

Minutes of the PRSCO Council Meeting
(Approved by the PRSCO Council Meeting in Philadelphia, 21st November, 2003)

Held on Wednesday 2 July 2003
Roqueta Room, Hyatt Regency Hotel
Acapulco, Mexico

Commencing at 1:15 PM

The meeting was preceded by the PRSCO Councilors lunch, 12.15-1.15 PM, sponsored by the PRSCO secretariat.

1. Apologies received, roll-call and confirmation of Section representatives

Apologies received:

A. Bailly (President RSAI), J.-H. Choi (KRSA), D. Edgington (CRSA), C. Feng (CRSA-T), P. Gonzales (PRSCO friend), J. Guilhoto (PRSCO friend), Y. Miyata (JSRSAI), P. Nijkamp (PRSCO friend, former RSAI President), B. Resosudarmo (IRSA)

Present:

G. Clarke (Executive Director RSAI); K. Donaghy (Immediate Past Executive Director RSAI); L. Gibson (WRSA); K. Haynes (PRSCO friend, former RSAI President); Y. Higano (JSRSAI, *Executive Secretary PRSCO*); T.-I. Lee (President KRSA, representing J.-H. Choi); S.O. Park (KRSA, *Immediate Past President PRSCO*); D. Plane (WRSA, *President PRSCO*); J. Poot (ANZRSAI); J. Quigley (WRSA); Y. Sakai (President JSRSAI, representing Y. Miyata); J. Serrano (AMECIDER, *Vice-President PRSCO*); R. Stimson (ANZRSAI, representing J. Madden); R. Stough (WRSA); K. Tanaka (JSRSAI); M. Tawada (JSRSAI)

Confirmation of section representatives, as at 1 July 2003:

AMECIDER: J. Serrano (*Vice-President*), R. Wences

ANZRSA: J. Madden, J Poot

CRSA: D. Edgington, R. Shearmur

CRSA-T: C.-M. Feng, C. Mai

IRSA: B. Brodjonegoro, B. Resosudarmo

JSRSAI: Y. Higano (*Executive Secretary*), Y. Miyata, K. Tanaka, M. Tawada

KRSA: J.H. Choi, S.O. Park (*Immediate Past President*)

WRSA: L.J. Gibson, D. Plane (*President*), J.M. Quigley, R. Stough

2. Minutes of the PRSCO Council Meeting in San Juan, Porto Rico, 15 November 2002

The minutes were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

3. Report on the 18th PRSCO Conference, Acapulco, 2003

J. Serrano reported that the number of participants in the conference had been very encouraging: 492 names appeared in the program (with some double counting of people presenting or discussing more than one paper); 389 participants presented 275 papers. In

addition, there were 96 Mexican student participants. Important issues in planning the conference were: (i) the mixture of English and Spanish language sessions; and (ii) the mixture of theoretical and applied sessions. D. Plane moved a motion of thanks to all the organizers of the conference, specifically AMECIDER and the Autonomous University of Guerrero. This was carried with acclamation. One major aim at the conference had been to increase participation from South American countries. This has proved partially successful, with participants from e.g. Costa Rica, Chile and Brazil, but the cost of travel remains a big issue.

4. Report on preparations for the 19th PRSCO Conference in Tokyo, Japan 25-28 July, 2005

Y. Higano reported on the plans for this conference, which will be held at Nihon University, which has a suitable new building in central Tokyo. The conference theme will be “diffusion of knowledge and cooperation of scientific disciplines for sustainable development”. Plenary sessions would be organized by PRSCO, JSRSAI, RSAI, and possibly other co-organizers. There would also be a symposium on the main theme, and poster sessions on “Knowledge about environmental evaluation technologies”. Besides RSAI, other sponsors would include the Science Council of Japan, and five or so Japanese associations with links to JSRSAI.

The registration fee would be 30,000-35,000 yen, but the registration fee may be waived for participants from developing countries.

Participants would be recommended to stay at the Tokyo Dome Hotel, which will offer a 10,000 yen room rate.

The broad outline of the programme includes a PRSCO Council dinner on Monday night July 25; the conference opening, RSAI Council meeting and reception on Tuesday; and the conference dinner on Thursday. The technical excursion was still to be planned.

There will be an option of a full-day excursion on Friday July 29 to e.g. Nikko or Kamakura.

The first call for papers would be distributed in Philadelphia.

During discussion, it was suggested that –as meals can be expensive in Tokyo – the conference organizers might include Japanese lunch boxes (obento) in the registration fee.

5. Report on preparations for the 8th PRSCO Summer Institute in Chile in 2004

Dr Ramon Antonio Gutierrez, is the organizer of this Summer Institute. Unfortunately, he was unable to come to Acapulco to report on progress. He is also involved in organizing the APEC summit meeting in Chile in 2004. The Summer Institute would preferably be held during the first two weeks of July 2004. Potential locations are the capital Santiago or the beach resort Vina del Mar.

6. PRSCO delegate for the RSAI, 2004-2006

The current PRSCO delegates on the RSAI Council are:

Hirotsada Kohno (2001-2003), John Quigley (2002-2004), Jorge Serrano (2003-2005).

It was proposed that Yoshiro Higano would replace Hirotsada Kohno. This was agreed.

7. Short reports from member organizations (membership trends, annual conference plans, current issues of interest to other PRSCO member organizations)

Y. Serrano (AMECIDER) noted that this section has about 170 members. Ensuring continuity of membership is one current issue. The number of persons involved at the international level is also still rather small. Nationally, co-ordination across regions is sometimes problematic. AMECIDER would hold its 10th anniversary meeting in 2004.

R. Stimson (ANZRSAI) noted that ANZRSAI has about 200 members among whom 20% are members of RSAI. The next Australasian conference would be held in Perth, Sunday 28 September to Wednesday 1 October 2003. A significant characteristic of ANZRSAI is that the majority of members are regional development practitioners and policymakers. The section publishes two journals, *Australasian Journal of Regional Studies* catering for academic research and *Sustaining Regions* for practitioner case studies.

D. Edgington (CRSA) reported by e-mail that an annual meeting of the Canadian section was held May 30-31 at the University of Victoria. The meeting had 45 participants.

No reports were obtained from Taiwan and Indonesia.

Y Higano (JSRSAI) reported that the Japanese section now has 830 members, among whom 300 were also members of RSAI. The next local meeting would be held in Okinawa, 1-3 November 2003.

S.O. Park (KRSA) noted that Korean membership was stable, around 350 members. One issue is that is hard to attract young scholars, and also more applied researchers. The section holds two conferences every year. Unbalanced development is a major theme.

D. Plane (WRSA) noted that membership peaked at 370, and was now around 300. The February 2003 meeting was held in Rio Rico (Arizona). The 2004 meeting would be on Maui (Hawaii). One notably successful activity of WRSA is the annual competition for the Charles M Tiebout Prize in Regional Science (for the best paper submitted by a fulltime graduate student).

8. Progress report on regional science groups in the Pacific Rim area

Contacts with colleagues in the Philippines, mainland China, Malaysia, Brazil and the Caribbean were mentioned. It was hoped that there would be participants from these countries at the RSAI world congress, to be held in Port Elizabeth (South Africa), April 14-17, 2004.

9. *Papers in Regional Science*

J. Poot (Pacific Editor) noted that the rate of Pacific manuscripts submissions had been increasing in 2002, but was again declining in 2003. Volume 82, no. 3 (July 2003) was a special issue of *Papers in Regional Science* on “Regional integration, trade and investment expansion in the Asia Pacific”, edited by Zhaoyong Zhang (National University of Singapore). It was also noted that Vol. 83, no. 1, 2004 would be the Golden Anniversary issue of *PiRS*. Several Pacific authors contributed to this issue, which would be given to all participants of the 50th Anniversary meeting of the RSAI (at the Doubletree Hotel in Philadelphia, November 20-22, 2003).

10. RSAI matters

G. Clark, the Executive Secretary of RSAI, briefly outlined the plans for changes in the organization and membership structures of RSAI that are currently being developed. Further details can be found in RSAI News. It was noted that the support and input of PRSCO would be crucial to the future wellbeing of RSAI.

11. Other business

The next Council meeting would be held at the NARSC meeting of RSAI in the Doubletree Hotel in Philadelphia sometime on Friday 21 November 2003. *Note:* the RSAI Council meeting will now be held that same day, commencing at 2 pm.

D. Plane closed the meeting at 3:15 pm, after which participants went on a conference excursion of the Acapulco area.