
**MINUTES OF THE RSAI COUNCIL MEETING
VIENNA, AUGUST 25 THURSDAY, 14:00-16:00**

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose welcomed the members of the RSAI Council and the members and guest members presented themselves around the table. The meeting began with 13 of the 19 members of the RSAI Council (Annex 1) present.

1. Apologies (JCT) (Annex 1)

Council members present: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose (President); Jacques Poot (Vice President); Jouke Van Dijk (ERSA President); Carlos Azzoni (RSAmericas President); Isabelle Thomas and André Torre (ERSA Representatives); Peter Stenberg, Neil Reid and Alessandra Faggian (RAmericas Representatives); Tüzin Baycan, Hans Westlund and Fabio Mazzola (Councillors at large); and Tomaz Dentinho (Executive Director).

Apologies from Council Members: Patricio Aroca (PRSCO President); Jichung Yang, Erendira Serrano and Yuzuru Miyata (PRSCO representatives); Emmanouil Tranos and Daniel Griffith (Councillor at large).

Long Range Planning Committee Members present: Roberta Capello, Roger Stough and Robert Stimson.

Ex-officio members present: Roberta Capello (Editor of PIRS) and Michel Carroll (Editor of RSPP).

Invited Members present: Chitta Ranjan Pathak and Sumona Bandyopadhyay from the Indian Regional Science Association; Rachel Franklin to participate in the discussion of the point “Women in Regional Science”.

M-I. RSAI Council acknowledged the apologies unanimously.

2. Approval of the minutes of the Lisbon meeting (Annex 2).

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose asked if there were any corrections to the Minutes of Portland Council held on 13 November 2015.

M-II. RSAI Council approved unanimously the Minutes of the Portland Council (November 2015)

3. Report and Accounts of 2015 (Annex 3).

Tomaz Ponce Dentinho reported that the accounts were produced by a certified accountant, audited by an official auditor and analysed in a report done by the RSAI Treasurer Francisco Carballo-Cruz. Tomaz Ponce Dentinho also informed that in 2015 RSAI achieved a net surplus of 15,017.86 € largely due to the increase in value of the pound relative to the euro during that year. However, a number of problems were highlighted. These included that number of sections reported no members; and the presence of sections with relatively low numbers of members in relation to the population of the respective areas of influence. The net margin of the association evolved from 14,461.02 € in 2012, to 10,530.74 € in 2013, to 29,918.89 € in 2014 and to 15,017.86 € in 2015. The Association’s balance in the bank was 200,598.68 € in December 2011; 209,634.10 € in December 2012; 142,445.48 € in December 2013; 170,656.89 € in December 2014; and 188,998.94 € in December 2015 assuming an exchange rate of 1,28 €/1,0 £. The account on investments had 89,856.69 € on December 2015; therefore, the total funds available on December 2015 were 278,855.63 €. There was a small growth in Investment Funds in Euros of 188,31 €. The Costs of the new initiatives Nurturing New Talent and Building Bridges was respectively, 8.001,04 € and 290,52 €.

Tuzin Baycan asked about the negative balance of the Armenian project. Tomaz Dentinho answered that the Armenian project is financed by Gulbenkian Foundation without extra costs from RSAI; he also informed that the project is negative in 2015 because most of the funds were versed by the Foundation in 2014, with some of the expenditures taking part in 2015. Roger Stough said that RSAI is a non-profit organization and therefore should not have profit. Tomaz Dentinho thanked and informed that, RSAI is registered in Portugal as a non-profit organization, nevertheless some of the activities – such as publishing – pay VAT and, eventually, there can be an income tax related with those activities and therefore the official accounts refer profit. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed that the programme Nurturing Talent has been a success in Europe but not so much in PRSCO and RSAmericas; he also said that the program Building Bridges was still developing and in 2015 had a limited number applications; finally, he reinforced the importance of those programs and urged the sections and the supra-nationals to present proposals for 2017 until the end of the deadline, to be analysed and eventually integrated in the Plan for 2017. Jacques Poot pointed out that RSAI should in principle have no margin.

M-IV. The RSAI Council approved unanimously the Report and Accounts of 2015.

4. Membership fees for countries with lower income (Annex 4)

Tomaz Dentinho argued that one of the restrictions that limits the mobilization of members from sections in lower income countries is the level of RSAI membership fees. He argued that there was some margin of manoeuvre, as the RSAI journals subscription fee dropped to 1 pound per year per member after 4000 members (number exceeded since 2013). Since RSAI aims to be a scientific association with members in every country, he proposed that membership fee be established according to the United Nation GDP country classification: 2 € per member for countries with less than 4125 US\$ per capita; 5 € per person for countries with an income per capita between 4125 US\$ and 12735 US\$ and €10 for the rest. Tomaz Dentinho also informed that it is expected that the sections of middle income countries that already pay their fees (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, and Romania) will double the number of members and that countries whose sections have difficulties in paying membership fee (Indonesia and Morocco) will register their members. The new fee structure should also act as an incentive to lure countries that are currently not part of RSAI community (e.g. India, China, Nigeria, Egypt, Bangladesh and others) into it.

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose indicates that such measure represents an important effort to develop the presence of the RSAI in less developed countries. He indicated that the new measure could be piloted for five years, as a way to expand and consolidate the organization. Tuzin Baycan asked when the new fees will be applicable. Tomaz Ponce Dentinho responded that the new fees will be implemented from 2017.

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose asked for approval of the new membership fees.

M-IV. The RSAI Council approved unanimously the reduction of membership fees for sections based in low and lower income economies (2 € per member per year), upper middle income economies (5 € per member per year) and other economies (10 € per member per year)

5. Election of RSAI Officials (Annex 5).

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed the Council that the RSAI President for 2019-2021 should come from the area of RSAmericas. He also informed that the Searching Committee proposed had to be changed, as one of the members of the committee, Janet Kohlhasse, is no longer available. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose proposed that Brigitte Waldorf substitutes Janet Kohlhasse in the Search Committee.

M-Va. The RSAI Council approved unanimously the changed committee composed by Carlos Azzoni, Neil Reed, Brigitte Waldorf and Andrés Rodríguez-Pose.

Tomaz Ponce Dentinho informed the Council there was just one nomination for Councillors at large. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose proposed that the period for nomination should be extended and announced so that online elections can take place from September 2016 until October 2016 for new councillors at large.

M-Vb. The RSAI Council approved unanimously to extend the period for nomination so that online elections can take place from September 2016 until October 2016.

6. Women in Regional Science (Annex 6).

Alessandra Faggian reported that a group of 28 women in regional science wrote and signed a document that aims to raise the awareness of women in regional science associations. She said that although there are more men than women as members in regional science, the representation of women in committees, councils, panels and plenary sessions is even lower. This has an impact in their careers and on the profile of regional science activities. Furthermore, that bias is more relevant in some associations than others. Rachel Franklin reinforced the argument saying that the issue was raised at several meetings in the past and little progress had taken place. They both stressed that although the proposal does not contain an explicit proposition of measures aiming to reduce the bias, it is important that the regional science community becomes aware of the situation and the existence of a level of discrimination against women. Tüzün Baycan recalled that there are many issues focusing on gender and development and that there are no doubts on the effectiveness of women's work in regional science. Jouke Van Dijk agreed with the document but said that no solutions were presented to solve the problems identified. Rachel Franklin commented that there is a problem of emotional energy and that, after thorough discussion, it was considered that at this stage it was best to raise awareness without proposing any concrete measures. Alessandra Faggian reinforced this point by saying that it is not a question of tools but of awareness. Jacques Poot remarked that within the usual framework of bonding and bridging more emphasis should be given to bridging. Rachel Franklin commented that the role of women is highly diminished in regional science associations. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed that the trigger of the request was the presence of only two women in a scientific committee of 25 members in a regional science conference. He highlighted that, although the number of women attending conferences had risen in recent years, it was still true that there was some sort of glass ceiling that still prevented women from reaching positions of responsibility in regional science. He strongly supported the document presented and the need to raise awareness, particularly among men scientists, about the condition of women in regional science. Robert Stimson suggested that a communication should be sent to all supra-nationals and sections; and commented that RSAI cannot tell sections and supra-nationals what to do but it is important to inform them about the awareness to the issue. Hans Westland agreed and remarked that it is time to respond to the issue every day.

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose asked for a strong support to the document and requested that it be posted on the RSAI webpage and the RSAI Newsletter; he also said that such note is a recommendation to all and if the situation does not improve, the RSAI may want to implement specific measures.

M-VI. The RSAI Council approved unanimously to diffuse the document "Women in Regional Science" as a recommendation to the association, to the supra-nationals, to the sections and to the members.

7. World Congress: Turkey (Annex 7)

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose reported that the RSAI Council decided in 2013 to organize the World Congress in Istanbul and that the organization was running on schedule. However, the increasing threat of terrorism in Turkey led the Local Organizing Committee to request a postponement on the basis that, due to the security situation in Turkey, it had become impossible to guarantee the personal security of delegates. He thanked Tüzin Baycan and the LOC for the efforts conducted in preparation of the congress and informed the Council that a survey on potential attendance was sent to all those that registered for the congress and that on a scale of 1 to 5 (with one being highly unlikely and 5 being highly likely to attend a rescheduled congress) the average result was 3.5.

Tüzin Baycan informed the Council that a postponement of the Congress, from May 2016 to October 2016, was proposed because of the large number of cancellations and for the fact that it had become impossible to guarantee the security of participants when civilians had become targets of the bomb attacks. Tüzin Baycan informed that RSAI Presidency was cautious on fixing a new date. She indicated that the Local Organizing Committee was willing to propose four alternative locations for a postponed congress: Istanbul, Izmir, Antalya, or Northern Cyprus. Tüzin Baycan stressed that if US scholars, to name a group, were wary to go places with increasing security problems, Cyprus was a safe place for the RSAI World Congress. She finished saying that she had already talked with the Greek colleagues regarding that possibility.

Jacques Poot indicated that many people require a visa to enter Northern Cyprus. Tüzin Baycan informed that this is common in many countries and that it is possible to establish connections with the Greek part of the island. Alessandra Faggian asked if the possibility to get a visa would be effective for all. Robert Stimson informed that the Universities in the USA, Australia and New Zealand would have to agree on the voyages to Northern Cyprus. For Andrés Rodríguez Pose the fact that Northern Cyprus is not officially recognized by any country but Turkey represented a serious challenge. Jouke Van Dijk said that it is very sad that the Congress had to be postponed but the new date and place should consider the competition with the Congresses of the Supra-nationals. Isabelle Thomas enquired about the possibility of organising the World Congress jointly with a Supranational Congress. Tüzin Baycan said that she did not understand the issue of competition since she promoted the congress in cooperation and not in competition; in fact, she continued, the participants registered in the Congress of Istanbul were from different countries and continents and the existence of RSAI world congress is to create a platform to attract people from all nations and continents.

Roberta Capello reinforced what was said the day before in the Long Range Planning Committee: 1) the world congress is a very important event with specific aims that are different from the congresses promoted by the supra-nationals; 2) The organization of a World Congress in Bangkok was a risk and the Istanbul choice also involved risks; 3) Tüzin Baycan was very enthusiastic promoter congresses, but that the security of delegates was of paramount importance. Hence, the main aim should be to find a safe location and keep Istanbul in mind as a very good place when the security circumstances in the country improved. Roger Stough thanked the intervention of Roberta Capello.

Andrés Rodríguez Pose proposed to Council two alternative solutions for the World Congress in Turkey: A) The RSAI Council supports the organization of the World Conference in Turkey in the near future; B) The RSAI Council acknowledges and thanks the effort done by the Local Organizing

Committee of the World Congress in Istanbul and keeps Turkey in mind as a candidate for a World Congress when the situation become safer.

M-VII. The RSAI Council voted in favour to acknowledge and thank the effort done by the Local Organizing Committee of the World Congress in Istanbul 2016 and to keep Turkey in mind as a future candidate for a World Congress when the situation becomes safer.

8. Future of World Congresses (Annex 8)

Jacques Poot pointed out the document distributed on the matter. He highlighted that World Congresses have two main objectives: 1) To establish a bridge between the various supra-regional associations; and 2) To be a vehicle to enlarge regional science. Jacques Poot remarked that the document finishes with a set of recommendations and highlighted that the RSAI World Congress should target 1000 delegates since that could open perspectives for external support and to invite well known keynote speakers. Also world congresses should take place in accessible places and be organized by a professional organization that packages the whole event. Jacques Poot also said that to avoid competition with the events of the supra-regional associations, the organisation of joint should be considered events. He then argued that the RSAI could also promote other events such as workshops, summer schools, summer institutes to get visibility and reach other areas of the world. For the next world congress Jacques Poot indicated that everything must be transparent with Requests for Proposals (RFPs) and a Scientific Meeting's Committee responsible for drawing up RFPs and bringing recommendations to Council for all future scientific events that are instigated by RSAI.

Roger Stough said that there are advantages and disadvantages to doing joint congresses and it might be interesting to do it jointly with ERSA; one reason to do it is that we are a small organization and there are not enough members to fill up many large conferences per year; but the reality would be different if we have India and China with us. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed that the Long Range Planning Committee Meeting reinforced the idea that this is an important issue and that the next meeting must be an absolute success. Neil informed that 2021 is next possible date to have a RSAI world meeting jointly with NARSC in Washington DC.

Andrés Rodríguez- Pose proposed that the Council acknowledge the document presented by Jacques Poot and the setting up an advisory committee on future World Congresses and other events that would report at the RSAI Council meeting in Minneapolis. This committee would include a representative from each superregional.

M-VIII. The RSAI Council acknowledged the document presented by Jacques Poot and agreed to set up an advisory committee on future World Congresses and other events that would report at the RSAI Council meeting in Minneapolis. This committee would include a representative from each superregional.

9. RSAI Programs 2017 (Annex 9).

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed the Council that the RSAI programs – Building Bridges and Nurturing Talent - created in November 2016 have experienced a considerable uptake, especially in the ERSA zone with the support of meetings in Romania, Morocco, and Italy and with the support for the participation in international events of regional scientists from India. The new programme

named Thinking Big has been launched and NARSC and ERSA already said that these associations can reinforce the support provided by RSAI. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose also said that around 25000 € are available to allocate for these programs for 2017.

Regarding the program Nurturing Talent the organizers of workshops and summer schools fulfilling the aims of the programme are invited to submit a two-page case for support by the deadline (December 2nd) to Elisabete Martins (elisabete.martins@apdr.pt). Concerning the programme Thinking Big proposals should be submitted to the RSAI by the same deadline. In regards to the program Building Bridges applications should be made by young scientists registered in one of the four largest Regional Science Conferences in 2017: World Congress, PRSCO, ERSA, and NARSC.

M-IX. The RSAI Council approved unanimously the RSAI Programs for 2017.

10. Supra regionals and Sections

✚ Latin American and Caribbean Regional Science Association (LACRSAI) (Annex 10a)

Carlos Azzoni informed the Council that the Constitution of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Science Association was based on the Constitution of the Regional Science of Americas. Carlos Azzoni highlighted that the area is responsible for 10% of the RSAI members and that there is the idea of having a Congress every two years.

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose said that there is a general agreement regarding the creation of a Supra Regional Association in Latin America and Caribbean. He stressed that this step, however, has implications for the RSAI, with respect to issues such as the number of RSAI Councilors, the By-Laws, rotating the Presidencies. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose also said that if the next RSAI president is from NARSC the following should be from LACRSAI and, vice-versa, if the next RSAI president is from LACRSAI the following should come from NARSC. He requested the decision of the Council on the creation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Science Association so that the changes in the by-laws could be prepared and submitted to the Council in Minneapolis.

M-Xa. The RSAI Council approved unanimously creation of the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Science Association

Roberta Capello commented that when she was RSAI President, in 2009-2010, the perspective of a Latin American and Caribbean Regional Science Association was already perceived and that all of us should be very happy that it has now become a reality. The Council applauded unanimously.

✚ Regional Science Association of India (IRSA) (Annex 10b)

Sumana Bandyopadhyay, vice-president of the Regional Science Association of India, informed the Council that the Indian Regional Science Association has its origins in 1967, launched the Journal of Indian Regional Science in 1968, organized an International Conference of PRSCO in Bangalore in 2005, and has had a regular activity for fifty years. It boasts 340 life members, 134 annual members, and 171 subscribers to the journal. Sumana Bandyopadhyay informed that last January an international congress on Urbanization and Regional Sustainability was hosted by the University of Calcutta, with the participation of the Executive Director of RSAI, Tomaz Dentinho. He proposed a

RSA International Membership at 2 € per person that will allow the payment of the subscription of RSAI journals at 1 £ per year since there are more than 4000 members. Sumana Bandyopadhyay elaborated on a number of areas for collaboration: grants for young researchers, summer and winter institutes on Methods in Regional Studies (spatial econometrics, GCE modelling, geo-informatics, environmental CBA, natural resource accounting, and participatory rural appraisal techniques). Finally, Sumana Bandyopadhyay informed the Council that IRSA will welcome all members from ERSA, PRSCO, and RSAmericas to the 48th Meeting in Tripura on the 5th and 6th of January 2017 and suggests a joint meeting on regional cooperation with PRSCO and RSAI in Goa in January 2018.

Andrés Rodríguez Pose requested the decision of the Council on the acceptance of the Regional Science Association of India as one of the RSAI Sections.

M-Xb. The RSAI Council approved unanimously and by acclamation the acceptance of the Regional Science Association of India.

Other Sections

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed the Council that two Bulgarian groups were gathered together and that an association within the scope of ERSA is going to be created. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose also clarified that the Bulgarian colleagues want to have an organization legally established before submitting it to ERSA and RSAI and that is very much advisable because without legal autonomous statute sections could not develop in the long term.

Tomaz Dentinho clarified that, regarding Armenia, the support from the Gulbenkian Foundation from 2014 till 2016 allowed the organization of scientific meetings in Armenia and the support of the participation of young Armenian regional scientists in ERSA conferences and summer courses. He also said that the development of an Armenian regional science section will depend on the mobilization of recognised Armenian academics within the group of around forty regional scientists that have been involved in meetings.

Robert Stimson from the Long Range Planning Committee reinforced the idea that sections should be part of super-regional associations and that super-regional associations should be duly involved.

11. RSAI Publications

Papers in Regional Science

Roberta Capello informed the Council that the report of Papers in Regional Science was sent to the Council and can be seen in the annexes of the minutes.

Regional Science Policy and Practice.

Michael Carroll reported that the journal was accepted for indexing in Scopus, that submissions to Regional Science Policy and Practice, after a short period of decrease following the change in the focus of the journal, had been increasing and with improving quality. Michael Carroll also said that, after the decision of the Council in Portland last November, they are waiting for the nomination of a

new editorial team. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose clarified that the Publishing Committee is responsible to identify the new editorial committee.

✚ **Other publication issues.**

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed that 2017 is the last year to find alternative publishers for the journals, as the current Wiley contract finishes at the end of 2018 and there is a 12 month notice for the contract to be terminated. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose also said that there are scientific societies similar to RSAI that get up to ten times more revenues from their journals and that makes a major difference in the financial capabilities of the organizations.

12. Awards

✚ **Founders award 2016**

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed the Council that, with the coordination of Emmanouil Tranos, the the Selection Committee has recommended Professor Manfred Fischer, from the University of Vienna, as the recipient of the 2016 Founders Award. The award ceremony took place during the Opening plenary of the Congress. Andrés Rodríguez Pose also indicated that, following the report of Emmanouil Tranos, this recommendation is the outcome of a process which included the following steps: “(i) Submission of nominations and self-nominations to the Committee; the call for the submissions was openly advertised using the RSAI website and mailing list. (ii) Selection of two nominees by the Committee. In order to do so, the Committee examined in depth the various submission by combining bibliographic metrics with qualitative knowledge of the individual contributions. (iii) The two nominees were presented to the past recipients of the award, who were asked to indicate their preferences by assigning 2 points to their first preference and 1 to the second. Five past recipients participated to the voting process (Bailly, Boyce, Getis, Nijkamp, and Paelinck) by emailing their preferences to the secretary of the Committee. (iv) The secretary of the Committee announced the results to the Selection Committee and shared the detailed votes with the Executive Director for confirmation purposes. (v) The President of the RSAI informed Professor Manfred Fischer of his success in being the next recipient of the Founders Award.”

✚ **RSAI Fellows (Annex 8)**

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose reported that the process of selection of the RSAI Fellows for 2016 went according to the Nomination and Selection Protocol of RSAI Fellows (www.regionalscience.org – Awards - Fellows). Of the three new fellows, Phillip McCann will receive the award in the ERSA Conference in Vienna, and Mark Partridge and Sergio Rey will receive the award in Minneapolis.

13. AOB

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose asked the Councilors if there was any other issue to be discussed in the RSAI Council of Portland and no one presented any other issue to be discussed.

1. Date of next meeting (Minneapolis)

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose fixed the date of the next Council Meeting for Minneapolis, on the 11th of November 2016, 16H00-18H00, Grand Portage Ballroom.

The meeting closed at 16H00.

Annex 1: RSAI Council Members

2016 RSAI Council Members

	Name	Member	Period	Email
1	Andres Rodriguez-Pose	President Ersa Representative	2015-2016 2013-2015	a.rodriiguez-pose@lse.ac.uk
2	Jacques Poot	Vice – President Councilor at large	2016 2015-2017	jpoot@waikato.ac.nz
3	Isabelle Thomas	Ersa Representative	2015-2017	isabelle@geog.ucl.ac.be
4	Andre Torre	Ersa Representative	2014-2016	andre.torre@wanadoo.fr
5	Jichung Yang	Prsco Representative	2013-2018	jcyang@snu.ac.kr
6	Erendira Serrano	Prsco Representative	2015-2017	sesohi@hotmail.com
7	Yuzuru Miyata	Prsco Representative	2014-2016	miyata@ace.tut.ac.jp
8	Peter Stenberg	RSA Representative	2016-2018	STENBERG@ers.usda.gov
9	Neil Reid	RSA Representative	2012-2016	neil.reid@utoledo.edu
10	Alessandra Faggian	RSA Representative	2016-2018	faggian.1@osu.edu
11	Emmanouil Tranos	Councilor at large	2015-2017	e.tranos@bham.ac.uk
12	Daniel Griffith	Councilor at large	2015-2017	dagriffith@utdallas.edu
13	Tüzin Baycan	Councilor at large	2015-2017	tbaycan@itu.edu.tr
14	Hans Westlund	Councilor at large	2014-2016	hans.westlund@abe.kth.se
15	Fabio Mazzola	Councilor at large	2016-2018	fabio.mazzola@unipa.it
16	Jouke Van Dijk	ERSA President	2015-2018	jouke.van.dijk@rug.nl
17	Carlos Azzoni	RSAmericas President	2015-2016	cazzoni@usp.br
18	Patricio Aroca	PRSCO President	2016-2017	paroca@ucn.cl
19	Tomaz Dentinho	Executive Director Ersa Representative Councilor at large	2011-2018 2010-2012 2013-2015	tomazdentinho@uac.pt

2016 RSAI Ex-Officio Members

	Roberta Capello	Editor of PIRS	roberta.capello@polimi.it
	David Boyce	Archivist	d-boyce@northwestern.edu
	Peter W. J. Batey	Archivist	pwbatey@liv.ac.uk
	Francisco Carballo Cruz	Treasurer	fcaballo@eeg.uminho.pt
	Elisabete Martins	Finance Director	Elisabete.martins@apdr.pt
	Eduardo Haddad	Book Review Editor	ehaddad@usp.br
	M.Carroll	Editor, RSPP	mcarrol@bgsu.edu
	Alessandra Faggian	RSA Editor of PIRS	faggian.1@osu.edu
	J. Paul Elhorst	ERSA Editor of PIRS	J.P.Elhorst@rug.nl
	Michaela Trippel	ERSA Editor of PIRS	michaela.trippel@circle.lu.se
	Takatoshi Tabuchi	PRSCO Editor of PIRS	ttabuchi@e.u-tokyo.ac.jp

2015 RSAI Invited Members

	Andrea Caragliu	Newsletter Editor	andrea.caragliu@polimi.it
	Graham Clarke	Newsletter Editor	G.P.Clarke@leeds.ac.uk
	Hiroyuki Shibusawa	PRSCO Executive	hiro-shibu@tut.jp
	Neil Reid	RSA Executive	neil.reid@utoledo.edu

LRPC Members

	Peter Nijkamp	President	1991 - 1992	pnijkamp@feweb.vu.nl
	Lay J. Gibson	President	1993-1994	ljgibson@ag.arizona.edu
	Kingsley E. Haynes	President	1995-1996	khaynes@gmu.edu
	Peter W. J. Batey	President	1997-1998	pwbatey@liv.ac.uk
	H.Khono	President	1999-2000	
	Geoffrey J.D.Hewings	President	2001-2002	hewings@uiuc.edu
	Antoine Bailly	President	2003-2004	antoine.bailly@unige.ch
	Robert J. Stimson	President	2005-2006	rstimson@unimelb.edu.au
	Roger R. Stough	President	2007-2008	rstough@gmu.edu
	Roberta Capello	President	2009-2010	roberta.capello@polimi.it
	Yoshiro Higano	President	2011-2012	higano@jsrsai.envr.tsukuba.ac.jp
	Jean-Claude Thill	President	2013-2014	Jean-Claude.Thill@uncc.edu
	Andres Rodriguez Pose	Council Representative		a.rodriiguez-pose@lse.ac.uk
	Jacques Poot	Council Representative		jpoot@waikato.ac.nz

Annex 2: Minutes of Portland Meeting.

MINUTES OF THE RSAI COUNCIL MEETING PORTLAND, 2015

Friday Nov 13 10:30-12:30 Forum Suite

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose welcomed the members of the RSAI Council and the members and guest members presented themselves around the table. The meeting began with 11 of the 15 members of the RSAI Council (Annex 1)

1. Apologies (JCT) (Annex 1)

Council members present: Andrés Rodríguez-Pose (President), André Torre (ERSA Representative), Yuzuru Miyata (PRSCO Representative), Jichung Yang (PRSCO Representative), Erendira Serrano Oswald (PRSCO Representative), Carlos Azzoni (RSAmericas Representative), Neil Reid (RSAmericas Representative), Daniel A. Griffith (Councillor at Large), Tüzin Baycan (Councillor at Large), Hans Westlund (Councillor at Large), and Tomaz Dentinho (Councillor at large and Executive Director).

Apologies from Council Members: Jacques Poot (Vice President and Councillor at Large); Isabelle Thomas (ERSA representative), Richard Shearmour (RSAmericas Representative), Emmanouil Tranos (Councillor at Large).

Long Range Planning Committee Members present: Roberta Capello, Jean-Claude Thill and Andrés Rodríguez-Pose.

Ex-officio members present: Roberta Capello (Editor of PIRS); David Boyce (Archivist) and Michel Carroll (Editor of RSPP).

Invited Members present: Jouke Van Dijk (ERSA President), Carlos Azzoni (RSAmericas President), Neil Reid (RSAmericas Executive Director), Raymond Florax (Chair of the Publishing Committee).

M-I. RSAI Council acknowledged the apologies unanimously.

2. Approval of the minutes of the Lisbon meeting.

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose asked if there were any corrections to the Minutes of Lisbon Council held on 27 August 2015.

Jouke Van Dijk enquired about the status of the Regional Science Academy. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose said that the Regional Science Academy is an independent institution operating under the umbrella of the RSAI and that the RSAI Council approved in Lisbon a statement of support of the Regional Science Academy. Jouke Van Dijk asked about the scope of the Regional Science Academy and about its reporting procedures. Andrés Rodríguez Pose answered that the Regional Science Academy's aim is to be present in areas currently not covered by the RSAI or by the supra-regions. The Academy will be invited to report to Council once they are in full operation. Andrés Rodríguez Pose reinforced that, if channelled in this direction, the Regional Science Academy can become an asset for regional science. Tuzin Baycan queried about whether the activities announced by the Regional Science Academy were not part of the mission of RSAI. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose answered that the RSAI objective – as that of any other organisation within the Regional Science community – is to promote regional science and that, given the structure of Regional Science as a community, voluntary efforts by members of the community to promote the goals of the RSAI should be welcome. Neil Reid underlined the importance of voluntary efforts for forwarding the goal of Regional Science. Roberta Capello

intervened to say that, as in past cases, volunteer contributions to Regional Science should be welcome and that it is better to channel those efforts under the umbrella of the RSAI than to have them running as completely independent, perhaps rival activities. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose concluded the discussion that a statement of support to the Academy had already been approved at the Lisbon Council meeting and that there was no overwhelming demand from Council to reverse it. He asked if there were other points for clarification.

M-II. RSAI Council approved unanimously the Minutes of the Lisbon Council (August 2015)

3. New Measures – Thinking Big (Annex 2)

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose recalled that two measures were launched in 2015 – ‘Nurturing New Talent’ and ‘Building Bridges’ – and proposed a new one under the name of ‘Thinking Big’. A proposal for ‘Thinking Big’ was circulated prior to the meeting. The idea is to provide seed funding for young researchers of less than 35 years of age. Jouke Van Dijk welcomed the proposal and said that ERSA could eventually add more funds to these programmes. Neil Reid also remarked that NARSC can help to support the programs. Jean Claude Thill stated that this type of initiatives are very important. André Torre supported the idea, as did Daniel Griffith, who enquired about whether the conditions of eligibility could be based on years after PhD completion. Andres Rodriguez-Pose answered that this is a first proposal and that changes, such as the one proposed by Daniel Griffith would certainly be considered. Carlos Azzoni asked about reporting requirements. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose said that the receiver should provide evidence of submission of a fully-fledge proposal to a Research Council or equivalent within a year of reception of funds. Erendira Serrano informed that some contracts cannot be done by young researcher within universities. Jean Claude Thill asked whether the money goes to the Universities or to the applicants. Andrés Rodriguez-Pose said that it could be stated in the call that the allocation of resources could either be made directly to the candidate or to the institution, at the request of the candidate. Jouke Van Dijk stressed the need to avoid or minimise overheads. Andrés Rodriguez Pose remarked that suggestions would be welcomed in order to minimise the proposal and that a revised proposal would be submitted to the Istanbul Council. Jouke Van Dijk indicated that the proposal could also be brought to the European Organizing Committee in Vienna next February.

M-III. The RSAI Council will make a decision on the revised ‘Thinking Big’ proposal at the Istanbul Council.

4. Plan and Budget for 2016 (Annex 3).

Tomaz Ponce Dentinho explained that the Revenues expected for 2016 will come from Wiley (44420 Euros) and from the Membership fees (44457 Euros). Regarding expenditures there is the payment of subscription fees to Wiley (26000 Euros) and to Editorial Expenditures of RSAI Journals and Newsletter (24000 Euros). Other costs are for accounting, auditing and secretariat (9880 Euros) and for awards (2250 Euros) and for RSAI new measures (16500 Euros). Tomaz Ponce Dentinho also clarified that if the World Congress attracted 400 participants there would be an expected margin of 26,449 Euros for RSAI. Finally he informed that RSAI Funds grew from around 200,000 Euros in 2011 to around 300,000 Euros in 2015.

M-IV. The RSAI Council approved unanimously the Plan and Budget for 2016 (August 2015).

5. New Councillors at Large 2016-2018 (Annex 4).

Tomaz Ponce Dentinho informed the Council on-line elections took place from the 15th of September 2015 until the 15th of October 2015 for new councillors at large, based on the decision taken at the Lisbon meeting. Of a total of 483 votes, 258 votes went to Dr. Fabio Mazzola, 131 to Dr. Amitrajeet A. Batabyal and 83 to Dr. Terry L. Clower; 11 votes were declared void.

M-V. The RSAI Council acknowledged unanimously the election of Fabio Mazzola as RSAI Councilor at Large for the period 2016-2018.

6. Changes in By-Law 3 – Expansion of RSAI Council from 15 to 19 members (Annex 5).

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose recalled that at the RSAI Council that took place in Lisbon in August 2015 adopted the following resolution: “M-VI. The RSAI Council approved unanimously that the Presidents of the Supra Nationals and the Executive Director should be full members of the RSAI Council for the period of their respective mandates”; and, remembered that, it was also agreed that the by-laws that will translate those principles would be submitted for approval at the Council in Portland. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose said that those principles were included in a new and more simplified redaction of By-law 3 presented in Annex 5. André Torre moved to approve the new writing of by-law 5.

M-VI. The RSAI Council approved unanimously the new version of By Law 3 in Annex 5 (August 2015)

7. New Sections and Supra-nationals

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose indicated that with the recent approval of the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Science Association some restructuring of the territorial organization of the RSAI could be expected, perhaps with a reorganization of the supra-regional structure. Carlos Azzoni informed that the group of Latin America and Caribbean Sections had met at the PRSCO Meeting in Viña del Mar (Chile) and that it was expected that by the World Congress in Istanbul the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Science Association will be constituted and submitted for recognition by the RSAI Council. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose welcomed the development and remarked that RSAI will change its by-laws to adapt to include the 4th Supraregional organisation.

M-VII. The RSAI Council acknowledged the development of a New Supraregional Regional Science organisation involving Latin American and Caribbean Sections

8. Nomination of the Executive Director for 2016-2018.

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose said that elections were due for the RSAI Executive Director for the period 2016-2018. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose proposed the Council to re-elect Tomaz Ponce Dentinho for a new three year mandate as Executive Director of RSAI. He also said that this will be the last of three terms that the Executive Director can be in charge. The Council nominated André Torre and Jean Claude Thill to develop a proposal for a professional secretariat to be presented in the Council of Minneapolis in November 2016.

M-VIII. The RSAI Council approved unanimously the election of Tomaz Ponce Dentinho for Executive Director of RSAI for the period 2016-2018

9. World Congress: Istanbul

Tuzin Baycan informed the Council that the bureaucratic issues related to the World Conference are being solved and reported that Turkish Airlines will support the conference with the offer of three tickets for the flights of the Key Speakers. Tuzin Baycan also said that the Congress Venue is fixed, the Webpage open and abstracts had already submitted in the last days. Neil Reid asked if there is a

target in terms of number of participants. Tuzin Baycan said that 500 participants are expected and that Istanbul is a very central and connected place. Carlos Azzoni asked about the expected number of local participants and suggested that PhD students should be attracted to participate. Tuzin Baycan said that she did not think that potential security risks would affect the congress. Neil Reid confirmed that Turkey is a safe and secure place. Andrés Rodríguez Pose thanked the Turkish Section and specially Tuzin Baycan for the great effort that the organization of a World Congress requires particularly in those difficult times and invited the members of the Council to present papers in Istanbul.

M-IX. The RSAI Council unanimously thanked the efforts of the Turkish Section and Tuzin Baycan to organize the XI World Congress of RSAI

10. RSAI Publications

✚ Papers in Regional Science (Annex 6)

Roberta Capello informed the Council that the report of Papers in Regional Science was presented at the Lisbon RSAI Council and that, after three years as editor, there is the need for the Council to nominate the editorial team for another term. Roberta Capello informed that Alessandra Faggian and Michaela Trippel and she were ready to remain as editors, while Paul Elhorst – who will be the next editor of Spatial Economic Analysis – and Takatoshi Tabuchi were stepping down. There was therefore a need to cover a gap in spatial econometrics. Dr Capello proposed Drs. Jonathan Corcoran and Donald Lacombe – CVs in annex 6 of the Meeting Agenda – as new editors. Andrés Rodríguez Pose thanked the presentation of Roberta Capello and pointed out the good choice of the proposed new co-editors. Jouke Van Dijk said that it is very good that most of the editorial team can continue but he regretted that there will be no one from Japan or China since there are very good research produced in these countries. Andrés Rodríguez Pose asked Jouke Van Dijk if there is a need of someone specifically from those countries and if so suggested that Roberta Capello will include someone from there. Roberta Capello accepted the suggestion. Andrés Rodríguez Pose proposed the Council to approve the extra suggestion for the editorial board of Papers in Regional Science by mail.

M-X. The RSAI Council approved unanimously the selection of Jonathan Corcoran, Donald Lacombe as co-editors of Papers in Regional Science, and awaits the proposal of an editor from Asia.

✚ Regional Science Policy and Practice.

Michael Carroll said that Regional Science Policy and Practice was accepted for indexing in Scopus, that submissions had been stable, although with some increase in the number of desk rejections. Dr Carroll also stated that he had overseen the development of the journal since its inception and that it was time for him to step down and pass the reins to someone else. He agreed to serve until a new editor is appointed. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose thanked Michael Carroll for his work in leading the journal in the ten years since the idea of the journal was formed and in overseeing the publication of seven successful volumes. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose recommended that an open call be made for a new editorial team. This open call should be launched by the Publishing Committee. Neil Reid asked Roberta Capello if some of the 90% of rejections of Papers in Regional Science would not be suitable for Regional Science Policy and Practice. Roberta Capello said that the papers are rejected because

they did not have enough quality. Jean Claude Thill also thanked Michael Carroll and remarked that launching a new journal is not an easy task.

M-XI. The RSAI Council congratulated the work done by the editorial team of RSPP and approved unanimously an open call for a new editorial team of RSPP.

Publishing Committee.

Raymond Florax informed that the Publishing Committee has been talking with Wiley on the backlog of Papers in Regional Science and Wiley suggested the creation of a new issue per year. The risks was that this would imply a reduction in the impact factor because of the increase in the number of pages without an immediate follow up of the number of citations. Raymond Florax also informed that the contract with Wiley lasts until the end of 2018 and RSAI should have a clear strategy by the end of 2016. Michael Carroll suggested to go back to the Oxford Meetings with Wiley since those meetings were very helpful. Neil Reid recalled that RSAI had face-to-face meetings in Palermo (2014) and Lisbon (2015). Andrés Rodríguez-Pose closed the point on RSAI publications requesting that suggestions for the publication strategy along 2016 are welcomed by the Publication Committee.

M-XII. The RSAI Council acknowledged the report of the Publication Committee.

RSAI Archives

David Boyce, RSAI Archivist, informed the Council that Peter Batey was recently nominated by the Council as Co-Archivist. David Boyce also said that he will be stepping down as archivist, and because the archives are based on Cornell University, probably it would be better to find a new archivist based in Cornell University that can follow the work that has being done along the past two decades on the RSAI Archives. Andrés Rodríguez Pose expressed that the RSAI Council is extremely grateful for the work conducted by David Boyce with the RSAI Archives. Neil Reid said that David Boyce attended 57 consecutive North American Meetings and asked David Boyce to propose a new archivist based in North America so that s/he can be close to Cornell RSAI Archives.

M-XIII. The RSAI Council congratulated and thanked the work done by David Boyce and approved unanimously the search of a new archivist that could be closer to the Archives at Cornell University.

11. Awards

Founders award 2016 (Annex 7)

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed the Council that, following the recommendation of the RSAI board meeting in Lisbon, a Selection Committee was formed including Antoine Baily, Arthur Getis, Jean-Claude Thill and Emmanouil Tranos (secretary), and himself. Andrés Rodríguez-Pose said that the Call for Nominations was done using the RSAI mailing list and the RSAI web page. The deadline for nominations is 30th November 2015 and the aim is to have a minimum of two or three nominations selected before the end of 2015; then, past recipients of the Founder's Medal will be invited to recommend the recipient from the list of three nominees compiled by the Committee. The announcement of the recipient will take place during the next World RSAI Congress in Istanbul (25-28th April, 2016).

✦ RSAI Fellows (Annex 8)

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed the Council that the process of selection of the RSAI Fellows for 2015 went according to the Nomination and Selection Protocol of RSAI Fellows (www.regionalscience.org – Awards - Fellows). Of the three new fellow, Jacques Poot received the award in the ERSA Conference in Lisbon and Raymond Florax and Kieran Donaghy received the award in Portland.

✦ RSAI dissertation competition (Annex 9)

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed the Council that, according to the report of the Shaoming Cheng, chair of the RSAI dissertation competition Tate Twinam from University of Pittsburgh won the RSAI Dissertation Competition with a PhD Dissertation untitled The Economics of Zoning supervised by : Arie Beresteanu and Randall P. Walsh.

✦ Stan Czamanski award (Annex 10)

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed the Council that, according to the report of the Stan Czamanski Committee the proposal of Steven Gehrke entitled “Active Travel Behavior and Spatial-temporal Land Use Mixing” best represented the approach of Professor Czamanski and that the letter by Professor Kelly Clifton was helpful in reaching this conclusion.

✦ RSAI Young Researcher Prize (Annex 11)

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose informed the Council that a RSAI Young Researchers Prize will be created for the RSAI World Congresses to showcase the research of young scholars in Regional Science through paper presentation and in-depth discussion organized at the Regional Science Association World Congress.

M-XIV. The RSAI Council acknowledged the report of the awards.

12. AOB

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose asked the Councilors if there was any other issue to be discussed in the RSAI Council of Portland and no one presented any other issue to be discussed.

1. Date of next meeting (Istanbul)

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose fixed the date of the next Council Meeting for Istanbul, on the 27th of April 2016.

The meeting closed at 12H30.

Annex 3: RSAI Reports and Accounts 2015

Along 2015 there were two Council Meetings, one in Lisbon (Portugal) and one in Portland (USA) whose minutes are available through the RSAI webpage. There were the expected changes in the composition of RSAI Council with the election and substitution of one Councillor at Large. The RSAI Council was enlarged from 2016 onwards to include the Presidents of the Supranationals and the Executive Director. Two issues of the RSAI Newsletter were published by Roberto Caragliu and Graham Clarke and distributed in RSAI Conferences of PRSCO in Chile, ERSA in Lisbon and NARSC in Portland. Regional Science Policy and Practice grew from 4,528 in 2011 to 5,797 in 2012 reaching 8,846 in 2013 and there is no information from Wiley in 2014. The work of regional scientists was acknowledged by RSAI awards, the new program Nurturing Talent helped the implementation of Summer Courses in Vienna and Barcelona, the program Building Bridges created a connection with Kirghizstan and the Summer Course in Armenia reinforced the links with the Caucasus Area. There was a slight increase in the number of members from 4368 in 2014 to 4399 in 2015. The bank account grew from 259.854,69 € in December 2014 to 270875,4 € in December 2015. Membership enrolment was possible due to the strong support from the RSAI Sections and Supra-nationals and the advice of the Council and the Presidency.

RSAI Newsletters edited by Andrea Caragliu and Graham Clarke published two issues that were distributed in PRSCO, ERSA and RSAmericas Conferences of 2015.

The 2015 Kohno Prize has been awarded. The winners of the Martin Beckmann Prize 2015 were Martin Andersson, Johan Klaesson and Johan P Larsson for the paper "The sources of the urban wage premium by worker skills: Spatial sorting or agglomeration economies?" Volume 94, Issue 4, November 2014, Pages: 727-747. The Peter Nijkamp Research Encouragement Award 2015 has not been awarded, because there were no candidates for the Peter Nijkamp award. In 2015 the winner of the RSAI dissertation prize was Tate Twinam for his dissertation entitled "The Economics of Zoning". He was supervised by Professor Arie Beresteanu, University of Pittsburgh and Professor Randall P. Walsh, University of Pittsburgh. Professor Manfred M. Fischer, from Vienna University of Economics and Business, received the RSAI Jean Paelinck Award 2015. The proposal of Steven Gehrke "Active Travel Behavior and Spatial-temporal Land Use Mixing." Receive the Award of Stan Czamanski Prize in 2015. RSAI Fellows in 2015: Kieran P. Donaghy, Cornell University, USA; Raymond J.G.M. Florax, Purdue University, USA; and Jacques Poot, University of Waikato, NEW ZEALAND.

In 2015 RSAI the list of members from the Argentinian Section were included. In 2012 RSAI secretariat began to register directly the list of members and respective registration fees interacting with RSAI sections. There are 4399 RSAI members in 2015 from 4368 in 2014, 4081 in 2013, 3888 in 2012, 3450 in 2011, 3571 in 2010 and 3660 in 2009.

In 2015 RSAI achieved a net surplus of 15 017,86 €. There are sections that do not have enrolled members; there are sections that have relatively fewer members in relation to the population of the respective areas of influence. The net profit of the association grew from 14.461,02 € in 2012, to 10 530,74 € in 2013, to 29 918,89 € in 2014 and to 15 017,86 € in 2015. The bank account grew from 200.598,68 € in December 2011 to 209.634,10 € in December 2012, 142 445,48 € in December 2013, 170 656,89 € in December 2014 and 188 998,94 € in December 2015 assuming and exchange rate of 1,28 €/1,0 £. The account on investments had 89 856,69 € on December 2015; therefore, the total funds available on December 2015 were 278 855,63 €. There was a growth in Investment Funds in Euros of 188,31 €. The Costs with the new programs NURTURING NEW TALENT INITIATIVE and BUILDING BRIDGES PROGRAM was respectively, 8.001,04 € and 290,52 €.

MOVEMENTS BY COST CENTERS FROM JANUARY 2015 TO DECEMBER 2015

Description	Revenues	Costs	REVENUES - COSTS
General	270,00 €	9 922,44 €	-9 652,44 €
ACCOUNTING	- €	3 672,40 €	-3 672,40 €
WEBSERVER	- €	70,66 €	- 70,66 €
RSAI SECRETARIATE	- €	5 000,00 €	-5 000,00 €
OTHERS	270,00 €	1 179,38 €	- 909,38 €
Wiley -Blackwell	51 365,25 €	32 060,33 €	19 304,92 €
PIRS AND RSPP 2014 PROFIT SHARE	21 374,75 €	- €	21 374,75 €
PIRS ADVANCE ON EDITORIAL AND TRAVEL EXPENSES 2015	24 132,21 €	- €	24 132,21 €
RSPP ADVANCE ON EDITORIAL AND TRAVEL EXPENSES 2015	5 858,29 €	- €	5 858,29 €
PAYMENT JOHN WILEY & SONS, LTD -YEAR 2015 -RSAI MEMBERSHIP	- €	32 060,33 €	-32 060,33 €
Editorial	2 414,73 €	23 441,93 €	-21 027,20 €
RSAI NEWSLETTER PAYMENT (Editor and printing)	- €	3 442,04 €	-3 442,04 €
PIRS EDITORIAL OFFICE ANUAL EXPENSES	- €	10 000,00 €	-10 000,00 €
PIRS EDITORIAL AND TRAVEL EXPENSES PAYMENT FOR EDITOR	- €	4 999,89 €	-4 999,89 €
RSPP EDITORIAL OFFICE ANUAL EXPENSES	- €	5 000,00 €	-5 000,00 €
RSPP EDITORIAL AND TRAVEL EXPENSES PAYMENT FOR EDITOR (Henry Yeung payment NARSC)	2 414,73 €	- €	2 414,73 €
RSAI Awards	- €	9 832,31 €	-9 832,31 €
NURTURING NEW TALENT INITIATIVE	- €	8 001,04 €	-8 001,04 €
BUILDING BRIDGES PROGRAM	- €	290,52 €	- 290,52 €
OTHER AWARDS	- €	1 540,75 €	-1 540,75 €
Memberships	44 357,82 €	39,37 €	44 318,45 €
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS	2 203,96 €	- €	2 203,96 €
MEMBERSHIP ARSC SECTION	1 585,00 €	- €	1 585,00 €
MEMBERSHIP AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND SECTION	693,00 €	- €	693,00 €
MEMBERSHIP BALTIC SECTION	240,00 €	- €	240,00 €
MEMBERSHIP BRAZIL SECTION	1 264,00 €	- €	1 264,00 €
MEMBERSHIP CHILEAN SECTION	568,56 €	- €	568,56 €
MEMBERSHIP CHINA SECTION	130,00 €	- €	130,00 €
MEMBERSHIP COLOMBIAN SECTION	340,00 €	- €	340,00 €
MEMBERSHIP CROATIA SECTION	310,00 €	- €	310,00 €
MEMBERSHIP DUTCH SECTION	1 332,00 €	- €	1 332,00 €
MEMBERSHIP ECUADOR SECTION	380,00 €	- €	380,00 €
MEMBERSHIP FRENCH SECTION	2 474,00 €	- €	2 474,00 €
MEMBERSHIP GERMAN SECTION	2 690,00 €	- €	2 690,00 €
MEMBERSHIP GREEK SECTION	510,00 €	- €	510,00 €
MEMBERSHIP HUNGARIAN SECTION	386,00 €	- €	386,00 €
MEMBERSHIP INDONESIAN SECTION	50,00 €	- €	50,00 €
MEMBERSHIP ISRAEL SECTION	257,00 €	- €	257,00 €
MEMBERSHIP ITALIAN SECTION	1 985,00 €	- €	1 985,00 €
MEMBERSHIP JAPANESE SECTION	5 479,00 €	17,07 €	5 461,93 €
MEMBERSHIP KOREAN SECTION	- €	- €	- €
MEMBERSHIP MEXICAN SECTION	1 188,40 €	- €	1 188,40 €
MEMBERSHIP NARSC SECTION	10 514,41 €	4,10 €	10 510,31 €
MEMBERSHIP NORDIC SECTION	- €	- €	- €
MEMBERSHIP POLISH SECTION	530,00 €	- €	530,00 €
MEMBERSHIP PORTUGUESE SECTION	1 230,00 €	- €	1 230,00 €
MEMBERSHIP ROMANIAN SECTION	680,00 €	- €	680,00 €
MEMBERSHIP SLOVAKIA SECTION	713,00 €	- €	713,00 €
MEMBERSHIP SPANISH SECTION	4 200,00 €	- €	4 200,00 €
MEMBERSHIP TAIWAN SECTION	698,00 €	18,20 €	679,80 €
MEMBERSHIP TURKISH SECTION	1 089,49 €	- €	1 089,49 €
MEMBERSHIP UK & IRELAND SECTION	637,00 €	- €	637,00 €
Events	18 037,03 €	30 316,03 €	-12 279,00 €
RSAI WORLD CONGRESS 2016	1 736,61 €	- €	1 736,61 €
SUMMER COURSE ARMENIA 2015	16 300,42 €	30 316,03 €	-14 015,61 €
CHANGE IN THE ACCOUNT IN EUROS	116 444,83 €	105 612,41 €	10 832,42 €
Adjustments	7.894,78 €	3.709,34 €	4.185,44 €
Revaluation of the account in pounds	7.251,21 €	- €	7.251,21 €
Revaluation of the Investment Fund RSAI	643,57 €	- €	643,57 €
Depreciations		959,60 €.	-959,60 €.
VAT deference payments		2.749,75 €.	-2.749,75 €.

CHANGES IN BANK ACCOUNTS FROM JANUARY 2015 TO DECEMBER 2015

	(01-01-2015)	(31-12-2015)
Bank account in Euros	71 381,33 €	82 213,75 €
Bank account in Pounds	£ 77 191,39	£ 77 191,39
Investment fund in Euros	89 668,38 €	89 856,69 €

Annex 4: RSAI Membership fees by level of income by country

Considering that the RSAI journals subscription fee is 1 pound per year per member after 4000 members, and that RSAI has more than 4000 members. Taking into account that one of the restrictions that limits the mobilization of members from sections based in lower income countries is the level of RSAI membership fees. Bearing in mind that RSAI aims to be a scientific association with members in every country, it is proposed that membership fee be established according to the United Nation classification.

Low-income economies (\$1,045 or less)		2 Euros per member		
Afghanistan	Comoros	Haiti	Nepal	Togo
Benin	Congo, Dem. Rep	Korea, Dem Rep.	Niger	Uganda
Burkina Faso	Eritrea	Liberia	Rwanda	Zimbabwe
Burundi	Ethiopia	Madagascar	Sierra Leone	
Cambodia	Gambia, The	Malawi	Somalia	
Central African Republic	Guinea	Mali	South Sudan	
Chad	Guinea-Bissau	Mozambique	Tanzania	
Lower-middle-income economies (\$1,046 to \$4,125)		2 Euros per member		
Armenia	Georgia	Lao PDR	Philippines	Ukraine
Bangladesh	Ghana	Lesotho	Samoa	Uzbekistan
Bhutan	Guatemala	Mauritania	São Tomé	Vanuatu
Bolivia	Guyana	Micronesia	Senegal	Vietnam
Cabo Verde	Honduras	Moldova	Solomon Islands	West Bank and Gaza
Cameroon	India	Morocco	Sri Lanka	Yemen, Rep.
Congo, Rep.	Indonesia	Myanmar	Sudan	Zambia
Côte d'Ivoire	Kenya	Nicaragua	Swaziland	
Djibouti	Kiribati	Nigeria	Syrian Arab Republic	
Egypt, Arab Rep.	Kosovo	Pakistan	Tajikistan	
El Salvador	Kyrgyz Republic	Papua New Guinea	Timor-Leste	
Upper-middle-income economies (\$4,126 to \$12,735)		5 Euros per member		
Albania	China	Iraq	Mexico	South Africa
Algeria	Colombia	Jamaica	Mongolia	St. Vincent & Grenadines
American Samoa	Costa Rica	Jordan	Montenegro	Suriname
Angola	Cuba	Kazakhstan	Namibia	Thailand
Azerbaijan	Dominica	Lebanon	Palau	Tonga
Belarus	Dominican Republic	Libya	Panama	Tunisia
Belize	Ecuador	Macedonia, FYR	Paraguay	Turkey
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Fiji	Malaysia	Peru	Turkmenistan
Botswana	Gabon	Maldives	Romania	Tuvalu
Brazil	Grenada	Marshall Islands	Serbia	
Bulgaria	Iran, Islamic Rep.	Mauritius	St. Lucia	

It is expected that the sections of middle income countries that already pay their fees (Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico and Romania) will double the number of members. It is also expected that countries that sections that have difficulties in paying membership fee (Indonesia and Morocco) will register their members. Finally, it will be reduced one of the constraints for the enlargement of RSAI membership to other countries where there are regional scientists (India, China, Nigeria, Egypt, Bangladesh,.....)

Annex 5: Election of RSAI Officials

Dear Colleague:

I am writing to nominate Dr. Amit Batabyal for the open RSAI councilor-at-large position. His CV and picture are attached. Thank you.

Hamid Beladi
Professor of Economics
Associate Dean of Research
Janey S. Briscoe Endowed Chair in Business
College of Business
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DATE OF BIRTH 6 September 1965

EDUCATION

1987 B.S. with Honors and Distinction, Applied Economics and Business Management, Cornell University
1990 M.S., Agricultural and Applied Economics, University of Minnesota
1994 Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California at Berkeley

Doctoral Dissertation: Four Essays in Environmental Economics (Larry S. Karp, Supervisor)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1987-1988 Legal Assistant, Spiegel and McDiarmid, Washington, DC 20005-4798.
1994-1995 Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA 23187-8795.
1995-1998 Assistant Professor of Economics, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-3530.
1998-2000 Associate Professor of Economics, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-3530.
1999-2000 Faculty Associate of the Ecology Center, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-5205.
2000- Arthur J. Gosnell Professor of Economics, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY 14623-5604.
March 2009 TAER Visiting Scholar, Deakin University, Melbourne, Australia.

2009-2010 Interim Academic Director, Golisano Institute for Sustainability, Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, NY 14623-5608.

March 2015 Visiting Scholar, Monash University, Malaysia.

TEACHING

Undergraduate Cost Benefit Analysis, Intermediate Microeconomics, International Economics

Graduate Economics of Sustainability, Environmental Economics, Microeconomic Theory, Operations Research

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics, Environmental Economics, Natural Resource Economics, Ecological Economics, Development Economics, International Trade Theory, Regional Economics, and Entrepreneurship.

AWARDS AND HONORS - 28

PUBLICATIONS

Books - 9

Journal Articles -216

Book Chapters - 22

Papers Under Review -12

Book Reviews - 362

Op-Ed Articles - 98

GRADUATE COMMITTEES (Chair or Member) Go to <http://www.rit.edu/~aabgsh/>

RESEARCH GRANTS RECEIVED - 6

PRESENTATIONS - From 2014; go to <http://www.rit.edu/~aabgsh/> for all presentations.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. Editorial Council, *Review of Development Economics*, 1998-Present.
2. Book Review Editor, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 2000-2009.
3. Associate Editor, *Journal of Regional Science*, 2000-Present.
4. Editorial Board, *Asian-African Journal of Economics and Econometrics*, 2003-2008.
5. Editorial Board, *Letters in Spatial and Resource Sciences*, 2009.
6. Editor-in-Chief, *Letters in Spatial and Resource Sciences*, 2009-Present.
7. Editorial Board, *International Regional Science Review*, 2010-2014.
8. Section Editor, Environmental and Natural Resources, *Handbook of Regional Science*, Springer, 2013.
9. Editorial Board, Springer Monograph Series, *New Frontiers in Regional Sciences: Asian Perspectives*, 2013- Present.
10. Reviewer for *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review*, *Agriculture and Human Values*, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *American Political Science Review*, *Annals of Regional Science*, *Annals of Tourism Research*, *Applied Economics*, *Applied Mathematical Modelling*, *Asian Journal of Agriculture and Development*, *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, *Canadian Journal of Economics*, *Conservation Biology*, *Development Policy Review*, *Ecological Economics*, *Ecological Economics Bulletin*, *Ecology and Society*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Economic Modelling*, *Economics of Innovation and New Technology*, *Environment and Development Economics*, *Environmental and Resource Economics*, *European Journal of Operational Research*, *Food Policy*, *Growth and Change*, *India Currents*, *Indian Economic Review*, *Interfaces*, *International Regional Science Review*, *International Review of Economics and Finance*, *Italian Journal of Regional Science*, *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics*, *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, *Journal of Asian Economics*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Journal of Banking and Finance*, *Journal of Cultural Economics*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, *Journal of Environmental Management*, *Journal of Geographical Systems*, *Journal of Institutional and Theoretical Economics*, *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, *Journal of Range Management*, *Journal of Regional Science*, *Journal of the American Planning Association*, *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*, *Kyklos*, *Land Economics*, *Marine Resource Economics*, *Mathematical and Computer Modelling*, *Natural Resource Modeling*, *Networks and Spatial Economics*, *Oxford Economic Papers*, *Papers in Regional Science*, *Rangelands*, *Regional Studies*, *Research Policy*, *Resource and Energy Economics*, *Review of Development Economics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Review of International Economics*, *Review of Social Economy*, *Southern Economic Journal*, *Spatial Economic Analysis*, *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics*, *Tourism Management*, *Transportation Research Part A*, CRC Press, European Research Council, Oxford University Press, Research Grants Council of Hong Kong, United States Department of Agriculture, United States National Science Foundation.
11. AAEA 1999, 2001 Annual Meetings Selected Papers Reviewer.
12. Member of the AAEA Outstanding MS Thesis Award Committee, 1999, 2001, 2002.
13. External Evaluator for Promotion and Tenure in Binghamton University, Gettysburg College, Illinois Institute of Technology, Israel Institute of Technology, Seattle University, Texas State University, University of Texas at San Antonio, and Utah State University.
14. Member of American Economic Association (AEA), Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE), and Regional Science Association International (RSAI);

Life Member of International Economics and Finance Society (IEFS) and Association of Indian Economic and Financial Studies (AIEFS).

15. Consultant to The Worldmark Group, Inc., Dallas, TX 75380-3555.

16. President, Association of Indian Economic and Financial Studies, 2011-2017.

MEDIA MENTIONS

Go to <http://www.rit.edu/~aabgsh/>

SKILLS

Go to <http://www.rit.edu/~aabgsh/>

20 June 2016

Annex 6: Women in Regional Science

Points for discussion in the debate on “Women in Regional Science”

(but more generally across social sciences)

- Gender – and more general Equality and Diversity (E&D) issues – recently resurfaced in an open debate across different social science disciplines. This stemmed from the observation of the strongly biased composition of academic community bodies of various types (e.g. key-note speakers, conference panels, editorial boards, summer school, policy research groups, etc.). A strong gender (and race) bias has been observed by groups of female academics spanning across regional science, economic geography, innovation studies, international business, and economics. It has been suggested that the gender bias has increased since the latest financial crisis, which has exacerbated competition in labour markets.
- In the Regional Science scientific community of the 1980s similar discussions were carried out and efforts were made to make the discipline more inclusive, for example by recruiting women into roles of responsibility within the community.
- It is acknowledged that, since then, the gender ratio has changed substantially. Evidence of such change was acknowledged, e.g. Regional Science Newsletter, October 2009:
http://www.regionalscience.org/images/PDF/October_2009_newsletter.pdf
see, in particular, the article by Brigitte Waldorf “Women in Regional Science: A success story”.
- It is realized, however, that the default choice in Regional Science, as in other disciplinary fields, is still highly ‘white male-dominated’. It is believed that this is not a success story for the community as a whole, and it will be a serious mistake to dismiss it as sorted while heading into the 2020's.
- In the latest decades a lot of debate has been around the lack of representation of women in science, with a presumption that gender imbalance is a phenomenon affecting mainly STEM. However, this is also true in social sciences and related policy debates, although possibly in different ways from STEM (e.g. not so much lack of participation of women in social science, but lack of representation in the more “visible” areas of the academic and policy debate).
- The perception is one of women’s “tolerance”, more than real inclusion. In fact, women are even very much appreciated as their presence makes it harder to point fingers against “old-boys-networks”. Women are also often sought because they are more willing to accept time-consuming tasks, like organizing conference. But, in general, they rarely are involved in decision making processes: e.g. selection of key-note speakers, gender-ratio in the number of person-years as editors.
- The problem is complex and has a ‘cumulative causation’ nature. It has been noted, for instance, that women participation in policy ‘impact’ of research is negligible across domains (e.g. S&TI policies, industrial policies, regional policies). Impact is now in several academic systems (e.g. UK) one of the area of ‘metrics’ used to assess academic performance. More generally, it is also recognised that other metrics such as citations or teaching evaluations strongly penalise women, affecting their overall career progression and public profile. See for e.g. (among hundreds of others):
<https://www.hastac.org/blogs/superadmin/2015/01/26/gender-bias-academe-annotated-bibliography-important-recent-studies>
http://www.slate.com/articles/life/inside_higher_ed/2016/01/student_evaluations_show_bias_against_female_instructors.html
<http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/04/19/how-to-get-tenure-if-youre-a-woman-academia-stephen-walt/>

- Women are easily dismissed as “endless complaining”: this distorted attitude makes female social scientists feel often like censoring their own writing and apologize for speaking up. This does not encourage serious evaluation and representation of the problem, particularly in social sciences.
- Also, and most importantly, many academic women in senior positions are already the first to be called upon for service work within their own academic institutions. Many academic women at advanced stages of career have and are increasingly called in decision making roles on the basis of gender ‘quotas’. It is not an imposition but women often have no choice, internal regulations on E&D fix quotas for female in management within universities. There is then a problem with overload, as women are still much fewer at present among the high levels of career because of the long-term glass ceiling, so this ends up by creating an impossible triad: more internal admin, more external engagement in the community, same skewed balance of tasks in professional and private life (particularly for women with young children).
- There is a clear mismatch between the demand for women colleagues and the stock of women colleagues (especially at the senior level of career). This has led to an informal perception of ‘she is there because she is a woman’, in most cases very explicitly communicated. The latter is a severe form of discrimination; women are acknowledged on the basis of their gender, rather than for their capabilities and qualities.
- A few decades of awareness is plenty of time to move women completely through the pipeline from students to settled academics. Looking around and not seeing those women, should be regarded as a failure and an urgent and pressing need to adjust the approach.
- Blatant discriminatory behaviour is enduring on this topic. Behavioural change (including support to women self-confidence and fight against unconscious bias) and transformation in informal attitudes and collective perceptions are really difficult tasks: in comparison, putting the demand for equality on the agenda and making it part of the discourse using simply metrics and quotas is, indeed, very easy. Thus, as said also above, many respectable universities in the US and Europe are now obliged to have a female representation of at least 30% on ANY Committee, and ANY kind of procedure involving HR, such as recruitment, promotion, reward, etc. has to adhere to strict formal E&D rules. There are, however, other (typically male) mechanisms, such as lobbying and bargaining, that are hidden, informal and highly (unconsciously or consciously) biased.
- There is the firm belief that raising awareness is a first step in introducing changes. Reacting to specific unbalanced situations – as it is increasingly done but groups of female academics in Regional Science and other fields) is a first step, but there is still a large proportion of the academic world that believes that there is no such thing as discrimination in academia in general and in our field in particular.
- An emblematic example of dismissal of problem that then led to some reaction is the following in Nature with respect to the STEM sciences:
<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v488/n7413/full/488590a.html>
 As a result of the turmoil that that article generated, Nature (who first denied any discrimination) actually revised substantially the policies to commission articles, assign editors, and the numbers today (4 years later) are much more balanced.
- Similar links with reference to all fields of science:
<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2016/03/08/gender-bias-in-academe-an-annotated-bibliography/>
- What is also needed is for academic **men** to step forward and champion gender equality for the health of the Regional Science discipline, and for other interrelated fields. Increasing inter- and multi-disciplinarity can help liaise with other communities and strengthen actions. Asking only women to take the lead makes this a "women's problem" as opposed to a social science and societal challenge:

thus, a real effort at equality might be assigning some of this work to male academics. It has been noted that the help of senior men in start making gender equality a priority, raises the chances to address effectively this huge issue, that necessarily require a steady and long-term concerted effort.

Annex 7: Istanbul Congress

Agenda Item

Istanbul World Congress

On 16 March 2016 a decision was taken by the Executive Board of the RSAI to postpone the Istanbul Congress. The decision was taken at the request of the Local Organizing Committee.

In the documentation for this item we include a) the email exchanges that led to the postponement of the Congress; b) the website announcement; c) and the survey of the delegates with abstracts accepted and not withdrawn before the announcement was made.

Postponement of the congress

Message 1

-----Original Message-----

From: Tüzin Baycan [<mailto:tuzinbaycan@gmail.com>]

Sent: 15 March 2016 11:48

To: Rodriguez-Pose,A; Tomás Lopes Cavalheiro Ponce Dentinho; Jean-Claude Thill; Jacques Poot; Florax, Raymond; Alpay Filiztekin

Subject: RSAI World Congress Istanbul ???

Dear All,

As you know, we are in difficult times in Turkey. We had a very positive atmosphere just one year ago, everything was going well, but since last June starting with the general elections this positive atmosphere has turned to a chaos. Turkey has faced several terror attacks in different parts of the country but especially the attacks in Ankara and Istanbul have drawn the attention of the whole world. In the last 5 months, there have been 3 attacks in Ankara and hundreds of people died. This is an unusual situation, we have never had this kind of security problem for the civil society.

Today, the American Embassy has declared another statement and warned people about a potential attack on 20th of March. Everybody is talking that there are 20 cars ready to attack and the police is looking for these cars. The security is at the highest level.

Against this situation, many congresses in Turkey and in Istanbul have been cancelled. Especially, the central parts of the cities are less secure. In Istanbul, Taksim Square is the most risky place and it is very close to our congress venue and the hotels region.

Given these facts, I cannot guarantee the security anymore. There is a very high risk that I cannot take by myself. Of course, I am very sad about all these things. I have worked like mad in the last year to find funding and to organize an unforgettable high quality congress. I had to fight with many things as well as the killing bureaucracy. I do not want to give up after all these efforts and time that I have spent. But, if something happens here, I cannot carry this burden for the rest of my life.

Regarding the congress, we have received 380 abstracts and we have accepted 334. We have around 200 registered presenting authors until now, many others more than 100 have been cancelled their participation. Some of them clearly indicated that they do not want to come for security reasons.

We have 350,000 TL (more than 100,000 Avro) to support the congress from the Ministry of Development plus the congress revenues I do not know the total amount yet. We have enough money to organize the congress. We do not have any financial problem.

After this brief info, I would like to ask you what to do? How to proceed? If you tell me not to give up and organize the congress, then I would continue to work on the organizational things. If you would not take the risk, then I would suggest not to cancel but to postpone the congress. In that case, I will try to keep the money if I can.

I look forward to receiving your opinion as soon as possible.

Best wishes,

Tuzin

Message 2

-----Original Message-----

From: Rodriguez-Pose,A

Sent: 15 March 2016 13:03

To: Tüzin Baycan; Tomás Lopes Cavalheiro Ponce Dentinho; Jean-Claude Thill; Jacques Poot; Florax, Raymond; Alpay Filiztekin

Subject: RE: RSAI World Congress Istanbul ???

Dear Tüzin,

Many thanks for your frank assessment.

Alpay, what is your view about this?

We also have to consider what would be the financial implications of a potential cancellation.

With best wishes,

Andrés

Prof Andrés Rodríguez-Pose
Professor of Economic Geography
President of the Regional Science Association International

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Tel: +44-(0)20-7955 7971
<<http://personal.lse.ac.uk/RODRIGU1>>

Message 3

From: Alpay Filiztekin [mailto:alpayf@sabanciuniv.edu]
Sent: 15 March 2016 14:17
To: Rodriguez-Pose,A
Cc: Tüzin Baycan; Tomás Lopes Cavalheiro Ponce Dentinho; Jean-Claude Thill; Jacques Poot; Florax, Raymond
Subject: Re: RSAI World Congress Istanbul ???

Dear All,

Until last weekend I was optimistic. Terror seemed to be contained to the Southeast, and we, in big cities, were watching it from a distance, as most of you do, despite the previous attack in Ankara, which looked like a rare event. However, it seems that big cities are now the target as any attack in Ankara or Istanbul creates more noise. Still, I think anything happening during the congress has a slim chance. Yet, if anything happens, the cost is infinite. I tend to agree with Tuzin, a cancellation or a postponement would be wiser. Just to let you know, an important congress by International Political Science Association has been already cancelled (<https://www.ipsa.org/news/news/24th-world-congress-political-science-relocating-le-24e-congr%C3%A8s-de-science-politique-aisp->), unfortunately.

Please also note that the government can not guarantee the security, although they will have all the incentives to argue that nothing will happen (and they do!)

After all these efforts, I want to say "let's keep going", but I am afraid the reality disagrees with me. I am truly sorry Tuzin, you wanted this conference more than anyone else and you've worked very hard. If I have a vote, I would say let's cancel/postpone it.

Alpay

Message 4

-----Original Message-----

From: Tüzin Baycan [mailto:tuzinbaycan@gmail.com]
Sent: 15 March 2016 18:33
To: Tomás Lopes Cavalheiro Ponce Dentinho
Cc: Florax, Raymond; Rodriguez-Pose,A; Jean-Claude Thill; Jacques Poot; Alpay Filiztekin
Subject: Re: RSAI World Congress Istanbul ???

Dear All,

We are in red alarm situation here and we cannot not wait any longer because the cost of waiting would be much higher for both RSAI and congress participants. From the participants side, the cost is not limited with the registration fee but also traveling and accommodation costs. Before people will cancel their participation and the most brave ones will book their flight tickets we should declare our decision. Under these circumstances the travel insurance won't work I guess.

I would suggest the following:

1) We would postpone the congress to mid October (17-20 October, we can discuss the date). We have 6 months until October and things get better by that date. We can keep all abstracts and registration fees and

we can organize the congress in a more secure environment. The congress call can be open and we can have additional abstracts as well.

2) If we postpone the congress, RSAI would not have to return the money, all participants as well as RSAI won't have any cost if the participants would like to attend the postponed congress.

3) If the participants would not like to attend the postponed congress, they can cancel their participation and in that case they would accept the cost of cancellation.

4) If we organize the congress in 2016, I strongly believe that I can keep the money from the Ministry. But, the Ministry has allocated this money for the world congress, they would not accept to spend the money for small workshops. Personally, I would not prefer this option as well.

5) If we would not have a secure environment in Istanbul in October, then we would change the congress place, we can go to another city and we would have time for this kind of change. But, we cannot change anything just now because we do not have enough time and the risk is in everywhere.

This is my suggestion.

Best wishes,

Tuzin

Website announcement

<http://2016worldcongress.regionalscience.org/>

Postponement 11th World Congress of the RSAI | April 25-28, 2016 - Istanbul, Turkey

In light of the March 13th terrorist attack in Ankara and the increasing concerns about security, the 11th World Congress of the RSAI, which was due to take place April 25-28, 2016 in Istanbul has been postponed to a later date. The postponement has been decided at the request of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC).

We are sorry to communicate this news, especially in light of all the enthusiasm and work that had been put into the preparation of the Congress. But you would appreciate that the security of delegates is of utmost concern to the LOC and the RSAI.

The RSAI is grateful to the LOC and, in particular, to its president, Professor Tüzin Baycan, for the excellent work done in the preparation of the Congress in what have proven to be increasingly difficult circumstances. We are also indebted to all members of the Scientific Committee and especially to its co-chairs, Professors Alpay Filiztekin and Raymond Florax, for their work in evaluating all submissions. We would like to extend also our heartfelt gratitude to the Turkish Ministry of Development for its generous support of the conference and hope that it will continue to support the celebration of the World Congress at a later date and the activities of the Turkish Regional Science Association.

A rescheduling of the congress is being reconsidered with the LOC in light of the evolving security situation.

Fees disbursed by participants will be reimbursed during the coming weeks.

Once again, many thanks for your understanding and support.

Andrés Rodríguez-Pose
President of RSAI

Survey of the delegates with abstracts accepted and not withdrawn before the announcement was made

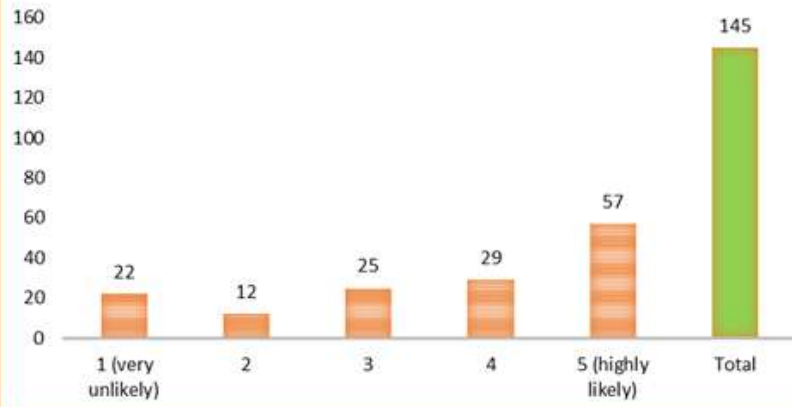
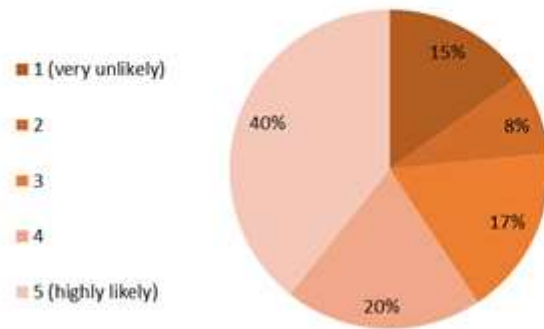
386 abstracts received:

- 256 accepted
- 45 rejected
- 85 invalid – accepted abstracts, but withdrawn before the decision to postpone the Congress was taken.

Survey question “If the postponed 2016 World Congress were to be held in Istanbul at a suitable time in 2017, on a scale from 1 (very unlikely) to 5 (highly likely), what is the likelihood that would you attend?” Sent to the authors of the 256 accepted abstract (227 participants in total).

145 responses received (64%). The results are as follows:

If the postponed 2016 World Congress were to be held in Istanbul at a suitable time in 2017, on a scale from 1 (very unlikely) to 5 (highly likely), what is the likelihood that would you attend?



Annex 8: RSAI World Congresses

The future of the RSAI World Congress¹

Preamble

The World Congress of the RSAI was initiated in 1980, at a time when the organization had already established a tradition of annual supraregional conferences in North America, Europe and the Pacific Rim through NARSC, ERSA and PRSCO respectively.² The purpose of the world congress was twofold: firstly, to create an opportunity for bridging the networks established by the three supraregional organisations, and, secondly, to provide a scientifically and socially attractive event for first entry into the RSAI networks for scholars from parts of the world where the supraregionals and their constituent sections had little or no representation. The conference was also undoubtedly expected to benefit from economies of scale and scope that large world congresses in other fields (e.g. Econometric Society, IUSSP, IGU, etc.) reap.

RSAI congresses until 2012 have been held four-yearly since 1980 (with the exception of the one held in Israel in 1989 rather than 1988). The years and venues have been:

1980 1st – Cambridge Mass. (Harvard University), USA
1984 2nd – Rotterdam (Erasmus University), Netherlands
1989 3rd – Jerusalem (Kibbutz Ramat Rachel), Israel
1992 4th – Palma de Mallorca, Spain
1996 5th – Tokyo (Rissho University), Japan
2000 6th – Lugano, Ticino, Switzerland
2004 7th – Port Elizabeth, South Africa
2008 8th – Sao Paulo, Brazil
2012 9th – Timisoara, Romania

In 2012 Council appointed a working party, chaired by Jean-Claude Thill, to review the world congress policy. The working party recommended to: (1) move from a 4-year frequency to a 2-year frequency; (2) increase participation to 1000; (3) strengthen the academic quality; (4) adopt a more professional organization by e.g. using a professional conference company; (5) hold the conference at an easily accessible location in a globally accessible city; (6) have RSAI Council and Executive play a direct and active role in organizing the conference; and (7) invite “Big Name” keynote speakers (esp. international policy makers) to draw in new members. Additionally, the working party noted that world congresses should be different from the existing large congresses organized by ERSA, PRSCO and RSAmericas and that the congress should be financially sound.³ After meeting all its objectives, the congress should financially break even or yield a small surplus to RSAI.

At the Timisoara Council meeting in 2012, the Council adopted the recommendations of the Working party and decided to have in principle a World Congress every second year, starting with a 2014 World Congress in China. However, due to political complexities regarding the relationship between the PRC and Taiwan and the complexities of contacts with various parallel organisations representing regional scientists in China, it was decided at the August 2013 Council meeting in Palermo, Italy, to hold the 2014 Congress in Bangkok. The President of RSAI offered to act as the chair of the local organising committee. It is reasonable to say that the proposed Bangkok congress met the objectives (1), (3), (5), (6) and (7).

¹ This document has been written by Jacques Poot. It incorporates personal feedback received from Andres Rodriguez-Posé, Jean-Claude Thill, Jouke van Dijk, Neil Reid and Tomaz Dentinho.

² PRSCO conferences are biennially, with smaller Summer Institutes in the in-between years.

³ The number of supraregionals will increase to four once the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Science Association has been formally endorsed by RSAI Council as representing the sections from that part of the world.

Due to anticipated instability and insecurity related to a military coup in the days preceding the planned congress, the venue of the 2014 Bangkok congress was first changed from the centre of Bangkok to Ayuttahya and the congress was subsequently cancelled.⁴

In April 2014, RSAI Council received a proposal from the Turkish section to host a world congress in April 2016 in Istanbul. This proposal was approved by Council at the November 2014 Council meeting. Like the Bangkok congress, the Istanbul congress proposal met objectives (1), (3), (5), (6) and (7). Neither congress has been able to reach 1000 abstract submissions (Istanbul received 380 abstracts of which 334 were accepted). Both congresses were organised mostly by volunteers, with an emphasis on enhancing the quality of accepted papers through rigorous procedures used by the scientific programme committee.⁵

At the request of the LOC of the Istanbul conference, the April 2016 Congress was postponed due to terrorist acts and the increased threat of further terrorist activity in Istanbul. In the weeks leading up to the planned world congress there had been a significant number of withdrawals by potential participants who had their abstracts accepted (only 200 authors had registered by 15 March). Given the schedule of already advertised international conferences and the limited time window remaining in 2016, it is not feasible to hold the postponed 2016 world congress at a later date this year. However, the purpose of the note is not to recommend any decision regarding the postponed congress that must now take account of the currently turbulent situation in Turkey. Instead, this document is solely concerned with general policies regarding RSAI-initiated scientific events.

An updated review of world congress policy

It has been extraordinary “bad luck” not to be able to hold world congresses in 2014 and in 2016. With hindsight it is easy to say that any potential risks should have been factored into the decision making, but it is fair to say that an assessment of those risks at the time of the proposals being tabled in Council would have concluded that those risks were low. Both Bangkok and Istanbul had a long established reputation as safe and popular tourist destinations. Nonetheless, a formal risk assessment should be a mandatory component of future events that are targeted at the global membership.

If they had gone ahead, it is clear that neither the Bangkok nor the Istanbul congress would have met the 2012 working party’s recommendation to aim for 1000 participants or to use a professional/commercial conference organisation.⁶ The main reason for relatively small attendances at recent world congresses is that they are, from the perspective of potential participants, likely to be seen as substitutes for the regular supraregional conferences, although this is more likely to have been the case in Istanbul (versus ERSA 2016 in Vienna) than in Bangkok (versus PRSCO 2014 in Ecuador). With respect to the use of professional conference organisers, this is unlikely to meet the objective of world congresses to be inclusive of all (potential) membership throughout the world, given that commercially organised conferences require much higher registration fees than are affordable by those from low income countries, even after allowing for tiered registration fees.

While the 2012 working party made a number of worthwhile operational recommendations regarding world congresses, it would be best to first assess these against the *objectives* of world congresses. If it is agreed that

⁴ It should be noted that the local Thai organisers hosted in June 2016 a very successful but small (70 participants) PRSCO Summer Institute.

⁵ In the case of Bangkok, the conference organization was led by the RSAI President Jean-Claude Thill who was assisted by academics and by a local company which he hired to take care of the local organization. The Istanbul Congress was predominantly organized by academics, with the overall responsibility held by LOC President Tüzün Baycan and with representation of the Turkish section on the LOC. An international Scientific Programme Committee (led by Alpay Filiztekin and Raymond Forax) ensured scientific quality. The SPC was assisted by a very large international scientific committee of paper and activity proposal assessors.

⁶ Some global conference organisers, such as Elsevier, require a minimum participation of 1000.

the objectives are as stated above, firstly, to create an opportunity for bridging the networks established by the supraregional organisations, and, secondly, to provide a scientifically and socially attractive event for first entry into the RSAI networks for scholars from parts of the world where the supraregionals and their constituent sections have little or no representation, an alternative approach may now be desirable.

This approach could take two forms:

- (1) A large scale world congress that is held *concurrently* with a supraregional conference and part of the usual sequencing and timing of supraregional conferences. The frequency (every two years or less frequently) is still to be determined but given the cancellation of world congresses in 2014 and 2016 it would be desirable to aim for a congress in 2018. RSAI Council would solicit interest from the supraregional organisations by means of a Request for Proposals (RFP). No specific rotation system needs to be implemented. The only restriction would be that no supraregional should host two consecutive world congresses. The congresses could be advertised, for example, as “The European Regional Science Association Congress and World Congress of the Regional Science Association International”. RSAI would implement mechanisms through which participation from outside the supraregional’s territory will be encouraged. Because of differences between the ways in which the supraregionals operate, the details of these joint ventures are to be negotiated between the supraregional and RSAI on a case by case basis.
- (2) Workshops, symposia or summer schools, with a minimum of one RSAI-organised event per year aimed at (1) capability building in parts of the world where no sections have yet been established; (2) providing scholars in such parts of the world with initial access to the RSAI global network. It is expected that RSAI Fellows play an important role in organising such events. Some events may be held in collaboration with other organisations such as the Regional Science Academy or the Regional Studies Association. For each event, RSAI could outline the objectives and key parameters of the event in an RFP and solicit proposals.

Previous discussion of world congresses has made it clear that academics have nowadays limited budget for international conference attendance. Permitting some supraregional conferences to be joint ventures with RSAI World Congresses will enable all of the objectives stated previously to be met. Specifically, world congress participants would attend events that are likely to attract 1000 participants or more and, secondly, at such a large scale of operation, the use of professional conference organisers becomes financially viable without requiring very high registration fees. An additional advantage to the supraregional organisation is that RSAI could bring to the congress sponsors from outside the region that normally would not engage with the supraregional. Supraregional conference venues that are most suitable for jointly hosting a world congress would need to be easily accessible from all continents. Such a world congress may also assist RSAI in obtaining UNESCO NGO-partner status.

Clearly, a successful combined supraregional and world congress would benefit both partners in terms of: (a) participation (with a target of around 1000) and the associated sponsorship opportunities; (b) a satisfactory financial outcome for both partners; (c) representation (with participants from all continents); (d) added value to the programme in terms of keynote speakers, scientific quality and innovative activities. Given that supraregionals operate differently, it may be easier to implement joint ventures with some than with others. However, given that world congresses will be organised with limited frequency, enough lead time and potential partners should be available to develop a viable and sustainable sequence.

The advantage of formulating RFPs for congresses and smaller events is that such events are inevitably joint ventures between RSAI and local or supraregional organisations. In that case it is important that the proposed objectives, key parameters and suggested arrangements are communicated in the clearest possible way in advance. This will avoid misunderstandings and will ensure that expectations are met. An RFP can also be easily converted subsequently into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between RSAI and the selected partner. In the case of multiple responses to an RFP, a selection process will be introduced. In the case of

multiple attractive proposals, sequencing over the available slots in future years can ensure that all such proposals can be accommodated.

Recommendations

1. That Council adopts the instrument of Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to solicit proposals for future events;
2. That Council establishes, in accordance with Section 5 of the Constitution, a Scientific Meetings Committee that is responsible for drawing up RFPs and bringing recommendations to Council for all future scientific events that are instigated by RSAI;
3. That Council directs the Scientific Meetings Committee, once established, to conduct a global membership survey to assess membership support for, and potential participation in, world congresses and smaller regular events;
4. That Council adopts in principle the policy of organising world congresses on a regular, but less frequent than annual, basis in joint venture with one of the supregionals; and requests the Scientific Meetings Committee to consult with the supregionals regarding the implementation of this policy;
5. That Council adopts in principle the policy of organising, jointly with a local organising committee, at least one workshop, symposium or summer school per year in a country, or close to a country, in which the regional science network has yet limited representation.

Annex 9: RSAI Programs 2017

Nurturing new talent 2017

The RSAI aims to continue promoting the development of Regional Science by nurturing new talent in 2017. The council has therefore pledged resources to co-finance workshops and summer institutes intended to provide substantive training to pre-doctoral researchers, including the presentation of their work and receiving feedback from senior scholars and their peers. It is expected that the selected workshops and institutes will have considerable international geographical coverage.

Organizers of workshops and summer schools fulfilling the above aims are invited to submit a two-page case for support by October 31st 2016 to Elisabete Martins (elisabete.martins@apdr.pt).

All applications will be reviewed by the RSAI Executive, who will make a decision on the candidates to fund. Their decision will be final.

Thinking big

2017 seed funding for young researchers

Young researchers are often disadvantaged when trying to develop innovative and/or unconventional research projects because of a lack of adequate seed funding. In order to help address this problem, the RSAI will support young researchers in the planning and early development of cutting-edge and/or high-risk research bids with a view to facilitating later applications to funding from research councils or equivalent research funding bodies.

Eligibility will be restricted to members of the association under the age of 35 or to those up to a maximum of five years after completing the PhD, whichever criterion is more favourable to the candidate.

The researcher will be required to provide evidence of having submitted a fully-fledged bid to research councils or equivalent research funding bodies.

Individual awards will be granted to a maximum value of €3,000.

Eligible costs will only include project planning and development through research assistance, purchase of datasets, proof-reading of bids or related documents. No other costs will be allowed.

Applications – up to a maximum of three pages, including name and affiliation of the candidate, title of the proposed project, main research question(s), justification of the project's novelty, and prospective methods – should be submitted to the RSAI before December 2nd 2016, using the following link (include a link).

All applications will be reviewed by a special committee made of three senior members of the association, who will make a decision on the candidates to fund. The decision of the committee will be final.

Building bridges in regional science

2017 conference participation support

The RSAI will facilitate the participation of researchers from low-income and lower-middle-income economies (as defined by the World Bank: http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-and-lending-groups#Low_income) at the four largest Regional Science Conferences in 2017: World Congress, PRSCO, ERSA, and NARSC.

The RSAI will provide a subsidy of USD 500 (or the equivalent in other currencies) to selected researchers. This is likely to cover the conference registration fee and some local travel costs. Alternative means of financing will have to be sought for international travel and accommodation.

Only one author of a submitted paper presentation proposal can apply for a subsidy.

Interested researchers should upload a two-page CV plus a one-page motivation – including a budget with proposed sources of funding of the conference-related registration, travel and accommodation costs – within 30 days of receiving confirmation of the acceptance of the researcher’s abstract by the conference organizers.

Applications can be uploaded using the following link (include a link).

Applicants should have had a paper accepted for presentation at the conference.

All applications will be reviewed by the RSAI Executive, who will make a decision on the candidates to fund. Their decision will be final.

Annex 10a: Latin American – Caribbean Regional Science Association - LACRSAI

CONSTITUTION

1. The Latin American-Caribbean supra region of the RSAI (LACRSAI) represents the affiliated and common interests of the various regional science organizations of the countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. LACRSAI operates as an objective, scientific body without political, social, financial, or nationalistic bias. It supports its objectives by promoting acquaintance and discussion among regional scientists and with scholars in related fields, by encouraging the publication of scholarly studies, and by performing services to aid the advancement of the field of regional science. LACRSAI serves as the organizational body representative of the interests of its institutional and individual members with respect to the Regional Science Association International (RSAI). It affiliates sub-national, national or regional sections of the Regional Science Association International located on Latin America and the Caribbean. The sections are institutional members of LACRSAI and their individual associates are members of RSAI. Institutional members can simultaneously be members of other supra national associations.
2. LACRSAI and its institutional members will abide by the rules and principles of RSAI.
3. LACRSAI will charge no fees to its institutional members. Individual members will only pay the customary fee to RSAI.
4. LACRSAI will be governed by a Council composed of representatives of each institutional member. Councillors will be appointed by the council of the institutional member they represent. Term of office of councillors is determined by the institutional member they represent and should not exceed six years. The term in office of the president should not exceed four years.
5. The LACRSAI Council will meet at least once every two years. Schedule of Council meetings is approved by a majority vote of Councillors.
6. The Council will elect one of its members as President of LACRSAI, for a two-year term. The President can run up to two consecutive terms. The President of LACRSAI will represent the Association to RSAI, other supra-regional organizations of RSAI, as well as LACRSAI institutional members. The President will spearhead efforts to strengthen Regional Science in Latin America and the Caribbean through the establishment of new RSAI sections, the organization and sponsorship of conferences, and other activities deemed appropriate to the scopes and objectives of LACRSAI. The President sets the agenda of Council meetings in formal consultation with Council members.
7. The Council will decide by majority vote on the admission of new institutional members. Admission requests can be submitted to Council at least one month prior to a scheduled Council meeting. Council will be carrying out all matters deemed appropriate to its scope and objectives that are not explicitly excluded in the LACRSAI Constitution.
8. Decisions are made by Council after simple majority vote of Councilors present. Councilors may designate, in written form, another individuals of the same institutional member to exercise proxy powers. A quorum of a simple majority of Councilors is needed for vote to take place.

9. Each institutional member will preserve their individual status and autonomy and will be entitled to develop their associative activities independently of the others. National sections within LACRSAI can associate to promote joint activities.

10. LACRSAI President and Councillors are not financially compensated.

11. In the spirit of fostering interaction and intellectual exchange among individual LACRSAI members and cooperation among institutional members, individual members of any national sections within LACRSAI will be encouraged to participate in conferences and other activities of all other institutional members of LACRSAI.

12. This Constitution shall be considered to have been ratified, and the provisions specified herein to take effect, immediately upon approval by the executive body of three recognized RSAI sections to become institutional members of LACRSAI, and provided that RSAI Council grants representation on Council to LACRSAI.

13. By a vote of at least two-thirds of the Councillors, the Council may amend this Constitution.

Last Updated on

July 26, 2016

Annex 10b: Regional Science Association of India

REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

CK-134, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA, INDIA,

Email. cr-pathak@hotmail.com, [sumona bm@yahoo.com](mailto:sumona_bm@yahoo.com)

To

Prof. Andres Rodriguez-Pöse

President, Regional Science Association International

August 25, 2016

Dear Sir,

The Indian Section of the Regional Science Association had made a beginning in 1967, when Prof. Walter Isard started it in IIT Kharagpur India. During this time there has been a lot of interaction between the two Associations, but there is no formal documentation of this long-term association. The RSA India has over 450 members and 171 Institutions subscribe to its journal which also started in 1968. We are presently making an effort in expanding our horizons and by way of doing so, had the honour of the presence of Prof. Dentinho at the Kolkata International Conference and 47th Annual Meet of the RSA India in January 2016. It is here that the proposal for membership was placed and several members have shown their willingness to be members of RSA International with the proposed payment of 1GBP annually as it seems an excellent opportunity for the young researchers and students.

The RSA India holds annual conferences and the coming International Conference will be its 48th meet, which will be held in Tripura. It will be a pleasure to have you and other esteemed members of the Council, present at the meeting. We look forward to a long rewarding association through joint research projects, workshops, summer institutes and training programmes that we would like to organize in the coming years.

Thanking you,

Best Regards,



Sumana Bandyopadhyay for

(Prof. Chittaranjan Pathak)

Secretary, RSA India

Copy to: Prof. Tomaz P.C.Dentinho

Executive Director, RSA International

Chitta Ranjan Pathak

(Secretary, RSA India, former Professor, Dept. of Architecture and Regional Planning, IIT Kharagpur)

Sumana Bandyopadhyay

(Vice President, RSA India, Professor & Head, Dept. of Geography, University of Calcutta)

THE INDIAN REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

The Journey in Brief

- The RSA India was initiated at the Conference of the Regional Science Association International held at IIT Kharagpur in India, in **1967**
- Late Prof. Walter Isard, the doyen of Regional Science created the section at IIT Kharagpur under the charge of Prof. C. R. Pathak who taught at the Architecture and Regional Planning Department at IIT (Indian Institute of Technology)
- The Journal of Indian Regional Science was launched in **1968** and its present volume is its 48th one. Prof. Peter Nijkamp had since been associated with the journal .
- The International Conference at Bangalore (**2005**), was organised jointly with the PRSCO as the supranational body. Prof. Nijkamp and the Japan Section played crucial roles in organising it.
- Over the years, interactions with the RSA International have been few and far between, until in January **2016**, Prof. Dentinho joined the Kolkata Conference and a plan of action was worked out.

Our Strengths:

1. Regularity of Interaction

- The national / international seminars have:
 - been extremely regular
 - provided a forum for continuous interaction
 - always focussed upon the interdisciplinary facets of the subject matter- Economics, Geography, Sociology, Political Science, Environmental Studies, Statistics and Planning .
 - **Young Scientist Awards** to encourage students
 - **Best Paper Award** gives recognition of new subject matters and unique research problems that are meticulously presented.
- The RSA India participated in RSA International, PRSCO and other meets earlier

2. Membership

- 340 Life Members
- 134 Annual Members
- 171 subscribers to the journal - Libraries and publishers
- This is the main source of income of the Association.
- We **propose** open access to the international journals of the RSA family as this will help increase membership and substantially strengthen the research community in India.

The 47th Annual Meet

- Was an International Conference hosted by the Department of Geography, University of Calcutta on *Urbanisation and Regional Sustainability*
- **170 papers, 4** excellent addresses by Prof. Amitabh Kundu, Dr. Marie-Helene Zerah, Prof. Saraswati Raju and Prof. Julian Orford
- This conference marked the beginning of many new journeys, the foremost being
 - the presence of Prof. Tomaz Dentinho, Executive Director of RSAI
 - his suggestion of a Special Session on Regional Cooperation
 - A Special Session on Well Being and Social Justice led by Prof. Raju
 - A Special GIS application session led by Dr. Sangram Ganguly, NASA
 - A Special Census Session – led by Prof. Aslam Mahmood, JNU
- Prof. Dentinho proposed an RSA International membership @ 1GBP, that was an encouragement to the young scholars and students.
- all Annual Members have opted to take the International membership. We ve set a higher participation target that may be fulfilled by January 2017.

Areas of collaboration

- **Research Collaborations across/with sections**
- **Grants for Young Researchers**
- **Summer/ Winter Institutes on Methods in Regional Studies aimed at improving potentials and enhancing quality of research**
 - Some themes that need robust training inputs are:
 - Spatial Econometrics
 - CGE Modelling
 - Geoinformatics
 - Environmental CBA
 - Natural Resource Accounting
 - Participatory Rural Appraisal techniques

Way Forward: 2017-18

- **January 2017: the 48th Meeting at Tripura** welcomes all members of ERSA, PRSCO and RSA International. Participation across sections and supranationals will imply strengthening of bonds
- Indian Regional Scientists to participate in the PRSCO meet at Taiwan, 2017.
- RSA International, supra-regionals and sections to join the 49th conference at Bhopal in 2018.
- Jointly organise a meet on Regional Cooperation with PRSCO and RSA International at Goa in 2018.

WE,
AT REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION OF
INDIA
ARE
LOOKING FORWARD TO A LONG AND
REWARDING ASSOCIATION



Editorial Report on 2015 Activities

Summary

At the RSAI Council meeting hosted during the NARSC Conference in Portland last November, a (partially) new editorial team was appointed for the next three years. Alessandra Faggian, Michaela Tripl and myself were confirmed, while Takatoshi Tabuchi and Paul Elhorst left, the former having served the journal for two terms already, the latter for being appointed as new Editor-in-chief of another journal. The RSAI Council appointed Jonathan Corcoran and Donald Lacombe as new co-editors. Our book review editor, Eduardo Haddad, having finished his term, was replaced by Andrea Caragliu. This report details the journal activities in 2015, when the old editorial team was still in place.

In the same Portland venue, the RSAI board, together with the Editors of PiRS and the publisher WB, approved the idea of adding one more issue per year, in partly also to solve the contingent problem of the pre-existing backlog of papers. Increasing the number of issues per year (and consequently the number of published papers) always comes with the fear of a decrease in the impact factor (IF). As a pleasant surprise, the IF of PiRS has instead increased this year to 1.15 (vis-à-vis 1.02 last year). This achievement is even more impressive when considering two facts : i) it is the first increase in IF since 2012; ii) this happens in a year when all other competing journals, with the exception of Regional Science and Urban Economics, registered a decrease. In 2016, we expect this positive trend in the IF to continue, especially in light of the high-quality special issue on “agglomeration economies revisited” that has been published as first issue of the year.

The decision making process has now stabilized in terms of timing. The final decision is taken, on average, in less than four months from the submission date, which is a very reasonable amount of time. However, the time from final decision to publication has risen to nearly two years, making it clear that an extra issue per year is indeed needed.

As last year, the total number of submissions has been above 200 (224 compared to 231 last year). The rejection rate is 90%, which is a strong signal of the seriousness and selectivity of the Editors in choosing high-quality contributions. The higher rejection rate is also helping with the current backlog.

As for the geographical composition of submissions, PRSCO has slightly decreased its submissions, while the number of contributions from RSAmericas members has slightly increased, continuing the last year trends.

The authors' composition shows a reverse trend compared to last year, with a drastic decrease in the number of authors coming from PRSCO, compensated by an increase of European authors.

In terms of fields, the journal saw an increase in the number of contributions from economics and

public policy and governance.

1. Editorial Team and Editorial Board

At the RSAI Council meeting hosted during the NARSC Conference in Portland last November, a (partially) new editorial team was appointed for the next three years. Alessandra Faggian, Michaela Trippel and myself were confirmed, while Takatoshi Tabuchi and Paul Elhorst left, the former having served the journal for two terms already, the latter for being appointed as new Editor-in-chief of another journal. The RSAI Council appointed Jonathan Corcoran and Donald Lacombe as new co-editors. Takatoshi and Paul will be missed and we want to thank them for their commitment and professionalism. They did a fantastic job over the last three years. We are excited to have Jonathan and Donald on board and they will provide the journal with the right ingredients to proceed in the footsteps of their predecessors. Our book review editor, Eduardo Haddad, also decided to leave, and was replaced by Andrea Caragliu. A particular thanks goes to Eduardo for his dedication to the journal, and to Andrea for having accepted this new role. The new team is ready to face the increasingly fiercer competition among journals in our field. The combination of “old” and “new” editors will guarantee continuity with the past while also providing the necessary infusion of fresh and new ideas.

This report is in any way the result of the previous team, since it reports the situation of 2015, not taking into consideration the pending manuscripts..

The Editorial Board has also been changed: 15 members left, and 17 new came in, reaching a total of 47 members.

2. Editorial statistics

2.1. Number of submissions and rejection rates

Table 1 presents the number of submissions and rejection rates, together with pending manuscripts, i.e. papers that are in the website system at different stages.

Table 1. Number of submissions and rejection rates

Cohort	Submissions	Acceptance rate	Rejection rate	Pending manuscripts
2004	88	0,37	0,63	
2005	71	0,36	0,64	
2006	80	0,38	0,62	
2007	144	0,27	0,73	
2008	108	0,23	0,77	
2009	178	0,34	0,66	
2010	163	0,33	0,67	
2011	182	0,28	0,72	
2012	197	0,32	0,68	
2013	221	0,21	0,79	
2014	231	0,21	0,79	4
2015	224	0,10	0,90	56

In 2015, the number of submissions registered a slight decrease from 231 to 224, an indicator of the constant interest of the scientific international world for the journal. The acceptance rate has

drastically decreased to 10%, while 90% of the papers are rejected.

Figure 1 shows that **the total number of submissions is still driven by European scientists**, that record the highest submission number. **One also registers a decrease of submission from Pacific area**, and a slight increase in submissions from America.

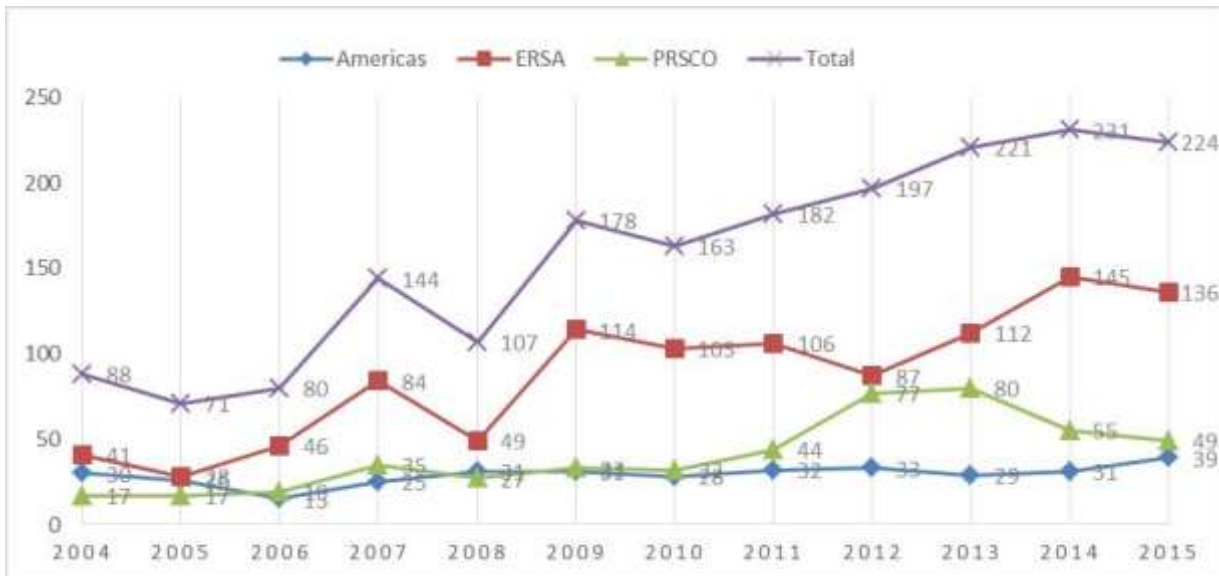


Fig. 1. Geographically detailed number of submissions, 2002–2014

2.2. Decision making process and reviewers

The decision making process has settled down. After a long period of drastic fall of the time span in all phases of the review process, now the process takes around 4 months from the submission date to the final decision (1,7 + 1,7 + 0,6) (Table 2).

Table 2. Manuscript processing in months

Cohort	First decision	Second decision	Third decision	Final decision of acceptance to Early View	Final decision to publication in issue
2004	5,6	3,3	1,5	—	9
2005	6,1	2,9	—	—	12,8
2006	5,4	4,9	—	9	11,9
2007	3,1	2,7	1,3	7,4	11,4
2008	2,5	2,4	0,8	5,6	10,4
2009	3	2,6	1,5	2,9	8,8
2010	3,2	2,9	1,3	2,6	9
2011	3,1	2,5	2	1,9	11,4
2012	3	2,6	1,2	3,4	4,9
2013	1,8	2	0,8	3,1	12,4
2014	1,7	0,6	0,4	3,2	15,8
2015	1,7	1,7	0,6	2,9	21,5

What remains a critical point is the time from final decision to publication in print: the time is nearly two years. The decision to add an additional number for 2016 and the next two years should help in this respect.

The number of referees has increased, as Table 3 reports. While the European scientists show a high and constant engagement in the journal, American scientists have slightly decreased, and the PRSCO area slightly increased.

Table 3. Number of reviewers and proportion of reviewers by supra region

Year	Reviewers	ERSA	Americas	PRSCO
2005	192	0,38	0,31	0,32
2006	181	0,4	0,52	0,08
2007	213	0,58	0,32	0,1
2008	230	0,56	0,34	0,1
2009	325	0,62	0,25	0,13
2010	332	0,61	0,23	0,15
2011	337	0,59	0,25	0,15
2012	354	0,62	0,22	0,16
2013	399	0,61	0,26	0,13
2014	325	0,62	0,25	0,13
2015	369	0,61	0,22	0,17

2.3. Authors by geographical areas and by disciplines

Figure 2 presents the geographical distribution of authors. The past trend has been this year reversed: **European authors increase over time, while those from RS Americas and from PRSCO decrease.**

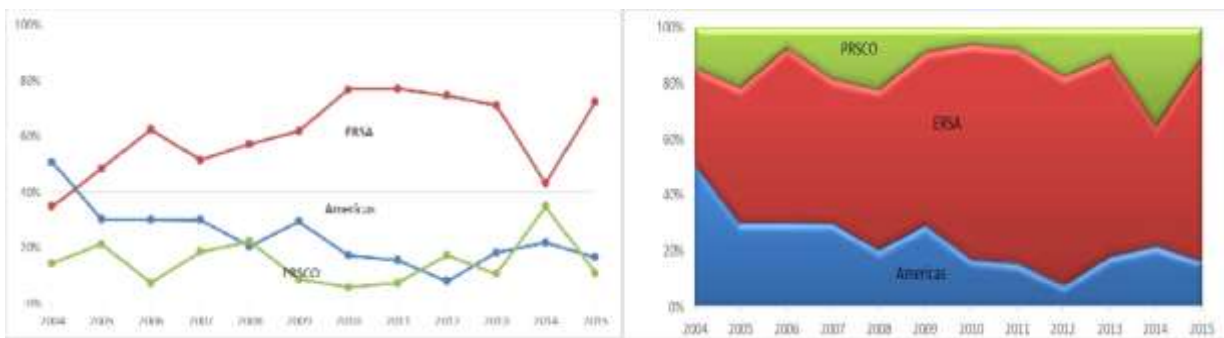


Fig. 2. Geographic distribution of authors in author pages (% per year and proportion), Vol. 81–94, 2002–2015

Figure 3 reports the distribution of pages by discipline. **There is an increase of the economic area and of public policy.** The geography area has instead registered a decline once again.

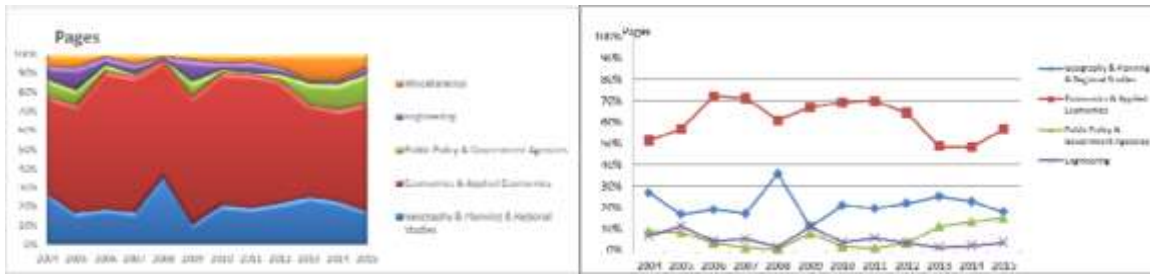


Fig. 3. Author pages by affiliation of the author(s), Vol. 83–94, 2004–2015

2.4. Impact Factor

The 2015 impact factor of PiRS has increased from 1.012 to 1.14. Interestingly enough, this increase took place despite the increase in the number of pages published, and despite the decrease in all competing journals (Figure 4). The five years impact factor has increased too, reaching the value of 1.69 (Figure 5).

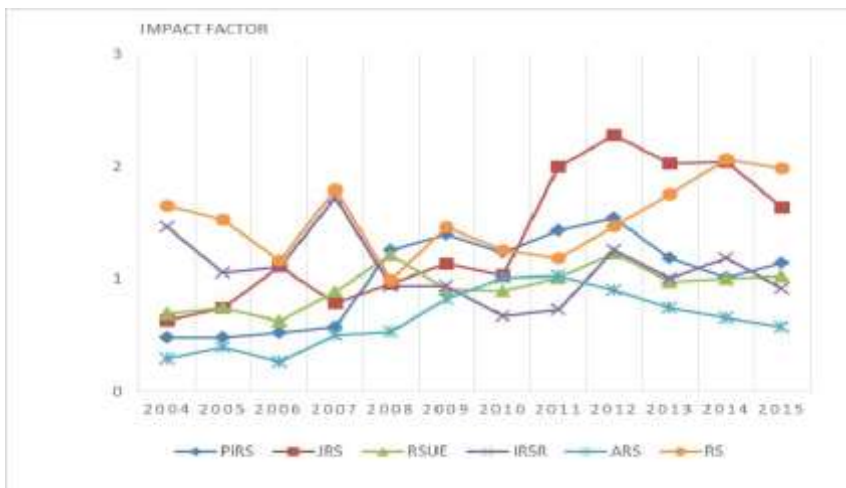


Fig. 4. Citation Impact Factor for various regional science journals, 2002–2015

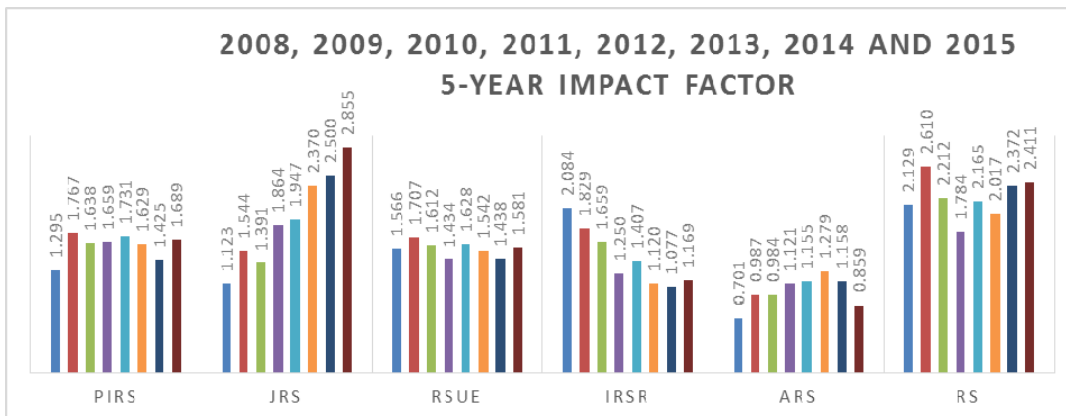


Fig. 5. Citation 5-year Impact Factor for various regional science journals in 2008-2015

3. Editorial Policies

The editorial team continues with the strategies put in place last year, through:

- 1) a good and efficient management of the journal, to make it appealing in terms of decision times with respect to other journals;
- 2) launch of special issues on strategic issues;
- 3) a selection of papers to be published based on the novelty of the themes treated, together with the scientific rigor;
- 4) the Martin Beckmann prize for the best article published in *Papers in Regional Science*.

4. Concluding remarks

This report shows that the journal proceeds on a good trend like last year, signalling:

- an increasing interest of the international community, witnessed by the constant increase in submission;
- an increase in the IF, despite the increase in the number of submissions;
- a serious the dedication of the editorial team, witnessed by the decrease in the time span of the decision;
- right RSAI policies to enlarge the journal to a worldwide market and to an increasing multidisciplinary science, witnessed by the enlargement of the geography of the authors towards America and the Pacific area, and by an increase of the number of works of different disciplines that find a location in the journal.

We hope to improve the backlog situation soon, also thanks to the publishing of one issue more per year.

To conclude, a sincere thank you goes to our Editorial manger, Elisabete Martins; we could not think about someone more professional for this job.

Roberta Capello
Editor-in-chief *Papers in Regional Science*

also on behalf of the other members of the Editorial Team
Jonathan Corcoran, Alessandra Faggian, Donald Lacombe, Michaela Trippel and Andrea Caragliu

Milan, Italy
23 June,
2016