The Cost of Cash in Context

A Panel Discussion

with

Tim Flacke, Executive Director, Doorways to Dreams (D2D) Fund
Yuwa Hedrick-Wong, Global Economic Advisor, MasterCard Worldwide
Ben Mazzotta, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, CEME, Fletcher

Moderated by Kim Wilson, Senior Fellow, CEME, Fletcher

Friday, April 27
12:15-1:45pm, Cabot 205
The Fletcher School
160 Packard Avenue, Medford

Lunch available from 12:15. Panel will begin promptly at 12:30.
Panel will be followed by Cashless vs. Cardless Smackdown prize(s) drawing and announcements!

RSVP here via Eventbrite

Nearly universally accepted and beloved by privacy advocates, cash is the nearest we have to an anonymous and fungible payment instrument. But cash has drawbacks for savers without access to other financial assets. What are the key policy issues raised by cash and alternate financial services? What lessons can be learned from different countries’ approaches to branchless banking, telecoms policy, bank oversight, and competitive oversight? Here in the United States, what are the first rungs on the ladder of financial inclusion, and what role do consumer cash balances play in reaching those rungs? This panel will explore key initial findings from CEME’s landmark study of the cost of cash in the United States, which documents how consumers, merchants and banks manage the logistics and the risks of cash.

Open to the public. Convened by Ben Mazzotta, in conjunction with his research on the Cost of Cash, part of CEME’s Inclusive Growth research initiative.