



Western Regional Science Association

Spring/Summer 2019

Newsletter

Save the Date for Our 59th Annual Meeting!

*Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort, Honolulu, Hawaii
March 18-21, 2020*

Aloha! It's that time again! WRSA will be heading to Honolulu, Hawaii for the 59th annual meeting. For the first time in 37 years we will be going back to the island of O'ahu. We will be meeting March 18-21, which is a little later in the year than our usual February dates. Hopefully that means the rainy season will have passed! This year will be a joint meeting, as we will be co-hosting the 26th Pacific Conference of the RSAI with the Pacific Regional Science Conference Organization (PRSCO).

It's never too soon to get the next annual meeting on your calendar. The Honolulu meeting will open on Wednesday, March 18th with the Lay James Gibson Opening Plenary Session and the Welcoming Reception. Three days of paper sessions and social events will follow on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday (the 19th through the 21st).



Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort

The Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort will be accepting online reservations under our room block; see the WRSA website (www.wrsa.info) for full details and reservation instructions. Our negotiated room rate for the 2020 meeting is \$229/night. You can also reserve a room by calling (808) 949-4321 or 1-800-445-8667 and asking for the Western Regional Science Association group rate. Please note, after **February 21, 2020** or as soon as our block fills, the hotel will no longer honor our special room rate so be sure to book early!

The other important date to keep in mind is the deadline for the submission of conference papers: **November 15th 2019**. Remember that only full papers are considered for the annual meeting program, although draft versions will be considered so long as final versions are uploaded by the end of the year. All submissions will be reviewed by a member of the Program Committee before invitations to the meeting are issued. See the WRSA website for online paper submission instructions.



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Napa Valley

58th Annual Meeting Highlights

California's wine country proved to be a great host for us this year! Napa lived up to its reputation even if the weather was a little uncooperative. The meeting was, as usual, fantastic showcasing thoughtful sessions, lively discussion, and ample opportunity to connect with colleagues and old friends. It wasn't all work though, in keeping with the theme of our host city, this year's meeting also included a blind wine tasting competition. A special thanks to WRSA's own Pete Parcells for putting that together! Out of the seventy participants only two were able to correctly pair the five wines to their descriptions. Congratulations to Brian H.S. Kim and Donghwan An for demonstrating their oenological erudition (or sheer luck).

In terms of size, this year's meeting had a good turn-out: 155 attendees from 16 different countries. Other than the 93 participants from the U.S., Korea, Sweden and Japan had the next largest representation with 17, 9, and 8 attendees, respectively. The meeting program included 32 different paper and panel discussions, including the traditional Remote Regions session, AUBER's Western States Economic Outlook panel, and TRSA (The Regional Science Academy) workshops and sessions.

This year's plenary sessions were outstanding. The 9th Annual Lay James Gibson Opening Session provided another auspicious start to our annual meeting. Ralph McLaughlin, the Deputy Chief Economist at CoreLogic was the guest speaker. He gave an engaging presentation on "Automated Transport, Regional Economies, and Land Use."



Ralph McLaughlin at the 9th Annual Lay James Gibson Opening Session

The 7th Annual Getis-Ord Lecture in Spatial Analysis was delivered by the renowned Michael Batty from University College London. Dr. Batty spoke on "Extending Spatial Systems to Embrace Hierarchies of

Interaction." His discussant was Peter Batey from the University of Liverpool.

This year's meeting kept up the tradition of providing an enjoyable social program, which included the Annual Banquet Luncheon, The Getis-Ord Lecture Reception, as well as the Welcoming and President's Receptions. The Annual Banquet Luncheon was highlighted by Genevieve Giuliano's thoughtful Presidential Address on the topic of "Agglomeration Economies and Evolving Urban Form."

The luncheon also showcased student success with the winners of the Tiebout Prize and Springer Prize being awarded.



Art Getis and Michael Batty at the 7th Annual Getis-Ord Lecture

What else makes a WRSA meeting unique? The people: from session organizers to the Program Committee to the student volunteers. Running a meeting of this caliber couldn't be done without their assistance. Thank you!

Chad Christenson Wins Tiebout Prize

At this year's conference, the 33rd Tiebout Prize was awarded to Chad Christenson, a doctoral student from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Christenson's winning paper was titled, "*Do Factors Contributing to Appearance and Success of Conservation Referenda in the West Differ from Those Found in Other Regions?*" Congratulations Chad!

The Tiebout Reading Committee, comprised of past WRSA Presidents, is charged each year with evaluating a large pool of submissions. This year's committee included: David Plane from the University of Arizona, Alan Murray from the University of California, Santa Barbara, Bruce Newbold from McMaster University, and Sergio Rey from the University of California, Riverside.

This year the Tiebout Prize Reading Committee also selected two papers for Honorable Mentions. These were Karelys Guzman from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana and Min Xiong from Florida International University.



Tiebout Prize Winner, Chad Christenson (right) with Reading Committee Chair David Plane (left)

The Tiebout Prize is given in memory of Charles Tiebout and his contributions to regional science, especially his mentoring of graduate students. Due to an unprecedented donation to the Tiebout Fund (see story below), winners of future Prizes will receive \$1,250 to help defray the costs associated with attending the annual meeting.

Interested in contributing to the Tiebout Prize endowment fund? Donations ensure the long-term financial health of the Prize and every dollar helps! The Tiebout Prize fund is managed by the University of Arizona Foundation. Donations can be made easily online. See the WRSA website for instructions.

Tiebout Prize Historic Donation

As with most prize funds, the Tiebout Prize relies on donations to sustain the endowment that pays out the annual prize. This year, thanks to the generosity of Art Getis—longtime WRSA member, past president, and founder of the WRSA Annual Getis-Ord Lecture—the Tiebout endowment received a gift large enough to allow us to increase the size of the award the winner receives, from \$1,000 to \$1,250. Getis's \$10,000 donation is a game-changer for the Prize. WRSA and future Tiebout winners thank you, Art!

Springer Prize Winner Goes to Sutee Anantsuksomsri

Each year a prize is given at the annual meeting for the best paper presented at the conference by a young career scholar (PhD completed within the past five years). This year's winner is Sutee Anantsuksomsri (with co-author Nik Tontisirin) from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. The title of Sutee's paper was, "*Land Value Capture as a Funding Source for Public Transport: a case study of the Bangkok Metropolitan Region.*" Congratulations Sutee!

The Springer Prize is supported by the publisher of our official journal, *the Annals of Regional Science*, and qualified papers are judged by the team of editors. The prize consists of a certificate and a book voucher for \$500.

To be considered for next year's prize, simply check the "Springer Prize" box at the time of paper submission for the 2020 Honolulu meeting.



Springer Prize winner, Sutee Anantsuksomsri (right) accepts his award from Annals editor and WRSA Vice President Janet Kohlhasse (left)

WRSA Board Updates

Richard Church Named Vice President



One of the main tasks at the annual WRSA Board meeting is to make decisions about future leadership of the Association, in particular Vice President, new Board members, and Fellows. At this year's meeting in Napa, the Board enthusiastically selected Richard Church as our incoming Vice President. Church is a professor of Geography at the University of California,

Santa Barbara. He specializes in the analysis of problems defined over space and time, including logistics and transportation, location theory, water resource systems, and urban and environmental systems using and developing new techniques in Operations Research, GIS, Decision Theory, and Heuristics.

President Elect: Janet Kohlase

Janet Kohlase (University of Houston) continues her ascension, moving from Vice President to President-Elect for 2019-2020. As President Elect, Janet will present a topic and host the President's Reception at next year's conference in Honolulu, Hawaii.

New Board Member Announced

This year the board made one addition to its ranks: Richard L. Wobbekind. Richard is the Executive Director of the Business Research Division and Senior Associate Dean for Academic Programs at the University of Colorado, Boulder. In this capacity, Richard is responsible for developing an annual

consensus forecast of the Colorado economy as well as performing various economic impact assessments of the Colorado economy. He also produces the quarterly Leeds Business Confidence Index for Colorado.



Richard L. Wobbekind

Pictures from the 2019 WRSA Annual Meeting in Napa Valley
(Many more photos soon available on the WRSA website!)





Some reception photos...



And other assorted meeting photos...



Western Regional Science Association

Officers for the 2019–2020 Year

President:

Genevieve Giuliano, Univ. Southern California

President-Elect:

Janet E. Kohlase, Univ. of Houston

Vice President:

Richard Church, Univ. of California, Santa Barbara

Immediate Past President:

Matthias Ruth, University of Alberta

Executive Director:

Jaewon Lim, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

WRSA's PRSCO Councilor:

Terry Clower, Lay James Gibson, Jaewon Lim,
David A. Plane, Roger Stough

WRSA's NARSC Councilor:

Jaewon Lim, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Board of Directors

Martin Andersson, Lund University (*ex officio*, *Annals* editor)

Chang-Hee Christine Bae, University of Washington

Marlon Boarnet, Univ. Southern California

Mark Brown, Statistics Canada

John Carruthers, George Washington University

Richard Church, University of California, Santa Barbara

Terry Clower, George Mason University

Makena Coffman, University of Hawaii

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Euijune Kim, Seoul National Univ. (*ex officio*, *Annals* editor)

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R. Pete Parcells, Whitman College

Daoqin Tong, Arizona State University

Jouke van Dijk, University of Groningen

Richard L. Wobbekind, University of Colorado, Boulder

Fellows

Antoine Bailly, University of Geneva

Arthur Getis, San Diego State University

Lay James Gibson, University of Arizona

Michael Greenwood, Colorado University

Kingsley Haynes, George Mason University

Geoffrey J.D. Hewings, University of Illinois

T. John Kim, University of Illinois

Theodore Lane, Thomas Lane & Associates

Robert Monahan, Western Washington University

Richard Morrill, University of Washington

Gordon Mulligan, University of Arizona

Jack Osman, San Francisco State University

David Plane, University of Arizona

Harry Richardson, Autonomous Univ. State of Mexico

Roger Stough, George Mason University

Hans Westlund, Royal Inst. Technology/JIBS

Regional Science Meeting Calendar

50th Annual Conference of the MCRSA

Madison, WI, June 4-6, 2019

<http://www.mcrrsa.org/conference.html>

16th Summer PRSCO Institute

Bangkok, Thailand, July 25–27, 2019

<http://www.th-rsai.org/prsco-2019/>

58th European Congress of the RSAI

Lyon, France, August 27–30, 2019

<http://ersa.org/events/59th-ersa-congress/>

66th North American Meetings of the RSAI

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, November 13–16, 2019

<http://www.narsc.org/newsite/conference/>

59th Annual Meeting of the WRSA

Honolulu, Hawaii, March 18-21, 2020

(See article, Page 1, this *Newsletter*)

<http://www.wrsa.info>

News Contributions Welcomed!

The WRSA *Newsletter* is published twice yearly and welcomes contributions from members and friends.

Please feel free to send along news, employment opportunities, research updates, calls for papers, brief reviews of published work, or related items.

We especially appreciate updates from our peer regional science associations!

Newsletter submissions and address updates should be sent to:

Jaewon Lim

Incoming WRSA Executive Director/
Newsletter Editor, at jaewon.lim@unlv.edu.

WRSA:

“The Way Academic Life Should Be.”