Although the initial four years of Piero Tedeschi’s mandate as Secretary was due to expire at the end of December 2011, Piero kindly agreed to remain for another 12 months. In the meantime, it was decided that the EEA would merge the roles of Secretary and Treasurer. The latter is currently held by Simon Gächter, whose tenure will also be completed at the end of the year.

Although the new role was advertised online, there were not many responses. At its meeting in April of this year, the EEA Executive Committee drew up a short list of suitable candidates for the new position. Guglielmo Weber, who was ranked first on that list, agreed to take on the role and the EEA Council has since confirmed his appointment. He will take over on January 1 2013. The EEA is very grateful to both Piero and Simon for their outstanding work during the past four-five years.

In celebration of the 10th anniversary of JEEA, an online anniversary virtual issue has been published. The issue hosts a sample of some of the most impactful research published by JEEA, and can be accessed online at the Wiley Blackwell JEEA page.

As another way of celebrating the 10th anniversary of JEEA, there will be an extra special issue of JEEA that will come out in January 2013.

Standing Committees on Research, Teaching and Women in Economics

I thank Silvana Tenreyro, Chair of the Standing Committee on Women in Economics (affectionately known as WinE) for all the work that she and her committee have done over the past 12 months and for organising the WinE session, which has been chaired by Raquel Fernandez during this Congress. Silvana has agreed to chair the Committee until April of 2013, for which we are very grateful and indebted as she has been instrumental in reviving the Committee and ensuring that the EEA instituted the Birgit Grodal prize.

I also thank Marc Ivaldi for organising the panel session ‘Building Successful Research Institutions In Europe’ at this congress and for his work done during the year. Marc Ivaldi replaced Ramon Marimon as Chair in January of this year so I would like to thank Ramon for his dedication to the Committee and all the work he did on the survey about research funding in Europe.

And I once again thank Piero Tedeschi, who has chaired the Teaching committee since the beginning of 2011. Piero will step down as Chair, but will stay on the Committee. The Committee is continuing the initial aim to broaden the EEA network of PhD programmes in Economics in Europe, to exchange information, to discuss common problems, and to put forward initiatives that the EEA can bring to the attention to the European Commission, or other Higher Education Policy Institutions.

Information on the activities of all the standing committees can be found on the EEA website.
BBVA-JEEA Lecture at AEA Meeting

The BBVA Foundation continues to sponsor a lecture at the annual meeting of the American Economic Association. This lecture is also intended to increase the visibility of JEEA in the US. The speaker for the meeting in January 2012 was Ernst Fehr whose lecture was entitled “Transaction Costs, Power Abuse, and the Employment Relation--Economic Origins of Authority”. The EEA thanks Ernst for his willingness to represent the EEA at the AEA meetings.

The EEA is busy organising the 2013 lecture at the ASSA meeting and I am pleased to announce that John van Reenen will be giving the lecture on Friday January 4 and the lecture will be entitled “Growth and the New Economics of Management”.

Birgit Grodal Award

In May 2012, after many months of deliberations by the Birgit Grodal Committee, Hélène Rey of London Business School was announced the first ever winner of the Birgit Grodal Award. The award is named after Professor Birgit Grodal who was the first female elected President of the EEA, but sadly passed away before she was due to take up her presidency. We are delighted that Birgit’s husband, Torben, can be with us in Malaga to award Hélène and celebrate his late wife’s legacy with the EEA.

I would like to thank the first Birgit Grodal Committee, Jean Tirole (Chair), Francine Blau, Per Krusell, Valerie Ramey and Christian Schultz, and the Danmarks Nationalbank, who will sponsor the first three Award editions.

Hicks-Tinbergen Award

After soliciting the views of EEA members and JEEA editors, the eleventh Hicks-Tinbergen Award was awarded to Guido Tabellini for his article “Culture and Institutions: Economic Development in the Regions of Europe” (published in JEEA Volume 8 Issue 4).

I would like to thank the 2012 Hicks-Tinbergen Award Committee, Fabrizio Zilibotti (Chair), Orazio Attanasio and Christopher Pissarides.

Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM) Award

The 2012 FEEM Awards were awarded to Fadi Hassan of London School of Economics for his paper “The Price of Development”; Itziar Lazkano of University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for her paper entitled “Intergenerational Externalities and Sustainable Growth; and Julia Schmidt of Graduate Institute, Geneva for her paper entitled “Technological Standardization, Endogenous Productivity and Transitory Dynamics”.

I would like to congratulate them all on behalf of the EEA, and thank the 2012 Award Committee, Philip Lane (Chair), Armin Falk and Matteo Manera. I would like to thank also the Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei for their continued support of this Award.

Nominations

Nominations for election to the offices of the association have been made, and candidates have been selected. On behalf of the association I thank the chair of the nominating committee, Guido
Tabellini and the other committee members. Online elections for officers will begin in mid-September and take place for a month.

**Malàga Congress**

This congress is an outstanding event, full of interesting scientific presentations and debates, and other cultural and entertaining attractions. Many individuals have contributed their time and energy to ensure the success of this Congress. In particular, I would like to thank the Chair of the Scientific Committee, Philip Lane of Trinity College, Dublin as well as the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee, Ana Lozano of the Universidad de Malaga, and her Committee-Ascensión Andina, Miguel Angel Durán, Gonzalo Fernández de Córdoba, Miguel Angel Meléndez, Antonio J. Morales, José Manuel Ordóñez, Javier Rodero, José Luis Torres Chacón, for their outstanding work.

**EEA-ESEM 2013 Congress Gothenburg, Sweden**

The EEA very much looks forward to seeing its members, and welcoming new ones, at the 2013 Congress to be held from Monday August 26 to Friday August 30. Details will be available from September 1 on the new permanent Congress website —www.eea-esem-congresses.com