

Sixteenth ESPE Conference and General Assembly in Bilbao 2002

Report, General Assembly

The Sixteenth General Assembly of the European Society for Population Economics was held on Saturday, June 15, 2002 in Athens. 60 members attended the meeting. The President, Robert Wright, led the Assembly. He thanked those involved with making the Bilbao meeting a success, especially the local organisers Sara de la Rica, Arantza Ugidos as well as Peter Kooreman, the scientific organiser. This year's meeting was very successful, which can be seen by the highly acclaimed plenary lectures of David Laibson and Charles Manski, but also by a very high quality of the contributed papers. The number of contributed papers reached 330 submissions, Peter Kooreman has chosen 180 presentations. Attendance at the meeting reached more than 200 participants. Robert Wright reported also from the conference fee waiver awards to encourage participation of graduate students and young researchers. 10 such waivers were awarded this year to the best student paper proposals. This scheme will be continued in the next conferences.

The next conference of ESPE will be held in New York City on the Campus of New York University, June 13-15 2002. This will be a special event in order to expand the worldwide appeal of the European Society for Population Economics, which has always had many collaborators and members from overseas. Chris Flinn from NYU will be both the local and the scientific organizer. Other members of the program committee are Daniela Del Boca (University of Turin) and Wilbert van der Klaauw (University of North Carolina). All submissions should be sent by e-mail to the program committee at gsas.econ.espe2003@nyu.edu. Submissions should include an abstract and, when possible, the paper itself. Preference will be given to submissions that include a complete paper, other things equal. Abstracts are to be submitted as plain text in the main body of the email; papers should be sent as attachments in either MS Word, .pdf, or .ps format. The submission deadline is February 1,

2003. Keynote lectures will be delivered by James Heckman (University of Chicago) and Thomas Sargent (Stanford University).

For the years 2004 the Council decided hold the Annual meeting in Bergen, Norway.

The Secretary of the Society, Rudolf Winter-Ebmer, reported on the recent elections. In total, 106 ballots were received. Christopher Flinn from New York University was elected President-elect. He will become President of the Society in 2004, Peter Kooreman from Groningen will take office in 2003. Rudolf thanked the outgoing Council Members Christian Dustmann, Peter Jensen and Barbara Wolf for their service to the Society. He welcomed Nina Smith from Aarhus as a new member in the Council, Paul Schultz, Marianne Sundström and Barry Chiswick were reelected. The positions are effective from January 2002. Further information about the Society is to be found on the Web-page of the Society. (<http://www.espe.org>) . He thanked also the outgoing Treasurer Bernd Raffelhüschen, who kept the books of the Society for 6 years, thereby accumulating not only members but also reserves. Regina Riphahn from Basel will take over his duties.

The books of the Society (kept still by the Treasurer Bernd Raffelhüschen) have been audited by Agneta Kruse and Marco Francesconi, their positive report has been approved by the Assembly. As of December 2001, the Society had 515 members.

Robert Wright, President.

Rudolf Winter-Ebmer, Secretary.