



# Western Regional Science Association

Fall 2023

Newsletter

## *Save the Date for Our 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting!* *Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel & Spa – Monterey, CA* *February 11-14, 2024*

For our 63<sup>rd</sup> meeting, we are heading to Monterey, CA, returning to one of our member's most beloved spots!! It is our 8th meeting in Monterey! The meeting will be held February 11–14, 2024 at the Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel & Spa on Del Monte Golf Course.

It's time to make your plans to participate at our next annual meeting and get the dates on your calendar. The Monterey meeting will open on Sunday afternoon, February 11<sup>th</sup> with the Lay James Gibson Opening Plenary Session and the Welcoming Reception. Three days of paper sessions and social events will follow on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

The Hyatt Regency 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 \$229 plus applicable taxes. The \$33 resort fee will be waived for our group. Hotel guests will have free self and valet parking. Also, you will enjoy free internet access in your room and complimentary access to the 24-hour fitness center. The hotel has agreed to honor our special room rate three days prior to and three days following our meetings (February 8-17), based on availability.

The room reservation can be made via this [link](#) or you can make a reservation by calling 831-372-1234 and asking for the Western Regional Science Association 2024 group rate (Group code: G-WR24). Please note: after January 10, 2024, 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 (extended to Nov. 30, 2023)**. 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 in Monterey, California!!



Jaewon Lim, Executive Director, Western Regional Science Association  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas / Las Vegas, Nevada 89154 USA  
Phone: (702) 793-3490 ~ E-mail: [jaewon.lim@unlv.edu](mailto:jaewon.lim@unlv.edu)

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

## Big Island, Hawai'i 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Highlights

Our Big Island meeting was the first full-size meeting in the post-pandemic era. It was the biggest meeting since our last 2016, which was also on the Big Island of Hawai'i! We finally got back to pre-pandemic normalcy.

We enjoyed the scenic Kohala Coast, where the oceanfront Hilton Waikoloa is nested. The weather was perfect for our conference. We had two shiny days - the opening day and the last day, while the three days for our concurrent sessions were cloudy and wet. Sorry, but WRSA could not control the weather in Waikoloa.

The Meeting attracted over 200 participants from fourteen different countries. The Program featured 166 paper presentations organized into 43 paper and panel sessions, including the two special sessions in honor of Roger Stough organized by TRSA (The Regional Science Academy), an honorary session for Tatsuhiko Kawashima, and the Keith Schwer Memorial Western States Economic Outlook Panel.

This year's plenary sessions were outstanding and full of interesting discussions. The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Lay James Gibson Opening Session provided another successful and engaging start to our annual meeting. Chaired by the 63<sup>rd</sup> President of WRSA, Terry Clower, Makena Coffman (the incoming president) from the University of Hawai'i facilitated presentations and discussion on "COVID-19: A Wake-up Call for Hawai'i." Two guest speakers from the University of Hawai'i, Peter Fuleky and Steven Bond-Smith gave an engaging presentation on the post-pandemic regional economic recovery and opportunities for economic innovations in Hawaii. Two invited government officials from the County of Hawai'i, Douglas Adams and Kendra Obermeier, gave their perspectives on R&D, innovation, and climate action work.

The 10<sup>th</sup> 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." Eric Heikkila of the University of Southern California chaired the session, and Alan Murray of the University of California, Santa Barbara discussed the lecture.



*Peter Rogerson at the 10<sup>th</sup> 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 64<sup>th</sup> President of WRSA, Makena Coffman, gave her Presidential Address on the timely topic, "Costs and Tradeoffs of Coastal Retreat in Response to Sea Level Rise." Makena's Address was discussed by John Carruthers from Cornell University. The luncheon also showcased student and early-career scholar 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!



*12<sup>th</sup> Annual Lay James Gibson Opening Session*

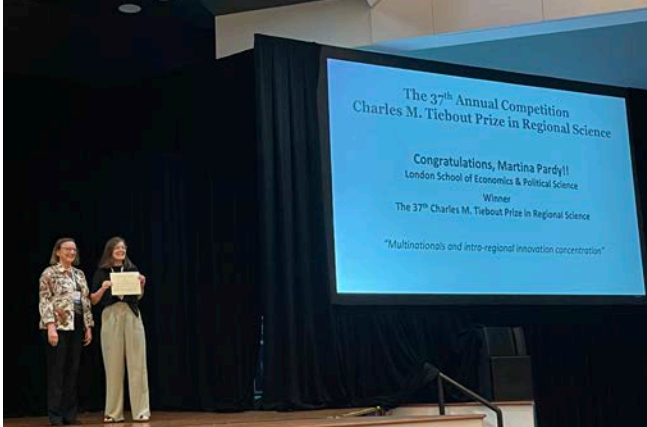


*Makena Coffman delivered the Presidential Address*



## Martina Pardy wins Tiebout Prize!

At this year's conference, WRSA's 37<sup>th</sup> Charles Tiebout Prize was awarded to Martina Pardy, a doctoral student from the London School of Economics and Political Science. Congratulations to Martina for the winning paper titled, "Multinationals and intra-regional innovation concentration."



*Tiebout Prize Winner, Martina Pardy (right) with Reading Committee Chair Janet Kohlhasse (left)*

The Tiebout Reading Committee also selected a second paper for the finalist in the Competition. Congratulations to Benjamin Cornejo Costas from Utrecht Univ., The Netherlands, with the co-author, Andrea MORRISON also from Utrecht Univ. for their paper, "*The 1921-1924 Immigration Act and Its Unintended Consequences on Breakthrough Innovations in the US.*"

The Tiebout Reading Committee, comprised of the past WRSA Presidents, is charged each year with evaluating a large pool of submissions. This year's committee included: Matthias Ruth from the University of York, Genevieve Giuliano from the University of Southern California, Janet Kohlhasse from the University of Houston, and Rick Church from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

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 Justin Tyndall & Cody Nehiba!

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 winner was Justin Tyndall from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and Cody Nehiba from Louisiana State University for their co-authored paper, "*Highways and Pedestrian Deaths in US Neighborhoods.*"

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.



*Stough-Johansson-Springer Award winner, Justin Tyndall accepts his award from *The Annals of Regional Science* editors, Janet Kohlhasse, Brian H.S. Kim, and Martin Andersson*

## WRSa Board Updates

### *Euijune Kim Named Vice President*

One of the main tasks at the annual WRSa Board meeting is to make decisions about the future leadership of the Association, in particular the Vice President, new Board members, and Fellows. At this year's meeting, the Board enthusiastically selected Euijune Kim as our incoming Vice President.



Euijune Kim is a Professor of Urban and Regional Economics in the Dept. of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development at Seoul National University (SNU), South Korea. He is currently serving as the Chair of the Integrated Program in Regional Studies and Spatial Analytics at SNU. His research

topics consist of Urban and Regional Economics, Spatial and Infrastructure Policy, Input-Output, and Computable General Equilibrium Models.

### *President-Elect: Eric Heikkila*

Eric Heikkila (University of Southern California) continues his ascension, moving from Vice President to President-Elect for 2023-2024. As President-Elect, Eric will present his Presidential Address and host the President's Reception at next year's conference in Monterey, California.



### *New Board Members Announced*

This year, the WRSa board invited three new board members, Karl R. Geisler, Soomi Lee, and Niyakundi Michieka.



Karl R. Geisler is an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics and Finance at Idaho State University. As a regional economist, his research primarily examines how economic activities spillover between jurisdictions, such as how casinos impact employment in host and adjacent counties. He has received his Ph.D. from the Department of Economics at the University of Nevada, Reno.



Soomi Lee is a Professor in the Department of Public Administration and Director to oversee the Master of Public Administration program (MPA) at the University of La Verne. Her research focuses on state and local public finance, fiscal institutions, redistributive policies, and economic resilience. Current research projects concern property tax rules, neighborhood change, fiscal disparities, and basic income guarantee. Soomi Lee earned a Ph.D. in Economics and Political Science from the Claremont Graduate University in 2011.

Niyakundi Michieka is an Associate Professor in the Department of Economics at California State University, Bakersfield. He also serves as the director of Center for Economic Education and Research (CEER). His



research encompasses Energy economics, Energy policy, Energy demand, Renewable, Non-renewable energy, Regional Economics, Economic Development, and Poverty. He received the Ph.D. in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics from West Virginia University.

### *WRSa Mentorship Program*

WRSa Strategic Planning Group (SPG) launched a new mentorship program for our annual meeting. The mentorship program pairs Graduate Students or Early-Career Scholars (who earned a Ph.D. or equivalent doctorate within five years) with a senior regional science scholar (with over 10 years of experience in academia, governments, and the industry). The program is designed to facilitate networking and mentorship opportunities. We had 18 mentees and 17 mentors networking during our annual meeting on the Big Island this year. If you would like to participate in the WRSa Mentorship Program during our Annual Meeting, please indicate your interest when you register for our Annual Meeting.

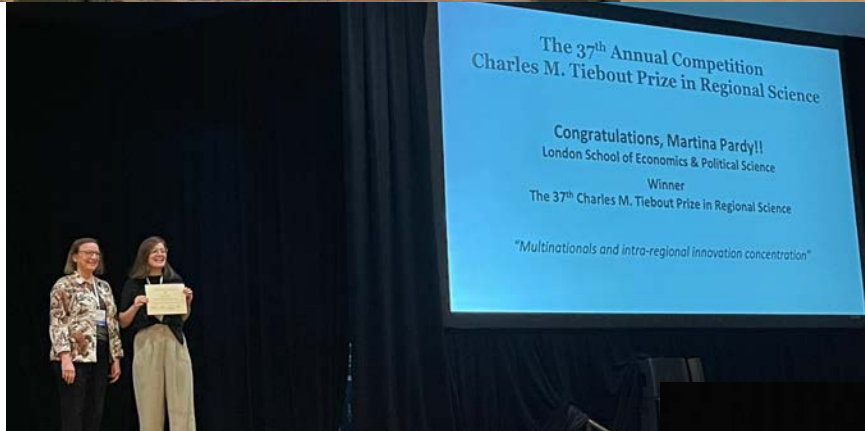
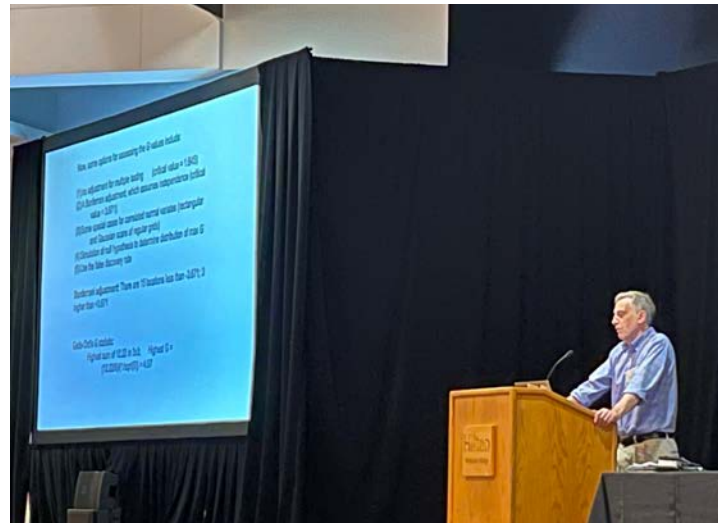
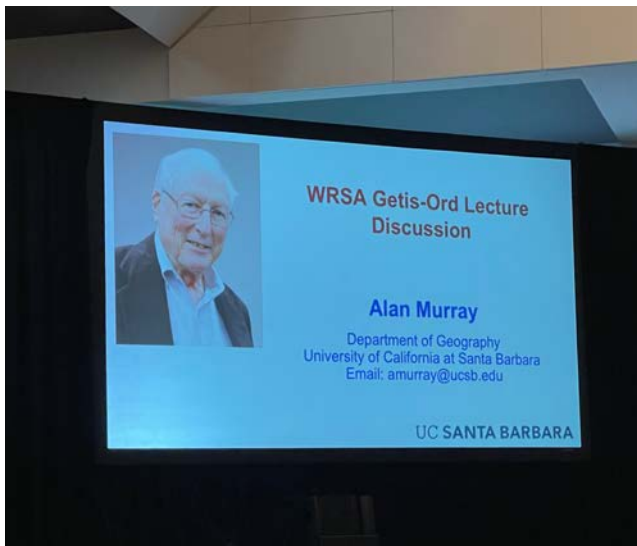




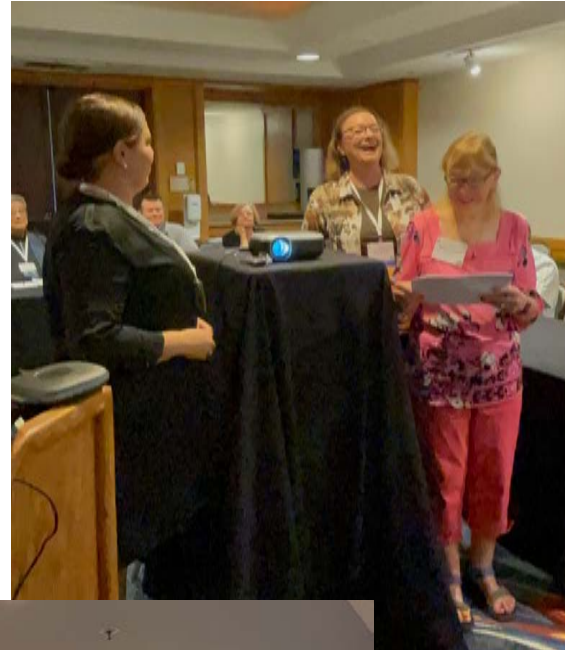
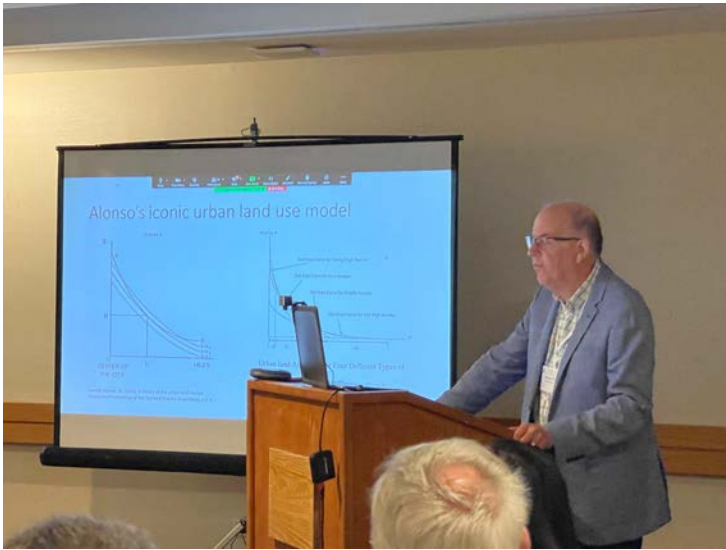
## Pictures from 2023 WRSA Annual Meeting on the Big Island, HI

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















## Notable WRSA Member Accomplishments

### *Genevieve Giuliano Elected to the RSAI Fellow*

Congratulations to our 60<sup>th</sup> President and longtime member, Genevieve Giuliano, who was elected to the RSAI (Regional Science Association International) Fellow in May 2022. RSAI fellows are distinguished scholars with a proven and recognized research record in the field of regional science during a considerable part of their scientific career.

The RSAI fellowship is a world-wide sign of scientific recognition that is bestowed on a regional scientist with outstanding research credentials in his/her field. Dr. Giuliano is a distinguished professor of public policy and the Margaret and John Ferraro Chair in Effective Local Government at the USC Price School. At USC for 35 years, Giuliano's research has shed new light on issues including the intersection of land use and transportation, transportation policy analysis, travel behavior, information technology applications in transportation and climate change. She has published more than 200 papers and given invited lectures around the world.



### *Neil Reid Received the Best Special Issue Editors Award of RSPP*

WRSA congratulates our member, Neil Reid, who has been awarded the Best Special Issue Editors in Regional Science Policy and Practice. Dr. Reid's Special Issues on "Effects and Policies of Covid-19" with 8 papers and 44 Cite Score citations (ratio 5,50) in September 2023.



### *Sandy Dall'Erba Received the Best Paper in Papers in Regional Science*



Congratulations to our board member, Sandy Dall'Erba, who received the Martin Beckmann RSAI Annual Award for the Best Paper in Papers in Regional Science. Together with his co-author, Jhorland Ayala-García, Dr. Dall'Erba (2022) published "The

Impact of Preemptive Investments on Natural Disasters," in *Papers in Regional Science*, Volume 101, Issue 5, Pages 1087-1103.

## In Memoriam

### **John Brian Parr (1941 – 2023)**



We lost John Parr, a great friend, colleague, and a leader of regional science community in early January 2023. In 1967, he completed his Ph.D. in economic geography at the University of Washington working with Morgan Thomas and Charles Tiebout. After serving as a faculty member in the Department of Regional Science at the University of Pennsylvania for 8 years until 1975, he returned to the UK and from 1975 until 2015 he was a member of the faculty in the University of Glasgow in Scotland. After his return to the UK in 1975, he became very active in the British Section (now British & Irish Section) of RSAI, serving as Chairman of the section from 1981-1985; however, he retained an affinity for the North American Regional Science (NARSC) conferences and for the World Congresses of RSAI. He was elected as an Academician (Fellow) of the UK Academy of Social Sciences in 2000. From the RSAI: British and Irish Section, he received the Moss Madden Memorial Medal in 2003 and a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015. Parr was elected as a Fellow of the RSAI in 2006. In many ways, his academic contributions were equaled by his commitment to enhancing the field of regional science, broadly defined. He had a great sense of humor that was infectious; he took his work seriously but rarely himself and graciously tolerated the gentle ribbing that inevitably occurred.



## Western Regional Science Association

### *Officers for the 2023–2024 Year*

#### **President:**

Makena Coffman, University of Hawaii at Manoa

#### **President-Elect:**

Eric Heikkila, University of Southern California

#### **Vice President:**

Euijune Kim, Seoul National University

#### **Immediate Past President:**

Terry Clower, George Mason University

#### **Executive Director:**

Jaewon Lim, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

#### **WRSA's PRSCO Councilor:**

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

#### **WRSA's NARSC Councilor:**

Jaewon Lim

### **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, Cornell University  
Sandy Dall'Erba, University of Illinois  
Michel Dimou, Université de Toulon  
Alessandra Faggian, Gran Sasso Science Institute  
Karl Geisler, Idaho State University  
Janet E. Kohlhasse, Univ. of Houston (*ex officio*, *Annals* editor)  
Brian H.S. Kim, Seoul National Univ. (*ex officio*, *Annals* editor)  
Soomi Lee, University of La Verne  
Yuri Mansury, Illinois Institute of Technology  
Stein Østbye, University of Tromsø  
R. Pete Parcells, Whitman College  
Daoqin Tong, Arizona State University  
Jouke van Dijk, University of Groningen  
Ran Wei, Univ. of California, Riverside  
Richard L. Wobbekind, University of Colorado, Boulder

### **Fellows**

Rachel Franklin, Newcastle University  
Lay James Gibson, University of Arizona  
Michael Greenwood, Colorado University  
Kingsley Haynes, George Mason University  
Geoffrey J.D. Hewings, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
T. John Kim, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
Theodore Lane, Thomas Lane & Associates  
Richard Morrill, University of Washington  
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

### **70<sup>th</sup> North American Meetings of the RSAI**

San Diego, CA | November 15–18, 2023

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

### **63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the WRSA**

Monterey, CA | February 11–14, 2024

(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:

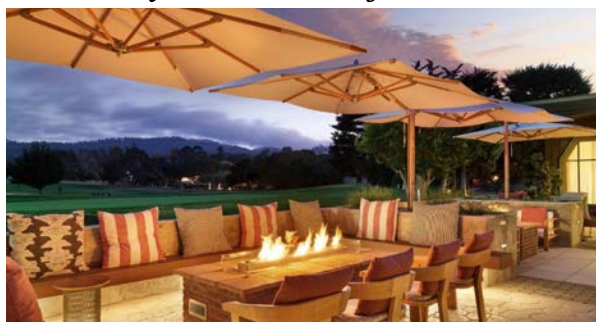
Jaewon Lim

WRSA Executive Director/

Newsletter Editor, at [jaewon.lim@unlv.edu](mailto:jaewon.lim@unlv.edu).

## **WRSA:**

### ***“The Way Academic Life Should Be.”***



**See you all at  
the 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting  
in Monterey, CA!!  
February 11 - 14, 2024**