

Minutes

RSAI COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 2023

Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023, 1 pm CET – 3 pm CET

Zoom link: <https://polimi-it.zoom.us/j/97772923050?pwd=bHRIRS9DM3FYQVlobmM5dG5iUmt5QT09>

Meeting ID: 977 7292 3050

Password: 652655

At 1.05 pm CET the RSAI President, Hans Westlund, after checking that the Council has the deliberation faculty threshold, welcomes participants in the meeting.

The following Council members attend: Rosella Nicolini (at large, PiRS EiC); Hans Westlund (RSAI President); Isabelle Thomas (at large); Andrea Caragliu (RSAI Executive director; Elizabeth Mack (NARSC representative); Jouke Van Dijk (at large); Brian Kim (PRSCO representative); Hidehiko Kanegae (PRSCO President and representative); Daniela Constantin (at large); Martijn smit (Newsletter editor); Serena Erendira (LARSA president and representative); Lili Kiminami (PRSCO representative); Lise Bordiaeu-LePage (ERSA representative); Roberta Capello (LRPC); Sandy dell’Erba (NARSC representative); André Torre (ERSA President and representative); Tomaz Dentinho (At-large and RSPP EiC).

1. Apologies (Annex 1)

Apologies received from Soushi Suzuki (PRSCO ED) and Eduardo Haddad (Immediate past president).

2. Approval of the minutes of the Montreal meeting (Nov. 2022; Annex 2)

Andrea Caragliu reports that the minutes of the previous meeting, held in Montreal at the 2022 NARSC meeting, have been circulated via email and no comment was received. He asks the council whether there is any further suggestion. With none received, Prof. Thomas proposes to approve the minutes, and Prof. Nicolini seconds. The minutes of the November 2022 meeting are unanimously approved.

3. Choice of the new publisher for PiRS and RSPP for the period 2024-2028 (Andrea Caragliu; Annex 4)

Andrea Caragliu explains how the negotiations with various potential publishers have been carried out. Negotiations for a possible renewal with Wiley started in Spring 2022. On Jan. 23, 2023 the RSAI president and ED met with the publications committee (made up of Prof.

Roberta Capello, Politecnico di Milano, immediate past EiC of PiRS; Andrés Rodrigues-Pose, LSE, co-EiC of Economic Geography; Dan Rickman, Oklahoma State University, immediate past EiC of Growth and Change; and Jean-Claude Thill, RSAI LRPC, and responsible for the previous round of negotiations with Wiley). On Jan. 31, a similar meeting with the LRPC has been held. Recommendations from both bodies have been attached to this meeting's agenda.

A lawyer (Letizia Belfiore, LIEN advocates, Milan/Paris), expert of intellectual property, researched both the present and the previous contract, and concluded there is no preferential renewal agreement that prevents the RSAI to opt out of the contract, if so decided.

During negotiations, all major players publishing regional science, economics, geography, or planning journals have been contacted:

1. Wiley (current publisher)
2. MIT press
3. Oxford University Press
4. Cambridge University Press
5. Elsevier
6. Sage
7. Springer-Nature

After at least one call with each of them, four got back to the RSAI with the offers attached to the agenda of the meeting.

Rosella Nicolini shares a wish list of PiRS Editors for the new contract. She explains the editors expect some relevant unequal effects from any contract based on a switch to gold open access. Prof. Kanegae asks how many years the contract would last; what level would APCs reach; and how many papers should be published under the new contract. Andrea Caragliu provides the information, which is available in the contracts proposals attached to the council agenda.

Martijn Smit asks about the user friendliness of their submission platforms. Andrea Caragliu replies with some additional details on the systems – most publishers using either manuscript central or editorial manager.

Elizabeth Mack asks about possible waivers. Scholars from the US could be discouraged from submitting. She praises Elsevier's submission platform – she is co-editing *Telematics and Informatics*. She suggests to advertise this transition as much as possible. The California university system is in favor, but Michigan doesn't approve of switching to gold open access, so Prof. Mack would expect quite some heterogeneity in the response in terms of submissions even from within high-level income countries.

On this point, the Executive Director asks if there is a list of US institutions with their policy towards open access, which unfortunately is not available. Prof. Mack and Prof. dell'Erba reply they will gladly help in assembling some of this information in due time.

André Torre is in favor of waivers for low-income countries and universities not covered by transformational agreements. He stresses there is going to be competition from other open access publishers such as *MDPI*.

Kidehiko Kanegae asks details on how this information and the debate should be kept confidential. Andrea Caragliu replies that the minutes will be published with the exception of any information related to this debate, and that members of the Councils are expected not to disclose information related to this debate or to the material attached to this agenda.

Jouke Van Dijk also says that Wiley has not been a best case transition. He also asks how long the offer remain will valid. Andrea Caragliu replies that the offers are to be considered valid for a couple of months, because publishers agree to some time for the council to discuss the details of the offers.

With no more comments or questions, the council proceeds to voting with a system proposed by the ED: 5 points to the preferred option, to 1 to the least preferred option, among Springer Nature, Wiley, Elsevier hybrid, Elsevier Gold open access, and Sage. Voting is public, and the option to move both RSAI journals with Elsevier in Gold Open Access prevails with 65 points.

4. Funding the costs for printing a special of RSPP on Ukraine (Tomaz Dentinho; Annex 3)

Due to the temporary absence of Prof. Dentinho from the council, Andrea Caragliu explains the proposal on his behalf, along the lines of the attached Annex 3.

Rosella Nicolini stresses that this is a humanitarian undertaking, but at the same time no more extra budget should be allocated to RSPP. André Torre adds that in the past RSAI organized several workshops in low-income countries, and because this created troubles, the nurturing talent programme was created. However, other events are being funded with RSPP events, and these have to be kept under the RSAI control. Andrea Caragliu replies that some events sponsored by RSPP brought new sections and potential members.

Hans Westlund adds that the proposal from RSPP should be financed with RSPP budget, but given Ukraine's situation we could agree on an exception. Isabelle Thomas adds that rules should be enacted to regulate this process and decision-making. Liz Mack agrees with the need for rules, to avoid to create a precedent. Jouke Van Dijk also disagrees in principle. Daniela Constantin adds that the Romanian section was not informed of this proposal. The Council proceeds to anonymous voting. The proposal is approved with 5 votes in favor, 4 against, and one abstained.

5. RSPP Best Special Issue award (Tomaz Dentinho, Annex 5)

Prof Dentinho proposes to create a new award to celebrate impactful special issues. These will be awarded on the basis of the average number of citations received. Prof. Westlund congratulates on the initiative, but stresses that no additional (extra) budget should be dedicated to this undertaking. Rosella Nicolini motions to approve the proposal, provided that it is funded by budget already available to RSPP; André Torre seconds. The proposal is unanimously approved by the council.

6. Replacement of member of the diversity and inclusion committee (Andrea Caragliu)

Andrea Caragliu explains of the election: Dr. Milena Sorzano stepped down from the committee diversity and inclusion committee. Sandy dell'Erba stresses that NARSC has lacked in the collection of data on congress participants. He suggests to collect it when attendees register for a regional science meeting; in fact, the procedure should become automatic.

Serena Erendira says that AMECIDER has data on 20 years back – to provide feedback on national sections. Isabelle Thomas added that ERSA worked on this theme and she recommends to keep fine-tuning this strategy. Information can lead to do something for changing things. Hans Westlund replies that diversity and inclusion is one of the issues on top of his agenda.

7. Proposal to temporarily (2023) fund APCs for PiRS authors from LARSA and PRSCO sections presently without transformational agreements (Rosella Nicolini; Annex 6)

Rosella Nicolini explains her proposal to use some of the PiRS funds to finance APCs for LARSA and PRSCO authors in 2024, with the aim to enhance the impact factor of the journal (usually open access papers get more citations), and in line with the strategy of the journal to broaden their geographical coverage. In that spirit, she requests the council to fund APCs for RSAI members hailing from LARSA or PRSCO.

Hans Westlund stresses that the decision should not be decided by the Council, because it is in the power of the EiC to so decide. For future reference, bargaining with Elsevier will go also though the request of additional waivers for the first year. André Torre also agrees it is a good idea. Prof. Constantin also supports the proposal, and she stresses that PiRS did not use any extra budget for this goal.

Isabelle proposes to approve the proposal; Daniela Constantin seconds. The proposal is unanimously approved.

8. Renewal of LARSA Councilors

Andrea Caragliu explains that LARSA has transitional issues and need to elect a new President. The three present councilors are proposed to stay frozen on the council until issues are being solved, hopefully within June 30, 2023. A committee made up of the three LARSA councilors and a representative of each national section will elect the new councilors. Sandy dell'Erba offers help in spreading the word. Rosella Nicolini approves the proposal, Jouke Van Dijk seconds. The proposal is unanimously approved.

9. Next meeting

The council will gather again around mid April 2023 to approve a draft of the contract with the new publisher.

With no more items to discuss, at 3.08 pm Prof. Westlund adjourns the meeting.

Annex 2

RSAI COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 2022

Montreal (Canada), Friday Nov. 11, 2022 | 8:00 am-10:00 am (EST) | Room Ovation

At 8.08 EST the president, Prof. Eduardo Haddad, welcomes participants in the meeting. In the meeting room, the meeting is attended by Eduardo Haddad (RSAI President); Hans Westlund (Incoming RSAI president); Rosella Nicolini (Councillor at large, PiRS EIC); Tomaz Dentinho (Councillor at large, RSPP EIC); and Andrea Caragliu, RSAI Executive Director. On Zoom, the following members also join: André Torre (ERSA president and representative); Daniela Constantin (ERSA representative); Hidehiko Kanegae (PRSCO president and representative); Lily Kiminami (PRSCO representative); Soushi Suzuki (PRSCO representative); and Mina Akharvan (RSAI newsletter editor)

1. Apologies (Annex 1)

Apologies received from Patricio Aroca, Carlos Azzoni, Eveline Van Leeuwen, Serena Erendira, Martijn Smit, Jouke Van Dijk, and Sandy dall'Erba.

2. Approval of the minutes of the Pécs meeting (Aug. 25, 2022; Annex 2)

Minutes of the previous meeting have been circulated ahead of the meeting. The Executive Director reports no suggestion to amend the copy circulated. Tomaz Dentinho proposes to approve the minutes; Rosella Nicolini seconds. Minutes are unanimously approved.

3. 2023 Budget proposal (Andrea Caragliu; Annex 3)

Andrea Caragliu explains to the Council the budget proposal for 2023; in particular, he pledges the council to considering raising Ms Martins' yearly wage to a grand total of 20,500 (combining payments for her services to the RSAI, PiRS, and RSPP). No suggestion or remark against the proposal is made; Rosella Nicolini proposes to approve the motion and Tomaz Dentinho seconds. The Council unanimously approves the motion, and the wage increase will be effective as of Jan. 1, 2023.

4. State of negotiations for renewing the contract for publishing PiRS and RSPP with Wiley

Andrea Caragliu reports to the Council about the proposals received as the council meeting takes place. As these minutes are being written, offers were received from Elsevier and Sage; Wiley let the President and ED know an offer would come soon; while Springer plans to transform their informal intentions into a formal offer shortly. Rosella Nicolini reminds the Council that Elsevier journals request fees, but the RSAI may not want to adopt that option. Several offers include free waivers. Tomaz Dentinho suggests we may use these waivers as awards to promising papers. Rosella Nicolini says this is a very good offer. Andrea Caragliu finally summarizes the state of the art, saying that the publications committee will consult about the offers, and will provide the Council recommendations about a potential ranking. Lastly, Prof. Dentinho stresses that a council meeting will have to decide before the 2023 ERSA congress; in this sense, April 2023 would be a good option.

5. Selection of 2023 Nurturing Talent initiative proposals (Andrea Caragliu; Annex 4)

Andrea Caragliu explains the way the budget for nurturing talent proposals was allocated. In particular, he explains that the dedicated committee made a recommendation to the Council about funds allocation, taking into account the possibility to finance some of the events – those hosted in

areas where no RSAI section is to date present – with the profits of the 2021 World Congress. Prof. Haddad explains that for the Paraguay event, sections and members of the Argentinian, Brazilian, and Chilean sections are being involved in the organization. No proposal were instead received from the NARSC area. Tomaz Dentinho proposes to approve the allocation discussed in Annex 4, Prof. Nicolini seconds. The motion to approve the budget for Nurturing Talent initiatives is unanimously approved.

6. Results of the elections of a new Councillor at large entering her/his position from Jan. 1, 2023

Two very good candidatures for the position of at-large were received; a substantial majority voted for Prof. Daniela Constantin, who has thus been reelected as councillor-at-large. The Council congratulates her on her re-election.

7. Election of new RSPP EiC (Annex 5)

Tomaz Dentinho leaves the room. Andrea Caragliu reports that only one candidature was received - Tomaz Dentinho's. Andrea Caragliu reports Prof. Dentinho did a great job with Regional Science Policy & Practice, during his first two terms as EiC. The journal will obtain an Impact Factor from June 2023, because it was previously indexed as WoS ESCI. Moreover, there is no competitor. André Torre remarks he did a good job in reviving the journal, and recommends to reappoint him. André Torre proposes to approve the motion, Hidehiko Kanegae seconds. Tomaz Dentinho is therefore re-elected and congratulated by the Council. Tomaz Dentinho says that during his third term the journal will have a larger set of editors. Each will have one /two special issues to guest-edit within the next three years.

8. World Congress 2023

Eduardo Haddad summarizes the state of the art of the world congress. One proposal to the public call-for-applications was received from RSAC, one from Hungary. Neither appeared flawless, and both were fine-tuned with some back and forth emailing. Not being fully sure about the two proposals' feasibility, the President and the Executive Director propose to postpone the organization of the world congress to 2024. Prof. Kanegae notifies the Council that PRSCO will host their biannual congress in South Korea. He suggests to have a calendar of future supranational events, not to have overlappings. André Torre stresses that the Hungarian candidature has two issues: 1. ERSA is lukewarm about having congresses on the European soil, and 2. He suggests to involve the local section in the organization. Rosella Nicolini reminds that some countries could be problematic for political reasons. Tomaz Dentinho says that RSAC's congress could be still an option even in case the RSAI opts for a mixed system, with few people in presence, given possible limitations to international travel, and with several more online. Eduardo Haddad tells the Council that in yesterday's LRPC meeting Prof. Peter Nijkamp offered to get in touch with the Croatian section to also verify whether the local section would be interested in organizing the congress.

The Council unanimously agrees to postpone the organization of the world congress to 2024.

9. Some words from the upcoming President

Hans Westlund thanks Eduardo Haddad for his role of president over the past two years. He discusses his plan for the next presidency. He believes three issues should be highlighted. 1. Expansion of the RSAI remains on the agenda, but the experiences from the past should be taken into account. The LRPC could be involved in this process, and he calls for council members for ideas. This should be done by the end of next year. 2. Role of the RSAI. He stresses the relevance of clarifying, first of all to the association itself, what the mandate and purpose of the association is in relation to the supraregional and national sections. 3. Diversity and inclusion. This has been on the agenda for years and now the RSAI is lagging w.r.t., for instance, some sections such as NARSC. He concludes that he wishes to have the diversity and inclusion committee up and running within the next three months.

10. AOB

Prof. Caragliu reminds the Council that this is the last meeting under Prof. Haddad's presidency. He thanks Eduardo Haddad for the excellent cooperation, and the Council warmly joins in congratulating Prof. Haddad on his efforts and leadership.

11. Next meeting

Andrea Caragliu suggests to organize an online meeting in Spring 2023, to decide about the publishers' proposal.

With no more items to decide, at 9.30 am EST the council meeting is adjourned.

Proposal for the support of RSAI to print 100 copies of the RSPP Special Issue on Ukraine with the amount of 2,371.97 GBP x 1,13 = 2,680.33 Euros.

After the beginning of the war in Ukraine RSPP promoted a Special Issue on Regional Development in Ukraine that will be published on-line as the 1st Issue of 2023.

Some members of the editorial team visited Chernivtsi in October 2022 and met with the University and with the Government of the Region that stated the interest on receiving development studies on Ukraine. The RSPP Special Issue on Ukraine compiles very recent studies on regional development of Ukraine showing the contribution of Regional Science in the understanding of the conflict and in the support of the reconstruction.

The gift of 100 hard copies of the special issue can help the reconstruction of Ukraine and show the importance of regional science in the region and in the world.

The cost of printing and mailing 100 copies is 2680,33 Euros. The cost is similar for less copies.

Tomaz Ponce Dentinho

	Authors	Papers
0	Gabriela Carmen Pascariu, Oksana Holovko-Havrysheva, Oksana Krayevska	Introduction Ukraine: Geopolitical Realities and Regional Development Perspectives
1	Maksymenko, Iryna (contact); Brusylowska, Olga	Discourse Analysis of Media on the War 2022 in Ukraine: The case of Russia
2	Sass, Karina (proxy) (contact); Haddad, Eduardo; Araújo, Inácio; Rocha, Ademir	Input-Output Analysis of the Ukraine War: A Tool for Assessing the Internal Territorial Impacts of the Conflict
3	Ciot, Melania-Gabriela	The impact of Russian-Ukrainian conflict on Green Deal implementation in Central-South Eastern Member States of European Union
4	Sych, Olga (contact); NAZARKEVYCH, Ihor	Taxation as A Tool of Implementation of The EU Green Deal in Ukraine
5	Simionov, Loredana (contact)	Shifting attitudes towards identity, borders and geopolitical choices. The case of Moldova
6	Myskiv, Galina (contact); PASINOVYCH, Iryna	Ukrainian Context of Sustainable Development and the Role of Business in Its Achievement
7	Hrynkevych, Olha (proxy) (contact); Levytska, Olha; Baranyak, Ihor	Human Resources for Regional Development in Ukraine: A Roadmap for Forecasting and Determining a Regional Request for Training
8	Maathuis, Clara (contact); Kerkhof, Iddo	The First Two Months in the War in Ukraine through Topic Modelling and Sentiment Analysis
9	PASCARIU, Gabriela (contact); NIJKAMP, PETER; Kourtit, Karima	Regional Science Knowledge Needs for the Recovery of the Ukrainian Space-Economy: A Q-Analysis
10	Duszczyk, Maciej (contact); Górny, Agata; Kaczmarczyk, Paweł; Kubisiak, Andrzej	War refugees from Ukraine in Poland - one year after the Russian aggression. Socio-economic consequences and challenges
11	Smolinska, Sofiya (contact); Hnatkovich, Oksana; Smolinsky, Valentyn; Yasinovska, Iryna	Modern Approaches to Ukraine's Regional Development Management

De: Carney, Shannon <shcarney@wiley.com>

Enviada: 24 de janeiro de 2023 13:44

Para: Tomás Lopes Cavalheiro Ponce Dentinho <tomas.lc.dentinho@uac.pt>

Cc: rspp@regionalscience.org

Assunto: RE: Diffusion of RSPP papers

Dear Tomaz,

Thank you for your note! I received the pricing estimate yesterday and hadn't had a chance to send it over just yet. For 100 copies of a 284 page special issue to be printed and sent to Iasi, Romania by February 24, the estimate would be **2,371.97 GBP**. This breaks down to 1,924.11 GBP for pre-press production costs, and 447.86 GBP for printing and shipping. If this cost is amenable to you, I can reach out to the appropriate teams to have this set in motion.

.....

Best,

Shannon

Recommendations to the RSAI Council

Publications committee recommendations:

“Considering the pros and cons of all four proposals, the committee believes that both a full open access approach and a hybrid one present potential advantages and disadvantages for the RSAI. The hybrid approach allows to postpone the final transition to Open Access that appears inevitable, and minimizes the potential unequal effects of the immediate adoption of an open access approach. However, given the inevitability of Open Access, the committee concludes that this mode should be embraced with the new contract, along with mitigating measures to minimise the potential negative effects of APC to be decided by the Council.

Among the two proposals based on Open Access, the one made by Elsevier appears more promising, mostly due to the very high number of discretionary waivers offered to the EiCs of the journal. Along such waivers, the committee recommends the Council to simultaneously enact measures meant to mitigate the potential divide in publishing opportunities that this mode may create among potential authors. These may include not only typically vulnerable categories such as junior faculty and authors from the global south not included in publishers' APC waivers policies, but also those hailing from high-income Countries working for institutions with limited APC support. Lastly, the committee recommends to commit a share of potential RSAI extra revenues due to the inflow of APCs to support additional waivers for members belonging to marginally exposed categories”

LRPC recommendations

The LRPC supports the recommendation of the publications committee, and adds the following remark:

“By the principle of universal membership, RSAI members should not be treated as non-members in incurring the costs of APCs. In particular, in addition to the 20% discount received from the publisher, extra waivers should be granted only to RSAI members”

Proposal for the RSPP Special Issue Award

RSPP is moving to six or more special issues per year and enlarging the editorial team to fourteen colleagues plus the guest editors.

The proposal of the RSPP Special Issue Award aims to stimulate the quality of an enlarged editorial team focused in the edition of Special Issues.

The proposed RSPP Special Issue Award prizes the special issues with more than seven papers, published two years before based on their citations per paper and the judgement of a jury composed by three Fellows, the President and the Immediate Past President.

1. Goal

The Award recognizes annually the RSPP Special Issue, published two years before that, having obtained high citations per article, clearly demonstrated the use of advanced replicable methods, rooted in the regional science and with effective evidences for policy makers on emerging topics related to human interaction within space.

2. The Award

2.1 The award recognizes and honours editors of RSPP special issues that manage to select, with a rigorous blind review process, a set of complementary and original contributions on emerging topics of human interaction within space. The editor in chief cannot receive the award.

2.2 The Prize is annual and awards the best Special Issue with more than seven papers, published two years before on Regional Science Policy and Practice.

2.3 The Award selects one Special Issue per year and, exceptionally, two that will divide the award equally.

2.4 The Award involves the payment of 750 €, one plaque and certificates for the editors of the Special Issue.

3. Jury and Process for Recommending the Award

3.1 In September of each year, the Editor in Chief of Regional Science Policy and Practice ranks the Special Issues of two years before according to the total number of citations per number of papers of the Special Issue.

3.2 The Editor-in Chief of Regional Science Policy and Practice send the ranks of the Special Issues for appraisal to the jury composed by three Fellows, the President of RSAI and the immediate past President of RSAI;

3.3 The Jury will appraise and rank the Special Issues in a meeting in person and/or by email/teleconference in March to select the paper to receive the Award.

3.4 The Editor-in-Chief of Regional Science Policy and Practice will inform the Executive Director of RSAI of the decision of the Jury, and the Executive Director of RSAI will inform the recipient(s) of the Award.

3.5 The Awardee(s) will be invited to attend one of the Supra-Regional (NARSC, LACRSA, ERSA, PRSCO) meetings or the RSAI World Congress to receive the Award.

3.6 The first RSPP Special Issue Award will be granted based on the Special Issues published in 2021.