



# Southern Regional Science Association

AN INTERDISCIPLINARY ORGANIZATION, LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEASTERN UNITED STATES,  
WITH MEMBERS IN APPROXIMATELY 40 STATES AND 7 COUNTRIES.

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## From the President

Summer 2008

The 47th SRSA Annual Meeting in Arlington, VA, was the largest ever, with some 220 members in attendance. In spite of construction, the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel provided good facilities and nearby Georgetown many opportunities for pleasant distractions in the evening. The cherry blossoms were at their peak, and only the weather was not always perfect.

Our secretary and co-executive director, John Sporing, was responsible for local arrangements. He was worried when, a short time before the start of the meetings, construction at the hotel was still "in full swing," but by the time we arrived, most of the work was completed and the hotel was ready for us. Thanks to his negotiations skills, he was able to obtain more guest rooms, as well as more meeting rooms. Having the additional meeting rooms made the job of organizing sessions easier and resulted in smaller sessions, as well. We had 50 sessions and 158 papers were presented. The large number of doctoral students is part of the success of these meetings. This bodes well for the future of our association. International participants joined us from Africa, Asia, and Europe. With next year's meeting in San Antonio, TX, I hope that we will attract colleagues from Mexico, Central, and South America, as well.



The success of the meetings owes much to the efforts of volunteers. For the first time in our history, John Sporing was able to obtain financial sponsorships, which helped keep our registration reasonable, while providing amenities, such as the reception and refreshments. Our sponsors were the Center for Manufacturing and Technology at the Moor School of Business, University of South Carolina, the Council of Community and Economic Research, the Association for University Business and Economic Research, Routledge of the Taylor and Francis Group, the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development at Pennsylvania State University, the Regional Research Institute at West Virginia University, the Division of Resource Management, also at West Virginia University. We also acknowledge the support of NARSC and Jean-Claude Thill, including access to the on-line registration system.



Our immediate-past president, Nancy White, was generous with advice and notified me of important deadlines. She prevented several mistakes. We

## From the Immediate Past-President

Dear colleagues,

It is with gratitude that I write. I am grateful for the opportunity to have served as president of a highly professional organization that is also collegial and supportive. When I was granted the opportunity to perform the duties of SRSA Program Chair, my overwhelming concern was for the financial well-being of the Association. While that is a very important goal, I quickly realized that behind the financial viability of an organization there must be a deep appreciation of the many people, past and present, who make this high quality organization possible. I wish to thank our nearly indefatigable and indispensable Co-Directors, John Sporing and Santiago Pinto. Thanks to our past Program Chair and current President Peter Schaeffer for a wildly successful conference in Arlington. And, of course, many thanks to all the past presidents and members of the Executive Council who offered their best advice to a rookie and to those of you who have offered steady and graceful comments and suggestions. My regards to all of you as you begin your careers in regional science, may you continue to reap the fruits of the SRSA and support it as well as you are able. My best to John Connaughton, who has taken on the challenge of Program Director on 2009.

I look forward to seeing you in sessions at future meetings.

Best regards,

Nancy White



The REVIEW is published online three times a year (No. 1- No. 3). The new website for the REVIEW is: <http://policy.rutgers.edu/cupr/rrs>. Issue 1 of Volume 37 has been posted online. Subscribers have password access in which their email address serves as their Username and their last name is their Password.

## The Review of Regional Studies

The Editors note that current production of the *Review* is flowing well. The final issue of volume 37 is imminent, and the Spring issue of volume 38 has entered the production phase. Accepted manuscripts for the Summer issue of volume 2008 are accumulating.

Meanwhile, several special issues are in formative stages. All of them are based on papers presented at the 2008 SRSA conference in Arlington, Virginia. Topics for them are:

- rural health,
- cost of living indices,
- economic impacts of educational institutions, and
- China's regional economy.

Turnaround times for constructive manuscript review reports have been averaging about two months. The time from acceptance to publication is somewhat less than a year.

We encourage all authors of well-constructed manuscripts on topics of regional interest to apply.

### 55th Annual North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International, 2008

Mark your calendars, and join us in New York, NY for the 55th North American Regional Science Association International Conference.

The conference will be held at The Brooklyn Marriott.

**Thursday, November 20th  
to  
Saturday, November 22nd, 2008.**

Presentations will be scheduled Thursday morning through Saturday afternoon.

For more information, visit [www.narsc.org](http://www.narsc.org).

## Report from the North American Regional Science Council

Although it is only May, it is time to start thinking about the next North American Regional Science (NARSC) Meetings, in Brooklyn, NY, November 19-22, 2008. The II World Conference of the Spatial Econometrics Association will precede the meetings (November 18-19), and creates a great opportunity to attend two professional conferences on one trip. We will be at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge. The conference hotel rate is \$209/night, plus applicable taxes.

The conference web site is at <http://www.narsc.org/conference.html>. As of May, you should be able submit abstracts. There is no deadline posted, but based on previous years, I assume that August 1 will be the deadline for submissions. Bill Anderson, Boston University, is the program chair. Andrew Haughwout, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and Michael Lahr, Rutgers University, are taking care of local arrangements.

Attendance at recent NARSC Meetings has been excellent. As I wrote in my report in the fall 2007 issue, the Savannah Meetings surpassed our expectations and set a new record. New York should also be an attractive location and might bring an even larger number of international colleagues to join us.

There is no new business to report from the NARSC business meeting. The formation of the Regional Science Association of the Americas (RSAMERICAS) became a reality a short time back, though some of the implications and opportunities are still to be worked out. I am sure there will be more to report on this in the future.

As a reminder, SRSA member Jim LeSage is the current president of NARSC, and SRSA member Brian Cushing serves as councilor-at-large (2007-2009) of NARSC. SRSA member Roger Stough currently serves as president of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI) and represents NARSC to the RSAI (2006-2008). Past-president Mark Partridge also represents NARSC to the RSAI (2007-2008). Thus, if you have questions about the RSAI or NARSC, you may want contact one of these colleagues or you may contact me and I will relate your questions to the appropriate place(s).

Peter Schaeffer, West Virginia University



### 48th Annual Meetings

Make your hotel reservations now for the 47th Annual Meetings in Washington, DC. SRSA is returning to the Key Bridge Marriott March 27-29, 2008.

We have a special rate of \$179/night plus taxes. Be sure and use the link on the SRSA website to get this special rate.

Also on the website, you will find the link to register for the conference. This year, SRSA moves into the 21st Century with online registration.

Using the NARSC database, everyone will register online (if you have registered for a NARSC Conference in the past couple of years, your information is already in the database, if not, you can create an account on the spot). You can now pay immediately with a credit card (Visa/MC) and then print out a receipt for your records— if necessary, you can mail in a check.

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also appreciate the work of those who submitted organized sessions. Our treasurer and co-executive director, Santiago Pinto, and our former president, John Kort, and a number of students, contributed many hours working the registration desk and otherwise making sure that everything ran smoothly. It was fitting that at these meetings, John Kort became the Association's newest Fellow. We also honored Mary Lou Myer for her many years of service with the William Schaffer Award. Ron Moomaw and Dan Rickman, the outgoing editors of the *Review of Regional Studies* received the Miki Award, named after the first editor of our journal, in recognition of their service, which has advanced the quality and stature of our journal.

As mentioned above, next year's meeting will be in San Antonio, Texas, April 2-4, 2009. John Connaughton will be program chair and John Sporing has agreed to be responsible for local arrangements one more time. This will be our 48th annual meeting. In anticipation of the 50th anniversary meeting in 2011, the SRSA Executive Committee formed an ad hoc committee, chaired by John Kort, to prepare for this special event. Other members are Nancy White, Mark Partridge, David McGranahan, and Peter Schaeffer. Possible activities include the scanning of all issues of the *Review* to make them available on a CD, putting together a history of the Association of the conferences, a list of leading SRSA scholars with numbers of articles and citations, a list of all graduate student paper winners, and a list and commendation of all present and past editors of the *Review*. We plan to hold the anniversary meeting in Chapel Hill, NC, site of the first meeting. Please contact any of the committee members if you have an idea or information to share.

Finally, I would like to call to your attention the upcoming North American Meetings in Brooklyn, New York. For more information about those meetings, I am referring you to my report from the North American Regional Science Council (see below).

I wish you all a wonderful summer!

Peter Schaeffer  
West Virginia University

If you have any questions regarding membership or SRSA in general, please contact one of the Co-Executive Directors:

- John Sporing, Secretary  
(john.sporing@bea.gov)
- Santiago Pinto, Treasurer  
(smpinto@mail.wvu.edu)

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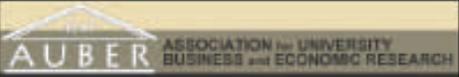
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#### Attention Sponsors!

SRSA is now accepting applications for sponsorship at the 48th Annual Meetings. If you are interested in displaying, please contact John Sporing