

Meeting of the European Organising Committee

Bratislava, August 21st, 2012

STATEMENT OF MINUTES APPROVAL

I, _____, hereby confirm that the minutes of the ERSA European Organising Committee meeting, circulated on September 28th, 2012 by Maciej Turala (ERSA Secretary) are an accurate reflection of the meeting.

I give my consent for the ERSA President to approve the minutes as official.

(place and date)

(signature)

Meeting of the European Organizing Committee

Bratislava, August 21st, 2012

MINUTES

Charlie Karlsson opens the meeting and welcomes all the participants to the meeting.

Item 1.

Approval of the meeting agenda and appointment of an EOC member responsible for verification of meeting minutes

The agenda (attached in appendix 1) is approved without change. Andre Torre volunteers to verify the minutes of the meeting.

Item 2.1.

Long range discussions. Report from the Executive Director (sponsorship and networking; database of members; workshops; corporate brochure)

Richard Kelly begins his report by thanking the Bratislava LOC for their work on the Congress and their cooperation with the ERSA office.

He goes on to report that 675 delegates and 20 accompanying persons have registered for the congress. He emphasises that increased participation of both women and young scientists is notable.

He further reports that the Summer School in Umea was a success, in terms of both students who participated in it as well as the programme.

As far as the prizes are concerned he reports that the EPAINOS Prize committee is working on selecting the competition winner and that the 2012 ERSA EIB Prize was awarded to Manfred Fisher. There is also a proposal to introduce an ERSA Section Fellow Prize which is to be aimed at recognising members of the section which organizes the congress.

ERSA is also active in organizing workshops. The first one will be organized in November 2012 in Paris together with Andre Torre.

Andre Torre adds that the idea behind the workshops is to mix the academic presentations with practical aspects and policy makers' and stakeholders' views. The topic of the Paris workshop concentrates on smart specialisation related to rural areas.

Richard Kelly further reports on promotion of regional science. In this field over 300 associations were contacted, including think tanks, companies, European Commission etc. In order to proceed in these talks a more in-depth knowledge of activities which the sections and members are undertaking is necessary and so the ERSA office plans to request such information from the sections.

He thanks Maristella Angotzi for her work on the corporate brochure of ERSA which he perceives as a good starting point for promotion of ERSA. He circulates a first version of the brochure.

Some other associations were also approached with the intention of cooperation. These include: Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP), International Federation of Housing and Planning (IFHP) and European Real Estate Association (ERES). Memoranda of understanding will be drafted in order to work together on preparing joint activities and applying for funding.

He further requests that sections and individuals provide more information on their activities, especially by putting information on ERSA Facebook or Twitter accounts.

He closes the report by thanking the Bratislava LOC and Maristella Angotzi for their work on preparing the 2012 Congress in Bratislava.

Charlie Karlsson opens the floor for discussion.

Vicente Royuela congratulates Richard Kelly and Maristella Angotzi for their impressive work.

Hans Westlund agrees and also thanks the ERSA office for their efforts..

Item 2.2.

Long range discussions. Update of the by-laws

Maciej Turala reports that the proposed new version of ERSA by-laws (attached as appendix 2) reflects all the changes which were discussed and agreed upon during the EOC meeting in Bratislava in February 2012.

The EOC members unanimously agree to recommend the ERSAC to approve the proposed change.

Item 2.3.

Long range discussions. Development and creation of new sections

Maciej Turala reports on the developments in the Polish Section and in Lithuania, regarding the set-up of a new section there.

The Polish section has entered the final phase of its redevelopment process. The new association has been created and now awaits registration by the court. Once this occurs it will take over its duties from the current section which is set up within the Polish Academy of Sciences.

The group of regional scientists in Lithuania is also pursuing the agenda of setting up a new association. It is expected that it will be established in the beginning of 2013, enabling the section to ask for formal recognition during the ERSA Council meeting in Palermo in 2013. It is expected that the new section will be a Lithuanian Section, although it is also considered to create a broader Baltic Section.

Richard Kelly reports that there are significant discrepancies in membership lists which the sections provided the RSAI with. Analysis of registered participants shows that there were about 200 delegates who were not reported as section members by their respective sections.

Jouke van Dijk reports that Tomas Dentinho is working hard on getting the lists updated.

Maciej Turala adds that ERSA is aware of Tomas' efforts and plans to support the RSAI office by formalising the relationship between ERSA and its sections by means of an agreement which will serve the purpose of clarifying mutual rights and obligations. The sections will be requested (amongst other issues) to provide ERSA and RSAI with up-to-date lists of members regularly.

Gunther Maier agrees that the problem is caused by faulty information flow. The most accurate information concerning the members is at the section level as the sections provide services and collect fees from members. He suggests that it may be worthwhile to create a system which would enable an online verification of membership status.

Richard Kelly emphasises that this is necessary in order to develop the association further.

Charlie Karlsson summarises the discussion by saying that Maciej Turala shall draft a template of an agreement between ERSA and its sections and that Richard Kelly explores technical opportunities of implementation of a central database of members for the EOC meeting in February 2013.

Item 2.4.

Long range discussions. Scientific Committee: revision guidelines

Andres Rodriguez-Pose gives account of the proposal (attached in appendix 3). He informs the EOC that the original ideas presented and discussed in Barcelona in August 2011 and ensuing comments were taken into view in order to create a feasible solution for Scientific Committee's functioning.

Charlie Karlsson opens the floor for discussion.

Vicente Royuela adds that the Scientific Committee also needs guidelines for approval and revision of papers, in particular with regards to R-sessions.

Miroslav Sipikal adds that individual Scientific Committee members often adopt different approaches to revision of papers. There are also some other problems with the way that the Scientific Committee functions. The proposal attempts to alleviate these problems.

Andres Rodriguez-Pose agrees that a set of guidelines for revision should be added, and that the LOC's discretion with regards to replacing Scientific Committee members in case of need should be extended.

Vicente Royuela emphasises that the standard of revision should be identical everywhere.

Gunther Maier says that adopting such solution will make ERSA too bureaucratic. The Scientific Committee needs to help the LOC to set up a good conference. As far as the programme is concerned there are scientific issues and logistic issues (such as session composition etc.). In terms of quality – there should be common standards, but this requires preparing instructions for the Scientific Committee, rather than instructions on how to set it up. He suggests that the LOC should be free to propose the Scientific Committee members, subject to approval by the EOC.

Tomaso Pompili agrees that too great formalisation may be unwanted. He suggests two amendments: the appointment of Scientific Committee members should be approved a year before the congress (point 6); the LOC should have the prerogative to replace members in case of need (point 8).

Miroslav Sipikal suggests that a traditional Scientific Committee might be cancelled – the special sessions are what really works in terms of consistency, homogeneity and quality.

Charlie Karlsson explains that special session organisers have better incentives and that special sessions indeed work well. However, other types of sessions are still needed, as is the scientific committee – as a source of experienced people who could check the quality of papers and advise the LOC on other matters such as themes, topics and keynote speakers. He suggests that the proposal is approved and that Andres Rodriguez-Pose is asked to draft a memorandum on the quality issues for paper inclusion in the R-session for February 2013. The list of people involved in the Palermo scientific committee will be discussed by email next October through the members of the EOC.

Item 3.1.

Congresses. 2012 Congress in Bratislava, Slovakia – summary report

Miroslav Sipikal reports that the Congress attracted 675 officially registered participants. The keynote speakers have arrived and logistics have been worked out. There are 49 countries represented and 40 student volunteers helping with the organisation.

Richard Kelly reports that the LOC's observations with regards to problems and issues with regards to the software have been noted and that there are plans to go to London to sort them out. It is possible that the software will be changed if no feasible solutions are presented by the software provider.

Fabio Mazzola asks if the Central European conference was organised alongside the Congress.

Miroslav Sipikal reports that it was reduced to special sessions which were included in the programme.

Item 3.2.

Congresses. 2013 Congress in Palermo, Italy – progress report

Fabio Mazzola reports on the progress of preparations:

- the LOC is now ready;
- professor Fujita was invited as a keynote speaker, representatives of institutions such as the World Bank, EIB and European Commission were contacted;
- the Italian section contacted regional science networks to boost participation;
- it was decided not to include the national conference in the congress;
- a list of Scientific Committee members has been drafted and soon it will be ready to be presented for approval;
- obtaining financing was somewhat obstructed because elections were and are happening on all levels in Italy; however, there is now a new mayor who is interested in supporting the congress; soon – in October 2012 – the regional elections are taking place; UniCredit

is likely to provide about half of private sponsorship required; some local banks were also contacted.

- some logistical issues, including hotels and transportation issues, were also approached by the LOC.

The progress report is approved unanimously.

Item 3.3.

Congresses. 2014 Congress in St. Petersburg – progress report

Richard Kelly and **Charlie Karlsson** report that they worked a lot with Aleksandr Pelyasov and that a visit in St. Petersburg is organised for the 21st of September 2012. What is more, a detailed progress report from the LOC is expected during the ERSA Council meeting.

Item 3.4.

Future Congresses. 2015 Congress in Lisbon, Portugal – proposal

Francisco Carballo Cruz reports that the proposal for organisation of the 2015 Congress in Lisbon, Portugal, has already been presented in February 2012. He assures the EOC that the Portuguese Section has a strong desire to organise this event. He adds that the venue is in the city centre, allowing for easy and smooth organisation.

The EOC agrees unanimously to recommend the ERSAC to accept the proposal.

Item 4.1.

Summer schools. 2012 Summer School in Umea, Sweden – summary report

Charlie Karlsson reports that he participated in the last two days of this event and that the impression was very positive. He extends thanks on behalf of ERSA to Johan Lundberg and the University of Umea for their efforts.

Item 4.2.

Future Summer Schools. Proposal of a Summer School in 2013 in Lund, Sweden

Martin Andersson presents the proposal of Lund University to host the 2013 Summer School in Karlskrona, Sweden. The presentation of the proposal (attached as appendix 4) gives an overlook of the theme, rationale for the summer school, partners (CIRCLE, CEnSE, BTH), LOC composition, location, programme structure – which aims at ensuring a balance between theoretical sessions and practical/research sessions, participants' profile and financing.

Andre Torre suggests establishing relations between the Summer School and the workshop organised in Paris in November 2012, with regard to the question of entrepreneurship in regions of varying densities.

Jouke van Dijk supports the proposal and encourages the organisers to ensure that there is a follow-up to the summer school at the next year's congress (i.e. a special session).

Gunther Maier encourages the follow-up event to be linked to previous years' networks as well.

Yannis Psycharis puts forward an idea of applying for EU funding for a series of summer schools or even individual events.

Laura Resmini suggests that ERSA could organise an extra special event for the students / alumni of summer schools – in a workshop / session format, for example.

The EOC agrees unanimously to recommend the ERSAC to accept the proposal.

Item 4.3.

Future Summer Schools. 2014 Summer School in Poznan, Poland – progress report

Tomasz Kossowski reports on the progress in preparations including the provisional dates, LOC composition, invited speakers, venue, accommodation and financial support for the event (the presentation is attached as **appendix 5**).

Vicente Royuela asks about the budget of the Summer School.

Tomasz Kossowski replies that the budget will amount to 50,000 EUR at most.

The progress report is approved unanimously.

Item 5.1.

Finances (2011 budget closing; 2012 budget update; provisional budget for 2013)

Laura Resmini reports that 2011 ended with a surplus of around 50,000 EUR. This was due to the large number of participants at the Barcelona Congress. At the same time some items were reduced, relating in particular the day-to day office expenditures, on the expenditure side. A part of the surplus (20,000 EUR) has been transferred to the Italian (reserve) bank account. The 2011 report has been approved by EOC, internal and external auditor.

The financial situation in 2012 also looks positive. It is expected that there will be a surplus also this year. Part of the surplus shall be transferred to the Italian bank account as well.

The minimum amount of the reserve is that which is necessary for financing all activities for a year (this amounts to about 100,000 EUR). In order to further reduce risk of insolvency surpluses need to be continuously generated. ERSA revenues strongly depend on the annual conference fees which are uncertain due to varying numbers of participants. On the other hand, the fixed costs are well-known and ERSA should be able to cover these costs in case of lesser revenues. It is suggested that a conservative spending strategy should be used for the time being.

Gunther Maier asks about the minimum period for which the conservative strategy is envisaged.

Vicente Royuela asks whether ERSA does not have sufficient reserves already. He believes that ERSA is already in a position to think of potential investments. He emphasises that with regards to congresses the financial risk is entirely on the LOCs, and not on ERSA.

Laura Resmini resumes her report saying that it is expected to have a surplus also in 2013. The expectation is based on an assumption that 700 participants will come to the 2013 congress in Palermo and that the same financial arrangements will be made as those for Bratislava.

The progress report is approved unanimously.

Item 5.2.

Finances. Strategy for financing ERSA

Charlie Karlsson reports that other organisations have been approached. Cooperation will allow including their events in the congress under the umbrella of ERSA, thus boosting participation to the congress.

Item 6.1.

Other ordinary business. Prizes

Richard Kelly reports that the EIB-ERSA Prize will be presented to Manfred Fischer by a representative of the EIB during the closing ceremony. As far as the EPAINOS Prize is concerned, there is a committee chaired by Hans Westlund which is in the process of reviewing papers and choosing the winners.

Maciej Turala reports that the Bratislava LOC put forward a proposal to create a new prize (ERSA Section Fellow Prize). The candidates for this prize may be nominated each year by the congress LOC. The decision on awarding the prize is to be made by the EOC.

The EOC approves the establishment of an ERSA Section Fellow Prize.

Maciej Turala informs the EOC that the Bratislava LOC has put forward the candidature of prof. Milan Bucek for the ERSA Section Fellow Prize (a short resume is attached in appendix 6).

Gunther Maier supports the candidature of Milan Bucek.

The EOC unanimously approves the award of the ERSA Section Fellow Prize to Milan Bucek.

Item 6.2.

Other ordinary business. European Editor for Papers in Regional Science

Jouke van Dijk reports that the journal is developing well – the impact factor increased – but there are some transition problems looming ahead. Jouke van Dijk is stepping down as Editor in Chief of PiRS at the end of 2012. Phil McCann is ready to stay on for another year. The RSAI set up a search committee to find a new editor-in-chief. Final decisions will be made during the congress in Bratislava.

The general guideline for the editorial team is that there should be at least one editor from each supra-regional organisations. The new Editor-in-Chief will have a major say in putting together a

new team. The final decision in this matter is made by the RSAI Council. ERSA has no formal say in the matter.

Item 7.1.

Any Other Business. Journal archive

Gunther Maier reports that the ERSA Journal archive is intended to make various national journals visible internationally. The efforts to convince sections to cooperate were not fully successful, so a front-end was created to make visible what the effect would be. This could become a useful tool for searching papers published in local journals.

Andres Rodriguez-Pose agrees that this tool should be made available for free at the moment. However, at a later stage access could be restricted to members and those paying for access.

Andre Torre supports this view.

Charlie Karlsson thanks Gunther Maier for his contribution to the issue and asks if the EOC agrees that the database should be made public.

The EOC unanimously agrees to go public with the database.

Item 7.2.

Any Other Business. Venue and provisional date for EOC meeting in February 2013

It is agreed that the next EOC meeting shall be held on Friday, February 15th, 2013 in Palermo, Italy.

Charlie Karlsson thanks the EOC members for their contributions.

The meeting is closed.

Meeting of the European Organizing Committee

Bratislava, August 21st, 2012

APPENDIX 1 (AGENDA)

Words of Welcome by the President

1. **Approval of the meeting agenda and appointment of an EOC member responsible for verification of meeting minutes**
2. **Long range discussions**
 - **Report from the Executive Director** (Richard Kelly):
 - i. **sponsorship and networking;**
 - ii. **database of members;**
 - iii. **workshops;**
 - iv. **corporate brochure;**
 - **Update of the by-laws** (Maciej Turala)
 - **Development and creation of new sections** (Richard Kelly, Maciej Turala)
 - **Scientific Committee: revision guidelines** (Andres Rodriguez-Pose)
3. **Congresses**
 - **2012 Congress in Bratislava, Slovakia – summary report** (Miroslav Sipikal, Stefan Rehak)
 - **2013 Congress in Palermo, Italy – progress report** (Fabio Mazzola)
 - **2014 Congress in St. Petersburg – progress report** (Aleksandr Pelyasov)
 - **Future Congresses:**
 - **2015 Congress in Lisbon, Portugal – proposal** (Francisco Carballo Cruz)
4. **Summer schools**
 - **2012 Summer School in Umea, Sweden – summary report** (Johan Lundberg)
 - **Future Summer Schools**
 - **proposal of a Summer School in 2013 in Lund, Sweden** (Martin Andersson)
 - **2014 Summer School in Poznan, Poland – progress report** (Tomasz Kossowski)
5. **Finances**
 - **2012 budget update** (Laura Resmini)
 - **Provisional budget for 2013** (Laura Resmini)
 - **Strategy for financing ERSA** (Charlie Karlsson, Richard Kelly)
6. **Other ordinary business**
 - **EIB-ERSA Prize and Epainos Prize**
 - **Elections of EOC members:**
 - **Phil McCann** – European Editor, PiRS, term ends in December 2012
 - **Central database of ERSA members** (Richard Kelly)
7. **Any Other Business**
8. **Venue and provisional date for EOC-meeting in Palermo in February 2013**

Meeting of the European Organizing Committee

Bratislava, August 21st, 2012

APPENDIX 2 (BY-LAWS UPDATE PROPOSAL)

“European Regional Science Association”, in French “Association européenne de science régionale”, abbreviated to: “ERSA”, international association
1348 Louvain-la-Neuve

BY-LAWS ***

Published: 2003-01-24 N. 002118

Association number: 21182003

VAT no. or company no.: 479442591

I. Name, registered office, purpose

Article 1. The undersigned hereby constitute an international science and education association called the "European Regional Science Association", in French the "Association européenne de science régionale", abbreviated to "ERSA", hereafter referred to as "the association".

This association is governed by the Belgian law of 25 October 1919, subsequently amended by the laws of 6 December 1954 and 30 June 2000.

Article 2. The registered office of the association is in Belgium. It is currently located at the Center for Operations Research and Econometrics, Université Catholique de Louvain, voie du Roman Pays 34, B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve. It may be relocated to any other place in Belgium by simple decision of the board published in the annexes of the *Moniteur belge* (Belgian Official Gazette).

Article 3. The association is a non-profit body.

The association is one of the supranational organisations that make up the Regional Science Association International, abbreviated RSAI.

The objective of the RSAI is to promote, on a worldwide basis, the advancement of regional science as well as scientific studies relevant to its field.

Within the RSAI, the association operates as a strictly scientific organisation, with no political, religious, social, financial or national bias.

The main objectives of the association are to encourage the sharing of ideas within Europe and to promote studies there focused on regional space, by means of new tools, methods and theoretical frameworks specially designed for regional analysis, and also by using concepts, procedures and analytical techniques drawn from different scientific disciplines, whether social or otherwise.

The association pursues these objectives by encouraging gatherings and discussions both between RSAI members and with experts in the fields covered, stimulating research, encouraging the publication of specialist studies, holding an annual congress and undertaking other activities, all with a view to contributing to the advancement of the RSAI and regional science.

II. Members

Article 4. The association is made up of full members and associate members.

Last updated on August 26th, 2012

Only full members are assigned the rights and duties resulting from these by-laws. Full members form the ERSA Council.

Associate members, apart from the benefits they may be granted by a decision of the council or the board (such as access to different information or other features), are limited to a consultative role in the council.

The association is made up of, as full members, national or linguistic associations, officially constituted as legal entities according to the laws and customs of their country, which pursue at their own level the same purpose as the association and which are accepted as members. These associations can be referred to using the term “sections”.

Furthermore, the association may accept, as its associate members with a non-voting representative in the board (European Organising Committee), other natural or legal persons. Such decisions need to be approved by the council.

All members of the associations themselves having the status of full members of the association are, by right, associated members.

Applications for full membership shall be sent to the association, using the forms stipulated by the council. The council shall vote on the applications and shall remain free in its decision with no need to provide justification.

Article 5. Full members can resign by sending a registered letter to the registered office of the association for the attention of the board. The copy of the deliberation of the council of the section concerned must be attached to said registered letter. The resignation takes effect at the following council meeting of the association.

In the event of a breach of the main objectives of the association, the board can decide by a 2/3 majority vote of its members to suspend or exclude a full member from the association. The member concerned must have had the opportunity to put forward its arguments beforehand. The member also has the opportunity to appeal the decision before the council.

Any member who ceases, through dissolution or otherwise, to be a part of the association shall forfeit any rights to the assets of the association.

Article 6. Full members shall pay a membership fee fixed annually by the council following a proposal from the board.

III. General management body: council

Article 7. The council, which can be referred to as the European Regional Science Association Council, is made up of full members of the association.

The council has all powers necessary for achieving the purpose of the association.

The following are among its tasks:

- a) approving budgets and accounts;
- b) electing and revoking board members;
- c) amending the by-laws;
- d) dissolving the association.

Article 8. The council meets at least once per year.

Following agreement with the president, the secretary must advise the full members of the date and place of the meeting, as well as the meeting agenda. The invitations to the meeting

are to be sent by letter, fax, by means of electronic mail or any other available mean of communication. Associate members are advised of these by the section they belong to.

The council meetings are chaired by the president of the association.

Article 9. All full members are expected to attend all the council meetings.

However, any full member of the association unable to attend a meeting can give a written proxy to another member of the council. The secretary and president must receive prior written notification of this.

No attendee at the council meeting can hold more than 2 proxies.

The council can deliberate legitimately only if 1/3 of the full members are present or represented. The president must verify the quorum present at the start of the meeting.

Article 10. Except in exceptional circumstances as set out in these by-laws, the decisions of the council are made by a simple majority vote of the full members present or represented. All members are informed of these decisions.

The resolutions of the council are recorded in a register signed by the president and held by the secretary who shall make it available to members. The secretary may be assisted by the executive director in the office in performing this task.

Article 11. Any proposal to amend the by-laws, dissolve or liquidate the association and use its assets in the event of dissolution must come from the board or from at least two-thirds of the full members of the association.

The board must inform the full members, at least three months beforehand, of the date of the council meeting that will vote on said proposal.

The council can legitimately deliberate over these questions only if two-thirds of the full members of the association are present (or represented).

A decision can be accepted only if it receives a two-thirds majority vote.

However, if two-thirds of the full members of the association are not in attendance at this council meeting, a new council meeting will be called under the same conditions as the one above, and will vote definitively and legitimately on the proposal tabled, with the same two-thirds majority, irrespective of the number of members present or represented.

Amendments to the by-laws are to be carried out in accordance with the current.

The council shall establish the method for dissolving and liquidating the association.

In case of dissolution the assets of the association shall be forwarded to goals that are similar to those of the association.

IV. Administration

Article 12. The association is managed by a board otherwise referred to as the European Organizing Committee, which assists the president and the council in managing the association's affairs.

The number of board members is established by the council. There is a minimum of four members.

The board members, including the president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer, can be proposed by the board or any full member of the association (section) from amongst the association's associate members and are elected by the council.

They are elected for a period of 5 years, with re-election possible only once.

The president of the board is the president of the association.

In the event of a vacancy during the term of office, a provisional board member can be appointed by the council. In this case, the provisional board member takes over the remaining mandate of the board member replaced.

In the event of serious breaches of the main objectives of the association, board members can be excluded by the council after first having been given a hearing.

Article 13. The president represents the association and is responsible for its work. He or she is elected by the council.

The vice-president replaces the president if circumstances so require.

The secretary assists the president with the aim of maintaining contact between the sections, the council and the board, as well as between the association and the other international regional science associations.

The treasurer is responsible for the association's finances.

Article 14. The board meets at least once per year.

Following agreement with the president, the secretary must inform the members of the board of the date and place of the meeting, as well as the agenda of the meeting. The invitations to the meeting are to be sent by letter, fax, by means of electronic mail or any other available mean of communication.

A board member can be represented by another board member who must, however, not hold more than one proxy.

The board can legitimately deliberate only if at least 50% of its members are present or represented.

Article 15. The board holds all management and administration powers subject to those granted to the council. It can delegate the daily management to its president or to a board member or to an officer. It can also grant special, pre-determined powers to one or more people.

The board assists the president and the council in managing the association's affairs.

The board is free to assign other specific tasks to its members.

Article 16. The resolutions of the board are made with a majority vote of the board members present or represented. In the event of a tie in the voting, the president's vote shall decide.

The resolutions are recorded in a register signed by the president and held by the secretary who shall make it available to members of the association. The secretary may be assisted by the executive director in the office in performing this task.

Article 16a. The executive director employed by the association is responsible for the daily operations of the ERSA office, in particular for: (1) maintaining registries, (2) maintaining accounting documentation, (3) maintaining other legal documentation of the association. The secretary or another elected board member specified by the president is to ensure that the executive director's tasks are diligently realised in due time.

Article 17. Any deed that binds the association is, subject to special mandates, signed by the president and the secretary who are not required to justify to third parties any powers granted for this purpose.

Article 18. Legal proceedings, whether as plaintiff or defendant, are followed by the board represented by its president or a board member appointed by the president for this purpose.

V. Budgets and accounts

Article 19. The financial year ends 31 December. The board is required to present for the council's approval the financial accounts for the year completed and the budget for the following year.

VI. General provisions

Article 20. Anything not provided for in these by-laws and notably the publications to be added to the annexes of the *Moniteur belge* (Belgian Official Gazette), shall be governed in accordance with the provisions in the law of 25 October 1919, subsequently amended by the laws of 6 December 1954 and 30 June 2000.

Meeting of the European Organizing Committee

Bratislava, August 21st, 2012

APPENDIX 3 (SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE REFORM PROPOSAL)

1. Background for the proposal

This proposal follows the discussion on the reform of the ERSA Congress Scientific Committee which was held at the EOC meeting in Barcelona in 2011. In that respect it is strongly inspired by the proposal put forward then by Maciej Turala, including the suggestions made by Vicente Royuela. It also tries to reflect on the wealth and diversity of opinions expressed at the meeting and, consequently, the recommendations are kept to the bare minimum.

2. Motivation for the reform

The key motivation behind the reform is to guarantee the scientific quality of ERSA Congresses from one year to another and to provide, whenever needed, additional support to the local organisers in all scientific matters. It also aims to prevent steep learning curves linked to a potential complete renewal of the Scientific Committee.

As stated in last year's document, at the moment there are no formal rules regarding the formation and functions of the Scientific Committee. It is left at the entire discretion of the local organisers who becomes a member of the Scientific Committee and what the Scientific Committee is used for. In reality, local organisers have traditionally relied heavily on previous Scientific Committees for advice on the scientific programme and for the revision of abstracts and papers. However, given the rise in the size of ERSA congresses, it has become clear that a formalisation of the rules guiding the formation and functioning of the Scientific Committee is increasingly needed.

3. Reform proposal

Functions of the Scientific Committee

The functions of the Congress Scientific Committee would be as follows:

1. To review and give a verdict on all submitted abstracts and papers for their allocation to R-Sessions, O-Sessions and Special Sessions during the Congress.
2. To provide advice and support to the local organising committee (LOC) on all matters scientific, including, in particular, on Congress themes and topics and keynote speakers.

Structure and membership of the Scientific Committee

1. The Scientific Committee will be made of members of recognised standing within the regional science community.
2. It will include members – normally between 20 and 30 – appointed for a period of three years.
3. In order to ensure full coordination with the LOC, the Scientific Committee will be chaired by the chairman of the LOC.
4. The first Scientific Committee appointed according to these rules will be nominated by the EOC in coordination with the Palermo LOC.

5. One third of the Scientific Committee will be renewed every year.
6. Proposals for renewals of one third of the Committee will come from the LOC and be approved by the EOC at its February meeting.
7. Members of the Scientific Committee will receive due recognition, including specific mention in the Congress website and programme.
8. The LOC will keep the prerogative to appoint ad hoc scientific support for Congress themes that are highly content specific and dependent on the local organisers' expertise.

Drafted by Andrés Rodríguez-Pose
August 19th 2012.

Meeting of the European Organizing Committee

Bratislava, August 21st, 2012

APPENDIX 4 (2013 SUMMER SCHOOL PROPOSAL – LUND UNIVERSITY)

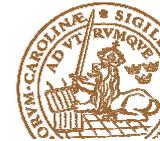


Proposal of ERSA Summer School 2013

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INNOVATION IN REGIONS OF VARYING DENSITY

– determinants and impact on development

CIRCLE, Lund University, Sweden



Theme

- Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Regions of Varying Density – determinants and impact on development
- Focus of the summer school:
 - How does local economic structure, in particular density and spatial remoteness, condition not only the frequency, but also the nature of local entrepreneurship and innovation activity?
 - How can we understand spatial heterogeneity in the impacts of entrepreneurship and innovation on local development?
 - How does entrepreneurship and innovation in urban and rural regions co-evolve and interact in shaping the geography of development?

CIRCLE, Lund University, Sweden



Organization

Three partners:

•Centre for Innovation, Research and Competence in the Learning Economy (CIRCLE), Lund University

– www.circle.lu.se

•Centre for Spatial Economics and Entrepreneurship (CEnSE), Jönköping University

– <http://hj.se/jibs/en/research/centers-and-institutes/cense.html>

•School of Management, Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH)

– www.bth.se/mam

CIRCLE, Lund University, Sweden



Local Organizing Committee

- Professor Martin Andersson, Lund University and BTH
- Associate Professor Johan Klaesson, Jönköping International Business School
- Ek. Dr. Lars Pettersson, Jönköping International Business School
- Associate professor Thomas Nedomysl, Lund University
- Associate professor Jerker Moodyson, Lund University
- Msc. Lina Ahlin, Lund University
- Msc. Eleonore Huang Vogel, Blekinge Institute of Technology
- Msc. Katarina Blåman, Jönköping International Business School

CIRCLE, Lund University, Sweden



LOCATION

- **Blekinge Institute of Technology, Karlskrona, Sweden**
 - Direct train from Kastrup (approx. 2,5 hours)
 - Beautiful location in the Blekinge archipelago on the south-east coast in Sweden



CIRCLE, Lund University, Sweden



Key elements and structure

- Focus will be on theory and empirical research methodology, and how these can be matched to progress our understanding of entrepreneurship and innovation in regions of varying density.
- opportunity for the students to present their own work and interact with senior professors.
- stimulate young researcher to continue doing research in the field.

CIRCLE, Lund University, Sweden



Key elements and structure

- Keynote lectures on the spatial heterogeneity with of the frequency and nature of entrepreneurship and innovation as well as their impact on local development
 - Recent analyses of “Geography of Innovation and Entrepreneurship” multilevel modeling (eg. Srholec 2011) and variance decomposition analyses (Srholec and Verspagen 2012)
 - Research literature on spatial heterogeneity in the impact of new firm formation on regional development (eg. Fritsch and Schroeter 2010)
 - Evolutionary Economic Geography (eg. Boschma, Frenken)
- Keynote lecture on local entrepreneurship and innovation policy for development in regions of varying density
 - innovation systems policy and its linkages to local knowledge bases (eg. Asheim and Moodyson)

CIRCLE, Lund University, Sweden



Key elements and structure

- Lectures on advanced theory and empirical techniques within spatial economic analysis of entrepreneurship and innovation, including lab sessions
 - Multilevel modeling, spatial econometrics, spatial micro-data analysis, empirical innovation systems analysis
- PhD presentations of their own work and feedback from senior professors.
- Special session for participants at the Summer School at the ERSA congress in 2014. Additional opportunity to get feedback on their work by other researchers within the field and also an opportunity to get in contact with researcher within a wider range of regional science.
- + *excursions and social events*

CIRCLE, Lund University, Sweden



Target group

- PhD students in the later stages of their studies or Post Docs within the field.
- Should have the basic knowledge in econometrics and economic modeling.
- Max number of participants will be around 30.
- In case of a great amount of applicants, selection will be based on the applicants' CV.

Suggested time period

- July 1-July 10

CIRCLE, Lund University, Sweden



Financing

- Estimated total costs in the range of 90'-100' EUR
- We will seek financial support from:
 - European Investment Bank, Lund University, the Swedish Agricultural Board, Formas, Jönköping International Business School, Bleking Institute of Technology, Region Blekinge, VINNOVA, Tillväxtverket, Tillväxtanalys
 - The organization of the summer school backed-up by a large FORMAS project on regional development.

CIRCLE, Lund University, Sweden



Meeting of the European Organizing Committee

Bratislava, August 21st, 2012

APPENDIX 5 (2014 SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRESS REPORT)

TO BE COMPLETED

Meeting of the European Organizing Committee

Bratislava, August 21st, 2012

APPENDIX 6 (CANDIDATE FOR THE ERSAC SECTION FELLOW PRIZE)

Dear member of EOC,

Slovak Section of ERSAC would like to acknowledge professor Milan Buček for his lifelong engagement in European Regional Science Association and for his contribution to the development of the regional science in Slovakia.

Milan Buček

Department of Public Administration and Regional Development

University of Economics in Bratislava

Dolnozemska cesta 1, Bratislava

Slovak Republic

Phone: +421 2 672 91 318

E-mail: milan.bucek@euba.sk

Milan Buček is founding member and chair of the Department of Public Administration and Regional Development at the Faculty of National Economy, University of Economics in Bratislava, Slovakia. He has rich experiences in regional development, regional policy, environmental economics and public administration. He led two nation-wide postgraduate courses on regional development issues and training program for the European Union Structural Funds under the Special Preparatory Program. Within the FP6 PREPARE project he organized ERSAC Summer School in Bratislava in 2007. He has rich publications in national and international scientific journals and has been principal investigator of several international projects including two EU FP6 projects.

In 1998 he established Slovak Section of ERSAC and since then he has been chair of the section, currently with more than 80 members from Slovakia and Czech Republic. For more than 10 years he has been a member of ERSAC. He organised more than 60 discussion Clubs of regional science with top scholars from all over the world and he initiated the Central European Conference in Regional Science (CERS) and the peer reviewed scientific journal Region Direct.

Professor Buček is a member of several international and national professional organizations such as the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, Akademie für und Raumforschung Landesplanung, Group of Independent Experts on the European Charter of the Council of Europe. He is also a member of the editorial boards of scientific and scholarly journals such as European Urban and Regional Studies, Geografie, Nová ekonomika, Regionální studia and chief editor of Region Direct journal.