CONTRACTOR OF THE NEWSletter of the Applied Regional Science Conference



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1. Inauguration address from new president

Asao Ando, The 16-th President of the ARSC

I am honored to serve as the 16th president of the ARSC for this and the next fiscal years. The year 2017 marks the 30th anniversary of the society since the first general meeting convened at then existing Hongo Branch of the Gakushi Kaikan (Alumni Hall) in December 1987. ARSC was originally aimed at an international academic organization of its own, and had considerable number of overseas members, and several English sessions were included in the annual meetings in early years. One of the reasons that the topics dealt with in the society's main periodical, **Review of Urban & Regional Development Studies** (RURDS), seems slightly deviated from the interests of our current members may be traced back to such historical background. Former President Mun mentioned the severe financial constraint of the society, in his inaugural comments two years ago. The most fundamental measure to improve the situation is to encourage the scholars and students in the related fields to join ARSC. For that purpose, it is important to keep the academic activities of the society sufficiently attractive to its present and prospective members. At present, there remain only a few overseas members, and we understand that there exist pros and cons as to whether we should make efforts to increase overseas members.

For example, Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology tends to emphasize the rate of international co-authorship when evaluating universities. In this regard, it may be reasonable for ARSC to become a place to discuss with overseas researchers. On the other hand, since such opportunities have already been provided by RSAI and other international conferences, some may find no need for ARSC to return to its original position.

As a part of efforts to internationalize the society, ARSC co-hosts annual international seminar starting in 2006. As of 2010, it continues as the "Asian Seminar in Regional Science" (ASRS) in corporation with China, Taiwan, and Korea Sections of Regional Science Association. This year, the 7th seminar will convene at National Taiwan University in September, and some 30 members will participate from ARSC. In order to acquire overseas members, participation in such conferences is one thing, and the other is to urge your former students to keep in touch with ARSC after returning home.

The academic society is a club good, and its primary objective is to serve the satisfaction of members through academic activities. However, since the composition of the society itself is also changing over time, it is likely that the activities once considered optimal have turned suboptimal over the past 30 years. Thus it might be the time to review the activities of the society including the nature of its publications, RURDS and "Journal of Applied Regional Science", as a part of efforts to make the society's academic activities attractive to our support members as well the individual members, both domestic and overseas.

I, as an incoming president, sincerely wants to have guidance and cooperation from our members regarding such reviewing process.

2. Election Result for Vice President

The election for the Vice President of ARSC was held by the mail-in voting period ended on March 6 2017. Professor Yoshiaki Osawa (University of Tsukuba) was elected. His term, as a vice president, is from April 2017 to March 2019.

3. The 31st Annual Meeting of ARSC

The 31st Annual Meeting will be organized under the direction of Professor Takatoshi Tabuchi (The University of Tokyo), who heads the organizing committee. Pertinent information is summarized below.

< https://sites.google.com/site/arsc2017tokyoe/home >

- Dates: November 25th and 26th, 2017
- Place: The University of Tokyo Access: http://www.e.u-tokyo.ac.jp/fservice/address/access-e.html
- Registration Fee: Members: 3,000yen Non-members: 5,000yen Student (members and non-members) : 1,000yen
- Reception: Scheduled for the evening of November 25th Fee: 6,000yen, (Student: 2,000yen) (temporary)

Deadline for paper submission: <u>September 16th, 2017</u>

Contact Addresses:

E-mail ; ttabuchi@e.u-tokyo.ac.jp / Tel/Fax ; ++81-3-5841-5603 Postal address: Prof. Takatoshi Tabuchi Faculty of Economics, The University of Tokyo 7-3-1 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo, 113-0033 Japan

4. The 7th Asian Seminar in Regional Science

The 7th Asian Seminar in Regional Science will be held at National Taiwan University (Taipei City, Taiwan), between September 8 and 10, 2017, sponsored by Chinese Regional Science Association Taiwan.

Dates: September 8th \sim 10th , 2017

Place: National Taiwan University Access: http://7thasrs.weebly.com/venue-information.html

Please refer to the following link for more information. WEB: <http://7thasrs.weebly.com/>

5. Call for Papers from the ARSC Journal

Yoshiaki Osawa, Chief Editor

The editorial board of "Journal of Applied Regional Science" calls for papers to enrich the contents of our Journal. Anytime our board will accept your application and will assign some referees to each subscribed paper. Contact us, the editorial board, by E-Mail. (Address is below.)

Address:

Editorial Board of "Journal of Applied Regional Science" Institute of Policy and Planning Sciences, University of Tsukuba 1-1-1 Tennodai, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-8573, Japan TEL & Fax +81-29-853-5224 E-Mail osawa@sk.tsukuba.ac.jp

6. Balance Sheet for Fiscal 2016

Balance sheet for fiscal 2016 is summarized as below. Details will be reported in the next issue.

(Millions of Yen)

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Credits		Debits	
Balance brought	398	RURDS publication costs	341
Membership dues	480	ARSC Journal publication	126
others	2	Annual meeting costs	3
		Remittance to RSAI	20
		General administrative costs	121
Total Credits	870	Total Debits	611
		Balance carried forward	259

7. Report of the ARSC Managing Committee

The first meeting of the ARSC Managing Committee was held on June 10, 2017, at Tokyo. The points of discussion are summarized in the below. If you are interested in some particular topics, please contact with the Secretariat by e-mail.

* Election result for the Vice President of ARSC (reported in this issue).

* Balance Sheet of Fiscal 2016 (reported in this issue).

* Sakashita Prize

Members of the selection committee for the 2017 Sakashita Prize are shown as below.

Hirokazu Tatano (Kyoto University),

Yukihiro Kidokoro (National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies), Yasusada Murata (Nihon University) Asao Ando (ARSC President), Yoshiaki Osawa (ARSC Vice President)

* Publication of RURDS

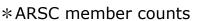
Editing manager reported the status of accepting papers of RURDS, and access to RURDS (online article downloads), etc.

* Publication of ARSC journal

Editing manager of ARSC journal reported that the journal No.21 would be published in this autumn. The proposal of change of the editing manager was approved. And Professor Morito Tsutsumi is newly appointed as a new manager from No.22.

* ARSC Annual Meeting (reported in this issue)

8. Report from Secretariat



As of June 30, 2017, we have 492 personal members (424 ordinary members, 58 students, 5 oversea members), and 5 corporate members.

If you know someone who is interested in the fields of research related to regional science, whether personal or a group, please recommend them to join the ARSC. You can always obtain the application forms for personal membership from our Web site (http://www.arsc.org/arscform-e.html).

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