

## Minutes of the PRSCO Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 18 July 2006  
Berjaya Times Square Hotel  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

President Y. Kumata opened the meeting at 8:30 pm.

### **a) Apologies received and roll-call**

#### *Apologies received:*

P. Aroca (SOCHER, Chile), A. Bailey (Past President RSAI, Switzerland), P. Nijkamp (Past President RSAI, Netherlands), D. Plane (WRSA, USA), B. Resosudarmo (IRSA, Indonesia)

#### *Present:*

Wardatul Akman (BRSA, Bangladesh)  
Graham Clarke (Executive Director RSAI, United Kingdom)  
Huan Zheng Du (Jiaying University, China)  
David Edgington (CRSA/ACSR, Vice-President PRSCO, Canada)  
Cheng-Min Feng (CRSA-T, Taiwan)  
Lay Gibson (WRSA, LRPC, Past President RSAI, USA)  
Injung Carna Hamis (Philippines)  
Mohd Shukri Hajinoor (MRSA, Malaysia)  
Kingsley Haynes (LRPC, Past President RSAI, USA)  
Yoshiro Higano (JSRSAI, Executive Secretary PRSCO, Japan)  
Md. Fakrul Islam (BRSA, Bangladesh)  
Rahmah Ismail (MRSA, Malaysia)  
M. Yusof Kasim (President MRSA, Malaysia)  
Yoshinobu Kumata (JSRSAI, President PRSCO, Japan)  
Tao Lin (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China)  
Yuzuru Miyata (JSRSAI, Japan)  
Shin Kung Peng (CRSA-T, Taiwan)  
Jacques Poot (ANZRSAI, New Zealand)  
John Quigley (WRSA, representing T. John Kim, USA)  
Jorge Serrano (AMECIDER, Immediate Past President PRSCO, Mexico)  
Bob Stimson (ANZRSAI representing John Madden, RSAI President, Australia)  
Roger Stough (WRSA, USA)  
Makoto Tawada (JSRSAI, Japan)  
Ishak Yussof (MRSA, Malaysia)

**b) Minutes of the PRSCO Council Meeting in Las Vegas, USA, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2005**

Following a few typographical corrections, the minutes were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

**c) Report on the organization of the 9<sup>th</sup> PRSCO Summer Institute in Kuala Lumpur, 18-20 July 2006**

M. Yusof Kasim, President MRSA, reported that the conference, which was at the end of its first day at the time of the Council meeting, was very successful. The Summer Institute had attracted 117 participants of whom 50 came from Malaysia and 67 from abroad, representing 20 countries. President Y. Kumata offered a vote of thanks to the conference organizers, which was carried with acclamation. M.Y. Kasim also reported on the establishment of the Malaysian Regional Science Association (MRSA). All Malaysian participants in the PRSCO Summer Institute would be automatically inaugural members of MRSA, but efforts would be made to attract more members soon from throughout Malaysia. Executive Secretary Y. Higano invited MRSA to formally apply to join PRSCO and RSAI. This application could be considered at the NARSC meeting in Toronto in November 2006. It was pointed out that joining RSAI would imply an online subscription to *Papers in Regional Science* (and the *RSAI Newsletter*) for all MRSA members at 10 euro per member annually. It was suggested that such a fee could be paid in a lumpsum and recovered from conference revenue. The Executive Secretary of RSAI would discuss the options with the MRSA President.

**d) Progress report on the organization of the 20<sup>th</sup> PRSCO regular conference, in British Columbia, 6-9 May 2007 (CRSA)**

David Edgington (University of British Columbia, PRSCO Vice-President), who chairs the organizing committee of the 20<sup>th</sup> PRSCO conference, gave a presentation about the conference. He also distributed a conference postcard and a brochure about Vancouver. The conference would be held at the Westin Bayshore Hotel. The conference website is [www.prSCO2007.confmanager.com](http://www.prSCO2007.confmanager.com), while the email address of the conference secretariat is [registration@housing.ubc.ca](mailto:registration@housing.ubc.ca). The main theme of the conference is “Creative city regions: examining their role in the Pacific Rim”. David Edgington reminded Council that the last PRSCO conference in Canada was held in 1993 in Whistler, 2 hours drive from Vancouver. The 2010 Winter Olympics will be held at that location.

Conference registration would commence in the afternoon of Sunday 6 May. The closing ceremony would be late afternoon on Wednesday 9 May. On Thursday 10 May there would be post-conference excursions. J. Poot reminded the organizers to send out email invitations to all members of all PRSCO sections. J. Serrano pointed out the need to provide differential registration fees linked to country income. He also noted that particularly young researchers from low income countries in the Pacific Rim should be encouraged to participate.

**e) Report on the RSAI Workshop in East China Normal University, Shanghai, China, 3rd-5th April, 2006**

RSAI President R. Stimson reported on this successful workshop. Several institutions participated, including representatives of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Chinese Geography Association and the existing Chinese Regional Science Association. The goal

would be to announce a RSAI and PRSCO affiliated Chinese Section at the Vancouver meeting. Y. Higano stressed the importance of effective communication among all parties to reach this goal. H.Z. Du noted that regional science is of growing importance in China and that the international collaboration through the RSAI network is highly desirable. Further workshops in China would facilitate the strengthening of the links. R. Stimson saw the recent initiatives in India and China that were aiming at expanding the global network of RSAI as a positive step in enhancing capability building in regional science in developing countries.

**f) Matter of naming CRSA-T**

H.Z. Du noted that after development of a RSAI-affiliated section on mainland China, there would be a dialogue with the members of the Chinese Regional Science Association – Taiwan regarding the relationship and names of the respective organizations. C.-M. Feng said that his association supported the affiliation of China with the RSAI/PRSCO network, as there would be global benefits from this. It was agreed that the relationship between the associations of Chinese regional scientists was a matter that required further discussion among these associations. A report would be provided at a future PRSCO Council meeting. This agreement was endorsed by Y. Kumata.

**g. Report on other activities of Pacific Rim regional science communities**

**(1) Columbia**

J. Serrano and Y. Higano attended a workshop of Columbian regional scientists in Cali. A decision was made at this workshop to establish a Columbian Regional Science Association. Once a constitution has been drafted, the Columbian association would seek affiliation with PRSCO and RSAI. Using the model of affiliation of other sections, the hosting of a PRSCO Summer Institute could be a milestone for formal integration of the association into the PRSCO/RSAI network. Y. Higano suggested that the first international event in Columbia could be modeled on the RSAI workshop in India.

**(2) Bangladesh**

Md. Fakrul Islam reported on the inaugural meeting on May 27 of the Bangladesh Regional Science Association (BRSA). A formal announcement about this association and a request for affiliation with PRSCO/RSAI would be made later this year.

**(3) Philippines**

I.C. Hamis said that there was a considerable interest in regional science in the Philippines, but it was difficult for Filipino scholars to attend international conferences due to national science budget cuts. International assistance would be welcome. I.C. Hamis would endeavor to establish a PRSCO-affiliated regional science section in the Philippines.

**(4) Mexico**

Y. Serrano noted that AMECIDER had agreed to the universal membership offered by RSAI. The fee of 10 euro per AMECIDER member would be recovered from the proceeds of the annual conference, to be held 7-9 November 2006.

**h. Nomination of PRSCO delegate for the RSAI Council, 2007-2009**

It was noted that Y. Higano's term expires at the end of 2006. Council agreed unanimously to appoint Y. Higano to this position on RSAI Council for a further three years.

**i) Report of the Pacific Editor, PiRS**

J. Poot reported that both he, as Pacific Editor of *Papers in Regional Science*, and R. Florax, as Editor-in-Chief, would step down from their positions at the end of 2006, after having served as editors for nine years. A recommendation for replacement editors would be made by R. Florax to RSAI Council. R. Stimson noted that this matter was urgent and needed to be discussed at the ERSA meeting in August. Although there had been some delay in the first issue of PiRS in 2006, publication was expected to be on track for the remainder of the year and there had been a steady submission of new manuscripts. The annual report would be presented at the Editorial Board meeting held at the NARSC conference in Toronto in November. One innovation in 2007 will be the introduction of the Electronic Editorial Office (EEO), which is software that tracks the progress of manuscripts from first submission to publication (or rejection).

**j) Suggestions for the venues and host sections/associations of the 2008 PRSCO Summer Institute and the 2009 PRSCO Regular Meeting**

Suggestions for the 2008 PRSCO Summer Institute included a meeting in Columbia or in Bangladesh. For 2009, suggestions for host countries included China, Indonesia or Australia.

**k) Any further business**

The next PRSCO Council meeting would be held in Toronto at the NARSC conference on either the evening of Thursday 16 November or the morning of Friday 17 November. Y. Higano would confirm time and location by email.

President Y. Kumata closed the meeting at 10.30 pm.