



EAAERE Newsletter

By Dr. Hsiao-Chi Chen

Vol. 5, November, 2015

Dear Members and Colleagues:

I am pleased to keep you informed about the activities occurred in the recent past and those to be held by the East Asian Association of Environmental and Resource Economics (EAAERE) in the near future.

I. The Fifth Congress of the EAAERE Held in Taipei, Taiwan

The Fifth Congress of the EAAERE hosted by Institute of Economics at the Academia Sinica, Department of Economics at the National Taipei University, Institute of Nuclear Energy Research at Atomic Energy Council of the Executive Yuan, and Taiwan Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (TAERE), was held during August 5 ~ August 7, 2015 at the Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan. Dr. II-Chung Kim, the former President of EAAERE, and Dr. Daigee Shaw, the President of TAERE, gave the opening remarks. “Green Economy” was this Congress’ main theme. Among over 200 submissions from 19 countries, the program committee chose 106 papers to be presented in 30 parallel sessions plus 15 poster-session papers. The titles of the parallel sessions included: *green economy; valuation, environment and growth; energy and growth; energy demand and supply; regulation; energy efficiency; game theory and environment ecosystem; waste and recycling; climate change; energy policies; energy pricing; behavior and environment; energy economics and valuation; environmental policies evaluation; ecology and development; renewable resources; valuation, cost and energy-intensity estimation; and ecosystem and resources*. The presenters came from 19 countries: China, England, Germany, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Lao, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, USA, and Vietnam. With the increasing number of this-year’s paper submissions, the influences of the EAAERE expand explicitly. This Congress also featured a thematic session with the issue of dynamic electricity pricing, and the authors of poster-session papers were invited to orally illustrate their studies to the Congress participants.

Our first keynote speaker was Dr. Robert O. Mendelsohn, the Edwin Weyerhaeuser Davis Professor at Yale University. He gave a speech, entitled “Climate Change: Options and Policy Implications.” In the literature on optimal climate policies, it is usually assumed to minimize the discounted sum of damage costs

and mitigation costs given the emission-temperature link. According to the studies of DICI? and Dr. Mendelsohn, the damage costs caused by rising temperatures has grown dramatically. For instance, if the temperature rises 4°C, the estimated damage cost will be USD 2,200 billion per year before 2065, USD 10,600 billion per year before 2110, and USD 24,000 billion per year before 2155. Consequently, Dr. Mendelsohn thought that we should create more efficient global governance of climate change. Our second keynote speaker was Dr. Paul Ekins, the Deputy Director of UK Energy Research Centre at University College London. He gave a speech, entitled “Global Energy: Options and Implications.” In this talk, Dr. Ekins pointed out that increasing primary energy demands as well as CO2 emissions occurred in all regions of the world. For instance, the world energy demands grew between 5% and 13% from 1971 to 2011, while the global CO2 emissions grew between 14% and 30% during the same period. Although each country proposed various energy-saving policies, the real effects were limited because the countries faced different sources of uncertainty. Thus, Dr. Ekins thought that politicians should recognize the costs of climate change being likely much greater than the costs of its mitigation. Thus, they ought to consider seriously how to execute the climate policies effectively. Finally, our third keynote speaker was Dr. Jason F. Shogren, the Stroock Professor of University of Wyoming. He gave a speech, entitled “Global Environmental Risk-Economic Observations on Pandemics.” Dr. Shogren addressed three problems in this talk that a country would face when there were large-scale pandemics. The first was how a country valued the risk reduction, the second was how governments or private firms invest in protecting stocks, and the third was how governments developed mechanisms to encourage firms doing R&D for vaccines. Dr. Shogren explained the risk from the perspective of behavioral economics, and mentioned that the US government invested USD 6.18 billion to prevent the spread of Ebola and subsidized firms’ R&D in many kinds of vaccines. Some photos of the Congress are shown below.





II. New Officers, Directors and Auditors for Years 2015-2017

In the board of directors (BOD) meetings held in Taipei during August 5 ~ August 7, 2015, Dr. Hsiao-Chi Chen was elected as the new president, and Dr. Shiqiu Zhang and Dr. Jong Ho Hong were elected as the new vice presidents. Dr. Akihisa Mori is appointed as the secretary general, Dr. Katsuya Tanaka as the vice secretary general, and Dr. Jin-Li Hu as the treasurer. The new BOD members include Shiqiu Zhang, Ge Chazhong, Jian Wu, Young Sook Eom, Jong Ho Hong, Geum Soo Kim, Akihisa Mori, Katsuya Tanaka, Ayumi Onuma, Budy Prasetyo Resosudamo, Orapan Nabangchang, Arief Anshory Yusuf, Hsiao-Chi Chen, Jin-Li Hu, and Hsing-Chun Lin; and the new auditors are Jin Cao and Yu Matsuno.

III. The Sixth Congress of the EAAERE to Be Held in Fukuoka, Japan in 2016

The Sixth Congress of EAAERE will be held in Fukuoka, Japan from the 7th to the 9th of August in 2016. There will be a welcome party on the first day of the Congress, and a post-Congress tour on August 10, 2016. The Congress venue is on the campus of Kyushu Sangyo University, which is 15 minutes away from the downtown of Fukuoka by train or bus. Fukuoka is a famous historical city. There are many beautiful shrines, temples, gardens, and museums in the area of Hakata. In addition, Professor Ken-Ichi Akao, the executive editor of *Environmental Economics and Policy Studies*, will chair the program committee, and Professors Akihisa Mori, Katsuya Tanaka, and Ayumi Onuma will organize the local organization committee. The Sixth Congress of EAAERE will be another wonderful and successful conference, and we look forward to seeing you there.

VI. The 2014 Inter-Congress Conference at Jakarta, Indonesia

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On December 8, 2014, the EAAERE, in collaboration with the Faculty of Economics-University of Indonesia (FEUI), Korea Environmental Industry and Technology Institute (KEITI), and the Economy and Environment Program for Southeast Asia (EEPSEA), conducted its 2014 Inter-Congress Conference. This one-day meeting was held in Jakarta, Indonesia, with the main theme of “Managing Environment and Resources in East Asia.”

Dr. Yong-Joo Kim from KEITI opened the plenary session with a speech entitled “Environmental Industry and Technology of Korea and the International Cooperation.” Then, Professor Armida Alisjahbana from Padjajaran University delivered the second speech, entitled “Sustainable Development in the Post 2015 Agenda.” Many topics were discussed in the following three parallel sessions. They included *climate change and adaptation, energy demand and utilization, food crops, land use value and management, climate change and carbon pricing, energy reform, agriculture, environmental valuation, international environmental agreement, environment and social preferences, resources and development, and waste and pollution management*. Among the 86 or so people attending the conference, 35 were presenters and 8 of them were female. The presenters came from 11 countries: Australia, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Taiwan, and Vietnam. It is worth mentioning that the EEPSEA subsidized 21 environmental economists in Southeast Asia to present their works in this conference and to become members of the EAAERE. The total scholarships provided by the EEPSEA were USD 7,825.

This Inter-Congress has been a crucial meeting for East and Southeast Asian environmental economists. Under a very collegial atmosphere, participants were able to get acquainted with each other

and their academic works; and to create many promising future research networks at the same time. Moreover, the conference attracted more people to join the EAAERE.

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Presenters and Participants of the 2014 EAAERE Inter-Congress Conference in Jakarta, Indonesia

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V. Publications of EAAERE Members

Some books are published or going to be published by EAAERE members as follows.

(1) *Environmental Subsidies to Consumers: How Did They Work in the Japanese Market?*

Author: Shigeru Matsumoto, ed.

Publication year: 2016

(2) *Economics of Waste Management in East Asia*

Authors: Masashi Yamamoto and Eiji Hosoda, eds.

Publication year: 2016

(3) *Low-Carbon, Sustainable Future in East Asia: Improving Energy Systems, Taxation and Policy Cooperation*

Authors: Soocheol Lee, H Pollitt and Seung-Joon Park, eds.

Publication year: 2015

(4) *Green Growth and Low Carbon Development in East Asia*

Authors: Fumikazu Yoshida and Akihisa Mori, eds.

Publication year: 2015

(5) *An Evaluation of Japanese Environmental Regulations: Quantitative Approaches from Environmental Economics*

Authors: Toshi Arimura and Kazuyuki Iwata

Publication year: 2015

(6) *Environmental Taxation and Green Fiscal Reform: Theory and Impact*

Authors: Larry Kreiser, Soocheol Lee and Kazuhiro Ueta, eds.

Publication year: 2014

VI. Upcoming Events

(1) The 22nd annual conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (EAERE) will take place in Zurich, Switzerland, from June 22 to June 25, 2016. If you are interested, please visit the website: <http://www.eaere2016.org>.

(2) The joint workshop of Taiwan Association of Environmental Resource Economists (TAERE) and Korean Resource Economics Association (KREA) will take place in Taipei, Taiwan, on the 12th of December, 2015. If you are interested, please visit the website: <http://www.taere.org.tw>.

VII. Call for News

If members of EAAERE would like to spread pieces of news, such as upcoming conferences or recent publications, to others, please send the information to Dr. Akihisa Mori at mori.akhisa.2a@kyoto-u.ac.jp, Dr. Katsuya Tanaka at katsuyat@gmail.com or Dr. Hsiao-Chi Chen at hchen@mail.ntpu.edu.tw.