



As the incoming President of the European Economic Association (EEA), I am writing to keep you informed about some of the ongoing initiatives that the EEA is involved in to support and develop the economics profession in Europe.

#### EEA 2012 Congress

This year's congress will be held at the Universidad de Málaga from August 27-31, 2012. Philip Lane is doing an excellent job as Programme Chair and is being ably assisted by the Local Organizing Committee. Full details are available at the congress website, <http://www.eea-esem2012malaga.org/>. All members are encouraged to submit papers (deadline February 15 2012) and encourage their students and colleagues to do so. The EEA in collaboration with Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei, will confer the fourth FEEM award to the authors of the three best papers presented by young economists at the Málaga. Further details of the award and of the winners of the first three editions of the award can be found at <http://www.eeassoc.org/index.php?site=&page=171>. This award emphasises the commitment of the EEA to encourage young economists to attend our congress and to present their best work. Moreover, the EEA continues to award €400 to 30 student members who present at the annual congress. Details of the Student Travel Grant can be found on the Congress website.

#### JEEA

Publishing the Journal of the European Economic Association (JEEA) remains one of the flagship activities of the EEA. It continues to go from strength to strength under an excellent editorial team led by Fabrizio Zilibotti and is on its way to becoming the very top general interest journals in Economics. Both the number of submissions and the impact factor of the journal have increased substantially in the last few years. The editorial turnaround time is better than most of its competitors and the review process is extremely professional. You are encouraged to submit your best work to JEEA. Please read the JEEA 2012 Newsletter ([http://www.eeassoc.org/doc/upload/JEEA\\_Newsletter20120105104806.pdf](http://www.eeassoc.org/doc/upload/JEEA_Newsletter20120105104806.pdf)) for a more detailed account, or visit <http://www.eeassoc.org/index.php?site=JEEA&page=41>

#### FBBVA-JEEA Lecture

The 2012 EEA lecture sponsored by the Fundación BBVA was given by Ernst Fehr during the January ASSA meetings in Chicago. The title of his lecture was 'Transaction Costs, Power Abuse, and the Employment Relation--Economic Origins of Authority' and it will be published in a forthcoming article of JEEA

#### Low-Rate Subscription for Economic Policy

I am pleased to announce that the EEA will be offering EEA members discounted rates to Economic Policy (print and online). Payment for the Economic Policy subscription will be made directly to Wiley Blackwell so please visit [http://ordering.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/subs.asp?ref=1468-0327&doi=10.1111/\(ISSN\)1468-0327](http://ordering.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/subs.asp?ref=1468-0327&doi=10.1111/(ISSN)1468-0327) for further information.

#### EEA Standing Committee on Research

Following on from the presentation to members of the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation and other research organizations with presence in Brussels, the Report on Research Funding in Economics in Europe has been extended by the Academic Careers Observatory of the Max Weber Programme of the EUI, to other social sciences, showing the robustness of most of the conclusions of the EEA report. The Committee will be looking at how they can now follow up and disseminate its findings. The results of this follow-up will be presented during the Committee's fifth session, titled "Building Successful Research Institutions in Europe", during the EEA Congress in Malaga.

### EEA Standing Committee on Teaching

The Teaching Committee, chaired by Piero Tedeschi, will be working on a format for their session that will take place at the EEA 2013 Congress. The Committee will also continue their collaboration within the AHELO Stakeholders' Consultative Group. There are plans over the course of the next 12 months to strengthen the network of PhD programme directors that has been created during the past annual PhD lunches.

### WinE (Women in Economics)

2012 will be another busy year for WinE Chair, Silvana Tenreyro, and her committee. Attempts will be put in place to create a larger network amongst other international groups of women in economics. Moreover, the committee will be organising a lunch time session at the Malaga Congress. This session will be chaired by Raquel Fernandez and further information will be found on the relative pages of the Congress website closer to the congress date. Also, the winner of the first Birgit Grodal Award will be announced in spring of this year and presented with the prize in Malaga. The committee will also be supporting the Royal Economic Society's mentoring programme. In the future, if the pilot experiment is successful, WinE will try to implement it on a European scale. Further initiatives will be communicated to our members during the course of the year.

We will disseminate information about all EEA standing committees on our website. If you have suggestions about how the Research, Teaching and WinE committees are managed, the secretariat can put you in touch with the chairs of these initiatives.

### EEA Membership

One important initiative that has been successful in the past couple of years is our institutional membership program. This allows institutions that have special links to the economics in Europe to register their support for building up the profession in Europe. Current institutional members include, for example, a number of leading central banks. We organize a reception for these members at each congress and we will strengthen our relationship with them as part of our core activities. To view the list of current EEA institutional members and be directed to their job pages, please visit <http://www.eeassoc.org/index.php?site=&page=181>

Another core focus of the EEA is to build our membership base as we aim to represent the widest possible group of economists. We take the opportunity to ask you to check your EEA membership status and should it have expired over last few months, please renew it by logging in at the member section on [www.eeassoc.org](http://www.eeassoc.org). Once logged in, please click on MY PROFILE and follow the instructions. We also ask you to check your details are up-to-date. Informal efforts to encourage your colleagues to become members of EEA are also appreciated and we encourage you to bring the role of EEA in representing economists in Europe to their attention.

The EEA website, [www.eeassoc.org](http://www.eeassoc.org), is updated on a daily basis so please monitor it to find out about the latest developments in the EEA. You can also follow 'EEANews' on Twitter to be updated 'live'. Our members' opinions are really important so please contact us if you feel there are things we can do better.

It is a good moment for me to thank the outgoing President, Christopher Pissarides, for his excellent work during 2011 and to thank Wendy Carlin, Armin Falk, Eliana La Ferrara, and Enrico Perotti, our retiring council members, for their efforts on behalf of the Association. At the same time, we welcome Orazio Attanasio to the Executive Committee – he will serve as President in 2014. We also welcome Isabel Correia, Jan Eeckhout, Imran Rasul and John Van Reenen, the incoming council members and thank them for their willingness to serve. The EEA is indebted to the work of its highly efficient secretariat, Gemma Prunner-Thomas and Piero Tedeschi, and I am looking forward to working with them on your behalf in the current year and making this another memorable year in the life of EEA. I am looking forward, in particular, to welcoming you to Malaga in August.

With best wishes for a happy and productive New Year,

Jordi Galí  
EEA President 2012