



# European Society for Population Economics

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## Newsletter – Autumn 2011

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## 1. 2011 Executive Committee and Council

### Executive Committee

<i>President</i>	Rudolf Winter-Ebmer	University of Linz, Austria
<i>President-Elect</i>	Sara de la Rica	University of the Basque Country, Spain
<i>Treasurer</i>	Thomas Bauer	University of Bochum, Germany
<i>Secretary</i>	Laura Hospido	Bank of Spain, Spain

### Council Members

James Albrecht Georgetown University, USA	Michèle Belot Nuffield College at Oxford, UK
Sonia Bhalotra University of Bristol, UK	Deborah Cobb-Clark University of Melbourne, Australia
Miles Corak Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Ottawa, Canada	Astrid Kunze Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration, Norway
Erik Plug University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands	Arthur van Soest Tilburg University, The Netherlands
Susan Vroman Georgetown University, USA	

## **2. Message from the 2011 President**

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as President of ESPE. I particularly enjoyed being part of the organizing team of the first ESPE congress held in Asia, the 25<sup>th</sup> congress in Hangzhou, China.

As there is no world-wide association covering population economics aspects, we always saw it as our duty to reach out to population economists from outside Europe. One way to do this is to go half-way. In the past we did this, with ESPE congresses held in North-America, i.e. in NY in 2003 and in Chicago, 2007. So it was a natural extension to welcome many population economists from South-East Asia and Australia/Pacific by holding a Congress in China. Moreover, China's population, its recent changes thereof, migration numbers, development, etc. make it the most interesting country to study population economics issues. In retrospect, I can confess that we were worried if it would be possible to bring so many researchers over to China, but also to attract sufficient scholars from other Continents.

After the congress, all our worries were in vain. Everybody, who was present, will still talk about the event in the years to come. It is true; we had a bit less participants than in the previous years; probably due to the long commute. In terms of scientific quality and excitement of the events, the congress was second to none. Sarah de la Rica with the help of a formidable committee formed an excellent program of contributed papers – also with many applications to Chinese problems. The papers represented the frontiers of research in household economics, labor economics, public economics, health economics and population economics, as well as a rich array of topics, often exploiting new data and advanced methods and also related to policy.

Paul Frijters – as one of the keynote speakers – gave us a fantastic insight into rural-urban migration in China. Sandra Black, on the other hand, presented important results from recent research on intergenerational mobility in terms of education and labor market outcomes. I gave the presidential address on the question of long-term effects of unemployment; an issue which will occupy us even more considering the still on-going economic crises.

Thanks to the great efforts and enthusiasm of the local organizing committee headed by Yao Zianguo, Junsen Zhang and Luna Wang all of us were offered a unique experience in one of the most interesting cities of China. We can now understand why more than 30 million visitors each year spend some time in Hangzhou, visit the West Lake and the picturesque surroundings. Nobody, who was at the outstanding conference dinner, will forget the fabulous musical presentations, including Peking Opera and remarkable contributions by faculty members from both sides of the pacific. Thanks again for all the enthusiasm in doing that.

Let me again thank all the people who made this possible, starting with the referees, the program chair, the local organizers and the singers in the concert and many others.

We are now looking forward to the society's next meeting which will take place in Bern (Switzerland) June 21-23. I am deeply convinced that Deborah Cobb-Clark will come up with a highly interesting program and Stefan Wolter from the University of Bern will organize the local affairs in an efficient and charming way. I am very much looking forward to meet all of you there.

Rudolf Winter-Ebmer  
2011 ESPE president

### **3. 25th ESPE Meeting and General Assembly in Hangzhou**

The Twenty-Fifth General Assembly of the European Society for Population Economics was held on Friday, June 17, 2011 at the Zhe jiang Narada Grand Hotel, Hangzhou.

The President of the Society, Rudolf Winter-Ebmer, chaired the Assembly. He informed that Sara de la Rica will be the next President in 2012 whereas Deborah Cobb-Clark will be the President-elect. He reported on the results of the elections held during the autumn of 2010. According to those results, he informed that the new members of the 2011 Council are Miles Corak and Astrid Kunze. Rudolf also thanked the members who left in December 2010: Alison Booth and Daniela del Boca. Special thanks were due to Sara de la Rica, the ESPE secretary in the last 6 years, who has contributed much to the development of the Society over this period. He also introduced Laura Hospido as the new secretary of the Society for the period 2011-2013.

The president informed that the council agreed on leaving the fees for the 2012 ESPE membership and for the 2012 conference as they are now: 70 EUR for membership, 325 Euros for early registration to the conference, and 375 Euros for late registration.

The report of the Journal of Population Economics was given by the Editor-in Chief Klaus Zimmerman. He reported that after smaller improvements in the years before, the number of submissions significantly increased in 2007 and 2009, with a small decline in 2010. Klaus informed that there has been a large increase in submissions by authors from Asia. Currently, 52% submissions are from Europe, 26% from North-America and 22% from Asia. Regarding the acceptance rate, he claimed that there is a clear trend for more restrictive decisions. Finally, Prof. Zimmermann noted that relatively few papers from the ESPE conference were submitted to JPopE and he encouraged participants to submit their papers to the Journal.

The president informed that the accounts of the Society, kept by the treasurer Thomas Bauer, have been audited by Nicole Schneeweis and Konstantinos Tatsiramos. Their positive report has been approved by the Assembly. Rudolf thanked the outgoing auditors René Böheim and Mark Taylor for their help during the last 6 years. Thomas Bauer made a presentation reporting the financial matters and membership situation in 2010. The net worth of ESPE is 85,394.25 Euros. As for the membership situation, ESPE has 696 members as of 31-12-2010.

Rudolf encouraged all ESPE members to use the intranet service available at the new ESPE website [www.espe.org](http://www.espe.org) in which any member can post job openings, conferences, or information on postgraduate studies.

Finally, as the chair of the Local Committee, Stefan C. Wolter announced that the 2012 ESPE Annual Conference will be held on June 20-23, at the University of Bern, Switzerland. Deborah Cobb-Clark will serve as the program chair.

Rudolf Winter-Ebmer, ESPE President  
Laura Hospido, ESPE secretary

#### **4. 2011 Elections: President-elect and Council Members**

Online-elections will take place in November 2011. The e-voting system will be provided to all members for whom we have a valid e-mail address. We will elect the new president-elect and two new council members. One candidate for president-elect and four candidates for the council are proposed and their biographical details are listed alphabetically below.

##### **Candidate for 2013 President-Elect**

**James Albrecht** is Professor of Economics at the Department of Economics of Georgetown University. He has a Masters in Statistics and a Ph.D. in Economics from UC Berkeley. He has taught courses in statistics, microeconomics, labor economics and mathematics for economists at Georgetown. He regularly spends time in Sweden as a visiting researcher.

His research is mostly in the general area of labor economics. He is doing theoretical work on equilibrium search and matching models of unemployment and wage dispersion, and he is doing empirical work that applies quantile regression techniques to the problem of decomposing differences between distributions, e.g., between male and female wage distributions.

For more details, please visit: <http://www9.georgetown.edu/faculty/albrecht/>

##### **Candidates for the Council**

**Arnaud Chevalier** is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Economics of Royal Holloway, University of London. He received his PhD at the University of Birmingham in 2000. He is also affiliated as Research Associate at the Geary Institute, University College Dublin, and at the Centre for the Economics of Education, London School of Economics, and as Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA). He is joint Editor of the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A*.

His main research interest is in labor economics and more precisely the economics of education but he is also interested in health and family economics. Arnaud Chevalier's research has been published in the *Economics of Education Review*, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A*, and *Journal of Health Economics*, among others.

More details at: <http://personal.rhul.ac.uk/urte/247/>

**Mikael Lindahl** is Professor in Economics at Uppsala University. Before he held research positions at SOFI, Stockholm University, SCHOLAR, University of Amsterdam and Uppsala University. He received his PhD in Economics at Stockholm University in 2001. He holds the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences special research position in Economic Sciences (since July 2010). He is a member of the Editorial board of *Economics of Education Review*, where he served as an associated editor 2008-2010.

His main research interests are in the area of empirical labor economics, economics of education and intergenerational mobility. Mikael Lindahl's research has been published in the *Journal of Economic Literature*, *Journal of Human Resources*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, and *Review of Economics and Statistics*, among others.

More details at: <http://www.nek.uu.se/cgi/staffpage.pl?PIId=179,lang=eng>

**Erdal Tekin** is Associate Professor of Economics at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University. He received his PhD in Economics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2001. He is also affiliated as Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER), Health Economics Program and the Program on Children, and as Research Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA). He is Editor of the *Journal of Population Economics*.

His main research interests are in the fields of labor economics, health economics, and applied microeconomics. Erdal Tekin's research has been published in the *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Journal of Law and Economics*, *Journal of Human Resources*, and *Journal of Population Economics*, among others.

More details at: <http://www.gsu.edu/~ecoext>

**Andrea Weber** is Professor for Applied Political Economy at the University of Mannheim. Before she held a research position at RWI Essen financed by a grant from the Leibniz Society and was a visiting assistant professor at the University of California at Berkeley. She received her PhD at the Technical University of Vienna in 2002 and a habilitation degree from the University of Linz in 2008. She is also affiliated as Research Consultant with the Austrian Institute of Economic Research, as Research Affiliate at the Centre for Economic Policy Research, London, and as Fellow of the CESifo Research Network.

Her research areas are labor economics and microeconometrics with special focus on the role of institutions and labor market policies in individual labor supply decisions. Andrea Weber's research has been published in the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, *Economic Journal*, and *American Economic Review* P&P, among others.

More details at: <http://weber.vwl.uni-mannheim.de/2476.0.html>

## **5. Call for Papers: 2012 ESPE Meeting**

The 26th Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics (ESPE) will take place on **June 20-23, 2012**, at the University of Bern, Switzerland.

The aim of the Conference is to facilitate the exchange of research ideas and results across a range of fields, including the economics of the household, labor economics, public economics, demography, and health economics. Examples of research topics are: human capital investment, gender issues, intra-household distribution, aging and social security, taxation, population and economic growth, domestic and international migration, income distribution and redistribution within and between generations, technological change and the environment.

Deborah Cobb-Clark (University of Melbourne) will serve as the program chair and Stefan C. Wolter (University of Bern) as chair of the local organizing committee. The keynote speakers at ESPE2012 will be Muriel Niederle (Stanford University) and John Van Reenen (London School of Economics). The presidential address will be given by Sara de la Rica (University of the Basque Country).

The conference will provide the opportunity to present papers. ESPE2012 will also have poster sessions. Papers and abstracts should be submitted electronically using the on-line submission form (please tick on the electronic submission form whether you wish to present a paper or a poster when indicated). Submissions should include an abstract and, when possible, the paper itself in pdf format (one single file, including tables and figures). Preference will be given to submissions that include a completed paper.

The submission **deadline is February 1, 2012**. Acceptance decisions will be announced by the end of March. We particularly encourage graduate students to apply. Waivers of the conference registration fee will be provided for 25 graduate students. It is necessary that students apply for the waiver in the on-line submission and that his/her advisor confirms the student status. For more details, please visit the conference website: <http://www.especonferences.org>

## **6. Other Conferences for 2012**

### **6.1. 15th IZA European Summer School in Labor Economics April 23-29, 2012, at Buch, Ammersee Lake, Germany**

The IZA European Summer School in Labor Economics was created in 1998, as an annual event taking place at the conference center of Deutsche Post DHL at the Ammersee Lake (near Munich) in Bavaria, Germany. The Summer School is supported by the *Centre for Economic Policy Research* (CEPR), the *European Economic Association* (EEA), the *European Association of Labour Economists* (EALE), and the *European Society for Population Economics* (ESPE).

The objective of the Summer School is to bring together a large number of PhD students and senior lecturers to study new areas in labor economics. Students have the opportunity to present their work and discuss ideas with established researchers in a relaxed and open atmosphere.

The School is open to advanced graduate students from European universities, or Europeans studying abroad, engaged in the preparation of a doctoral dissertation or approaching that stage. Around 35 students will be selected, based on their preparation to participate in advanced study on the subject.

#### **Lecturers**

Andrew Oswald (University of Warwick and IZA): "The Economics of Happiness and Health"

Rainer Winkelmann (University of Zurich): "Econometric Advances in Discrete Data Modeling, with Applications to Health and Well-being"

#### **Funding**

Local expenses and traveling are covered.

#### **Application**

Applications to participate should be submitted by **January 18, 2012**, using the online submission form at <http://www.iza.org/link/SUMS>. Please submit your CV and an abstract for a potential presentation of your research work. A letter of support from your PhD supervisor must be sent before the deadline by regular mail to **Anne Gielen**, IZA, Schaumburg-Lippe-Str. 5-9, 53113 Bonn, Germany, or by email to [gielen@iza.org](mailto:gielen@iza.org)

## **6.2. 17th Annual Meetings of the Society of Labor Economists May 4-5, 2012, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago, IL**

To submit a paper for consideration at the meetings it is not necessary to be a member of SOLE. You must submit a full paper for either a regular session or poster session. Please email your paper to [sole@soclabor.org](mailto:sole@soclabor.org). Only one submission per person. In your email, put: (i) the name and address of the submitting author, (ii) the title of the paper in Upper and Lower Case Letters, and (iii) a maximum of two JEL codes.

The deadline for submissions is OCTOBER 31 2011.

NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS -- <http://www.sole-jole.org/sole.htm>

## **6.3. 11th IZA/SOLE Transatlantic Meeting of Labor Economists May 31 - June 3, 2012, at at Buch, Ammersee Lake, Germany**

We are happy to announce the organization of the Eleventh IZA/SOLE Transatlantic Meeting of Labor Economists to be held at the Ammersee Conference Center in Bavaria/Germany on May 31 - June 3, 2012.

Those who wish to participate are invited to submit abstracts of papers by using our [online application form](#). Papers by scholars who have not completed a Ph.D. degree or equivalent by January 31, 2012, will not be considered. Papers by those who participated in this Meeting in 2009, 2010 or 2011 will also not be considered.

The deadline for submission is January 16, 2012.

The program committee consists of Dan A. Black (University of Chicago and IZA), Marco Caliendo (IZA) and Daniel S. Hamermesh (University of Texas at Austin and IZA). Decisions of acceptance or rejection by the program committee will be announced no later than February 20, 2012.

Economy class air travel costs for presenters of papers that have been accepted will be reimbursed according to IZA guidelines. IZA will also provide accommodation, breakfasts, lunches and dinners at the conference venue.

## **7. Call for Contributions to the Newsletter and the ESPE website**

The ESPE newsletter and the ESPE website provide information on the society's activities, on past, present and future events within or outside the Society's framework. All members are kindly invited to use both the ESPE Newsletter and the ESPE website to make announcements of events in the field of population economics. Please send all contributions to the Secretary by email to [info@espe.org](mailto:info@espe.org) or use the intranet service available at the ESPE website: <http://www.espe.org>