

Review of Income and Wealth

2006 Report of the Managing Editors

(covering period 1 August 2004 to 31 July 2006)

1. Introduction

On 1 August 2004, the Review of Income and Wealth entered a new era. After a period of 17 years, the editorship was handed over from Edward N. Wolff (New York University, USA) to a joint editorship by Bart van Ark (University of Groningen, Netherlands) and Stephan Klasen (University of Göttingen, Germany).

During the 28th General Conference of IARIW in Cork (Ireland) from 20-26 August Ed was thanked for his services as an editor. During his period the journal has become the worldwide recognized journal on income and wealth issues.

2. Transition of editorship

The transition process of editors was completed by the middle of 2005. The editors have made two important changes to the editorial process as of 1 August 2004:

- a) all submissions are now being processed fully electronically. Apart from the greater speed at which dossiers can be handled when submitted electronically, this change has also been necessary to facilitate the exchange of dossiers between the editorial offices in Groningen (where also submissions come in) and Göttingen (which handles a selection of submissions during the referee process).
- b) all submissions are now refereed using a "double blind" process, implying that referees do not get the names of the authors of submitted papers. This should help to further increase the professional standard of refereeing and particularly help equalize chances for younger and less established authors.

3. Journal issues 50(2004):3+4, 51(2005):1-4 and 52(2006): 1+2

The production of issues 3 and 4 for volume 50 (2004) were still done under the responsibility of Ed Wolff, for which we thank him. Starting with issue 1 in volume 51 (2005) the new managing editors took up responsibility for production.

The first issue of 2005 included the text of the newly established *Ruggles lecture* by Angus Maddison which was held at the IARIW Conference in Cork in August 2004. The aim is to publish the second *Ruggles lecture* by Sir Anthony Atkinson delivered in Joensuu in August 2006 in the first issue of 2007.

The second issue of volume 51 was a special issue on *Inequality and Multidimensional Well-being*, based on selected papers from a conference at UNU-WIDER in May 2003. Mark McGillivray (UNU-WIDER) served as guest-editor for this volume.

The following issues were all regular issues. In these eight issues, five review articles were published (in issues 2004:3, 2004:4; 2005:3, 2006:1 and 2006:2), under the editorship of Lars Osberg.

4. Status of dossiers

The dossiers handled during the reporting period may be divided into two categories, namely dossiers from the former editor (submitted before 1 August 2004) and dossiers received under new editorship (submitted from 1 August 2004 onwards). The detailed statistics on throughput below only refer to the dossiers since 1 August 2004.

Dossiers received from former editor

Total number received on 1 August 2004:	58
Balance on 31 July 2006:	
Accepted for publication:	25
Rejected:	21
Still open:	12

Dossiers received between 1 August 2004 and 31 July 2006*

Total number of manuscripts:	Received:	216	(100%)	(100%)**
	Accepted:	16	(7%)	(21%)**
	Rejected:	60	(28%)	(79%)**
	Still open:	140	(65%)	

* excluding 6 articles plus an introduction published in the special issue on *Inequality and Multidimensional Well-being* (2005:2)

** percentages excluding dossiers still open

A. Distribution by Subject

1. National and social accounting	Received:	11	(5%)
	Accepted:	0	
	Rejected:	3	
	Still open:	8	
2. Measurement of poverty, inequality and well-being	Received:	38	(18%)
	Accepted:	4	
	Rejected:	11	
	Still open:	23	
3. Micro and macro analysis of issues related to income and wealth and its distribution	Received:	75	(35%)
	Accepted:	3	
	Rejected:	24	
	Still open:	48	
4. Development and integration of micro And macro systems of economic, Financial and social statistics	Received:	37	(17%)
	Accepted:	1	
	Rejected:	8	
	Still open:	28	
5. International and intertemporal analysis of income, wealth, and productivity	Received:	33	(15%)
	Accepted:	7	
	Rejected:	8	
	Still open:	18	
6. Related problems of measurement and statistical methodology	Received:	22	(10%)
	Accepted:	1	
	Rejected:	7	
	Still open:	14	

B. Distribution by Region of Origin

1. Europe	Received:	98	(45%)
	Accepted:	6	
	Rejected:	28	
	Still open:	64	
2. North America	Received:	63	(29%)
	Accepted:	8	
	Rejected:	17	
	Still open:	38	
3. Asia, Australia	Received:	34	(16%)
	Accepted:	2	
	Rejected:	9	
	Still open:	23	
4. Rest of the world	Received:	21	(10%)
	Accepted:	0	
	Rejected:	6	
	Still open:	15	

C. Percentages distribution by month from submission to first decision

		cumulative %
Three months or less	7	(7%)
Four to six months	11	(17%)
Seven to nine months	26	(42%)
Ten to twelve months	32	(73%)
Thirteen months or more	28	(100%)
Total	104	(100%)

D. Percentages distribution by month from submission to final decision

		cumulative %
Three months or less	6	(8%)
Four to six months	6	(16%)
Seven to nine months	18	(39%)
Ten to twelve months	23	(70%)
Thirteen months or more	23	(100%)
Total	76	(100%)

Due to the transition process there has been an initial slowdown in the refereeing process due to inevitable problems in the transition of editors and the establishment of new procedures. The throughput speed improved in later 2005 and 2006 and the aim of the editors is to increase the cumulative percentage of first decision within 3 months to 20%, 3-6 months to months to 40% and 6-9 months to 60% by the end of the next reporting period.

5. Special issues

The editors intend to continue publication of special issues, as they are good for developing the profile of the journal. A special issue on "Poverty, Inequality and Well-being in China" is planned for issue 2007:1. The Managing Editors welcome ideas for special issues and some preliminary discussion on special issues have been held.

6. Relation with the publisher Blackwell

The editors have been pleased about the co-operation with Blackwell, which has handled production of the Review very professionally.

The contract between the Association and Blackwell has therefore been renewed. In the new contract the page budget has increased from 640 pages to 720 pages per year. The latter has led to a 15 per cent increase in subscription rates in 2006. For 2007 the executive director and editors have agreed a 3 per cent increase in subscription rates. It is the aim of IARIW to keep further price increases within reasonable limits and to explore ways to offer discounted subscriptions to institutions from developing countries. For individuals, the subscription to the Review (including online access) continues to be linked to membership in the Association with an annual membership fee of \$75, which has not been increased for several years and the aim is to not increase the fee in coming years.

7. Outgoing and incoming members of the Editorial Board

The managing editors have received substantive assistance from members of the Editorial Board in refereeing papers and advising the managing editors on publication decisions. The following outgoing members of the Editorial Board are thanked for their services over the past years: Guido Ferrari (Italy), Youri Ivanov (Russia), David Johnson (USA), Steven Keuning (Germany), Harry Postner (Canada), and Thoman Rymes (Canada). The following incoming members are welcomed to the editorial board and thanked for their willingness to serve: Gordon Anderson (Canada), Carsten Holz (China), Barry Johnson (USA), Sanjay Reddy (USA), Regina Riphahn (Germany) and Myeong-Su Yun (USA).

7. Final issues

The Review intends to re-establish the Kendrick prize to honor the best paper of a two year volume. A committee consisting of editorial board members will make a suggestion to be voted on by all Editorial Board members.

We want to thank IARIW, including particularly Andrew Sharpe and the IARIW secretariat, for their support throughout the past two years. We also want to thank our members of the Editorial Board as well as the many referees without whom running such a peer-reviewed publication would not be possible.

September 2006
Bart van Ark
Stephan Klasen

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