trip to London. On the other hand, I only applied for jobs in Europe, so I could fit it in very easily. But if you are looking for jobs outside of Europe, then I would think very hard of going. More information on the process can be found on the last year's webpage

<http://econ.lse.ac.uk/news/openfiles/resphdpresentation.html>

Unlike the ASSA conference you have to submit a paper by November 1. Your paper gets accepted by December 15 and then you have to decide whether to attend by early January. On the conference you will present your paper in 15 minutes which is in my view much too short to be of any use. The problem is that by the time your paper gets accepted you have already sent out most of your applications so you can't credibly communicate to the universities that you will attend. All in all, I did not find the conference all that useful. Only 25 or so employers attended and I only got one additional preliminary interview in London.

Most good European places attend the ASSA conference in the United States anyway, so London does not give you much additional exposure. My advice would be to only attend if you are planning to only apply to European places and you are in Europe anyway. In that case, a short trip to London can be good. I enjoyed meeting a lot of other candidates!