



# SRSA

## Newsletter

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Southern Regional Science Association

May 2001

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### **Terrific: SRSA 40th Celebration in Austin**

The Association commemorated four decades of service to regional science in the south last month in Austin, Texas. The Driskill Hotel in downtown Austin site for the 2001 annual meeting proved to be an ideal location for this historic occasion. Thirteen past presidents were in attendance from Bill Schaffer, the second president of the SRSA, to Judy Stallmann, the immediate past president and local arrangements chair for the meeting. Frank Hefner, program chair for 2001, put together a program that was worthy of SRSA's forty years of endeavors in regional science.

Three sessions drew on the expertise ten of the past presidents in attendance. These sessions provoked lively discussion and gave those in attendance much to take home on such topics as "Issues in Regional Science", "Looking for Discipline in Regional Science", and "Taking Theory to Practice."

At the business meeting on Saturday, the following officers were elected: President elect and program chair for 2003, Robert Gibbs, US Department of Agriculture; Councilors for 2001 to 2004, Ed Feser, UNC, Chapel Hill and Scott Loveridge, Michigan State. John Kort, BEA, was reappointed by the Executive Council as SRSA representative to NARSC for a two year term.

**The Graduate Paper Committee** selected as the winner of the 2001 Barry M. Moriarty Award Xie Qingshu, George Mason University. The title of his paper was: "Spatial Income Inequalities and Regional Economic Growth in China: An Empirical Analysis."

**Greetings from the President--**Dear Members: The 2001 Space Odyssey in Austin was truly an adventure in space. The Driskill Hotel, a historic hotel, was the perfect setting for a historic meeting- the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the SRSA. Thanks are due to Judy

Stallman, who served as the local coordinator. Judy, as a past president, also organized a series of past presidents sessions, with nine past presidents presenting!

John Rees gave an inspiring Presidential Address, "Landscapes of Liberty." He included a slide show of people and places, a recitation of poetry, and clear and convincing evidence for why Welch is impossible to comprehend! Look for his talk in an upcoming issue of the *Review of Regional Studies*. I would like to remind all of the presenters to consider submitting their papers for consideration for publication in the *Review*.

As program chair, I would like to thank all of the participants. We had 33 very interesting sessions. One participant, new to the SRSA, commented to me that the sessions were very productive. When scheduled discussants or presenters inadvertently could not make the conference, (as happens occasionally) the audience took up the slack by providing spirited discussion. The sessions became workshops with a free flow of ideas. I think this spirit of inquiry, energy, and intimacy are what make the SRSA meetings special.

The SRSA has been international and continues to be - we had a number of international scholars presenting. Participants from such Southern locales as New York, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Utah, Minnesota, and North Dakota also attended. The SRSA is national and international in scope and Southern in its hospitality.

Speaking of Southern hospitality- The SRSA is hosting the North American Meetings of the Regional Science Association International in Charleston in November. Yours truly is serving as the program chair. Already several people have indicated an interest in organizing sessions. I would like to encourage as many of you as possible to consider organizing a session. Also consider presenting and serving as discussants. Check out the web site [www.narsc.org](http://www.narsc.org) for details.

Ray Rhodes of the S.C. Department of Natural Resources has agreed to organize an oyster roast at the Fort Johnson Marine Center. Fort Johnson is near the entrance to the harbor, a short cannon shot to Fort Sumter. He and I are arranging for transportation from the hotel to Fort Johnson. The conference hotel, the Francis Marion, has undergone a major renovation. The overflow hotel, the Embassy Suites, in the old Citadel building fronting Francis Marion Square, also has undergone a major renovation (both are historical looking with modern conveniences.) In between working on your papers for presentation, you might get a video of the movie, *The Patriot* starring Mel Gibson. It was filmed in Charleston and includes some excellent footage of historic buildings at the College of Charleston and downtown. The swamp, plantation, and island scenes are also local. (Warning - rated violent. It did take place in the first war of succession.)

This should be a productive year for everyone. Besides asking you to present at RSAI, I want to remind you to get ready for the next SRSA meetings in April. Robert Gibbs is the program chair and I am sure he will welcome all the help you can give him by organizing sessions and thinking of interesting papers. And congratulations to him as our next president elect.

In closing, I thank everyone for their participation in the last meeting and look forward to seeing you in Charleston in November. *Frank*

**SRSA Web--**We think the site contains much useful information about the Association. As well as links to several sites of interest to regional scientists, including federal data sources and several universities as well as institutions and other associations--such as RSAI and the other regional science associations.

Again, if you have any comments, suggestions for additional links, or thoughts about the site please send an e-mail to Ted Trott. If you wish to advertise a position on the SRSA jobs page, please send the information to Ted; either in hard copy or e-mail.

The site can be reached through the TIPP home page at George Mason University or directly at the following URL: <[www.srsa.org](http://www.srsa.org)>.

*The Review of Regional Studies* a peer refereed

journal is published three times a year for the Southern Regional Science Association by the College of Business and Economics at the University of Delaware.

Did you present a paper in Austin? Would you like to see it in print? Why not submit it to the editors of *RRS*, see addresses at a glance or the latest issue of *The Review* for particulars.

Papers are currently being accepted for Volume 31, Numbers 3. Number 1 is expected out in shortly.

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THE REVIEW OF REGIONAL STUDIES?**

If you don't know the answer to this question, please check. If your library presently does not subscribe, please request that they do so. The cost of the Review for libraries in the US (\$50) is very low when compared to most journals. Expanding the number of library subscriptions will make the published work of regional scientists more widely available, will enhance the stature of the Review, and will reduce the cost of individual subscriptions.

**The North American Meetings of the  
Regional Science Association International--**

The 2001 North American meetings of the Regional Science Association International are being hosted by the SRSA and will be held in Charleston, SC; for further information check the NARSC web site at <[www.narsc.org](http://www.narsc.org)>. The meetings are November 15-17.

Please remember our Association is the host of this Fall's meetings and Frank Hefner and his colleagues at the College of Charleston are handling both the local arrangements and program and they will be looking for session organizers, paper presenters and discussants, and session chairs. Don't hesitate to give Frank a call (see addresses at a glance.)

If any of you are not familiar with Charleston, plan to come and enjoy some fine southern hospitality in a truly charming city. To accompany the usual excellent program being planned the city offers many attractions

as-well-as excellent restaurants serving the cuisine of the old south.

More information will appear in the RSAI spring newsletter and on the NARSC web site.

**Some moments from Austin in April:**



**Some of the attendees in Austin enjoying the Rees Presidential Address and the food.**



**John Rees delivers his presidential address and wows the audience with pictures from Wales and other European sights from his past.**

**2002 SRSA Meeting** will be held in the DC area at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel, Arlington, Virginia. Mark you calenders for April 11-13, 2002. This hotel is located just a short walk from Georgetown (across the historic Potomac River) and the Orange and Blue subway lines with connection to both National and Dulles airports and to almost any where in the DC area. More on the web site and in the Fall newsletter.



**John Rees with 2001 Graduate Paper winner Xie Qingshu from George Mason University.**

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