



# European Society for Population Economics

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## Newsletter – Autumn 2012

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## 1. 2012 Executive Committee and Council

### Executive Committee

<i>President</i>	Sara de la Rica	University of the Basque Country, Spain
<i>President-Elect</i>	Deborah Cobb-Clark	Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, Australia
<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  
University of Edinburgh, UK

Sonia Bhalotra  
University of Bristol, UK

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

Mikael Lindahl  
Uppsala University, Sweden

Arthur van Soest  
Tilburg University, The Netherlands

Susan Vroman  
Georgetown University, USA

Andrea Weber  
University of Mannheim, Germany

## **2. Message from the 2012 President**

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as ESPE President during 2012. I sincerely enjoyed our 26<sup>th</sup> conference held in the beautiful Bern, Switzerland. For me it has been the perfect way to close an over 10 year period of service to ESPE - first as a member of the council, then as secretary, and finally as President-elect and President.

The success of every conference depends on the effort and hard work of many people, often "invisible", who generously devote a lot of time to organize it. In this regards, Stefan Wolter and his team, as local organizers, did a wonderful job in making life very easy to all participants at the conference. Deborah Cobb-Clark, as the program chairman, managed to select and organize, with the help of the referee Committee, the best 250 papers out of more than 700 submissions. Among the more invisible ones, Laura Hospido and Thomas Bauer, as ESPE secretary and treasurer, respectively, are always behind every action taken by the society with regards to the conference. And finally all council members, who help the Executive Committee to organize and eventually improve the ESPE conference, which is the most important event of the society. Thanks sincerely to all you.

But in addition to a successful logistic organization of the conference, there is an essential ingredient for the conference to succeed, and this is of course the quality of the scientific level of the papers presented at it. In this regards, given partly to the increasing number of paper submissions to the conference, partly to the overall increase in the quality of research in our field, and possibly partly due to a positive selection of participants in our conference, the papers presented in Bern were in general of very high and increasing quality.

Paper presentations came accompanied with excellent conferences given by our two keynote speakers – John Van Reenen, from the London School of Economics, and Muriel Niederle, from Stanford. Both speakers gave excellent talks and helped us devise the frontier of research in very different and hot topics. John reviewed the latest evidence on Wage Inequality, Skill Demand and Skill Supply. Muriel reviewed the most recent experimental evidence on differences in competitive behaviour between women and men. Thanks, John and Muriel for your excellent talks.

Social events are also necessary to relax from paper presentations. This year the conference coincided with the European Football Championship, and local organizers took us to the Bern Stadium for dinner. We watched Germany playing (and winning) on the Stadium TV, which made German participants at the conference very happy.

We are now looking forward to the society's next meeting which will take place in Aarhus (Denmark) in June 13-15. I am deeply convinced that Jim Albrecht, as the program chairman will come up with a highly interesting program and Helena Skyt Nielsen and Nina Smith, as local organizers, will organize everything in a very efficient way so all participants feel very comfortable and have a nice stay.

I am very much looking forward to meet all of you there.

Sara de la Rica  
2012 ESPE president

### **3. 26th ESPE Meeting and General Assembly in Bern**

The Twenty-Sixth General Assembly of the European Society for Population Economics was held on Friday, June 22, 2012 at the University of Bern.

The President of the Society, Sara de la Rica, chaired the Assembly.

She informed that Deborah Cobb-Clark will be the next President in 2013 whereas James Albrecht will be the President-elect. He reported on the results of the elections held during the autumn of 2011. According to those results, he informed that the new members of the 2012 Council are Mikael Lindahl and Andrea Weber. Sara also thanked Erik Plug, Council member who left in December 2011.

The president informed that the council agreed on reducing the fees for the 2013 ESPE membership and for the 2013 Annual Conference, given that Springer has offered all ESPE members a cheaper online access to the Journal of Population Economics. Given that, the fee for ESPE membership will be 40 EUR, whereas the normal conference fee will be 300 Euros for early registration and 350 Euros for late registration. This normal fee includes ESPE membership and online access to the Journal. Members will also have the option of receiving a print-version of the Journal for an early registration fee of 330 Euros (380 Euros in case of late registration). In this latter case members will need to provide a valid mail address during the registration process. PhD Students will have a reduced fee of 230 Euros for early registration to the conference, and 280 Euros for late registration.

The report of the Journal of Population Economics was given by the Editor-in Chief, Klaus Zimmerman. He emphasized that this year marks twenty-five years of the Journal. He reported that apart from a small dip in 2010, the number of submissions has been consistently increasing and now exceeds 400 submissions in a given year. Klaus also informed that the ranking of the Journal is further rising and that the origin of submissions overwhelmingly continues to be from Europe. 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 the Journal; hence he encouraged participants to submit their papers to it.

Thomas Bauer, treasurer of the Society, made a presentation reporting the financial matters and membership situation in 2011. As of 31-12-2011, the net worth of ESPE is 70.505,01 Euros. As for the membership situation, ESPE has 754 members. He also informed that the accounts have been audited by Nicole Schneeweis and Konstantinos Tatsiramos. Their positive report has been approved by the Assembly.

Finally, on behalf of the Local Organizing Committee, Helena Skyt Nielsen announced that the 2013 ESPE Annual Conference will be held on June 12-15, at Aarhus University, Denmark. James Albrecht will serve as the program chair.

Sara de la Rica, ESPE President  
Laura Hospido, ESPE secretary

#### **4. 2012 Elections: President-elect and Council Members**

Online-elections will take place in October 2012. 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 four new council members. One candidate for president-elect and six candidates for the council are proposed and their biographical details are listed alphabetically below.

##### **Candidate for 2014 President-Elect**

**Erik Plug** is Professor of Economics at Amsterdam School of Economics of the University of Amsterdam. Previously, he was Director of Graduate Studies at Tinbergen Institute and held positions at Erasmus University Rotterdam and Wageningen University. He has a Master in Econometrics and PhD in Economics from the University of Amsterdam. His research interests relate to family, education and labor economics. His research is always empirically orientated. Recent examples include family-driven estimation strategies (relying on adoptees and twins) applied to topics in intergenerational mobility and the economics of sexual minorities. Erik Plug's research has been published in the American Economic Review, Industrial and Labor Relations Review, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Economic Literature, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Population Economics and the Quarterly Journal of Economics.

For more details, please visit: <http://plug.economists.nl/>

##### **Candidates for the 2013 Council**

**Michèle Belot** is Professor in Economics at the University of Edinburgh. She received her Ph.D. from Tilburg University in 2003. She held previous positions at Oxford University, the University of Essex and the Netherlands bureau for Economic Policy Analysis. She is also a fellow of the Institute for Socio-Economic Research based at the University of Essex. Her research covers a broad range of topics in health, education and behavioural economics. Part of her recent work focuses on dietary choices among children and the effects of diet on educational outcomes. Her research has been published in the Economic Journal, the Review of Economics and Statistics, the Journal of Health Economics and the Journal of Human Resources among others.

More details at: <https://sites.google.com/site/mvkbelot/>

**Sonia Bhalotra** is Professor in the Department of Economics at the University of Bristol. She holds an MPhil and DPhil from Oxford and a BSc from Delhi. She currently has research programmes on the persistent impacts of early life health interventions and the political economy of public service delivery. Individual papers deliver results pertinent to political identity, health and welfare reform, the intergenerational transmission of human capital and poverty, and the dynamics of mortality, fertility and sex selection. Her research has been published in the Review of Economics and Statistics, the American Economic Review P&P, the Journal of Econometrics, the Journal of Public Economics, the Journal of Development Economics and the Journal of Health Economics, amongst others.

More details at: <http://www.efm.bris.ac.uk/ecsr/bhalotra.htm>

**Albrecht Glitz** is Assistant Professor at Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, where he joined after receiving his PhD in Economics from University College London

in 2007. He is also affiliated as a research fellow at IZA and the Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration (CReAM). His main research interests are in the fields of labour economics, with a special focus on the economics of immigration and social networks. Albrecht Glitz's research has been published in the Journal of Labor Economics, the Economic Journal and the European Economic Review, among others.

More details at: <http://www.econ.upf.edu/~glitz/>

**Libertad González** is an Associate Professor of Economics at Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona). She holds a PhD from Northwestern University (2003). She is also an affiliated professor at the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics, a research fellow at IZA, a research associate at the Columbia Population Research Center, and a research fellow at the Centre for Research and Analysis of Migration (CReAM). Her research fields are in Labor and Public Economics, and she has worked mainly on topics related to family policy and migration. She has published in the Journal of Applied Econometrics, the Journal of Human Resources, the American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, the European Economic Review, and Labour Economics, among others.

More details at: <http://www.econ.upf.edu/~gonzalez/>

**David Ribar** is Professor of Economics at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and a research fellow at IZA. He received his Ph.D. from Brown University in 1991. He held previous positions at The George Washington University and the Pennsylvania State University, and one-year positions at the U.S. Census Bureau and the Administration for Children and Families. He serves as a co-editor of the Southern Economic Journal, associate editor at the Journal of Population Economics and the Review of Economics of the Household, and on the Board of Overseers for the PSID. He has conducted research on child care, the consequences of teenage fertility, the economic motivations behind public and private transfers, welfare reform, the administrative burdens of assistance programs, people's time use, and other topics. He has published in the American Economic Review, American Sociological Review, Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Population Economics, and Demography, among others.

More details at: <http://www.uncg.edu/bae/people/ribar/cv.pdf>

**Susan Vroman** is Professor of Economics at Georgetown University and a research fellow at IZA. She has been a visitor at the Tinbergen Institute in Amsterdam, Stockholm University, Osaka University, University of Melbourne, and the University Aix-Marseille. She does both theoretical and empirical research in labour economics. Her theoretical research focuses on the role of search frictions in explaining both unemployment and the distribution of wages. Her previous theoretical projects have been published in the Journal of Economic Theory, the International Economic Review, the Review of Economic Studies, and the Economic Journal. Her current empirical projects include research on the parental leave system in Sweden and on wages of black versus white women in the US. Her earlier work on gender issues has been published in the Journal of Labor Economics, the Journal of Human Resources, and Labour Economics.

More details at: <http://www9.georgetown.edu/faculty/vromans/>

## 5. Call for Papers: 2013 ESPE Meeting in Aarhus, Denmark

The 27th Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics (ESPE) will take place on June 12-15, 2013, at Aarhus University, Denmark.

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, labour 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.

James Albrecht (Georgetown University) will serve as the program chair and Helena Skyt Nielsen and Nina Smith (Aarhus University) as local organizers. The keynote speakers will be Bill Evans (University of Notre Dame) and Armin Falk (University of Bonn). The presidential address will be given by Deborah Cobb-Clark (University of Melbourne).

Abstracts and papers must be submitted electronically using the on-line submission form. Submissions must include an abstract and, if possible, the complete paper itself in pdf format (one single file, including tables and figures). Preference will be given to submissions that include a complete paper.

The submission deadline is February 1, 2013. Acceptance decisions will be announced by the end of March. Graduate students have a reduced registration fee, provided that his/her advisor confirms the student status.

For more details, please visit the conference web page: [www.especonferences.org](http://www.especonferences.org)

## 6. 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>

Continuously updated information on forthcoming events is available at the ESPE website: [espe.org](http://www.espe.org) >> [Events](#)