

Minutes

ONLINE RSAI COUNCIL MEETING
RSAI Council Meeting – Aug. 31, 2020, Monday, 2 pm-6 pm CET, Zoom

1. Apologies

At 2.08 pm CET Mark Partridge welcomes Council, members ex-officio members and invited members. Apologies have been received from Rachel Franklin and Eveline Van Leeuwen.

The following RSAI Council members, ex officio members, LRPC members, and invitees join the meeting:

- Abdellatif Khattabi (AMSR President)
- Amit Batabyal (Councillor-at-Large)
- André Torre (ERSA Representative and President)
- Andrea Caragliu (RSAI Executive Director)
- Brian Kim (PRSCO Representative)
- Carlos Azzoni (LARSCA representative)
- Daniela Constantin (Councillor-At-Large)
- Eduardo Haddad (Incoming RSAI President)
- Eveline Van Leeuwen (ERSA representative)
- Francisco Carballo-Cruz (ERSA Rrepresentative);
- Jean-Claude Thill (Chair of the Restructuring Committee and Past President)
- Kingsley Haynes (LRPC member)
- Lily Kiminami (PRSCO representative)
- Maria Abreu (Councillor-At-Large)
- Mark Partridge (RSAI President)
- Martijn Smit (RSAI Newsletter Editor)
- Neil Reid (NARSC Executive Director and Representative)
- Patricio Aroca (LARSCA representative)
- Peter Batey (LRPC and RSAI Archivist)
- Peter Stenberg (NARSC representative)
- Rachel Franklin (PRSCO Representative and President)
- Roberta Capello (EiC PiRS)
- Rosella Nicolini (Councillor-At-Large)
- Sandy Dall’Erba (NARSC Representative)
- Serena Serrano (LARSCA Representative and President)
- Sumona Bandyopadhyay (Councillor-At-Large)
- Tomaz Dentinho (RSPP EiC)

2. Approval of the minutes of the Jul 21 meeting

The Council unanimously approves the minutes of the Jul. 21 Council meeting.

3. Nurturing Talent

Andrea Caragliu explains the likely shape of the budget for Nurturing Talent Initiatives for 2021. Given that many events haven’t been held physically due to the COVID pandemic, the situation foresees three main outcomes for the 2020 events: some have been held regularly at the beginning of the year, some have been postponed, thus leaving RSAI budget available, some instead have been utterly

canceled. The ED proposes to use the money left on the 2020 to co-finance future events to be held in 2021, also in the light of the tight budget 2020 will close with.

The proposal is unanimously approved.

Mark Partridge reports that Janice Madden accepted to join the Fellows selection committee. He also reminds attending members that the Council elects two members on the LRPC; Francisco Carballo and Evelin Van Leeuwen were in touch with Mark Partridge, and they agreed to serve as representatives. The Council agrees unanimously, with the exception of Neil Reid (abstained).

4. Building Bridges

Andrea Caragliu explains that the money collected by the association is going to be lower this year. This is clearly due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, that is affecting the capacity of national and supranational sections to organize events, that are typically the main source of income for many learnt societies. As a consequence, the RSAI too is also expected to register some losses, that are at the time of the discussion difficult to quantify with precision.

Mark Partridge takes the chance to explain the situation with the Mogador hotel in Marrakech, which was expected to host the World Congress in June 2020. A first installment of 5,000 Euros is left on their bank account as a deposit, and he proposes to leave it there as a deposit for the organization of the 2021 version of the World Congress.

Roberta Capello asks about the situation of the organization of the World Congress. Andrea Caragliu explains that the RSAI is currently renegotiating with the hotel in order to allow a flexible plan to leave room for hosting a physical event, a remote event, or a mixed form event for the period May 25-28, 2021. Mark Partridge also adds that the RSAI is trying to anticipate the event as early in the year as possible, but taking the dates of 2021 Ramadan into account.

5. Report and accounts 2019

Andrea Caragliu explains the 2020 budget. Figures suggest that the Association is financially stable, with a few items on the budget being suggested by the Auditor (who otherwise approved the way the budget has been structured) to be attributed to the time where they are expected to deliver their utility, rather than when they take place. The ED concludes that among potential losses, the RSAI is likely to have to count the support given to Building Bridges travel fees for young scholars aimed at attending the World Congress in Marrakech, that was postponed due to the pandemic.

André Torre comments that the Association is running smoothly. He says that 2020 has been a difficult year for everyone, and in particular for ERSA. He says ERSA expects 110,000 Euros losses, because the European congress was not held physically. He is asking some fees to be waived. Mark Partridge replies simply waving fees could jeopardize our Association's finances. André is just warning because the ERSA Council is facing very tight financial constraints.

Tomaz Dentinho suggests to use the savings from the events that this year to partially cover these losses. In this sense, Mark Partridge asks Andrea Caragliu how many fees were received so far from Supranationals. Andrea Caragliu reports on the situation so far.

Roberta Capello adds that André Torre raised a crucial point. She also recommends Presidents (for the RSAI, the President Elect Eduardo Haddad should be included) and EDs of the Supranationals form a committee to agree on possible losses by the supranationals and on ways to possibly minimize them.

6. Councillors ending their position

Andrea Caragliu (ED) reports that Prof. Amit Batabyal (Rochester Institute of Technology), Prof. Sumana Bandyopadhyay (Kolkata University), and Prof. Rosella Nicolini (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) are ending their term as representatives (Councillors at large) on the RSAI council. These three positions will be open to a public online ballot to all members in good standing of the Association, starting from September 2020. In this sense, he wishes an active participation from national and supranational sections will take place in these crucial elections.

7. PiRS Editorial Report

Roberta Capello explains that the impact factor of the journal went up from 2.02 to 2.2 in the last year, whereas most other Journals either remained stable or declined in this respect. Moreover, this increase does not come from specific highly cited papers, but by the fact that cited papers have grown in number. The Journal has also now got totally rid of the previous (substantial) backlog. She also believes no major concern seems to be there. The contract with Wiley, thanks to Jean-Claude Thill, is much more effective. The Editorial Board is effective and very well-gender balanced.

8. RSPP Editorial Report

Tomaz Dentinho says the Journal is trying to reach an expected IF higher than 1, but that this may not be enough. The attempt to reach an IF will be tried in 2021 or 2022, depending on how statistics will evolve. The Journal published many special issues, most of which are assembled by collecting papers presented at the various sessions organized at major supranational events such as PRSCO and NARSC congresses.

André Torre commends the work of both Editors in Chief.

Sandy Dall’Erba also praises the Journal Editors, and wonders whether there exists a mechanism to increase the money transferred to them. Tomaz Dentinho replies there is no mechanism and that some synergies should be found between Nurturing Talent initiatives and journal travels. Roberta Capello says instead that the money is not so small. She instead praises that the money spent for Elisabete Martins is very well spent.

Amit Batabyal says that Henk Folmer and he are striving to increase citations for the Journal they are managing (*Letters in Spatial and Resource Sciences*), warning RSPP not to embark in excessive numbers of self-citations.

Serena Erendira-Serrano and Maria Abreu leave the virtual room at 3.50 pm CET; Brian Kim leaves the virtual room at 4 pm CET.

9. RSAI awards

Mark Partridge summarizes the outcome of the selection of 2020 Fellows.

Rosella Nicolini thanks for the explanation and says nevertheless that given the very limited time available to review Bob Stimson’s proposals it would be better to postpone the vote on this document to the next Council.

Roberta Capello adds the document should be presented to the Council. Mark Partridge explains the document in detail.

Rosella Nicolini adds she is puzzled because 1. Apparently Bob Stimson’s proposal seems to talk about a reduction in the number of Fellows elected, and 2. RSAI can have no more than 12 members, and no less than 8. Roberta Capello adds she does not know what would happen in case the minimum threshold thereby suggested is not reached.

Amit Batabyal explains that there are issues with the ways Fellows are elected. Andrea Caragliu explains how the procedure went on this year. Jean-Claude Thill adds that as a President of this same committee, he intended the committee as an authority simply managing the procedure.

Kingsley Haines adds that Fellows above 80 could be labeled “*Retired Fellows*”, so as to leave room for not meeting the above mentioned upper constraints. André Torre suggests to increase the number of RSAI Fellows in order to work as ambassadors for the RSAI.

This motion is approved; 12 vote in favor, 2 against.

10. Absence of women nominees for RSAI awards (Mark Partridge)

For reasons of time constraints, the point is left for future discussion.

11. Follow-up to the discussion on the proposals presented in the White Paper (Restructuring Committee)

Mark Partridge explains the procedure that lead the Strategic Planning Committee to review their first proposal over the last few months. The Committee has focused on the short run changes they are proposing, which deals with the creation of committees.

Jean Claude Thill takes over explaining in detail the Committee’s present proposals. A first proposal is to hold longer meetings, to tackle complex matters more comprehensively. A second proposal is to create a Honors/Award Committee, that deals with the organization of all Award Committees to centralize the works of the various committees. A third recommendation is about the Nurturing Talent Initiative, where diversity (also geographical) should be enhanced.

A fourth recommendation deals with the creation of a Publication Committee; a Honors Committee; a Diversity and Inclusion Committee; a Young Scholars Committee; a Communications Committee; a Public Relations Committee; and a Finance Committee.

Tomaz Dentinho stresses that a great role is played by the President’s management. He claims that some of the Committees may find it hard to pinpoint their tasks and thereby not deliver an efficient outcome. Tasks would have to be clear and well separated from the President and the Executive Director.

Mark Partridge proposes to vote on four items:

1. More time to discuss things at Council meetings;
2. Examination of the selection process leading to the selection of RSAI Awardees;
3. The Nurturing Talent Programme should be enhanced by merging these managements
4. Decentralise decision-making.

Motion: these principles are right.

A second motion relates to having non-Council members coming from the regular membership.

A third motion is that the ED becomes a regular member, or an ex-officio member, of all these committees.

A fourth motion is related to having supranationals electing their members of the Honors Committee.

Jean Claude agrees Mark Partridge’s summary is a comprehensive one. Neil Reid, André Torre, and Serena Erendira-Serrano agree on this perspective.

Kingsley Haines thanks the Strategic Planning Committee for their work. He cautions the Council not to exceed with the number of committees, also in the light of the election procedures. Roberta Capello

stresses that the practical aspects of the newly proposed structure should not be underestimated, and also that the Committees would have their own tasks, not to be overlapped with other similar goals that other Council members have. She also adds that by decentralizing many decisions to Committees, this may empty the role of the RSAI Council.

Jean-Claude Thill stresses that the Strategic Planning Committee's proposal is to coopt members from outside the Council in order to stimulate participation in RSAI activities from younger and less accomplished members of the Association.

Amit Batabyal reports that he joined the LRPC meeting on Friday, Aug. 28. He tells that Roberta Capello concluded that the LRPC endorses items 1 through 7; he suggests a change in motion 8, so as to populate these new committees with regular Council members in case decent attempts to draw regular RSAI members outside the Council fail. Sandy Dell'Erba asks what the Council is being asked. Mark Partridge replies that supranational organizations would be requested to indicate their elected members on the committees proposed.

Tomaz Dentinho says too many committees may overburden the RSAI secretariat with many requests.

André Torre writes on the chat he is volunteering for the Communication committees. Likewise, Sandy Dall'Erba suggests his candidature for the Young Scholars and Diversity Committees.

Peter Batey stresses he is happy about the way the SPC evolved its proposals. However, he adds management issues may arise as a consequence.

Roberta Capello suggests to proceed with the voting since time is ticking.

Patricio Aroca leaves the virtual room at 5.30 pm CET.

The vote goes as follows:

Motion 1: the Council agrees with the philosophy of the second proposal of the SPC. 13 votes in favor (out of 13).

Motion 2: the Committees will draw from various sources, and the Council will be notified. 12 in favor.

Motion 3: to create an Honors Committee to look at all the awards' rules, select the selection committees; 14 in favor.

Motion 4: diversity and conclusion committee (4 members from Council; one from outside the Council, i.e. a regular RSAI member; President and ED are *ex officio*). 14 in favor.

Motion 5: Young Scholars committee, where each supranational section picks a member (not from the Council); the ED will be *ex officio*. This committee has the task to raise and attract programs. In favor: 14.

Motion 6: Publication and External Relations Committee, with two Council members onboard, and specific skills as well. In favor: 14.

Motion 7: there is oversight with these committees, that don't act alone. 14 in favor.

Motion 8: 14 in favor.

At 5.45 CET Eduardo Haddad and André Torre leave the virtual room.

At 5.50 Mark Partridge adjourns the meeting.

12.AOB

Serena Erendira-Serrano writes in the chat that amendments on her name need to be done. Martijn Smit proposes to host on the RSAI Newsletter an article on the LRPC and how it works.

Annex 1: RSAI Council Members

2020 RSAI Council Members

	Name	Member	Period	Email address
1	Mark Partridge	President	2019-2020	partridge.27@osu.edu
2	Rachel Franklin	PRSCO President	2019-2020	rachel.franklin@newcastle.ac.uk
3	Lily Kiminami	PRSCO Representative	2018-2020	kiminami@agr.niigata-u.ac.jp
4	Brian Kim	PRSCO Representative	2019-2021	briankim66@snu.ac.kr
5	Neil Reid	NARSC Executive Director	2018-2020	neil.reid@utoledo.edu
6	Peter Stenberg	NARSC Representative	2019-2021	nordacad13@gmail.com
7	Sandy Dall'Erba	NARSC Representative	2019-2021	dallerba@illinois.edu
8	Andre Torre	ERSA President	2019-2022	andre.torre@wanadoo.fr
9	Francisco Carballo Cruz	ERSA Representative	2020-2022	fcaballo@eeg.uminho.pt
10	Eveline Van Leeuwen	ERSA Representative	2020-2022	eveline.vanleeuwen@wur.nl
11	Serena Erendira Serrano Oswald	LARSA President	2018-2020	sesohi@hotmail.com
12	Patricio Aroca	LARSA Representative	2020-2022	patricio.aroca@uai.cl
13	Carlos Azzoni	LARSA Representative	2020-2022	cazzoni@usp.br
14	Amit Batabyal	Councillor at large	2018-2020	aabgsh@rit.edu
15	Sumana Bandyopadhyay	Councillor at large	2018-2020	sumona_bm@yahoo.com
16	Rosella Nicolini	Councillor at large	2018-2020	Rosella.nicolini@uab.cat
17	Maria Abreu	Councillor at large	2019-2021	ma405@cam.ac.uk
18	Daniela Luminita-Constantin	Councillor at large	2020-2022	dconstan@hotmail.com
19	Andrea Caragliu	Executive Director	2019-2021	andrea.caragliu@polimi.it
20	Eduardo Haddad	President Elect	2020-2022	ehaddad@usp.br

LRPC Members

1	Peter Nijkamp	President	1991 – 1992	pnijkamp@hotmail.com
2	Lay J. Gibson	President	1993-1994	ljgibson@comcast.net
3	Kingsley E. Haynes	President	1995-1996	khaynes@gmu.edu
4	Peter W. J. Batey	President	1997-1998	pwjbatey@liv.ac.uk
5	H.Khono	President	1999-2000	
6	Geoffrey J.D.Hewings	President	2001-2002	hewings@uiuc.edu
7	Antoine Bailly	President	2003-2004	antoine.bailly@unige.ch
8	Robert J. Stimson	President	2005-2006	rstimson@unimelb.edu.au
9	Roberta Capello	President	2009-2010	roberta.capello@polimi.it
10	Yoshiro Higano	President	2011-2012	higano@jsrsai.jp
11	Jean-Claude Thill	President	2013-2014	Jean-Claude.Thill@uncc.edu
12	Andres Rodriguez Pose	President	2015-2016	a.rodriguez-pose@lse.ac.uk
13	Budy Resosudarmo	President	2017-2018	budy.resosudarmo@anu.edu.au
14	Mark Partridge	President Elected	2017-2020	partridge.27@osu.edu

RSAI Ex-Officio Members

1	Roberta Capello	Editor in Chief of PIRS	roberta.capello@polimi.it
2	Tomaz Dentinho	Editor in Chief of RSPP	tomas.lc.dentinho@uac.pt
3	Peter W. J. Batey	Archivist	pwjbatey@liv.ac.uk
4	Martjin Smit	Newsletter Editor	M.J.Smit@uu.nl
5	Graham Clarke	Newsletter Editor	G.P.Clarke@leeds.ac.uk
6	HiroYuki Shibusawa	PRSCO Executive Director	hiro-shibu@tut.jp
7	Francisco Carballo Cruz	Treasurer	fcaballo@eeg.uminho.pt
8	Elisabete Martins	Finance Director	Elisabete.martins@apdr.pt

RSAI Report and Accounts

2019

MAY 2020

**Andrea Caragliu
Elisabete Martins**

RSAI 
THE REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL

Note from the Executive Director in 2019

During 2019, two RSAI Council Meetings have been held, one in Lyon (France), during the ERSA congress, and one in Pittsburgh (USA), during the NARSC congress. For both meetings, detailed minutes are available on the RSAI webpage. Let me stress that this practice should not be taken for granted: to the best of my knowledge this does not happen in similar Learnt Societies representing our benchmark.

In 2019, the RSAI Council composition changed as follows:

- Mark Partridge stepped in as President, replacing Budy Resosudarmo;
- Eduardo Haddad stepped in as Vice President;
- Rachel Franklin replaced Fu-Chuan Lai as PRSCO Representative and President;
- Sandy Dall’Erba replaced Alessandra Faggian as NARSC representative;
- Maria Abreu replaced Fabio Mazzola as Councillor-At-Large;
- Andrea Caragliu replaced Tomaz Dentinho as RSAI Executive Director;
- Serena Erendira Serrano Oswald has been elected Treasurer (ex officio).

The RSAI maintained, and possibly improved, its positioning in terms of scientific publications. *Papers in Regional Science* increased its impact factor from 2.02 (2018) to 2.22 (2019), further strengthening its positioning with respect to other leading Regional Science Journals. *Regional Science Policy and Practice* published 6 issues in 2019, achieving substantial improvements across most indicators on Scimago (absolute number of citations; citations per paper; number of citable products; etc.). Last but not least, Martijn Smit and Graham Clarke edited two issues of the RSAI Newsletter, published and distributed by the RSAI in the welcome bags at the ERSA (Lyon) and Pittsburgh (NARSC) Conferences and wifely downloaded from our websites.

The number of RSAI members reached an all-time high of 4,448 in 2019, up from 3,726 in 2018. This success must be attributed to the excellent work of previous managements, and leaves on the shoulders of the present and future management of the Association the burden to further strengthen these results, facing the relevant challenges that lie ahead.

As in previous years, the RSAI committed relevant efforts in acknowledging the best work of regional scientists. In particular, with the Nurturing Talent programme the following initiatives have been supported:

- AERUS 2019 12th Annual Midwest Graduate Student Summit (USA)
- 32nd ERSA Summer School (Poland)
- 2nd ERSA Winter School on " Spatial Productivity for Regional and Local Development" (Italy)
- Croatian Section’s Summer School: A new conceptualisation and reality check of regional development and policy (Croatia)
- RED workshop “Challenges of a new era” (Mexico)
- Workshop on “South American Infrastructures and Sustainable Regional Development” (Bolivia)
- Intensive Course Program: Urban and Regional, Transportation and Environmental Economics (Indonesia)
- Workshop on “Challenges of regions in development” (Mozambico)

- Workshop on “Institutions, Governance and Regional Development: State, Governance, and Policy” (Armenia)
- Workshop on “Challenges of infrastructure development and sustainability” (Pakistan)
- Workshop on Urban and Regional Complex Systems (Indonesia)
- Regional Science Mission to Sri Lanka (Sri Lanka)
- Workshop on Regional Science Methods (India)

Lastly, in 2019 the net balance on the Association’s bank account increased to 369,513.94 as of Dec. 31, 2019, up from 354,888.50 € in January 2019.

A huge *grazie* to the whole Council for the remarkable dedication with which we are all working to make the RSAI an even stronger and more forward-looking Association.

Andrea Caragliu

RSAI Executive Director in 2019

CONTENT

Note from the Executive Director in 2019.....	2
1. RSAI Council Members	4
2. RSAI Publications	5
3. RSAI Awards	7
4. RSAI Membership	8
5. RSAI Accounts of 2019	9

1. RSAl Council Members

Table 1. –RSAl Council Members in 2019

	Name	Member	Period	Email
1	Mark Partridge	President	2019-2020	partridge.27@osu.edu
2	Eduardo Haddad	Vice President	2019-2020	ehaddad@usp.br
3	Rachel Franklin	PRSCO President	2019-2020	rachel_franklin@brown.edu
4	Lily Kiminami	PRSCO Representative	2018-2020	kiminami@agr.niigata-u.ac.jp
5	Brian Kim	PRSCO Representative	2019-2021	briankim66@snu.ac.kr
6	Neil Reid	NARSC President	2018-2020	neil.reid@utoledo.edu
7	Peter Stenberg	NARSC Representative	2019-2021	nordacad13@gmail.com
8	Sandy Dall'Erba	NARSC Representative	2019-2021	dallerba@illinois.edu
9	Andre Torre	ERSA President	2019-2022	andre.torre@wanadoo.fr
10	Francisco Carballo Cruz	ERSA Representative	2017-2019	fcaballo@eeg.uminho.pt
11	Jouke Van Dijk	ERSA Representative	2015-2019	jouke.van.dijk@rug.nl
12	Serena Serrano Oswald	LARSA President	2018-2020	sesohi@hotmail.com
13	Jaime Bonet	LARSA Representative	2017-2019	jbonetmo@banrep.gov.co
14	Eduardo Haddad	LARSA Representative	2017-2019	ehaddad@usp.br
15	Amit Batabyal	Councilor at large	2018-2020	aabgsh@rit.edu
16	Sumana Bandyopadhyay	Councilor at large	2018-2020	sumona_bm@yahoo.com
17	Rosella Nicolini	Councilor at large	2018-2020	Rosella.nicolini@uab.cat
18	Maria Abreu	Councilor at large	2019-2021	ma405@cam.ac.uk
19	Laurie Schintler	Councilor at large	2017-2019	lschintl@gmu.edu
20	Andrea Caragliu	Executive Director	2019-2021	andrea.caragliu@polimi.it

Table 2. –RSAl Council Members in 2018

	Name	Member	Period	Email
1	Budy Resosudarmo	President	2017-2018	budy.resosudarmo@anu.edu.au
2	Mark Partridge	Vice President	2018	partridge.27@osu.edu
3	Fu-Chuan-Lai	PRSCO President	2018-2020	uiuclai@gate.sinica.edu.tw
4	Lily Kiminami	PRSCO Representative	2018-2020	kiminami@agr.niigata-u.ac.jp
5	Armida Alisjahbana	PRSCO Representative	2018-2020	armida.alisjahbana@unpad.ac.id
6	Neil Reid	NARSC President	2018-2020	neil.reid@utoledo.edu
7	Peter Stenberg	NARSC Representative	2016-2018	nordacad13@gmail.com
8	Alessandra Faggian	NARSC Representative	2016-2018	alessandra.faggian@gssi.it
9	Jouke Van Dijk	ERSA President	2015-2018	jouke.van.dijk@rug.nl
10	Francisco Carballo Cruz	ERSA Representative	2017-2019	fcaballo@eeg.uminho.pt
11	Andre Torre	ERSA Representative	2014-2019	andre.torre@wanadoo.fr
12	Serena Serrano Oswald	LARSA President	2018-2020	sesohi@hotmail.com
13	Jaime Bonet	LARSA Representative	2017-2019	jbonetmo@banrep.gov.co
14	Eduardo Haddad	LARSA Representative	2017-2019	ehaddad@usp.br
15	Amit Batabyal	Councilor at large	2018-2020	aabgsh@rit.edu
16	Sumana Bandyopadhyay	Councilor at large	2018-2020	cu.rsa2016@gmail.com
17	Rosella Nicolini	Councilor at large	2018-2020	Rosella.nicolini@uab.cat
18	Fabio Mazzola	Councilor at large	2016-2018	fabio.mazzola@unipa.it
19	Laurie Schintler	Councilor at large	2017-2019	lschintl@gmu.edu
20	Tomaz Dentinho	Executive Director	2011-2018	tomas.lc.dentinho@uac.pt

2. RSAI Publications

RSAI Journals - 2019 Financial Statement

Accounts for the Year Ended December 31, 2019		
<i>Papers in Regional Science and Regional Science Policy and Practice</i>		
	2018	2019
	GBP	GBP
'All Journals' License	49,696	56,933
Other Licenses	65,805	67,762
Online	7,043	4,763
Members	22,876	0
Total Subscription Revenue	145,419	129,458
Copyright agency	194	646
Digital Rights	15,987	16,900
Backfiles	3,246	743
PPV	983	1,058
Open Access	7,686	17,403
Total Non-Subscription Revenue	28,097	36,750
Total Revenue	173,516	166,208
Revenue and Cost adjustments	13,947	0
Contribution to Publisher's Overheads	45,192	0
Net Royalty	37,740	58,172
Advance Royalty	0	40,167
Editorial costs to be paid	8,501	0
Net payable value	46,241	18,005

Wiley and its associated subsidiaries will not accept any responsibility for the correct application and reporting of tax associated with the above payment. It is the responsibility of the payee to invoice for and account for any tax due.

Agreed and Authorized Final Copy

Signed  _____

Abby Gould

Date 3/19/2020

Accounts for the Year Ended December 31, 2019
Papers in Regional Science

	2018	2019
	GBP	GBP
'All Journals' License	49,690	56,929
Other Licenses	65,441	67,750
Online	4,266	4,610
Personal	(0)	0
Members	22,876	0
Total Subscription Revenue	142,273	129,289
Copyright agency	189	646
Digital Rights	15,478	16,320
Backfiles	3,246	743
PPV	903	676
Open Access	4,158	8,947
Total Non-Subscription Revenue	23,974	27,332
Total Revenue	166,247	156,621
Revenue and Cost adjustments	12,895	0
Contribution to Publisher's Overheads	43,011	0
Net Royalty	40,149	54,817
Advance Royalty	0	40,167
Editorial costs to be paid	7,193	0
Net payable value	47,342	14,650

Accounts for the Year Ended December 31, 2019
Regional Science Policy and Practice

	2018	2019
	GBP	GBP
'All Journals' License	6	4
Other Licenses	364	12
Online	2,777	153
Personal	(0)	0
Total Subscription Revenue	3,146	169
Copyright agency	5	0
Digital Rights	509	580
PPV	81	382
Open Access	3,528	8,456
Total Non-Subscription Revenue	4,123	9,418
Total Revenue	7,269	9,587
Revenue and Cost adjustments	1,052	0
Contribution to Publisher's Overheads	2,181	0
Net Royalty	(2,409)	3,355
Editorial costs to be paid	1,308	0
Net payable value	(1,101)	3,355

Czamanski Dissertation Award

[Haotian Zhong](#) is the 2019 Czamanski Dissertation Award for his dissertation entitled "Autonomous vehicles and urban form". He was supervised by Wei Li from Texas A&M University.

RSAl Fellows

In 2019 the following RSAl Fellows have been elected:

- Michael Batty, University College London, UK;
- Ingmar Prucha, University of Maryland, USA;
- Isabelle Thomas, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium.

RSPP Annual Paper Award

The winner of the RSPP Annual Paper Award 2019 was the article: Manuel Gómez-Zaldívar, Marco T. Mosqueda and J. Alejandra Duran (2017) - [Localization of manufacturing industries and specialization in Mexican states: 1993–2013: 1993–2013](#). Regional Science Policy & Practice 9 (4), 301-315.

4. RSAl Membership

Table 3. –RSAl Members by year

Year	Members
2008	3100
2009	3043
2010	3550
2011	3535
2012	3955
2013	3978
2014	4288
2015	4364
2016	4255
2017	4434
2018	3726
2019	4448

5. RSAI Accounts of 2019

In 2019 RSAI achieved a net surplus of 7 503,40 € (Net profit for the exercise).

There are sections that do not have enrolled members; there are sections that have relatively few members relative to the population of the respective areas of influence.

The Costs with the program NURTURING NEW TALENT INITIATIVE was 52 130,88 €.

The bank account evolved from 354 888,50 € in December 2018 to 369 513,94 € in December 2019.

Table 4. Accounts from January 2019 till December 2019

	Bank account in Euros	
1	Balance brought forward from 2018 (01-01-2019)	354 888,50 €
2	Closing Balance carried forward (31-12-2019)	369 513,94 €
3=(2-1)	Margin of 2019	14 625,44 €

Accounts from January 2019 till December 2019			
Description	Revenues	Costs	NET PROFIT
General	-€	8 645,03 €	- 8 645,03 €
ACCOUNTING	-€	3 322,95 €	- 3 322,95 €
WEBSERVER, NEW WEBSITE AND CONGRESS SYSTEM	-€	-€	-€
RSAI SECRETARIATE	-€	5 000,00 €	- 5 000,00 €
OTHERS (credit card system charges and other bank charges)	-€	322,08 €	- 322,08 €
Others	4 609,40 €	-€	4 609,40 €
Deposit cash money from 2018	323,64 €	-€	323,64 €
Refund VAT 2018 from State	2 057,00 €	-€	2 057,00 €
Return transfer	2 228,76 €	-€	2 228,76 €
Executive Directorate	-€	7 500,00 €	- 7 500,00 €
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EXPENDITURES	-€	7 500,00 €	- 7 500,00 €
Editorial Activity	-€	24 756,04 €	- 24 756,04 €
RSAI NEWSLETTER PAYMENT	-€	968,83 €	- 968,83 €
RSAI NEWLETTER PRINTING	-€	1 280,88 €	- 1 280,88 €
PIRS EDITORIAL OFFICE ANUAL EXPENSES	-€	7 500,00 €	- 7 500,00 €
PIRS EDITORIAL FOR EDITORS	-€	5 006,33 €	- 5 006,33 €
RSPP EDITORIAL OFFICE ANUAL EXPENSES	-€	5 000,00 €	- 5 000,00 €
RSPP EDITORIAL FOR EDITORS	-€	5 000,00 €	- 5 000,00 €
ARQUIVIST	-€	-€	-€
REGIONAL SCIENCE RESEARCH	-€	-€	-€
Wiley - Blackwell	98 741,50 €	24 896,60 €	73 844,90 €
PIRS AND RSPP 2018 PROFIT SHARE	54 065,00 €	-€	54 065,00 €
PIRS ADVANCE ON EDITORIAL AND TRAVEL EXPENSES 2018	31 273,55 €	-€	31 273,55 €
RSPP ADVANCE ON EDITORIAL AND TRAVEL EXPENSES 2018	13 402,95 €	-€	13 402,95 €
PAYMENT JOHN WILEY & SONS, LTD - YEAR 2018 - RSAI MEMBERSHIP	-€	24 896,60 €	- 24 896,60 €
RSAI Awards	-€	4 468,98 €	- 4 468,98 €
MARTIN BECKMANN AWARD (500€) - CASH 2019	-€	577,92 €	- 577,92 €
DISSERTATION AWARD - CASH 2019	-€	750,83 €	- 750,83 €
PETER NIJKAMP AWARD - CASH 2017 (2 winners)	-€	1 565,90 €	- 1 565,90 €
RSAI YOUNG RESEARCHERS PRIZE - 1ST PRIZE - CASH	-€	-€	-€

RSAl YOUNG RESEARCHERS PRIZE - 2ND PRIZE - CASH	-€	-€	-€
RSPP ANNUAL PAPER AWARD - CASH 2019	-€	785,55 €	- 785,55 €
RSPP ANNUAL PAPER AWARD - CASH 2020	-€	360,55 €	- 360,55 €
RSPP ANNUAL REFEREE AWARD - CASH	-€	-€	-€
PLAQUES	-€	428,23 €	- 428,23 €
RSAl Support	-€	52 130,88 €	- 52 130,88 €
NURTURING NEW TALENT 2019	-€	52 130,88 €	- 52 130,88 €
BULDING BRIDGES	-€	-€	-€
Memberships	38 389,03 €	-€	38 389,03 €
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS	190,30 €	-€	190,30 €
MEMBERSHIP BALTIC SECTION	260,00 €	-€	260,00 €
MEMBERSHIP BRITISH AND IRISH SECTION	980,00 €	-€	980,00 €
MEMBERSHIP BULGARIAN SECTION	40,00 €	-€	40,00 €
MEMBERSHIP CROATIA SECTION (2018 and 2019)	630,00 €	-€	630,00 €
MEMBERSHIP DUTCH SECTION	1 070,00 €	-€	1 070,00 €
MEMBERSHIP FRENCH SECTION	1 890,00 €	-€	1 890,00 €
MEMBERSHIP GERMAN SECTION	2 490,00 €	-€	2 490,00 €
MEMBERSHIP GREEK SECTION	590,00 €	-€	590,00 €
MEMBERSHIP HUNGARIAN SECTION	690,00 €	-€	690,00 €
MEMBERSHIP ISRAEL SECTION	260,00 €	-€	260,00 €
MEMBERSHIP ITALIAN SECTION	2 600,00 €	-€	2 600,00 €
MEMBERSHIP NORDIC SECTION	-€	-€	-€
MEMBERSHIP POLISH SECTION	710,00 €	-€	710,00 €
MEMBERSHIP PORTUGUESE SECTION	970,00 €	-€	970,00 €
MEMBERSHIP ROMANIAN SECTION	372,00 €	-€	372,00 €
MEMBERSHIP SLOVAKIA SECTION	450,00 €	-€	450,00 €
MEMBERSHIP SPANISH SECTION	3 300,00 €	-€	3 300,00 €
MEMBERSHIP TURKISH SECTION (2018 and 2019)	1 293,00 €	-€	1 293,00 €
MEMBERSHIP ARGENTINA SECTION	-€	-€	-€
MEMBERSHIP BRAZIL SECTION	960,00 €	-€	960,00 €
MEMBERSHIP CHILEAN SECTION (2018 and 2019)	1 598,39 €	-€	1 598,39 €
MEMBERSHIP ECUADORIAN SECTION (2017 and 2018)	283,45 €	-€	283,45 €
MEMBERSHIP MEXICAN SECTION	-€	-€	-€
MEMBERSHIP ARMENIA SECTION	75,33 €	-€	75,33 €
MEMBERSHIP COLOMBIAN SECTION	193,58 €	-€	193,58 €
MEMBERSHIP NARSC SECTION (2018 and 2019)	8 030,00 €	-€	8 030,00 €
MEMBERSHIP AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND SECTION	600,00 €	-€	600,00 €
MEMBERSHIP INDIA SECTION	-€	-€	-€
MEMBERSHIP INDONESIAN SECTION	606,98 €	-€	606,98 €
MEMBERSHIP JAPANESE SECTION	5 010,00 €	-€	5 010,00 €
MEMBERSHIP ARSC SECTION	1 560,00 €	-€	1 560,00 €
MEMBERSHIP KOREAN SECTION (2018 and 2019)	560,00 €	-€	560,00 €
MEMBERSHIP MOROCCAN SECTION	-€	-€	-€
MEMBERSHIP CHINA SECTION	40,00 €	-€	40,00 €
MEMBERSHIP BANGLADESH SECTION	86,00 €	-€	86,00 €
RSAl WORLD CONGRESS 2020	1 843,20 €	6 560,16 €	- 4 716,96 €
Support Abdel to ERSa 2019	-€	1 455,57 €	- 1 455,57 €
Registration fees	1 843,20 €	-€	1 843,20 €
30% deposit hotel rooms	-€	5 104,59 €	- 5 104,59 €
TOTAL	143 583,13 €	128 957,69 €	14 625,44 €

STATUTORY AUDITOR'S REPORT

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Qualified Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of Regional Science Association International - RSAI, registered in Portugal with the fiscal tax number 509754090, which comprise the balance sheet as at 12/31/2019 (showing a total of 372.846,33 € and a total of equity funds of 369.397,33 €, including a net profit of 7.503,40 €), the income statement by nature, and the management report RSAI Report and Accounts of 2019.

In my opinion, except for the effects of the situations described in the section below "Basis for the qualified opinion", the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view, in all material respects, of the financial position of the Entity as at 12/31/2019, and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards for Non-Profit Entities adopted in Portugal under the Portuguese Accounting System.

1

Basis for the qualified opinion

(1) As contingent expenditure, the amount paid in the previous year 2018 to lawyers outside of Portugal generated contingencies of 1,613.39 €, (2) the value of the initial booking deposit of the Hotel in Marrakech for the World Congress in the amount of 5.069 € was considered as a cost in 2019, but it should have been deferred to 2020 when the World Congress was scheduled to take place, (3) revenue accruals of € 889, were wrongly accounted for as cost accruals with impact of 1.778 €, and (4) in the revenues it was not accounted 21.245 € of the PIRS and RSPP royalty final income for the year 2019 despite the fact that it was only debited in March 2020, and consequently the net effect of these situations was undervaluing the profit of the period, and also the equity, in 26.478,61 €.

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) and further technical and ethical standards and guidelines as issued by Ordem dos Revisores Oficiais de Contas (the Portuguese Institute of Statutory Auditors). My responsibility under those standards is further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section below. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with the Ordem dos Revisores Oficiais de Contas code of ethics.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my qualified opinion.

Emphasis

Without affecting the opinion set forth in the above Qualified Opinion, I draw attention to the following situations:

-the matters of the Basis for Qualified Opinion of the precedent Certification of Accounts of the year 2018, one related the cash value of 323.64 € that was not supported, and the expense attributable to 2018 of annual PIRS subscriptions of €24,895.77 that was not accounted for in the period although invoiced only in May 2019, and in the revenues, the amount not accounted of 54,065 € of the PIRS and RSPP royalty final income for the year 2018 despite the fact that it was only debited in April 2019, were all regularized in the year 2019.

-after the year 2019 inclusive, RSAI no longer have to pay subscriptions for the publisher John Wiley, according to the renegotiated contract, what represented in the previous year of 2018 a cost of 24.895,77 €, or 25.371,59 € in the year 2017, or 26.575,89 € in the year 2016.

Responsibilities of management and the supervisory board by the financial statements

The management is responsible for:

- the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view of the Entity's financial position, financial performance in accordance with the Accounting and Financial Reporting Standard for Non-Profit Entities adopted in Portugal under the Portuguese Accounting System;
- the preparation of the management report in accordance with applicable laws and regulations;
- designing and maintaining an appropriate internal control system to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error;
- the adoption of accounting policies and principles appropriate in the circumstances; and
- assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, and disclosing, as applicable, the matters that may cast significant doubt about the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern.

The supervisory body is responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered materials if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

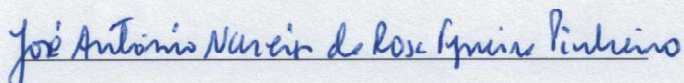
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of the internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management;
- conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern;
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation;
- communicate with those charged with governance, including the supervisory body, regarding among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during the audit.

My responsibility also includes verification that the information contained in the management's report and accounts of 2019 is consistent with the financial statements.

**Report on other legal and regulatory requirements
About the management's report & accounts of 2019**

In my opinion, the management's report & accounts of 2019 was prepared in accordance with the applicable legal and regulatory requirements and the information contained therein is consistent with the audited financial statements and, having regard to my knowledge and assessment over the Entity, I have not identified any material misstatements.

Angra do Heroísmo, August 28, 2020



José António Narciso da Rosa Figueira Pinheiro (Auditor number 1107)

José António Narciso da Rosa Figueira Pinheiro

Office: Rua de São João, 9, 1º

9700-182 Angra do Heroísmo

Phones: + 351 295215667/8 - 917285097, Fax: 295215663

Economist/Auditor, registered in Ordem de Revisores Oficiais de Contas, with the number 1107



DEMONSTRAÇÃO DOS RESULTADOS POR NATUREZAS



EM 31 DE DEZEMBRO DE 2019

REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL - RSAI

Valores em EURO

Página 1

RENDIMENTOS E GASTOS	NOTAS	31 Dez 2019	31 Dez 2018
Vendas e serviços prestados		63 883,50	161 078,21
Fornecimentos e serviços externos		(18 579,74)	(89 942,16)
Outros rendimentos		54 065,00	9 563,57
Outros gastos		(91 865,36)	(73 308,51)
Resultado antes de depreciações, gastos de financiamento e impostos		7 503,40	7 391,11
Resultado operacional (antes de gastos de financiamento e impostos)		7 503,40	7 391,11
Resultado antes de impostos		7 503,40	7 391,11
Resultado líquido do período		7 503,40	7 391,11



BALANÇO

EM 31 DE DEZEMBRO DE 2019



REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL - RSAI

Valores em EURO

Página 1

RÚBRICAS	NOTAS	31 Dez 2019	31 Dez 2018
ATIVO			
Ativo não corrente			
Ativo corrente			
Clientes		1 020,00	44 676,50
Estado e outros entes públicos			2 057,00
Capital subscrito e não realizado		2 166,69	9 533,69
Diferimentos		479,70	1 439,10
Outros ativos correntes		10,00	1 030,00
Caixa e depósitos bancários		369 169,94	355 212,14
		372 846,33	413 948,43
Total do ativo		372 846,33	413 948,43
CAPITAL PRÓPRIO E PASSIVO			
Capital próprio			
Capital subscrito		176 588,39	176 588,39
Reservas		185 305,54	177 914,43
		361 893,93	354 502,82
Resultado líquido do período		7 503,40	7 391,11
Total do capital próprio		369 397,33	361 893,93
Passivo			
Passivo não corrente			
Passivo corrente			
Diferimentos		2 550,00	47 084,50
Outros passivos correntes		899,00	4 970,00
		3 449,00	52 054,50
Total do passivo		3 449,00	52 054,50
Total do capital próprio e do passivo		372 846,33	413 948,43

Editorial Report on 2019 Activities

Summary

In November 2019 at the NARSC meeting, Eduardo Haddad was elected incoming president of RSAI. For this reason, he left the PiRS' editorial team. The RSAI Council elected Julie Le Gallo. I would like to thank Eduardo for his excellent work and welcome Julie as a member of our team.

The positive trends encountered in 2019 continue. The positive aspects are the following:

1. The impact factor (IF) continued to increase. This year it went from **2.02 to 2.22**, despite the publication of the long backlog we had. This result should not be read as something given for granted. Two main competitors decreased. Regional Science and Urban Economics fell from 2.09 to 1.66. Spatial Economic Analysis fell from 1.9 to 1.6. Journal of Regional Science remains stable (2.08) and we are now above it.
2. The **number of cited documents grew from 110 to 142**, while non-cited ones dropped from 46 to 37.
3. According to Scimago, in 2019 **the total citations grew from 323 to 494**. PiRS keeps its position in the best quartile for what concerns both Environmental Science and Social Science (Geography, Planning and Development). In JCR, PiRS advances its position in the second quartile for Economics (position 96 -100 in 2018-, the last one in the first quartile is 93) and Geography.
4. **The total number of submissions has grown from 288 to 354**. The rejection rate is around 79%, which is a strong signal of the seriousness and selectivity of the Editors in choosing high-quality contributions.
5. **No backlog exists any longer.**

1. Editorial Team and Editorial Board

In November 2019 at the NARSC meeting, Eduardo Haddad was elected incoming president of RSAI. For this reason, he left the PiRS' editorial team. The RSAI Council elected Julie Le Gallo. I would like to thank Eduardo for his excellent work and welcome Julie as a member of our team.

I take the opportunity also to thank my team for its brilliant contribution to the journal, witnessed by the positive results achieved also this year.

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
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	0,22	0,78	
2015	224	0,24	0,76	
2016	222	0,21	0,79	
2017	265	0,24	0,76	
2018	288	0,21	0,79	1
2019	354	0,18	0,82	13

In 2019, **the number of submissions grew to 354**. The acceptance rate was in 2019 around 18%, but still some papers are in review (13). Figure 1 shows **the total number of submissions is driven by European scientists, even if declining in favour of the PRSCO and Americas area**.

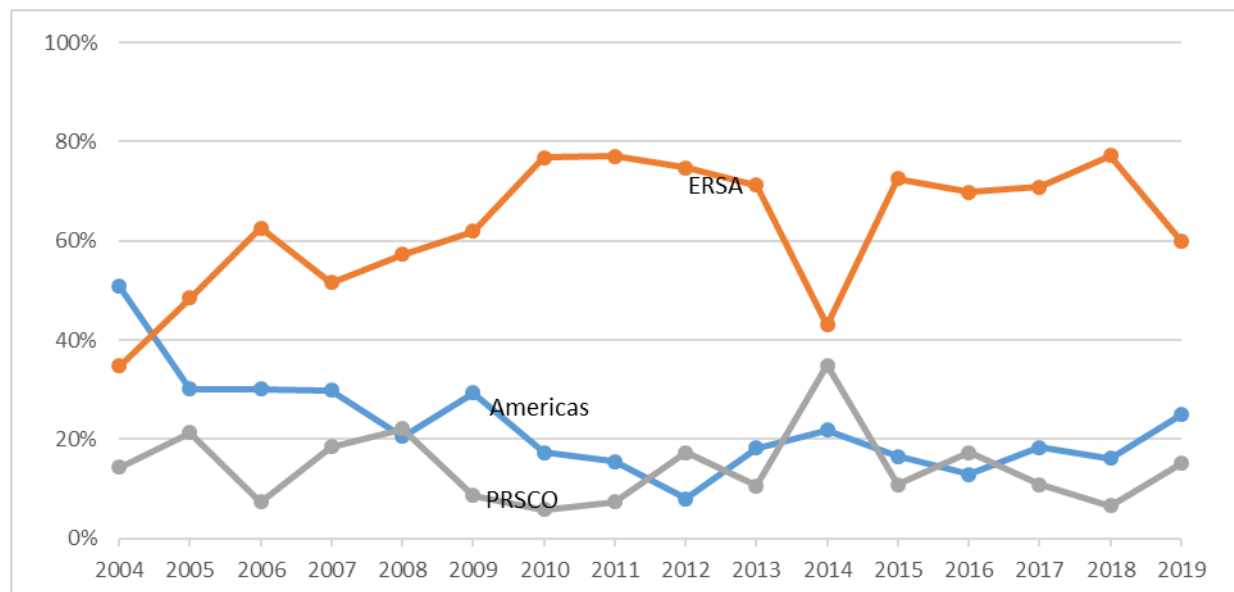


Fig. 1. Geographic distribution of authors in author pages (% per year and proportion), (% per year and proportion), Vol. 83–97, 2004–2018

2.2. Decision making process and reviewers

The **good performance in terms of a decision process continues** in all phases of the process to publication (Table 2). On average, the first decision takes place in less than one month and half, the second in a little bit more than 1 month.

Table 2. Manuscript processing in months

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
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	2,1	2,3	1,1	2,9	21,5
2016	1,9	1,9	1,1	2,3	18,9
2017	1,8	2,1	1,1	3,2	18,0
2018	1,9	2,1	1,1	2,1	18,1
2019	1,4	1,7	0,8	1,5	9,8

The time between the final decision and publication in print has decreased, around 10 months, as an effect of the solution to the backlog.

The number of referees has remained stable too, as Table 3 reports. The geographical distribution of referees has registered an increase in the Americas and a decrease in Europe and PRSCO.

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

Year	Reviewers	ERSA	Americas	PRSCO
2008	230	56%	34%	10%
2009	325	62%	25%	13%
2010	332	61%	23%	15%
2011	337	59%	25%	15%
2012	354	62%	22%	16%
2013	399	61%	26%	13%
2014	325	62%	25%	13%
2015	369	61%	22%	17%
2016	318	62%	26%	12%
2017	375	60%	25%	15%
2018	368	49%	38%	13%
2018	468	47%	45%	8%

2.3. Authors by geographical areas and by disciplines

Figure 2 presents the geographical distribution of submissions. **The trends have remained those of the previous years.** European submissions are the highest, followed by PRSCO and then by the Americas. Interestingly enough, the increase in the total submissions are due to an increase in submission from Americas and PRSCO, while European submissions remain stable.

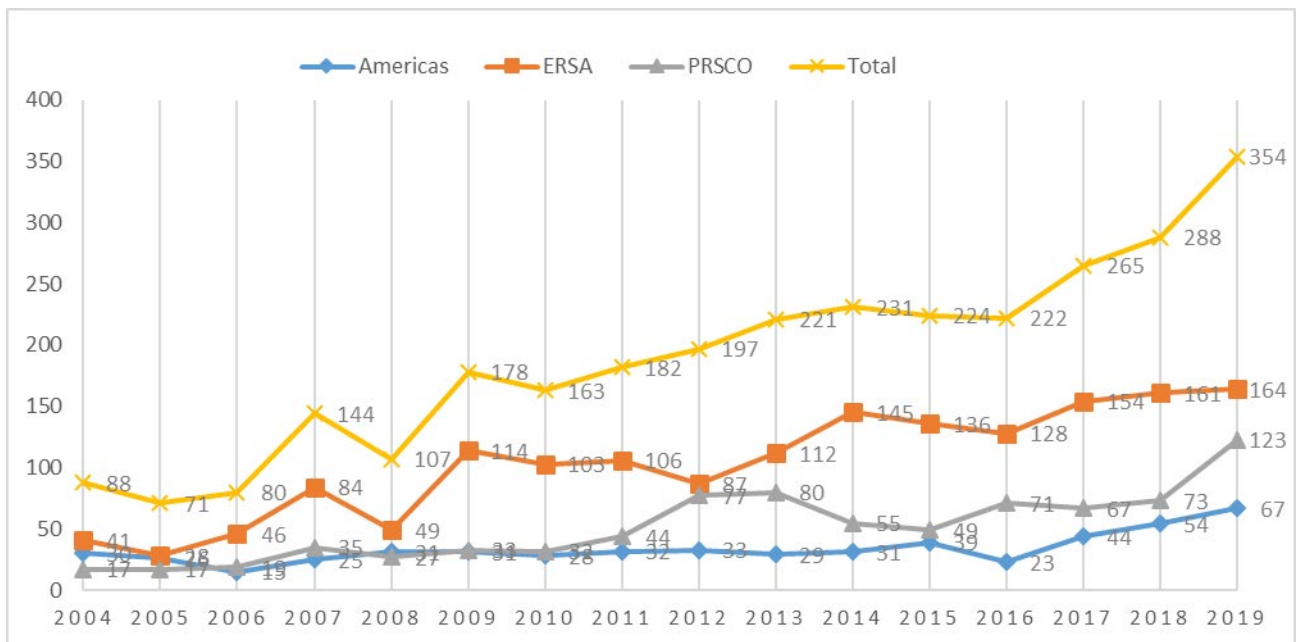
**Fig. 2.** Geographically detailed number of submissions, 2004–2019

Figure 3 reports the distribution of pages by discipline, where no particular new trends emerge.

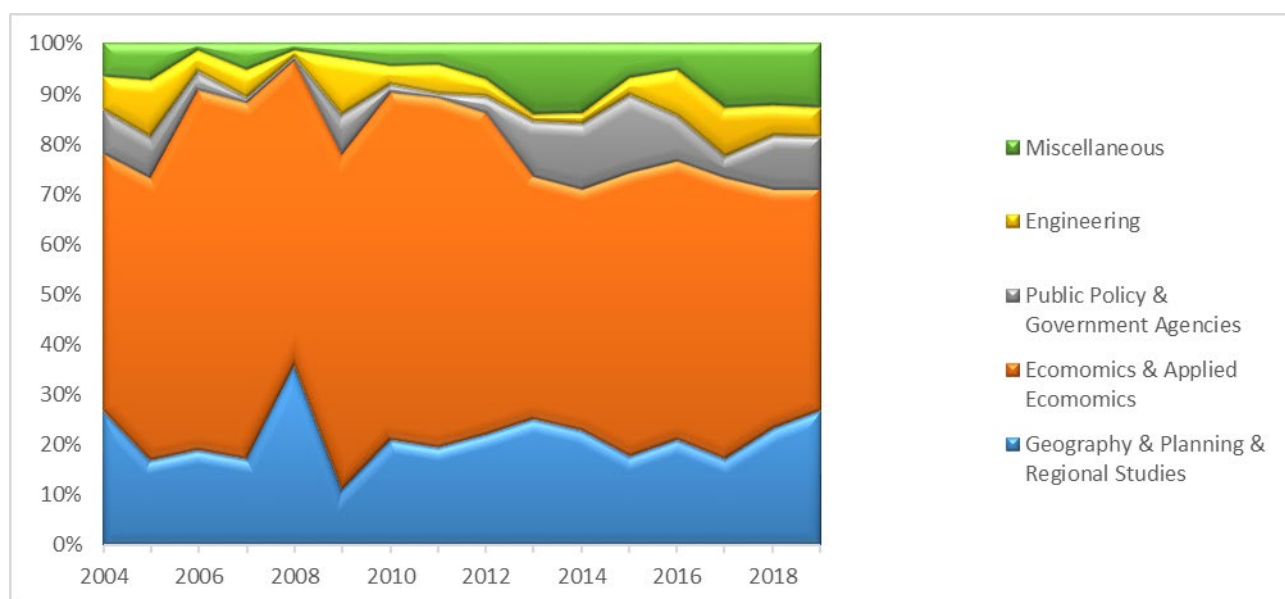
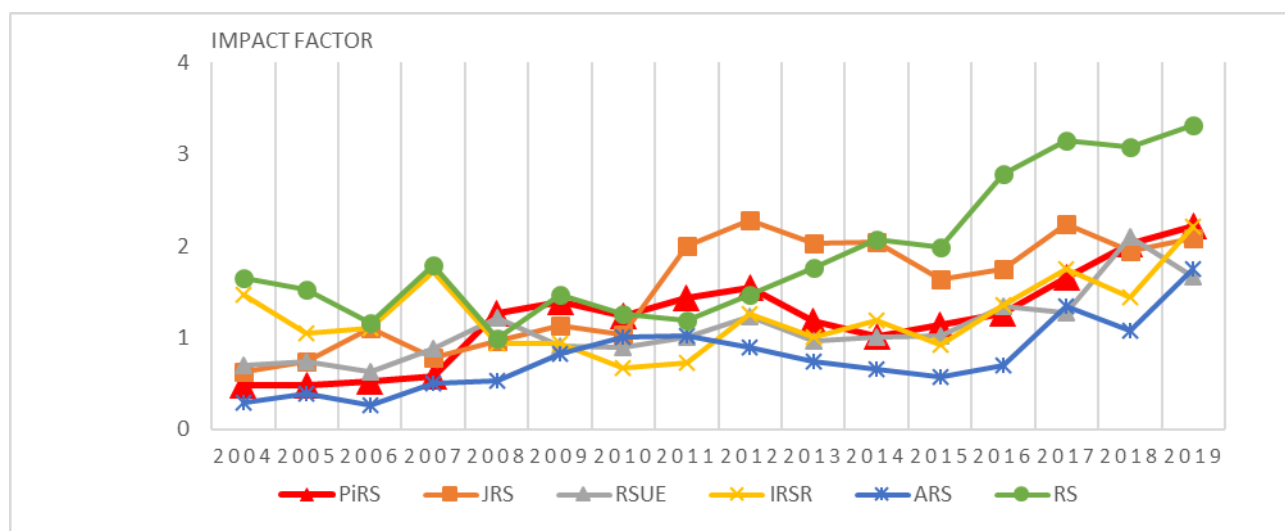


Fig. 3. Author pages by affiliation of the author(s), volume 83–96, 2004–2019

2.4. Impact Factor

The 2019 impact factor of PiRS has increased from 2.02 to 2.22, showing a decisive increase in the positive trend of the last few years. Interestingly enough, as Figure 4 shows, the highest competitors of PiRS have decreased their impact factor, with the exception of RSUE. The five-year impact factor is not available yet.

Figure 4. Impact factor from 2004 to 2019 for the most important regional science journals



In the figure, PiRS ranks second, after Regional Studies, and close to International Regional Science Review and Journal of Regional Science.

PiRS increased its position in Economics, and maintained its position in the other fields. In Economics it achieved 99/363 (Economics), compared to 100/353 in 2018.

The ambition of the editorial team is to achieve the best quartile in Economics (Q1) in the next years.

According to Scimago (30 June 2020), in 2019 the total citations grew from 323 to 494.

3. Editorial Policies

Given the good results, we continue with the editorial strategy put in place last year, namely:

- 1) a good and efficient management of the journal, which guarantees a good and attractive image for the journal;
- 2) the launch of special issues on strategic topics. We have in the pipeline an interesting special issue on the development of regional science from different national perspectives;
- 3) a selection of papers to be published based on the novelty of the themes treated, together with scientific rigor.

5. Concluding remarks

This report shows that the journal proceeds on a good trajectory like last year, signaling:

- an increasing interest of the international community, witnessed by the constant increase in submission;
- an increase in the IF; and,
- a better management of the journal.

As in each of the past years, I would like to end by thanking our Editorial manger, Elisabete Martins; we could not have 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
Sharmistha Bagchi-Sen, David Folch, Julie Le Gallo, Rosella Nicolini, John Winters, and Andrea Caragliu

Milan, Italy
1 July 2020

Summary

This report refers to the activity of RSPP during 2019 and the first half of 2020. The number of papers increase from 44 in 2018 to 77 in 2019 and the number of citations from 31 in 2018 to 63 in 2019. In 2019 RSPP grew to six issues getting 29770 downloads. RSPP had key speakers in all the meetings of the supra-regional associations (ERSA - Lyon, NARSC - Pittsburgh, PRSCO - Bangkok) and some of the meetings of the sections (Morocco – Mogador; Spain - Valencia, India - Mumbai, China - Shanghai). The estimated impact factor is 0.8 in 2019. With the RSAI agreement with Wiley RSPP has no limitations in the number of published articles; the strategy until 2021 to keep the number of submissions around 70 for six issues per year while targeting an impact factor above one in 2021.

1 - Introduction

This report refers to 2019 but also details the evolution of the journal until June 2020. In Section 2, we analyze the journal metrics, in Section 3 we highlight the aims and actions of the editorial team and in Section 4 we conclude.

2 - Editorial statistics

2.1. Pages, Papers and Citations

The number of pages, articles and citations per year increased from 2017 - with 20 articles, 303 pages and 22 citations – to 2018 with 31 articles, 410 pages and 44 citations, and to 2019 with 77 articles, citations and 988 pages. In the end 2020, based on the submitted papers that are on the system in the end of June and the ones that are already published in four issues of 2020, we expect to reach 48 articles, 1330 pages and more than 100 citations.

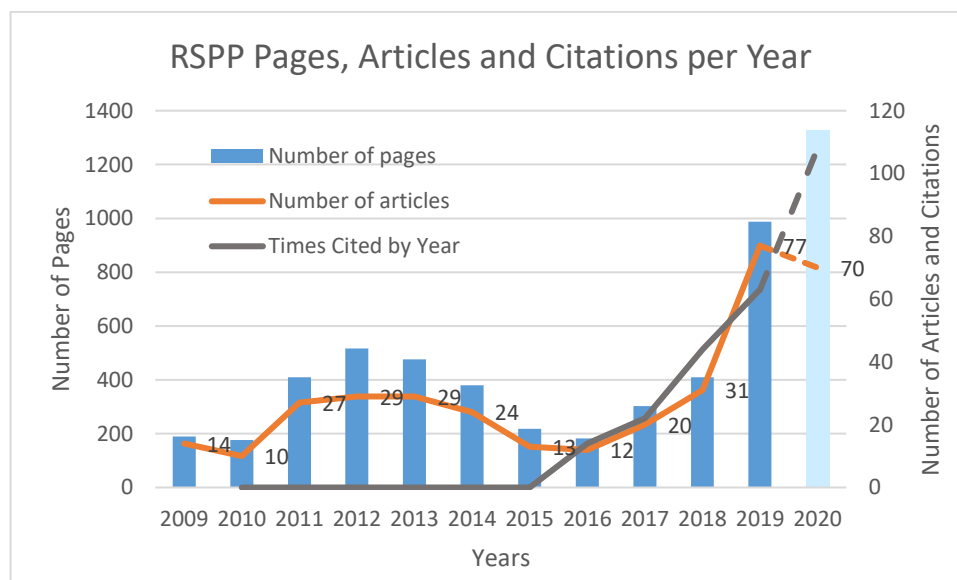


Figure 1: RSPP Pages, Articles and Citations per Year (RSPP Editorial Office)

The geographical distribution of the authors, counted by the number of pages, indicate a stabilization of the contributions from the Americas, compensated by an increase in papers coming from Europe and a reduction from other regions. Two Special Issues from Latin America will compensate the proportion from the Americas. Some effort is due in Africa and Asia to have a higher involvement from those parts of the world.

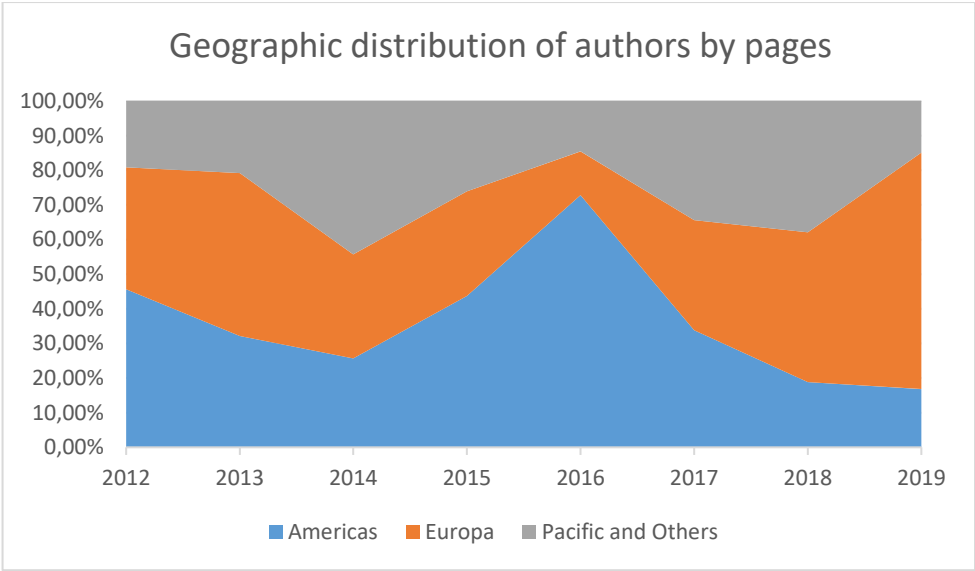


Figure2: Geographical distribution of authors by pages (RSPP Editorial Office)

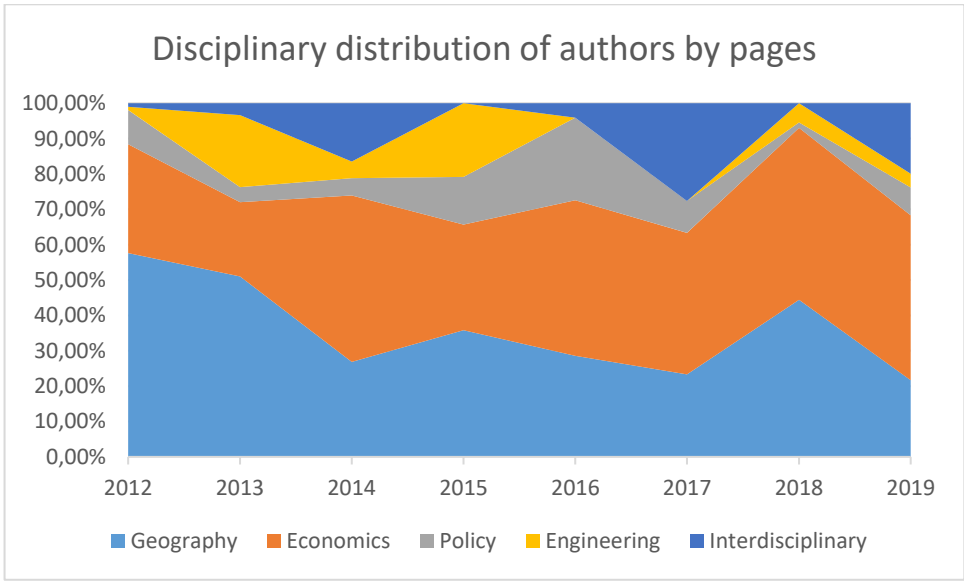


Figure 3: Disciplinary distribution of authors by pages (RSPP Editorial Office)

The disciplinary distribution of the authors’ affiliation measured by the number of pages is mainly concentrated in economics and geography is giving space to interdisciplinary perspectives.

2.2. Decision making process and reviewers

The number of submissions increased from 2018 to 2019 and the rejection rate increased from 51% to 61% (Table 1).

Table 1. Number of submissions and rejection rates

Year	Submissions	Acceptance rate	Rejection rate	Pending
2012	24	0,50	0,50	0
2013	27	0,63	0,37	0
2014	21	0,52	0,48	0
2015	16	0,31	0,69	0
2016	17	0,65	0,35	0
2017	87	0,53	0,47	0
2018	90	0,49	0,51	0
2019	166	0,39	0,61	35

The number of reviewers increased from 2018 to 2019 associated with a more balanced distribution of reviewers between Europe and the Americas but a smaller weight from other regions in Asia and Africa.

Table 2. Number of reviewers and proportion of reviewers by supra region

Year	Reviewers	ERSA	Americas	Other
2012	34	0,41	0,35	0,24
2013	15	0,47	0,33	0,20
2014	22	0,36	0,36	0,28
2015	13	0,38	0,38	0,24
2016	9	0,33	0,67	0,00
2017	147	0,46	0,25	0,29
2018	197	0,59	0,21	0,20
2019	228	0,54	0,32	0,14

2.4. Performance Indicators

According to Google Scholar, citations on Regional Science Policy and Practice was 261 in 2017, 313 in 2018, 405 in 2019 and is expected to reach more than 465 in 2020. The Cite Score was 1.17 in 2016, 0.96 in 2017, 1.07 in 2018, 1.19 in 2019 and 0.9 in 2020. We think it will be above 1,0 next year.

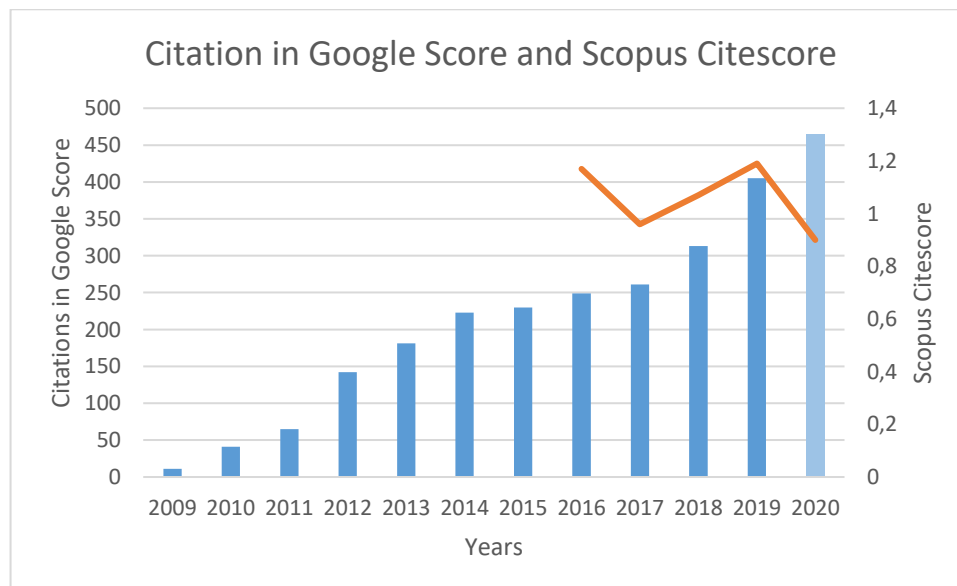


Figure 4: Google Scholar RSPC Citations and Scopus Cite Score (statistics from June 2020)

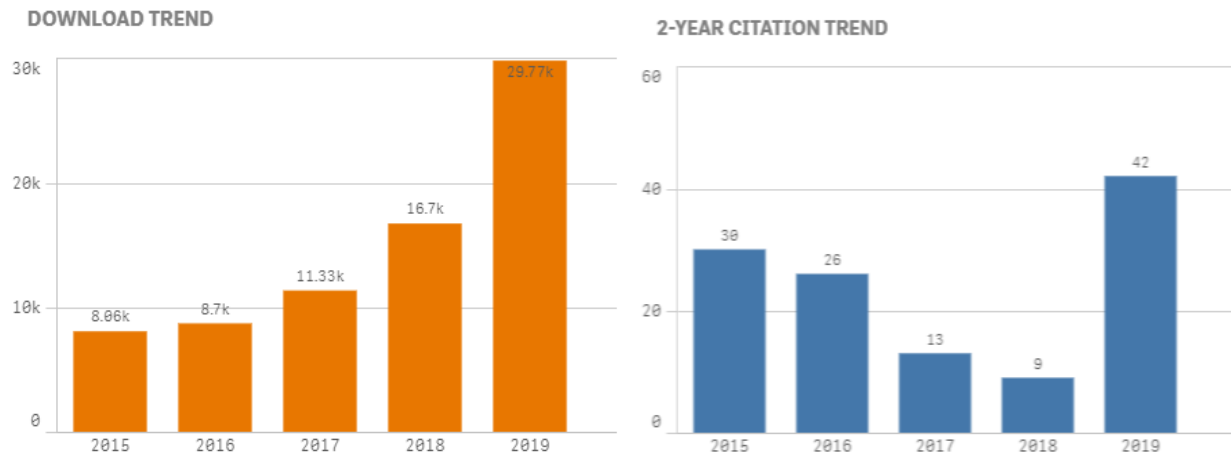


Figure 5: Downloads and Citations (Wiley, 2020)

Indicators collected by Wiley are also interesting (Figure 5). Downloads registered a steady increase since 2017 and, with a time lag of two years citations also begin to grow in 2019.

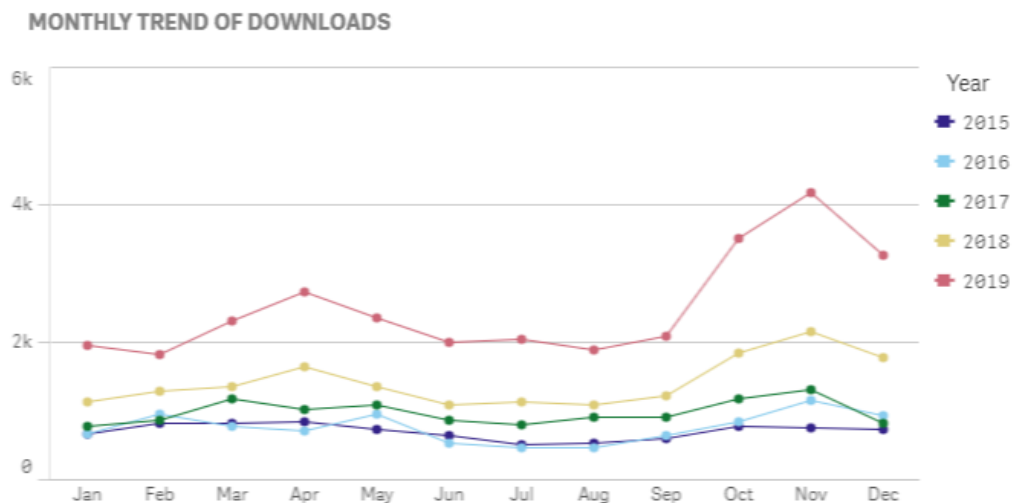
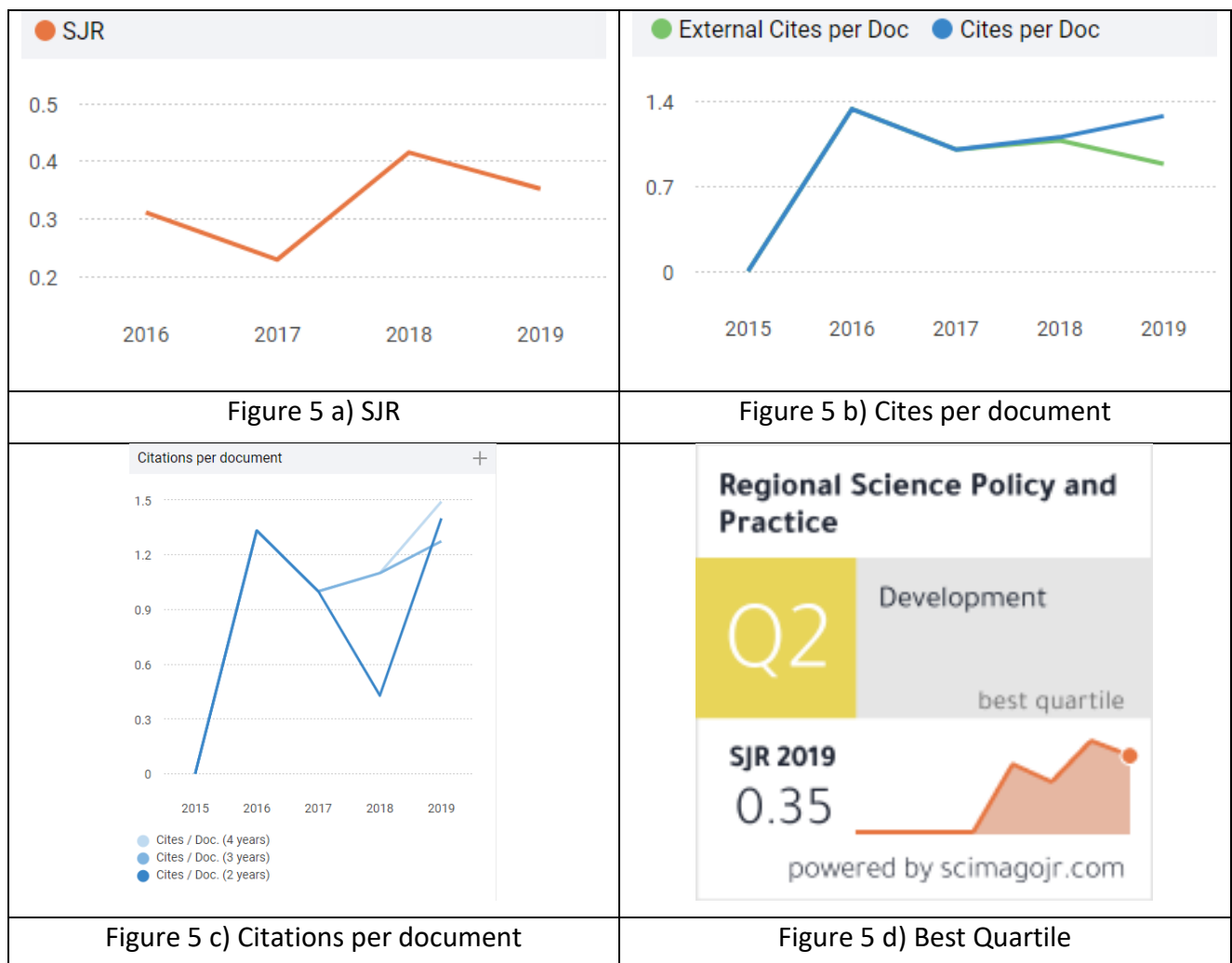


Figure 6: Downloads and Citations (Wiley, 2020)

The steady increase in the number of downloads is revealing an intensification of seasonality with higher searches during lecturing periods in Spring and Autumn indicating the opportunity to publish papers that are pedagogically appealing.

The SJR index decreased from 0.42 in 2018 to 0.35 in 2019 and the number of cites per document stay above 1. The journal fits into the second quartile for Development and for Planning and into the third quartile for Policy. Citations per document are between 1.2 and 1.5 for 2 years, 3 years and 4 years.



According to Wiley the estimated impact factor grew from 0.31 = 9 cites / 29 citable in 2018 to 0.84 = 42 cites / 50 citable in 2019. Because there was a great increase in the number of papers in 2019 the estimated impact factor can decrease to 0.5 in 2020 but, hopefully, recover in 2021.

Table 3. Factors that might influence citations – Analysis of RSPP Papers of 2018-2020

Linear Regression on the variables that influence the number of citations of RSPP in 2018-2020	R Square	0,197	Sig.	0,000
	B	Standard Error	t	p
Constant	0,720	0,284	2,535	0,012
Decision Time	-0,015	0,005	-3,217	0,002
Years	0,518	0,116	4,480	0,000
Reviews	-0,229	0,090	-2,551	0,012
Theoretical non Applied	-0,883	0,319	-2,764	0,007

Looking at the regression presented in Table 3 it seems that papers that receive less citations have longer decision time, are theoretical, have more revisions or are more recent. Other variable such as belonging to a special issue or coming from a particular region does not have significant effect in the number of citations. Also, there are no major differences between qualitative and quantitative applied papers.

3. Editorial Aims and Policies

3.1. Expected and achieved results

In 2017, RSPP proposed expected results for 2019. Herewith please find what was expected and achieved.

- As announced in 2017 in 2019 RSPP is present in all the meetings of the supra-regional

- associations (ERSA, NARSC, PRSCO) and some of the meetings of the sections (Spain, China);
- ii) RSPP did not get the impact factor in 2017 that will be requested again in 2021, but the estimated impact factor will be 0.8 in 2019, hopefully 0.5 in 2020, 0.9 in 2021 and, as envisaged, can still reach 1.25 in 2022;
- iii) RSPP grew as announced from two issues in 2016 to 6 issues in 2019;
- iv) Instead of the proposed 15000 downloads in 2019 the number of downloads was almost double with 29770 in 2019;
- v) Finally, with PIRS, RSAI got a good agreement with Wiley from 2018 onwards consubstantiated in having no limitations in the number of articles.

The targets for 2020 is to stabilise the number of articles of 2019 with six issues per year trying to avoid a strong decrease in the estimated impact factor associated to the strong increase in publications along 2019.

Following the indications of meeting of the RSPP Editorial Board in Pittsburgh, November 2019, a few actions taken:

- The editorial team enlarged to include Ana Vinuela, Elisabete Silva, Eveline Van Leeuwen, Gabriela Carmen Pascariu, Isabelle Nilsson and Katarzyna Kopczewska. That enlargement was very useful not only to promote interesting special issues but also to get an enlarged expertise in different fields and methods increasing the scrutiny potential of the journal.
- The reviewers form changed becoming more detailed, increasing the quality of the revisions and clarifying the indicative structure of RSPP papers.

Furthermore:

- RSPP paper award given in NARSC, San Diego.
- RSPP Special Sessions will take place in NARSC, on Tourism and on Covid-19.
- RSPP Plenary Session will take place in NARSC on Sustainable Urbanization.
- RSPP Special Issue or Special Sections of Normal Issues are coming on:
 1. Regional Development in Russia Alexander Pelyasov
 2. Drivers, Impacts and Policies of Covid19 Tomaz Dentinho and Neil Reid
 3. The underlying factors of (recent) regional voting patterns - Spatial Features of European Politics Eveline van Leeuwen and Solmaria Halleck-Vega
 4. Regional Development in China Jian Wang and Emmanouil Tranos
 5. Regional Development in Latin-America Patricio Alessandro Aroca and Carlos Azzoni
 6. Tackling with societal, technological and climate changes in peripheral territories Vicente Budi Orduña, Emili Tortosa Ausina and Luisa Alamá Sabater
 7. Regional Sustainability in Siberia and the Arctic Alexander Pelyasov
 8. Challenges and policies for Middle-income trap regions Andres Rodriguez-Pose and Vinko Mustra
 9. Evidence-Based Policymaking: the use of information for integrated territorial policy development João Lourenço Marques and Elisabete Silva
 10. Urban Resurgence in European Cities Alina Schoenberg
 11. Regional Science and Tourism Jaewon Lin; Juan Carlos Martin and Luca Zamparini
 12. New Landscape of Data and Sustainable Development in Asia Yuri Mansury, Sutee Anantsuksomsri and Nij Tontisirin
 13. New directions in regional development and spatial inequalities Paolo Postiglione

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 14. Modelling place attractiveness in the era of Big and Open data | John Östh, Umut Türk and Jie Huang |
| 15. Spatial Resilience and the Border Regions of Europe | "Gabriela Carmen Pascariu, |
| 16. Night Light Indicators of Regional Economic Activity | Katarzyna Kopczewska |
| Regional development in Central-Eastern Europe Katarzyna Kopczewska | |

3.2. Accounts

RSAI allocates to RSPP, 5000 Euros for the secretariat and 5000 euros for the editorial team. The 5000 euros for the Secretariat supports around 21% of the wage of Elisabete Martins. The 5000 Euros for the editorial team in 2019 (see Annex) went to:

- The travel of Emmanouil Tranos and Tschangho Kim to Shanghai, that is the base of the Special Issue on China;
- The travel of Tomaz Dentinho to Morocco that be present in the organizational meeting of the World Congress;
- The travel of Elisabete Silva, Jean Claude Thill and Tomaz Dentinho to the RSAI workshop in Mumbai;
- The travel of Yannis Psycharis to the Congress of the European Regional Science Association in Lyon;
- The support of the travel of the key speaker to the Congress of the Spanish Regional Science Association that will lead to a Special Issue edited by Vicente Budi Orduña, Emili Tortosa Ausina and Luisa Alamá Sabater.
- A small amount of the cheap ticket of Andre Torre form Porto to Paris that will secure contributions from a Congress of Portuguese Economists edited by Nuno Martins and José Reis planned for 2021.
- A dinner with invited colleagues in Pittsburgh.

The expenditures exceed the revenues on 891 Euros compensated by the transference of 2020. In 2020, there was a transference for the travel of Alessandra Faggian RSPP Key Speaker to the Congress of Morocco postponed to 2021 and for the travel of Barsha Poricha RSPP Key Speaker of the NARSC Congress in San Diego.

4. Concluding remarks

The strategy to increase the number of submissions and issues while targeting an impact factor above one in 2021 is on good track and reachable.

As pointed out by the Editorial Board of Pittsburgh, the report to submit to get Impact Factor in 2021 must be well prepared and well informed and the results we are getting seem promising.

Nevertheless, there are still many non-cited papers and still a long way to go in the combination, within the same paper or at least issue, of science or theory, practical methods and policy evaluation and advice.

Ana Vinuela, Budy Resosudarmo, Carlos Azzoni, Elisabete Silva, Emmanouil Tranos, Eveline Van Leeuwen, Gabriela Carmen Pascariu, Isabelle Nilsson, Katarzyna Kopczewska, Neil Reid, Patricio Aroca, Tiago Freire, Vicente Royuela and Tomaz Dentinho

RSPP Accounts 2017			
Date	Description	Revenues	Expenses
08/09/2017	Lunchs and dinners - GRONINGEN (ERSA 2017)	- €	275,10 €
26/09/2017	RSPP EDITORIAL AND TRAVEL SUPPORT FOR 2017 (from RSAI)	5 000,00 €	- €
09/11/2017	Travel Tomaz to VANCOUVER (NARSC 2017)	- €	747,95 €
20/11/2017	Lunchs and dinners - VANCOUVER (NARSC 2017)	- €	122,54 €
21/11/2017	Lunchs and dinners - Coimbra Symposium	- €	127,87 €
24/11/2017	Travel Abdellatif Khattabi to the Coimbra Symposium	- €	187,07 €
28/12/2017	Hotel, Lunchs and dinners - Coimbra Symposium	- €	286,30 €
28/12/2017	COMISSAO IMP SELO TRF - bank charges	- €	0,52 €
TOTAL		5 000,00 €	1 747,35 €
Balance			3 252,65 €
Retained for maintenance of expenses ACDA (5% of the Revenues)			250,00 €
Closing Balance for 2017			3 002,65 €

RSPP Accounts 2018			
Date	Description	Revenues	Expenses
01/01/2018	Balance brought forward from 2017	3 002,65 €	
19/01/2018	RSPP EDITORIAL AND TRAVEL SUPPORT FOR 2018 (from RSAI)	5 000,00 €	- €
09/02/2018	Travel Emmanouil Tranos - ABC/RSPP Meeting in Conventinho da Arrábida	- €	289,85 €
09/02/2018	COMISSAO IMP SELO TRF - bank charges	- €	0,52 €
19/02/2018	ABC/RSPP Meeting in Conventinho da Arrábida (dinner, coffee-break, room and accomodations)	- €	2 681,50 €
19/02/2018	COMISSAO IMP SELO TRF - bank charges	- €	0,52 €
21/02/2018	ABC/RSPP Meeting in Conventinho da Arrábida (dinner, coffee-break, room and accomodations)	- €	828,35 €
21/02/2018	COMISSAO IMP SELO TRF - bank charges	- €	0,52 €
23/02/2018	ACCOMODATION TRF CIUFFO BIAGIO BO r2/2018	84,00 €	- €
09/03/2018	Travel to lisbon - Vicente Royela	- €	252,31 €
09/03/2018	COMISSAO IMP SELO TRF - bank charges	- €	0,52 €
21/03/2018	REGISTRATION EDUARDO HADDAD RSAI CONGRESS	- €	150,00 €
12/09/2018	TRAVEL REIMBOURSEMENT - Eveline	- €	254,77 €
12/09/2018	COMISSAO IMP SELO TRF - bank charges	- €	0,52 €
30/10/2018	PGE0948000545616 - Dinner at NARSC 2018 Congress-	- €	1 795,22 €
30/10/2018	TRANSF CRED NAO-SEPA+ - bank charges	- €	30,35 €
TOTAL		8 086,65 €	6 284,95 €
Balance			1 801,70 €
Retained for maintenance of expenses ACDA (5% of the Revenues)			254,20 €
Closing Balance for 2018			1 547,50 €

RSPP Accounts 2019			
Date	Description	Revenues	Expenses
01/01/2019	Balance brought forward from 2018	1 547,50 €	
30/01/2019	RSPP EDITORIAL AND TRAVEL SUPPORT FOR 2019 (from RSAI)	5 000,00 €	- €
15/01/2019	TRAVEL MAROCCOS TOMAZ	- €	155,93 €
19/01/2019	TRAVEL MAROCCOS TOMAZ - TER-LIS	- €	49,19 €
21/02/2019	TRAVEL EMMANOUIL	- €	1 075,90 €
21/02/2019	TRAVEL EMMANOUIL - bank charges	- €	0,52 €
11/03/2019	TRAVEL MAROCCOS TOMAZ	- €	252,34 €
11/03/2019	TRAVEL MAROCCOS TOMAZ - bank charges	- €	0,52 €
12/04/2019	TRAVEL ITALY TOMAZ	- €	109,00 €
12/04/2019	TRAVEL Yannis Psychar	- €	560,00 €
12/04/2019	TRAVEL Yannis Psychar - bank charges	- €	0,52 €
13/04/2019	TRAVEL ROMENIA TOMAZ	- €	110,00 €
24/04/2019	TRAVEL ELISABETE SILVA India	- €	600,00 €
24/04/2019	TRAVEL ELISABETE SILVA India - bank charges	- €	0,52 €
26/04/2019	TRAVEL INDIA TOMAZ - TER-LIS	- €	87,99 €
27/04/2019	TRAVEL INDIA TOMAZ	- €	694,36 €
30/04/2019	TRAVEL Tschangho John Kim	- €	400,00 €
30/04/2019	TRAVEL Tschangho John Kim - bank charges	- €	30,35 €
06/05/2019	PRSCO REGISTRATION - TOMAZ	- €	139,64 €
06/05/2019	TRAVEL PRSCO - THAILAND - TOMAZ	- €	727,58 €
09/08/2019	SUPPORT Keynote RSPP at NARSC 2019	- €	500,00 €
09/08/2019	SUPPORT Keynote RSPP at NARSC 2019 - bank charges	- €	30,35 €
05/09/2019	TRAVEL JEAN-CLAUDE THILL India	- €	1 000,00 €
05/09/2019	TRAVEL JEAN-CLAUDE THILL India - bank charges	- €	30,35 €
08/10/2019	SUPPORT RSPP AECR 2019	- €	500,00 €
08/10/2019	SUPPORT RSPP AECR 2019 - bank charges	- €	0,83 €
29/11/2019	DINNER RSPP AT NARSC 2019	- €	101,00 €
29/11/2019	DINNER RSPP AT NARSC 2019 - bank charges	- €	0,83 €
14/12/2019	TRAVEL ANDRE TORRE TO PORTO	- €	30,99 €
TOTAL		6 547,50 €	7 188,71 €
Balance		-	641,21 €
Retained for maintenance of expenses ACDA (5% of the Revenues)			250,00 €
Closing Balance for 2019		-	891,21 €

RSPP Accounts 2020			
Date	Description	Revenues	Expenses
01/01/2020	Balance brought forward from 2019	- 891,21 €	
08/01/2020	Support Bharat Dahiya (india 2020)	- €	300,00 €
08/01/2020	Support Bharat Dahiya (india 2020) - bank charges	- €	30,35 €
17/01/2020	RSPP EDITORIAL AND TRAVEL SUPPORT FOR 2020 (from RSAI)	5 000,00 €	- €
27/01/2020	RSPP SUPPORT TRAVEL Alessandra Faggian	- €	500,00 €
27/01/2020	TRANSF CREDITO SEPA - bank charges	- €	0,83 €
07/02/2020	Taxi Andre torre	- €	50,00 €
07/02/2020	TRANSF CREDITO SEPA - bank charges	- €	0,83 €
	TOTAL	4 108,79 €	882,01 €
	Balance		3 226,78 €
	Retained for maintenance of expenses ACDA (5% of the Revenues)		250,00 €
	Closing Balance for June 2020		2 976,78 €

RSAI payment to RSPP is transferred to the ACDA (Associação para a Ciência e Desenvolvimento dos Açores) that hires Eng. Elisabete Martins and takes and overheads of 5%.

RSAI Ad Hoc Restructuring Committee: Short-term Recommendations

Date: August 20, 2020

Members:

Sumana Bandyopadhyay

Rachel Franklin

Neil Reid

Serena Serrano

Jean-Claude Thill, Chair

Andre Torre

This document assembles a number of recommendations made by the ad hoc committee as part of its broader charge, which can be implemented promptly and without an overhaul of the governance structure of RSAI. The ad hoc committee will give further consideration to the specific adjustments that may be desirable for RSAI's governance structure, given the contemporary challenges of large and diverse international scholarly organizations and the anticipations of our community, while LRPC has been asked to draft a mission statement. This longer-term process will also enable us to more fully take into account the views and opinions of a broader section of members of our community and take stock of concerns expressed earlier on by Council members and members of the LRPC.

Recommendations included in the present document are motivated by concerns that have been reported by members, and leaders at the international, supra-regional, and sectional levels. The concerns touch on the following aspects:

- Lack of transparency in decision making (including selection of recipients of Building Bridges grants, Nurturing Talents, honors recipients, etc.) and perception that processes may favor certain groups or certain individuals;
- Absence of statement on diversity and inclusion;
- Insufficient participation of members, particularly with respect to bringing young generations of regional scientists into leadership roles;
- Insufficient efforts to publicize the mission and roles of RSAI internationally and externally;
- Insufficient visibility of regional science, RSAI and affiliated organizations vis-à-vis other learned societies and organizations;
- Perception that RSAI is not responsive enough to the concerns of its membership.

1. **RSAI Council meetings** need to be devoted to the thorough discussion of issues to be acted upon and not only to voting on pre-drafted motions. For this purpose, ample time should be set aside to hold Council meetings to permit the discussion of issues, convergence towards compromise resolutions, and finally a vote. Council meetings should be longer because governance of our association should not be rushed, but should be deliberate and purposeful.

They also should be scheduled at times that do not conflict with other commitments that Councilors may have during an academic conference, such as paper sessions and other academic events. It is therefore suggested that Council business meetings be held the day before the official start of a conference, for a full day. A possible format would entail 4 hours for discussion, and another 3 hours for action items. The 2 half-day session format will facilitate the reporting and action-taking once a governance structure with multiple committees is in place. Some other large organizations operate according to this model and find it quite effective. A major benefit is to enhance the conversation / dialogue among the leadership of the association, and deepen the sense that the association is governed by democratic principles and practices.

It may be highly beneficial to schedule a preparatory video conference ahead of each formal meeting of Council one to two weeks before Council business meeting. Also, to ease the travel burden that such multiple business meetings may have on Councilors, they should be limited to 2 per calendar year at most, and make more extensive use of video conferencing to encourage broader participation.

The agenda of forthcoming Council Meetings should be published at least 30 days in advance of each scheduled meeting to allow time for Councilors to think through the issues and for better preparation for each meeting itself.

2. The narrative of all the **honors, awards and recognitions** of the association will be reviewed and updated to reflect today's standards of transparency, engagement, diversity and inclusion that members of our association aspire to. Optics is extremely important here as too often there is a perception of corruption of the process.

The careful dusting-off of the narrative on our honors and adherence to the highest standards of integrity is the surest way we can ascertain the most deserving members of our community are recognized. This will apply to the processes followed to solicit nominations, to the processes and criteria to evaluate nominees, and to the publication of awards made. An important responsibility of the honors committee (see below) will be to be proactive in its communication with RSAI membership and leaders of sections and supra-regional organizations. The Honors Committee will propose to Council new members to the various selection committees in a timely fashion in compliance with the new RSAI Diversity and Inclusion principles to maintain compliance with the rules and regulations governing each award.

3. The **Building Bridges Program** has been a very successful program since its inception a few years ago. This program should by all means be well sustained and be one of beacons of our intellectual community. To this end, transparency in the selection criteria must be increased and accountability in achieving the stated objectives must be upheld in the context of the mission of the association. Also, diversity (for instance, repeated awards should be discouraged) and broader intellectual impacts should be selection criteria. It will be clearly stated that support is targeted at new initiatives, even if these initiatives take place in a country or region where regional science has been well developed for some time. Priority should to initiatives in countries where Regional Science is not well established yet, ahead of proposals in already active countries and regions. These aspects should be well articulated in the proposal; also, coordination with supraregional organizations is crucial in this respect, especially when initiatives are proposed in their territorial jurisdiction. Proposals should be made available to Councilors at least two weeks before a formal vote takes place.

4. Organizationally, it is the view of the committee that the governance of the association must be more decentralized to make it more democratic and convey that RSAI belongs to its members. To this end, as a means that can be implemented quite readily in the short term, we propose a broader governance structure resting on several new and revamped **standing and operating committees** identified below.

Some of the overarching principles include:

- Each committee will have a mission and operational objectives set by Council;
- It is envisioned that all committees include members directly elected by RSAI members as well as members drawn from RSAI Council;
- Membership is staggered and limited to a single consecutive 3-year term;
- One RSAI Councilor will serve as liaison with each committee;
- Committees will be accountable to RSAI Council and RSAI President.

Proposed committees.

- a. Publications Committee. This committee needs to have clear charges on the association's various publishing activities (including print and online journals, proceedings, books), encompassing (1) the oversight of the financial and operational aspects of the publications of the association journals, without micromanaging the editorial activities of each journal; (2) supervision of the performance of the editorial teams; (3) establishment of guidelines for the composition of editorial boards; (4) advice to editorial teams on short and mid-term management and organization matters; (5) maintenance of a strategic vision on publications in regional science with 5- and 10-year horizons (including exploration of a possible online book series, open-access journals, and so on); (6) management of contracts with publishers on the behalf of the association; (7) exploration of a possible online book series.

- b. Honors Committee. The main responsibilities of this committee are to ensure the various awards and recognitions of the association are suitably conducted, following the guidelines approved by Council. The Honors Committee will also be responsible for proposing updates to the narrative on awards and recognitions, including the selection process specific to each one.
- c. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee will be the custodian of the principles of diversity and inclusiveness of the association. Diversity encompasses various aspects, including gender and sexual orientation, age, ethnic and geographic origin, disciplinary training, etc. This committee will propose a diversity and inclusiveness statement for the association in all its official activities. It will also propose operating principles and guidelines for the conduct of business meetings, communication among leadership and between leadership and members, and the composition of official bodies of the association (committees, editorial boards, etc.) that are respectful of RSAI's pledge on diversity and inclusion. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee will also review all official writing of the association to ascertain compliance with established diversity and inclusion principles.
- d. Young Scholars Committee. The future of regional science, of RSAI and of its affiliated organizations rests on nurturing new talent. This committee will be tasked to formulate specific policies and programs aimed at young scholars, and undergraduate and graduate students. It will work closely with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Example of activities could include mentoring programs, summer schools, scientific writing training sessions, etc. In many instances, this Committee's work will consist in facilitating the work of the supra-nationals and sections.
- e. Communications Committee. This committee will coordinate the internal communication strategy of the association and supervise the internal communication activities of the association. This will include communication from leadership with members, between members, and between RSAI and its supra-regional organizations and sections.
- f. Public Relations Committee. This committee will coordinate the external communication and branding strategy of the association, and supervise the external communication activities of the association. This will include communication with other learned associations, and with stakeholders and agencies across society. Communications and Public Relations Committees will work closely together, and could be a single committee.
- g. Finance Committee. While this committee is identified in the RSAI constitution, it has never been operational. The good stewardship of the finances of the association through uncertain futures calls for the activation of this committee.

In the longer term, the existence of these committees should be institutionalized by a revision of the constitution. Such changes would take place in concert with other deeper governance adjustments that may be necessary for the long-term success of RSAI.

Dear Council Members:

This memo serves as a roadmap for two of the topics we will discuss on Monday: (1) The Strategic Planning Committee's (SPC) updated short-run proposal and (2) Changes to the Fellows Selection process. The SPC has split the issues into a set of short-run changes that are not very controversial and a set of long-run changes that are more complex, requiring more time to develop an updated proposal. We discussed these short-run changes at our meeting in July. To be sure, we have also spent considerable time over the last couple of years in discussing some of these committees: e.g., Honors Committee and Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Thus, these issues are far from new for Council to consider today. We are well-versed on the issues at hand.

The SPC has requested that we move on these short-run proposals on Monday with up or down votes. Given they come from SPC, these motions do not require a second to immediately proceed to Council discussion. Below, I discuss the proposed implementation guidelines following the spirit of SPC's recommendations for increased participation of Council and RSAI membership in Association matters.

Last week, Eduardo, Andrea, and I discussed how the specific details and ways to efficiently present these motions (and to understand changes to the Fellows selection procedure). Afterwards, I had a discussion with Jean-Claude about our ideas and he suggested some constructive changes that are included in this document. The major implementation details missing from the SPC's updated document are mainly about membership for proposed committees. Council members are free to make further suggestions. I certainly don't view this document as a "manna from heaven."

Future Councils could change the implementation structure if necessary—meaning we are not in the search of perfection on Monday. *We don't want the perfect to be the enemy of the good.*

Not all of the SPC's short-run proposals are being put forward Monday because they would require a change in the constitution—which we believe is best delayed until all of those constitutional changes are aggregated into one set. Specifically, we are not bringing forward the proposed Finance Committee at this stage because it is already described in the Constitution. Likewise, we already have a Publications Committee with similar duties as those proposed by SPC. To reduce the number of new committees, we combine the proposed Communications and Public Relations Committees.

Overall, there are FOUR new proposed committees, which is far from excessive compared to other scientific associations, which have similar committee structures. Basically, the SPC's short-run proposal helps bring RSAI into the 21st century. The total number of Council members required for membership in all four committees range from 11 to 15 Council members depending on the composition of the Young Scholars Committee. There are currently 20 members of Council. With the addition of China/India/Central-Asian regional science Supra-region, we will have 23 Council members. Overall, except for exceptional circumstances, Council members will serve on no more than one committee at a time and some Council members will not serve on a committee in a given year. Thus, the structure is not burdensome for Council members.

The specific points are as follows:

- There is no motion regarding the SPC's proposed Publications Committee.

- The proposals for the Public Relations and Communications Committees are merged into one Public Relations and Communications Committee.
- The proposed Finance Committee is a good idea—it broadens the current committee to provide broader oversight and to protect the ED if something is goes wrong. But because the current Finance Committee is already addressed in the Constitution, we delay proposing any changes today.

The **EIGHT** specific motions that will be put forward are:

1. A motion to approve the basic framework of the SPC's proposed **short-term changes**. The four parts of this basic framework include:

a. Longer Council meetings to allow more time to discuss items in a more deliberative fashion rather than simply rushing through a lengthy agenda to finish on time.

b. An examination of the selection processes for RSAI awards to ensure the selection committees better represent the diversity of the membership, ensure the award criteria reflects contemporary scientific standards, and that nominations reflect the Association's diversity of qualified potential awardee candidates. This review is expected to be conducted by an Honors Committee with support from an expected Diversity and Inclusion committee in generating a more diverse set of qualified nominees. (**Partridge comment:** the criteria for selecting the award does not seem to be a current issue. I anticipate there will be few changes in that regard.) Thereafter, the Honors Committee's main function is to select nominees to serve on award/Fellows selection committees with final approval from Council.

c. The Nurturing Talent Program is to be better coordinated through the addition of a more organized set of schools and workshops to attract young scholars to regional science. The current approach of offering travel grants to young scholars from developing countries to conferences and workshops on a first-come/first-serve basis, with Council being informed and approving the results. The SPC views these expenditures as lacking the necessary breadth to attract new members and a more integrated approach is required.

d. There is a need for additional committees to increase the efficiency of the organization in the 21st century to better reflect the diversity of RSAI's membership, and to ensure the Award selection processes are transparent and fair in choosing the most-deserving winners.

2. A first draft of the duties of the committees will be drawn up by the respective committees using the SPC's report(s) for guidance, their own professional judgement, and some additional guidance provided below. The committees can act without any of the proposed elected members from the general RSAI membership with the constraint that if an elected committee position is empty, there will be an election at the time of the annual elections for a new committee members. For all committees, the Executive Director will either be a committee member or serve *ex officio* as described below. ***Below, one motion will separately ask whether inclusion of elected members from the broad RSAI membership will go forward. The motions are written as if that motion passes.***

3. The **Honors Committee** will be composed of four (or five in the near future) Council members selected by the Supra-regions on an annual basis. There will be one elected member from the Association that will serve a three-year term. The President and ED serve as *Ex Officio* members of the Honors Committee. This serves two roles: (1) ensure that there are no conflicts in overlapping membership across committees and (2) to provide one more check against any potential bias being introduced by the process. The Honors Committee's other primary duty is to select members of each award's selection committee based on the criteria proposed by the committee with the approval of Council. The President shall not serve on any award selection committees. The President should be protected from any petty politics of award selection.

4. The **Diversity and Inclusion Committee** will be composed of four (or five) members of Council, with one Council member being selected by each Supra-region. One member will be selected by vote of the RSAI membership. The President and Executive Director will serve as *ex officio* members. One additional duty is that this committee will identify and nominate qualified candidates from underrepresented groups and will try to ensure geographical and discipline equity in the nomination process to the fullest extent possible.

5. **Young Scholars Committee** will be composed of four (or five) members, with one member being selected by each Supra-region and one member elected by the membership of the RSAI. The committee members selected by the Supra-regions do *NOT* have to be Council members. The Executive Director will serve *ex officio* on this committee or as a full voting member if selected by one of the Supra-regions. The reason for the difference in the composition of this committee is that Supra-regions may prefer more junior Association members for this committee to enhance its recruiting effectiveness.

6. **Communications and Public Relations Committee** will be composed of the Executive Director, two Council members, and one elected Committee member from the RSAI membership. The President and Executive Director will nominate the two Council members for this committee. The difference in the selection of this committee's members is that specialized skills may be necessary to appropriately handle evolving social media and traditional web-based platforms.

7. The committee memberships and award selection committee memberships will receive final approval of Council with the exception of the elected RSAI members.

8. The elections to choose the elected members from the RSAI membership as outlined above in motions 3 to 6 will take place at the nearest convenience. If this motion fails, all references to elected members in those four motions will be removed, as well as in Motion 7.

9. Not necessarily a motion, but the Executive Director will ensure the latest rules for award and Fellows selection will be on the RSAI webpage.

PROPOSED CHANGES FOR THE FELLOW SELECTION RULES.

In the attached "Stimson" document, all proposed changes to the rules are highlighted in red. They are to clarify the original intent of the rules and to make a couple of other clarifications.

To: Members of the LRPC and the RSAI Council
From: Bob Stimson, RSAI Fellow and a Past President of RSAI
Date: 8 July 2020

Proposed Amendments to Guidelines for electing RSAI Fellows:

For Consideration by the Long-Range Planning Committee and the RSAI Council

There has been concern for some time regarding the process used to elect RSAI Fellows that relates to using a quota for the number of new Fellows elected any given year. That concern has escalated following the election of two new Fellows for 2020 because of the imposition of a quote of just two.

As a result of a flurry of email exchanges, I undertook to propose amendments to the process used to elect new Fellows - which take into account some of the suggestions made in those exchanges - for consideration by the LRPC and the RSAI Council.

The guidelines for RSAI Fellows (as set out on the RSAI web-site) are reproduced below. They cover:

- the criteria for Fellows
- what might be expected of Fellows
- nomination and selection protocols for RSAI Fellows.

There seems to have been no questioning as to the appropriateness of the criteria for Fellows, and no amendments are proposed.

Likewise, there seems to be no questioning as to the appropriateness of what might be expected of Fellows, and no amendments are proposed.

The concern is about some aspects of the nomination and selection protocols for RSAI Fellows, and in particular about some aspects of the process used.

In light of the comments and suggestions that have been made both in (a) the recent email exchanges, and (b) as expressed at meetings of the LRPC and of the RSAI Council over many years, I have reviewed the process that is set out in the existing guidelines, and I propose some minor amendments.

The proposed amendments are provided below, and are indicated in the yellow highlighted type:

[BEGINNING OF ACTUAL FELLOW RULES:]

RSAI Fellows

RSAI fellows are distinguished scholars with a proven and recognized research record in the field of regional science during a considerable part of their scientific career. Such

honored members of the RSAI are appointed after a careful nomination and selection procedure, based on a broad consultation of the RSAI membership.

The RSAI fellowship is a world-wide sign of scientific recognition that is bestowed on a regional scientist with outstanding research credentials in his/her field. The RSAI fellowship does not imply any obligation to the Association, although it is expected that fellows on a voluntary basis will serve the scientific objectives of the RSAI whenever possible or appropriate.

Regional science has **over the past decade** *[proposed delete]* witnessed a great increase in scholarly interest and scientific publications all over the world. To create a vital Association, it is therefore critical that senior members - and, in particular, RSAI fellows - act as a role model, in particular for a younger generation. The RSAI membership should have the highest expectations on - and appreciation for - its fellows, given their past seminal research contributions.

RSAI fellows may contribute to the fulfillment of the goals of the Association by offering a scientific service or incentive to its members through various means, such as:

- Organization of a fellows' meeting at any conference venue, where a major RSAI conference is taking place (ERSA, NARSC, PRSCO, World Conference). This could be a socializing meeting (e.g., a luncheon or late afternoon drinks) or a substantive meeting (e.g., an exploratory venue addressing future research strategies or topics).
- Organization of dedicated panels or focused fellows' sessions at any major international or supraregional RSAI meeting with the aim to reflect on new methodologies or promising approaches in research.
- Organization of early-bird (breakfast) meetings, luncheon meetings or late afternoon drinks meetings with a small group of young researchers, based on an open subscription/application system, in which informal presentations (5-10 minutes) are held by young researchers ('meet the professor' meetings).
- Organization of a solid pre-conference special session at any major RSAI conference, with a balanced mix of seniors (in particular, RSAI fellows) and juniors ('rising stars'), where fellows and rising stars present recent research work (in the long run, even joint senior-junior research work could be foreseen).
- Organization of short 'next gen' training courses, prior to any major conference.
- Organization of a voluntary 'Foster Fellow Plan', in which an RSAI fellow is willing to adopt for a period of (let's say) one year a selected young researcher from a different country - of course, in consultation with his/her supervisor - with the aim to provide network contacts or scientific guidance, or perhaps to start a joint research project.
- Organization of an RSAI column by a fellow in any issue of the RSAI Newsletter (of course, after consultation of the Newsletter editors).

Any meeting or panel at conferences needs to be done in consultation with the conference organizers.

***[Proposed addition]* Limit on the Number of Fellows**

- 1. An upper limit on the number of fellows is set at 5% of the membership of RSAI.**

Note: Changed from 10% to 5 %]

2. Fellows who are deceased are not counted in the upper limit on the number of fellows set out in 1 above.

Nomination and Selection Protocol of RSAI Fellows:

1. Each RSAI member - except RSAI fellows – is entitled to nominate candidates for the RSAI fellowship, but self-nominations are not allowed. Each nomination has to be done through a standard concise nomination form that follows a systematic template.
2. A nominee has to be RSAI member (or a member of any section recognized by the RSAI) and to meet the qualifications mentioned in [Annex A](#).

[Note: The Annex A is accessible on the RSAI Web-site and includes the ten points listed here. The amendments proposed here will need to be incorporated in the Annex A document.]

3. The selection of new RSAI fellows takes place only once a year, but nominations can be sent in at any time and will be considered for a given selection round, if they have been received before a given deadline. A nomination has a maximum life of two years.
4. All nominations will be put on a list supplemented with non-elected candidates for the RSAI fellowship who were on the short list from the previous year.
5. The short list will be screened by the RSAI fellows selection committee (in consultation with the RSAI President and Executive Director). This committee comprises 3 RSAI fellows appointed by the RSAI Council for a period of staggered 3-year terms. The President and Executive Director will make the nominations for Counsel's consideration unless Counsel sets up a special committee that handles this nomination process. The selection committee has to seriously consider all available information on the candidates and can remove candidates (unanimous vote) who do not qualify.
6. The selection committee can also decide to reduce the list of nominated RSAI members to a manageable number, so that candidates can be selected with a qualified majority. This short list should normally not contain more than 10 to 12 names and no fewer than 8 names (unless the number of nominations is fewer than eight).
7. The short list is next circulated to all RSAI fellows, who have the exclusive right to vote for (a maximum of) 3 candidate-fellows. No ranking of candidates is allowed.

~~[Note: An alternative might be the following:]~~

~~The short list is next circulated to all RSAI fellows who have the exclusive right to vote for candidate fellows by rating them on a 5 point scale (5= Definitely yes~~

~~through to 1. Definitely no. To be elected a candidate fellow needs to be rated 5 or 4 by a minimum of one half of the voting fellows.~~

8. The selection committee can put an upper ceiling on the maximum number of candidates to be selected in a given year, if circumstances dictate so. *[Propose this be deleted and replaced with (TO CLARIFY THE ORIGINAL INTENT OF PT. 8): The only upper ceiling that may be imposed on the number of candidates in a given year is a number that would result in exceeding the limit on the total number of Fellows permitted as a percentage of the membership of RSAI.]*
9. A vote of at least 1/3 will normally mean election, unless that would exceed the ceiling *[Proposed change: referred to in #8 above.]*
10. The selection committee informs the RSAI Director of the final selection results, who will communicate these results to the selected RSAI fellows, the RSAI Council, and the home institutions of the newly appointed fellows.

Standard Nomination Form for RSAI Fellows:

1. Factual bio-data on candidate, including a proof for RSAI membership
2. Professional career of candidate (max. 100 words)
3. Substantive contribution to regional science (max. 200 words)
4. Path-breaking publications on regional science (max. 5)
5. Signs of international scientific recognition (max. 50 words)
6. Reasons for nominating the candidate (max. 50 words)

To ensure full consideration by the committee, these materials should be provided in electronic format (pdf preferred) by **April 1 of each year.**