



# Western Regional Science Association

Fall 2008

Newsletter



Courtesy FreeFoto.Com

## Final Call for 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Program Participants...

### WRSA's Napa Valley '09 Vintage: 'Very Promising'

As this edition of the *WRSA Newsletter* was going to press the traditional October 15 deadline for Annual Meeting paper submissions was just a few days away, with the with the Association's Tucson office weathering the annual flood of emails.

This year's harvest looks to be a bountiful one of outstanding quality: WRSA's Napa Valley '09 vintage is showing promise, and may become a truly memorable one!

If you haven't already done so, there's still time to make your plans to participate at our upcoming 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting to be held at the Silverado Resort February 22-25, 2009.

Don't miss out on this chance for a great mid-winter scholarly refresh; come partake of the warm international conviviality of WRSA.

Although we have already received a large number of submissions, we have sufficient meeting room space to continue to consider papers (in draft or final form) through the first week of November. If you would like to submit after the October 15 deadline, please email Executive Secretary Dave Plane letting him know when to expect to receive your paper. We'd like to allow as many as possible to participate!

We'd also love to hear from anyone who won't have a paper ready to go, but would like a spot or two on the Program as a discussant or/or session chair. Just drop Dave an email note listing your areas of expertise and interest and we'll be happy to schedule you.

For our 2009 Meeting we will be gathering at one of WRSA's most comfortable, gracious, and convivial meeting venues. Site of two previous Annual Meetings, the 27<sup>th</sup> in 1988 and the 35<sup>th</sup> in 1996, the Silverado Resort has since added the 16,000 square foot 'Spa at Silverado' and a new restaurant.

As at the two previous conferences, participants will be lodged in fully equipped condominium units. The resort's Wine Country accommodations are found in private cottage suites clustered around hidden courtyards, secluded swimming pools, or lining the fairways of Silverado Resort's two golf courses. Each of the resort's cottage suites has its own unique decor, balcony or patio, and private entrance. As usual we have negotiated excellent rates! Our special conference

*Please see: WRSA Napa'09 Vintage, Page 2...*

#### ***New Membership Directory...***

### **Final 2008 WRSA Membership Holds Steady & Strong at 251**

The 2008-2009 WRSA Membership Directory is now being provided to all dues-paid 2008 members. The Directory is enclosed in the same mailing as this *Newsletter*.

The Association's final 2008 membership count (as of October 1) was 251 – the exact same number as in 2007. Members are based in 21 countries. U.S. members list addresses in 38 states; Canadian members are found in 7 provinces. Korea has assumed the top rank for members residing outside North America, with 16 active WRSA members. Sweden came in a close 2<sup>nd</sup> with 13, followed by Japan with 9. The Netherlands accounts for 5 members, followed by Austria with 4 and France with 3.

Members are requested to closely examine their listing in the directory and report any corrections or changes to WRSA Executive Assistant, Susan Kaleita at: [wrsa@email.arizona.edu](mailto:wrsa@email.arizona.edu).

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Professor David A. Plane, Executive Secretary, Western Regional Science Association  
Department of Geography & Regional Development / University of Arizona  
Harvill Building, Box 2 (2<sup>nd</sup> and Olive Streets) / Tucson, Arizona 85721 USA  
Telephone: (520) 621-1738 / FAX: (520) 621-2889  
E-mail: [plane@email.arizona.edu](mailto:plane@email.arizona.edu); Website: <http://geog.arizona.edu/wrsa/>

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*WRSA Napa '09 Vintage (Continued from Page 1)*

rate for a one-bedroom fireplace suite is \$180 per night based on single or double occupancy (plus resort services fee and taxes). Each suite features:

- Master Bedroom & Bath
- Full Kitchen, with stove, microwave, refrigerator, and dishwasher
- Living Room with wood-burning fireplace
- Dining Area
- 590 - 650 total square feet of floor space



Our block also includes a few two-bedroom units. With 850 – 900 square feet of floor space, these are priced at \$265 per night (plus resort fee and taxes).

Amenities provided in all units include: 340-thread-count Egyptian cotton linen, honor bar, in-room movies, in-room coffee and tea, hairdryer, iron and ironing board, *free wireless internet* and a no-tipping policy (included in the resort services fee).

An ample supply of condo units have been blocked for our group at the special negotiated conference rates beginning Sunday night, February 22 and extending through Wednesday night, February 25. We also have a more limited number of units being held for those wishing to come in early on Saturday night, February 21. The special group rates will also be honored, on a space-available basis, three days before and three days after the nights included in our block.

**Book Your Silverado Condo Unit...** To book your accommodations at the Silverado, please visit the WRSA website. A room reservation form is posted there. Please note that the Resort's on-line reservation system on their website is not currently functional. If you phone to book your reservation, be sure to mention that you are a WRSA participant in order to receive our special conference rates.

**Preregister...** All Program participants at the conference are required to pay registration fees and be dues-paid 2009 members of WRSA. Only one paper may be presented per fee-paying registrant. (Coauthors not attending the conference are not required to pay registration fees.)

This year, for the first time, WRSA Preregistration is being handled through the North American Regional Science Council's "E-Store." Participants should see the directions on the WRSA website and use the link from there to reach the member area of the NARSC website the NARSC E-Store. Pay on-line prior to

February 1 via a major credit card and save \$50 over the on-site price for the combined conference fee and 2009 dues!

**Reserve the Dates...** Please be aware that the main events of the 2009 conference will be held on a Sunday through Wednesday format.

- ❖ **Sunday, February 22:** *Note: no paper sessions will be held on this day;* Registration opens in the mid-afternoon; Opening Plenary Session in the late afternoon, followed by the Welcoming Reception (for all participants and accompanying persons)
- ❖ **Monday, February 23:** Registration reopens and continues (throughout the day); Concurrent Paper Sessions (all day); WRSA Board Meeting (late afternoon; by invitation only)
- ❖ **Tuesday, February 24:** Registration continues (all day); Concurrent Paper Sessions (all day); Annual Banquet Luncheon (for all registered meeting participants; tickets and fee required for non-registered accompanying persons); Evening President's Reception (for all participants and accompanying persons)
- ❖ **Wednesday, February 25:** Registration continues (through the morning); Concurrent Paper Sessions (all day); Conference ends (ca. 6:00 PM)

**Getting to the Silverado...** Participants have several options for flying into the Meeting. The least traffic is likely to be encountered from the Sacramento Airport (70 miles from the Silverado); Oakland is the closest major Bay Area airport (approximately 50 miles); San Francisco International (SFO) is 63 miles via the Oakland Bay Bridge or 72 miles if you choose to go over the Golden Gate Bridge. Your visit to the Napa Valley (touring wineries, etc.) will be enhanced with a rental car, however, van service can be arranged (check with the Silverado's concierge for information).

**More Information...** For full conference information consult the WRSA website accessible at: [www.u.arizona.edu/~plane/wrsa.html](http://www.u.arizona.edu/~plane/wrsa.html)

Drop an e-mail to Executive Secretary Plane if you have any questions about our upcoming Napa Valley conference.

**Make your plans now!** Come and taste what WRSA's Annual Meetings are renowned for: a luxury venue (at a great price), warm collegiality, and high-quality seminar-style sessions – with a full 45 minutes and a discussant allocated to each paper. (Not to mention, this year there should be some exceptionally fine wines to taste as well!)

*Call for Papers, FIRST Annual Conference...*

**RSAmericas: “The Regional Science Association of the Americas”  
Cartagena de Indias, Colombia ~ February 12-13, 2009**

The recently created Regional Science Association of the Americas, RSAmericas, invites you to submit papers for its first conference and annual meeting, being organized by the Banco de la República de Colombia.

RSAmericas is the new “superregional” umbrella organization of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI). WRSA, as one of the founding member organization of NARSC (the North American Regional Science Council) is represented through NARSC on the Council of RSAmericas. WRSA members are welcomed and encouraged to participate at the First Annual Meeting of RSAmericas.

The conference will focus on topics of regional science and urban studies. Suggested topics for this conference include:

1. Regional convergence and its determinants
2. City specialization and diversification
3. Institutions, geography and regional growth
4. Urban & regional development policies
5. Decentralization & regional disparities
6. Integration & economic activity localization
7. Agglomeration economies
8. Methods of regional & urban analysis
9. Spatial econometrics
10. Spatial data analysis
11. City formation
12. Distribution & size of cities
13. Determinants of regional and urban income
14. Differences in the cost of living among cities
15. Wages & city structures
16. Migrations between regions and cities
17. The environment & urban and regional development
18. Free trade agreements & regional development
19. Capital & social networks
20. Relationships between interpersonal and interregional income distributions
21. Demographic methods
22. Economic geography
23. Infrastructure development
24. Innovations & entrepreneurial initiatives
25. New technologies in spatial context
26. Sustainable development

Papers will be submitted to the evaluation process of the RSAmericas Program Committee. Each accepted paper will be presented at the Conference held February 12 and 13, 2009, in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia.

Registration is required for participation in the conference. Interested parties should submit via email an abstract (maximum of 500 words) in English of their papers and a brief (400 word limit) version of the CVs all the authors by November 18, 2008, to: ceer@banrep.gov.co.

Abstract and CV should be in PDF or Word format. The abstract file name should start with the word "abstract" followed by the last names of the first two authors. Each CV file should be named after the last name of the author (one CV per file).

Final decisions will be announced by December 16, 2008. Complete papers should be sent by January 13, 2009.

All presentations will be in English and will be limited to 20 minutes.

Details on the submission process, registration to the RSAmericas Conference, as well as other information about the conference can be found on the Cartagena Conference web site [www.banrep.gov.co](http://www.banrep.gov.co).

For further information, please contact the Secretariat of the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual RSAmericas Conference at: [isalazme@banrep.gov.co](mailto:isalazme@banrep.gov.co).



**WRSA Newsletter**

The *Newsletter* of the Western Regional Science Association is supported through permit mailing authorization by the University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, USA.

*Editor and WRSA Executive Secretary:*

David A. Plane

*Circulation Manager & WRSA Assistant:*

Susan Kaleita

Please send items for inclusion in future issues to Plane and Kaleita at: [wrsa@email.arizona.edu](mailto:wrsa@email.arizona.edu)

## Regional Science Meeting Calendar

### 55<sup>th</sup> North American Meetings of the RSAI, Brooklyn, NY, November 19–22, 2008

The Meetings will be held at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge. Program Chair is Bill Anderson, Boston University, narsc@meetingsavvy.com; Local Arrangements Chairs: Andrew Haughwout, New York Federal Reserve Bank, andrew.haughwout@ny.frb.org, and Michael Lahr, Rutgers Univ., lahr@rutgers.edu. See the NARSC website for full details: www.narsc.org

### 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of RSAmericas, Cartagena des Indias, Columbia, February 12-13, 2009.

See the article on page 3 of this *Newsletter* for details.

### 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Western Regional Science Association, Napa, CA, February 22–25, 2009

See the article on pages 1-2 of this *Newsletter* and the WRSA website for full details.

### 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southern Regional Science Association, San Antonio, TX, April 2–4, 2009

The conference will be held at the Marriott Plaza, San Antonio, TX (Alamo City). Program Chair: John Connaughton, University of North Carolina-Charlotte: jec@unc.edu Conference info: www.srsa.org

### 21<sup>st</sup> Pacific Conference of the RSAI, Surfer's Paradise, Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia, July 19–22, 2009

'PRSCO21' will be held at Conrad Jupiter's Hotel. A Call for Papers has been issued and is posted on the conference website accessible at: www.prSCO2009.com.au David Fuller, University of Wollongong, is Chairperson for the Conference. Questions? prSCO2009@uow.edu.au.

### 56<sup>th</sup> North American Meetings of the RSAI, San Francisco, CA, November 18–21, 2009

Hosted by WRSA! The conference will be held at the Grand Hyatt hotel on Union Square. Serge Rey is the Program Chair: sergio.rey@asu.edu; Dave Plane is the Arrangements Chair: plane@email.arizona.edu



*Napa Valley Wine Cellar*  
(Additional photos at: [www.silveradoresort.com](http://www.silveradoresort.com))



## 2009 Dues Being Collected...

It's now time to renew your WRSA membership! Renew your membership TODAY. This year you may do so on-line through the facilities of the North American Regional Science Council (NARSC). See the easy directions and link on the WRSA website.

If you are planning to attend the Napa Valley Annual Meeting, please take advantage of the special combined preregistration/dues rates if paid before February 1.

If you cannot join the group this year at the Silverado, we hope you will continue your subscription to the *Annals of Regional Science* and your lifelong affiliation with the best little regional science organization in the world.

*WRSA: The way academic life should be.*



Submitting Papers to:

### *The Annals of Regional Science*

WRSA members are cordially invited to submit their best research for publication consideration in WRSA's official journal, *The Annals of Regional Science*, published quarterly by Springer. For more information contact one of the three coeditors: Börje Johansson, jobo@jibs.hj.se and Eui-June Kim, euijune@snu.ac.kr; and WRSA Past President and Fellow Roger R. Stough, rstough@gmu.edu. Or visit the *Annals* page at: [www.springerlink.com/content/100498/](http://www.springerlink.com/content/100498/)



[springer.com](http://springer.com)

## Springer Award

for outstanding papers in  
the field of Regional  
Science



The prize is awarded annually for the best paper presented by a recent post-graduate scholar of no more than 5 years\* at the Annual Meeting of the Western Regional Science Association.

**Prize US \$300.-**

(to be awarded in Springer books of the winner's choice)

The paper will be published in **The Annals of Regional Science**, official Journal of the WRSA, and announced on the Springer Website.