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Cluster 4

NECTAR-RSAI Special Session:

Migration and Commuting – Consequences for Local Labor and Housing Markets

RSAI 10th World Congress:

Socioeconomic Integration and Transformation: Reshaping Local, Regional, and Global Spaces

*Bangkok, Thailand, May 27-29, 2014,
Thammasat University Bangkok*

Call for papers

We are pleased to invite you to contribute papers for a Special NECTAR-RSAI Session, which we will organize at the 10th RSAI World Congress on 27-29 May 2014. The RSAI World Congress will take place in Bangkok (Thailand) and will be a major international event.

Motivation and Aim

Migration is a wide spread phenomenon with many and varied consequences on labor and housing markets. From an economic point of view, regional mobility is essential for a balance of supply and demand avoiding mismatch unemployment. Internal mobility is one possible mechanism through which local labor markets adjust. If immigrants and natives are imperfect substitutes or complement one another in the labor market, destination areas of immigrants might attract even more natives and trigger employment growth.

However consequences of migration are far more complex: new inhabitants add a lot to the society and have diverse ideas on how to work and to live. Shared norms and values combined with language skills of immigrants facilitate communication and integration in the society. Moreover, spatial proximity in neighborhoods may stimulate contacts, knowledge spillovers and social interaction. Further the success of integration depends on the accessibility for jobs and housing combined with flexible transport infrastructure.

Market imperfections cause regional mismatch (coincidence of vacancies and unemployment), hence longer commuting distances in spatially expanding job market regions continue to prevail. In other words on the positive side, commuting seems to combine the best of two worlds: living where the highest place utility can be derived from, working where the best labor market conditions prevail, and choosing where to enjoy amenities. On the negative side, commuting is a stressful, costly, and time-wasting task.

The redistribution of population across regions invokes a wide range of short-run and long-run supply and demand effects of which the joint impact on labor and housing markets is ultimately an empirical matter.

This session will serve as a floor of discussion where researchers can share their experiences in empirical research when modeling the impacts of immigration/mobility in a spatial-economic framework. A debate about related implications in a policy perspective is welcome.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

Regional mobility, international migration, cultural diversity, immigration and housing, commuting and distance, transport and infrastructure, spatial job search, language skills and labour market, communicative tasks, immigrant spatial concentration, sorting of households

Cluster 4 Session Organizers:

Anette Haas (Institute for Employment Research, Nuremberg, Germany)

Jos van Ommeren (Department of Spatial Economics at the VU University Amsterdam, NL)

Liv Osland (Stord/Haugesund University College, Haugesund, Norway)

Selima Sultana (University of North Carolina at Greensboro, USA)

Submitting an abstract

Please submit an **abstract (maximum 400-500 words)** indicating title, authors(s), affiliations, corresponding contact (indicate the presenter and corresponding author) and three keywords, to the session Organizers, by sending an e-mail to **nectar4rsai@iab.de** or **liv.osland@hsh.no**

Abstract submission deadline: **November 18th, 2013**

Notification of acceptance of abstract: **December 20th, 2013**

Details about the WRSAl Conference:

http://www.regionalscience.org/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=1076:10th-world-congress-of-the-rsai-bangkok

We look forward to your submission and to seeing you in Bangkok.

NECTAR (Network on European Communications and Transport Activity Research) is a European-based scientific association. The primary objective is to foster research collaboration and exchange of information between experts in the field of transport, communication and mobility from all European countries and the rest of the world. It is a multidisciplinary social science network. It brings together a wide variety of perspectives on transport and communication problems and their impacts on society in an international perspective.

For further information on NECTAR, use the link: <http://www.nectar-eu.org/>

RSAl (Regional Science Association International) is an international community of scholars interested in the regional impacts of national or global processes of economic and social change. The work of RSAl draws on the expertise of many different disciplines and this multidisciplinary approach helps to facilitate new theoretical insights for tackling regional problems.

For further information on RSAl, use the link: <http://www.regionalscience.org/>