



Western Regional Science Association

Fall 2022

Newsletter

Save the Date for Our 62nd Annual Meeting!

*Hilton Waikoloa Village – The Big Island of Hawaii
February 15-18, 2023*

For our 62nd meeting, we will be heading to the Big Island of Hawaii. One of our members' most beloved meeting spot, this will be our 5th meeting on the Big Island!! The meeting will be held February 15–18, 2023 at the Hilton Waikoloa Village.

It's time to make your plans to participate at our next annual meeting and get the dates on your calendar. The Big Island meeting will open on Wednesday, February 15th 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 Hilton Waikoloa Village is accepting online reservations for our room block; see the WRSA website ([WRSAonline.org](https://www.wrsaonline.org)) for full details and reservation instructions. Our negotiated room rate for the 2023 meeting is \$239 plus applicable taxes and a \$15 resort fee (reduced from \$45 for our group). Compare our discounted rate to the regular daily room rate of \$750 plus applicable taxes and a \$45 resort fee. You will enjoy internet access in your room, free Hawaiian cultural classes, fitness and yoga classes at the Kohala Spa, and Keiki (children's) pool activities

& Scavenger Hunt. Self- and Valet-parking are available on-site but fee-based. The hotel has agreed to honor our special room rate three days prior to and three days following our meetings (February 12-20), based on availability.

Rooms may be reserved via this [link](#) or by calling (808) 886-1234 and asking for the Western Regional Science Association group rate. Please note: after January 13, 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: **October 15, 2022**. 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. We and all your WRSA friends are looking forward to seeing you in February on the Big Island of Hawaii!!



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Website: <https://www.wrsaonline.org/> ~ WRSA is also on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter! Follow us!

Scottsdale, Arizona

61st Annual Meeting Highlights

After missing the two in-person meetings for 2020 and 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we finally got together in Scottsdale, AZ. Though the group was a bit smaller in size (technically still in the pandemic), the meeting was a big hit among all who participated, showcasing thoughtful sessions, interesting discussion, and ample opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and new/old friends.

We enjoyed the warm weather and the beautiful Arizona sunsets, viewable from our daily poolside receptions. Our meeting venue, *The Scot Resort & Spa*, offered an on-site spa, pools, and Cuban-style outdoor bars and restaurants; what's more, it was conveniently located with easy access to excellent dining options in Old Town Scottsdale.

The Meeting attracted a total of 94 participants, representing seven countries. The Program featured 90 paper presentations organized into 27 paper and panel sessions, including the two pre-conference TRSA (The Regional Science Academy) sessions, the Keith Schwer Memorial Western States Economic Outlook Panel, and the IMPLAN workshop.

This year's plenary sessions were outstanding and full of interesting discussions. The 11th Annual Lay James Gibson Opening Session provided another successful and engaging start to our annual meeting. Chaired by former WRSA Executive Secretary, President, and Fellow, Lay Gibson, Arthur C. Nelson from the University of Arizona's School of Planning was the guest speaker. He gave an engaging presentation on "Let's Get Real About Long-Term Regional Development Disparities." Two invited economic development professionals, Joe McClure, of McClure Consulting, and Jennifer Graves, of the Town of Gilbert, gave their perspectives on development disparity issues.



Arthur C. Nelson at the 11th Annual Lay James Gibson Opening Session

The 9th Annual Getis-Ord Lecture in Spatial Analysis was virtually delivered by Andrew Gelman from Columbia University. Dr. Gelman spoke on "Understanding Spatial Models in Context." Eric Heikkila of the University of Southern California chaired the session, and Peter Rogerson of Arizona State University discussed the lecture.



Andrew Gelman at the 9th Annual Getis-Ord Lecture

This year's meeting kept up the tradition of providing a thoughtful discussion from the WRSA President during the Annual Banquet Luncheon. The 63rd President of WRSA, Terry Clower, gave his Presidential Address on the timely topic, "Location Theory and the Spatially Distributed Workforce." Terry's Address was discussed by Janet Kohlhasse from the University of Houston, our 61st president. The luncheon also showcased student success by naming the winners of the Tiebout Prize and Stough-Johansson-Springer Prize.

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!



Terry Clower delivered the Presidential Address

Austin Landini wins Tiebout Prize!

At this year's conference, WRSA's 36th Charles Tiebout Prize was awarded to Austin Landini, a doctoral student from the Colorado State University. Congratulations to Austin for his winning paper titled, *"Addressing Endogeneity in the Relationship between Local Race Composition and Public Expenditure."*



Tiebout Prize Winner, Austin Landini (left) with Reading Committee Chair Genevieve Giuliano (right)

The Tiebout Reading Committee also selected a second paper for an Honorable Mention in the Competition. Congratulations to Adam Scavette from Rutgers University for his paper, *"Do neighbourhood renewal funds improve local labor market outcomes? Evidence from England"*, with a co-author, Robert Calvert Jump.

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: Alan Murray from the University of California, Santa Barbara, Matthias Ruth from the University of York, Genevieve Giuliano from the University of Southern California, and Janet Kohlhasse from the University of Houston.

The Tiebout Prize is given in memory of Charles Tiebout and his contributions to regional science, especially his mentoring of graduate students. Due to generous donations to the Tiebout Fund, winners of future Prizes will receive \$1,000 to help defray the costs associated with attending the WRSA 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.

Stough-Johansson-Springer Prize Goes to Nicholas Irwin & David Wolf!

Each year a prize is given at the Annual Meeting for the best paper presented at the conference by an early-career scholar (Ph.D. completed within the past five years). This year's co-winners were Nicholas Irwin from University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and David Wolf from Kobe University for their co-authored paper, *"Is it really bridging the gap? Fiber internet's impact on housing values and homebuyer demographics."*

The Stough-Johansson-Springer Prize is supported by the publisher of our official journal, *the Annals of Regional Science*, and qualified papers are judged by *The Annals* 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 "Stough-Johansson-Springer Prize" box at the time of paper submission.



Springer Prize winner, Nicholas Irwin (middle) accepts his award from *The Annals of Regional Science* editors, Janet Kohlhasse (right) and Brian H.S. Kim (left)

WRSa Board Updates

Eric Heikkila 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, the Board enthusiastically selected Eric Heikkila as our incoming Vice President.



Heikkila is a Professor at the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California (USC). He is currently the Director of International Initiatives at the Sol Price School of Public Policy. His research topics consist of urban

development, economic development, East Asian cities, urban economics, urban information systems

President Elect: Makena Coffman

Makena Coffman (University of Hawaii at Manoa) continues her ascension, moving from Vice President to President-Elect for 2022-2023. As President Elect, Makena will present her Presidential Address and host the President's Reception at next year's conference on the Big Island of Hawaii.



New Board Member Announced

This year, the board made one addition to its membership: Ran Wei. Ran is an Associate Professor in the School of Public Policy at the University of California, Riverside. Her research focuses on the development and implementation of GIScience methods and techniques to address substantive social and environmental problems. She has received her Ph.D. from the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning at Arizona State University.



New Fellow Announced

This year the board elected a new Fellow: Sergio Rey, the founding director of the Center for Geospatial Sciences and Professor of Public Policy at the University of California, Riverside.



Professor Rey was previously named a Fellow of the Spatial Econometrics Association and of the Regional Science Association International. He has received funding from the National Science Foundation, National

Institute of Aging, National Institute of Drug Abuse, National Institute of Justice, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, among other sources. He has served as editor for *Geographical Analysis* (2015-2018) and the *International Regional Science Review* (1999-2018). Rey is Founding Director of the Center for Open Geographical Science. He is the co-founder and lead developer of the open-source Python Spatial Analysis Library (PySAL), and has taught workshops on PySAL throughout the world.

Serio Rey served as the WRSa's 55th President (2014-2015) after joining the WRSa Board in 2004.

WRSa Strategic Planning Group

The WRSa Board unanimously approved the creation of an ad-hoc committee, the *Strategic Planning Group (SPG)*, with the aim to encourage the active participation of future regional scientists and to promote WRSa to the future regional scientists by developing effective communications via social media and supporting career-development activities. SPG is composed of the emerging future leaders (non-Board members) of WRSa who volunteer to serve on the committee.

Four WRSa members are currently serving on the SPG committee: Dr. Karl Geisler of Idaho State University, Dr. Soomi Lee of University of La Vern, Dr. Nyakundi Michieka of California State University at Bakersfield, and Dr. Keith Waters of Arizona State University. Following a joint meeting with the WRSa Executive Committee in April, 2022, these committee members are actively developing various strategies to support the various activities for graduate students and early-career scholars of WRSa.

Thank you for your service, SPG committee members!

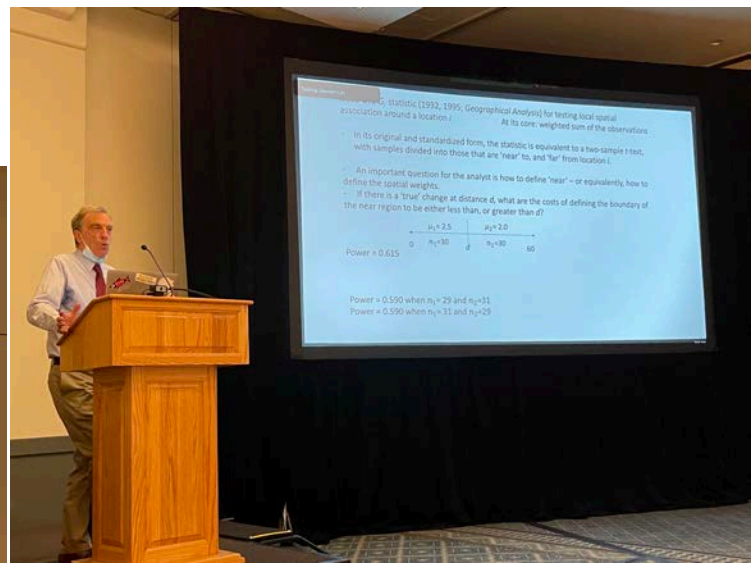
Pictures from the 2022 WRSA Annual Meeting in Scottsdale, AZ

(Many more photos soon available on the WRSA website!)







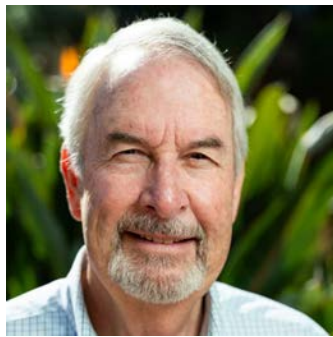


Notable WRSA Member Accomplishments

Richard Church Elected to the National Academy of Science

Congratulations to our 62nd President and longtime member, Richard Church, who was elected to the U.S. National Academy of Science in May 2022. This is an honor among the highest a scientist can achieve. Rich joins the Academy's 3,029 national and international members. The organization offers membership to scientists in recognition of distinguished and continuing achievements in original research.

Dr. Church is a distinguished professor emeritus in the Department of Geography at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is a Fellow of the Regional Science Association International, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award, Section on Location Analysis, from the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences.



The National Academy of Sciences was established under a congressional charter signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863. It recognizes achievement in science by election to membership and — with the National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Medicine — provides science, engineering and health policy advice to the federal government and other organizations



Jouke van Dijk Receives RSAI Hirotada Kohno Award

WRSA congratulates our board member, Jouke van Dijk, who has been awarded RSAI's 2022 Hirotada Kohno Award! The Hirotada Kohno Award honors a member of RSAI who has provided long and outstanding service to the development and organization of Regional Science. The Award is named for longtime Japan Section of the RSAI Executive Director (and WRSA member!), Professor Hirotada Kohno.

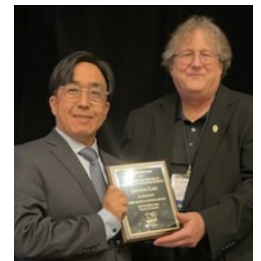


Dr. Jouke van Dijk is an outstanding ambassador for regional science and demonstrates an impressive commitment to the RSAI and ERSA: Jouke van Dijk started his involvement with the Dutch section of RSAI during which time he served as co-organizer and member of the LOC of the ERSA meetings in Groningen in 1982, 1994 and 2017. From 2007-2019 he served as either ERSA or Papers in Regional Science representative on the RSAI Council. From 2014 to 2018, Jouke van Dijk served as President of the European Regional Science Association (ERSA).

Jaewon Lim Receives the 2021 NARSC David Boyce Award

Congratulations to Jaewon Lim, WRSA's Executive Director, who receives the 2021 David Boyce Award from NARSC (the North American Regional Science Council).

Dr. Lim is an Associate Professor in the School of Public Policy and Leadership at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Name in honor of Professor David Boyce who managed the North American Meetings and promoted the Regional Science Association from shortly after the founding of the RSA until the formation of NARSC in the early 1990s, the award acknowledges outstanding service contributions that members have made to Regional Science organizations. Professor Lim was recognized for his leadership to various regional science organizations, for his promotion of greater participation of young scholars, and his hard work as WRSA Executive Director.



In Memoriam

Arthur Getis (1934 – May 13, 2022)

Arthur Getis (40th President of WRSa and Fellow) passed away on May 13, 2022; he was a few months shy of his 88th birthday. His career, ambitions and successes are well documented in a delightful piece he wrote for the RSAI Newsletter (<https://www.regionalscience.org/index.php/component/k2/item/2241-arthur-getis.html>) which he titled “Place and Time: The Right Place at the Right Time.” He was part of a significant cadre of doctoral students at the University of Washington that included WRSa Fellows Waldo Tobler and Richard Morrill, who brought a new, innovative and analytical approach to economic geography. Art’s own stature gained prominence with his work in point pattern analysis and his book, with Barry Boots, *Models of Spatial Processes* (1978). Spatial structure, spatial processes and their representation visually and formally were paramount concerns throughout his career. Manfred Fischer has written an extensive review of Art’s accomplishments for the RSAI website; this can be found here: (<https://www.regionalscience.org/index.php/news/obituaries/item/3035-in-memoriam-professor-arthur-getis-july-6,-1934---may-13,-2022.html>)



After spending the period 1963-1977 at Rutgers University, Art was recruited to Illinois where he remained until 1990. Like many of us, Art wanted to experience the challenge of leadership at the department level and his arrival in Illinois coincided with growth in numbers of regional science colleagues in Urban Planning, Economics and Civil Engineering. I think he enjoyed the stimulation of a diverse set of colleagues, very bright graduate students, the various seminars and a stream of visiting scholars. However, I do not think he enjoyed the attendant personnel issues that come with being a department head; thankfully, for regional science, he resisted moving up in the administration hierarchy and returned to his main interests in science and teaching (he was an outstanding teacher). An emerging doctoral program at San Diego State University and the opportunity to build something in collaboration with University of California Santa Barbara proved irresistible. He remained at SDSU until his retirement.

For WRSa, we were fortunate that his scientific collaboration with Keith Ord stretched beyond significant papers on the relationship between spatial association and distance to the establishment of the Getis-Ord Lecture that has become a prominent feature of the annual meetings. In the true spirit of WRSa, Art proposed that there should be a reception after the lecture; I recall observing the delight he took in having so many folks gathered in one place obviously enjoying both the lecture and the libations that followed. From his time in Washington as a graduate student, through his period in Illinois, this merging of academic and personal interactions resonated with him. We were fortunate that his wife, Judy, and occasionally his daughters would also participate. Whenever the meetings were in San Diego, Art would often host a party at his house for those “Saturday-night captives” who remained in town to secure cheaper airfares. In essence, Art embraced the WRSa motto: *the way academic life should be*. While Art and Judy will no longer be with us in person, we are fortunate that we will be able to celebrate his insights and generosity each year that we attend the Getis-Ord lecture.

*Memorandum written by
Geoffrey Hewings, The 48th President of WRSa (2007-08)*

Harry Richardson (1938 – March 21, 2022)

On March 21, 2022, WRSA lost one of its leading scholars. Harry Richardson passed away at the age of 83. Harry served as the 29th President of WRSA in 1988 and was elected a WRSA Fellow in 2009. He was an active participant in WRSA for several decades.

Harry was a multidisciplinary scholar from the beginning. He received his BA in Modern History, Economics, and Politics at Manchester University in 1959 and his master's degree in 1961. He began his career as an assistant lecturer in political economy at the University of Aberdeen in 1960, and by 1965 was appointed senior lecturer. He moved to the US and joined the University of Pittsburgh as a professor of regional and urban economics in 1973. He joined USC in 1975, left for a distinguished professor position at SUNY Buffalo, and returned to USC in 1988 where he remained for the rest of his career. He received the James Irvine Chair of urban and regional planning in 1998.

Harry had a big-picture approach to regional science. His background in history gave him a longer view perspective; his background in economics became the theoretical structure for his thinking. He was also an excellent writer. One explanation for his early visibility was his ability to write readable and credible surveys (in book form) on urban and regional economics. These include *Regional Economics: Location Theory, Urban Structure and Regional Change* (with Weidenfeld and Nicholson, 1969), *Input-Output and Regional Economics* (with Weidenfeld and Nicholson, 1973), and *Regional Growth Theory* (1973)

Harry's interest in cities in developing countries prompted his career as one of just a few World Bank urbanists, including Alain Bertaud, with whom he also wrote. Perhaps "Whither National Urban Policy in Developing Countries" (*Urban Studies*, 1987) is Harry's most important in this area. Harry's work with the World Bank took him literally around the globe. He advised on regional development projects in Bangladesh, Brazil, Pakistan, Egypt, Peru, Nigeria, and many other countries.

A notable and enduring aspect of Harry's research was his contrarianism. Early in his career, he tangled with notables James Mirlees and Robert Solow on the usefulness of mathematical models ("A Comment on Some Uses of Mathematical Models in Urban Economics," *Urban Studies*, 1972), from which he emerged the "moral victor" by his own bemused recollection.

In the world of urban planning, he was a tireless critic of the urban sprawl critique and argued that suburbanization is the economically efficient response to the costs of density: jobs and people collocate thereby reducing commuting and land costs. Harry and his long-time colleague wrote numerous papers on the topic. Perhaps the best known is, "Are Compact Cities A Desirable Planning Goal," published in the *Journal of the American Planning Association* in 1997. This led to a debate within the urban planning community between Harry and Peter and compact city proponents.

Harry ended his career teaming with Gordon, James Moore, and many Ph.D. students to develop spatial economic impact models to conduct impact studies of natural and human-made disasters. This modeling research has been carried on by his students who are now faculty at UT Austin (Qisheng Pan) and University at Buffalo (Jiyoung Park).

Finally, Harry was the consummate mentor and teacher. He considered teaching far more important than his research contributions. His commitment is reflected in the success of the many students he trained and mentored. He will be missed.



Memorandum written by

Gen Giuliano, The 60th President of WRSA (2019-20)

Peter Gordon, The 53rd President of WRSA (2012-13)



Western Regional Science Association

Officers for the 2022–2023 Year

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President-Elect:

Makena Coffman, University of Hawaii at Manoa

Vice President:

Eric Heikkila, University of Southern California

Immediate Past President:

Richard Church, University of California, Santa Barbara

Executive Director:

Jaewon Lim, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

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

WRSA's NARSC Councilor:

Jaewon Lim

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T. John Kim, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Theodore Lane, Thomas Lane & Associates

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Gordon Mulligan, University of Arizona

Jack Osman, San Francisco State University

Jean Paelinck, Erasmus University

David Plane, University of Arizona

Sergio Rey, University of California, Riverside

Hans Westlund, Royal Inst. Technology/JIBS

Regional Science Meeting Calendar

69th North American Meetings of the RSAI

Montreal, Canada | November 9–12, 2022

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

62nd Annual Meeting of the WRSA

The Big Island of Hawaii | February 15–18, 2023

(See article, Page 1, this Newsletter)

<https://www.wrsaonline.org/>

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

WRSA Executive Director/

Newsletter Editor, at jaewon.lim@unlv.edu.

WRSA:

“The Way Academic Life Should Be.”



***See you all at
the 62nd Annual Meeting
in Waikoloa, HI!!
February 15 - 18, 2023***