

**ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY RESEARCH GROUP**  
**Minutes of Annual General Meeting, 31<sup>st</sup> August 2007, RGS-IBG London**

1. No apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 2006 AGM – available on the EGRG website
3. Current Committee Structure

Chair and Web Officer:	Neil Coe (University of Manchester)
Secretary:	Mia Gray (University of Cambridge)
Treasurer:	Andrew Jones (Birkbeck College) *
Book reviews/ Working Papers	James Faulconbridge (University of Lancaster) John Harrison (University of Loughborough)

\* Andrew Jones to step down after three years as Treasurer. The Chair thanked Andrew for his service and noted that a replacement would be needed. An email will be sent to that effect and any interested person should contact Mia or Neil. The Chair also welcomed John Harrison and James Faulconbridge onto the committee as joint book review/working paper editors.

4. Last Year's Activities
  - a. The Chair reported on the annual symposium, hosted by Mick Dunford at the University of Sussex in June 2007. The theme was on global value chains/global production networks and the conference successfully combined the annual postgraduate seminar (twelve speakers on day 1) and research symposium (six speakers on day 2). This seems to be a good model and it was agreed to continue it. The committee thanked Mick Dunford for organising the symposium.
  - b. The EGRG website has undergone a major overhaul. We are still looking for resources and links to include which economic geographers would find useful. Any suggestions should be sent to Neil Coe ([neil.coe@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:neil.coe@manchester.ac.uk)).
  - c. The book review and working paper series have been relaunched, including new theme sections linked to the annual symposium. John Harrison and James Falconbridge are leading the effort. Please consider putting in a working paper or book review while waiting for articles to be published.
  - d. The Chair noted that there were three EGRG guests sponsored by the group at the RGS-IBG conference this year.
  - e. The Chair noted that, after much deliberation, the annual prize for best Phd dissertation went to Andrew Currah (Cambridge University) and the best MPhil dissertation went to Pedro Marques (CURDS, Newcastle University). They were awarded £100 each.
5. Forthcoming events
  - a. Henry Yeung is giving a lecture in Reading at an event organised by Steve Musson on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2007. This will be developed into an EGRG event. Details to follow via the email list.
  - b. The next Annual EGRG symposium will be held at University of Manchester in May 2008 and is to be organised by Gavin Bridge and Tomas Frederiksen. The theme will be 'Economy, space, nature: economic geographies and the environment'.
  - c. The 4<sup>th</sup> Summer Institute in Economic Geography will take place at the University of Manchester from 13-18<sup>th</sup> July 2008, organised by Neil Coe and Kevin Ward.
  - d. The next RGS-IBG Conference will take place from 27-29<sup>th</sup> August 2008. Note the deadline for sessions for the conference is November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007. An email will go to the econgeog email list to solicit sessions.

6. Treasurer's Report

- a. The Treasurer presented the EGRG accounts and noted that we ended the year in deficit, although we were able to cover this from the previous balance. Our reserve is low and the group needs to be cautious about the financing of future events.
- b. As part of this, the Treasurer suggests that we charge a moderate amount at the next annual symposium to offset or cover the costs of speakers' travel, tea/coffee etc. He noted that our budget is not large enough to cover the costs without charging for the event. The meeting agreed to charge a fee of £25 for waged staff to attend the 2008 Symposium, with research students attending for free.
- c. The Treasurer suggested we also ask publisher to sponsor dissertation prizes (as has happened in past).

7. AOB. The meeting debated boosting the attendance of economic geographers at the annual conferences, symposiums, etc. Suggestions included an economic geography plenary speaker and flagship sessions at the next RGS-IBG Conference and a quarterly newsletter to be sent out to the list, summarising events, news, and changes to website.

8. Date of next meeting: 27-29<sup>th</sup> August 2008, TBA

MG/NC, September 2007