

Minutes of the PRSCO Council Meeting
(Approved by the PRSCO Council Meeting in Seattle, 13th November, 2004)

Held on Friday 21 November 2003
Academy Café, Doubletree Hotel
Philadelphia, PA, USA

1. Call to Order

President David Plane opened the meeting at 12:30 pm.

2. Apologies received and roll-call

Apologies received:

David Edgington (CRSA), Budy Resosudarmo (IRSA), Ishak Yusof (MRSA), Jin Ho Choi (KRSA)

Present:

P. Aroca (Friend of PRSCO from Chile); A. Bailly (RSAI President); P. Batey (Long Range Planning Committee RSAI); G. Clarke (Executive Director RSAI); K. Donaghy (Immediate Past Executive Director RSAI); R. Florax (Editor-in-chief PiRS); L. Gibson (WRSA, Long Range Planning Committee RSAI); K. Haynes (Long Range Planning Committee RSAI); G. Hewings (Immediate Past President RSAI); Y. Higano (JSRSAI, *Executive Secretary PRSCO*); J. Madden (ANZRSAI); P. Nijkamp (Long Range Planning Committee RSAI); S.-K. Peng (CRSA-T); D. Plane (WRSA, *President PRSCO*); J. Poot (ANZRSAI); J. Quigley (WRSA); J. Serrano (Amecider, *Vice-President PRSCO*); R. Stimson (Vice-President Elect RSAI)

3. Confirmation of Section representatives as at 1 November 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

4. Minutes of the PRSCO Council Meeting in Acapulco, Mexico, 2 July 2003

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

5. Report on preparations for the 19th Pacific Conference of the RSAI, Tokyo, July 25-28, 2005

Y. Higano handed out a draft of the first call for papers. The conference would be held at Nihon University College of Economics in Tokyo. The conference theme is “Synthesis of Disciplines for Sustainable Regional Development”. The early bird conference fee would be US\$250. K. Donaghy noted that under the new RSAI mode of operation there would

no longer be a royalty fee of US \$10 charged by RSAI for each conference participant. Instead, conference participants who are members of sections would be automatically members of RSAI. Because the RSAI membership fee for a basic level of services was expected to be US\$20, the PRSCO conference fee for non-members would be set at $US\$250 + US\$25 = US\$275$, thus ensuring that non-RSAI members would have a (small) financial incentive to join RSAI.

6. Venue and organization of the 2004 Summer Institute

Dr Ramon Antonio Gutierrez, who had offered to organize the 8th PRSCO Summer Institute in Chile in 2004, was unable to continue in this role due to personal circumstances. J. Serrano reported on an alternative proposal that would involve a collaborative venture among 20 regional universities in Chile. The meeting could be held jointly with a second national meeting in regional science and/or linked to the APEC summit. Possible dates are in July, the 1st half of August or the 2nd half of September 2004.

The universities joint venture would be discussed at a meeting of university Rectors on November 27.

P. Aroca of IDEAR (Institute De Economia Aplicada Regional, i.e. the Institute of Applied Regional Economics) noted that regional science was not well developed in Chile. However, his Institute has staff with a high level of expertise in the field (with PhDs from e.g. Université Catholique de Louvain, the Autonomous University of Madrid, and the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil, and PhD students at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign). IDEAR is therefore keen on being part of the organizing committee.

Y. Higano noted that he had also had contact with Malaysian regional scientists, who offered to step in and host a Summer Institute if the Chilean proposal fell through. The Malaysian group planned to host a regional science meeting in 2004 in any case.

D. Plane then appointed a five-person sub-committee consisting of P. Aroca, Y. Serrano, Y. Higano, G. Hewing and himself, to ensure that final decisions on the 2004 Summer Institute would be made soon.

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

This matter was already discussed in the context of the proposed Summer Institute in Chile, as noted above.

8. Papers in Regional Science

J. Poot noted that the number of submissions from the Asia-Pacific area was down on last year. Currently he receives about 20% of the annual submissions. K. Haynes commented that because North-American authors tend to submit papers to the North-American PiRS editor (J. Poon) rather than the Pacific one, the number of submissions by regional scientists in the PRSCO area was actually rather larger. R. Florax noted that the target was still for a global total of around 100 submitted papers per annum. In comparison, about 80 papers were submitted in 2002, and there were already sufficient finalized papers in the queue for publication in 2004.

9. RSAI matters

Graham Clark outlined the structural change proposed for RSAI and the policy of universal membership (i.e. RSAI membership of all members of all local sections around the world) that had been accepted in principle by the RSAI Council. The proposed structure would be flexible and would also permit individual membership through the new publisher of PiRS (Blackwell) at a rate of US\$60 for hard copy of the journal and US\$20 for an electronic copy. Electronic access would also be available through the various sections, which would join RSAI collectively on behalf of all their members. In the general discussion that followed it was stressed that the flexible structure was needed to deal with the marked differences in the way in which regional science is organized in the three super-regions (North America, Asia-Pacific and Europe).

10. Other business

The next PRSCO Council meeting would be held some time during the World Congress of the RSAI in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, April 14-17, 2004. *Note:* the RSAI Council meeting is expected to be held in the afternoon of Thursday 15 April 2004.

D. Plane closed the meeting at 2.00 pm.