



SRSA

Newsletter

Southern Regional Science Association

September 2001

**2002: SRSA
Meets in
DC Area
April 11-13, 2002**

The Association begins its fifth decade of service to regional science in the south next April at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel in Arlington, Virginia. This hotel is located just a short walk from Georgetown (across the historic Potomac River) and the Orange and Blue subway lines with connections to both National and Dulles airports and to almost any where in the DC area.

As usual the program chair, Robert Gibbs of the US Department of Agriculture, promises a varying and interesting program. Robert will be contacting you about organizing or chairing a session or discussing papers. Remember, it's OK to contact him first (see addresses at a glance).

Copies of the conference and hotel registration forms will be available on the Association's web site <www.srsa.org> following the November Executive Council meeting and in the January newsletter.



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>.

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.)

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

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 over flow 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.)

Greetings from the President--Dear Members: Wednesday, September 12 - How do I follow my syllabus and continue lecturing about supply and demand to my introductory econ course? So I answered whatever questions they had. And then I talked about modern history (from 1950 on). Nineteen year old college students do not know much about Vietnam, nothing about the 1973 Oil Embargo, Iranian hostage crisis, recessions, the draft, the Berlin Wall, and so on. I tried to put the events of September 11 into some kind of historical perspective. They had lots of questions. I am not sure I had many answers. But I do have years of experience and observation they don't have yet. I had already canceled Monday's classes - both of my wife's parents were hospitalized that day. So Wednesday, we had to get back on track.

What else could I do? Life moves on. September 11 will remain etched in our memories forever, much like JFK's assassination. Those of us old enough to remember that event can still recall where we were when we heard the news. I was in junior high school living in Frankfurt, Germany, at the time. I barely understood any German then, so I was very confused about what I was hearing on the news. And this was in the days before CNN was broadcasting news world wide in English. I have a 9 year old daughter and a 7 year old son. Trying to explain to them in some kind of understandable manner has been very difficult. Trying not to show them how concerned I am about the future has been very hard. My heart goes out to everyone touched by the events of September 11.

Life does indeed go on. I have been pleasantly overwhelmed by the number of papers and organized sessions for the North American Meetings of RSAI in Charleston, Nov. 15-17. To date, I have entered 26 organized sessions into the schedule. In addition, I have received over 140 papers, which I am at this moment organizing into sessions. The quality of the papers submitted is excellent. Besides the usual wide range of topics, there are several sessions that are very topical at this moment: the economics of unscheduled events. A number of these papers deal with natural hazards, something we are vitally interested in here in Charleston (Hurricane season is over by November!). In addition there is a session dealing with disasters and transportation systems. We have an interesting line up of presenters for the plenary session – a change from the more traditional plenary session with one speaker. All in all, I am very excited about the range of topics, the relevancy of the papers, the diverse regions analyzed, and the range of modeling techniques used. The sessions should prove to be very stimulating. I would like to remind you that Charleston in November is very beautiful. For those of you who jog, bring your running shoes. Running through history is a fun way to see Charleston. Round trip from the Francis Marion hotel to the Battery (the tip of the Peninsular) is about 3 miles. But do be careful when you run, the sidewalks are historical also. Walkers will find strolling from the Francis Marion or the Embassy Suites to the Market a very pleasant and easy stroll.

As you are preparing for your Charleston trip and finalizing your papers for presentation at the RSAI, don't forget to submit your abstracts to Robert Gibbs, program chair for the SRSA meetings in April.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you in Charleston. The SRSA membership has a good number of papers on the program, and I thank you for your participation. I know the events of this week have affected every one in their own special way. Myself, I have been giving my children an extra hug and kiss every night.

The Western Regional Science

Association conference will begin on Sunday afternoon February 17 with registration and a special Opening Session and Reception. Paper sessions will be held all-day Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, February 18—20. The site the HYATT REGENCY MONTEREY HOTEL.



Papers on any topic of broad interest to regional science are welcomed; the program committee screens papers for suitability before sending invitations; persons interested in organizing special sessions should get in touch with the 2002 program chair, Lay Gibson. (For more information send e-mail to: ljgibson@ag.arizona.edu.)

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 advertize a position on the SRSA jobs page, please send the information to Ted; either in hard copy or e-mail.

Remember, the site can be reached through the TIPP home page at George Mason University or **directly at the following new URL: 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? It's not too late to submit the original or revised version (after your colleagues in Austin made their suggestions.) 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 32.

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Randall Jackson named Regional Research Institute Director--Following a national search, Dr. Randall W. Jackson, a geography professor at Ohio University, has been appointed the new director of WVU's Regional Research Institute (RRI).

Dr. Jackson replaces Scott Loveridge, Associate Provost for Research John Weete announced Monday (Sept. 10). Loveridge resigned last year to accept a post at Michigan State University. Ronald Lewis, professor of history and faculty research associate with the Regional Research Institute has served as interim director. Jackson begins his new duties in January.

Jackson received a bachelor's degree in geography from the University of Utah in 1976, a master's in geography from the University of Illinois-Urbana in 1980, and a doctorate from the University of Illinois-Urbana in 1983. With a geography and regional science background, Dr. Jackson's research focuses on regional economic health and performance. His publications and presentations range from the refinement and reformulation of regional economic accounting frameworks through the formulation and implementation of input-output and econometric modeling frameworks to object-orientation, micro simulation, and nonlinear relative dynamics. He has managed over a half million dollars in research funds from a number of agencies, both public and private, and including the National Science Foundation. He has established an international reputation for expertise in input-output modeling.

He has served on the NSF Spatial Database Initiative and Dissertation Development Initiative Panels, and participated in the Urban Research Forum sponsored by NSF and the American University that led to NSF's ongoing cross-disciplinary Urban Research Initiative. He has also served on editorial boards of several academic journals. Dr. Jackson is active in the Regional Science Association International, having served as the editor of the Newsletter of the Regional Science Association International, and is now maintaining the RSAI's primary Internet web site, which will soon be hosted by the RRI.