

February 8, 2012

Dear IARIW Members,

This message provides an update of recent and upcoming IARIW activities.

2012 IARIW General Conference

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, local organizer of the 32nd IARIW General Conference taking place at the Royal Sonesta Hotel in Boston, USA, August 5-11, 2012, has now opened the conference website. Details on the conference, including accommodation packages and registration procedures, can be found at <http://iariw2012.com/>.

The opening plenary session, co-sponsored by the American counterpart of the IARIW, the NBER Conference on Research in Income and Wealth (CRIW), will be on the topic of welfare and production measures in a system of national accounts. The three paper givers in the session are: Joseph Stiglitz (invited) from Columbia University and co-chair of the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress which in 2009 produced the landmark Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi report; Dale Jorgenson from Harvard University; and Jean-Philippe Cotis, head of INSEE, the French central statistical agency.

The Nancy and Richard Ruggles Memorial Lecture this year will be given by Rebecca Blank, U.S. Acting Deputy Secretary of Commerce, and an expert in the income distribution and social policy field.

During the first three full conference days (August 6-8), the CRIW will be holding a conference entitled "Measuring Economic Progress and Sustainability" in the same hotel. IARIW delegates will have the opportunity to attend CRIW sessions. The program for this conference will be available shortly.

There is no conference registration fee to attend the General Conference for either individual IARIW members or employees of institutional members (for a list of institutional members, see <http://www.iariw.org/member.php>.) The registration fee for non-members is \$75US.

Following on the success of the training sessions at the 2008 and 2010 General Conferences, this year's conference will again feature two training sessions, one on national accounts and a second on price measurement. The sessions will take place on Saturday, August 4 and Sunday, August 5 immediately preceding the conference. The national accounts session will be taught by Peter van de Ven, current Head of National Accounts at the OECD and Derek Blades, a former Head of National Accounts at the OECD. The price measurement session will be taught by Erwin Diewert, from the University of British Columbia, a world expert in the field of price measurement. Details on the sessions and registration procedures will be available shortly. Participation in the training sessions is reserved for individual IARIW members and employees of institutional members. There is no registration fee.

IARIW-OECD Special Conference on Economic Insecurity

On November 22-23, 2011 the IARIW and the OECD held the international conference "Economic Insecurity: Measurement, Causes and Policy Implications" at the OECD Conference Centre in Paris. Over a two day period 19 papers were presented and discussed, four presentations were made by invited speakers, and two policy panels featuring persons with high-level policy experience were held. Papers from the conference are posted at <http://www.iariw.org/c2011oecd.php>.

A special issue of the *Review of Income and Wealth* based on selected papers from the conference, edited by Lars Osberg from Dalhousie University and Romina Boarini from the OECD, will be published in late 2012 or early 2013.

Passing of Joachim Frick

It is with great sadness that the IARIW announces the passing of Joachim Frick from DIW-Berlin on December 16, 2011 at the young age of 49. The Association extends its sincerest condolences to his family, friends and colleagues. Joachim was a member of the IARIW Council. He was instrumental in the development of the pioneering German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP).

An obituary prepared by his close colleagues and co-authors Conchita D'Ambrosio and Markus Grabka is posted on the IARIW website at www.iariw.org/jrfrick.php and will be published in the March 2012 issue of the *Review of Income and Wealth*.

Special Conferences in 2013

Following the success of the two conferences organized in 2011, the Association will again be organizing two conferences in 2013. A regional conference will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in September 2013 on income and wealth issues in Latin America. The Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (IBGE), Brazil's central statistical agency, will be the local organizer. A special conference on productivity issues will be held in Sydney, Australia in late 2013. The University of New South Wales will be the local organizer.

It is expected that selected papers from both conferences will be published in special issues of the *Review of Income and Wealth*. Details on both conferences, including the calls for papers, will be available later this year.

Membership Renewals

Invoices for individual members who have not prepaid the 2012 membership year will be emailed shortly. Invoices for institutional members were mailed out in late January.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the General Conference in August.

Sincerely,

Andrew Sharpe
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