



ARSC NEWS

The Newsletter of the Applied Regional Science Conference

No.106

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1. Inauguration Address from the New President

“A Time When the Significance of the Society is Questioned”

Makoto Okumura, The 18-th President of the ARSC

I have been succeeded Prof. Yoshiaki Ohsawa as the President of the Applied Regional Science Conference (ARSC) for a period of two years from April 2021. Although my insufficient talent, I am determined to work together with the vice president Prof. Takaaki Takahashi, steering committee members, and others for the development of this society.

It has been 34 years since the Society was founded in 1987, and the research environment has changed dramatically since then. Many high-quality texts on basic theories in econometrics, spatial statistics, urban economics, and new urban economics have been published. Electronic journals are now available in online databases, allowing users to search by keywords and citation links, and to use translation tools to translate difficult English texts. At the same time, however, we have entered an era in which it is necessary to grasp global research trends and find your own themes and methods, in which you will demonstrate your originality. I believe that the role of academic societies in these times is "to know what is going on at some distance, by means of exchange."

The present search method is efficient for getting to know a narrow area in depth, but there is a danger of staying deep in one "well". A talk by a researcher in a neighboring field may not immediately lead to the solution of your own problem, but it may lead to the creation of new ideas over time.

For a long time, our society has been suffering from the imbalance between the stagnant number of members and the cost burden of international journals, etc. However, thanks to the efforts of our seniors, the system of journal publication has been reorganized and some financial room has been created. Taking advantage of this, we have waived the annual membership fee for student members since this year. In addition, due to the COVID-19 pandemical disaster, the Annual Conference of ARSC and the Asian Regional Science Seminar (ASRS) are now decided to be held online. It may dramatically reduce the cost in time and money for participation. Although it is less appealing than sharing the same place and time, and even eating and drinking together, listening to online presentations and chatting back to the presenter with questions and comments can be a good opportunity to make new relationships. Don't be afraid to start interacting with others to find out what's going on a little further away. I strongly hope that this ARSC society will provide such a place.

We are looking forward to receiving ideas and opinions from you, our members, as we move forward in a direction that will lead to the development of the Society. Thank you very much for your support. Finally, I have been pleasantly surprised by the dramatic improvement in machine translation technology provided free of charge by www.DeepL.com to complete this message!

2. Election Result for Vice President

The election for the Vice President of ARSC was held by the online voting ended on March 25 2021. Professor Takaaki Takahashi (University of Tokyo) was elected. His term, as a vice president, is from April 2021 to March 2023.

3. The 35th Annual Meeting of ARSC

The 35th Annual Meeting will be organized under the direction of Professor Shoichiro Nakayama (Kanazawa University), who heads the organizing committee. Pertinent information is summarized below.

Conference Website: <<https://sites.google.com/view/arsc2021knzwen>>

Dates: November 20-21, 2021

- Paper sessions are scheduled on November 20-21
- Early-bird sessions are scheduled on Saturday, November 20.
- Sakashita Prize lecture and the ARSC general meeting are scheduled on Saturday, November 20.

Venue: Online (The online url is provided afterwards.)

Registration Fee:

- Free.
- Only ARSC members can get access to the online url. (TBA)

Session:

1. General sessions
2. Early-bird sessions:
Research papers presented by Ph.D./Master course students.
3. Special sessions
4. Think-tank (practical) sessions

For the abstract submission and registration, please go to
<https://sites.google.com/view/arsc2021knzwen/registration>

For the abstract submission, please fill out the form with information (a~h) below for

- a. Name and Affiliation of Presenter
- b. Name and Affiliation of Joint Authors
- c. E-mail of Presenter and Membership number of the ARSC (please write 0000, if your ARSC status is still on pending in process.)
- d. Title (Either Japanese or English)
- e. Abstract (200 words in Japanese or 100 words in English)
- f. Language used at presentation (Either Japanese or English)
- g. Preferred Facilitator (Up to 2 people.)
Please enter at least one preferred facilitator.

h. Sessions ("General sessions", "Early-bird sessions", "Special sessions", "Think-tank (practical sessions)")

Important dates:

Deadline for the abstract submission: September 15.

Conference program to be announced: October 21.

Deadline for full papers: November 6.

Deadline for registration: November 6.

Contact information:

arsc2021knzw@gmail.com

4. The 11th Asian Seminar in Regional Science

The 11th Asian Seminar in Regional Science will be held as an online conference, between October 8 - 9, 2021, by the Chinese Regional Science Association – Taiwan (CRSA-T) (Feng-Chia University is in charge).

Dates: October 8th – 9th, 2021

Venue: Online

For more information, please visit the following website

[<https://www.11thasrs-fcuupsi.com/>](https://www.11thasrs-fcuupsi.com/)

5. Call for Papers from the ARSC Journal

Morito Tsutsumi, Chief Editor

The editorial board of “Journal of Applied Regional Science” calls for papers to enrich the contents of our Journal. The Journal will be published once or twice a year. Our board is ready to receive your submission anytime and will assign some referees to each submitted paper. Contact us, the editorial board, by E-Mail. (Address is below.)

(See ARSC Homepage, <http://www.arsc.org/en/index.html>)

Address:

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6. The Balance Sheet for Fiscal 2020

The Balance sheet for fiscal year 2020 is summarized below. Details will be reported in the next issue.

(10,000 Jpn.Yen)

Credits		Debits	
Balance brought forward	262	RURDS publication costs	0
Membership dues	457	ARSC Journal publication	21
Others	0	Annual meeting costs	12
		Remittance to RSAI	22
		General administrative costs	111
Total Credits	719	Total Debits	166
		Balance carried forward	553

7. Report of the ARSC Managing Committee

The first meeting of the ARSC Managing Committee was held on August 1st, 2021, by online. The discussed issues are summarized below. If you are interested in some particular topics, please contact the Secretariat by e-mail.

* Election result for Vice President (reported in this issue).

* Balance Sheet of Fiscal 2020 (reported in this issue).

* Sakashita Prize

Members of the selection committee for the 2021 Sakashita Prize are shown below.

Tomoya Mori (Kyoto University), Yasuhiro Sato (University of Tokyo), Kazuhiro Yamamoto (Osaka University), Makoto Okumura (ARSC President), Takaaki Takahashi (ARSC Vice President)

* Editing manager of the ARSC journal reported that the journal No.24 will be published soon.

* ARSC Annual Meeting (reported in this issue)

8. Report from the Secretariat



* ARSC member counts

As of August 31, 2021, we have 467 personal members (407 ordinary members, 57 students, 3 oversea members), and 5 corporate members.

If you know someone who is interested in the research fields related to regional science, whether individuals or groups, please recommend them to join the ARSC. You can always download the application forms from <http://www.arsc.org/en/arscform-e.html>.

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