

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN INCOME AND WEALTH

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32nd IARIW General Conference, Boston, USA, August 5-11, 2012

For the first time in the history of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW), the General Conference is being held in the United States. Preparations for our 32nd IARIW General Conference, which is taking place in Boston August 5-11, are almost complete. With over 320 persons already registered, the conference will set a record for attendance. Thanks to the great work done by the local organizer, the US Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), this conference breaks new ground in several ways.

First, the opening plenary session of the conference will be joint with our American counterpart, the Conference on Research in Income and Wealth (CRIW). IARIW delegates can also attend the concurrent sessions of the CRIW conference on measuring economic stability and progress being held in the same hotel, August 6-8. The program for this conference is posted at <http://users.nber.org/~confer/2012/CRIWf12/program.html>.

Second, thanks to a generous donation from the Sloan Foundation on Wednesday, August 8th delegates will have the option of attending special sessions on the tradeoff between timeliness and accuracy and on big data and official statistics. The BEA has put together a stellar set of speakers for these two sessions. National accountants will find these sessions particularly useful.

Third, conference delegates will have the opportunity to hear two extremely high-profile economists. At the dinner Monday evening in honour of Robert Summers, Lawrence Summers, currently Charles Elliot University Professor at Harvard University and President Emeritus at Harvard University as well as a former US Treasury Secretary, will speak. At the farewell banquet on Friday evening Ben Bernanke, Chair of the Federal Reserve Board, will address the audience via videofeed.

Conference delegates are reminded that it is the discussants who both present and discuss the papers at IARIW General Conferences. This means that authors of papers do not have to prepare PowerPoint presentations for their papers.

On-line Availability of Conference Papers

It has long been an IARIW tradition to distribute papers before the conference to allow participants the opportunity to read them before the event. It is believed that this availability improves the quality of the discussion at the conference. The internet now allows us to make papers available before the conference not just to those attending the conference, but to all members, and indeed to the general public.

I am pleased to announce that almost all of the 185 papers for the upcoming 32nd IARIW General Conference to be held in Boston, USA, August 5-11 are now posted at <http://www.iariw.org/c2012.php>

I hope that many conference participants will have an opportunity to read papers of interest before the conference and to relate their comments to the authors at the conference.

Council Election

Members are reminded that the deadline for receipt of ballots for the election of IARIW Council members for the 2012-2018 term is midnight EST on August 1. If you are uncertain whether you have voted, or want to verify that your ballot has been recorded, a list of members who have cast their ballot by July 23 is posted at <http://www.iariw.org/CouncilVotes.pdf>. The ballot is attached for IARIW members in good standing who have not voted. Biographies of the Candidates are posted at <http://www.iariw.org/councilrecom2012.php>. The results of the election will be officially announced at the members' meeting on August 7.

Membership Meeting

The meeting of the members of the Association will take place at 20:30 on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 at the 32nd IARIW General Conference at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Boston, USA. The agenda for the meeting is posted at www.iariw.org/agenda2012.pdf.

Session Proposals for the 2014 General Conference

Members are reminded that session proposals for the 33rd IARIW General Conference, which will take place in the Netherlands in August 2014, are now being received by the secretariat (info@iariw.org) and will continue to be received until noon on Tuesday, August 7. These proposals will be distributed and discussed at the membership meeting.

Upcoming Special Conferences in 2013

Building on the success of the two special conferences held in 2011, the IARIW is planning two special conferences for 2013. The first, co-organized in collaboration with the national statistical agency in Brazil (IBGE), will be on income and wealth issues in Latin America. It will take place in Rio de Janeiro in September 2013. The second, co-organized with the University of New South Wales in Australia, will be on productivity issues. It will take place in Sydney in late November or early December 2013. The call for papers for both conferences will be issued shortly after the General Conference in August.

I look forward to seeing many members in less than two weeks in Boston!

Best Regards,

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