The conference focuses on methodological innovations and their potential for the study of inequality and social policy. A variety of guest speakers and WZB colleagues will present state-of-the-art research on inequality and social policy that features some form of methodological innovation. The guest speakers come from Denmark, the UK, the US, Sweden, and Israel; and from sociology, economics, public policy, political science, and statistics. The innovations include novel estimation techniques, measures, samples, data, and comparisons, along with broader unique methodological strategies. The presentations are intended to show the usefulness of the methods for answering substantive questions; but also the potential applicability of these techniques to other areas of research. All presentations and discussion will be in English.

The conference is hosted by the Inequality and Social Policy Unit at the WZB, led by David Brady.

Please register by Sunday, May 11, 2014 to buero.brady-usp@wzb.eu phone: +49 (0)30 25491-301/-371

The WZB provides child care during the lecture. If you are interested, please respond by May 9, 2014, indicating the number of children and their age.
Monday, May 19 (8.30 am – 4 pm)

8:30 am
Registration and Coffee

8:45 am
Opening Remarks
David Brady, WZB

9:00 am
Multi-Dimensional Wellbeing in the European Union: Identifying Coinciding Disadvantages in EU 27 Countries Through Set-Theoretic Configurational Analysis
Jon Kvist, Roskilde University
Discussant: David Brady, WZB

9:50 am
The Occupational Structure and Racial and Ethnic Labor Market Stratification in the United States
Ryan Finnigan, WZB
Discussant: Alexandra Killewald, Harvard University

10:40 am Coffee Break

10:55 am
Methodological Advances in Measuring Complex Treatments and their Impacts: An Application to a Social Protection Program in South Africa
Carolyn Heinrich, University of Texas-Austin
Discussant: Joscha Legewie, WZB

11:45 am Lunch

Tuesday, May 20 (9 am – 4 pm)

9:00 am
Sibling Similarity in Family Formation Sequences
Anette Fasang, Humboldt University and WZB
(with Marcel Raab, Aleksi Karhula, Jani Erola)
Discussant: Irene Boeckmann, University of Massachusetts Amherst (UMass) and WZB

9:50 am
Adjusting for Selection Bias Using Multilevel Simultaneous Equations Models
Fiona Steele, London School of Economics (LSE)
Discussant: Carolyn Heinrich, University of Texas-Austin

2:05 pm Coffee Break

3:10 pm
Equality of Opportunity and the Distribution of Long-Run Income Among Swedish Men and Women
Markus Jäntti, Swedish Institute for Social Research, University of Stockholm
Discussant: Anette Fasang, Humboldt University and WZB

10:40 am Coffee Break

10:55 am
Whose Money Matters? Couples' Financial Resources and the Decision to Separate
Alexandra Killewald, Harvard University
Discussant: Johannes Giesecke, Humboldt University Berlin

11:45 am Lunch

1:15 pm
Generating Inequalities: Understanding and Studying Workplaces as Networks of Relational Power
Don Tomaskovic-Devey, University of Massachusetts Amherst (UMass)
Discussant: Thomas Biegert, University of Mannheim and WZB

2:05 pm
Inequality in Infant Mortality: Variation Across U.S. States
Ben Sosnaud, Harvard University
Discussant: Jianghong Li, WZB

2: 55 pm Coffee Break

3: 10 pm
Rethinking the Demographic Risks of Poverty: Prevalences and Penalties in Comparative Perspective
David Brady (with Ryan Finnigan and Sabine Höhgen), WZB