

## Report of the Secretary, August 2006

This report covers the period from August 1, 2005.

### 1. Personnel

The EEA office continues to be staffed only by Fiona Brown, a senior administrator in the Warwick Economics department, who works on EEA matters part-time. The EEA pays Warwick £20,000 (close to €30k) pa (plus VAT) for her time, the space, and expenses. Jim Saxton of Saxton IT Services continues to provide web design and support on a casual basis and he provides for the hosting of the EEA website on a commercial server – these costs are modest. It should be noted that the term of office for the current secretary will end in December 2007. We recommend that the new secretariat be based within the euro-zone to minimise transaction costs – which are significant. We also suggest that the new secretary be in place by the time of the EEA Conference in 2007.

### 2. 2005 Elections

The nominating committee for the 2005 election was comprised of:

Roger Guesnerie (chair), Richard Blundell, Jean-Pierre Danthine, Mathias Dewatripont, Rachel Griffith, Andreu Mas-Colell, Monika Schneider and Guido Tabellini

Ernst Fehr was elected **Vice-President** for the Year **2006**. He will become President-Elect in 2007 and **President** of the EEA in 2008.

The newly elected members for the Council, for a term of office of five years starting 1 January 2006 are:

Richard Baldwin, Erik Berglof, Tito Boeri, David Martimont, Ines Macho-Stadler, and Ernst-Ludwig von Thadden.

### 3. Leaflet

The leaflet introducing the EEA has been updated for the conference

### 4. Websites

The EEA official site remains [www.eeassoc.org](http://www.eeassoc.org) and it is now hosted at a secure commercial service in the . The content remains broadly similar to last year but it now provides for on-line membership renewal and contains a secure members-only section. The handling of financial transfers is effected by a secure system provided by *PayPal* which is owned by *eBay*, the on-line auctioneer. This provides a credit card payment mechanism in multiple currencies at no cost to the member and with minimal transaction fees to the Association. An off-line facility remains for those who prefer not to use the on-line service.

The JEEA website [www.jeea.org](http://www.jeea.org) provides for electronic submission of manuscripts by members and is currently managed by the JEEA office. The Secretariat has responsibility for its maintenance and development of the JEEA website. Apart from having the facility for storing files associated with JEEA content (datasets, etc), the content matches that of the MIT Press hosted site for JEEA – but in MIT livery rather than EEA.

The Congress website remains the responsibility of the local organisation and we have now provided better integration with the EEA site for the 2005 Conference in Vienna to facilitate joining members and paper submitters.

Please email us, via our website, if you have suggestions for improvements or additional functionality.

### 5. Email address

The default email address is [eea@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:eea@warwick.ac.uk) and all earlier addresses remain operational.

### 6. Fellowship

The Secretariat continues to implement the decision last year to found a “Fellowship of the EEA” to honour economists who have made a significant contribution to the EEA and to economics research in Europe . All new EEA Council members are appointed to be Fellows of the EEA. The honour is also bestowed on the Association’s officers, the editors of the association’s journal, the Programme Chairs of its annual congresses, as well as the Marshall and Schumpeter Lecturers.

This is a lifetime fellowship aiming to foster a close relationship between the generations of economic researchers in Europe and to promote the development of economics research in Europe .

Thus, in January 2006, the following joined the Fellowship:

Marco Pagano and Phillippe Aghion

The Council also decided that past presidents, Council members, Editors, Programme Chairs and the Lecturers would be elected Fellow. This year all such cases are already Fellows.

### 7. Membership

It is now possible to compare membership statistics with the last two years but comparisons with earlier years is problematic because we now have membership is now for a period of 12 months from joining or renewing, while previously it was for the current calendar year. Comparisons are difficult because of the seasonality associated with the conference.

However, the last report of the previous Secretary declared that membership at the time of the Stockholm August 2003 conference was 1,774 plus 13 institutional members. The figure for June 2004 was approximately 10% lower at 1,604 plus 14 institutional members. An on-line only membership, which gave rights to electronic access to JEEA, was introduced for “students” in 2005. Membership was made a requirement to SUBMIT a paper to the EEA Conference in Amsterdam (matching the ES requirement for ESEM). The membership count 9<sup>th</sup> August 2006 is 2260 (plus 14 institutional members)

Tables 1 and 2 reports the breakdown of membership by type of member. Table 3 reports the geographical breakdown of membership.

Table 1 (Membership numbers)

	August 2005		August 2006	
	JEEA	JEEA + EP	JEEA	JEEA + EP
Regular members	662	141	1086	142
3 yr reg members	651	173	535	134
Student members	249	7	532	7
Student on line	203		501	
Transitional	62		107	
Total	1827		2260	

Table 2 Membership by status %

Membership	Aug 03	June 04	Aug 05	Aug 06
1 year regular	39	40	45	48
3 year regular	45	45	40	24
Student	13	11	15	23
Transitional countries 1	1	4	4	5

Table 3 Geographical distribution of membership %

	Aug 03	June 04	Aug 05	Aug 06
<b>Europe</b>				
-EU Countries	71.8	75.9	69.6	71.7
-Accession Countries		3.3	3.9	4.3
-Non accession countries Eastern Europe	4.1	0.7	0.1	0.1
- Other non EU European	6.0	1.7	5.0	4.6
-Non EU Nordic	4.6	3.6	3.0	2.7
<b>Rest of World</b>				
Africa	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3
- North	9.1	10.5	12.6	12.7
- South	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.7
Asia	3.3	3.1	3.2	2.4
Oceania	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
				2260

### 8. Suggestions for the future

We have achieved the major objectives following the move of the Secretariat to Warwick . Electronic membership has also been provided and the FEEA has been established.

Outstanding tasks are: to rationalise the statutes; secure the transfer of the long-term accounts of the EEA from to the new Treasurer; and cooperate with the new secretariat in the run up to the transfer in January 2008.

Further suggestions are welcome.

**IAN WALKER,**  
University of Warwick ,  
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