



NARSC NEWS



Welcome from the Executive Director



Thank you to everyone who made the 2017 North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International such a huge success. Approximately 600 regional scientists from across the world gathered in Vancouver, British Columbia to share their latest research findings over three days of presentations.

In addition to dozens of breakout sessions, we had two interesting and highly informative plenary sessions - the RSAI Fellows Lecture delivered by Mark Partridge of The Ohio State University and the NARSC Presidential address delivered by Alessandra Faggian of the Gran Sasso Science Institute. David Boyce of the University of Illinois, Chicago also delivered a very thoughtful Alonso Prize Lecture. Conferences are successful because there are numerous people working feverishly behind the scenes. To that end, I thank Hanna Maoh who served as Program Chair. Hanna, ably assisted by Shakil Khan, did a stellar job on putting together a fantastic program. John Leatherman, for the second year running, served as Local Organizer – thank you John for another job well done. Thanks also to our student helpers Matt Lehnert, Kevin Credit, and Marie Louis. In 2018, we will meet in San Antonio, Texas – the dates are November 7-10. Please consider joining us. Finally, I hope that you enjoy this issue of NARSC News. Thanks



Words from the Editors

We are delighted to bring you the latest issue of the North American Regional Science (NARSC) newsletter. This edition of the newsletter will provide readers with a summary of this year's annual meeting. Featured items of this edition include: the abstract of the presidential address by Alessandra Faggian, a summary of the Alonso, Boyce, Hewings, and Isard award winners; biographies of new NARSC President Mark Partridge and Councilors Elizabeth and Haifeng Qian; and an update from the member NARSC regional sections.

Elizabeth Mack and Ran Wei
Newsletter Co-Editors

ISSUE 2, DECEMBER 2017

Featured content

What to do (if anything) about peripheral areas Alessandra Faggian	2
Alonso Prize Co-Winners	3
Boyce Award Winner: Sergio Rey	3
Isard Award Winner: Marlon Boarnet	4
Hewings Award Winner: Riccardo Crescenzi	4
NARSC Student Paper Competition Results	4
Meet your New President: Mark Partridge	5
Meet your New Councilors: Elizabeth Mack Haifeng Qian	6
Regional Section Updates	6
Benjamin Stevens Graduate Fellowship: Call for Applications	7
Call for Donations	8
Upcoming Meetings	8

Would you like to contribute to the newsletter? Contact editors Elizabeth Mack (emack@msu.edu) or Ran Wei (ranwei@ucr.edu)



What to do (if anything) with peripheral areas: some reflections

By Alessandra Faggian

As the recent election results around the world highlighted (e.g. Brexit and the 2016 US Presidential elections) the rural-urban divide in voting patterns has increased in recent years. After decades of policies oriented more towards urban areas, peripheral areas are experiencing a feeling of being *left behind*. This feeling was exacerbated also by the recent Great Recession and increasing globalization. However, “whether” to do something for the peripheries or not – and “what” to do – is still subject of heated debate among researchers and policy makers. While on one side some think peripheries automatically benefit from secondary trickle-down effects “spilling over” from urban areas, on the other a growing number of researchers found evidence that urban growth might come at the expenses of growth in the peripheral areas and that backwash effects prevail over spread effects across the urban hierarchy. The “do-nothing-for-the-peripheries” option might have as a consequence the complete disappearance of small places, which some think are important not only for economic, but also cultural and diversity reasons. Believing in the intrinsic value of keeping the peripheries alive, the European Union has shifted its focus towards policies more oriented towards the peripheries with a more pro-active Cohesion policy. Initially targeted at large areas at the periphery of Europe, the policy has evolved into considering the need to look at smaller areas within countries, often referred to as “inner peripheries”. One interesting case of pro-active policy to help inner peripheries is the Italian Inner Areas Strategy (SNAI). Launched in 2012, the SNAI aims at improving the quality of life and well-being of people living in relatively isolated and sparsely populated areas “reverting” their demographic trends in the long term. The SNAI covers 60% of the Italian land surface, 53% of Italian municipalities and 23% of the Italian population (around 13.5 million people). Working on innovative ways to exploit the strengths of these areas (including tourism, cultural heritage, agriculture and the food and drink sector), some success stories are already emerging.

Alessandra Faggian is Professor of Applied Economics, Director of Social Sciences and Vice Provost for Research at the Gran Sasso Science Institute, L’Aquila, Italy. She is also President of the North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) and co-editor of the journal Papers in Regional Science. Dr Faggian’s research interests lie in the fields of regional and urban economics, demography, labour economics and economics of education. Her publications cover a wide range of topics including migration, human capital, labour markets, creativity and local innovation and growth. She has co-authored over 80 academic publications. Her articles have appeared in journals such as Oxford Economics Papers, Cambridge Journal of Economics, Feminist Economics, Regional Studies, Papers in Regional Science, Journal of Regional Science and The Journal of Economic Geography. Alessandra is the 2007 recipient of the Moss Madden Memorial Medal by the Regional Science Association International: Irish and British section (RSAIBIS) for the best paper published in the year 2006 and the 2015 recipient of the Geoffrey Hewings Award by The North American Regional Council for outstanding research contribution by a young scholar in the field of regional science. In a recent ranking of the top 100 regional scientists in the world (Rickan and Winters, 2016), she was ranked 19th.

William Alonso Prize for Innovative Work in Regional Science Features Co-Winners

The William Alonso Prize for Innovative Work in Regional Science is awarded no more frequently than once every two years. At the 2016 North American Meetings in Minneapolis, the latest winners of the William Alonso Prize for Innovative Work in Regional Science were announced. Co-winning the Prize were:

David Boyce and Huw Williams, *Forecasting Urban Travel: Past, Present and Future* (Edward Elgar, 2015)

Michael Batty, *The New Science of Cities* (MIT Press 2013)

At a Friday evening plenary session at the 2017 Meetings in Vancouver, David Boyce gave a well-attended talk about *Forecasting Urban Travel: Past, Present and Future*. Following a lively discussion period, a reception was held for session attendees. Co-winner of the 2016 competition, Michael Batty, has agreed to give a Friday evening talk at the 2018 conference in San Antonio about *The New Science of Cities*.

It was decided at the NARSC Council that, henceforth at North American Meetings, Friday evening Alonso Prize Sessions/Receptions will alternate with Andrew Isserman Memorial Lectures/Receptions. Following Mike Batty's 2018 Alonso Prize session on *The New Science of Cities*, 2019 will be our next Isserman Lecture. Thus, the next Alonso Prize Session won't be held until the November 2020 conference, with the winner of the Prize to be announced at the conference in November 2019. Nominations are now being accepted, and will continue to be up through Spring 2019.

Council also decided to regularize the appointment of the Alonso Prize Committee, with ultimately three members serving staggered six-year (three-competition) terms. Committee members in their second year of service will Chair the Reading Committee. We have previously had five members serving indefinite terms. Outgoing Committee members Phil McCann and Kyung-Hwan Kim were thanked by the Council for their service. To transition to the new three-member Committee, Janet Kohlhase, Gordon Mulligan and David Plane agreed to stay on for continuity, with the Nominations Committee to appoint a new member at the 2018 Council Meeting to begin service for the 2019 Competition. Kohlhase will take over from Plane as Chair for the next competition.

Sergio Rey wins the 2017 David Boyce Award



Sergio Rey is a professor in the School of Public Policy at the University of California Riverside and is the Founding Director of the Center for Spatial Sciences. Over his career, Dr. Rey has received funding from numerous funding agencies including the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institute for Justice (NIJ), and the Economic Development Administration (EDA). Scholarly achievements in geographic information science, spatial dynamics, regional science, spatial data analysis, and spatial econometrics are reflected in his fellowship status for both the Regional Science Association International (RSAI) and the Spatial Econometrics Association (SEA). This award reflects his impressive service to regional science over the course of his distinguished career that includes serving as editor of the *International Regional Science Review* and *Geographical Analysis*. He has also served as the president of the Western Regional Science Association.

Marlon Boarnet wins the 2017 Walter Isard Award



Dr. Boarnet is an expert in the fields of urban economics, urban growth patterns, transportation, and regional science with a research emphasis on transportation and land use. He has published numerous journal articles in respected outlets including: *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, *Urban Studies*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, and the *Journal of the American Planning Association*. He is a fellow of the Regional Science Association International and served as co-editor of the *Journal of Regional Science* for twelve years. Presently, he is an associate editor of the *Journal of the American Planning Association* and is a member of the editorial boards for the *Journal of Planning Literature* and the *Journal of Transport and Land Use, Transport Policy*.

Riccardo Crescenzi wins the 2017 Geoffrey Hewings Award



Dr. Crescenzi is Professor of Economic Geography in the Department of Geography and Environment at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and an associate of the Center for International Development at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. He is also an affiliate of the Centre for Economic Performance (CEP), the Spatial Economics Research Centre (SERC) and the European Institute (EI) at the LSE. Dr. Crescenzi's research interests include regional growth, economic development, innovation, European Union development policy, and multinational firms. This research program has produced numerous journal articles in publications including the *Journal of Economic Geography*, *Regional Studies*, *Papers in Regional Science*, and *The Annals of Regional Science*. His research has also received funding from numerous well-known entities including: the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the European Research Council (ERC).

NARSC Student Paper Competition Results

Thank you to Daoqin Tong and John Miron for chairing the student paper competition this year. John was the chair of the graduate student-authored paper committee, which consisted of: Andrea Caragliu, Cecilie Dohmann Weatherall, Eric Heikkila, and Rosella Nicolini. In all 16 submissions were received and reviewed.

Daoqin chaired the graduate student-led paper committee, which consisted of: David Boyce, Sandy Dall'erba, Arthur Getis, Janet Kohlhase, Jaewon Lim, Qisheng Pan, and David Plane. The committee received and reviewed 21 papers.

We would also like to thank Edward Elgar, Elsevier and the North American Regional Science Association (NARSC) for their contributions of prizes to these award winners; Edward Elgar contributed books, Elsevier provided a 1-year journal subscription, and NARSC provided a cash prize.

Winner Graduate Student-Authored Paper:

Robert Manduca. *Unifying National Income Inequality and Regional Economic Divergence*. Department of Sociology. Harvard University.

Supervisor: Robert J. Sampson.

Runner-up Graduate Student-Authored Paper:

Christopher Severen. *Commuting, Labor, and Housing Market Effects of Mass Transportation: Welfare and Identification*. Department of Economics. University of California Santa Barbara.

Supervisor: Olivier Deschenes.

Winner Graduate Student-Led Paper:

Nicola Cortinovis, *Between Spilling Over and Boiling Down: Network-Mediated Spillovers, Absorptive Capacity and Productivity in European Regions*, Department of Applied Economics, Erasmus University Rotterdam.

Runner-up Graduate Student-Led Paper:

Daniel Crown, *High-Skilled Immigration and the Skill Composition of Native Workers*, Applied Economics, Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics, The Ohio State University.

Runner-up Graduate Student-Led Paper:

Marie P. Louis, *Planning for Better Coal Logistics Networks: A Case Study of Sumatra in Indonesia*, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

Meet Your New NARSC President: Mark Partridge



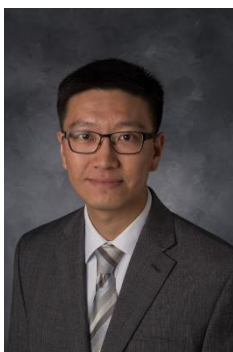
Mark Partridge is the C. William Swank Chair of Rural-Urban Policy at The Ohio State University and a Professor in the AED Economics Department. His research explores a wide range of topics focused on regional economic growth, rural development, income inequality and poverty. Dr. Partridge is the Managing Editor of the *Journal of Regional Science*. He also serves on several editorial boards including: *Annals of Regional Science*, *Asia-Pacific Journal of Regional Science*, *Growth and Change*, *Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy*, *Letters in Spatial and Resource Sciences*, *Papers in Regional Science*, *Review of Regional Studies*, and *Region et Developpement*. Dr. Partridge is a Fellow of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI) and the winner of several lifetime achievement awards in regional science including the Isard Award and the David Boyce Award.

Meet Your New NARSC Councilor: Elizabeth Mack



Elizabeth Mack is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography, the Environment, and Spatial Sciences at Michigan State University where she teaches courses in economic geography. Recently, her work is focused on understanding entrepreneurial ecosystems and water affordability. Dr. Mack's research has been funded by a variety of agencies including the Regional Studies Association, the National Science Foundation, the United States Department of Agriculture, and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. She is an editorial board member of *Regional Science Policy and Practice* and the *International Regional Science Review*.

Meet Your New NARSC Councilor: Haifeng Qian



Haifeng Qian is an Assistant Professor in the School of Urban & Regional Planning at the University of Iowa where he conducts research and teaches courses in economic development, entrepreneurship and innovation, and public policy analysis. Dr. Qian's research has been supported by the Regional Studies Association and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. He is an editor of *Small Business Economics* and an associate editor of *Economic Development Quarterly* and *Regional Studies, Regional Science*.

Regional Section Updates

Mid-Continent Regional Science Association (MCRSA)

The 48th MCRSA annual conference was held at the Maumee Bay Lodge in Oregon, Ohio with 54 conference registrants and 48 papers presented. The luncheon speaker was Neil Reid. Scott Loveridge was the recipient of the MCRSA Distinguished Fellow Award. Ronald Gunderson was the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award. David Sorenson was the recipient of the JRAP Research Impact Award. Mark Rembert, The Ohio State University, was winner of the M. Jarvin Emerson Student Paper Competition. With support from the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development and Michigan State University, MCRSA was able to provide graduate student travel grants totaling \$4,000 to eight students.

Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA)

The 56th annual meetings were held in Memphis, TN, and had about 100 participants, and 22 sessions. The first annual Undergraduate Poster Session was a great success. The 2017 Barry M. Moriarty Graduate Student Award went to Rodrigo A. Pérez-Silva of The Ohio State University for the paper entitled "Knowledge Spillovers and Wage Inequality: The Side Effect of the Concentration of Highly Educated Workers in U.S. Metro Areas" and to Daniel Crown of The Ohio State University for the paper entitled "Naturalization and the Productivity of Foreign-Born Doctorates."

Western Regional Science Association (WRSA)

WRSA's 56th annual meeting was held in Santa Fe, NM, and had almost 200 participants. This February, Brian Asquith (University of California, Irvine) won the 31st Tiebout Prize. At the annual meeting, Genevieve Giuliano was selected as WRSA 2017–2018 Vice President. The 2017 Arthur Getis lecture was given by James LeSage. The 2018 Getis lecture will be given by Michael Goodchild from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Call for Applications: Benjamin H. Stevens Fellowship

The Benjamin H. Stevens Graduate Fellowship in Regional Science was established in 1998 in memory of Dr. Benjamin H. Stevens (1929-1997), an intellectual leader whose selfless devotion to graduate students as teacher, advisor, mentor and friend continues to have a profound impact on the field of Regional Science. Graduate students enrolled in Ph.D. programs in North America are eligible to compete for the Benjamin H. Stevens Graduate Fellowship in support of their dissertation research in Regional Science.

The 2017-18 Stevens Fellowship competition was judged by a Selection Committee composed of: Laurie Schintler, Public Policy, George Mason University; Elena Irwin, Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics, The Ohio State University, Chair; Mario Polèse, Urban and Regional Economics, Université du Québec; Amanda Weinstein, Economics, The University of Akron; and Elizabeth Mack, Geography, Michigan State University. The Stevens Fellowship Committee administrates the Stevens Fellowship Fund on behalf of the North American Regional Science Council; its members are: Tony Smith, Chair; David Plane, Secretary; Michael Lahr, Treasurer; Janet Kohlhase; and Neil Reid, Executive Director of NARSC.

Lindsay E. Relihan, a Ph.D. candidate in applied economics in the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania was selected as the winner of the Seventeenth Annual Benjamin H. Stevens Graduate Fellowship in Regional Science. The Fellowship will provide a 2017–2018 Academic Year stipend of \$30,000 to support Ms. Relihan in her dissertation research entitled, 'Is Amazon Killing Starbucks? How Online Retail Affects Local Economies.' The research will investigate how the purchase of a product online may shift the entire set of goods purchased by a consumer, impacting both retailers who directly compete with online platforms and retailers that benefit from consumer interaction with online establishments. She will use a new dataset containing the purchases of millions of anonymized households to make a more detailed study of the effects of online retail on offline economies than has yet been possible. These results will impact any entity affected by the rise of online retail, including policy makers and urban planners who need to prepare for structural changes in local economies and firms whose success depends on their ability to compete in a world with online retail. The research is supervised by Professor Gilles Duranton, Chair of the Real Estate Department at the University of Pennsylvania.

Faculty at all North American Ph.D. programs related to the interdisciplinary field of Regional Science are urged to encourage their best students to apply for the Eighteenth Annual Stevens Graduate Regional Science Fellowship. The winning student's dissertation research in the field of Regional Science will be supported during the 2018-2019 year with a one-year stipend of \$30,000. The application deadline is February 15, 2018. Full submission guidelines will be posted at http://www.narsc.org/newsite/?page_id=444.

Call for Donations: Benjamin H. Stevens Fellowship

In order to continue to offer The Benjamin H. Stevens Graduate Fellowship in Regional Science, the Stevens Fellowship committee seeks donations in ongoing support of this award. The Fellowship is awarded in memory of Dr. Benjamin H. Stevens, an intellectual leader whose selfless devotion to graduate students as teacher, advisor, mentor, and friend continues to have a profound impact on the field of regional science. Fundraising efforts to increase the Fellowship's endowment are ongoing. Donations should be sent to: The Stevens Fellowship Fund, First Financial Bank, 1205 S. Neil Street, Champaign, IL 61820 USA. Checks should be drawn to The Stevens Fellowship Fund. Donations may also be made by credit card through the NARSC website at www.narsc.org/newsite/donations2.php.

Other Announcements

Dr. Daniel A. Griffith, Ashbel Smith Professor of Geospatial Information Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas, has been elected the only 2017 Foreign Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada (the Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences of Canada). His induction ceremony took place in Winnipeg on November 24, 2017. Dan is an RSAI Fellow (2009).

Upcoming Regional Science Meetings

WRSA will hold its 57th annual meeting in Pasadena, California February 11-14, 2018.

SRSA will hold its 57th annual meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania March 15-17, 2018.

MCRSA will host its 49th annual meeting in Kansas City, Missouri June 6-8, 2018.