

## MINUTES

### RSAI COUNCIL MEETING SAINT PETERSBURG

13H00-16H00, FRIDAY, 29TH AUGUST, 2014, SAINT PETERSBURG, RUSSIA

Jean-Claude Thill welcomed the members and new of the RSAI Council. The members and guest members presented themselves around the table. The meeting began with 12 of the 15 members of the RSAI Council.

	Name	Member	Period	Email
1	Jean-Claude Thill	President Vice President Councilor at large	2013-2014 2012 2012-2014	<a href="mailto:Jean-Claude.Thill@uncc.edu">Jean-Claude.Thill@uncc.edu</a>
2	Andres Rodriguez-Pose	Ersa Representative Vice – President	2013-2015 2014	<a href="mailto:a.rodriguez-pose@lse.ac.uk">a.rodriguez-pose@lse.ac.uk</a>
3	Jouke van Dijk	Ersa Representative	2012-2014 2009-2011	<a href="mailto:Jouke.van.Dijk@rug.nl">Jouke.van.Dijk@rug.nl</a>
4	Andre Torre	Ersa Representative	2014-2016	<a href="mailto:andre.torre@wanadoo.fr">andre.torre@wanadoo.fr</a>
5	Jichung Yang	Prsco Representative	2013-2014	<a href="mailto:jcyang@snu.ac.kr">jcyang@snu.ac.kr</a> ;
6	Patricio Aroca	Prsco Representative	2012-2014 2009-2011	<a href="mailto:paroca@ucn.cl">paroca@ucn.cl</a>
7	Yuzuru Miyata	Prsco Representative	2014-2016	<a href="mailto:miyata@ace.tut.ac.jp">miyata@ace.tut.ac.jp</a>
8	Eduardo Haddad	RSA Representative	2012-2014 2009-2011	<a href="mailto:ehaddad@usp.br">ehaddad@usp.br</a>
9	Neil Reid	RSA Representative	2012-2014	<a href="mailto:neil.reid@utoledo.edu">neil.reid@utoledo.edu</a>
10	Richard Sheamur	RSA Representative	2013-2015	<a href="mailto:Richard.shearmur@mcgill.ca">Richard.shearmur@mcgill.ca</a>
11	Amit Batabyal	Councilor at large	2012-2014	<a href="mailto:aabgsh@rit.edu">aabgsh@rit.edu</a>
12	Rachel Franklin	Councilor at large	2012-2014	<a href="mailto:rachel_franklin@brown.edu">rachel_franklin@brown.edu</a>
13	Daniel Czamanski	Councilor at large	2012-2014	<a href="mailto:danny@czamanski.com">danny@czamanski.com</a>
14	Hans Westlund	Councilor at large	2014-2016	<a href="mailto:hans.westlund@abe.kth.se">hans.westlund@abe.kth.se</a>
15	Tomaz Dentinho	Executive Director Ersa Representative Councilor at large	2011-2013 2010-2012 2013-2015	<a href="mailto:tomazdentinho@uac.pt">tomazdentinho@uac.pt</a>

#### 1. Apologies (JCT)

Council members present: Jean-Claude Thill (President, Councilor at large), Andres Rodriguez-Pose (ERSA), Jouke van Dijk (ERSA), Andre Torre (ERSA), Eduardo Haddad (RSAmericas), Yuzuru Miyata (PRSCO), Rachel Franklin (Councilor at large), Daniel Czamanski (Councilor at large), Amit Batabyal (Councilor at large), Hans Westlund (Councilor at large) and Tomaz Dentinho (Executive Director, Councilor at large).

Apologies from Council Members: Jichung Yang (PRSCO), Patricio Aroca (PRSCO) and Richard Sheamur (RSAmericas).

Ex-officio members present: Roberta Capello (Editor of PIRS).

Apologies from ex-officio members: David Boyce (Archivist); Mike Carroll (Editor of RSPP); Rui Luís (Treasurer), Paul Elhorst (ERSA Editor of PIRS), Takatoshi Tabuchi (PRSCO Editor of PIRS), Alessandra Faggian (RSA Editor of PIRS) and Michaela Tripl.

Guests: Hiroyuki Shibusawa (PRSCO Executive Director)

M-I. RSAI Council acknowledges the apologies.

Motion M-I was approved unanimously by the councilors.

#### 2. Minutes of previous meeting (JCT)

Jean-Claude Thill asked if there were any corrections to the Minutes of the On-line Meeting held on May that substituted the Bangkok meeting because the World Congress in Bangkok was cancelled due to the political situation in the country. No corrections were made and motion was made by Jean Claude Thill.

Daniel Czamanski seconded the approval of the Minutes of the Palermo Meeting. The councilors unanimously approved the motion.

M-II. RSAI Council approves unanimously the Minutes of the On Line Meeting (May 2014)

### 3. Nomination of Candidates for Councilor at Large 2015-2017 (JCT)

Jean-Claude Thill reported that, according to the constitution and the by-laws the proposition of candidates for nomination and election as councilors at large took place according to the established rules. The six proposals are:

#### DR. AMITRAJEET A. BATASYAL (NARSC Section Member)



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Rochester Institute of Technology  
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#### EDUCATION

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

#### DR. EMMANOUIL TRANOS (UK & Ireland Section Member)



School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences  
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Home Page: <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/gees/tranos-emmanouil.aspx>

#### EDUCATION

PhD Newcastle University, 2010  
MA in Regional Development, Newcastle University, 2006  
MSc in Planning and Regional Development, University of Thessaly, 2004

#### DR. BUDY RESOSUDARMO (Indonesia Section Member)



Department of Economics  
Crawford School of Public Policy  
ANU College of Asia & the Pacific  
The Australian National University  
E-mail: [budy.resosudarmo@anu.edu.au](mailto:budy.resosudarmo@anu.edu.au)  
Home Page: <https://crawford.anu.edu.au/people/academic/budy-p-resosudarmo>

#### EDUCATION

PhD (AgEcon, Cornell)  
MSc (OR, Delaware)  
BSc (Electrical, ITB)

#### DR. JACQUES POOT (Australia & New Zealand Section Member)



National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis  
University of Waikato  
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Home Page: <http://www.waikato.ac.nz/nidea/people/jpoot>

#### EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Victoria University of Wellington, 1984  
Doctorandus in Econometrics (US/UK equivalent: MSc), VU University, Amsterdam, 1978  
Candidate in Econometrics (US/UK equivalent: BSc), VU University, Amsterdam, 1974

#### DR. DANIEL A. GRIFFITH (NARSC Section Member)



School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences  
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#### EDUCATION

Ph. D., geography, University of Toronto, 1978  
M. S., statistics, The Pennsylvania State University, 1985  
M. A., geography, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 1972  
B. Sc., mathematics, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 1970

#### DR. TUZIN BAYCAN (Turkish Section Member)



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Home Page: [http://www.ae-info.org/ae/User/Baycan\\_T%C3%BCzin](http://www.ae-info.org/ae/User/Baycan_T%C3%BCzin)

#### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Istanbul Technical University, 1999  
M.S., Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Istanbul Technical University, 1993  
B. Sc., Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Istanbul Technical University, 1988

Jean Claude Thill proposed a motion to approve the nomination of the candidates. Amit Batasyal seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

M-III. RSAI Council approves unanimously the nomination of Amit Batabyal, Emmanouil Tranos, Budy Resosudarno, Jacques Poot, Daniel Griffith and Tuzin Baycan as candidates for the four posts of councilors at large for the period of 2015-2017.

#### **4. RSAI World Congress (JCT)**

Jean Claude Thill said that a report on the world congress was distributed (Annex 1) and remarked that the real question is what to do next. We had a discussion three years ago. Before the World Congresses were each four years, with a small scale and with mainly a development function. Then it was said that RSAI should do something different aiming at large world cities with bigger events and with a frequency of two years. China was selected for the World Congress of 2014 and Jean Claude Thill took the mission to negotiate a meeting. Nevertheless it was possible to get an agreement in China and Bangkok was as a good alternative. Hopefully you read what is in the report: RSAI has the capacity to process abstracts and payments; we had 517 abstract submissions, 247 papers and 265 registrations that actually paid their fee. Many thanks to the Japanese section that would have been able to send 86 delegates; there were 33 from Thailand, 14 from the United States, 14 from China and 12 from France. There are also absents from Malaysia, India, Bangladesh and Indonesia. Once the decision to cancel was taken there was also a decision to refund 100% of the registration to the participants. The hotel deposits were reimbursed. A professional was contracted and we need to have the approval of the Council to pay 50% of the expected value which is and amount of 1452 Euros (60000 Bats).

Daniel Czamanski told the Council that one year ago he was elected for a Financial Committee. The function of the financial committee is to support decisions on real time and that request was not done. RSAI money is not private money. He remarked that there is a problem in the association in the way decisions are being taken. The decisions should always be made by a group of people.

Tomaz Dentinho said that all the decisions concerning the Congress were approved by the Council of Atlanta in the respective budget; the only decision that was not included was the support of a professional and therefore his payment, or partial payment after the cancellation of the Congress, should have the approval by the Council.

Jean Claude Thill said that the decision to reimburse 100 % of the registration fee was taken by himself, by Andres Rodriguez Pose and Tomaz Dentinho.

Andres Rodriguez-Pose said that there is a time to decide on these issues and if we delayed the financial reimbursement of the registration fees there would have been a serious reputation problem for RSAI.

Jean Claude Thill accepted the note and the criticism and said that in the future decisions will be more participated by the financial committee and if necessary by the Council.

Jouke Van Dijk remarked that there were additional costs for the cancelation of flights that will not be reimbursed.

Jean Claude Thill proposed a motion to pay 1452 Euros (60000 Bats) to the local manager of the conference (50% of the amount expected). Rachel Franklin seconded the motion. Hans Westlund asked if they did their job. Jean Claude Thill informed that they did what was expected and that they will be involved in the organization of a PRSCO meeting within a year.

M-IV. The proposal to pay 1452 Euros to the local manager of the cancelled World Conference in Thailand was approved unanimously.

Jean Claude Thill asked then what to do next regarding the world congresses. He said that the day before the Long Range Planning Committee of RSAI had a discussion on this that Roberta Capello can report.

Roberta Capello said that the Long Range Planning Committee reached a decision that suggests that the world conference should be each two years. As far as location is concerned the advice is that there should be cooperation and not competition with the supranational associations.

Jean Claude Thill reinforced that the issue was how important it is to coordinate with the supranational associations the time and place of the venues. Nevertheless he also said that the logistics of a joint conference are difficult to achieve.

Rachel Franklin said that it is not the task of RSAI to organize conferences.

Jean Claude Thill replied that the organization of conferences responds to the responsibilities of RSAI to develop regional science.

Jouke Van Dijk said that the purpose was to organize conferences in South Africa, Brazil or Thailand but not to organize conferences in Europe or North America.

Jean Claude Thill reinforced that the World Conference of RSAI should be the number one conference of regional science.

Jouke Van Dijk remarked that in ERSA it is very clear that we did not like the competition and we do not want to have rivalry.

Daniel Czamanski said that he wanted to follow the idea of Jouke Van Dijk that RSAI should be concerned with the future of regional science around the world. The world congresses in Brazil and in Jerusalem were intended to integrate the local people and it is this type of activities that we should promote. There should not be competition.

Tomaz Dentinho said that there are no means for those extension measures if there are no resources obtained from the world conferences.

Rachel Franklin reinforced that the European and North American Conferences respond to the need of gathering regional scientist of the whole world.

Roberta Capello said that RSAI should have a long term strategy and that this role cannot be performed by the supranational associations. She also said that the co-existence of the world conference in Timisoara and a supranational conference in Bratislava was possible in Europe in 2012.

Jouke van Dijk remarked that Timisoara was a small congress [(300-350) participants] and Bratislava had a substantial (200-300) lower number of participants than all the other congresses in the period 2010-2014. So, most likely there is competition.

Andres Rodriguez-Pose asked if we value a world association or not. Until now all the world conferences and other initiatives reinforced the role of the supranational associations. The world conference in Brazil reinforced RSAmericas, the world conference in Thailand strengthens PRSCO, the promotion of regional science in Morocco reinforced ERSA.

Rachel Franklin said that the World Congress is becoming smaller and smaller.

Daniel Czamanski stressed that he has a radical view of the situation. From an organizational point of view it is important to know who is doing what?

Andre Torre said that RSAI has to take the lead for future development: New journals, new places.

Hans Westlund said that it seems that we do not know what to do and what are the tasks. I would have thought to be in developing countries. We should define the aims.

Jouke Van Dijk remarked that there must be improvements in the journals and RSAI can do summer schools.

Roberta Capello recalled that the aims of the Association are very clearly stated in the constitution: 1) to develop regional science around the world and 2) to coordinate the RSAI sections and RSAI supranational associations. It seems that we are fighting against each other which can vary to a lot of implications.

Jean Claude Thill said that we need to rethink who does what and for what purpose. We need to reach out to include different disciplines (environmental economics; ...)

Tomaz Dentinho said that there is a need for a two years strategic plan proposed by each presidency approved by the Council, discussed and coordinated with the sections and supranational associations and clearly linked with a budget.

Andres Rodriguez Pose said that, regarding the organization of the World Conference in 2016 we welcome any suggestion from different groups; there are two possibilities in China and there is also the suggestion of Istanbul. We will refine these possibilities and come with a more definitive idea for the venue in the RSAI Council of Washington DC next November.

Rachel Franklin said that we should take a vote on the World Congress. Andres Rodriguez Pose pointed out that if the Council decides not to have a World Congress that is ok but remembered that all the past Presidents in the Long Range Planning Committee suggested unanimously that it should be every two years. Rachel Franklin said that it would be better to support PRSCO meetings instead of organizing a World Conference. Amit Batabyal mentioned that we should promote meetings in place where there is not regional science and rethink the strategy if we lose money. Jouke Van Dijk remarked that it is unacceptable for ERSA if the World Congress is booked for Istanbul or Vienna but it is fine to organize joint meetings.

Daniel Czamanski said that RSAI expansion could also be done involving other disciplines; we have the urban economists that usually participate in regional science meeting, the European Real Estate association is collaborating with ERSA as well as AESOP and RSAI could have a role in this. Andre Torre said that if we expand to other disciplines we can double the number of members.

Jean Claude Thill said that we are going to explore the possibility to have a Congress in China and present an update in the Council meeting of Washington DC in November. He also remarked that this is a short term solution to a problem. Jouke Van Dijk said that we must clarify how to collaborate together.

## **5. Selection Committee of next RSAI VP and President-Elect (JCT)**

Jean Claude Thill recalled that the RSAI by law 5 states that the Council establishes a "Nomination Committee" comprising the RSAI President, the RSAI Immediate Past-President, three members RSAI Council (one each from among the council members who are appointees of the three superregional organizations), and two members of the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) recommended by the LRPC itself. He informed that the Long Range Planning Committee appointed Bob Stimson and Roberta Capello and the Council should indicate three members. After some conversation between the councilors the names appointed by the council were: Jouke Van Dijk from ERSA, Yuzuru Miyata from PRSCO and Eduardo Haddad from RSAmericas. Jean Claude Thill motioned and Tomaz Ponce Dentinho seconded:

M-V. The Council approved unanimously the creation of the Selection Committee of the next RSAI Vice President and President-Elect: RSAI President, Jean Claude Thill, the RSAI Immediate Past-President, Yoshiro Higano, three members RSAI Council (one each from among the council members who are appointees of the three superregional organizations), Jouke Van Dijk from ERSA, Yuzuru Miyata from PRSCO

and Eduardo Haddad from RSAmericas, and two members of the Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) recommended by the LRPC itself, Bob Stimson and Roberta Capello.

## 6. RSAI Publications

### ✚ RSPP – (JCT)

Jean Claude Thill said that the journal Regional Science Policy and Practice (RSPP) has not impact factor. The estimated impact factor decreased from 0,6 in 2013 to 0,24 in 2014. Therefore Wiley Blackwell is advertising against indexing. There is something that should be done by the editor. Jean Claude Thill said also that the Council should decide on the nomination of two more associated editors of RSPP for the term that ends in December 2015; the nominations are Anping Chen and José Enrique Garcilazo that will complete the editorial team composed by Michel Carrol (Chief Editor), Neil Reid, John Madden and Juan R. Cuadrado-Roura.

Daniel Czamanski asked if the CVs of Anping Chen and José Enrique Garcilazo were distributed. Tomaz Dentinho informed that they were not. Daniel Czamanski suggested that the votes on the new associated directors of RSPP could be done on-line. The CVs of Anping Chen and José Enrique Garcilazo are in Annexes 2 and 3.

After the process on on-line vote, from 3<sup>rd</sup> till the 10<sup>th</sup> of September for M-VI the Councilors decided

M-VI. The proposal to complete the editorial team of RSPP with Anping Chen and José Enrique Garcilazo until December 2015 was approved by the Council unanimously; with fifteen votes in favour.

Concerning RSPP Jean Claude Thill informed the Council that the RSPP Presentation planned for the World Conference in Thailand will be presented in the NARSC Conference in Washington DC next November.

### ✚ PIRS - report (Capello) (Annex 5)

Roberta Capello informed that the transition phase is over and the new team is working in a friendly, constructive and cooperative atmosphere. The rotation of the members continues in order to guarantee a fresh and cooperative attitude of the Editorial Team members. In June 2013 ten members left the Editorial Board and have been recently replaced by five new members. In 2013, the submission number has increased from 197 to 221.

Roberta Capello continued saying that the total increase in submissions is driven by European scientists that record the highest increase in submission. An interesting new trend is the increase of submission from PRSCO. The decision making process has become more efficient than in the previous year and there is a drastic fall of the time span in all phases of the review process, namely: from 3 to 1.8 months for the first decision; from 2.6 to 2 months for the second decision; and from 1.2 to 0.8 months for the third decision. There is a clear decrease over the last two years of the economic area, in favor of the geography and of public policy and governance area.

Roberta Capello informed that what is not efficient, and loses efficiency over time, is the time from final decision to publication in print: the time is now over one year. The 2013 impact factor of PIRS has decreased from 1.541 to 1.183 and it is a common trend of the main Regional Science Journals and can be explained by an increase in the number of pages.

Roberta finalized the synthesis of PIRS-report saying that there are two main areas that have been envisaged in which new strategies have been put in place: a) the first area concerns the special issues - on this topic, a new strategy has been put in place by the editorial team members; the idea is to host only invited special issues that either cover traditional topics of regional science, with the aim to stress the state

of the art, the advances achieved, and the possible scientific challenges that are ahead, or deal with very hot topics that come from the real world; the second area concerns the decision to go for on-line publication only, so that financial resources are saved to increase the number of issues per year.

Jean Claude Thill said that the recommendation of the publishers is that there should be an extra issue this year and the costs involved will be compensated by moving out of the printed version of the journal. Jean Claude proposed to remove the decision of the on-line Council of May 2014 that said that the fifth issue will be permanent.

Andre Torre asked if PIRS is moving to an on-line journal only. Jean Claude Thill said that only 25 institutions have printed subscriptions and that there is always a possibility to ask for a printed version of some issue with an expected price of 20 £.

Jouke Van Dijk said that the back lock is a big problem and it is very strange that a move from 600 to 900 pages does not generate more profit for RSAI to cover the costs of an extra issue.

Roberta Capello informed that the extra issue will not solve the problem and we need a more permanent decision.

Andres Rodriguez Pose asked what is the problem or the extra cost of having more pages. Jean Claude Thill commented that there is a lot of cost in the control of the quality of the text.

Amit Batabyal said that the problem of the fall in the impact factor can be associated with the fact that PIRS does not require authors to site paper in PIRS.

Jean Claude Thill commented that if the impact factor goes under 1.0 then there is a problem. Jean Claude Thill proposed to remove the decision of the on-line Council of May 2014 that said that the fifth issue will be permanent. Daniel Czamanski seconded the proposal.

M-VII. The Council approved unanimously the removal of the decision of the on-line Council of May 2014 that said that the fifth issue will be permanent

## **7. RSAI Awards**

### **✚ RSAI Fellows – motion to confirm a new member of the selection committee (JCT)**

Jean Claude Thill proposed a motion to confirm the new members of the selection committee. He said that Dan McMillan is stepping down and there is a proposal to appoint Jean Claude Thill to be for three years in the Fellows Selection Committee.

Rachel Franklin asked where there is a balance of geographers in the Fellows and seconded the proposal of put forward by Jean Claude Thill.

M-VIII. The Council approved unanimously the nomination of Jean Claude Thill for three years in the Fellows Selection Committee

### **✚ Jean Paelinck Award – motion to form a selection committee (Thill)**

Jean-Claude Thill recalled that “The Selection Jury comprises a Chair, selected by the RSAI Council, and who is a member of the RSAI Long Range Planning Committee, plus four (4) RSAI Fellows. A Chair’s tenure is limited to four (4) years. Two (2) RSAI Fellow members of the Selection Jury rotate off every two (2) years”. He also points out that, in order to secure the rotation, from the first RSAI Fellows members of the jury, two must be nominated for two years and two for four years. Therefore he proposed that, from the

nominated by the Fellows, Eric Verhoef and Aura Reggiani will be nominated for two years and Yoshitsugu Kanemoto and David Plane for four years. The chair proposed in Roger Stough.

M-VIII. The Council approved unanimously the interpretation of the rules for the selection of the first Jury of the nomination of Roger Stough to chair the Jean Paelinck Jury.

The Jury of the Jean Paelinck award is:

Roger Stough, Chair, 2014 – 2018  
Aura Reggiani 2014 – 2016  
Yoshitsugu Kanemoto 2014 – 2018  
Eric Verhoef 2014 – 2016  
David Plane 2014 - 2018

#### **✚ RSAI dissertation competition (JCT)**

There are no candidates for the RSAI dissertation award.

#### **✚ Martin Beckmann award (Capello)**

The winner of the 2014 prize is for the paper: G Pellegrini, F Terribile, O Tarola..., "Measuring the effects of European Regional Policy on economic growth: A regression discontinuity approach", 2013, issue 1. Guido Pellegrini will receive the award in Washington DC.

#### **✚ Proposal for a mentoring award to honor Stan Czamanski (Czamanski, Thill)**

Daniel Czamanski proposed the approval of the Stan Czamanski with the following terms:

##### Stan Czamanski's Award

- The prize for the best PhD dissertation proposal will be awarded in memory of Stan, past president of the Regional Science Association, 1975-1976.
- The prize will be awarded every 2 years. The prize of US\$ 1000 will be awarded to the student and a plaque to the student's advisor.
- The selection will be by a panel of 3 persons serving for three years each. One member will be drawn from Penn's Regional Science Program graduates where Stan studied (Dave Boyce has agreed to serve on the panel for the first term). One will represent the field of regional Science at Cornell, where Stan spent most of his academic career. One member will represent the RSAI. The selection committee will be charged with drafting the selection criteria and procedures.
- Eligibility of students - in the spirit of Stan's philosophy, the prize will be open to students from around the world. However, it will be awarded at the NARSAC annual meeting.
- The prize money of US\$ 1,000 will be provided by Danny Czamanski for at least 3 rounds. An effort will be made to raise sufficient funds to establish a fund to sustain the prize beyond six years. In case that no outside funds will be secured beyond the 3 rounds, the prize will cease to be awarded.

Jean Claude Thill said that the Long Range Planning Committee advises that the prize should be limited and the proposal go along that recommendation.

Since, at that time, there were only seven councilors in the room the decision of the Council had to be done by on-line vote.



After the process on on-line vote, from 3<sup>rd</sup> till the 10<sup>th</sup> of September for M-IV the Councilors decided

M-X The proposal to create the Stan Czamanski RSAI for the best PhD dissertation proposal was approved by the Council unanimously with fifteen votes in favor

**8. AOB**

None other issue was raised by councilors and the meeting was adjourned.

**Date of next meeting (Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2014, Washington DC, United States)**

## **Annex 1: RSAI World Congress - Report**

### **10th RSAI World Congress in Thailand – May 2014**

- Some history. The 9th RSAI Congress took place in Timisoara, Romania in May 2012. After much deliberation recorded in Council minutes (<http://regionalscience.org/images/PDF/Minutes/Minutes%20of%20the%20RSAI%20Council%20Meeting,Timisoara%202012.pdf>), RSAI Council approved holding the 10th World Congress in 2014 in China. At the same meeting, a committee was set up to “work out a formula for Congress post 2014”.
- RSAC was approached in July 2012 to provide local organization for the 2014 Congress. After 12 months of constant and close contacts, it turned out that China was not going to be a workable solution. In summer 2013, we explored other options and after a competitive bid, RSAI had an agreement to host the Congress in Bangkok, Thailand. Our local organization team was based at Thammasat University. The call for papers was released in September 2013. The web site went live. A scientific committee was appointed.
- RSAI central office managed the web site, the conference portal, and all the financial aspects.
- In late fall 2013, political unrest broke out in Thailand, raising the specter of some discomfort for participants. In January 2014, Thill visited Bangkok. Then based on advice from local organizers and other well informed parties based in the region, it is decided to move the venue to Ayutthaya, north on Bangkok.
- Extensive advertising for congress participation was done and generated 517 submissions; 247 papers made it on the program, after payment of registration fees. Regional distribution of submissions is given in the table below.
- We recorded 265 registrants, with a large representation from Japan, Thailand, China, United States, France.
- RSAI offered congress scholarships covering a large proportion of registration fees. We received 42 applications, and 29 awards were made; 8 were accepted.
- In the wake of the military coup, local organizers advised to cancel the conference. RSAI improvises on very short notice a “virtual forum” enabling participants to upload their papers and presentations, and to leave comments for other participants on their papers. Also, RSAI offered registrants three options: full registration refund; refund minus 2-year RSAI membership (16 delegates); apply registration to future congress (3 delegates).
- RSAI has paid most encumbered expenses (program, registration packet; deposit on cultural shows, etc.) for a total of 6,115 Euros. Left unpaid today is 50% of the total of the conference manager fee (who provided services including contracting for local transportation services, hotels, catering, travel assistance at the airport, coordination of social events, etc.).

Country	Submissions	On the program	Delegates
Australia	10	7	5
Austria	3	3	3
Bangladesh	14	0	0
Belgium	2	1	2
Brazil	13	3	3
Canada	3	1	1
Chile	2	2	2
China	34	17	14
Colombia	5	2	2
Croatia	1	1	1
Denmark	1	0	0
Finland	2	2	1
France	21	13	12
Germany	16	5	6
Greece	1	0	0
Hong Kong	5	4	6
Hungary	2	0	0
India	16	1	0
Indonesia	39	8	7
Iran	6	1	1
Iraq	2	0	0
Ireland	1	1	1
Israel	4	3	2
Italy	12	4	6
Japan	85	66	86
Jordan	3	0	0
Macau	1	0	0
Malaysia	7	1	1
Mexico	7	1	1
Morocco	2	0	0
Netherlands	11	5	7
New Zealand	8	6	6
Nigeria	3	2	1
Norway	2	2	2
Palestine	1	0	0
Philippines	1	1	1
Poland	3	1	2
Portugal	5	1	2
Romania	1	0	0
Russian Federation	10	4	4
Singapore	5	0	0
South Korea	9	5	6
Spain	5	3	1
Sweden	6	5	5
Switzerland	1	1	1
Taiwan	10	6	6
Thailand	43	32	33
Tunisia	1	1	1
Turkey	15	4	5
Ukraine	2	0	0
United Arab Emirates	1	1	0
United Kingdom	9	4	5
United States	45	16	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>265</b>

### Summary.

- This is the first time that RSAI undertook to organize its own conference.
- In spite of the challenging political climate, attendance has been robust.
- RSAI has shown itself capable of organizing a conference in-house, although this has been very demanding on the time of the president and a distraction from other considerations.
- The cancellation has been handled with total respect from the registrants.
- The cancellation has cost RSAI money, while the hope was congress to be a new source of income.

### Looking towards the future....

#### Options are:

- Return to the 4-year rotation and the traditional principle congress.
- Have Congress #11 in 2016 at a location that remains to be determined. Issues include:
  - a. Where to hold the Congress?
  - b. Should the President lead the organization effort?
  - c. When should a decision be made to hold a congress in 2016. Answer NOW
  - d. Should RSAI control most of the congress organization, except for local organization issues?

#### In any case, the next congress must be in a country with:

- Political stability
- Some RSAI section capable of shouldering significant work, generating local participation, and securing sponsors
- An event cancellation insurance policy.

## Annex 2: CV of José Enrique Garcilazo

### José Enrique Garcilazo

#### EDUCATION

**PhD. Public Policy**, LBJ School of Public Affairs, The University of Texas at Austin, 2005

PhD. Advisor: Dr. James K. Galbraith

**Masters of Science, Economics**, The University of Texas at Austin, 2001

#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

##### **Head of Unit – Rural and Regional Programme Nov’11 – Current**

*OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development (GOV)/ Regional Development Policy Division (RDP)*

- Unit responsible for the work on rural development in OECD member countries in addition to contributing to the division’s work on regional development and managing OECD National Territorial Reviews.

- Responsible for the Rural Working Party OECD Committee
- Managed and supervised five OECD staff members and a number of consultants.

##### **Head of Unit -- Regional Growth and Policies Feb’10 – Nov’11**

*OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development (GOV)/ Regional Development Policy Division (RDP)*

- Unit responsible for deepening analytical work in the areas of regional performance, complementarities, links between regional and aggregate growth, the impact of macroeconomic and structural policies on regional performance and finally links between policies and performance.

- Supervised a team of OECD staff, statisticians, consultants and interns.

##### **Economist/Policy Analyst Sept ’05-Feb ’10**

*OECD (GOV)/Regional Competitiveness and Governance Unit (RCG) and Statistics and Indicators Unit (SIU)*

- Drafted a wide range of analytical reports for seven Working Party on Territorial Indicators (WPTI) meetings (Sessions 14-21) and seven Territorial Development Policy Committee (TDPC) meetings (Sessions 17-24).

- Participated in over 45 missions, contributing to a variety of horizontal projects, National Territorial Reviews, reviews of individual regions and a wide range of international conferences and events.

##### **Lecturer of Public Policy and Economics Sept ’08 - Present**

*Science Po*

- Part time lecturer in:
  - Master of Public Affairs. Taught courses on “*Economic and Development Methods*” and “*Economic and Territorial Development: Managing Geography from a National Perspective*”
  - Masters of Paris School of International Affairs. Taught courses on “*Regional Policy*” and “*Understanding Urban and Regional Growth*”.

#### OECD Publications

##### **Country/Regional Reviews**

- **OECD National Territorial Review of the Netherlands, 2014**, (drafted and supervised OECD team)
- **OECD National Territorial Review of the Kazakhstan, 2014**, (drafted and supervised OECD team)
- **OECD Rural Policy Review of Chile, 2014** (drafted and supervised consultants)
- **OECD Territorial Review of Småland-Blekinge, 2012** (Chapter 1)
- **OECD National Territorial Review of Brazil, 2011** (Chapter 1)
- **OECD National Territorial Review of Slovenia, 2011** (Chapter 1)
- **OECD National Territorial Review of Sweden, 2010** (Chapter 1)
- **OECD National Territorial Review of Chile, 2009** (Chapter 1)

##### **Thematic Studies**

- **The Contribution of Regions to Aggregate Growth in the OECD**, (with Joaquim Oliveira Martins), OECD Regional Development Working Papers, No. 2013/28

- **Quality of Government and the Returns of Investment: Examining the Impact of Cohesion Expenditure in European Regions**, (with Andrés Rodríguez-Pose), OECD Regional Development Working Papers, No. 2013/12
- **The Impact of Structural and Macroeconomic Factors on Regional Growth**, (with Sabine D'Costa and Joaquim Oliveira Martins), OECD Regional Development Working Papers, No. 2013/11
- **Growth Trends and Characteristics of OECD Rural Regions**, OECD Regional Development Working Papers, No. 2013/10
- **Promoting Growth in all Regions**, OECD 2012
- **Regional Outlook: Building Resilient Regions for Stronger Economies, OECD 2011** (with other OECD staff)
- **How Regions Grow: Trends and Analysis**, OECD 2009, (with Javier Sanchez)
- **Regions Matter: Economic Recovery, Innovation and Sustainable Growth**, OECD 2009 (with other OECD staff)
- **OECD Regions at a Glance: (2009 -- Chapters 14-19), (2007 -- Chapters 1-6 and 8-13)**
- **"The Sources of Growth in OECD Regions: Growth Trends, Decomposition & Parametric Analysis"** (2008, OLIS)
- **"Defining and Measuring Metropolitan Regions – Follow up of the International Workshop 2006"** (2007, OLIS)
- **"Agglomeration Economies and Regional Comparative Advantages: Evidence from Regional Employment Clusters"** (2006, OLIS)
- **"Identifying Regional Clusters: Evidence From the Geographic Distribution of Unemployment"** (2005, OLIS)

#### Non OECD Publications:

##### **Books**

- **Regional Labor Markets Unemployment and Inequality in Europe** VDM Verlag Dr. Müller e.K., Saarbrücken, (2007)
- **Patterns and Trends in Services Related Activities in OECD Regions** (chapter 4), Service Industries and Regions Advances in Spatial Science (with Florence Mouradian and Joaquim Oliveira-Martins), Springer-Verlag, Berlin Heidelberg, 2013, pp 65-108

##### **Articles**

- **"Quality of government and regional cohesion: examining the economic impact of structural funds in European Regions"** *Regional Studies*, (under revision) with Andrés Rodríguez-Pose
- **"The Contribution of Regions to Aggregate Growth in the OECD"** *Journal of Economic Geography*, (under revision), with Joaquim Oliveira Martins,
- **The Impact of the Global Financial Crisis on Europe's Cities and Regions: An Analysis Using the OECD and European Commission Databases**, *Journal of Economic Geography*, (under revision) with Lewis Dijkstra and Philip McCann
- **"The Economic Performance of European Cities and City Regions: Myths and Realities"** *European Planning Studies* with Lewis Dijkstra and Philip McCann, September 2012
- **"The evolution of place-based policies and the resurgence of geography in the process of economic development"** *Local Economy*, 2011, 26(6–7), 459–466
- **"Inequalities, Employment and Income Convergence in Europe"** *International Review of Applied Economics*, with James Galbraith Volume 24, Issue 3 May 2010 , pages 359 - 377
- **"Regional Unemployment Clusters: Neighbourhood and State Effects in Europe and North America"**, *The Review of Regional Studies*, Vol 37, No. 3, 2007, with Vincenzo Spiezia
- **"Pay Inequality in Europe 1995-2000: Convergence Between Countries and Stability Inside"**, *European Journal of Comparative Economics*, Vol. 2, No.2, 2005, with James Galbraith
- **"Unemployment Inequality and the Policy of Europe, 1984-2000"**, *Banca Nazionale del Lavoro Quarterly Review*, Vol LVII, No. 228, March 2004, 3-28, with James Galbraith
- **"Structural and Cohesion Funds in Spain and Portugal: Is Regional and National Inequality Increasing?"**, Miami European Union Center, Working Paper Series Vol. 3 No. 11, (2003), with Pedro Gomis

### **Sample of Key Note speeches at International Events (from around 50)**

- **Seminario Diplomado Desafios de un Sistema Regional de Innovacion**, IADB and Universidad La Católica, 23 May 2014, Antofagasta, Chile (keynote speech)
- **Round Table Discussion on Linking Renewable Energy to Rural Development in Indonesia**, Agricultural Ministry and Ministry of Energy, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2014, Djakarta, Indonesia (keynote speech)
- **Seminar on the OECD Innovation Review and Territorial Review of the Netherlands**, Ministry for Economic Affairs, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2014, The Hague, (keynote speech)
- **Towards an Agreement on Smart Specialisation**, Rural Innovation and Services, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2014, Ljubiana, Slovenia (keynote speech)
- **First Nordregio Forum on Regional Policy and Development**, Nordregio, 14-15<sup>th</sup> October 2013, 9<sup>th</sup> Stockholm, (keynote speech)

### **Annex 3: CV of Anping Chen**

#### **Curriculum Vitae: Anping Chen**

##### **Contact Information**

Work address: Center for Regional and Urban Studies,  
School of Economics, Jinan University,  
601 Huangpu West Avenue, Guangzhou, 510632, P.R. China  
Work phone no.: (86-20) 85220186  
Work fax: (86-20) 85220187  
Email: anping.chen@hotmail.com; tapchen@jnu.edu.cn

##### **Major Interests**

Regional Economics, Spatial Modeling, Economic Development

##### **Education**

2006 PhD (Economics), Xi'an Jiaotong University  
2002 MA (Economics), Xi'an Jiaotong University  
1993 BSc (Physics), Hanzhong Normal College

##### **Scholarships and Honors**

2012 New Century Excellent Talents in China's University  
2012 Thousand-Hundred-Ten Talents in Guangdong's University  
2009 Endeavour Award (Australian Government)

##### **Employment History**

2011-Professor, School of Economics, Jinan University  
2006-2011 Associate Professor, School of Economics, Jinan University  
2010-2011 Visiting Associate Professor, AED Economics, The Ohio State University  
2009 Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Economics, The University of Australia  
1993-2000 Economist, Ankang Jindu Corporation

##### **Professional Service**

2013-2014, Vice President, Chinese Economists Society (CES)  
2012-, Editorial Board, *Letters in Spatial and Resource Sciences*  
2013-, Associate Editor, *Journal of Regional Science*  
2014-, Editorial Board, *REGION*  
2012, Guest Editor, *Journal of Regional Science*  
2012, Guest Editor, *Papers in Regional Science*  
2013, Guest Editor, *China Economic Review*  
2014, Guest Editor, *Review of Development Economics*

##### **Refereed Journal Publications (selected)**

1. Chen Anping, Nicolaas Groenewold, "The Regional Economic Effects of a Reduction in Carbon Emission and an Evaluation of Offsetting Policies in China", *Papers in Regional Science*, 2014, 93(2):429-453.
2. Chen Anping, Nicolaas Groenewold, "The National and Regional Effects of Fiscal Decentralisation in China", *Annals of Regional Science*, 2013, 51(3): 731-760.
3. Chen Anping, Mark Partridge, "When are Cities Engines of Growth in China? Spread and Backwash Effects across the Urban Hierarchy", *Regional Studies*, 2013, 47(8):1313-1331.
4. Chen Anping, Nicolaas Groenewold, "Does Investment Allocation Affect the Inter-Regional Output Gap in China? A Time-Series Investigation", *China Economic Review*, 2013, 26(1):197-206.
5. Chen Anping, Nicolaas Groenewold and A.J. Hagger, "Regional Economic Effects of a Reduction in Carbon Emission", *Australian Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*, 2013, 57(4): 483-500.
6. Chen Anping, Nicolaas Groenewold, "Regional Equality and National Development in China: Is There a Trade-Off?", *Growth and Change*, 2011, 42(4):629-670.
7. Chen Anping, Nicolaas Groenewold, "Reducing Regional Disparities in China: An Valuation of Alternative Policies", *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 2010, 38(2): 189-198.
8. Chen Anping, "Reducing Regional Disparities in China: Is there a Growth Cost?", *China Economic Review*, 2010, 21(1): 2-13.



9. Groenewold Nicolaas, Anping Chen, Guoping Lee, "Inter-Regional Spillovers of Policy Shocks in China", *Regional Studies*, 2010, 44(1): 87-101.
10. Groenewold Nicolaas, Anping Chen, Guoping Lee, "Inter-Regional Spillovers in China: The Importance of Common Shock and the Definition of the Regions", *China Economic Review*, 2008, 19(1):32-52.

### **Books**

1. Groenewold Nicolaas, Anping Chen, Guoping Lee, *Linkages between China's Regions: Measurement and Policy*, Edward Elgar, Cheltenham, UK, 2008.

### **Research Grants**

1. "Program for New Century Excellent Talents in China's University", Ministry of Education of China, *PI*, 2013-2015, 200,000CNY.
2. "Carbon Reduction, Regional Linkages and Related Policies in China", Social Science Research Key Grant, Jinan University, *PI/Applicant*, 2012-2014, 500,000CNY.
3. "Regional Economic Effects of A Reduction in Carbon Emission in China", National Nature Science Foundation of China, *PI/Applicant*, 2012-2015, 400,000CNY.

### **Workshop/Conference Organized**

1. The 1st International Workshop on Regional, Urban and Spatial Economics in China, co-organized with Mark Partridge and Jouke van Dijk, Guangzhou, June 15-16, 2012.
2. CESA-JNU Joint International Conference on Industrial Upgrading and Sustainable Economic Growth in China, co-organized with Chinese Economics Society of Australia (CESA), Guangzhou, December 12-13, 2013.
3. Chinese Economists Society 2014 Annual Conference, co-organized with Chinese Economists Society (CES), Guangzhou, June 14-15, 2014.



## **Editorial Report 2013**

### **Summary**

The transition phase is over and the new team is working in a friendly, constructive and cooperative atmosphere.

The rotation of the members continues in order to guarantee a fresh and cooperative attitude of the Editorial Team members. In June 2013 ten members left the Editorial Board and have been recently replaced by five new members.

In 2013, the number of submissions has increased from 197 to 221.

The total increase in submissions is driven by European scientists, that record the highest increase in submission. An interesting new trend is the increase of submission from PRSCO.

The decision making process has become more efficient than in the previous year. Table 2 shows the drastic fall of the time span in all phases of the review process, namely:

- from 3 to 1.8 months for the first decision;
- from 2.6 to 2 months for the second decision;
- from 1.2 to 0.8 months for the third decision.

What is not efficient, and loses efficiency over time, is the time from final decision to publication in print: the time is now over one year.

There is a clear decrease over the last two years of the economic area, in favour of the geography and of public policy and governance area.

The 2013 impact factor of PiRS has decreased from 1.541 to 1.183. As Figure 4 shows, it is a common trend of the main Regional Science Journals.

Two main areas have been envisaged in which new strategies have been put in place:

- the first area concerns the special issues. On this topic, a new strategy has been put in place by the editorial team members. The idea is to host only invited special issues that either cover traditional topics of regional science, with the aim to stress the state of the art, the advances achieved, and the possible scientific challenges that are ahead, or deal with very hot topics that come from the real world;
- the RSAI Board has also decided to go for on-line publication only, so that financial resources are saved to increase the number of issues per year.

## 1. Editorial Team and Editorial Board

The editorial team of Papers in Regional Science has now settled down. **The transition phase is over and the new team is working in a friendly, constructive and cooperative atmosphere.**

Prof. Yoshitsugu Hayashi had to leave his position for new important positions in his Country. Prof. Michaela Trippel joined the editorial team in November 2013. We are all grateful to Prof. Hayashi for his voluntary work during a long period of time, and welcome Prof. Trippel.

This report has the aim to highlight the development of the journal in the last year (2013), highlighting the advances made and the critical aspects ahead of us. The report closes with some strategic decisions made by the editorial team.

The data contained in this report refer to 2013, and therefore reflect the work done in the first year by the new team.

Some changes have been made in the Editorial Board. **The rotation of the members continues in order to guarantee a fresh and cooperative attitude of the Editorial Team members.** In June 2013 ten members left the Editorial Board and have been recently replaced by five new ones. Now, the whole members are in a number of 45.

## 2. Editorial statistics

### 2.1. Number of submission and rejection rates

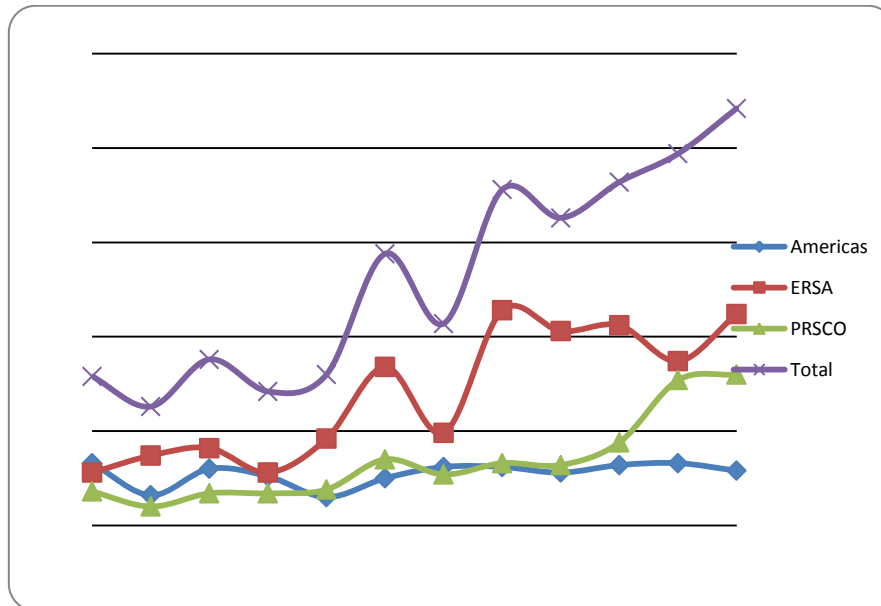
Table 1 presents the number of submission and rejection rates, together with pending manuscripts, i.e. papers that are in the website system at different stages.

**Table 1.** Number of submissions and rejection rates

Cohort	Submissions	Acceptance rate	Rejection rate	Pending manuscripts
2002	79	0,39	0,61	0
2003	63	0,35	0,65	0
2004	88	0,37	0,63	0
2005	71	0,36	0,64	0
2006	80	0,38	0,62	0
2007	144	0,27	0,73	0
2008	108	0,23	0,77	0
2009	178	0,34	0,66	0
2010	163	0,33	0,67	0
2011	182	0,28	0,72	0
2012	197	0,40	0,60	53
<b>2013</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>0,10</b>	<b>0,90</b>	<b>37</b>

In 2013, **the submission rate has increased** from 197 to 221, an indicator that witnesses the consolidation of the journal in the international scientific world. The acceptance rate has drastically decrease to 10%, while 90% of the papers are rejected, in line with the policy of the Editorial Team. Pending manuscripts have decreased, and this is a sign of increased efficiency in the decision making process.

Figure 1 shows that **the total increase in submissions is driven by European scientists**, that record the highest increase in submission. An interesting new trend is **the increase of submission from PRSCO**, which reflects the effectiveness of the RSAI policy (ad-hoc seminars organized in this part of the world) towards this area. This situation is expected to increase next year with the publication of the special issue on regional science research in China.



**Fig. 1.** Geographically detailed number of submissions, 2002–2013

## 2.2. Decision making process and reviewers

As mentioned above, **the decision making process has become more efficient than in the previous year**. Table 2 shows the drastic fall of the time span in all phases of the review process, namely:

- From 3 to 1.8 months for the first decision;
- From 2.6 to 2 months for the second decision;
- From 1.2 to 0.8 months for the third decision.

Interestingly enough, the maturity of the journal is also shown by the fact that never before the process has been so quick and efficient, as Table 2 shows.

**What is not efficient, and loses efficiency over time, is the time from final decision to publication in print: the time is now over one year.** To give an idea of the situation, the last (August 2014) print version still contains papers decided by the old team.

This aspect is particularly crucial. The journal has a backlog of more than 90 papers. A particular strategy has been put together with Wiley-Blackwell, the President of RSAI and the PiRS editorial team to overcome such a problem, which will be presented in the section on editorial policies.

Given the increase in the total submissions, the number of referees has also increased, as Table 3 reports. While the European scientists show a high and constant engagement in the journal,

American scientists have increased, and now represent a little bit more than a quarter. The PRSCO area is stable.

**Table 2.** Manuscript processing in months

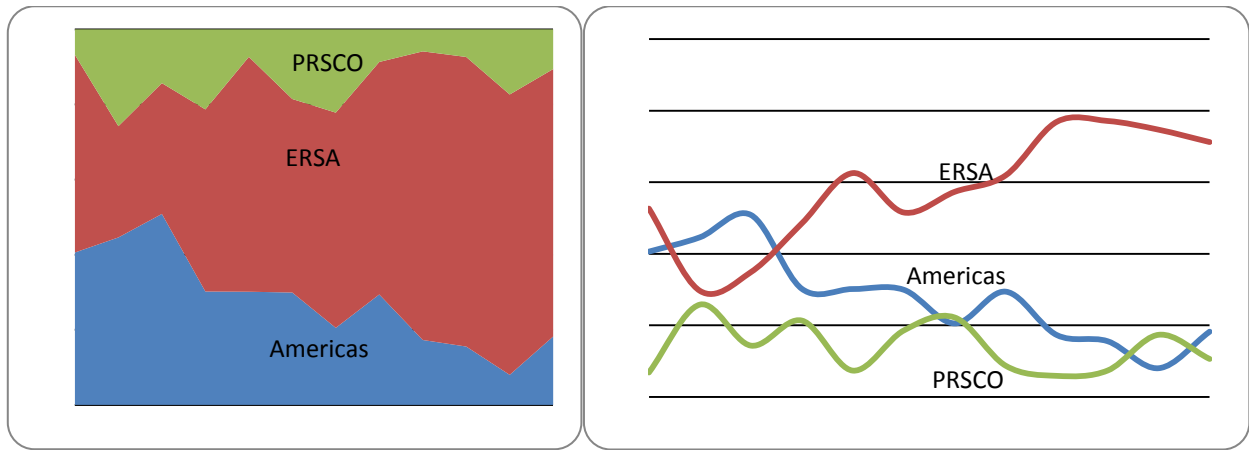
Cohort	First decision	Second decision	Third decision	Final decision of acceptance to Early View	Final decision to publication in print
2002	5,2	3,5	1	—	8
2003	6,1	3,9	1	—	9,2
2004	5,6	3,3	1,5	—	9
2005	6,1	2,9	—	—	12,8
2006	5,4	4,9	—	9	11,9
2007	3,1	2,7	1,3	7,4	11,4
2008	2,5	2,4	0,8	5,6	10,4
2009	3	2,6	1,5	2,9	8,8
2010	3,2	2,9	1,3	2,6	9
2011	3,1	2,5	2	1,9	11,4
2012	3	2,6	1,2	3,4	4,9
<b>2013</b>	<b>1,8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0,8</b>	<b>3,1</b>	<b>12,4</b>

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

Year	Reviewers	ERSA	Americas	PRSCO
2002	194	0,38	0,44	0,18
2003	186	0,34	0,53	0,13
2004	192	0,39	0,5	0,11
2005	192	0,38	0,31	0,32
2006	181	0,4	0,52	0,08
2007	213	0,58	0,32	0,1
2008	230	0,56	0,34	0,1
2009	325	0,62	0,25	0,13
2010	332	0,61	0,23	0,15
2011	337	0,59	0,25	0,15
2012	354	0,62	0,22	0,16
<b>2013</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>0,61</b>	<b>0,26</b>	<b>0,13</b>

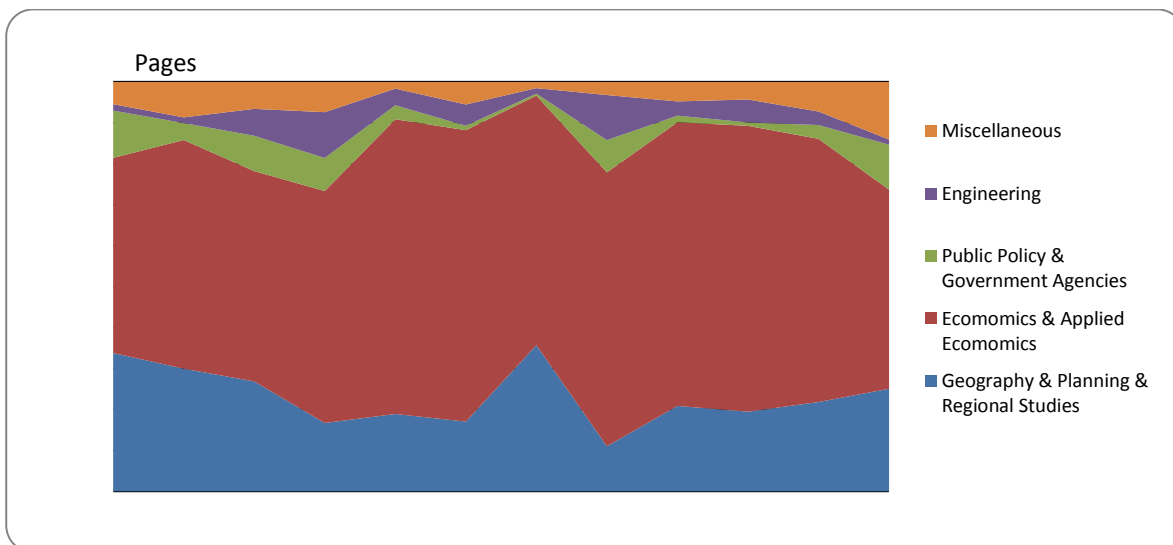
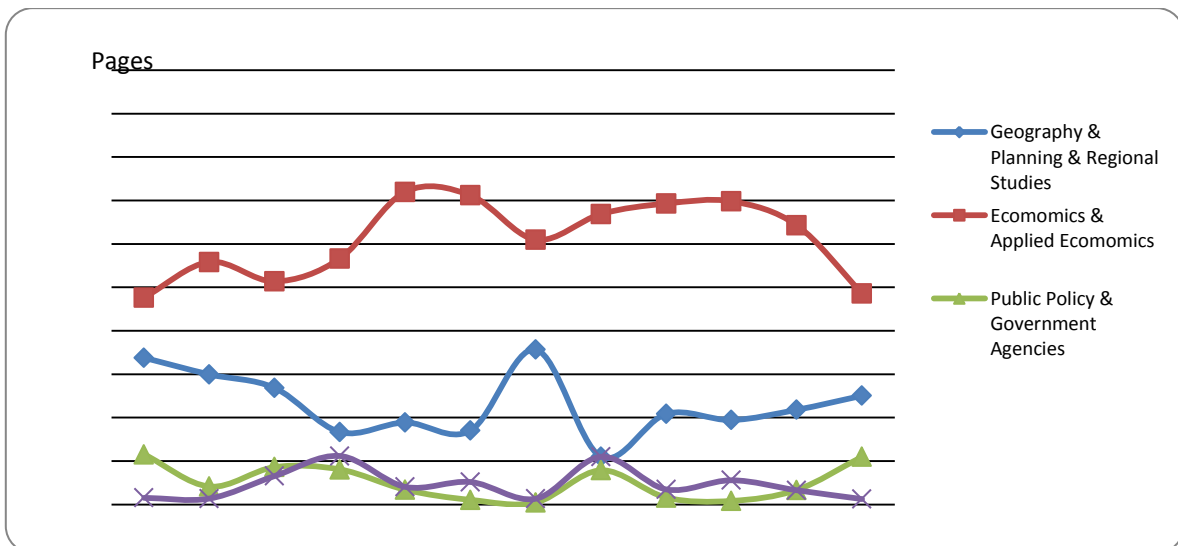
### 2.3. Authors by geographical areas and by disciplines

Figure 2 presents the geographical distribution of authors. While it shows the constant domination of European authors *vi-à-vis* other areas of the world, the situation is slightly changing: **European authors continue to decrease over time, while those from RS Americas increase.** The trend will continue in the next years, given the editorial policies and the RSAI policies in this respect.



**Fig. 2.** Geographic distribution of authors in author pages (% per year and proportion), Vol. 81–92, 2002–2013

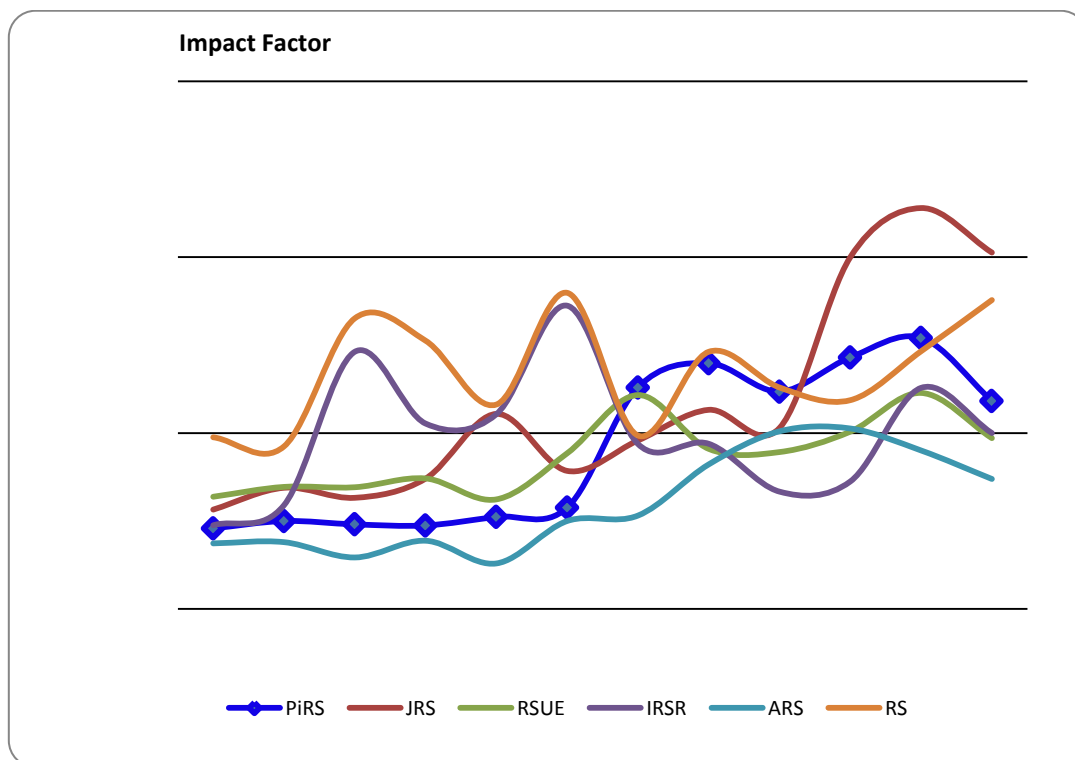
Figure 3 reports the distribution of pages by discipline. **There is a clear decrease over the last two years of the economic area, in favour of the geography and of public policy and governance area.**



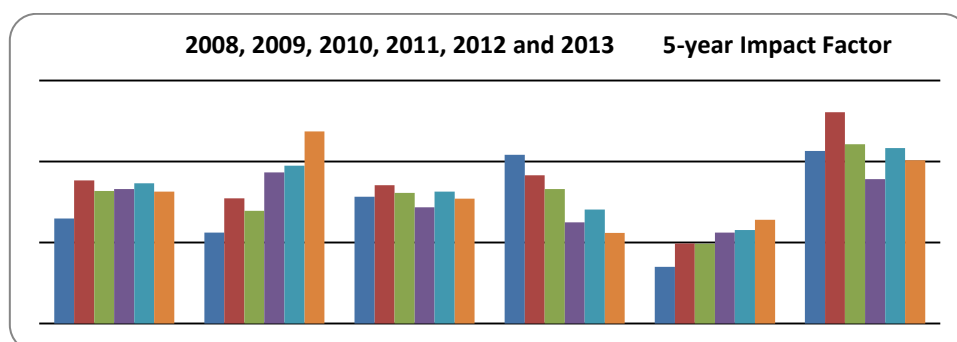
**Fig. 3.** Author pages by affiliation of the author(s), volume 81–92, 2002–2013

#### 2.4. Impact Factor

The 2013 impact factor of PiRS has decreased from 1.541 to 1.183. As Figure 4 shows, it is a common trend of the main Regional Science Journals. As a result, also the 5-year impact factor has slightly decreased (Figure 5).



**Fig. 4.** Citation Impact Factor for various regional science journals, 2002–2013



**Fig. 5.** Citation 5-year Impact Factor for various regional science journals in 2008–2013

The Editors will put in place some ad-hoc strategies to increase it in the future, namely:

- the launch of special issues on updated issues, with strong policy implications;

- the invitation of important regional scientists to participate with advanced and innovative theoretical, methodological and empirical contributions.

More on this is explained in the next section.

### **3. Editorial Policies**

**Two are the main areas in which strategies have been put in place.**

**The first area concerns the special issues.** On this topic, a new strategy has been put in place by the editorial team members. The idea is to host only invited special issues that either cover traditional topics of regional science, with the aim to stress the state of the art, the advances achieved, and the possible scientific challenges that are ahead, or deal with very hot topics that come from the real world.

Under this perspective, two topics have been identified: agglomeration economies as an example of the first type of special issue, and the impact of the economic crisis, as an example of the second type. Editors of high quality have been identified for each special issue.

The first area in which a new editorial policy has been put in place is the solution to the huge backlog of papers. In order to solve this problem, different actions have been put (or will be soon) put in place. In order to complexity:

- the increase of the rejection rate (already applied);
- the decrease of the length of papers;
- the on-line only publication of an additional number for 2014, as a supplement to n. 4- 2014.

**The RSAI Board has also decided to go for on-line publication only**, so that financial resources are saved to increase the number of issues per year. Since none of us knows the effects of this strategy on the diffusion and penetration of the journal, the agreement between the establishment of RSAI and the Editorial Team is that if some problems of visibility arise due to the online version only, the decision will be revised.

Finally, also this year the Martin Beckmann prize for the best article published in *Papers in Regional Science* has been delivered. For 2013 the prize is awarded to G Pellegrini, F Terribile, O Tarola, T. Muccigrosso, F. Busillo, “Measuring the effects of European Regional Policy on economic growth: A regression discontinuity approach”, published in issue 1, 2013.

All in all, we think that this report provides not only a healthy situation of the journal, that we inherited from the old Team, but that progress has been made in different directions, showing that the team work developed in harmony, cooperation and trustworthiness among the Editors shows its results. An important role is also of our Editorial manger, Elisabete Martins, whose efficiency is of stimulus for all of us.

Roberta Capello  
Editor-in-chief Papers in Regional Science

also on behalf of the other members of the Editorial Team  
Alessandra Faggian, Paul Elhorst, Takatoshi Tabuchi, Michaela Tripl and Eduardo Haddad

Milan, Italy  
August, 2014