

ANZRSAI Newsletter

An interdisciplinary international association of researchers and practitioners on the growth and development of urban, regional and international systems

May 2010

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New Patterns of Local and Regional Economic Development

The Australian Business Foundation has joined forces with Monash University to undertake a research study examining new patterns of local and regional economic development. The project which is being led by Professor John Tomaneý of the Centre for Urban and Regional Development Studies, University of Newcastle, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK, will assess the lessons for Australia from the latest international thinking on models of local and regional development. Stay tuned for information on an international seminar being held in Melbourne in June which will bring together key invited academic, policy and practitioner experts.

See www.abfoundation.com.au

In the Loop April 2010

Assessing the future impact of the Australian Government Environmental Water Purchase Program

ABARE Publication No 10.03

In June 2008, The Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (DEWHA) commissioned ABARE to conduct a study of the potential future impacts of the Australian Government's water purchasing program on water markets, regional economies and communities in the Murray-Darling Basin. The study focused on modelling the effects of the government purchasing \$1.5 billion of water entitlements over the three years from 2008-09 to 2010-11. The results of this analysis are contained in this report.

See latest releases at www.abare.gov.au
The papers from the ABARE Outlook 2010 Conference are now available at www.abare.gov.au/outlook/

Stay in touch.
www.anzrsai.org

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THE AUSTRALASIAN JOURNAL OF REGIONAL STUDIES VOLUME 15, NO. 3, 2009

Abstracts

Maximising the Benefits of Development in Australia's Far North

Natalie Stoeckl and Owen Stanley,
School of Business, James Cook University,
Townsville, QLD 4811.

This paper presents and analyses data from a survey of close to 1000 private and government organisations in seventeen different industries across Australia's Far North. The data are used in a 'bottom-up', Keynesian-type analysis to estimate regionally relevant business-level multipliers (as opposed to using a 'top-down' Input-Output, or General Equilibrium approach). The results allow us to identify the industries whose expansion is likely to generate the largest regional economic benefit, and to comment on how policy might be changed so as to increase size of the local benefits that occur as a result of development.

Trends in Regional Specialisation in Australia

Robert Dixon and John Freebairn,
Department of Economics, University of
Melbourne, VIC 3010.

In this paper we look at differences in the industrial composition of employment across states and territories in Australia for each year over the period 1985 – 2006. We find that the level of regional specialisation in Australia - as measured by the Coefficient of Regional Specialisation - has fallen over the last twenty years. In other words, the industrial composition of employment in Australian states and territories have been becoming more (not less) alike over time. Almost all of the reduction in the Coefficient of Regional Specialisation in Australia over the period is due to de-specialisation in manufacturing and this, in turn, is a result of substantial tariff reductions in certain very highly localised manufacturing industries. This view of the process of regional structural change may be contrasted to that of Krugman who proposed that there will be a tendency for greater specialisation over time - especially once deregulation and lower trade barriers and/or transport costs come into play.

An Assessment of Silvopasture Potential in Southeast Queensland, Australia

Tek N. Maraseni*, Geoff Cockfield* and Jerry Maroulis**

*Faculty of Business & Australian Centre for Sustainable Catchments

**Faculty of Education & Australian Centre for Sustainable Catchments, University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, QLD, 4350.

The Queensland State Government provides incentives for landholders to establish hardwood plantations on former pasture and cropping areas; however the long-term viability of the timber plantation program in medium to low rainfall areas remains questionable. In order to make hardwood plantations viable, some value adding is necessary. Thus, several trials including silvipastoral systems have been undertaken. This paper assesses both the successes of the trials and the additional benefits resulting from grazing in spotted gum (*Corymbia citriodora* subspecies *variegata*) plantations at Taabinga, southeast Queensland. The results show that at the optimal harvesting age of 31 years, the cumulative net present value from pasture alone would be A\$779/ha. Therefore, there is considerable opportunity for increasing financial returns through the inclusion of pasture within plantations without reducing the rotation age of plantations. This silvipasture system will also offer other benefits such as improvements in soil conservation, soil and biomass carbon sequestration and biodiversity.

An Empirical Evaluation of the Relative Efficiency of Roads to Recovery Expenditure in New South Wales Local Government, 2005/06

Margaret Lopez, Brian Dollery & Joel Byrnes,
Centre for Local Government, University of
New England, Armidale, NSW 2351.

The Roads to Recovery local roads infrastructure funding program represents the most important Commonwealth local government finance initiative in the history of Australian fiscal federalism, not only because of its sheer size, but also because it funds individual local councils directly, thereby bypassing state and territory governments. Despite its significance, almost no scholarly attention has been directed at critically examining the operation of the program. In order to address this unfortunate neglect, this paper attempts to evaluate the relative

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efficiency of individual council expenditure under the Roads to Recovery program for New South Wales local government in the financial year 2005/06. Our results show that only a comparatively small proportion of councils expended funds relatively efficiently.

Ranking Regions – Revisiting an Index of Relative Indigenous Socio-Economic Outcomes

Nicholas Biddle

Research Fellow, Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research, Hanna Neumann Building #21, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT, 0200

For any chance of success in achieving targets for improvement in Indigenous socio-economic outcomes, policy makers need to understand where relative and absolute need is greatest. To summarise the distribution of relative need a single index can be used to rank regions or areas within regions. In this paper nine outcomes across employment, education, income and housing from the 2001 and 2006 Censuses are used to create a single index for 37 Indigenous Regions and 531 Indigenous Areas. Across the nine input variables the large capital city regions were the least disadvantaged. At the other end of the distribution, remote regions ranked relatively poorly, especially in the Northern Territory. While this distribution was similar to that found in previous Censuses, at the region and area level especially there was some significant change between 2001 and 2006. Much of this change was related to high rates of inward migration.

The Mining Boom: Challenges and Opportunities for Small Businesses in Regional South Australia

Nina Evans and Janet Sawyer,

Centre for Regional Engagement, University of South Australia, 111 Nicolson Avenue, Whyalla Norrie, SA 5608

The Whyalla region is currently in a unique situation due to a 'boom' in the minerals resources industry in South Australia. This paper describes the outcomes of research by the Centre for Regional Engagement of the University of South Australia that aimed to determine the key challenges and opportunities that owner/managers of small businesses in the region were currently facing as a result of the mining boom. The study focussed on enterprises operating within the retail and services sector in Whyalla. The paper gives a

background to doing business in Whyalla, outlines the challenges and risks and the perceived opportunities that were identified, and discusses the steps being undertaken by the firms to make the most of the opportunities and to protect their businesses against the threats. The results of the research will provide information useful to bodies such as the Whyalla Economic Development Board, in enabling them to support the firms where necessary so that the businesses are better placed to take advantage of the anticipated new opportunities in the market place.

The full papers are now available to members and subscribers on our website at

<http://www.anzrsai.org/page/publications/ajrs/2009-vol-15-no-3/>

If you would like to become a member or subscriber so you can have access the latest Issues of our journals please apply using the membership form on our website at <http://www.anzrsai.org/>

REGIONS & PRACTICE

State of Australian Cities Report

Available at

www.infrastructureaustralia.gov.au/files/MCU_SOAC.pdf

The following extracts provide a brief insight into this important compilation. (Ed.)

'Some city dwellers may yearn for a sea change or a tree change, but few of them will take such a step. For Australians, living in the nation's major cities will be the norm both for the present and for the future.

Australia is one of the world's more urbanised nations, with just over three-quarters of the population living in 17 major cities of 100,000 people or more and the majority of urban dwellers living in five cities—Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth and Adelaide. The population of Australia is projected to be 35 million by mid-century, with our capital cities becoming home to the vast majority of this increased population.'

...
Depictions and studies of individual cities—capital and/or major—are commonplace. However, a holistic study of the phenomena of Australian cities, measuring economic, environmental, social and demographic changes, has never before been undertaken. Systematic data compilation, which can reveal trends and provide a platform of knowledge for the development and implementation of future urban policies, has been deficient.

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The State of Australian Cities Report 2010 begins to redress that information deficiency and sets the scope and context for Australian Government involvement in urban policy and planning, which has as its focus improved living standards for the people who live in the nation's major cities.

'...However, aside from their relative economic size, major cities, more significantly, are the drivers of their national economies. The OECD Report on Competitive Cities in the Global Economy found that most metro-regions in the OECD have a higher per capita GDP, higher productivity and faster growth rates than their national average (OECD 2006). It has been estimated that major cities were responsible for some 84 per cent of Australia's economic growth in the 2003–2008 period (Raskall 2010), and 81 per cent of the employment growth in the 2001–2006 period (BITRE 2009). Even in a period of a resources boom in Australia, the major cities' share of the national economy increased.'

Editors Comment on SOAC

The critical omission from this report is the interaction between major cities and rural and remote Australia.

Only major cities can provide the increasingly sophisticated health, education and social services required for modern life. Three major cities, Adelaide, Darwin and Perth, serve the western two thirds of Australia. In much of this area no regional city is capable of providing these services.

Allowing continued population decline in remote and rural areas may lead to some unacceptable outcomes: social deprivation, loss of sovereignty and missed economic opportunities.

Australia appears to be ducking the challenge of growing some of the existing small cities in remote Australia into centres capable of economically, sustainably and effectively delivering sophisticated health, education, social and logistical services to their remote hinterland communities.

The following two articles from The Cockatoo continue this theme. (Ed.)

Thanks to The Cockatoo

This edition of the ANZRSAI Newsletter features several extracts from recent editions of The Cockatoo made available by agreement.

'The Cockatoo' is a Canberra based newsletter. It is compiled by an international network of consultants and think tanks. It follows industry collaboration, innovation, investment attraction, education and training, capacity building and government policy. It provides a view on Australia's regions and on Government funding for regional and industry collaboration. The newsletter is free to those who collaborate in connecting ideas, opportunities and resources. For more go to

www.investmentinnovation.wordpress.com

Dept. National Development urgently required, says Silverhawk

(From the Cockatoo No. 45 – April 2010)

Leading demographer Bernard Salt has calmed fears that Australia's population growth over the next 40 years will significantly impact on our environment and living standards. It follows an ABS report that Australia's population is growing at twice the rate of the rest of the world. Then the Greens got excited and even ex-Labor frontbencher, Kelvin Thomson, began hyperventilating about a "recipe for environmental devastation, rising interest rates and unaffordable housing".

Salt spoke at a recent RDA gathering in Canberra about how we can cope with 35 million people if the necessary adjustments are made. He noted that "we do need to alter our lifestyle plan very carefully for this, because we can't continue to live the way we are living at the moment."

I fully agree with Salt. The necessary adjustments must include a solid debate about urban and regional development. The social and environmental cracks are widening every day in our four largest cities. To this end, Transport Minister Albanese says that by January 2012 all States will have capital city plans, and that he will be tying future Commonwealth urban and infrastructure to those plans. But no policy research is done at the federal level. As with many policy agendas these days, the feds are setting the broad parameters via the COAG process, and then leaving it to the states to basically do as they like.

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As I write, Agriculture Minister Burke has been given the job of developing a strategy for managing Australia's population growth. Sounds like a token effort, and while DAFF has lots of spare capacity, it hasn't got the smarts to properly consider the population issue. Rudd has to seize the high ground before Abbott does. The smarter option would be a Department of National Development, perhaps modeled on the Commission for the Future (1986-1988). Its role would be to really understand the population-environment nexus, urban congestion, land supply and housing costs, the cost-benefits of decentralisation, the impact of immigration etc. Local government should be pushing hard for this because it's their bread and butter.

Barnaby Joyce has a real window

(From the Cockatoo No. 45 – April 2010)

Senator Barnaby Joyce, after his off-the-cuff remarks at the National Press Club, proved he has NOT the credentials to be a minister for finance. His new shadow portfolio of regional development and infrastructure is a better fit. Indeed, his experience in regional matters and his energy suggests a real window to work with John Cobb, the shadow agriculture minister, to construct a New Deal for Australia's regions. The reason lies in the huge vacuum that currently exists in regional investment attraction, agricultural research, regional city planning, raw material processing, regional branding, the food trade imbalance, water irrigation infrastructure. But Barnaby has to stop shooting from the hip. If his political opponents don't nail him, the Canberra Press certainly will. (Contributed by a Canberra lobbyist)

OECD promotes social enterprises

(From The Cockatoo No. 45 – April 2010)

Government agencies around the world are grappling with the problem of creating jobs for at-risk groups. The primary cause is that labour-shedding has escalated in the last few years. The driver is the corporations ruthlessly reviewing all operations to protect their shareholder values.

A side effect has been the emergence of the social enterprise sector i.e. non-profit organizations that generate revenue to finance their social mission viz. employing disadvantaged people, creating career paths for youths, running mentoring programs, caring for the homeless and needy.

In some countries, the tax-free status of religious organizations and philanthropic agencies has helped, and mega-capitalists (Gates, Branson, Forrest) are stepping in with open cheque books. But most corporations and institutional investors are only willing to fund social enterprises within tightly defined corporate limits.

The LEED Group (OECD – edited by Antonella Noya) has just released a very valuable report, "The Changing Boundaries of Social Enterprises" (270 pages), that explores this increasingly important field. For example, it canvasses specific policy measures that could be supported by governments at different levels to facilitate the integration of social enterprises into the economy e.g.

- Fiscal incentives to attract investors e.g. tax credits, subsidies.
- Public procurement measures based on socio-environmental criteria.
- Public-private community partnerships.
- Financial advice, labour market training for employees as well as social finance intermediaries.

Angles for Cockatoo members

We reckon there is a huge gap in our collective understanding of how social enterprises can be nurtured. The OECD study is a great first step – we need more analysis and policy development. If you agree, contact us and we'll work out how we might stimulate things.

Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal

(From www.frrr.org.au)

When Sidney Myer arrived in Australia as a penniless Russian immigrant in 1889, he began an enterprise in country Victoria that would flourish and become a leading national retailer.

His marriage to Merlyn Baillieu was to become the foundation for a dynasty that etched its name firmly in Australia's history, not only as successful retailers but as the nation's earliest and most enduring philanthropists. Well before philanthropy became the catchcry for socially aware business, the Myer family made it part of its livelihood.

To celebrate Sidney Myer's life and to recognise the centenary marking his arrival in this country, the descendants of Sidney and Merlyn Myer initiated a major giving program to the Australian community in 1999.

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Among their gifts was \$1 million to establish a national foundation for rural communities.

After an international search for ideas and a Regional Australia Summit convened in 1999 by the then Deputy Prime Minister, John Anderson, (a farmer from Mullaley in NSW), the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) was born. It would combine the feeling of the regional summit which said philanthropy could play a strategic role in enhancing the assets - natural and human - in regional Australia's economic and community development. In short, regional Australia, reeling from tough times thanks to drought and the impact of globalisation, wanted to show it could help itself. The Federal Government kicked in \$10.7 million in 1999/2000 and a further \$3.8million from 2000/2001 to 2008/2009.

FRRR began in 2000, setting up its permanent headquarters, appropriately in the home of Sidney Myer's first store - in the regional Victorian city of Bendigo. There it continues to operate from historic Dudley House and to follow the principles and ideals first set down by the Regional Australia Summit.

To date, FRRR has allocated \$6.6 million and has leveraged millions to help communities renew themselves.

The innovation

A staff member of FRRR pointed out the key feature of the structure of the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal. Donors seeking to assist regional communities gain tax deductibility for their donations if they are directed through the Foundation. The FRRR donation account enables communities to help themselves by conducting their fund-raising campaigns through the FRRR donation account, thus allowing their donors to retain a tax benefit when donating to rural and regional renewal programs in their local areas. (Ed)

Sylvia Admans, CEO
Contact: FRRR, PO Box 41, Bendigo,
Australia VIC 3552
Grant Enquiries : 1800 170 020
Tel: 03 5430 2399 Fax: 03 5443 8900
Email: info@frrr.org.au Web: www.frrr.org.au

Bureau of Industry Transport and Regional Economics databases

Useful databases on regional industry structure (2009), economic growth (update 2008) and wealth can be found at

www.bitre.gov.au/info.aspx?ResourceId=253&NodeId=66

The Cockatoo Sunrise Program Overcoming barriers to trade and investment

The biggest constraint in getting trade and investment deals underway is inertia among SMEs and the development agencies that support them. This is not due to a lack of interest – the inertia stems from:

- The time and resources to find true business collaborators.
- Not knowing who to talk to. The critical knowledge is often embedded in people and networks that are not immediately known.
- The difficulty in finding partners with a similar mindset, and with integrity.
- The lack of quality time to brainstorm opportunities face-to-face with such parties.
- The complexity of legal, tax and governance issues in the other country.

These problems are amplified at the sub-regional level where interaction with big business is irregular, and where channels are not as developed as in the major cities. This is where industry networks and clusters come into their own. The Cockatoo Network has many members at the regional level, and we want to engage YOU in this Program.

We believe that the Program will work best at the industry level – accordingly we have developed a first-cut classification – Aquaculture, Agriculture, Automotive, Aviation, Biotechnology, Chemicals and plastics, Clean Energy, Clothing-Footwear-Leather, Creative Industries, Defence, Engineering, Environment, Healthcare, ICT, Oil and Gas, Logistics, Marine, Mining technology and geology, Food and Beverages, Metal Fabrication, Paper & Paper Products, Services, Telecommunications, Timber and timber products.

We are looking to identify for networks and clusters across national borders to trade intellectual property, manufacturing processes, products and services. If you can appreciate our goals, please email us ASAP. We have people in the USA, Australia, NZ, Germany, Bangladesh and France currently thinking

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through how best to proceed. We might convene a workshop in coming months.

We'd love to hear from ANZRSAI members:

- involved in clusters or networks that fit the bill.
- looking to do joint research across borders in a subject involving collaboration to drive economic development.
- with ideas of how we might attract funding from government.
- with an interest in attending a workshop to progress the concepts.

Any bright ideas!

Contact: Rod Brown
CEO, Cockatoo Network, Canberra A.C.T.
apcockatoo@iprimus.com.au
BLOG:
www.investmentinnovation.wordpress.com
0412 - 922559; 02 – 62317261

Regional Development Australia: National Forum for Regional Development

Press Release: Anthony Albanese, Minister for Regional Development, and Maxine McKew, Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Development, today welcomed Regional Development Australia (RDA) committee members to Canberra for the first RDA National Forum and challenged them to think strategically about the big issues affecting Australia's regions.

The RDA National Forum brings together Chairs and Deputy Chairs from the new national network of 55 committees that have been charged with helping drive the prosperity and sustainability of the nation's regions.

Mr Albanese said committee members will be addressed by some of Australia's eminent thinkers on issues affecting regional Australia including the economy, social disadvantage and population trends.

"Australia's regions are important social and economic building blocks of our nation and it's great to bring together a group of people who are so passionate about the wellbeing of their communities," Mr Albanese said.

Ms McKew said that a number of committees have already made significant achievements in improving the coordination of regional development initiatives.

"This is a great opportunity for the 55 committees to highlight and share their successes and work together to overcome the issues affecting their regions."

"We've invited RDA representatives here to Canberra today to plug them in to the latest federal government programs and resources."

"We want to empower them to find the best, most innovative solutions possible to the challenges facing their regions."

"I'm sure the knowledge delegates take home with them from the Forum will provide a strong foundation that they will apply as they draw up their regional plans," Ms McKew said.

Regional Development Australia is a new national network of 55 committees which integrates the work of all levels of Government to support the growth and development of Australia's regions.

For more information and up to date news on RDA, go to www.rda.gov.au

Extracts from Keynote Address

Maxine McKew MP
Parliamentary Secretary for Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development and Local
Government

‘There will be 36 million people in Australia by the middle of the century.

I know that these figures alarm some Australians, but they are based on current projections - projections about a rising birth rate and our migration rates.

Increased population presents challenges but immense opportunities.

There are real families, real workers who are out there now who are looking for a new life.

The exciting challenge for you is how you imagine the future and plan to bring new life to your community.

It's all about working differently, more strategically and more collaboratively.

‘You know the task we have set you - to go out into the communities - the communities that you know best and come back to us with regional roadmaps for the future.’

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German clusters leaders in innovation

(From The Cockatoo No. 44 – March 2010)

Paquita Lamacraft, an Aussie working in Germany, has filed this report with The Cockatoo based on recent research by the Berlin Institute for Innovation and Technology.

The Institute has prepared a report analysing 107 “of the most innovative” clusters in Germany. Clusters are seen as an economic phenomenon that can be measured. And Germany takes its structures seriously, funding them accordingly, but requiring accurate results reporting. Over 4,000 SMEs, 700 global players and 1,300 universities or technical institutes are on the data base.

Funding of German clusters is provided at both federal and state level, giving parallel funding streams in addition to opportunities for EU funding. The clusters in receipt of funding date back to 1995. There are both top down and bottom up cluster types, and the greatest success lies with the bottom up clusters which seem to be more internationally engaged.

Over 80% of the group studied have some sort of legal constitution – whether by Association (predominant preference), or other status. The funding policies vary. Federally-funded clusters receive greater funding, although it decreases over time, because external private funding is a requirement. Funding varies according to the sector - biotechnology clusters are well-resourced.

Clusters generally have 1-3 paid employees with responsibility for identifying and implementing demand-based activities e.g. establishing specialised test or research centres, training etc. Go to <http://www.kompetenznetze.de/service/bestellservice/clusters-in-germany>

Contact Paquita at Paquita_ann@hotmail.com to compare notes and explore alliance opportunities between clusters in Germany and your region. Cockatoo certainly hope to use her on the Sunrise project.

Cairns' Tropical Innovation Hub

(From The Cockatoo No. 44 – March 2010)

Good to see the advance of the Cairns Institute – Tropical Innovation Hub, an idea that has got some traction. James Cook Uni is determined to see Australian tropical knowledge expertise connected to a wider marketplace. On another front, JCU is looking at a suitable niche for

science training with tropical sustainable agriculture and resource management. They attempted a tropical agriculture undergraduate course recently but it didn't hit the mark, possibly because JCU were unsure of where their efforts best lay.

For those wondering where this fits, agriculture and resource science forms much of the basis for the regional economy in north Australia. Much of the development and innovation for our tropical future will come from this sector, matching resource availability with sustainable management practice. The recent release of the Northern Australian Land and Water Task Force assessment of ‘Sustainable Development of Northern Australia’ is food for thought, with a fairly stark reminder of the pressures that are likely to exist for future economic development. This helps to dispel unrealistic expectations of rabbit-out-of-the-hat solutions for Australia's food needs if southern Australia gets drier, but also highlights the need to work with facts rather than just with emotion and ill-informed notions.

So, it appears that JCU is seeking to examine this worthy question again, and may consider offering a post-graduate course in either sustainable tropical agro-ecology or sustainable tropical agro-forestry. Given the evident decrease in other institutions' enrolments in agriculture-related science area, and the scrutiny for sustainable development and tropical expertise, this is an important topic. It is important to note that the current proposal is for post-grad training, and we still need to ask, where are the quality graduate-qualified people coming from? This does not appear to be part of the current equation and will remain a gap in our future science resource.

If you are part of this sector, you may care to add to the feedback and assist with some market direction for our future training. How relevant are these options to our needs? The link to a survey will allow you to add your thoughts and wisdom -

http://www.snet.com.au/surveys/ib19044_1.asp

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES

(See also the Call for Papers for the ANZRSAI Annual Conference at the end of this newsletter)

The 10th Indonesian Regional Science Association International Conference

“Reintegrating Indonesian Economy in the Global Era”.

Surabaya, July 28-29, 2010

One of the main challenges for Indonesia is how to integrate and connect the Indonesian regional economies with growing global trade.

Topics include but are not limited to: Regional Development and Globalization, Developing Industrial Centres, City Management, Infrastructure Development and Financing, Regional Competitiveness & Investment Climate, Fiscal Decentralization and Regional Economic Growth, Poverty and Interregional Disparities, Interregional Trade, Central and Local Government Relationships, Agriculture and Rural Development Policy, Political Economics of General Election and Regional Development, and Public Governance and Regional Development.

Abstracts were due 12 April 2010.

Contact the Conference Organizer, Department of Economics - Airlangga University
Email: irsa@fe.unair.ac.id or irsa.unair@gmail.com

Third National Country Towns Conference 2010

Presented by the Centre for Sustainable Regional Communities and the Community Planning & Development Program

At this, the third Country Towns conference we will explore how the diversity of country towns across the nation are responding to the call for a sustainable future. We will use the many different perspectives to build a framework that shows the choices communities have working together and with governments to realize this outcome.

REGISTRATIONS OPEN IN MAY 2010

For more details please contact the Conference Manager Patricia Ibbotson on 03 5444 7859 or p.ibbotson@latrobe.edu.au

Australasian Transport Research Forum 2010

ATRF 2010 will be held at the National Convention Centre Canberra from 29 September to 1 October 2010.

ATRF is the principal transport research conference in Australia and New Zealand. It brings together transport researchers, policymakers, advisors and practitioners from a range of disciplines to share and build upon the latest research and thinking.

ATRF 2010 is hosted by the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics and the Australian Capital Territory Department of Territory and Municipal Services.

To receive updates about ATRF 2010, please register for the BITRE Subscription Service. For further information please contact: ATRF2010@infrastructure.gov.au
Authors of accepted abstracts should submit their full papers by the deadline of 25 May 2010.

Desert Knowledge Symposium

The 2010 Desert Knowledge Symposium and Business Showcase is scheduled for Wednesday 10 and Thursday 11 November in Alice Springs.

The theme is Desert Australia: the national interest and global context:

- Settlements: Patterns, services and viability
- Enterprise and Livelihoods
- Energy Futures and Climate Change
- Governance and Capacity

If you would like to receive information on attending the symposium, exhibiting or being a sponsor, click here to subscribe for updates. www.desertknowledgesymposium.com

34th Annual Conference of the Australia and New Zealand Regional Science Association International

Rydges on Swanston, Melbourne, Australia
7-10 December 2010

*Innovation and Regions:
Theory, Practice and Policy*

Call for Papers Abstracts due 1 August 2010
For details see back pages.

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The Place of Leadership in Urban and Regional Development



**CALL
FOR
ABSTRACTS**

First Research Seminar: Leadership in Urban and Regional Development: Exploring the Debates and Challenges

23rd - 24th November 2010 – Centre for Urban and Regional Studies (CURS) organised in association with the Centre for Leadership at the University of Birmingham (CLUB)

Deadline for abstracts: 1 September 2010
(Full papers are welcome but are not required)
For further information:
http://www.curs.bham.ac.uk/events/RSA_network.shtml

Network Organizers

- Dr. John Gibney, University of Birmingham. UK.
- Professor Markku Sotarauta, University of Tampere. Finland.
- Professor Andrew Beer, University of Adelaide. Australia.

Regional Studies Association WINTER CONFERENCE 2010 Regions and the Environment

Friday 26th November 2010, London

CALL FOR PAPERS

At first glance, 2010 has not so far been an auspicious year for regional environmental policy. Global recession, Copenhagen failing to live up to expectations, and public scepticism about stronger environmental policies tell only part of the story. An altogether more positive outlook is painted by political pronouncements on green jobs, a Green New Deal, environmental technologies, fuel poverty, energy savings, improved eco-standards for new housing, and targets for zero carbon housing. This political climate brings challenges of ensuring that money is used wisely and outcomes are carefully evaluated.

It is timely to ask some searching questions about recent environmental policy approaches and the future of environmental policy at all geographical scales, not least the regional and local level.

The Regional Studies Association Winter Conference 2010 on Regions and the Environment presents an opportunity to discuss and debate these issues, to establish the research requirements and to address the concerns of practitioners and policymakers.

The conference organisers are keen to attract papers and sessions which address a broad active research and policy agenda, including contributions from any discipline which can offer insights at local and regional levels. Papers which are collaborative, international or multi-disciplinary are especially welcome.

For themes, further information and to submit please go to:

www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk

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SCHOLARSHIPS

PhD Scholarship in Regional Planning

Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry)
Doctor of Philosophy Scholarship

About the scholarship: The project associated with this scholarship aims to encourage future planning professionals to become equipped with an understanding of how indigenous values can make a meaningful contribution to regional planning processes.

It is envisaged that the scholarship recipient will work closely with Darryl Low Choy (PhD supervisor) and other members of the research team to build on the intellectual/conceptual development of a larger ARC linkage project, however, the outcomes of the PhD and the ARC linkage project are not dependent on each other. This scholarship will be awarded to one full-time student enrolled to complete a PhD over the first two years of an ARC linkage project plus an additional year.

Successful applicants will conduct research to contribute to identifying and incorporating indigenous landscape values into regional – planning processes.

Value of scholarship: The value of this scholarship is \$AU 27,222 (minimum per annum, tax-free). This award is to be used for living expenses. This scholarship is paid fortnightly for the period of 3 years.

Eligibility: This scholarship is for study in Australia for those who

- Have achieved undergraduate Honours 2A or equivalent, or Masters by research in indigenous studies and/or regional planning; and
- Are currently enrolled in, or have just commenced, a Doctor of Philosophy program.

How to apply: Interested candidates are invited to send an expression of interest and their CV to:

Associate Professor Darryl Low Choy
Griffith School of Environment
Griffith University, Nathan campus
Nathan, QLD, 4111 Australia
Phone: +61 7 373 57496
Fax: +61 7 373 56684
Email: d.lowchoy@griffith.edu.au

For more information, please see
<http://www.griffith.edu.au/environment-planning-architecture/urban-research-program/newsevents/2009>

Seek advertisement:

<http://www.seek.com.au/job/phd-scholarship-in-regionalplanning/brisbane/17210276/76/1/>

Jason advertisement:

<http://www.jason.edu.au/scholarship.pl?id=4826&page=1>

IWC Water Leader Scholarships now open

<http://www.watercentre.org/education/programs/scholarships/iwc-scholarships>

Full and partial-tuition scholarships are now available to study International WaterCentre's (IWC) Master of Integrated Water Management.

Part-time/distance study option is available
Full scholarships - AU\$39,960
Partial scholarships
Scholarships open May 1 – August 1
Program starts February 2011

Eligibility

A completed undergraduate degree in a related field of study from an internationally-recognised institution
Demonstrated English language proficiency (As required by the University of Queensland)
Practical experience in a related field is preferred

Master of Integrated Water Management (MIWM)

The program takes a multi-disciplinary, whole-of-water cycle approach. It is a co-badged and co-taught degree by The University of Queensland, Griffith University, Monash University and The University of Western Australia.

The program equips students with the integration, leadership and managerial skills to become part of an elite group of water leaders with sustainable and holistic solutions to global water and climate change challenges.

The program commences February 2011 and can be completed in 12 or 18 months full-time or 3 years in part-time/distance study mode.

Apply:

<http://www.watercentre.org/education/programs/scholarships/iwc-scholarships>

Video about the program:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eJlaglAJneY>

Contact us: admin@watercentre.org

ANZRSAI Newsletter

ABOUT ANZRSAI

The Timing and Success Drivers of the ANZRSAI Annual Conference

Bob Stimson, Council member, the fourth President of ANZRSAI and President of RSAI 2005 and 2006 contributed this analysis.

The viability of the ANZRSAI Annual Conference depends on a good program of papers. Few practitioners actually give papers. The papers contributed by academic researchers (including graduate students) and the Bureau of Industry Transport and Regional Economics make the annual conference viable.

The conference runs in December to allow our academic members to attend the conferences of their home disciplines such as the Economic Society in September. Academics give their home discipline meetings their first preference.

ANZRSAI is a Regional Science Association International member and December is also more attractive to overseas regional scientists than September. December was the traditional time for the conference and that timing was restored in 2008. We need to keep with that at least for some years to see how it goes.

The other thing we need to remember is that ANZRSAI is a regional science association member and not a society exclusively for practitioners. Our academic role in providing a venue for and facilitating research reporting is crucial and needs to be maximised.

One day meetings catering for practitioners may be a very good idea, and could be arranged as events outside the annual conference, incorporating a training-oriented program if there is a market for it.

ANZRSAI Council Notes

Progress with the scanning of back issues of Sustaining Regions not presently available at www.anzrsai.org is continuing.

The financial position of ANZRSAI is strong, due mainly to the Pacific Regional Science Conference. Both income and expense are lower than budget. Standard Memberships have been affected by the change of membership year end from 30 June to 31 December.

ANZRSAI Council 2009-10

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Lincoln University, Canterbury NZ

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Contact details

Executive Officer
ANZRSAI
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University of Wollongong NSW 2500
Email: anzrsai@anzrsai.org
Website www.anzrsai.org
Ph 0409973329

ANZRSAI Newsletter



34th Annual Conference of the Australia and New Zealand Regional Science Association International

Rydges on Swanston Melbourne, Australia, 7-10 December 2010

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS

Following our successful hosting of the Pacific Regional Science Conference last year, ANZRSAI is calling for presentations at our 34th annual conference, which will take place at the Rydges on Swanston Melbourne hotel, 7-10 December 2010. This is a wonderful venue in easy walking distance from the Melbourne central business district and the famous cafes and restaurants of Lygon Street. The conference theme is:

Innovation and Regions: Theory, Practice and Policy

The committee invites contributions from academics, practitioners and policy advisors on any aspect of regional science for presentation at the conference. The programme will include *academic papers* (which may be peer reviewed), *PowerPoint presentations* and *special sessions* on topics in regional science theory, regional development practice or regional planning policy. A prize will be awarded to the best conference contribution, announced at the Awards Dinner on Thursday night.

The Committee welcomes papers on any aspect of regional science, but is particularly interested to receive papers reporting research or case studies on any of the following:

- Innovation and regional development
- Entrepreneurship and regional development
- Population policy, urbanisation and the “big Australia” debate
- Global cities in the twenty first century
- Metropolitan and regional planning
- Regional governance
- New regional structures in Australia
- Drivers of regional growth and decline
- Local economic development
- Networks, clusters and regional development
- Regional policies in Australia and New Zealand
- Sustainability and natural resource management
- Rural futures
- Human capital and regional development
- Liveability and population attraction strategies
- Regional labour markets
- Urban and regional economics
- Regional impacts of climate change and climate policy

ANZRSAI Newsletter

The programme committee welcomes contributions in the form of a PowerPoint presentation, an academic paper or a special session (made up of three presentations). Papers that are submitted in full by the 1st of October will be double-blind peer reviewed for publication in formal conference proceedings on the ANZRSAI website. Papers submitted to the conference may also be submitted to the Association's journal, the *Australasian Journal of Regional Science*, which is ranked as a tier B journal by the Australian Research Council.

In both cases, the first step is to submit an *Abstract* giving a brief introduction to the content of the contribution or proposed special session. The Abstract should be no more than 150 words, explaining the topic of the contribution and its main points or conclusions. The Abstract should make clear that the topic is suitable for a conference of people engaged in regional science theory, practice or policy. Decisions on submitted abstracts will be made within **three weeks** of receipt.

The indicative timetable for submitted papers is as follows:

1 June 2010	Second Call for Papers issued with details of venue, accommodation and registration fees
1 August 2010	Final date for submission of abstracts
1 September 2010	Final date for early bird registration Draft conference programme on website
1 October 2010	Final date for submission of full paper by authors wanting their contribution to be peer reviewed for the conference proceedings
1 November 2010	Final date for conference registration for paper presenters, for paper to be confirmed in the programme
15 November 2010	Final conference programme on website
7 December 2010	Conference opens

To submit an abstract for the conference, please send a Word or PDF attachment by email to the programme coordinator at the address below:

Professor Paul Dalziel
AERU, Lincoln University
New Zealand paul.dalziel@lincoln.ac.nz

For further information on the conference, please contact the conference convenor:

Dr Paul Collits
School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT University
Hamilton, Victoria, Australia paul.collits@rmit.edu.au
(+61 3 5572 05