



European Association for Research in Industrial Economics

Minutes of the 2012 EARIE General Assembly
Rome, Italy – 4th September 2012

The 2012 General Assembly (GA) of the European Association for Research in Industrial Economics (EARIE) was held in Rome at the LUISS Guido Carli University – the conference venue, and was chaired by Patrick Rey, the EARIE President. Approximately 100 delegates / EARIE members were present, including several representatives of the EARIE Executive Committee as well as Past Presidents.

The President called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m. and welcomed the EARIE delegate members attending the 39th EARIE Annual Conference in Rome, Italy – thanking those who were present at the General Assembly for their valued participation in this important annual EARIE business meeting.

AGENDA

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 2011 EARIE General Assembly held in Stockholm, Sweden
2. Approval of the Accounts 2011
3. Membership Situation
4. Elections 2012
5. Report on the EARIE Conference 2012
6. Young Economists' Essay Awards (YEEAs) 2012
7. *International Journal of Industrial Organization* (IJIO) Report 2011-2012
8. Future EARIE Conferences
9. Any Other Business / Q & A

President Rey quickly reviewed the proposed GA Agenda (which had been previously circulated via e-mail to the current membership as per the Statutes) and asked whether there were any additions or corrections to be made. No remarks to this effect were voiced.

The EARIE 2012 General Assembly Agenda was approved.

[NOTE: The slides for the EARIE 2012 General Assembly as well as the reports submitted to the Executive Committee are available to current members upon request from the EARIE Secretariat.]

MINUTES

1. Approval of the Minutes of the EARIE General Assembly held in Stockholm, Sweden, on 3rd September 2011

The President asked if there were any comments on or final revisions to be made to the 2011 General Assembly Minutes. (The link to the document had been circulated via e-mail to the current EARIE membership along with the GA announcement.) No remarks were made.

The Minutes were unanimously approved.

[NOTE: The Minutes of recent EARIE General Assemblies are readily available online via the EARIE website (www.earie.org) under the Governance menu.]

2. Approval of the Accounts 2011

The Accounts 2011 (which had been duly circulated to the EARIE membership prior to the GA) were reviewed by President Patrick Rey. He commented wryly that during his first year of presidency, EARIE for the first time is showing a deficit – and asked the GA to consider a rise in EARIE membership fees from €35 to €40 per year to help cover costs. He explained that although EARIE continues to be fairly stable in terms of income and expenditures, the financial situation has changed mainly due to an overall increase in administrative costs, combined with lower annual membership numbers (e.g., in 2010 and 2011 there were about 100 members less than in 2008 and 2009), resulting in decreased annual surpluses (which have recently breached the break-even point). He added that with the introduction of VAT, there would be further costs for quarterly audits, etc. (despite the possibility of gaining some tax breaks).

The President asked if there were any questions regarding the 2011 Accounts. No questions were asked and no remarks were made. The President asked the General Assembly for a show of hands to approve the final Accounts for 2011.

The final 2011 Accounts for EARIE were unanimously approved.

After some comments and discussion, the President asked if there were any further questions regarding the proposed rise in EARIE membership fees to be introduced as of 2014. No more questions were asked and no further remarks were made. President Rey asked the General Assembly to approve the increase of the annual EARIE Membership Fee to €40 in 2014.

The new EARIE Membership Fee of €40 per year as of 2014 was duly approved.

3. Membership Situation

The President reviewed the membership numbers over the past decade:

<i>Total # members per calendar year</i>		<i>Top 10 countries in 2012</i>
2012	→ 386 members (to date)	1. Germany (68)
2011	→ 457 members	2. France (36)
2010	→ 466 members	3. UK (32)
2009	→ 568 members	4. Spain (28)
2008	→ 553 members	5. Italy (26)
2007	→ 487 members	6. Netherlands (22)
2006	→ 481 members	7. USA (22)
2005	→ 451 members	8. Belgium (19)
2004	→ 528 members	9. Japan (19)
2003	→ 519 members	10. Sweden (15)

[NOTE: The EARIE membership statistics by country are based on the professional affiliations of EARIE members (as per the information stored in their profiles), which do not necessarily reflect their nationalities nor countries of origin.]

President Rey remarked that Germany continues to top the list, membership from the US is good, and Sweden is now appearing in the Top 10 (due to the 'conference factor' as EARIE 2011 was held in Stockholm last year). He reminded the GA that the delegates from this year's EARIE conference in Rome would be the main influence on the 2013 membership.

4. Elections 2012

President Rey announced two proposed policy changes regarding EARIE elections and terms of office. (If approved, these bylaws would not necessitate making changes to the Statutes.):

Past President (2011-2013):

- The Executive Committee has approved the extension of the term of the Past President (if available and willing) from one to two years to bridge the gap up to the next President-Elect. Furthermore, as already consulted and confirmed, the current Past President (Luís CABRAL) has kindly agreed to serve another year on the Executive Committee in this capacity.

EARIE Administrators (2012-2015-2018):

- To ensure active participation in addition to continuity on the Executive Committee, those elected Administrators whose first 3-year term is ending will now be approached by the President to confirm that they wish to serve a second term (i.e., prior to the automatic roll-over for another 3-year term).

The proposed policy changes regarding the terms of the EARIE Past President and the EARIE Administrators were duly approved as bylaws to take effect immediately.

The President took the opportunity to bid farewell to the following EARIE Administrators whose terms on the Executive Committee are coming to an end after today's General Assembly:

- Jože P. DAMIJAN – University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Tomaso DUSO – University of Düsseldorf (DICE), Germany
- Vivek GHOSAL – Georgia Institute of Technology, USA
- Jeroen HINLOOPEN – University of Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Luca LAMBERTINI – University of Bologna, Italy
- Tommaso VALLETTI – Imperial College London, UK
- Xavier WAUTHY – Catholic University Louvain-la-Neuve (UCL), Belgium

The President thanked them for their efforts as EARIE Administrators over the past years.

Although the 2012 elections are running late, the Executive Committee has approved seven nominations for new EARIE Administrators 2012-2015. The ballots to current EARIE members will be distributed via e-mail this fall so that the posts can be filled by the end of the year. He thanked the membership for their participation in their Association by taking the time to cast their votes each year – and to add their suggestions for future Executive Committee members.

5. Report on the EARIE Conference 2012

The President thanked the EARIE 2012 team at the Faculty of Economics of the Università di Roma Tor Vergata (UTV) for their hard work in realising this year's conference – and LUISS Guido Carli for kindly agreeing to co-host the event on their premises. The Local Organizing Committee from Università di Roma "Tor Vergata": Tommaso Valletti (Chair), Alberto Iozzi, Gustavo Piga – and from LUISS Guido Carli: Giorgio Di Giorgio, Liliane Giardino-Karlinger, Gian Maria Gros-Pietro. To complete the picture, Yossi Spiegel (Tel Aviv University) served as Chair of the Scientific Committee for EARIE 2012 in Rome – the 39th EARIE Annual Conference.

In addition to the amazing private visit to the Sistine Chapel which was arranged for the EARIE 2012 delegates, the academic programme was also a success. Over 700 submissions to the event yielded 480 paper presentations – and about 130 attended as non-presenting delegates. WebMeets.com again provided the submission system and support, thanks to Robert Clark.

On behalf of EARIE, the President thanked Tommaso Valletti, Chair of the EARIE 2012 Local Organizing Committee, and his ultra efficient team for hosting this year's conference in Rome.

6. Young Economists' Essay Awards (YEEAs)

The President invited Yossi Spiegel, Chair of the EARIE 2012 Scientific Committee, to say a few words. Yossi briefly reviewed the procedures used to select the conference papers as well as the best conference papers written by young economists. He thanked his team of Referees for their professionalism and diligence in reading and reviewing the submissions. The Scientific Committee made a first selection of the top papers (from amongst the papers with the best rankings) and the final selection was made with the input of the EARIE President.

Thanks to the generous support of EARIE and the EARIE 2012 Local Organizing Committee (chaired by Tommaso Valletti), 4 YEEA prizes of €1000 each (plus certificates) were handed out in Rome this year. One of these was also recognized as the 7th EARIE Paul Geroski Prize (for the most significant policy contribution). The President was invited to co-present the 4 YEEA prizes to the winners during the conference dinner.

EARIE 2012 YEEA Winners:

- **Javier Donna & José-Antonio Espín-Sánchez** (both at Northwestern University)
Complements and Substitutes in Sequential Auctions: The Case of Water Auctions.
- **Kathleen Nosal** (University of Mannheim)
Estimating Switching Costs for Medicare Advantage Plans.
[7th **EARIE Paul Geroski Prize** for the most significant policy contribution]
- **Andrew Rhodes** (University of Oxford)
Re-Examining the Effects of Switching Costs
- **Sebastian Schwenen** (European University Institute)
Strategic Bidding in Multi-Unit Auctions with Capacity Constrained Bidders: The New York Capacity Market.

YEEA 2012 Selection Committee: John Asker, Luís Cabral, Liran Einav, Rob Porter, Patrick Rey, Yossi Spiegel (Chair), Tommaso Valletti.

The President and GA applauded Yossi Spiegel and his team, as well as the YEEA winners and the Rome organizers and sponsors, for their contributions and support of the EARIE 2012 Program. He is very pleased with the quality of this year's papers and hopes that the delegates also found the conference stimulating and worthwhile.

7. IJIO Report 2011-2012

On behalf of the IJIO Editors, the President briefed the membership on the IJIO Report to the EARIE Executive Committee, covering 2011-2012. Further significant changes in the Editorial Board are due to take place next year. The Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) was commended for the seamless process as well as the excellent selection of new members. The IJIO team is pleased with the current situation and looks forward to working with young editors and others who will contribute to the success of the IJIO by keeping it going and growing ever stronger.

The SAB includes three EARIE representatives. Due to a turnover (e.g., Margaret Slade has announced her departure), the EARIE Executive Committee has nominated Luís Cabral and Patrick Rey to join Michael Waterson (already on the SAB) – and they have all agreed to serve in this capacity. The support of the GA was requested in approving these nominations.

The General Assembly unanimously agreed to appoint Luís Cabral and Patrick Rey as EARIE representatives to the IJIO Scientific Advisory Board (SAB), and to reappoint Michael Waterson.

In 2011, the IJIO had a grand total of 502 submissions (down slightly from 2010). A higher submission rate in 2012 is expected (due to 2 successful special issues). There were 3,525 submissions between January 2005 and August 15, 2012. The summary statistics are:

- Rejected at Initial Review 54.8%
- Acceptance Rate 12%

The Editors have recently announced the 2012 winners of the IJIO Paul Geroski Award for the best papers published in the IJIO in 2011:

- **Katherine Ho, Joy Ishii**
Location and competition in retail banking
[IJIO, September 2011, 29(5): 537–546]
- **Alessandro Bonatti**
Brand-specific tastes for quality
[IJIO, September 2011, 29(5): 562–575]

The President made some positive remarks about the IJIO / Elsevier relationship with EARIE, and expressed his satisfaction with the current state of affairs – although the Agreement with Elsevier soon needs to be updated to more accurately reflect the status quo.

8. Future EARIE Conferences

The President announced that the 40th EARIE Annual Conference is to take place 30 August – 1 September 2013 in Évora, Portugal. Note that the EARIE 2013 programme will revert to the traditional 3-day format – and that the event will run from Friday to Sunday (as determined in consultation with several relevant key groups and individuals). The conference host and venue is the Center for Advanced Studies in Management and Economics of the University of Évora (CEFAGE-UE). Cesaltina Pires will act as Chair of the Local Organizing Committee. Tommaso Valletti was nominated and has kindly agreed to serve as the 2013 Scientific Committee Chair. President Rey recommended Évora as a listed historical site and looks forward to seeing many members and delegates at EARIE 2013 next year.

The President summarized the situation regarding the few proposals received for hosting future EARIE conferences. He encouraged the EARIE membership to get more involved in promoting this event and to make use of the networking aspects of their Association by spreading the word. Any comments, suggestions or expressions of interest for hosting a future EARIE Annual Conference should be directed to the attention of the EARIE President at earie@eiasm.org.

9. Any Other Business / Q & A

The President asked the GA whether there were any comments or concerns; no further issues or questions were raised.

President Rey again applauded the Rome team for their wonderful reception and conference. He also thanked the EARIE Executive Secretary, Ene Kannel, for her good work behind the scenes and throughout the year.

On behalf of EARIE, Patrick Rey thanked those attending this General Assembly for their time and participation, and invited all members to attend EARIE 2013 in Évora, Portugal next year.

A reminder and invitation to please stay for the Farewell Cocktail was announced, with logistics for the change of venue (due to the inclement weather).

The General Assembly meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.
