

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN INCOME AND WEALTH

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ANDREW SHARPE (*Executive Director*)

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Updates on IARIW activities:

IARIW-ICRIER Conference on Income, Inequality and Poverty in South Asia

The IARIW special conference organized by the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth (IARIW) and the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) entitled "Experiences and Challenges in Measuring Income, Inequality and Poverty in South Asia" will take place at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi November 23 and 25, 2017. A total of 29 papers will be presented on a wide range of topics related to income, inequality and poverty in South Asia. The keynote address by Martin Rama, Chief Economist at the World Bank for South Asia is entitled "Challenges in Measuring Poverty and Inequality." The lead paper at the conference is by Thomas Piketty and Lucas Chancel from the Paris School of Economics and is entitled "Indian Income Inequality, 1922-2014: From British Raj to Billionaire Raj?" The conference program with links to all papers is available at <http://www.iariw.org/c2017India.php>. Information on the conference is found at <http://icrier.org/iariw-icrier-conference/>

35th IARIW General Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark August 20-25, 2018

Plans are proceeding well for the 35th IARIW General Conference which will take place in Copenhagen, Denmark August 20-25, 2018. Statistics Denmark is the local organizer. A total of 289 submissions from researchers in 43 countries were received by the September 30 deadline. The session organizers and program committee, under the leadership of IARIW President Albert Braakmann, are currently working on the scientific program, which is expected to be out by the end of the year. Two important changes for this General Conference are that it is one day shorter, starting on the Monday evening instead of the Sunday evening, and that evening meals will not be included in the conference package. The conference will still have an opening reception, a one half day excursion, and a farewell dinner. The 2018 Ruggles Lecture will be given by Tim Smeeding from the University of Wisconsin and IARIW Chair in 2002-2004.

Immediately preceding the conference on August 19 and 20, the IARIW will continue its tradition of organizing training courses for the membership. In 2018 there will again be a training session on national accounts taught by Francois Lequiller, recently retired from the OECD. The second training session next year to be taught by Robert Zelli and Maria Grazia Pittau, both from the University of Rome, will be on the advantages and disadvantages of non- and semi-parametric methods for data classification and categorization. A brief description of the course is found at <http://iariw.org/training2018.pdf>. More information on the training course will be available in the next year.

Review of Income and Wealth

IARIW members will be receiving two issues of the *Review of Income and Wealth* later this fall. The regular December 2017 will be a theme issue based on selected papers from a WIDER conference, with Tony Atkinson one of the guest editors. There will also be a supplementary issue based on selected papers from the April 2015 IARIW-OECD conference “W(h)ither the SNA?”

The Kendrick Prize committee recently announced that the winner of the Kendrick Prize for the best paper published in the *Review of Income and Wealth* in 2016 was Daniel Mesler from Monash University and Iqbal Syed from Massey University for their article published in the June issue entitled “Life Cycle Trends and Product Replacement: Implications for the Measurement of Inflation.” Congratulations Daniel and Iqbal!

The IARIW has updated the historical archive of the *Review of Income and Wealth* to 2014. All issues for the 1967-2014 period can be accessed without password at www.roiw.org.

The report of the Editors of the *Review of Income and Wealth* for 2016-2017 is available at <http://iariw.org/EditorialReport2017.pdf>

IARIW Financial Statement and Executive Director’s Annual Report

At the Council meeting by conference call held on October 12, 2017 Council approved the Association’s audited financial statement for 2016. The Association had operating revenues of \$216,167 (all figures in US dollars) and expenses of \$290,941, resulting in an operating loss of \$74,774. This was offset by investment income and unrealized capital gains of \$217,709, producing net income of \$142,935. Net assets on December 31, 2016 were \$1,276,585. The audited financial statement for 2016 is posted on the IARIW website and available at <http://iariw.org/Fin-2016.pdf>

The report of the IARIW Executive Director for 2016-2017 is posted at <http://www.iariw.org/E2014-2015.pdf>

Membership Fees for 2018

The IARIW Council has made an important change in the membership fee structure effective January 2018. The annual fee for members who no longer wish to receive a hard copy of the *Review of Income and Wealth* will be reduced from \$75 US to \$40 US. All members will receive email notification of the release of issues of the journal. Members are provided with a password to access the journal on the Wiley website. Full details of this change will be included in the renewal email to be sent in January.

Support for Greek Economist Andreas Georgiou

At the 2016 members meeting at the General Conference the membership voted unanimously that the IARIW support the integrity and independence of official statistics, with particular reference to the case of prosecution against Andreas Georgiou, former head of the Greek national statistical office. Council passed a motion for the IARIW to contribute \$10,000 US to the legal defense fund for Mr. Georgiou in 2016. The court proceedings against Mr. Georgiou have not done well since then. For details, see the documents by Gerry O'Hanlon and H. Snorrason, former heads of the national statistical offices in Ireland and Iceland respectively, posted at http://iariw.org/Court_Andreas.pdf . The IARIW Council has consequently continued its financial support to the legal defense fund for Mr. Georgiou, contributing an additional \$10,000 in 2017 and will contribute \$10,000 in 2018. Council strongly feels this is an important struggle that the Association should support.

If you have comments or questions about any aspect of IARIW activities, please contact me.

Best Regards,

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