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*Foreword*

*Three Presidents to speak at 40<sup>th</sup> ANZRSAI Annual Conference, 5-7 December 2016*

The organising committee for this year's conference is delighted to announce that three regional science leaders will be attending ANZRSAI 2016, and will be part of a President's Panel during a plenary session. This promises to be a very interesting session. The three leaders are:

- Professor Jacques Poot, President Elect of the Regional Science Association International;
- Professor Andrew Beer, Chair of the Regional Studies Association; and
- Associate Professor Robyn Eversole, President of the Australia and New Zealand Regional Science Association International.

Members are reminded that the Second Call for Papers for this year's conference has now been released and submissions and registrations are now being accepted. The conference will be hosted in Melbourne, from December 5th to December 7th. This will be the Association's 40<sup>th</sup> annual conference, and we are very pleased about the quality of our keynote speakers.

We encourage all members to submit abstracts, take advantage of the Early Bird registration rates and also ask that you share this notice widely with your colleagues.

Abstracts close on 24 October 2016.

The theme of the conference is *Towards the Future: Emerging Priorities in Regional Policy and Practice*. Save the dates and Venue: 5-7 December in the Swanston Academic Building, RMIT University city campus, Melbourne. The conference is hosted by the European Union Centre at RMIT and the RMIT Social Change Enabling Platform.

Plan your paper and register now. The call for papers and registration are available here:  
<http://www.anzrsai.org/conference/>

We hope to see you there.

Paul Dalziel  
Executive Officer, ANZRSAI

### *Victorian Regional Partnerships*

#### *Victorian Regional Partnerships members announced*

(Press release) Thursday 4 August 2016

Visionary volunteers and Aboriginal leaders, regional health advocates and education champions, innovators and entrepreneurs are among the inaugural members of the Victorian Government's Regional Partnerships.

Premier Daniel Andrews and Minister for Regional Development Jaala Pulford today launched the Government's Regional Partnerships and congratulated the 80 community members who will be steering them.

Regional Partnerships are being established in Barwon, Central Highlands, Gippsland, Goulburn, Great South Coast, Loddon Campaspe, Ovens Murray, Mallee and Wimmera Southern Mallee and will transform the way rural and regional Victorians engage with government, as well as giving people a greater say about their local area.

The new members - passionate locals - have diverse backgrounds and broad experience, and include representatives from the community, business and the three tiers of government.

Together, they have a deep understanding of the opportunities and challenges facing local families, workers and businesses in their regional communities.

Tourism, health, education, food and fibre, the arts, sport, small business, entrepreneurship and volunteerism are among the sectors represented by the Regional Partnership members.

Women are well represented, with 41 women appointed and five female Chairs.

The Regional Partnerships are the centre piece of the Government's Regional Statement, which was released in November last year, replacing Regional Management Forums and delivering key recommendations directly to the Government's new Rural and Regional Ministerial Committee.  
<http://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/regional-partnerships/regional-statement>

Each Regional Partnership will hold a Regional Assembly later this year to further engage community members, councils and other elected officials on the priorities for their region.

The nine Regional Partnership Chairs will also discuss cross-regional issues and opportunities as part of the Regional Development Advisory Committee.

The Regional Development Advisory Committee (RDAC) is an independent committee established under the Regional Development Victoria Act 2002 to:

- provide advice to the Minister for Regional Development on policies, projects and issues related to rural and regional Victoria;
- undertake research in relation to rural and regional Victoria;
- consult stakeholders on the development of rural and regional Victoria; and
- undertake other activities related to rural and regional Victoria as directed by the Minister.

The Regional Development Advisory Committee will comprise the nine chairs of the new Regional Partnerships, ensuring representation from across all Victoria's regions.

Contact the Regional Development Advisory Committee Secretariat

c/- Regional Development Victoria  
Level 31, 121 Exhibition Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000 Telephone: (03) 9027 5469

### ***Commentary:***

#### ***From the Regional Australia Institute***

##### ***Shaping the future in the Namoi***

“After extensive analysis of social, demographic and economic data, surveying key stakeholders in the region and consulting with local leaders, the RAI has identified the six Future Factors that are likely to have the greatest plausible effects on the future of the Namoi region.

The six Future Factors identified for the Namoi region are:

- National and global cycles in commodity markets;
- Maximising innovation in agricultural production;
- Seeking international investment, on the right terms;
- Engaging the Namoi in major overseas markets;
- Urbanisation; and
- Leveraging regional/brand marketing to attract people to live and work in the Namoi.”

See the full report here: <http://www.regionalaustralia.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Shaping-the-Future-in-the-Namoi-Report-FINAL-20150914.pdf>

*From the Cockatoo Network*

Our thanks go to The Cockatoo Network for extending this courtesy to ANZRSAI. In this issue we include material from recent issues of the Cockatoo. You can contact The Cockatoo Network at email [apdcockatoo@iprimus.com.au](mailto:apdcockatoo@iprimus.com.au)

*Smart Cities Plan*

The Abbott Government walked away from urban development, and Conservative governments are wary of using the term 'plan'. So it was very interesting to see the Turnbull Government announce the Smart Cities Plan earlier this year.

City Deals are the core of the Plan – designed to coordinate investment, planning and reform across the three levels of government. Deals have already been struck for Townsville, Launceston and Western Sydney e.g. in Townsville the components include an integrated sporting stadium, an entertainment centre, rail corridor. The initial three Deals evolved from pre-election commitments, so the dollar commitments are still rubbery. Indeed, we asked the PM's Department about forward commitments for Deals for other cities, but polite silence.

Budget allocations will presumably be made as the Plan evolves.

It gets trickier because last month a \$50 million Smart Cities and Suburbs Program was announced. Hints have been dropped as to what might be supported e.g. collaborative design of solutions to complex urban problems, pilots of emerging technologies, scaling up of technologies, business case development, transformative collaborations between multiple councils and technology industry partners that link with future plans for the area.

This is a competitive program, and confined to local government. The program's design will be finalised after a roundtable process in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth.

There is also a Sustainable Cities Investment Fund with \$100 million p.a. for renewable energy and energy efficiency technology in Australia's cities.

It's not clear how the Program, the Fund and the Plan relate to each other. We will find out!

The whole agenda is with Angus Taylor, Assistant Minister for Cities. He is a rising star within Liberal ranks - childhood outside Nimmitabel (Monaro region), University Medal, McKinsey partner. What will he make of it. Go to <https://cities.dpvc.gov.au/smart-citiesprogram>.

*Cost-benefit analysis*

Urban and regional development at all levels of government is hamstrung by the lack of quality CBA analysis.

It is reflected in badly conceived infrastructure projects, the politicisation and/or sorting of processes, and a massive waste of public funds. A key cause is the inability of administrators and procurement managers to undertake or appreciate CBA reports, which in turn leaves decision-makers – councillors, Board members, politicians – too much wriggle room.

There are hundreds of examples of projects that don't pass the sniff test e.g. the feds' \$100 million educational centre at our WWI Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux, the ACT Government's \$1

billion Light Rail project, the NSW Government grant \$153 million grant for the Randwick Racecourse Grandstand. Whoever signed off on these projects surely had benefits in mind that were way outside any standard CBA analysis. Let taxpayers and voters hear about them.

In the same vein, there is an argument for procurement managers and program administrators to undergo basic training in CBA analysis. It could be widened to include urban planners, engineers, economic developers etc. and thereby lift the professionalism of those who deliver the nation's hard and soft infrastructure. (Ed. Hear, hear. )

### *From the Productivity Commission*

#### *Regulation of Australian Agriculture, Draft Report.*

Productivity Commission 2016, *Regulation of Australian Agriculture*, Draft Report, Canberra.

#### [View Report](#)

#### Background

The Australian Government has identified the agriculture sector as one of the five pillars of the economy. It is promoting the economic potential of the sector by removing unnecessary regulatory burdens and promoting improved productivity and global competitiveness.

The Australian Government's deregulation agenda has focussed on reducing Commonwealth red tape. As part of its deregulation agenda, the Government is implementing reforms in agricultural and veterinary chemicals, biosecurity and export certification. However, there is an opportunity for better national outcomes for the agriculture sector by considering regulation at all levels of government. This is particularly applicable in the areas of transport, environmental protection, native vegetation management, land tenure, animal welfare and food safety in which the states and territories have significant responsibility.

While regulation targets valid objectives, such as protecting consumers from unsafe food, protecting the environment or supporting the export of goods, poorly implemented and administered regulation and the cumulative impact of regulation can have adverse effects on farm businesses. It can unnecessarily restrict farm management decisions and reduce investment.

Inconsistent and overlapping regulations between jurisdictions can also create adverse effects and raise costs for farm businesses.

#### Scope of the Enquiry

The inquiry will focus on regulation with a material impact on domestic and international competitiveness of farm businesses and the productivity of Australian agriculture.

The inquiry will define priority areas for removing or reducing unnecessary regulatory burdens where doing so will/can contribute to improved productivity for farm businesses as well as the wider economy.

The inquiry will also review regulation of farm businesses to identify unnecessary restrictions on competition.

While focussed on the impact of regulation on farm businesses, the inquiry should also consider the material impact arising from regulation imposed along the supply chain such as regulations introduced to meet the requirements of international markets.

Consistent with its legislative remit, the Commission is to have particular regard to:

- areas of regulation that directly affect farm businesses, including those identified as areas of concern through the white papers on agricultural competitiveness and northern Australia. This includes regulatory arrangements affecting access to new technologies, investment opportunities, land tenure, relevant environmental protection and native vegetation laws, animal welfare and the Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System
- areas where there is greatest scope to reduce unnecessary regulatory burden and pursue regulatory objectives in more efficient (least cost) ways
- whether the current level at which matters are regulated (national, State and local) is appropriate and whether there is scope for better coordinated action across governments to reduce unnecessary overlap
- whether Australia's farm export competitiveness can be improved by minimising duplication between domestic regulation and importing country requirements
- relevant regulatory approaches adopted in other countries.

### Specific requirements

In undertaking the inquiry, the Commission should:

- identify specific areas of regulation that are unnecessarily burdensome, complex or redundant
- identify priority areas for regulatory reform
- provide recommendations to alleviate regulatory burden identified.

For the purposes of this inquiry, the regulatory issues affecting:

- marine fisheries and aquaculture industries will be investigated as part of a separate Productivity Commission inquiry into the Regulation of Australian Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture Sectors.

### Key points

- Farm businesses are subject to a vast and complex array of regulations. Regulations are in place at every stage of the supply chain — from land acquisition to marketing — and are applied by all levels of government. The number and complexity of regulations affecting farm businesses means that the cumulative burden of regulation on farmers is substantial.
- The need for regulation is not disputed by farm businesses. In fact, some regulations, such as biosecurity and food safety regulations, were highlighted as providing clear benefits to Australian farmers. Rather, Australian farmers want 'better' (or less burdensome) regulation.
- Some regulations lack a sound policy justification and should be removed. Examples include restrictions on the use of land held under pastoral lease arrangements, state bans on cultivating genetically modified crops, recent changes to tighten foreign investment review requirements for the agricultural sector, barriers to entry for foreign shipping providers, mandatory labelling of genetically modified foods, and statutory marketing legislation relating to rice in New South Wales and sugar in Queensland.

Other regulations and regulatory systems need to be reformed so they can more fully achieve their objectives.

- Native vegetation and biodiversity conservation regulations need fundamental change so that risks and impacts are considered at a relevant landscape wide scale. Environmental regulatory decisions also need to take into account economic and social factors.
- Animal welfare regulations seek to achieve welfare outcomes that (among other things) meet community expectations. However, little is known about these expectations.

- The process for setting standards for farm animal welfare would be improved by applying scientific principles and evidence through the creation of a national, independent body responsible for building the evidence base on community expectations, as well as for developing national farm animal welfare standards.
- The standard for the level of gluten allowed in foods labelled as ‘gluten free’ needs review.
- International evidence could be put to greater use in assessing agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemicals, reducing the time and cost taken to grant registration.

Inconsistent regulatory requirements across jurisdictions make it difficult for farmers to understand their obligations and add to the cost of doing business. A more consistent approach would improve outcomes in the areas of heavy vehicle regulation and road access, and the use of agvet chemicals.

Governments could also reduce the regulatory burden on farm businesses by:

- improving their consultation and engagement practices. There is scope to better support landholders to understand environmental regulations, and to reduce duplicative and unnecessary information gathering regarding water management by farm businesses
- doing more to coordinate their actions, both between agencies and between governments
- ensuring that good regulatory impact assessment processes are used as an analytical tool to support quality regulation making, not as a legitimising tool or compliance exercise.

***From the Grattan Institute***

***City Limits – new book exposes Australia’s great city divide and how to fix it***

by [Paul Donegan](#)

***Media Release Sunday 1 March 2015***

The divide between where people live and work in Australian cities is growing, with most new jobs being created close to city centres while most population growth is occurring in the outer suburbs, according to a new book from the Grattan Institute.

*City Limits: why Australia’s cities are broken and how we can fix them* shows that more than half the employment growth in our five largest cities is occurring less than 10 kilometres from the city centre.

But a dysfunctional housing market means not enough homes are being built in these areas, forcing more than half of all population growth into suburbs more than 20 kilometres from the city centre.

In large outer areas of Australia’s biggest cities, less than 10 per cent of all jobs in the city can be reached in a 45-minute drive.

*City Limits* shows the costs of this divide include heavy traffic congestion, long commute times and a big drop for many city residents in the quality of family and social life.

One in four full-time employees in Australia’s big cities spends more time commuting than with their children.

The divide is also financial: the average full-time job located 20 kilometres or more from the centre of Australia's five big cities pays \$56,000 a year. Within 10 kilometres of city centres, the average full-time job pays \$77,000 a year.

*City Limits* argues that the failure of the Australian housing market is creating a divide between older homeowners and a younger generation that is either locked out of home ownership or pushed to the fringes of cities, far from jobs and good transport.

Meanwhile a new army of renters – one in four households – are forced to live in some of the most insecure tenancy arrangements in the developed world.

“Cities are the engines of our economy, producing nearly 80 per cent of national income, yet policy-makers must address failures in housing, tax and transport to ensure our economic and social future,” says *City Limits* co-author Jane-Frances Kelly.

“We’re a nation of city dwellers. Our future prosperity depends on thriving cities offering good jobs and opportunities to everyone living in them.”

*City Limits: why Australia's cities are broken and how we can fix them*, by Jane-Frances Kelly and Paul Donegan, is published by [Melbourne University Press](http://Melbourne University Press) (mup.com.au, RRP \$32.99, March 2015).

For further enquiries:

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## THE CONVERSATION

*Gaming trends show cities need to rethink how they tap into creative economy*

[https://theconversation.com/gaming-trends-show-cities-need-to-rethink-how-they-tap-into-creative-economy-63322?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%202022%202016%20-%205458&utm\\_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%202022%202016%20-%205458+CID\\_99b612129f5a48df0fd95c5351d27d1e&utm\\_source=campaign\\_monitor&utm\\_term=Gaming%20trends%20show%20cities%20need%20to%20rethink%20how%20they%20tap%20into%20creative%20economy](https://theconversation.com/gaming-trends-show-cities-need-to-rethink-how-they-tap-into-creative-economy-63322?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%202022%202016%20-%205458&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%202022%202016%20-%205458+CID_99b612129f5a48df0fd95c5351d27d1e&utm_source=campaign_monitor&utm_term=Gaming%20trends%20show%20cities%20need%20to%20rethink%20how%20they%20tap%20into%20creative%20economy)

Game designers can work remotely

*Business Briefing: Simon McKeon on removing the retirement label*

Former Treasurer Joe Hockey did not get a warm reception when he confirmed the retirement age would increase to 70 by 2035. But Monash University Chancellor Simon McKeon thinks its not such a bad thing.

He argues if Australians are productive well into their later lives, why should they be stuck with a label of being incapable of working past a certain age? After all, older age is a meaningful part of many people's lives.

McKeon says business, government and not-for-profit all need to take a different view of the usefulness of older people. The changing nature of jobs, including a bigger role for technology, shouldn't be an excuse not to employ older workers.

Listen here:

[https://theconversation.com/business-briefing-simon-mckeon-on-removing-the-retirement-label-64302?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=The%20Weekend%20Conversation%20-%205489&utm\\_content=The%20Weekend%20Conversation%20-%205489+CID\\_52e4720dfd1d35ea09fcb99fc38cb977&utm\\_source=campaign\\_monitor&utm\\_term=Business%20Briefing%20Simon%20McKeon%20on%20removing%20the%20retirement%20label](https://theconversation.com/business-briefing-simon-mckeon-on-removing-the-retirement-label-64302?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=The%20Weekend%20Conversation%20-%205489&utm_content=The%20Weekend%20Conversation%20-%205489+CID_52e4720dfd1d35ea09fcb99fc38cb977&utm_source=campaign_monitor&utm_term=Business%20Briefing%20Simon%20McKeon%20on%20removing%20the%20retirement%20label)

Ed: Ageing brings resources of experience, wisdom, judgment and ethics; regions can benefit from an engaged older workforce and the resources they bring.

*Habitat III: the biggest conference you've probably never heard of*

September 5, 2016 6.12am AEST

[https://theconversation.com/habitat-iii-the-biggest-conference-youve-probably-never-heard-of-63499?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20September%205%202016%20-%205547&utm\\_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20September%205%202016%20-%205547+CID\\_3ff983a54929ca2b3404d8bc530ad836&utm\\_source=campaign\\_monitor&utm\\_term=Hayley%20Henderson%20and%20fellow%20Habitat%20III%20delegates%20explain](https://theconversation.com/habitat-iii-the-biggest-conference-youve-probably-never-heard-of-63499?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20September%205%202016%20-%205547&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20September%205%202016%20-%205547+CID_3ff983a54929ca2b3404d8bc530ad836&utm_source=campaign_monitor&utm_term=Hayley%20Henderson%20and%20fellow%20Habitat%20III%20delegates%20explain)

The Urban Development draft papers for the Habitat conference are available through the Conversation site.

## *Regional Policy and Practice*

### *Two papers from Ed Morrison*

Ed Morrison has uploaded two papers on Academia.edu which may interest readers

### *Transforming Regions Through Strategic DOING*

by Ed Morrison

[View Paper](#) [Download](#)

*Linking Industry and Occupation Clusters in Regional Economic Development*

by Ed Morrison

[View Paper](#) [Download](#)

By courtesy of The Academia.edu Team

***Sustainable Regions Applied Research Network***

Robyn Eversole, President of ANZRSAI, is delighted to advise that we can now officially announce the launch of the *Sustainable Regions Applied Research Network!*

The Sustainable Regions Applied Research Network is supported by the Australian Government through the Council on Australia Latin America Relations (COALAR) of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT): <http://dfat.gov.au/people-to-people/foundations-councils-institutes/coalar/grants/grantees/Pages/sustainable-regions-applied-research-network.aspx>

The Network will provide opportunities for regional development researchers in Australia and New Zealand to build links with researchers and research groups in Chile and in Argentina on topics of mutual interest.

RSAI is a formal partner in the project. Robyn and ANZRSAI are particularly keen to build links between our RSAI sections: ANZRSAI, SOCHER (Chile) and SAER (Argentina). To that end Robyn is travelling to Chile to attend the SOCHER conference and other meetings, and to travel on to Argentina later in the month.

You can follow the Sustainable Regions Applied Research Network on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/SRARN/](http://www.facebook.com/SRARN/).

***Book Review***

Handbook of Research Methods and Applications in Spatially Integrated Social Science, edited by Robert J. Stimson. 2014. Northampton, Massachusetts: Edward Elgar. 663 + xv. ISBN: 978-085793 2969, \$290.

See the review by A. Stewart Fotheringham in *Journal of Regional Science* 56(3) June 2016.

*Conferences and Study Opportunities*

*Water Leadership Program*

Water  
Leadership  
Program and  
Master of  
Integrated  
Water  
Management

The International Water Centre (IWC) in Brisbane have contacted ANZRSAI to advise that they are currently offering a range of scholarships to participate in the Water Leadership Program and Master of Integrated Water Management next year.

They are also launching the IWC Learning Lab: a 5-day training event offering 19 master classes and study tours in integrated water management from 17-21 October, after the World Water Congress in Brisbane.

If you would like more information, it is available at [www.watercentre.org/education-training](http://www.watercentre.org/education-training).

**CURRENT RESEARCH**

*Journal of Regional Science*

56(3) June 2016

Pages 373-394

Yong Chen, David J. Lewis, Bruce Weber

*Conservation Land Amenities and Regional Economies: A Postmatching Difference-in-Differences Analysis of the Northwest Forest Plan*

Abstract: The 1994 Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) resulted in the protection of over 11 million acres of public forestland in the Pacific Northwest region of the United States. This paper quantifies the amenity effect arising from protected NWFP lands on long-run community economic growth. Using community fixed effects and postmatching panel regression to control for many sources of bias, we find highly localized and positive amenity impacts on the growth in median income, population, and property values for small communities close to protected NWFP land, as compared to communities far from the NWFP. We find no effect on medium-sized communities. DOI: 10.1111/jors.12253

Pages 395-419

Georgeanne M Artz, Kevin D. Duncan, Arthur P. Hall and Peter F. Orazem

*Do State Business Climate Indicators explain relative economic growth at State borders?*

Abstract: This study submits 11 business climate indexes to tests of their ability to predict relative economic performance on either side of state borders. Our results show that most business climate indexes have no ability to predict relative economic growth regardless of how growth is measured. Some are negatively correlated with relative growth. Many are better at reporting past growth than at predicting the future. In the end, the most predictive business climate index is the Grant Thornton Index which was discontinued in 1989. DOI: 10.1111/jors.12261

Pages 420-441

Seong Do Yun and Brigitte S. Waldorf

*The day after the disaster: Forced migration and income loss after hurricanes Katrina and Rita*

Abstract: DOI: A model of post-disaster migration responses and income consequences

poses that damage severity and individual resilience affect moving decisions. Forced moves are linked to little resilience relative to damage incurred and post-move income reductions. The empirical analysis analyzes households affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Using American Community Survey data, unobserved heterogeneous income damages are framed as treatment, with the moving decision being the treatment decision. An endogenous switching regression addresses self-selection issues. The results suggest that movers encountered double victimization: (1) they were forced to move and their income declined; (2) low-income households were more severely affected than the average. DOI: 10.1111/jors.12250

Pages 442-470

Michael C. Lens and Rachel Meltzer

*Is crime bad for business?: Crime and commercial property values in New York city.*

Abstract: To test how crime affects economic activity, we use point-specific data on crime, commercial property sales and assessed values from New York City, relying on an instrumental variables strategy. We find that crime reduces commercial property values, and the magnitude of the effect depends on the type and geography of crime. Elasticities range from  $-0.1$  to  $-0.5$ . We find stronger evidence for negative violent crime effects in neighborhoods with lower incomes and higher shares of minority residents. Thus, disadvantaged neighborhoods are doubly harmed by crime—they have higher crime rates and those crimes have stronger effects on economic activity. DOI: 10.1111/jors.12254

*Regional Science Policy and Practice*

Online Version of Record published before inclusion in an issue

Jitendra Parajuli and Kingsley E. Haynes

*The earthquake impact on telecommunications infrastructure in Nepal: a preliminary spatial assessment*

Abstract: This paper examines the spatial clustering and correlation of epicentres of the 2015 Gorkha earthquake and its spatial relationship to the telecommunications infrastructure of Nepal. Ripley's K function analysis suggests that epicentres of the main earthquake shock and aftershocks and base stations of worldwide Interoperability for microwave access are generally clustered. However, the cluster patterns decline over distance. Moran's I statistics further suggested that the epicentres and base stations at the district level are spatially significant and positively correlated. As Nepal is one of the most earthquake-prone countries in the world, this paper recommends that the Government of Nepal, operators, and other concerned parties should identify the importance of telecommunications infrastructure and develop a critical infrastructure plan including location and redundancy options to mitigate and minimize the detrimental impacts of earthquakes and other disasters on telecommunications services in the country. DOI: 10.1111/rsp3.12075

*Papers in Regional Science*

95(3) June 2016

Online Version of Record published before inclusion in an issue

Canfei He, Yan Yan, David Rigby

*Regional industrial evolution in China*

Abstract: Evolutionary economic geography (EEG) indicates that regional industrial development is path dependent. The empirical studies in EEG however have not paid sufficient attention to the importance of global linkages nor the role of regional institutions in driving industrial dynamics. Based on firm level data of

four-digit manufacturing industries during 1998 to 2008 in China, we find that Chinese regions branch into new industries technologically related to the existing industrial portfolio and related industries are less likely to exit. Further analysis reveals that global linkages, economic liberalization and state involvement not only create favourable conditions to allow a larger role of technological relatedness but also generate opportunities for Chinese regions to create new paths of industrial development.

DOI: 10.1111/pirs.12246

### ***New Journal***



The Japan Section of the Regional Science Association International (JSRSAI) is delighted to announce that a new Journal “Asia-Pacific Journal of Regional Science (AJRS)” will be published from Springer in 2017

April. Editor-in-Chief is Prof. Yoshiro Higano. We hope many submissions of manuscripts which are in relation to regional science of Asia or Pacific regions. Authors are requested to submit manuscripts via Editorial Manager from the URL below.

<https://www.editorialmanager.com/ajrs/default.aspx>

## **ABOUT ANZRSAI**

### ***ANZRSAI Council Notes***

Council has not met since the last issue of this Newsletter.

ANZRSAI members are always welcome to contact members of the Council with their ideas and suggestions.

### ***ANZRSAI Conference News***

The program for the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of ANZRSAI, Towards the Future: Emerging Priorities in Regional Policy and Practice will include two panel discussions.

The President’s Panel includes the presidents of the Regional Science Association International (Professor Jacques Poot), the Regional Studies Association (Professor Andrew Beer) and of ANZRSAI.

The Policy Panel includes senior policy makers from the Australian Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development, Regional Development Victoria, and John Daley, of the Grattan Institute.

The conference will address how regions can be improved through better design and execution of high quality regional policy and practice.

Following the conference a special edition of AJRS will be published on ‘Emerging priorities in regional policy and practice’ edited by Bruce Wilson and Peter Fairbrother.

**ANZRSAI Council 2015-16**

**President**

Robyn Eversole  
University of Tasmania

**Vice President (Australia)**

Rolf Gerritsen  
Charles Darwin University

**Vice President (New Zealand)**

James Rowe  
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NATSEM, University of Canberra

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Bruce Wilson  
RMIT University

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Bob Stimson  
Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network  
University of Melbourne

**Editors: Australasian Journal of Regional Studies**

Paul Collits, New Zealand  
Wayne Graham, University of Sunshine Coast  
Mike Hefferan, University of Sunshine Coast  
Bruce Wilson, RMIT University

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