



NARSC NEWS



Welcome from the Executive Director



In November, NARSC hosted the 70th North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI) in sunny San Diego...well the weather did not completely cooperate. However, over 300 members from across the globe assembled to exchange ideas, catch up with each other, and meet new people.

As with any conference, there were a number of people working behind the scenes to make sure of the success of the San Diego meetings. Soomi Lee once again served as Program Chair and did a fantastic job in putting together a cohesive and interesting program. Elham Shirinkaam and Caleb Stair 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. Thanks also to everyone who organized special sessions—please consider doing so again for next year’s conference. A big thanks to Jaewon Lim for storing our audiovisual equipment for the year and to Neil Reid who organized the walking beer tour. Finally, a huge thank-you to Christa Court and Andre Fernandes Tomon Avelino for organizing and overseeing the NARSC student paper competitions.

In 2024, NARSC will meet in historic New Orleans, Louisiana. The dates are November 14–16, and the conference venue is the New Orleans Marriott on Canal Street, just steps away from the historic French Quarter. Please join us for a fun filled opportunity to exchange our traditional scientific content and, of course, some of the famous New Orleans cuisine and nightlife. Finally, thanks to the NARSC Newsletter Editor, Liz Dobis for putting together another interesting newsletter. If you have suggestions for future Newsletter content, please do not hesitate to contact Liz.

John Sporing
NARSC Executive Director

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Words from the Editor



I am excited to present the most recent issue of the North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) Newsletter. In this issue I start by covering a couple major events from the 70th North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International in San Diego: the award winners and newly elected NARSC council members. That is followed by a section with updates from the five North American regional associations, the Canadian, Mid-Continent, Northeastern, Southern, and Western Regional Science Associations.

Next is a new section for announcements and featured articles from journals. This includes information on the new NARSC outreach journal, *Reaching Regions*, a change in publishers and switch to Gold Open Access for the RSAI journals, and a Call for Papers for a special issue of the *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review* on Resilience of Rural Community in the Context of Climate Variability. Then we get a peek at the post-conference beer tour in San Deigo's Barrio Logan neighborhood through pictures and a summary provided by Neil Reid. Finally, information on upcoming regional science and spatial analysis conferences and job postings is available near the end of the newsletter.

As always, please contact me if you have any suggestions for upcoming issues or would like to contribute to the newsletter. See you in New Orleans next year!

[Liz Dobis](#)

Newsletter Editor

Awards Presented at the 70th Annual North American Meetings

Jean-Claude Thill receives the 2023 Isard Award



The Walter Isard Award for Scholarly Achievement pays tribute to regional scientists who have made significant theoretical and methodological contributions to the field of Regional Science throughout their careers. **The winner of the 2023 Walter Isard Award for Scholarly Achievement is Dr. Jean-Claude Thill.** Dr. Thill is the Knight Foundation Distinguished Professor at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. Prior to joining UNC Charlotte, he held positions at the University at Buffalo, the University of Georgia, and Florida Atlantic University. He received his doctorate in Geography from the Université catholique de Louvain in 1988. His work includes contributions to economic geography, spatial modeling, transportation and mobility systems, and spatial knowledge discovery. He served as Editor-in-Chief of *Computers, Environment and Urban Systems* and serves on multiple editorial boards. He has also served as the Executive Director of NARSC and President of the RSAI.

In a career that spans a little over 30 years, Dr. Thill has established an impressive record of scholarly contributions, marked by 11 edited books, 137 refereed journal articles, and 34 refereed book chapters. His articles have appeared in all the leading regional science journals, including *Papers in Regional Science*, the *Journal of Regional Science*, and the *International Regional Science Review*, as well as in other prominent journals dealing with quantitative and economic geography and geographic information science. The impact of Dr. Thill's work has been recognized by his election as a Fellow of the RSAI in 2013, the Edward Ullman Award in Transportation Geography from the American Association of Geographers (AAG) in 2012, and his selection as a Fellow of the AAG in 2022. Early in his career, he received a RSAI Dissertation Competition award (1989) and the 1996 Hewings Junior Scholar Award.

NARSC is pleased to award the **2023 Walter Isard Award** for Scholarly Achievement to Dr. Jean-Claude Thill.

Luke Petach receives the 2023 Hewings Award



The Geoffrey J.D. Hewings Award recognizes distinguished contributions to Regional Science research by scholars who have recently completed doctoral studies. **The winner of the 2023 Geoffrey J.D. Hewings Award is Dr. Luke Petach.** Dr. Petach received his PhD in Economics in 2019 from Colorado State University, and he is now an Assistant Professor of Economics in the Jack C. Massey College of Business at Belmont University. He is primarily an applied economist, specializing in the use of regional data and causal inference techniques to answer questions related to political economy, regional economic development, growth, and income distribution.

The core theme of Dr. Petach's dissertation was the role of finance in regional economic development where he applied Akerlof's informational asymmetry perspectives to geographic imbalances, particularly between rural and urban areas. He took the rapid consolidation and centralization of the U.S. banking industry's effects impacts on isolated rural areas and sought to understand the potential inefficiencies that could result from thin branch networks through the loss of local soft information in relationship lending. This question drove his paper on the systemic risk being generated by the banking sector as it consolidates and centralizes.

Dr. Petach was also a crucial contributor to the early phases of the Regional Economic Development Institute which directly engages with and helps inform private, public, and non-profit decision-makers across widely varying communities and regions through cutting-edge economic research. In that sense, the institute's work requires both exceptional analytical capacities as well as an understanding of diverse socio-economic challenges, potential approaches to meet those challenges, and how to best communicate those options in the real world. His nominator noted "Luke quickly excelled at this unusual combination of necessary skills, most particularly in combining frontier statistical approaches to yield insights in a form that can be readily understood by a broad audience both in his writing and presentations."

NARSC is pleased to award the **2023 Geoffrey J.D. Hewings Award** to Dr. Luke Petach.

Soomi Lee receives the 2023 Boyce Award



Pictured left to right: Soomi Lee and Bruce Newbold

The David Boyce Award for Service to Regional Science acknowledges the service contributions of NARSC members to Regional Science organizations. **The winner of the 2023 David Boyce Award for Service to Regional Science Dr. Soomi Lee.** Dr. Lee was the Program Chair for this year's NARSC conference and was the tireless Program Chair for 2020 and 2021 conferences. She is a Professor in the Department of Public Administration at the University of La Verne where she teaches research design and quantitative methods, public economics, public policy analysis, and urban studies. Her research interests include state and local public finance, fiscal institutions, tax policy, redistributive policies, and urban economic resilience. Her work has appeared in *Urban Studies*, *Urban Affairs Review*, *Regional Studies*, the *Journal of Socioeconomics*, *State Politics and Policy Quarterly*, *Public Finance Review*, *Basic Income Studies*, and other outlets. She earned her PhD in Economics and Political Science from the Claremont

Graduate University in 2011.

NARSC is pleased to award the **2023 David Boyce Award** for Service to Regional Science to Dr. Soomi Lee.

Richard "Richie" Cebula receives the 2023 Stough Award



The Roger R. Stough Outstanding Mentor Award recognizes regional scientists who have been exceptional mentors to students, junior faculty members, and underrepresented populations and communities over a lifelong career. **The winner of the 2023 Roger Stough Outstanding Mentor Award is Dr. Richard "Richie" Cebula.** Dr. Cebula is a professor at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and a visiting professor with the Center for Study of Public Choice and Department of Economics at George Mason University. Over the years, he held faculty positions at Jacksonville University, Georgia Southern University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, Emory University, and Ohio University where he has mentored junior faculty and numerous students, many who have gone on to successful careers or to pursue higher degrees elsewhere.

Dr. Cebula's nominators recognized his exceptional support of students, especially undergraduates, and his inclusivity in involving students in research projects. As noted by one of his nominators, "Professor Cebula is an outstanding mentor who has for many decades mentored and empowered students and junior faculty and helped create an inclusive community of economics scholars. He is also someone I can go to for advice regarding sticky research problems and other challenging situations. I know I can depend on him to provide constructive, critical, and thoughtful feedback." Dr. Cebula's nominators also note his commitment to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion among underrepresented scholars, particularly within the field of economics, with this backed up by his many publications with underrepresented scholars.

NARSC is pleased to award the **2023 Roger R. Stough Outstanding Mentor Award** to Dr. Richie Cebula.

Jhorland Ayala-García and Sandy Dall’Erba win the 2023 Beckman Award



Pictured left to right: Rosella Nicolini and Sandy Dell’Erba

The Martin Beckmann RSAI Annual Award for the Best Paper in *Papers in Regional Science* (PiRS) recognizes a regional science scholar or scholars who have demonstrated innovation and excellence in Regional Science research through the publication of a paper of outstanding merit in *PiRS*. **The recipients of the 2023 Martin Beckmann Award are Jhorland Ayala-García and Sandy Dall’Erba** for their 2022 article “[The Impact of Preemptive Investments on Natural Disasters](#)” published in *Papers in Regional Science* vol. 101, issue 5, pp. 1087–1103 (available open access). This study delivers a very original contribution to the current and relevant debate on the role of institutions and public policies aiming at contrasting the socioeconomic impact of natural disasters on citizens’ life. The authors implement a precise research strategy approaching physical geography to regional science. They exploit novel and original data combining satellite information with public finance data for Colombian municipalities and

propose different indicators for approximating the market and non-market losses of landslide-related events (associated with extreme rainfall events due to climate change. The conclusion is a direct message to institutions and policymakers demanding effective measures to protect the lives and assets of the most vulnerable population.

The Jury is proud to award the **2023 Martin Beckmann Award** for the Best Paper in PiRS to Jhorland Ayala-García and Sandy Dall’Erba.

This writeup is adapted from the RSAI Newsletter announcement.

Cunningham and Chen win the 2023 NARSC student paper competitions

The chairs of the 2023 NARSC Graduate Student Paper Competitions, Christa D. Court and Andre Fernandes Tomon Avelino, would like to thank the reading committee for reviewing the eight submissions that were received (four graduate-student-led and four graduate-student-authored papers). Finalists from the two student paper competitions were featured in a special session at the annual meeting of the North American Regional Science Council (NARSC), which took place in San Diego, California.

We would also like to thank NARSC for the contribution of a cash prize to these award winners. Congratulations to this year’s winners!

The winner of the Graduate-Student-Authored Paper Competition is Evan Cunningham from the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities for his paper, "Local Labor Market Effects of Amazon." He is advised by Jeremy Lise, University of Minnesota - Twin Cities.

The winner of the Graduate-Student-Led Paper Competition is Junliang Chen from Renmin University of China for the paper "Rural Road Construction and Long-term Economic Growth: Evidence from the Full Sample of Chinese Villages." He coauthored the paper with Wei Chen, Jialing Yu, Wei Chen, and Xinyue Wang from Renmin University of China.



Pictured left to right: Christa Court and Evan Cunningham



Pictured left to right: Junliang Chen and Andrew Avelino

As a reminder, NARSC is not the only association to hold graduate student paper competitions. We encourage everyone to check the eligibility requirements and apply to the graduate student paper competitions hosted by our regional associations:

- the **Barry M. Moriarty Graduate Paper Competition**, awarded by the Southern Regional Science Association (submissions typically due in February),
- the **M. Jarvin Emerson Student Paper Competition**, awarded by the Mid-Continent Regional Science Association (submissions typically due in March/April), and
- the **Charles M. Tiebout Prize in Regional Science**, awarded by the Western Regional Science Association (submissions typically due in October).

Seohee Kim wins 23rd Stevens Fellowship



Pictured left to right: Steve Deller and Seohee Kim

Seohee Kim, a Ph.D. candidate in Economics at Duke University, **has been selected as the winner of the 23rd Annual Benjamin H. Stevens Graduate Fellowship in Regional Science.** The Fellowship will provide a 2023–24 Academic Year stipend of \$30,000 to support Ms. Kim's dissertation research on "National Homebuilders' Internal Capital Networks and Local Housing Outcomes."

Ms. Kim's research investigates how local housing shocks propagate across U.S. regions through homebuilders' internal capital market. Despite their importance in the provision of affordable housing, there has been a scarcity of research on modeling the supply side of new housing markets, particularly the behavior of large national homebuilders. This is due to the difficulty in assembling data on the production network and outcomes, as well as the lack of fundamental understanding of the nature of builders' competition.

Ms. Kim's doctoral research is supervised by Daniel Yi Xu, Professor of Economics at Duke University.

In addition to selecting the Fellowship recipient, the Selection Committee identified three applicants as meriting special recognition as finalists in the 23rd Annual Competition:

- *Laura Weiwu*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, advised by David Donaldson;
- *Kate Harwood*, New York University, advised by Ingrid Ellen; and
- *JoopYup Park*, Duke University, advised by Patrick Bayer.

The 23rd competition winner and finalists were recognized at the awards luncheon of the 70th North American Meetings of the RSAI in San Diego, CA. The Committee thanks the 15 students who entered the competition in 2021, as well as their dissertation supervisors.

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 had a profound impact on the field of Regional Science. Graduate students enrolled in PhD programs in North America are eligible to compete for the Benjamin H. Stevens Graduate Fellowship in support of their dissertation research in Regional Science.

Faculty at all North American PhD programs are asked to encourage their best students to apply for the 24th Stevens Graduate Fellowship, which will support the winning student's dissertation research in the field of Regional Science with **a fellowship stipend of \$36,000 for the 2024–25 academic year**. The **application deadline is February 15, 2024**. Full submission guidelines may be found at www.narsc.org/newsite/awards-prizes/applications/.

The 2023 Stevens Fellowship competition was overseen by a Selection Committee composed of: Steven Deller, University of Wisconsin, Madison (Chair); Nicholas Nagle, University of Tennessee; Shaoming Cheng, Florida International University; Heather Stephens, West Virginia University; and Zhenhau Chen, Ohio 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, University of Pennsylvania, Chair; David Plane, University of Arizona, Secretary; Michael Lahr, Rutgers University, Treasurer; Janet Kohlase, University of Houston; and John Spring, Executive Director of NARSC.

Fundraising to support the Stevens Fellowship Fund, begun in 1998, is ongoing. **Donations may be made either via credit card by accessing the User Area of the NARSC website or by sending a check to:**

The Stevens Fellowship Fund
First Financial Bank, Attn: Danville Trust Department
One Towne Center
Danville, IL 61832 USA

New Members of NARSC Leadership

Meet your new NARSC President: Sandy Dell'Erba



The role of the President goes to a distinguished regional scientist. The next NARSC President is Sandy Dall'Erba from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Dall'Erba is a Professor and the Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics. He is also the Director of CREATE (the [Center for Climate, Regional, Environmental, and Trade Economics](#)), a research center devoted to the study of climate change and environmental accounts based on system-wide techniques developed in regional and trade economics.

Dr. Dall'Erba's current research interests focus on environmental economics in general and the impact of climate change on agriculture, food security, and the global supply chain in particular. He uses various regional economic tools such as spatial econometrics, network econometrics, interregional input-output and structural gravity models to model and measure the externalities between regions/countries and economic sectors. His research always attempts to provide a range of exposure to new curricula materials, methods of conducting interdisciplinary and international collaborative research, and guidance in the preparation of material for dissemination in the public policy arena. He has published one book and more than 60 peer-reviewed journal articles and book chapters. He holds a MS and a PhD in Economics from the University of Pau in France.

According to the long and impressive nomination letter written for Dr. Dell'Erba:

Professor Dall'Erba is an extraordinary person, teacher, and researcher. He is a highly qualified, extremely experienced researcher and consistently promotes the highest ethical standards in the academy and the science. He effectively demonstrates the true meaning of the researcher in Regional Sciences.

Professor Dall'Erba is a positive role model and a collaborative leader of an interdisciplinary team. He actively contributes to the advancement of regional science in North America as well as around the world. Furthermore, he guides and trains other students and researchers from around the world, disseminating regional scientific research on a global scale.

Dr. Dall'Erba has been a very active member of NARSC, RSAI, and WRSA. He has received several distinctions throughout his career, notably the Charles Tiebout Prize from WRSA, the Epainos Prize from ERSA, and the Martin Beckmann Award for best article in Papers in Regional Science. He is also an active and passionate member of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee of NARSC.

That's just a short excerpt. Please welcome Sandy as our new NARSC President!

Meet your new NARSC Chair: Ting Zhang



Dr. Ting Zhang is an Associate Professor at the Merrick School of Business and serves as the Associate Director of the Jacob France Institute at the University of Baltimore. She is an Entrepreneurship Faculty Fellow at the Association of Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM), Councilor-at-Large for the North America Regional Science Council, President-elect of the Northeast Regional Science Association, and an appointed member of the Maryland Governor's Office of Equal Pay Commission.

Dr. Zhang's research interests include entrepreneurship and aging, workforce development, education and labor, welfare-to-work, business and employment dynamics, and the regional economy. She is an editorial board member for *Small Business Economics* and an associate editor at the *Journal of Urban Management*. Before joining the University of Baltimore, she conducted research at George Mason University, the World Bank, the Urban Institute, and the Council of Graduate Schools, and taught at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She holds a MA in Intercultural Communication from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County; a MS in Finance from Johns Hopkins University; and a PhD in Entrepreneurship, Regional Science, and Public Policy from George Mason University.

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Meet your new NARSC Councilor: Christa Court



Dr. Christa Court is an Assistant Professor of Regional Economics and Director of the Economic Impact Analysis Program at the University of Florida (UF). Dr. Court's research and extension program focus on regional economic modeling and integrated modeling of human and natural systems. She also leads work related to disaster impact analysis for agriculture, natural resource, and food industries including efforts related to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, tropical cyclones, harmful algal blooms, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Court is Co-executive Director and Secretary of the Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA). She holds a MS and a PhD in Economics from West Virginian University and is an affiliate faculty member with Florida Sea Grant, UF School of Natural Resources and Environment, the UF Water Institute, the Regional Research Institute at West Virginia University, and the University of the Westfjords in Ísafjörður, Iceland.

Meet your new NARSC Councilor: Elijah “Eli” Knaap



Dr. Elijah “Eli” Knaap is a Senior Research Scientist and the Associate Director of the Center for Open Geographical Science (COGS) at San Diego State University. He is a spatial data scientist trained in stratification sociology, urban economics, and quantitative geography. The goal of his work is to advance the state of spatial data science and inform urban policy, planning, and social science with rigorous, reproducible, spatially-explicit methods. Dr. Knaap’s research focuses on urban analytics, spatial policy analysis, and neighborhood dynamics, and he has published widely on topics including segregation, neighborhood effects, fair housing policy, gentrification, economic geography, public health, and urban modeling.

Dr. Knaap is the lead developer and maintainer of geosnap, the geospatial neighborhood analysis package, and a core developer for the Python Spatial Analysis Library (PySAL) and QuantEcon. He is an affiliate with the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education (NCSG) and serves as the Treasurer of the Northeastern Regional Science Association (NERSA). Dr. Knapp holds a MA in Community Planning and a PhD in Urban and Regional Planning and Design from the University of Maryland.

Updates from the North American Regional Associations

Canadian Regional Science Association

The *Canadian Journal of Regional Science/Revue canadienne des sciences régionales* (CJRS) just published its third issue of 2023. The arrival of a third issue means that the journal has returned to its “normal” rate of publishing three issues per year, something the journal has not seen since the early 2000s. The journal and its contents are fully online and can be found at: <https://idjs.ca/en/cjrs>.



The revitalization of the journal is due directly to the work of the journal’s co-editors, Sébastien Breau (McGill University) and Jean Dubé (Université Laval). In the latest issue, the editors announced a new student-led paper award for the CJRS. Students are encouraged to submit a paper to the journal and complete for the award (\$750) in the upcoming years. The editors are also developing a mailing list to (re)connect scholars engaged in regional science research and inform subscribers of the latest issues. In sum, the journal seems to be doing well but the association less so, especially since the departure of the former President, Eric Vaz.

Mid-Continent Regional Science Association

The 53rd Annual MCRSA Conference was held jointly with the 15th IMPLAN National Users Conference June 7–9, 2023 at Grand Valley State University in Grand



Rapids, Michigan. In total, 41 members attended the conference. Next year's joint MCRSA and IMPLAN National Users Conference is scheduled for June 5–7, 2024 at Cleveland State University in Cleveland, Ohio. An IMPLAN training is tentatively scheduled for June 3–4 prior to the conference.

Northeastern Regional Science Association

This year, NERSA began the process for creating the organization's official 501(c)(3). They are also evaluating the demand for a workshop, after the success of the of the inaugural NERSA/NARSC Summer school in 2022. Currently, NERSA leadership includes: Ting Zhang, University of Baltimore (President); Kevin Credit, Maynooth University (Vice-President/President-Elect); Elijah Knaap, San Diego State University (Treasurer); John Carruthers, Cornell University (Secretary), and Heather Stephens, West Virginia University (NERSA representative to NARSC).

Southern Regional Science Association

The 62nd annual meeting of the Southern Regional Science Association was held in Savannah, Georgia from March 30 to April 1, 2023. The conference had 93 registrants (71 full registrations and 22 student registrations) and 29 sessions, including an undergraduate poster session, the Fellow's Address, and the Presidential Address. The annual Undergraduate Poster Session resumed this year, chaired by Heather Stephens (Regional Research Institute, West Virginia University) and Juan Tomas Sayago Gomez (University of Iowa). There were eight poster presenters, some advised by SRSA members but most from historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) within driving distance of Savannah.



The 2023 Barry M. Moriarty Graduate Student Award went to Adam Scavette from Rutgers University – New Brunswick for the paper titled "[The Economic Impact of a Casino Monopoly: Evidence from Atlantic City](#)," published in the most recent issue of *Regional Science and Urban Economics*. The 2023 Dan Rickman Best Paper Award, awarded by *The Review of Regional Studies*, went to Marian Manic and Marina Ptukhina (Whitman College) for their paper "[The Impact of State-Funded Merit Aid on the Retention of College Graduates](#)." For 2023, the review committee of the Regional Research Institute at West Virginia University chose not to award the Miernyk Research Excellence Medal.

At the annual meeting in 2023, Jason Brown (Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City) was elected as the SRSA 2024 Program Chair, Sebastian Leguizamon (Western Kentucky University) and Elham Erfanian (Ohio University) were elected to the Council, and one new SRSA Fellow was named, Stephan Goetz (Pennsylvania State University). Randall Jackson (Regional Research Institute, West Virginia University, ret.) was awarded the William A. Schaffer Award for Distinguished Service to Regional Science. The next SRSA Conference will be held April 4–6, 2024 at the Marriott Crystal Gateway in Washington, DC.

Western Regional Science Association

WRSAs 62nd annual meeting was held February 15–18, 2023 in Waikoloa (Big Island), Hawaii. There were 166 paper presentations and 200 participants from 14 countries. The 10th Annual Getis-Ord Lecture in Spatial Analysis was delivered by Peter Rogerson from Arizona State University. In remembrance of Arthur Getis, Dr. Rogerson spoke on “The Getis-Ord Statistics: Extensions and Lessons.” Martina Pardy (London School of Economics and Political Science) was selected as the winner of the 37th Tiebout Prize for the paper “Multinationals and Intra-Regional Innovation Concentration.” During the annual board meeting held on February 16, 2023, Euijune Kim (Seoul National University, South Korea) was selected as WRSA 2023–24 Vice President. Three new board members were also appointed: Karl Geisler (Idaho State University), Soomi Lee (University of La Verne), and Niyakundi Michieka (California State University, Bakersfield).



WRSAs will hold its 63rd annual meeting February 11–14, 2024 in Monterey, California. The final paper submission due date was extended to November 30, 2023, partly to accommodate the submissions from the NARSC meeting attendees. Other upcoming WRSAs meetings include the 2025 meeting in Lake Las Vegas (Henderson), Nevada, February 15–18, 2025 and the 2026 meeting in either Albuquerque or Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Publishing Regional Science Research

NARSC to launch new outreach journal – *Reaching Regions*

Looking for a new way to share research with non-academic audiences? Great news! The NARSC Council approved creation of a new open-access outreach journal at the November 2023 meeting in San Diego. The journal is called *Reaching Regions*.

Reaching Regions will publish contributions on topics of policy-relevance to North American regions including original descriptive analyses, data visualizations, non-technical summaries of published academic research, case studies with broader implications, presidential addresses, research syntheses, and other items approved by the Editors. All submissions should be written in non-technical language that is accessible to non-academics. The journal will promote the mission of NARSC by increasing dissemination of knowledge, encouraging scholarly engagement within NARSC, and increasing the external visibility of NARSC and its members.

Reaching Regions will be peer-reviewed, open-access, and published fully online. NARSC members can submit papers with no submission or publication fees. The journal will be led by founding editors Heather Stephens (West Virginia University) and John Winters (Iowa State University). They plan to begin accepting submissions soon, so keep an eye out for future announcements!

A special thanks to Heather Stephens and John Winters and the other NARSC members who helped with the creation of this journal: Clio Andris (Georgia Institute of Technology), Kevin Kane (Southern California Association of Governments), Amanda Weinstein (Center on Rural Innovation (CORI)), and Emily Wornell (Ball State University).

RSAI journals are becoming Gold Open Access



As of January 1, 2024, the publisher of RSAI's two journals, *Papers in Regional Science* (PiRS) and *Regional Science Policy and Practice* (RSPP), will be changing from Wiley to Elsevier. With the move to Elsevier, the two journals will be transitioning to Gold Open Access. This will put PiRS and RSPP at the forefront of the industry-wide trend toward permanent open access. However, as Gold Open Access journals, article processing charges (APCs) will have to be financed by the authors' financial sources, through APC agreements, Research4life waivers, and a tailored waivers' programme managed by the Editor-in-Chief. Furthermore, RSAI members will enjoy a 20 percent discount. Despite the upcoming shift in publishers, please continue to consider publishing your research in PiRS (2022 impact factor of 2.1) and RSPP (2022 impact factor of 1.7).

Call for Papers: *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review* special issue on resilience of rural communities in the context of climate variability

A special issue of the *Agricultural and Resource Economics Review* (ARER) on "Measuring and Enhancing Resilience of United States Rural Communities in the Context of Climate Variability" will be published in association with a workshop of the same theme on June 11–12, 2024 at the Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association (NAREA) Annual Meeting in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. We invite paper submissions that broadly address the following topics as they apply to rural communities in the United States:

- Measuring resilience and adaptation in the context of climate variability,
- Identifying traits associated with vulnerability and resilience to natural hazards,
- Informing policy actions to improve resilience and adaptation, and
- Defining and measuring the economic impacts of climate risk and variability.

The above topics could be explored through the lens of (but not limited to): Air Pollution, Water Pollution, Hazardous Waste, and Solid Waste; Agriculture; Broadband Access; Education; Environmental Justice and Equity, Distributional Effects; Food Security and Access; Human Geography Land Use and Housing; Natural Hazards and Climate; Policy and Governance; Population and Demographics; Resilience and Resilience Measurement; Rural Economic Growth and Development; Rural Migration, and Labor; Resource Management and Conservation; Rural Sociology; and Transportation and Rural Infrastructure.

Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts for review in the special issue ARER with a target publication date of December 2024. All submissions to the journal submission portal (<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/arer>) by the **submission deadline of May 30, 2024** will receive an expedited review and be considered for a publication fee waiver. Please refer to the NAREA website or contact guest editors [Laura Paul](#) (USDA, ERS) and [Jonathan Malacarne](#) (University of Maine) for more information.

Other NARSC 2023 Events

NARSC attendees enjoy post-conference beer tour in Barrio Logan

At the recent North American Meetings of the RSAI in San Diego, a small group of conference attendees participated in a Saturday afternoon walking tour of the city's [Barrio Logan](#) neighborhood. The neighborhood, located in south central San Diego, is rooted in Mexican and Chicano cultures. It is one of only 14 officially designated Cultural Districts in California. The tour was co-organized by Julie Wartell of the University of California-San Diego and me.

Our tour guide was David Favela, a local businessman. David owns one of the neighborhood's craft breweries, [Border X Brewing](#). Our tour started at Border X where we sampled four of the beers brewed there while listening to David tell us about the beer and the history of the brewery. We then walked with David through the neighborhood while he told us more about the history of the neighborhood. Our second stop on the tour was [Mujeres Brew House](#), co-owned by David's wife Carmen and her business partner Esthela Davila. Here we, again, sampled some of the beers brewed on premise while learning about the history of the facility.

Neil Reid
University of Toledo



David Favela, owner of Border X Brewing, discussing the history of the brewery



Walking tour participants sampling beer at Border X Brewing



Enjoying a beer at Mujeres Brew House

Upcoming Meetings

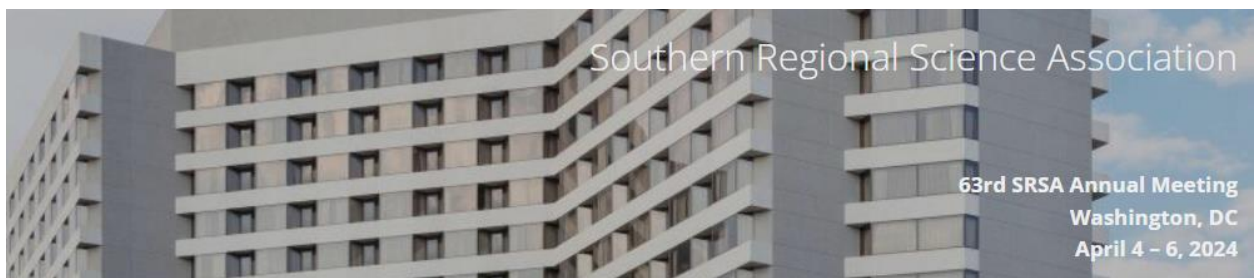
Western Regional Science Association (WRSA 2024)



For WRSA's 63rd meeting, we're heading to Monterey, California. Our meeting dates are **February 11-14, 2024**, with the opening plenary and reception scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, followed by three full days of sessions on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Only full papers (draft format acceptable) will be accepted for this conference. **The deadline for submission is extended to November 30, 2023!**

Our meeting hotel is Hyatt Regency Monterey, one of our members' most beloved meeting spots in California. Nestled in the Monterey pines on 22 secluded acres and minutes from the scenic wonders of the Central Coast, Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel & Spa on Del Monte Golf Course inspires wonder and discovery. Indulge in unique experiences along the iconic Monterey Peninsula, surrounded by rugged, natural beauty and endless adventures. Our negotiated daily room rate is \$229 plus applicable taxes and no resort fee. You can make your reservations through this [link](#) or by calling 831-372-1234 and asking for the Western Regional Science Association 2024 group rate (Group code: G-WR24).

Southern Regional Science Association (SRSA 2024)



Save the date for SRSA's 63rd Annual Meeting on **April 4-6, 2024** at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Virginia (DC area). Please join us for a wonderful meeting including an undergraduate poster session and the graduate student paper competition, all during beautiful cherry blossom season in DC. Our DC conferences are also well-attended by federal researchers, creating a great networking environment for students, emerging researchers, and established researchers, alike. **More details on the official call for papers and registration are coming soon**, but in the meantime you can book your room [here](#) at the conference rate of \$249 per night.

Regional Science Association International (RSAI) World Congress



The 14th World Conference of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI) will be held **April 8–11, 2024**, at the John von Neumann University in Kecskemét, Hungary. The congress will host countless exciting events, including special sessions and semi-plenary policy sessions. The theme of the meeting is “Sustainable regional economic growth: Global challenges and new regional development trajectories.” This includes topics such as agglomeration economies, urban-rural relations, migration, spatial and resources allocation, border effects, urbanization, sustainable cities, mobility, land use, environmental quality, disaster management, energy transition, cultural heritage, poverty, segregation, and spatial modelling. The meeting is open to the world-wide regional science community and aims to bring together the key elements of multidisciplinary regional science research and to provide a scientific platform for presenting and discussing research at the frontiers of spatial sciences. **Abstracts are due December 31, 2023.**

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Mid-Continent Regional Science Association (MCRSA 2024)

The 54th Annual MCRSA Conference will be held jointly with the 16th IMPLAN National Users Conference **June 5–7, 2024** at Cleveland State University in Cleveland, Ohio. An IMPLAN training is tentatively scheduled for the two days prior to the conference. Check [MCRSA’s website](#) in the future for more information on abstract submission, hotel, and registration.

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Spatial Economics Association (SEA) World Congress



Fifty years ago, Jean Pealinck introduced the term “[Spatial Econometrics](#).” To celebrate this anniversary, we will be looking back and forward fifty years at the XVIII World Conference of the Spatial Econometrics Association (SEA 2024) to be held in Groningen, the Netherlands on **June 24 and 25, 2024**. The conference will begin with a welcome reception on Sunday evening, June 23rd and continue with parallel sessions and two keynote speakers over the next two days. Attending the conference is a chance to receive individualized feedback from peers and experts on your paper, get inspiration from the latest developments in spatial econometrics, and extend your network with

scholars that have similar methodological interests. The **abstract submission deadline is January 31, 2024**. For more information, see: <https://www.rug.nl/research/eef/sewc2024/>.

North American Regional Science Council (NARSC 2024)



The 71st Annual North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International will be held **November 14–16, 2024** in New Orleans, Louisiana. The conference will be held at the New Orleans Marriott on Canal Street, just steps away from the historic French Quarter. Please join us for a fun-filled opportunity to exchange our traditional scientific content and enjoy the famous New Orleans cuisine and nightlife.

Job Postings

See the [Position Openings](#) page on the NARSC website for recent job postings in regional science. Current positions include:

- *Tenure Track Assistant Professor Position in Geographic Information Science – UC Santa Barbara*

The Department of Geography at the University of California, Santa Barbara invites applications for a full time tenure-track Assistant Professor in the area of Geographic Information Science. We welcome applications from candidates who can help us advance our missions for excellence in GIScience research and teaching, and diversity, equity, and inclusion. A reasonable estimate for this position is \$78,700–\$130,000. For more information, please visit <https://recruit.ap.ucsb.edu/JPF02600>. **The application deadline is Friday, November 10, 2023, although submissions may be considered after this date.** You can read about the UCSB Geography Department on our website: <https://www.geog.ucsb.edu>. UCSB is an AA/EOE, including disability/vets.

- *Funded PhD Student in Urban Analytics Research at UNC Charlotte*
 - *Assistant/Associate Professor position in Geospatial Health Analysis at UNC Charlotte*
 - *Assistant Professor (Urban and Regional Planning and UHERO), College of Social Sciences, University of Hawaii at Manoa*
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- *Assistant/Associate Professor of Community & Regional Planning, The Department of Community and Regional Planning (CRP) in the College of Design at Iowa State University*
- *Associate/Full Professor: Environmental and Natural Resource Economics University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics*
- *Regional Economics Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Kentucky*
- *Tenure-track Assistant Professor position in the field of transportation geography, Department of Geography at The Ohio State University*