

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN INCOME AND WEALTH

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500-111 SPARKS STREET
OTTAWA, ONTARIO
CANADA K1P 5B5

TELEPHONE: 613-233-8891
FAX: 613-233-8250
E-MAIL: info@iariw.org
WEB SITE: www.iariw.org

ANDREW SHARPE (*Executive Director*)

Memorandum

To: Members of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth

From: Andrew Sharpe, Executive Director

Date: March 9, 2006

Subject: Update of IARIW Activities

I am writing to update the membership on current and future developments related to the Association. Individual members who have not prepaid their 2006 dues will shortly receive an invoice by email. Invoices for institutional members will be sent out by email shortly.

The year 2005 was a major period of transition for the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW), with the move of the secretariat from New York to Ottawa. Major achievements included:

- the approval by the membership of a new set of bylaws;
- a significant improvement in the financial position of the IARIW, reflecting increased revenues and lower costs;
- development of an on-line credit card payment system through Paypal by which individual members can pay their dues (around 80 per cent of individual members now use this method of payment);
- publication of four issues of the *Review of Income and Wealth*;
- the posting of IARIW published material (Series 1-11) from the pre-1966 period (the year the *Review of Income and Wealth* was established) at www.roiw.org. Many of these documents are of great historical (and current) interest as they represent seminal contributions from the pioneers in the national accounts field, including Simon Kuznets, Raymond Goldsmith, Colin Clark, Ragnar Frisch and Richard Stone.

The main activity for the current year will of course be the 29th IARIW General Conference that will take place August 20-26 in Joensuu, Finland. In response to the

large number of proposals received, the Conference Organizing Committee decided to increase the number of sessions. In addition to three plenary sessions, there will be 19 concurrent or parallel sessions, with a total of 144 papers. There will also be two poster sessions. The most recent version of the program is posted at <http://www.iariw.org/c2006.asp>.

Statistics Finland, our host for this event, this week released information on registration and accommodation (<http://www.stat.fi/iariw2006/registration.html>). On-line registration will be available next week.

Because of the Association's improved financial position, the Council has approved the expenditure of up to \$20,000 US for papergivers who require financial assistance to participate in the conference. Details on the criteria for assistance and an application form are posted at http://www.iariw.org/apply_x.asp.

Three positions on the Council will become vacant in August 2006. The call for nominations is posted on the website (<http://www.iariw.org/councilnom.asp>). The deadline for nominations is June 15, 2006. An email ballot will be distributed to members shortly thereafter. A call for nominations to the Editorial Board of the *Review of Income and Wealth* is also posted (<http://www.iariw.org/edboardnom.asp>).

Until a decade ago, it was IARIW practice to organize specialized/regional conferences in non-General Conference years, the last in India in 1998. We hope to bring back this tradition. In collaboration with the Chinese National Bureau of Statistics, the IARIW is planning to hold a conference in the fall of 2007 in Beijing, China on basic measurement issues, both macro and micro, in countries that have undergone transition from the Material Production System (MPS) to SNA. The call for papers will be released shortly. If you are doing research on any of these transition countries, you are encouraged to submit a proposal for an organized session or a paper.

On an administrative note, members are asked to verify their information on the website membership directory (<http://www.iariw.org/memlist.asp>). Changes can be made on-line through the application and information update form.

Members are invited to contact me regarding any area of concern related to the Association. I hope to see as many members as possible at the General Conference in Finland in August.