BROWN BAG SEMINAR
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

NSU SBE — NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS

Title: "Is the J-Curve a Reality in Developing Countries?"

Speaker: Dr. Mohammed Ershad Hussain
Associate Professor, Department of Accounting and
Financial Economics, College of Business,
Dillard University
Date: December 10th, 2020. 1:00pm -2:00pm

Profile of the speaker:

Dr. Hussain completed his B.S.S. and M.S.S. in Economics from the University of Dhaka in 1993 and 1995, respectively. From September 1996, he worked as a Deputy Manager at Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF). Then he joined the civil service in the 18th BCS Economic Cadre in February 1998. He went to pursue higher education in economics at the University of Texas at Arlington, Texas in August 2000. After completing his M.A. in Economics from the University of Texas, Arlington; he started his Ph.D. in Financial Economics at the University of New Orleans in June 2002, which he completed in July 2007. The topic of his dissertation was Basel I capital regulations, depositor discipline and the behavior of commercial banks. In August 2007, he joined the Department of Accounting and Financial Economics at Dillard University as an Assistant Professor.

Abstract:

We examine the relationship between trade balance and net export with both, the official and real effective exchange rates on the J-Curve hypothesis and find evidence to support in favor of the hypothesis, coming from a panel data of 49 developing countries from Africa. Countries can improve their current account balance by depreciating their currency; however the J-curve hypothesis argues that such changes take time to occur, but should use exchange rate policies discreetly, as it belongs to the "beggar thy neighbor" policies. This may be good for home country but is not so good for the foreign country; as a result, such policies may trigger retaliatory policies. Restrictive trade policies are against the present day notion of free-economy and free-trade policy these are very common around the world.

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