



Western Regional Science Association

Fall 2003

Newsletter

Last Call for Papers; Discussants and Session Chairs needed...

Time now running out to get on the Program for the Maui Meeting!

Aloha.

As this issue of the *WRSA Newsletter* was going to press our traditional October 15 paper submission deadline was rapidly approaching. If you haven't already sent in a paper, quit procrastinating! Make your plans NOW to participate in our 43rd Annual Meeting to be held at the Wailea Marriott, Maui, Hawaii, February 25–28, 2004.

Last Call for Papers... Although the Maui program is shaping up to be both large and diverse, we anticipate being able to accommodate additional papers that may not reach the Program Committee until a few weeks after the deadline. Please e-mail papers to Executive Secretary Dave Plane (plane@u.arizona.edu) as either a Word, WordPerfect, or PDF file attachment. Be sure to clearly indicate each author who plans to attend the conference and include complete contact information.

Remember WRSA Board policy requires the submittal of *complete papers*; Program Committee invitations to present are never made on the basis of an abstract alone. Manuscripts may, however, be submitted in *draft* form.

Speaking of discussants and chairs... Even if you don't have a paper to contribute this year, here's another option to get on the Maui Program! We would be delighted to put you to work as a discussant and/or session chair. Although all paper presenters are assumed to be available for discussant/chair assignments, we always give non-presenting volunteers first preference! If you'd like to reserve a spot or two on the Program as a discussant and/or chair, simply drop Dave Plane a note by November 15 indicating session topics of primary interest.

Because our February 25–28, 2004 Annual Meeting dates come during the peak winter tourist

season in Hawaii, we urge you to make your travel and hotel reservations *immediately*.

To facilitate planning, here's an overview of our 2004 schedule, followed by a checklist of meeting arrangements:

- ❖ ***Tuesday, February 24:*** Preconference Technical Seminar / Field Trip organized by Lay Gibson (ljgibson@ag.arizona.edu for more details)
- ❖ ***Wednesday, February 25:*** Golf Tournament (tentative); Registration, Opening Plenary Session in the late afternoon, Reception
- ❖ ***Thursday, February 26:*** Paper sessions all day; WRSA Board Meeting
- ❖ ***Friday, February 27:*** Paper sessions all day; Annual Banquet Luncheon; President's Reception
- ❖ ***Saturday, February 28:*** Paper sessions all day
- ❖ ***Sunday, February 29:*** No planned events; most participants depart or continue travels

Please see Annual Meeting Checklist, Page 2...

2004 Dues Now Being Collected...

It's now time to renew your WRSA membership!

Included with this issue of the *WRSA Newsletter* is the 2004 combined Annual Meeting Preregistration and Dues form.

Renew your membership TODAY! Complete and mail the form to the WRSA office in Tucson. Continue your subscription to the *Annals of Regional Science* and your lifelong affiliation with the best little regional science organization in the Western World!

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...*Meeting Arrangements Checklist (cont. from Page 1)*

✓ ***Book your hotel room at the Wailea Marriott***

Some of you will remember the Wailea Marriott as the venue of our 1993 Meeting – back when it was the Inter-continental. It recently received a \$25 million renovation. The hotel features the finest conference facilities in the “Neighbor Islands” and great resort ambiance.

As usual, we’ve negotiated excellent rates for a top Hawaiian resort during the high winter travel season. Our block’s rates: \$155 (+tax) per night for Garden View rooms, \$165 Mountain View, \$180 Ocean View, and \$195 Ocean Front. (Compare those to the regular rates shown on the Resort’s website! Go to <http://geog.Arizona.edu/wrsa> and click on the link...)

If the coming winter tourist season is like the last one, we can anticipate the hotel being full during our conference dates. Our special room block *could fill early*. We urge you to make your reservations as soon as possible. Please check the detailed hotel reservation information posted on our website (accessible from <http://geog.Arizona.edu/wrsa>).

Reservations may be phoned into the Toll-Free Reservations Line: 800-367-2960. Be sure to mention you are participating in the “Western Regional Science Annual Conference” to receive the special negotiated conference rates.

Or print out the faxable reservation form from our website. FAX the completed form to the Hotel at 808-367-2960.

✓ ***Make your air reservations***

Space on air flights to and from Hawaii may be tight. Please make your plans earlier than you would for a mainland conference. Flights to Maui land at the Kahului Airport about 17 miles (roughly a 30-minute drive) from the Resort. There are a number of daily nonstop flights from the U.S. mainland to Maui, or you can travel through Honolulu taking one of the numerous short inter-island flights to Kahului.

✓ ***Reserve a rental car***

Once at the Resort you’ll be situated on a lovely beach with a number of dining options within easy walking distance. Your stay on the Valley Island will be greatly enhanced, however, if you have a rental car to explore the many other more secluded beaches, the island’s fine dining alternatives, and to visit the volcano and other attractions. Maui is served by most major rental car companies offering competitive rates. Again, good advice is to make your reservations early...

✓ ***Preregister for the Conference***

Meeting planning and conference check-in is greatly facilitated if everyone is preregistered. Please print out the combined preregistration and dues form from the website and mail it to the Association Office in Tucson as soon as possible – and not later than February 1. The special combined preregistration and 2004 dues amount is \$200.

On-site registration will be \$220 – so pay early and save 10%! Please note that per WRSA Board policy all persons whose names appear on the Program and who are in attendance must be current year (i.e., 2004) members of the Association.

✓ ***Inform us of any scheduling constraints***

The Preliminary Program will be put together in mid-to late-November and posted on the website in December. Please inform Program Chair Dave Plane (plane@u.arizona.edu) or WRSA Grad Assistant, Chris Henrie (chenrie@u.arizona.edu) prior to November 15 of any special scheduling constraints. If we don’t hear from you, we shall assume your paper presentation and chair/discussant assignments may be made on any of the three main days of the conference (Thursday, Friday, Saturday, February 26, 27, 28). Once the Preliminary Program is posted it can be a serious inconvenience to others to accommodate rescheduling requests; the Program Chairs will resist making changes once the schedule is set.

✓ ***Revise your paper; prepare your presentation***

In the event you make changes to your paper, please e-mail the updated version to WRSA grad student assistant, Christopher Henrie (chenrie@u.arizona.edu). We request that revised versions be sent no later than January 1. In January Chris will send the latest versions of all papers to the appropriate discussants and session chairs. After January 1 it becomes the responsibility of the author to send any later updates to their session chair and discussant.

In preparing your presentation, please note that all papers at the WRSA are allocated 45 minutes of Program time. This breaks out roughly as 25-30 minutes for presentation by the author, 5-10 minutes for the discussant’s remarks, and 5-10 minutes for feedback and open discussion by all session attendees.

Note, also, that WRSA has not yet solved the puzzle of how to provide computer projection units for presentations. The economics are simply prohibitive given (a) our tradition of meeting at upscale resort hotels where A/V rental charges are exorbitant (often \$500+ per day per unit per meeting room), and (b) our leisurely “seminar-style” sessions, which means that each of our meeting rooms typically is used for only ca. 8 papers per day as compared to two or three times that number at larger conferences.

Consequently, our longstanding policy remains unchanged: meeting rooms are equipped with *an overhead projector, only*. Please prepare your presentation on transparencies or make use of handouts. Authors wishing to use Powerpoint or slides must either bring their own equipment or make all arrangements and pay rental charges themselves.

✓ ***Finding the Wailea Marriott***

Check out the resort’s website for detailed driving directions and other information about the facilities and environs. A link may be found on the WRSA homepage accessible at <http://geog.Arizona.edu/wrsa>

WRSA President-Elect Liu Inducted into Exclusive International Tourism Academy

WRSA President-Elect, Professor Juanita Liu of the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Travel Industry Management was one of eight scholars from across the globe selected to join the International Academy for the Study of Tourism.

Joining Juanita in election to the Academy is her University of Hawaii colleague – and Acting Dean – Dr. Pauline Sheldon. They were inducted at a ceremony held in conjunction with the Academy's biennial conference in Savonlinna, Finland on July 1, 2003.

The Academy is an international organization created to enhance both theoretical and practical research in the field of tourism. Members are elected in recognition of their life-long, outstanding contributions to the field of knowledge in tourism and their tourism research accomplishments.

Professor Liu is being recognized for her pioneering work in the area of tourism economic impact studies applied to the accommodations sector, visitor groups and museums and cultural attractions. She has also widely researched other Hawaii tourism issues, including resident attitudes, destination attractivity, travel motivations of U.S. and Japanese visitors, in-kind contributions of hotels and airlines, and Delphi forecasting. Other notable achievements include publishing a widely used book on Pacific Islands ecotourism and being awarded the highest teaching award at the University of Hawaii – the Regent's Medal for Excellence in Teaching. She is currently lead investigator for project to develop an ecotourism plan for American Samoa.

Drs. Sheldon and Liu join a membership of 68 internationally recognized scholars from leading travel and tourism institutions across the globe.

New member applicants for the Tourism Academy are nominated biennially by the existing membership and must be selected by at least a two-thirds vote of the total Academy voting membership. The size of the Academy membership is restricted to no more than 75 members.

This recognition of two of the University of Hawaii's Travel Industry Management School's faculty members together with the School's highest rating in a recent World Tourism Organization (WTO) TedQual (Tourism Education Quality) Certification, positions the School as one of the leading institutions in quality tourism education.

The WRSA is grateful for the financial sponsorship being provided by the School for this year's 43rd Annual Meeting on Maui.



WRSA President-Elect Juanita Liu with current WRSA President, Koichi Mera, at last year's Banquet

Hewings Receives Honorary Degree

WRSA Board Member, Professor Geoffrey J.D. Hewings of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Director of the Real Economics Applications Laboratory (REAL) at the Chicago Federal Reserve Bank, received the Docteur Honoris Causa (Honorary Doctoral Degree) from the University of Bourgogne, Dijon, France, on October 3. The degree is given in recognition of Geoff's numerous noteworthy contributions to regional science and input-output analysis.

2nd Reimut Jochimsen Prize

In memory of its former president and in honor of the renowned economist Professor Dr. Dr. h.c. Reimut Jochimsen the Düsseldorf Regional Office of the Deutsche Bundesbank will award a prize for the best paper on the topic of "European Infrastructure Policy: The Infrastructure Policy of the European Community with Respect to the New Orientation of the Structural Funds."

This announcement is addressed to authors who want to participate in the search for possibilities of creating an economically efficient, socially fair and ecologically sound infrastructure for the European economies. To be considered, papers should not exceed 40 pages. The prize sum is 5,000 euros, which may be split.

Papers should be submitted in a standard electronic form (PDF, PS, Word document; 12 pt./1.5 space) to Professor em. Dr. Walter Buhr, University of Siegen, 57068 Siegen, Germany, until September 15, 2004. Collaborators of the members of the Reading Committee may not participate in the competition.

Regional Science Meeting Calendar

50th North American Meetings of the RSAI, Philadelphia, November 20–22, 2003

The conference will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in the heart of “Center City” Philadelphia. For full conference information visit the new and attractive NARSC website: <http://www.narsc.org>

43rd Annual Meeting of the Western Regional Science Association, Wailea, Maui, Hawaii, February 25–28, 2004

(See articles pp. 1 and 2, this *Newsletter*.)

43rd Annual Meeting of the Southern Regional Science Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, March 11–13, 2004

The conference will be held at the elegant Le Pavillon Hotel. Abstracts should e-mailed to 2004 Program Chair, Mark Partridge: mpartridge@stcloudstate.edu

RSAI World Congress 2004, Port Elizabeth, South Africa, April 14–17, 2004

The congress will be held at the PE Technikon. Abstract submittal deadline: January 12, 2004. Complete details at <http://www.regionalscience.org/pdfs/RSAI2004.pdf>

44th European Congress of the RSAI, Porto, Portugal, August 25–29, 2004

For information: website <http://www.fucam.ac.be/RESER>
E-mail: apdr@mail.telepac.pt

New WRSA Membership Directory

The 2003-2004 WRSA Membership Directory is now being provided to all dues-paid 2003 members. It went out to U.S. members in the same mailing as the most recent issue of the *Annals of Regional Science*. For those outside the USA, the Directory is enclosed with this *Newsletter*.

The Association's final 2003 membership count as of September 1 was 247, of which 186 are located in the U.S. Members reside in 34 U.S. states and 5 Canadian provinces. The 61 members from outside North America come from 17 countries. Of the 247 total members, 26 are students.

WRSA Newsletter

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Please send items for inclusion in future issues to Plane at the address given on Page 1...



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