Central banks occupy a unique space in their national governments and in the global economy. But the study of central banking has too often been dominated by an abstract theoretical approach that fails to grasp central banks' institutional nuances. To that end, this conference takes a wider angle on central banks and central banking, focusing on the institutions of central banking. By institutions, we mean the laws, traditions, norms, and rules used to structure and organise central bank organisations and functions across time and space. The conference’s institutional approach is the most interdisciplinary effort of which we are aware, including contributions from central bankers, economists, lawyers, legal scholars, political scientists, historians, and others.

Monday, June 20th

8:30 – 9:00 Registration and coffee
9:00 – 9:30 Welcoming remarks –
Sonya Branch, General Counsel, Bank of England
Rosa Lastra, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London
Peter Conti-Brown, The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania,

9:30 – 11:00 Panel I: Central Banking: The Roads from the Past
Panelists:
1. Harold James (Chair), Princeton University
2. Peter Conti-Brown, The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania
3. Forrest Capie & Geoffrey Wood, Cass Business School, City University London
4. Juliet Johnson, McGill University, Montreal
5. John Heath, Head of Legal, Corporate Division, Bank of England

11:00 – 11:15 Break

11:15 – 12:45 Panel II: Central Banking & Institutional Change: Consequences of the Crisis
Panelists:
1. Hal Scott (Chair), Harvard Law School
2. Diego Devos, General Counsel, Bank for International Settlements
3. Tom Baxter, General Counsel, Federal Bank of New York
4. Sean Hagan, General Counsel, International Monetary Fund
5. Sonya Branch, General Counsel, Bank of England

12:45 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 15:30 Panel III: The Changing Faces of Central Banking: Beyond Conventional Monetary Policy
Panelists:
1. Rosa Lastra (Chair), CCLS, Queen Mary University of London
2. Kern Alexander, University of Zurich
3. Saule Omarova, Cornell University Law School
4. Robin Darbyshire, Consultant
5. Benjamin Geva, Osgoode Hall Law School York University, Toronto

15:30 – 15:45 Break

15:45 – 17:15 Panel IV: The Variety of Central Banking Experience
Panelists:
1. John Armour (Chair), University of Oxford
2. Luis Jacome, Deputy Chief, Central Banking Division, IMF
3. Frank Decker, University of Sydney
4. Justyna Schulz, University of Bremen
5. Liu Xiangmin, Deputy Director General of Legal Affairs, People’s Bank of China
6. Christopher Adam, University of Oxford

We will meet for a dinner sponsored by the Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London, at 7:00pm at Cooper’s, Lincoln’s Inn Fields, London

Tuesday, June 21st

8:30 – 9:00 Registration and coffee
9:00 – 10:30 Panel V: Central Bank Independence: A Global Perspective
Panelists:
1. Sir Paul Tucker (Chair), Chair, Systemic Risk Council and Harvard Kennedy School
2. Rolf H. Weber, University of Zurich
3. René Smits, University of Amsterdam
4. Chiara Ziloli, General Counsel, European Central Bank
5. Peter Conti-Brown, The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania

10:30 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 12:15 Panel VI: The Unconventional Future of Central Banking
Panelists:
1. Michael Gadbaw (Chair), Georgetown University
2. David Zaring, The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania
3. Anna Zabai, Bank for International Settlements
4. Ellen Meade, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
5. David Bholat, Senior Analyst, Bank of England

12:15 – 13:30 Luncheon interview of Charles Goodhart, conducted by Donald Kohn

13:30 - 13:45 Concluding observations