



## News, Conferences and Happenings

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26th Australia & New Zealand  
Regional Science Association  
International Annual Conference,  
29 September-2 October, 2002,  
Surfer's Paradise

### *Call for Papers*

Papers are invited in all areas of regional analysis, policy and practice, and should embrace the following four themes

#### *Resource Issues*

#### *Regional Modelling and Analysis*

#### *Economic, Technical and Structural Change*

#### *Recent Developments in Regional Policy*

Which provide the basis for the theory and practice of **Regional Science** and a series of workshop activities. Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Financing Regional Development Projects  
PPP: The New Role of Governments in  
Regional Investment  
Private versus Public Investment  
Leaderships and Partnerships  
Regional Investment Attraction Strategies  
Regional Tourism and Hallmark Events
- Investment and Regional Growth  
Innovation and Investment  
Investing in Community Capacity Building  
Investing in 'Green' Projects  
Investment in Soft Infrastructure

- Regional Economic Development Planning,  
including:  
Land-Use Planning and Transport  
Investing in Education, Housing and Health
- Regional Industry Policy/Analysis  
including:  
Regional Economic Developing Planning  
The Role of Business in Regional  
Development  
Regional Clusters and Networks
- Regional and Inter-regional Modelling,  
including:  
Input-Output Analysis  
Computable General Equilibrium Modelling  
Spatial Modelling and Data Analysis
- Urban and Regional Policy, Regional  
Growth and Disparities
- Labour Markets, Migration and Population

Those wishing to present a paper should submit an abstract of no more than 300 words by **1<sup>st</sup> July 2002**. Those who wish to organise sessions should submit their topic and list of speakers, also by **1<sup>st</sup> July 2002**. Presenters are encouraged to provide a copy of their paper to the conference organisers prior to the conference. Papers received by **1<sup>st</sup> August 2002** will be refereed and considered for publication in the special Conference edition of the *Australasian Journal of Regional Studies*. Also, papers submitted by this date will automatically be eligible for consideration in the **Paper of the Conference Prize**.

### *Who Should Attend?*

Attendance is a must if you work in:

- Local Government
- Regional Development Organisations
- State and Federal Government Departments
- Universities – or you are a student interested in these fields

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### South Australian Regional Community Information Service (SARCIS)

A pilot website has been developed for the provision of information to regional communities. The pilot site delivers a mix of tourism, economic, social, infrastructure and other data to regional communities in the local governments of Tatiara, Alexandrina, Le Hunte and the Adelaide Hills. Importantly, it allows residents and other users to upload information they wish to share with their communities. Persons wishing to find out more can visit the website at:

<http://arcims.ssn.flinders.edu.au/>

### 7th Pacific Regional Science Conference Organisation Summer Institute, 20-21 June, 2002, Bali, Indonesia

The 7<sup>th</sup> Pacific Regional Science Conference Organisation Summer Institute will be held in Bali, Indonesia, 20-21 June, 2002. This will also be the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Indonesian Regional Science Association. The theme of the Institute is 'Decentralisation, Natural Resources, and Regional Development in the Pacific Rim'.

The Institute/Conference will include presentations of selected papers on a number of themes, including decentralisation and regional finance, regional economy and planning, and population and urbanisation.

To submit an abstract, please contact Budy P. Resosudarmo or Bambang Brodjonegoro at the Graduate Program in Economics, Gedung B 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Faculty of Economics, University of Indonesia, Depok 16424 Indonesia. They can also be reached via phone/fax at 62-21-787-5865 or via email at [paneni@indosat.net.id](mailto:paneni@indosat.net.id) and [pradnja@indo.net.id](mailto:pradnja@indo.net.id).

### The 'New Regionalism' in Australia: A new model of work, organization and regional governance?, 25-26 November, 2002

The 'New Regionalism' is a multi-disciplinary school of thought, which suggests that globalisation leads capital, labour, institutions and technologies to be increasingly locally clustered or held in geographical agglomerations. It has become a powerful driving force in academic analysis and policy development in Western Europe and North America, while in South-east Asia its acceptance is increasing through the auspices of organizations like the OECD. Moreover, there is increasing evidence to suggest Australian regional development policy makers are adopting the analytical and practical implications of the 'New Regionalism'.

The increasing influence of the 'New Regionalism' in regional development policy belies its contested conceptual status. It incorporates a powerful mixture of prescription, description and analysis and holds important implications for political

institutions, the nature of work, the future of trade unions and community activism, regional development and governance structures. While there is a growing but belated interest in the importance of 'place' by Australian industrial relations academics, there has been little debate over the 'New Regionalism' in the Australian or wider South-east Asian context. The purpose of this conference is to help stimulate this debate.

Given the broad, international and interdisciplinary implications of the 'New Regionalism' and globalisation debates, we hope that this conference will draw contributions from a range of disciplines including sociology, geography, economics, management and industrial relations. Potential areas for papers to address may include: Clusters, networks and local agglomeration; Local economic development policy and practice; Governance structures; Knowledge economies, learning regions, skills and training; Work organization; Regional trade union organization; Community development and organization; Labour markets, discrimination and social exclusion; State restructuring.

Conference organiser, Associate Professor Al Rainnie, Department of Management, Monash University, Churchill 3842, Victoria, Australia. Email: [al.rainnie@BusEco.monash.edu.au](mailto:al.rainnie@BusEco.monash.edu.au)

## The Australian Academy of Sciences' 2002 Fenner Conference on the Environment, Canberra, 30 July to 1 August, 2002

The theme for this year's conference is "Agriculture for the Australian Environment".

The conference organisers are inviting people with knowledge of the social, economic, environmental and political issues surrounding agriculture in Australia, and anyone who may have something to say. Physical, economic and culture geographers are particularly encouraged to participate. The main aim of the conference will be to

discuss the options for designing appropriate agricultural systems for Australia's environment.

Other who should attend include:

- Landholders from all parts of Australia;
- Regional catchment management participants;
- Public and private land managers;
- Representatives from agribusiness;
- Social, economic and biophysical researchers addressing aspects of agriculture and environmental management. Conservation and farming interest groups.

Visit the 2002 Fenner Conference website at: <http://life.csu.edu.au/fenner/> or contact the Conference Secretariat, Conference Solutions at [fenner@con-wol.com](mailto:fenner@con-wol.com) or (02) 6285 3000.

## New Publication

### *Clusters of Innovation: Regional Foundations of US Competitiveness*

Creating and strengthening regional competitiveness and innovation is the key to the nation's ability to succeed in the global marketplace and raise the standard of living for all Americans, according to a new report of the US Council on Competitiveness and the National Governors' Association.

Titled *Clusters of Innovation: Regional Foundations of US Competitiveness*, the report is the result of a two-year study sponsored by the Council on Competitiveness. Strong clusters at the regional level are fundamental to a region's job growth, wage levels, rate of innovation, and the formation of new businesses, the report says. Highlighting in-depth studies of five regions – San Diego, Wichita, Pittsburgh, the Research Triangle, and Atlanta – the report examines 15 clusters within the regions, such as pharmaceuticals and biotechnology.

The report draws on a first-of-its-kind database on every US regional economy and includes the results of 264 interviews and 1 025 surveys of business, academic, government, and community leaders. An institutional structure for economic development that is independent of government is also the report states. It cites UC Connect in San Diego and Digital Greenhouse in Pittsburgh as organizations that can develop training and management programs, help link firms and university assets, and work with government to recruit businesses.

The authors suggest that governments at all levels can make a significant difference in regional and cluster development. However, they emphasise, the private sector must take a leading role in regional economic development.

Recommendations include: federal resources to reinforce regional cluster development; delegate economic policy choices to regions; provide federal support for the creation of state and local economic development strategies; make significant investment in colleges and universities; focus research and training initiatives around regional clusters; employ cluster-based business recruitment strategies.

At the regional and local levels: upgrade both transportation infrastructure and education.

*Clusters of Innovation: Regional Foundations of US Competitiveness* offers a detailed methodology that any region may follow to further its economic development. The report is available at: <http://www.isc.hbs.edu>

## How to Contact Us

Your views and contributions to this publication are always welcome. We are happy to include comment on previous articles, as well as the ideas of people from all regions across Australia.

If you wish to contribute an article for publication please send it to:

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Alternatively you may wish to email us first on [andrew.beer@flinders.edu.au](mailto:andrew.beer@flinders.edu.au). The guidelines for authors can be made available either electronically or in hard copy format.

Books, reports or other materials that you feel could be reviewed should be sent to:

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Analysis, University of Tasmania  
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Comments and suggestions for *Sustaining Regions* can be sent either to the Managing Editor or entered electronically via email to: [geoffice@flinders.edu.au](mailto:geoffice@flinders.edu.au).

We are always interested to hear about major community and policy initiatives. Persons wishing to forward information or commentary on new developments in their field should direct that material to:

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