



# NARSC NEWS



## Words from the Executive Director



In November, NARSC hosted the 66th North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The historical Omni William Penn Hotel provided a stunning venue for the meetings. As per tradition, the contents of this issue of the NARSC Newsletter is primarily devoted to the Pittsburgh meetings.

As with any conference, there were a number of people working behind the scenes to make sure that it was successful. Two people in particular played a key role in the success of the Pittsburgh meetings. Laurie Schintler served as Program Chair and did a fantastic job in putting together a cohesive and interesting program. In his capacity as Local Organizer, John Sporing made sure that all of the audio-visual equipment was in place, and that coffee and snacks were delivered and available in a timely fashion. At the registration desk, we had a number of people who provided invaluable support - so thanks to Rebekka Aparadian, Matt Lehnert, Jake Moore, and Elham Shirinkaam. Thanks also to everyone who organized special sessions - please consider doing so again for next year's conference. Finally, a huge thank-you to Eleni Bardaka and Dimitra Pyrialakou for organizing and overseeing the NARSC student paper competitions.

If you are a student based at a university or research organization in the Canada or the United States, NARSC is offering a small number of travel scholarships to help you attend the World Congress of the RSAI in Marrakesh, Morocco, June 2-5, 2020. More details about these travel scholarships can be found on page 13 of this newsletter. NARSC is delighted to be able to support the next generation of North American regional scientists.

In 2020, NARSC will meet in beautiful San Diego, California. The dates are November 11-14, and the conference venue is the Westin Hotel in San Diego's historic Gas Lamp Quarter. Please

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consider joining us. In addition to the traditional scientific content of the meetings, we are planning several field trips that will provide you with an opportunity to sample some southern California wines and craft beers.

Finally, thanks to NARSC Newsletter Editors, Isabelle Nilsson and Ran Wei for pulling together another interesting newsletter. If you have suggestions for future Newsletter content please do not hesitate to contact them. I would like to welcome Isabelle Nilsson of the University of North Carolina-Charlotte as the new co-Editor of the NARSC Newsletter. Isabelle replaces Liz Mack, who decided to step down. Liz was one of the original co-editors of the Newsletter when it was established in 2013. I would like to thank Liz for her contributions to the Newsletter over the years.

Neil Reid

Executive Director

## 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 and well as some announcements from NARSC members. Featured items of this edition include: the abstract of the presidential address by Stephen Goetz; the latest Alonso Memorial Prize winners; a summary of the Boyce,

Hewings, and Isard award winners; biographies of new NARSC President Kara Kockelman, Chair Haifeng Qian, and Councilors Amanda Ross and Daoqin Tong; and an update from the member NARSC regional sections.

Isabelle Nilsson and Ran Wei

Newsletter Co-Editors

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## Network Applications in Regional Science: New Insights from Old Tools?

### NARSC 2019 Presidential Address by Stephan Goetz



Network analysis has the potential to provide important new insights within regional science, but its adoption is expanding only gradually, especially in North America compared to Europe. In part the slow expansion may be due to the substantial costs of collecting network type data. This presidential address presents recent examples of such analyses using network-type data at the county level that are generated from secondary data sources. One example is based on the conventional input-output table, modelled as a network and stepped-down to the county level. Using a cosine similarity measure, this approach provides new insights into how countries and regions rewired during the Great Recession. This is also used to assess how county economic resilience is affected by the structure of the economy, as determined by various network measures. More generally, this approach allows the backbone of the economy

to be identified, which in turn provides insights into the vulnerability of different regions to economic and other shocks. The input-output table combined with County Business Pattern data can also be used within a materials balance approach to generate detailed spatial supply chains for different sectors, employing the gravity rule and network-based principles such as that of preferential attachment to larger hubs. In turn this can be used to visualize for decisionmakers how counties across the rural urban spectrum depend on one another. Another illustration involves county-level commuting and migration data. Here a key advantage of using a network approach is that it is possible to generate overlapping commuting and migration networks where counties are the nodes and flows of people between them represent the links, distinguished by the motivation for the flow. This approach identifies additional flows of migrants into specific employment hubs that are not apparent from secondary data alone. A parallel concept is that of overlapping commuting zones, which are more realistic constructs than those based on the current mutually exclusive labor market areas. In particular, many counties in the Northeast US especially send commuters into multiple distinct labor markets, a fact that is not captured in the traditional measure

*Stephan Goetz is the Director of the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development and Professor of Agricultural and Regional Economics at The Pennsylvania State University. He holds Ph.D. and M.Sc. degrees in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University, and an undergraduate degree in Agriculture/Agricultural Economics from the University of Guelph in Canada. Before coming to Penn State in 1999, he served on the faculty at the University of Kentucky for nine years with research and teaching responsibilities in economic development. As Director of the Northeast Center, Dr. Goetz provides leadership for rural and community development research and extension activities across 13 states. This responsibility includes linking state activities to regional and national initiatives. His research focus on the determinants and effects of economic growth and development, with current applications of network science principles to economic growth, resilience and innovation. Dr. Goetz has published or presented over 200 professional papers and he is the senior co-editor of four books, including Targeting Regional Economic Development (Routledge, 2009). He is the principal investigator on external grants valued at over \$15 million. Among other service roles, he is a member of the Board of Directors of the Center for Rural Pennsylvania (a legislative agency of the PA General Assembly) and the Council of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (C-FARE).*

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## 2019 William Alonso Prize for Innovative Work in Regional Science Features

The William Alonso Memorial Prize for Innovative Work in Regional Science is awarded no more frequently than once every two years. At the 2019 North American Meetings in Pittsburgh, the latest winners of the William Alonso Prize were announced. The co-winners were:

**Alan Murray** (University of California-Santa Barbara) and **Richard Church** (University of California-Santa Barbara) for their book *“Location Covering Models”*, Springer, 2018.

At a Wednesday evening plenary session at the 2019 North American Meetings in Pittsburgh, the previous winner of the William Alonso Prize, Dr. Michael Batty gave a well-attended about *The New Science of Cities*. The next prize is scheduled to be announced in 2021 at the North American Meetings in Denver.



Photo credit: Luis Galvis

## Daniel McMillen wins the 2019 Walter Isard Award



Dr. Daniel McMillen is the 2019 recipient of the Walter Isard Award for distinguished scholarly achievement. Dan McMillen is Professor of Finance at University of Illinois-Chicago and a long-time participant in NARSC meetings. He is a Distinguished Scholar at the Lincoln Institute for Land Policy and a Research Scholar at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. He is a Fellow of the Regional Science Association International and a Fellow of the Wiemer School of Advanced Studies at the Homer Hoyt Institute. Dr. McMillen received his Ph.D. in Economics from Northwestern University. Professor McMillen has contributed a wide range of research in regional science. As of early November 2019, he published 84 peer-reviewed academic journal articles. Dan was a pioneer in bringing non-parametric econometric methods to regional science. He did this in his work on employment subcenter identification, land values, employment density, and hedonic house price functions. A key feature of Dan's research is demonstrating the importance of spatial heterogeneity and heterogeneity in general. More broadly, Professor McMillen's work provides a rigorous statistical treatment of spatial data, highlighting potential issues in spatial econometrics and promoting solutions. This includes work on general spatial autocorrelation, spatial autocorrelation applied to Probit models, model misspecification, and application of quantile regression. Dan made further contributions in land valuation, zoning, home price indexing, and environmental hazards. Professor McMillen is widely cited. As of early November 2019, Professor McMillen has accumulated over 3,400 citations in Scopus and 8,400 in Google Scholar.

Professor McMillen has also produced a trove of influential books, book chapters, and research reports. His textbook, *Urban Economics and Real Estate: Theory and Policy* (with John McDonald) is widely used in undergraduate courses. His book, *A Companion to Urban Economics* (with Richard Arnott) is a broad guide to urban economics. *Quantile Regression for Spatial Data* serves regional scientists as a practical guide to the topic. Professor McMillen served as co-editor of *Regional Science and Urban Economics* for over a decade. He is currently on Editorial Boards of several major regional science journals including: *Journal of Regional Science*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Growth and Change*, and *Papers in Regional Science*. He also served on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Economic*

Geography. Perhaps the most enduring feature of Professor McMillen's career is his mentoring of dozens of junior academics and graduate students. This mentoring is best exemplified through his widely successful mentoring program at the Lincoln Institute for Land Policy.

## Elizabeth Mack wins the 2019 Geoffrey Hewings Award



Dr. Elizabeth Mack is the 2019 recipient of the Geoffrey J.D. Hewings Award for distinguished scholarly contributions by a PhD graduate within the last 10 years. Dr. Elizabeth Mack is an Associate Professor of economic geography at Michigan State University. This nomination is based on Dr. Mack's innovative and productive research agenda related to the impact of broadband availability on regional economies, entrepreneurship and water affordability. Dr. Mack has an outstanding record of generating grant money (several million dollars) to support her research program. Funding agencies include the National Science Foundation, the United States Department of Agriculture, NASA, and

the Kauffman Foundation for entrepreneurship research. For a scholar at her professional stage this level of grant funding is outstanding. In the short time since receiving her Ph.D., Dr. Mack has published in a diverse range of high-quality journals including some of the best regional science journals, such as *Papers in Regional Science*, *Regional Studies*, *International Regional Science Review*, and *Urban Studies* as well as a mix of more policy focused outlets such as *Economic Development Quarterly* and *Regional Science, Policy, and Practice*. Dr. Mack's work has appeared in *Telecommunications Policy*, an outstanding journal for work on broadband, as well as geography focused journals such as *The Professional Geographer* and *Journal of Geographical Systems*. It also is very impressive that Dr. Mack has a co-authored book as well as a co-edited book.

Another important aspect of Dr. Mack's work is the range of co-authors that she has worked with. The most promising young scholars are able to build networks among their peers and grow those networks over time. Building national and international reputations requires being an integral part of that larger network and Dr. Mack has excelled at tapping into those networks. Indeed, Dr. Mack has a broader network of collaborators than do many full professors. A second aspect of Dr. Mack's pattern of working with others is her partnerships with students in publishing. Bringing students into the "publishing game" is an important responsibility for professors. The process of preparing manuscripts for submission and working through the review process can be a significant learning process for students, even those who elect not to remain in the academy. The mentoring of beginning scholars is at the heart of what made Geoffrey Hewings a pillar of regional science and of NARSC. Dr. Mack's work on water affordability has attracted the attention of several national outlets including CBS News, PBS NewsHour, Vox, Vice, and the Huffington Post. This national media coverage of her work speaks to the high quality of her research programs. Finally, Dr. Mack is a long-time member of NARSC, has organized several special sessions, a member of the NARSC Council and is recipient of NARSC's Benjamin Stevens Fellowship.

## James LeSage wins the 2019 Jean Paelinck Award



## Dan Rickman wins the 2019 David Boyce Award



Dr. Dan Rickman is the 2019 recipient of the David Boyce Award for Distinguished Service to Regional Science. Dr. Rickman is currently Regents Professor of Economics at Oklahoma State University, where he has been employed since 1996. He has held other academic positions at Georgia Southern University and the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and was Research Director at Regional Economic Models, Inc. His contributions to the regional science community have been many in various roles over the years. Dan has been a dedicated member of several regional science organizations during his academic career. He has long been active in the Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA), serving on the Executive Council from 2008-2011, as Program

Chair in 2012, President in 2013, Honors Chair in 2014 and Nominations Chair in 2015. He currently chairs the committee for the Dan Rickman Award, an award named in his honor by the SRSA, for the Best Paper in The Review of Regional of Regional Studies.

Dan also has been engaged in the North American Regional Science Council, serving as President in 2016, Honors Chair in 2017 and Honors Committee member in 2018. He currently is active in the Regional Science Association International as Chair of the Publications Committee and as a member of the Jean Paelinck Award Committee for Outstanding Scholarly Research Member. He has been an active participant at regional science conferences, serving on the organizing committee for the Regional, Urban, and Spatial Economics Workshop in China in 2013 and 2015. He has attended nearly sixty regional science conferences during his career, serving as a presenter, discussant chair, or session organizer. Moreover, Professor Rickman has served as co-editor of Growth and Change since 2010 and of The Review of Regional Studies over the period 2003-2007. He also serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Regional Science, Papers in Regional Science, and the Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy and has reviewed extensively for other regional science journals. He has served as an external reference for over two dozen tenure and promotion decisions for junior regional science scholars.

## NARSC Student Paper Competition Results

Thank you to Eleni Bardaka and Dimitra Pyrialakou for chairing the student paper competition this year and to the reading committee for reviewing all 14 submissions which were received (9 graduate-student-led and 5 graduate-student-authored papers).

We would also like to thank Edward Elgar and the North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) for their contributions of prizes to these award winners; Edward Elgar contributed books, while NARSC provided a cash prize.

### Winner Graduate Student-Authored Paper: Tidiane Ly, GATE Lyone Saint-Etienne

The title of the paper is "Taxes, traffic jam and spillover in the metropolis"

Advisor: Florence Goffette-Nagot and Sonia Paty

### 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up Graduate Student-Authored Paper: Shishir Shakya, West Virginia University

The title of the paper is "Impact of must-access prescription drug monitoring program on prescription opioid overdose death rates"

Advisor: Jane E. Ruseski

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up Graduate Student-Authored Paper: Yang Zhou, West Virginia University

The title of the paper is "The political economy of historic districts: the private, the public, and the collective"

Advisor: Joshua C. Hall

### Winner Graduate Student-Led Paper: Oudom Hean, The Ohio State University

The title of the paper is "The impact of metropolitan technology on the non-metropolitan labor market: evidence from US patents"

Advisor: Mark Partridge

### 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up Graduate Student-Led Paper: Silje Haus-Reve, University of Stavanger

The title of the paper is "Do regional social capital and trust matter for immigrant diversity and wages?"

Advisor: Abigail Cooke

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up Graduate Student-Led Paper: Amanda Harker Steele, University of Georgia

The title of the paper is "Examining the regional economic costs of electric power grid interruptions associated with increased intermittent"

Advisor: John Bergstrom

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## Meet Your New NARSC President: Kara Kockelman

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The Dewitt C. Greer Professor of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin, Dr. Kara Kockelman is a registered professional engineer and holds a PhD, MS, and BS in civil engineering, a Masters of City Planning, and a minor in economics from the University of California at Berkeley. She has received an NSF CAREER Award for faculty research and teaching (2000-2004), a Ford Fund CAREER Award (2002), a U.C. Transportation Center “Student of the Year” Award (1998), U.C. Berkeley’s University Medal (1991), and the NSF and Berkeley

Fellowships for graduate study (1993-1998). In 2002, MIT’s *Technology Review Magazine* identified her as one of the world’s Top 100 Innovators under age 35, and the Council of University Transportation Centers awarded her its inaugural Young Faculty Award. In 2006, the Regional Science Association International presented her with its Geoffrey J.D. Hewings Award (for exceptional promise as a young regional science researcher). Kara received ASCE’s 2007 Harland Bartholomew Award, to recognize her many transportation planning contributions, including her novel credit-based congestion pricing theory. She also received the Heart of Texas’ Women’s Transportation Seminar’s 2007 Woman of the Year Award and was made a 3-HOT Honorary Member in 2012. In 2010 and 2014, Kara received ASCE’s Walter L. Huber Research Prize and James Laurie Prize, respectively, for her various contributions in transportation engineering. In 2014, she received one of Google’s Research Awards, for her research on shared autonomous vehicle systems and credit-based congestion pricing. More recently, she was awarded Beijing’s Overseas Talent Pool Award (2015), Australia’s Endeavour Executive Fellowship (2018), and Singapore’s Tan Chin Tuan Exchange Fellowship (2019). Between her undergraduate and graduate studies, she served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the rural Andean region of Ecuador, managing the construction of potable water systems and other sanitation infrastructure. She continues her public service through her research and interactions with a variety of Austin groups, including student and alumni associations and professional societies.

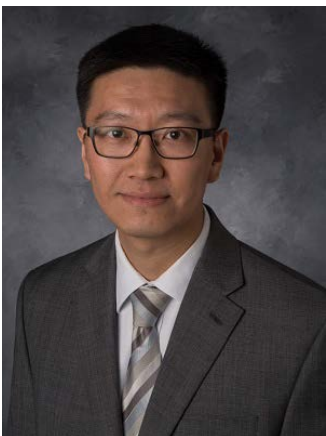
Kara is primary and co-author of over 150 journal articles (and two books) across a variety of subjects, nearly all of which involve transportation-related data analysis. Her primary research interests include planning for shared and autonomous vehicle systems, the statistical modeling of urban systems (including models of travel behavior, trade, and location choice), energy and climate issues (vis-à-vis transport and land use decisions), the economic impacts of transport policy, and crash occurrence and consequences. She has taught classes in transportation systems, transport economics, transport data acquisition and analysis, probability and statistics, design of ground-based transportation systems, and geometric design of roadways. For several years, she advised the student chapters of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and Engineers Without Borders (EWB) at the University of Texas at Austin.

Kara chaired the Transportation Research Board’s (TRB) Travel Survey Methods committee for three years (2007-2010), and has served on TRB’s Land Development Committee, Transportation Economics Committee, Statistical Methods Committee, Emerging Transport Technologies Committee, and Vehicle-Highway Automation Committee for many years. She has been a member of the two National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) panels and one Transit CRP panel, and served as a member of the National Research Council’s Committee for the Study on Relationships among



Development Patterns, Vehicle-Miles Travelled, and Energy Conservation. She presently sits on the editorial advisory boards of *Transportation Research Part C*, *Journal of Transport and Land Use*, *Journal of Regional Science*, *Analytic Methods in Accident Research*, and *Economics of Transportation*. In 2005, she was elected to the North American Regional Science Council, and in 2009 she chaired the annual North American meetings of the Regional Science Association International. In 2010, Kara was appointed to a three-year term as a member of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Advisory Council on Transportation Statistics. In 2011, she was appointed to a two-year term on ASCE's national Awards Committee. Currently, she is a member of the Eno Center for Transportation's Board of Advisors, advisor to UT Austin's Tau Beta Pi engineering honor society and to UT's Women in Transportation Studies student chapter, while organizing transportation's first carbon-free cost-free conference (called Bridging Transportation Researchers, with details at <https://bridgingtransport.wordpress.com/>.) Kara's CV and paper pre-prints can be found at [www.caee.utexas.edu/prof/kockelman](http://www.caee.utexas.edu/prof/kockelman), and she looks forward to seeing everyone in San Diego on November 11, 2020!

## Meet Your New NARSC Chair: Haifeng Qian



Haifeng Qian is an associate professor in the School of Urban & Regional Planning (primary) and Public Policy Center at the University of Iowa, where he teaches applied microeconomics, economic development policy, and spatial data analysis. He has published over 20 research articles in the areas of entrepreneurship, innovation, urban economic development, and science & technology policy. Dr. Qian is an editor of *Small Business Economics*, an associate editor of *Economic Development Quarterly*, and an associate editor of *Regional Studies*, *Regional Science*. He won a few highly competitive research awards, including the Best Conference Paper Award from Urban Affairs Association, the Early Career Grant from Regional Studies Association, and the Charles M. Tiebout Prize from Western Regional Science Association. Dr. Qian holds a Ph.D. in Public Policy (George Mason), an M.S. in Management Science & Engineering (Tsinghua), and a B.S. in Engineering Physics (Tsinghua).

## Meet Your New NARSC Councilor: Daoqin Tong



Daoqin Tong is an associate professor in the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning at Arizona State University. Tong received her doctorate in geography and master's in civil engineering from The Ohio State University. Tong's research has mainly focused on the use of spatial analytics including spatial optimization, geographic information system (GIS), spatial statistics and big data to support urban and regional studies concerning locational decisions, transportation, food access, and public health. Her recent projects include modeling spatial data uncertainty, collaborative geodesign for alternative fuel locations, modeling vector-borne disease spread at various spatial scales, analyzing issues with urban food access and urban agriculture, and examining rainwater as potential resource for water independence in desert cities.

## Meet Your New NARSC Councilor: Amanda Ross



Dr. Amanda Ross is an applied microeconomist with focus in the areas of urban economics, public economics, and entrepreneurship. Dr. Ross' research examines the impact of public policies, such as state tax policy, bankruptcy law, and the housing voucher program, on the development of cities. Her research has been published in various outlets including *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Regional Science and Urban Economics*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Contemporary Economic Policy*, and *Real Estate Economics*.

## New RSAI Fellows

Ingmar Prucha of the University of Maryland was elected a Fellow of RSAI this year. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Prucha on his new fellowship.




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## Regional Section Updates

### *Canadian Regional Science Association (CRSA)*

The CRSA leadership remains unchanged from last year, with Eric Vaz (Ryerson) as the President, Jean Dubé (Laval) as Vice President, and Pierre Desrochers (University of Toronto) as Secretary-Treasurer. Since John Miron, the former editor of the *Canadian Journal of Regional Science*, stepped down in March 2019, the CJRS has been undergoing re-organization. After a call for nominations, Eric Vaz has assumed the editorial role, and has also built an international editorial team. Working with the leadership, Jean is currently organizing a new layout for the journal and advancing with two special issues. For the time being, special issues will be the form the journal takes, and monies will be allocated for design and editorial work. Membership in the CRSA remains free, and the association continues to

work toward re-building the numbers. This will be done through (i) the journal, and (ii) potential international workshops that are of interest to regional scientists in Canada and elsewhere.

### ***Mid-Continent Regional Science Association (MCRSA)***

The 50th MCRSA annual conference was held at the Madison Concourse Hotel in Madison, WI with 56 conference registrants and 46 papers were presented. The conference had one Presidential Symposium and three luncheon speakers. MCRSA Distinguished Fellow Awards were presented to Norman Walzer, Richard Cebula, and Knut Ingar Westeren. The North Central Regional Center for Rural Development sponsored graduate student travel awards for NCRCRD institution graduate students. Two students each received \$500 to attend the conference and four students received \$350.

### ***Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA)***

The 58th annual meetings were held in Arlington, VA, and had about 210 participants and 42 sessions. The third annual Undergraduate Poster Session included 14 presentations from eight universities and was very well attended. The 2019 Barry M. Moriarty Graduate Student Award went to Tyler Morin of The Ohio State University for the paper entitled "The Economic Impact of Small Regional Commissions: Evidence from the Delta Regional Authority". There were two winners of the Dan Rickman Best Paper Award, awarded by *The Review of Regional Studies*. The winners were Jia Wang (University of Dayton), Stephen E. Ellis (University of Oklahoma), and Cynthia L. Rogers as well as Nivedita Mukherji and Jonathan Silberman (Oakland University). The Robert T. *The Review of Regional Studies* is beginning the search a new Editor-in-Chief for the term April 2021-2026.

### ***Western Regional Science Association (WRSA)***

WRSAs 58th annual meeting was held in Napa Valley, CA, and had almost 160 participants. This February, Chad Christenson (University of Wisconsin-Madison) won the 33<sup>rd</sup> Tiebout Prize. At the annual meeting, Richard Church was selected as WRSA 2019-2020 Vice President. The 2019 Arthur Getis lecture was given by Michael Batty from University College London. The Getis-Ord Lecture committee is in the process of selecting a speaker for the 2020 meeting in Hawaii.

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## **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 2019-20 Stevens Fellowship competition was judged by a Selection Committee composed of: Nicholas Nagle, Geography, University of Tennessee; Daoqin Tong, Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning, Arizona State University; Mario Polèse, Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique (INRS), Montreal; Elizabeth Mack, Geography, Michigan State University; Amanda Weinstein, Economics, The University of Akron (chair). 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.

**Prottoy A. Akbar**, a Ph.D. candidate in Economics at the University of Pittsburgh, won the 19th Annual Benjamin H. Stevens Graduate Fellowship in Regional Science. The supports Mr. Akbar in his dissertation research entitled, "*Public Transit Accessibility and Income Segregation*". He will investigate how the scale and location of mass transit services within urban travel networks in the U.S. affect residential segregation and long-term accessibility gains by income. His findings will consider how improvements in urban transit should be distributed across space in order to minimize residential segregation or to maximize accessibility. Mr. Akbar's doctoral research is supervised by Professor Randall Walsh, Professor of Economics at the University of Pittsburgh and a Research Associate with the National Bureau of Economic Research.

Faculty at all North American Ph.D. programs are asked to encourage their best students to apply for the 20th Stevens Graduate Fellowship, which will support the winning student's thesis research in the field of Regional Science with a fellowship of \$30,000 for the 2020-2021 year. The application deadline is February 15, 2020. Full submission guidelines may be found at

<http://www.narsc.org/newsite/awards-prizes/applications/>.

## Call for Donations: Benjamin H. Stevens Graduate 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 may be sent to: The Stevens Fellowship Fund, Freestar Bank, 1205 S. Neil Street, Champaign, IL 61820 USA. Checks should be drawn to *The Stevens Fellowship Fund*. Donations may be made online at <http://www.narsc.org/newsite/donations2.php>. When you donate, you can request that your donation is made in memory of an individual in Regional Science. If you wish, your donation will be acknowledged on the Stevens Graduate Fellowship web page.

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## Upcoming North American Regional Science Meetings

WRSa will hold its [59th annual meeting](#) in Waikiki Beach, HI March 18-20, 2020, in conjunction with the 26th Pacific conference of the RSAI (PRSCO).

SRSA will hold its [59th annual meeting](#) in Savannah, GA April 2-4, 2020.

MCRSA will host its [51st annual meeting](#) with the IMPLAN 13th biennial conference in Bloomington, MN June 3-5, 2020.

The [67th North American Meetings of RSAI](#), will be held in San Diego, CA November 11-14, 2020.

## North American Regional Science Council Student Travel Grants for 2020 RSAI World Congress in Marrakesh, Morocco

The North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) supports the next generation of regional scientists in North America. In support of this goal, NARSC will make 5 travel grants (\$750 each) available to students based in Canada and the United States who will attend the World Congress of RSAI in Marrakesh, Morocco, June 2-5, 2020. The Congress web page <https://www.regionalscience.org/2020worldcongress/index.html> includes details for submissions and participation.

### Eligibility conditions:

1. Have presented a paper at one of the following conferences in either 2018 or 2019 – NARSC, WRSA, SRSA, or MCRSA.
2. Have submitted a paper for presentation to the World Congress;
3. Affiliation with a North American research organization and North American residence at the time of the application and at the time of the Congress;
4. In case of joint research, only one author can apply for travel support;
5. Must be a student at the time of the World Congress.

Applications will be reviewed by the NARSC Executive Committee. All decisions are final.

Please submit application package via email in Adobe Acrobat format to Dr. Neil Reid, NARSC Executive Director, [neil.reid@utoledo.edu](mailto:neil.reid@utoledo.edu). The pdf file should be named after your last and first names (e.g., LastName-FirstName.pdf).

The deadline for grant application is February 3, 2020. Awards will be announced by February 21, 2020.

### Applicant package should include the following items:

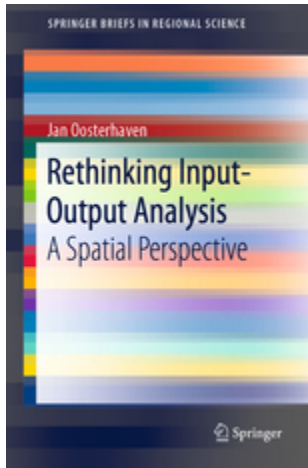
1. Name, professional status, affiliation, and contact information;
2. Title, author names, and affiliations of the submitted paper(s);
3. Abstract of the submitted paper(s);
4. Estimated itemized travel budget to attend the 2020 RSAI World Congress;
5. Other sources of funding and amount;
6. Statement from applicant why attending the 2020 RSAI World Congress will be beneficial to their future careers as regional scientists. This statement should be no longer than 500 words;
7. Letter of support from academic advisor.

Please note that checks will be issued to recipients after the World Congress.

## New Book in Regional Science

**Title:** *Rethinking Input-Output Analysis: A Spatial Perspective*

**Editors:** Jan Oosterhaven



**Description:** This book primarily aims at upper level Bachelor and Master students, but is also helpful for practitioners in research and consulting firms and agencies. It showcases the social, economic and environmental importance of the relations between industries in the same and in different regions and countries, and learns how to model these relations by means of regional, interregional and international IO models. It also shows how to extend the basic IO models with endogenous household expenditures. Moreover, it learns the reader how to use the modern IO tables called supply-use tables (SUTs), which explicitly distinguish the products used and sold, and Social Accounting Matrices (SAMs) that additionally show the spatial and governmental redistribution of value added. Besides the standard demand-driven IO quantity model, this book also carefully lays out the economic assumptions of its supply-

driven mirror image, indicates its extremely limited usefulness, and explains that its little known, accompanying revenue-pull IO price model is almost as useful as the much better known cost-push IO price model that accompanies the standard IO quantity model.

After the mainly theoretical first chapters, the final chapters critically discuss three well known applications of the IO model, namely (1) economic impact analysis of negative supply shocks caused by, for example, natural and man-made disasters, (2) regional and interregional forward and backward linkage analysis, better known as key sector analysis, and (3) structural decomposition analysis of regional, national and interregional economic growth. In all three cases, the standard IO approach is shown along with its problematic implications, such as producing misleadingly high multipliers in the first case and presenting policy makers with only half of the truth in the other two cases. Of course, the necessary additions to and changes in the standard approach are presented as well. This book stands out with its emphasis on the behavioural foundations of the two IO quantity and the two IO price models, and the plausibility of the causal mechanisms implied by the mathematics of the base models. This leads to a far more critical evaluation of the usefulness of IO analysis than found in standard textbooks. This book thus provides a better understanding of the foundations, the power, and the limitations of input-output analysis.

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