

# RGS-IBG Economic Geography Research Group

## Annual General Meeting Minutes

**29 August 2019**

**Location:** Royal Geographic Society, Education Centre

**Present:** Jennifer Johns (Chair), Sarah Marie Hall (Treasurer), Chris Muellerleile (Secretary), Henry Yeung, Andrew Jones, Heidi Haugen, Victoria Barker, Karen Lai, Andrew Cook, Jennifer Ferreira, Jane Pollard, Neil Coe, Jim Murphy, Adrian Smith, Aditya Ray, Elvira Graner, Zara Babakordi, Nancy Worth, Zhi Han, Alexandra Dales, Steve Wood, Lotte Thomsen, Michiel Van Meeteren, Emil Evenhuis

**Meeting called to order at 13:25**

1. **Apologies:** Sarah Hall (Ordinary Member), Al James (term ending as Web Officer), Nora Lanari (term ending as PG Rep), Dominic Obeng (PG Rep)
2. **Confirmation of minutes** of 2018 AGM— tabled at meeting and approved
3. **Sponsored sessions** at this year's RGS-IBG Conference—appended below. Jennifer Johns noted that the RGS allows more sponsored participants than we usually invite; encouraged everyone to invite more non-geographers to the meetings.
4. **2018 Prizes Awarded**
  - Best PhD dissertation: Victoria Barker, Coventry University (now at Derby University), Vitoria was present, thanked the committee, and was congratulated by all in attendance. Jennifer Johns noted that there were a high number of PhD submissions (8), but several of them contained no economic geography.
  - Best Undergraduate dissertation: Simon Hardy, Queen Mary, best of 13 submissions
5. Report on **EGRG Futures Event** held in Manchester, November 2018  
Jennifer Johns reported that the event was 'forward thinking' and focused on thinking of ways to present economic geography as an open and welcoming sub-discipline. There was also significant emphasis on supporting early career researchers, and increasing diversity within the discipline. There was discussion of leveraging the networks that many of us already have to achieve these goals. Andrew Leyshon spoke about the New UKRI Councils emphasis on the importance of place—and the ways geographers might contribute to these conversations. Alexandra Dales reported that there was a discussion about the importance of mentoring, and the possibility of setting up a mentoring scheme sponsored by the EGRG.
6. Report on **post-graduate symposium** in April of 2019 from Nora Lanari (sent to Chris Muellerleile via email on day of AGM):  
“...we organised a reception at the RGS mid-term conference in April. The conference was organised by Manchester Metropolitan University and took place from 24-26 April 2019. We sponsored the attendance of two PGs for the conference and had a little drinks reception before

the conference dinner on the Thursday (25/10). About 10 people attended (the whole conference was around 60 people). Jennifer joined for the reception, gave a brief introduction to the EGRG, encouraging PGs to get involved. After that, we had an informal chat over drinks about what it means to be an Economic Geographer. It became clear that many PGs were unsure how or whether this label applied to them, even though their work clearly was in the field of Economic Geography. So, I think there is scope for the EGRG to bring this next generation together to help shape the future of Economic Geography.”

7. The committee again decided to support one UK based postgraduate or ECR to attend the **Summer Institute in EG**, that will take place in Montreal in the summer of 2020. The committee requested that the Institute use the funds to support a woman or less privileged individual.
8. **Treasurers report** – First, Sarah Marie Hall was thanked by all members for her three years of service. Generally the EGRG is in a stable financial position, but Sarah Marie Hall noted we are spending slightly more than we receive in ‘revenue’. Current balance is roughly £2,800. Possibilities for additional ‘income’ were discussed. More events (registration fees) are one possibility, although they do include upfront costs for catering, etc... Henry Yeung asked if the committee could accept donations from members, and suggested the committee should communicate this to members. The RGS does allow this, and there was general agreement that the committee should promote this possibility, but no specific action was mandated. Alexandra Dales suggested that we could look for sponsorship from a firm. RGS would need to approve any sponsorship. Sponsorship from journals was discussed. Neil Coe noted that the *Journal of Economic Geography* apparently has no available funds. *Economic Geography* may be able to support substantive and specific efforts or events, but James Murphy noted that he needs 9 months lead time to budget for 2021 (requests by March of 2020). Henry Yeung noted that *Environment and Planning A: Economy & Space* may have funds available.
9. **Economic Geography Research:** Sarah Hall (Ordinary Member) hoped to be in attendance to discuss a new research project and grant she has received on Governance after BREXIT, but in the end she was unable to attend. Jennifer Johns reported that Sarah, in partnership with the EGRG will sponsor a one day event at the University of Nottingham. Sarah may be able to offer advice to EGRG members on framing grant applications on similar topics.
10. **Committee membership**, election of new members, and new roles
  - Acknowledgement and thanks to outgoing committee members: Sarah Marie Hall, Al James, Nora Laneri, Emil Evenhuis, Karen Lai
  - Existing roles:**
    - Treasurer: Julie MacLeavy (Bristol) nominated (first: Andrew Jones; second: Sarah Marie Hall), and elected by members.
    - Postgrad Rep: Zara Babakordi (Newcastle) nominated (first: Sarah Marie Hall; second: Emil Evenhuis), and elected by members.
    - Events Officer: Jon Swords (York) nominated (first: Jennifer Johns; second: Alexandra Dales), and elected by members.
    - New Ordinary Members both focusing on Diversity and Equality in EG:
      - i. Rhiannon Pugh (Uppsala) nominated and elected by members.
      - ii. Sarah Marie Hall (Manchester) nominated and elected by members.

**Changes to existing roles or new roles:**

- ECR Rep (adding second position): Harry Petit (Oxford) nominated (first: Alexandra Dales; second: Jane Pollard), and elected by members.
- Social Media and Web Officer: (role has expanded to include social media): Karen Lai (Durham) nominated (first: Henry Yeung; second: Steve Wood) and elected by members.
- International Officer (fill existing and add second position): Lotte Thomsen (Copenhagen Bus. School) nominated (first: Neil Coe; second: Andrew Jones) and elected by members; Heidi Haugen (Oslo) nominated (first: Neil Coe; second: Andrew Jones) and elected by members.
- Education Officer, Higher Ed (new role): Andrew Greenhalgh-Cook (Nottingham) nominated and elected by members.
- Education Officer, Schools and Further Ed (new role): Jennifer Ferreira (Coventry) nominated and elected by members.

11. **EGRG Constitution** needs to be updated. Jennifer Johns reported that the Constitution has not been updated since 1997 and includes several out of date items and procedures. A new constitution will be drafted and circulated 30 days prior to the next AGM (RGS guidelines) to be considered for ratification at the AGM at RGS-IBG meeting in 2020.

12. **Upcoming Events**—There will be a one day event at the University of Nottingham, organized by Sarah Hall focused on Governance After BREXIT. There will also be ongoing work to develop a mentoring scheme that will focus on connecting people outside of their institutions. The committee will focus on diversity and equality in this scheme including paying close attention to women who may be asked to do a disproportionate amount of mentoring and related work.

13. **AOB**—none

**Meeting adjourned at 14:20.**

Appendix: EGRG Sponsored Sessions at 2019 RGS-IBG Conference:

# RGS-IBG Annual International Conference 2019



[return to menu](#)

## Economic Geography Research Group

**Wednesday 28 Aug 2019**

### **Infrastructures as Theory and Method (1): Thinking Infrastructures**

Wednesday Session 1 (09:00-10:40) Sherfield/SALC Building, Pippard Lecture Theatre [Click for session details](#)

### **Infrastructures as Theory and Methods (2): Infrastructures, Power, Design**

Wednesday Session 2 (11:10-12:50) Sherfield/SALC Building, Pippard Lecture Theatre [Click for session details](#)

### **Infrastructures as Theory and Methods (3): (Im)materialities in Circulation**

Wednesday Session 3 (14:40-16:20) Sherfield/SALC Building, Pippard Lecture Theatre [Click for session details](#)

### **New Configurations of Consumption (1): Paper Session**

Wednesday Session 3 (14:40-16:20) Huxley Building, Room 311 [Click for session details](#)

### **New Configurations of Consumption (2): Panel Session**

Wednesday Session 4 (16:50-18:30) Huxley Building, Room 311 [Click for session details](#)

[return to top](#)

**Thursday 29 Aug 2019**

### **Exploring the new global geographies of the creative economy: creative economy global production networks (1)**

Thursday Session 1 (09:00-10:40) RGS-IBG Sunley Room [Click for session details](#)

### **Exploring the new global geographies of the creative economy: creative economy global production networks (2)**

Thursday Session 2 (11:10-12:50) RGS-IBG Sunley Room [Click for session details](#)

### **Economic Geography Research Group (EGRG) AGM**

Thursday Plenary & lunch (13:10-14:25) RGS-IBG Education Centre [Click for session details](#)

**Celebrating the contributions of Linda McDowell and Ron Martin: Linda McDowell - PLEASE NOTE AMENDED TIMINGS**

Thursday Session 3 (14:40-16:20) RGS-IBG Education Centre [Click for session details](#)

**Celebrating the contributions of Linda McDowell and Ron Martin: Ron Martin - PLEASE NOTE AMENDED TIMINGS**

Thursday Session 4 (16:50-18:30) RGS-IBG Education Centre [Click for session details](#)

[return to top](#)

## Friday 30 Aug 2019

**Displacement, Finance, and Data: Valuing Life on the Move (1)**

Friday Session 1 (09:00-10:40) Huxley Building, Room 341 [Click for session details](#)

**Re-presenting Economic Geography (1)**

Friday Session 2 (11:10-12:50) Skempton Building, Lecture Theatre 164 [Click for session details](#)

**Displacement, Finance, and Data: Valuing Life on the Move (2)**

Friday Session 2 (11:10-12:50) Huxley Building, Room 341 [Click for session details](#)

**Re-presenting Economic Geography (2)**

Friday Session 3 (14:40-16:20) Skempton Building, Lecture Theatre 164 [Click for session details](#)

**Towards an autonomist economic geography: Rethinking the classed relations of work, housing and debt (1): New compositions, new struggles?**

Friday Session 3 (14:40-16:20) Sheffield/SALC Building, Room 9 [Click for session details](#)

**Re-presenting Economic Geography (3)**

Friday 16:50-18:30 Skempton Building, Lecture Theatre 164 [Click for session details](#)

**Towards an autonomist economic geography: Rethinking the classed relations of work, housing and debt (2): Emergent urban resistance**

Friday Session 4 (16:50-18:30) Sheffield/SALC Building, Room 9 [Click for session details](#)