

## MINUTES

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### RSAI COUNCIL MEETING SEOUL

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TUESDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JULY, AT 14:00, 2011

#### 1. Apologies

Council members present: Yoshiro Higano (Chair), Roberta Capello, Graham Clarke, Tomaz Dentinho, Jouke van Dijk, Mark Partridge, John Caruthers, Paul Dalziel, Patricio Aroca, Sam Ock Park and Alessandra Faggian.

Ex-officio members present: Michel Carrol.

Apologies from Council Members: Gunter Meier, Eduardo Haddad, Johan Lundberg and Danni Shefer.

Apologies from ex-officio members: David Boyce, Dimitris Balas, J. LeSage, Phil McCann and Charlie Karlsson.

#### 2. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of Denver Meeting (Nov 2010) were accepted by all members of the Council.

#### 3. Report of LRPC

Roberta Capello reported the outcomes of the meeting of the LRPC, focusing following topics that were commented by the councilors:

- World Conference in Timisoara (Romania):

The Local Organizing Committee (Daniela Constantin) invited Phil McCann, Peter Nijkamp, Bob Stimson, Manfred Fisher and Roberta Capello as keynote speakers; LRPC concluded that Phil McCann should organize a round table on EU Regional Policy, Peter Nijkamp and Roberta Capello will talk on a Plenary Session on Globalization and the Future of Eastern Europe, and Manfred Fisher and Bob Simpson will share the time of the third plenary session of the Conference.

John Caruthers expressed the concern about the timing of Timisoara Conference because May is the end of the academic semester and there can be lower attendance.

- Future World Conferences:

Jouke van Dijk supported the idea that RSAI World Conference should be a big one. Mark Partridge should be each two years in global cities.

RSAI World Conferences have been held in less central places (Port Elisabeth, São Paulo and Timisoara) to support the expansion of regional science there is the impression that this does not help very much. Probably these tasks of reinforcing more peripheral sections should be done by supra-nationals (ERSA, RSAI) and RSAI World Conferences should take place in more central cities.

- Replacement of RSAI Council Members:

There are four RSAI Councilors at large that finish their term by the end of 2011 – Roberta Capello, Graham Clarke, Sam Ock Park and Danni Shefer. Since Jean Claude Till will become next President (2013-2014) and Vice-President in 2012, he can become RSAI Councilor either as elected at large until the RSAI Council in Miami or nominated by RSA Americas.

- RSAI/RSA relationships:

RSA is willing to be present in special sessions of RSAI conferences, usually through the journal Spatial Economic Analysis managed by the British and Irish Section of RSAI, but it is not their strategy to have RSAI in RSA conferences. The LRPC suggested that a RSAI Committee should contact the British and Irish Section of to avoid that RSAI conferences can be misused by other associations.

#### 4. RSAI President Election

Yoshiro Higano appointed that, according to the RSAI Constitution, RSAI Council shall nominate next President elected and Roberta Capello informed that RSAI Constitution defines the terms of the election of RSAI President in the following terms.

*a. President election procedure. The RSAI President shall be elected by the Council for a two-year-term and confirmed by a vote of the entire active membership of the Association. To canvass suitable candidates for nomination, the Council establishes a "Nomination Committee" comprising the RSAI President, the RSAI Immediate Past-President, three members RSAI Council (one each from among the council members who are appointees of the three superregional organizations), and two members of the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) recommended by the LRPC itself.*

*b. Criteria of the nominees. The nominees should satisfy the following criteria: a) financial resources sufficient to cover travel costs to perform RSAI duties; b) support from candidate's institution including relaxation of duties to enable President to travel as needed to execute RSAI business; c) RSAI Council experience (Council member experience) and/or other service to the regional science community (e.g., super regional and/or other sections, editor or one of the regional science journals, etc.).*

*c. Time for the formation of the "Nomination Committee". The President Elect nomination committee shall be formed at the RSAmericas meeting at the end of the second year of the outgoing president so that the appointment is made at the PRSCO meeting in the next calendar year (first year of the incoming president).*

Roberta Capello suggested that the "Nomination Committee" should be prearranged in the ERSA Conference in Barcelona on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August.

#### 5. Selection of RSAI Councilors- at-large (YH)

I) Based on the information of the LRPC on the selection of RSAI Councilors at large the agreed decision by the Council was that the Executive Director should inform RSAI members so that they can present proposals to be analyzed by the RSAI Council in Barcelona (2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2011) and the election should run afterwards so that all the new councilors at large for 2012-2014 can be known by November 9-12, 2011 (RSAI Council in Miami).

#### 6. Future conferences:

II) The Council considers that RSAI World Conferences should take place in more central cities and each two years. Nevertheless the decision for the place and the frequency or the World Conferences should be made after further consultation with the LRPC.

#### 7. RSAI/RSA relationship: white paper and further initiatives

Based on the information of the LRPC, Roberta Capello, Mark Partridge, John Caruthers, Graham Clarke and Jouke van Dijk and Alessandra Faggian express their views on the issue,

**and agree that some actions should be taken to make RSA understand that its presence in RSAI conferences is welcome from the scientific point of view, but not as an occasion to make marketing of RSA activities.**

III) The Council agreed on the LRPC suggestion that Yoshiro Higano, Mark Partridge, Roberta Capello and Alessandra Faggian should contact the British and Irish Section on the issue.

## **8. New sections development:**

### - RSAmericas:

Patricio Aroca informed the Council that Brasil, Chile, Argentina and Colombia Sections are implementing regional science meetings in 2011 and Equator will organize one in the near future.

### - China:

*This point was discussed just after the acceptance of point 2 “Minutes” because, as informed by Yoshiro Higano, the colleagues from China University of Geosciences had to leave to the airport at 14:30.*

Yoshiro Higano presented the development of RSAI in China in the following terms.

“As President of RSAI I invited two teams to organize international conferences of Regional Science in China: One for March 2012, organized by China University of Geosciences, and another, for July 2012 organized by the Renmin University, under the name of 12<sup>th</sup> PRSCO Summer Institute as decided by PRSCO Council Meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July. A third Conference will take place in December but the venue is not yet decided.

Related to these conferences in China Yoshiro Higano proposed the following measures:

- 1) RSAI will provide 10000 US\$ for China University of Geosciences as a subsidy for setting up a new RSAI section in China;
- 2) RSAI will issue special volumes of PIRS and RSPP for publication of qualified papers presented at the three meetings through regular refereeing process.”

Yoshiro Higano also said that the possibility to publish in special issue of journals with high impact factor is very important to attract young scientists in China.

Lei Yalin presented the proposal of the Regional Science Conference of the University of Geosciences (28<sup>th</sup> of March – 1<sup>st</sup> of April) which program will include the theme of the development of mining regions.

Wen Yuyuan, from Renmin University, presented the plan for the 12<sup>th</sup> PRSCO Summer Institute (3-6<sup>th</sup> July 2012) with the theme “Regional Development Patterns and Evolution Trends after the Great Crisis” and with 200 expected papers and participants.

Roberta Capello welcomed the two presentations.

Regarding the subsidy of 10000 US\$ China University of Geosciences Yoshiro Higano, Roberta Capello, Graham Clarke, Tomaz Dentinho, Jouke van Dijk, Mark Partridge and Alessandra Faggian expressed their positive opinions.

IV) The Council decided unanimously to accept the request to provide 10000 US\$ for China University of Geosciences as a subsidy for setting up a new RSAI section in China taking into account the financial and scientific return for the Association.

Concerning the special issues of PIRS and RSPP on China Jouke van Dijk (PIRS) and Michel Carrol (RSPP) explained the common procedures for special issues and made known that, although it is not for the Council to decide on special issues, they, as editors, welcome one special issue per journal promoted through the normal procedures.

Yoshiro Higano, Roberta Capello, Mark Partridge and Sam Ock Park expressed their opinions on the matter.

V) The Council suggested that an informal team could be formed to support the creation of the two special issues on China of RSAI journals.

Yoshiro Higano gave thanks to the Council for its decisions and suggestions on the implementation of Regional Science in China. He also mentioned the importance of the collaboration between his Presidency and RSAI Council namely in the following issues: - enhancement and enrichment of services of RSAI; - expansion of the organization in developing countries specially in Africa, Latin America and South East Asia; and the organization of World Congresses specially the World Congress in Timisoara, Romania.

- Poland and Lithuania:

There were no reported news on the RSAI sections of Poland and Lithuania.

## **9. Publication reports:**

### a) Papers in Regional Science

Jouke van Dijk reported that PIRS maintains its production on schedule, decreased the impact factor from 1,3 to 1,2 because the number of pages (which are in the denominator of the index) increased recently from 600 to 900 and informed the Council that in the near future two special issues will be published, one in infrastructures and the other on labor markets.

### b) Regional Science Policy and Practice

Michael Carrol informed the Council that the number of pages of RSPP will increase from 176 in 2010 to 512 in 2011, reported that submissions increased progressively from 2008 (with 4) to in 2011 (with already 75).

Mark Partridge asked on the prospects to register RSPP in ISI. Michel Carrol explained that Wiley Blackwell will try to do it when the journal gets some background.

VI The Council unanimously congratulated the job well done on PIRS and RSPP.

## **10. RSAI Awards**

### a. Martin Beckmann RSAI Annual Award

Jouke van Dijk said that, for the first time, two papers were selected for the award and that it should be clear if the respective grant should be divided by the two papers or if each paper should receive the usual grant. Roberta Capello reported that Jean Claude Till and herself suggested to accept to split the prize if there are two winners.

VII The Council decided unanimously that if there is more than one winner the Beckmann Prize must be divided among the winners.

### b. Kohno award

Graham Clarke informed the Council that suggestions should be presented in Barcelona so that the award can be given in Miami.

### c. Peter Nijkamp award

Graham Clarke suggested the creation of a Committee to identify and select the best publication on regional science coming from developing countries.

VIII The Council agreed that the Committee for the Peter Nijkamp award should be formed by Roberta Capello, Patricio Aroca and Paul Dalziel.

## **11. RSAI Summer Courses:**

a. Azores Summer Course

Tomaz Dentinho reported on the 1<sup>st</sup> RSAI Summer Course that took place in the Azores (13<sup>th</sup> till the 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2011) with 24 students from Europe (14), America (6) and Asia (4) and with 6 lecturers, José Pedro Pontes, Henk Folmer, Mark Partridge, Alessandra Faggian, Eduardo Haddad and Ping Wang. The Course was supported by the Luso-American Foundation for Development (15000 €), by the Regional Government of the Azores (10000 €) and by the students fees (200 € each). The evaluation by the students, through the ranking of their own statements, highlighted that they “will recommend the course to other students” and that “the topics were appropriate, diversified and complementing each other”.

b. Macau Summer Course (YH/TD/MP)

Tomaz Dentinho proposed a 2<sup>nd</sup> Summer Course to be held in Macau (26<sup>th</sup> of March till 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 2012) with the theme Regional Science and Sustainable Regional and Urban Development. Following former contacts an application for financial support will be send to Macau Foundation. The Course will be organized by the Regional Science Association in collaboration with the University of Jiaying and the University of Macau.

IX The Council supported the project of launching a Summer Course in Macau.

**12. Transference of RSAI Office to the Azores**

Tomaz Dentinho reported that there is an official registration of RSAI in Portugal, a Bank Account and suggested that Rui Duarte Gonçalves Luís should be appointed as RSAI Treasurer.

X The Council agreed on the nomination of Rui Duarte Gonçalves Luís as RSAI Treasurer.

Tomaz Dentinho asked permission from to Council to continue talks with Wiley Blackwell to move the enrolment of RSAI members from Wiley Blackwell to RSAI Executive Directorate which will clarify the relation with the members and will allow the expansion of RSAI services beyond the services provided by Wiley Blackwell as publisher of PIRS and RSPP.

XI The Council support the proposal to negotiate with Wiley Blackwell the task of the enrolment of RSAI members from Wiley Blackwell to RSAI Executive Directorate and appointed Graham Clarke, Roberta Capello, Michel Carrol and Jouke van Dick to follow this process. The Council also requested that the Sections should be informed on the new procedures once they were approved in the Barcelona Council.

**13. AOB**

No further businesses were appointed.

**14. Date of next meeting (Barcelona, Spain)**

Barcelona, 2<sup>nd</sup> September.  
8H00 – Long Range Planning Committee;  
14H00 – RSAI Council Meeting.

Tomaz Ponce Dentinho  
RSAI Executive Director

July 2011, Angra do Heroísmo.