

Abstract for the 2018 AK Politische Ökonomie and ZÖSS Conference on *New Economic Thinking* in Hamburg, Germany, 16-18 November

Title: Intermediate Microeconomics: a pluralistic approach

In my presentation, I want to report on the textbook project to be written by my co-authors Don J Webber, Sebastian Berger and me (Stefan Kesting, s.kesting@leeds.ac.uk, economics division at Leeds University Business School). There are a few pluralist microeconomics textbooks available at the undergraduate levels, but there is no pluralist textbook currently available in English that is appropriate for intermediate study (level 2) which does not rely on game theory as the dominant underlying mode of communicating economic ideas. This textbook will provide a broader range of theories suitable for students of intermediate microeconomics and will treat the orthodox mainstream neoclassical perspective as only one of many competing theories that could help us to understand the real world. This text will be written to stimulate students to think and to encourage them to juggle different intermediate microeconomics insights and perspectives. The textbook will detail the strengths and weaknesses of contrasting theories and highlight when each one is and is not relevant/useful. It will not universally promote one theoretical perspective over another. By the time of the conference, we will have finished writing the consumption section (one third of the book) and I will be able to provide an overview of this content. Moreover, I will report on the structure of the book and our reasoning behind it and the writing process and the difficulties encountered in integrating and balancing the mainstream and a wide range of pluralist materials in one book.