



Join us at our 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
RMIT MELBOURNE, 6-7 DECEMBER 2021  
AND ON-LINE THROUGH MICROSOFT TEAMS

***RISK! THE CHALLENGE OF MANAGING  
RISKS TO REGIONAL FUTURES***

**FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS**

The ANZRSAI Council was disappointed to postpone our 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference last year because of the COVID-19 outbreak, but is delighted that the European Union Centre at RMIT has offered to host the conference in December. This will be a hybrid conference, with options to attend in person or on-line through Microsoft Teams. If your work involves regions, please join us for our 43rd Annual Conference at RMIT, Melbourne. ANZRSAI welcomes proposals for contributed papers, for themed panels, or for special sessions, on any topic related to regions.

For those who can attend in person, the venue is the City campus of RMIT on Swanston Street in the heart of the City of Melbourne. More information is available at:

[www.anzrsai.org](http://www.anzrsai.org)



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**THE REGIONAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL**

## INVITATION FROM THE PRESIDENT



After the disappointment of having to postpone our annual conference last year, ANZRS AI is delighted to be returning to RMIT in Melbourne for our 44<sup>th</sup> conference.

The core theme of our conference is *Risk! The Challenge of Managing Risks to Regional Futures*. The importance of this theme at the current time is obvious to everyone.

I am very grateful to Professor Bruce Wilson and his colleagues in the European Union Centre at RMIT for offering to host a hybrid conference in Melbourne, with the options of people participating in person or on-line. I am confident this will be a conference with something for everyone with an interest in regional policy and practice.

I also thank BCARR – the Bureau of Communications, Arts and Regional Research – in the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications, for their financial support as the Conference’s chief sponsor. This is a significant contribution to regional science in Australia. I particularly thank Karen Malam and Lucy Williams for their ongoing support for our annual conference.

Among other publication opportunities, participants are welcome to submit their paper presented at the conference to the *Australasian Journal of Regional Studies*.

I hope the conference program and its choice between participation in Melbourne or on-line through Microsoft Teams will be an irresistible temptation to join us in December 2021.

Rolf Gerritsen  
*ANZRS AI President, 2021*

### ***TIMETABLE***

<b>27 September 2021</b>	Final date for submission of abstracts and proposals for themed panels or special sessions on particular topics.
<b>31 October 2021</b>	Final date for early bird registration. Draft conference program on conference website.
<b>1 November 2021</b>	Final date for submission of full paper by authors wanting their contribution to be peer reviewed for the conference proceedings or considered for the best paper Awards.
<b>8 November 2021</b>	Final date for conference registration for paper presenters, for their paper to be confirmed in the programme.
<b>22 November 2021</b>	Final program will be published on the conference website.
<b>6 December 2021</b>	Conference opens at 9am on Monday.

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The ANZRS AI Council invites contributions from academics, practitioners and policy advisors on any aspect of regional science for presentation at the conference. The program will include *PowerPoint presentations, academic papers* (which may be peer reviewed), *themed panels* and *special sessions* on topics in regional science theory, regional development practice or regional planning policy. Presentations can be made in person, or on-line in two parallel sessions.

The conference includes an Awards Dinner on Monday 6th December, at which the following awards will be made.

- The John Dickinson Memorial Award for Best Paper in *AJRS*
- The ANZRS AI Award for Best Conference Paper
- The ANZRS AI Award for Best Conference Paper by a Student

The program committee welcomes contributions in the form of a PowerPoint presentation, an academic paper, or a themed panel or special session made up of three presentations. Papers that are submitted in full by the 1st of November will be double-blind peer reviewed for publication in formal conference proceedings on the ANZRS AI website. Papers submitted to the conference may also be submitted to the Association's journal, the *Australasian Journal of Regional Science*, ranked as a tier B journal by the Australian Business Deans Council.

The first step is to submit an *Abstract* giving a brief introduction to the content of the contribution or proposed special session. The abstract should be no more than 150 words, explaining the topic of the contribution and its main points or conclusions. The abstract should make clear that the topic is suitable for a conference of people engaged in regional science theory, practice or policy. Decisions will be confirmed within **two weeks** of receipt.

To submit an abstract, please go to the following website:

<https://www.anzrsai.org/conference/conference-2021/>

The program committee welcomes submissions on any aspect of regional studies, but is particularly interested in research or case studies connected to the conference's core theme of *Risk! The Challenge of Managing Risks to Regional Futures*.

Please note: Abstracts must be submitted by **27 September** and early bird registration will end on **31 October**.

## TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

RMIT, Melbourne, is located in the heart of the central business district of Melbourne. For those who are able to attend in person, there is a wide range of accommodation available within close walking distance of the venue on Swanston Street, near Franklin Street. RMIT has ongoing connections with some reasonably priced hotels nearby; these details will be provided in the second call for papers and made available on the conference website at [www.anzrsai.org](http://www.anzrsai.org).

RMIT has rigorous COVID Safe practices and protocols in place across all its campuses. Its latest statement can be accessed at <https://www.rmit.edu.au/news/alerts/coronavirus>.

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of ANZRSAI will open at 9am on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021. There will be two days of stimulating plenary addresses, panels of expert speakers and parallel sessions of submitted papers, presented in person at the City Campus of RMIT in Swanston Street, Melbourne, or on-line through Microsoft Teams.

This is an opportunity for ANZRSAI members and others interested in regional issues to share experiences and network with each other, to keep up-to-date with latest developments in regional research and to address important issues in regional planning.

Once the program of plenary speakers is finalised, details will be published on the conference website at [www.anzrsai.org](http://www.anzrsai.org).

Registration for the conference includes morning and afternoon tea as well as admission to all plenary and parallel sessions. It also includes complimentary membership of ANZRSAI for 2022.

The ANZRSAI Awards Dinner will be held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

The Council has agreed that the conference fees should be reduced for this year, recognising that the conference will take place over two days (rather than three), and we will not be inviting any international visitors to be physically present. Thus, the fees are half their normal level. There is a small discount for anyone who can attend for just one day.

The fee is the same for those who are present and for those who join the conference on-line.

	<b>Fees</b>
Early Bird Standard Registration (paid before 31 October)	\$300.00
Standard Registration for full conference (paid after 31 October)	\$350.00
Participation in one day of the conference only	\$250.00
Student or Emeritus Registration for full conference	\$150.00
ANZRSAI Awards Dinner (Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> December, 7pm)	\$120.00

To register for the conference, please go to:

<https://www.anzrsai.org/conference/conference-2021/>

Queries about the conference can be sent to the ANZRSAI Executive Officer:

**Professor Paul Dalziel**  
**AERU, Lincoln University**  
**New Zealand**

[Paul.Dalziel@lincoln.ac.nz](mailto:Paul.Dalziel@lincoln.ac.nz)