

International Input-Output Association (IIOA)

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Annual Report 2003

Vienna, April 2004

Membership

Membership decreased from 357 to 338, mostly because more than 30 members had to be eliminated from the files for not having paid their membership fee for two consecutive years. 59 of the 338 individual members are nominated by institutional members.

Membership (as of 30 March 2004)

Individual members

Individual members (including 59 members nominated by institutional members) 338

Institutional members

Institutional members 15
Plus one contributing institutional member.

Work of the Secretariat

The usual work of the Secretariat – in close co-operation with the treasurer – comprised as usual the following activities: (a) Membership administration, (b) Recording of payments of Membership Fees, including dispatching reminders, (c) Responding to letters from members and others, (d) Communicating with the Council, (e) Communicating with our Publishing Company (subscription of members, address changes), (f) Communicating with the Editor of the journal *Economic Systems Research*, (g) Updating the website.

The Secretariat was also involved in the preparation and organisation of the forthcoming conferences and the Council meeting held in Vienna in April 2003.

The 2003 regular General Assembly was held on 28 May 2003 in Vienna.

The 2004 regular General Assembly will be held on 27 May 2004, 4.30 p.m., at the Institut für Quantitative Volkswirtschaftslehre, Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien, Sektor B, 4.Stock, Augasse 2-6, 1090 Wien.

Council Meeting

The Council held a two day meeting in Vienna in April 2003 to discuss various basic issues concerning the activities of the IIOA, the preparation of the forthcoming conferences and administrative and organisational issues. The items dealt with were the following:

- Travel Grant committee: the size of the committee will be reduced from five to three members (President, Secretary, Chair of the Scientific Programme Committee of the respective conference); membership must be active at the time of the travel grant application; applicants that do not fulfil the age criteria may receive a subsidy in the order of half of the travel grant if the financial situation allows it, especially, if less than five travel grants are provided.
- Leontief Prize Committees: Only papers whose author or whose authors are all under the age of 40 are taken into account; it could be the case that for a certain conference the Leontief Prize is not granted because no paper meets the criteria.
- Desirable presence of the IIOA at the meetings of the American Economic Association; also a co-operation with the IARIW meetings should be envisaged. Members may be requested to organise sessions at these meetings; the IIOA may provide technical support (announcements or similar support).
- Promotion of “regional” IO conferences in addition to the worldwide IO conferences of the IIOA. The IIOA would also offer technical support to the organisers or acting as co-organiser. Members willing to organise a regional conference (on a certain topic or for a certain region of the world) should contact the Secretary.
- Update of the description of the IIOA (“mission statement”): a general discussion took place that should enable the drafting of an updated mission statement. Much of the current statement seemed still to be valid.
- Issues relating to the journal of the IIOA: switch to a double-blind reviewing system; ESR board; usefulness of board meetings; co-operation with other journals. The Council appointed Erik Dietzenbacher for another five-year period as Editor of ESR.
- Establishing a structure to promote the communication between members of the IIOA (list server).
- Discussion of a strategy for the organisation of the future conferences after the Beijing conference.
- The Council decided that the future “International Conferences on Input-Output Techniques” should be renamed into “International Input-Output Conferences”.
- Much time of the Council meeting was devoted to the discussion of the preparation of the Beijing conference that was originally scheduled for August 2004. However, due to the SARS problems the Council decided after consultation with the Chinese organisers to postpone the Beijing conference to 2005. (The new date for the Beijing conference has been announced in December 2003: 27 June – 1 July 2005).
- Further topics on the agenda referred to questions of membership (individual and institutional), the Council elections 2003, the Annual Report 2002, list of membership and other administrative issues.

Results of the Council Elections 2003

According to the bylaws of the IIOA every three years Council elections must take place to replace three elected Council members whose term expires. At the end of 2003, the Council tenure of the following three Council members expired: Masahiro Kuroda, Kishori Lal and Edward N. Wolff.

A call for candidates for the Council elections 2003 was mailed to all members in June 2003 and at the end of the deadline 10 members affirmed their candidacy for the Council elections.

In October 2003 the ballots together with short curriculum vitae were mailed to all members who have paid their membership fee for 2003. Completed ballots were directly returned to our auditor, Dr. Baumgartner, who counted the votes and reported the results to the IIOA. Dr. Baumgartner received 106 filled in ballots, of which 105 were valid.

The following three candidates (in alphabetical order) received the highest number of votes and are thus elected Council members for the years 2004 – 2012:

Chris DeBRESSON
Nosihisa SAKURAI
Bent THAGE

New President and new Vice-Presidents of the IIOA

As the election period of Masahiro Kuroda ended in 2003, the new Council elected a new President. The Council elected

Faye DUCHIN

as the new President for the years 2004 - 2006.

Furthermore, the terms of the two Vice-Presidents Faye Duchin and Jan Oosterhaven ended also in 2003, the new Council also had to elect two new Vice-Presidents for the period 2004 – 2006. The new council elected

Jan OOSTERHAVEN and
Norihisa SAKURAI

as the new Vice-Presidents for the period 2004 – 2006.

Conference “Input-Output and General Equilibrium: Data, Modeling and Policy Analysis, September 2 – 4, 2004, Brussels, Belgium

The Global Economic Modeling Network (EcoMod) and the International Input-Output Association (IIOA) organize together the **International Conference on Input-Output and General Equilibrium: Data, Modeling and Policy Analysis**, to be held on September 2-4, 2004 at the Université Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium.

The goal of the conference is to promote and stimulate the exchange of ideas in the field of input-output analysis and general equilibrium modeling. Under this general topic of the conference, the papers will cover the following issues:

- the theoretical background (e.g. classical, neo-classical, Walrasian, Keynesian, Ricardian, Marxian, Sraffian)
- the topic (e.g. growth, welfare, interdependence, (dis)equilibrium, prices)
- the policy issue (e.g. income distribution, employment, investments, migration, energy consumption, environment)
- the analytical framework (e.g. static, comparative static, dynamic, structural, spatial, open versus closed)
- the unit and level of analysis (e.g. enterprises, industries, metropolitan areas, regions versus nations, groups of countries, the world)
- the object of analysis (e.g. goods and services, materials in physical quantities, prices, innovations, patented inventions, citations, information, people)
- the technical focus (e.g. data collection and compilation of input-output tables and social accounting matrices, concepts, conventions-, economic theory, applied mathematics).

Further information can be obtained from the conference website: www.ecomod.org. More than 200 abstracts have been submitted.

Norbert Rainer
Secretary, IIOA

Preparation of the 15th International Conference on Input-Output Techniques, 27 June – 1 July 2005, Beijing, P.R. of China

The International Input-Output Association (IIOA) and the Chinese Input-Output Society announce that the Fifteenth International Input-Output Conference will be held from June 27-July 1, 2005 at the Renmin University in Beijing. As already announced to the Members, this conference was originally scheduled in August 2004, but was postponed because of the threats of SARS resurrection in 2004. The formal call for papers of the conference will be announced soon, the basic information of the conference are as follows.

Goal of the conference:

The goal of the conference is to promote and stimulate the exchange of ideas among economists, government officials, engineers and managers with interests in input-output analysis worldwide. Authors are invited to submit any paper in input-output analysis as

defined in its broadest sense. In order to make the discussions of the conference efficient and fruitful, we strongly expect your initiatives also by organising sessions on particular themes/thematic workshops and evening courses, etc.

Deadline for abstracts:

The deadline is currently scheduled for October 31, 2004 and authors should send their submission (including the title and the abstract of the paper, names of all authors, and full postal and e-mail address of the corresponding authors) to the Head of the Scientific Programme Committee, including:

- Abstracts for both plenary and parallel sessions including special workshops
- Full papers for the third Leontief Memorial Prize for the best conference paper of young authors, and applicants for an IIOA travel grant.

Conditions for the travel grant and the Leontief Memorial Prize can be found on the website of the IIOA. Further information is available on the website: <http://www.applstats.org.cn/I&O/i&omain.htm>

Norihsa Sakurai
Chair, Scientific Programme Committee
15th International Conference on Input-Output Techniques

Editors Report

Volume 15 (2003) had 516 pages, which clearly exceeded our page limit (of 464 pages). I would like to acknowledge our publisher for allowing me to do so. I was happy to be able to continue the policy of one special issue per year. Rob Vos edited issue 2, “Accounting for Poverty and Income Distribution Analysis,” with papers presented at a seminar at the Institute of Social Studies (ISS) in The Hague in November 2001, on the occasion of Graham Pyatt’s farewell as a professor of the ISS.

By the end of the year, Michael L. Lahr and Louis de Mesnard were editing the special issue “Biproportional Techniques in Input-Output Analysis,” with selected papers presented in the sessions they had organized for the Montréal conference. In addition, several other colleagues have contacted me with their plans for special issues in the future. It thus seems that also in the next volumes we can carry on the tradition of one special issue per year.

It was a pleasure to be able to devote the entire issue 3 to the Montréal conference. It included the invited papers based on the keynote addresses delivered by Lawrence R. Klein, Dale W. Jorgenson and Frederic M. Scherer, and the two papers that were presented in the plenary session “Papers from the Leontief Memorial Prize Competition” (including the prize-winning paper by Kazuhiko Nishimura). The referees were very fast with their reports to which the authors responded quickly and accurately. Therefore, this issue could be published within a year after the conference.

A full account of the number of submissions and their status on January 1, 2004, is given in Table 1. It provides a detailed overview for 2003 and a comparison with the four foregoing years. The number of submissions has recovered and is at the level of 1999 again. This is good news, bearing the very lean year 2001 in mind. Also the prospects for the future are positive. It turns out that the number of submissions has become less dependent on the input-output conferences, which places a journal in a somewhat vulnerable position. A consequence

of the larger number of submissions is that the rejection rate tends to be increasing. In comparison to several other journals, it may seem as if our rejection is fairly low. It should be stressed, however, that ESR is a specialized journal so that authors have a fairly adequate idea of its standards. Most submissions are already of a very decent quality (although almost all papers require at least one revision).

Table 1. Overview of submissions and their status.

	Number of papers				
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Rejected directly by the editors	5	4	7	6	6
Rejected because of referee reports	15	13	4	19	14
Withdrawn by the author(s)	2	1	-	-	1
Currently with the referees	-	-	-	-	10
Currently with the author(s) for revision	5	2	2	3	4
Accepted for publication	20	13	12	13	9
Special issues	5	9	-	6	8
Total	52	42	25	47	52
Rejection rate (%) ^a	47	55	44	61	48
Acceptance rate (%) ^a	42	39	48	32	20
Remainder (%) ^a	11	6	8	7	32

^a Percentages are based only on the ordinary submissions, i.e. excluding the contributions to special issues. The rejection rate includes the withdrawn papers and the remainder consists of submissions with the referees or with the author(s) for revision.

Erik Dietzenbacher
Editor, *Economic Systems Research*

Report of the Treasurer

In 2003 the deficit was a little bit higher than expected. There are two main reasons:

- The revenue from Membership Fees was smaller than expected. Fewer members used the opportunity to pay their Membership Fees for two or more years. In addition some of our Institutional Members had difficulties to pay their fee. The Fee is still 110 US \$ for two years or US \$ 60 for one year.
- On the expenditure side we tried hard to keep to costs low. In interpreting the financial report one has to take into account that the report is in US \$. Because of the current exchange rate US \$ to EURO some costs turned out higher than planned. Most of our costs – with the exception of the costs for the journal – have to be covered in EURO. Expressed in EURO the costs were lower than planned.

For 2004 we expect no deficit but no big surplus either. The additional costs for the special Conference in Brussels this September will be compensated by additional money coming from our publishing company Francis & Taylor. In addition we were able to attract two new institutional members from 2004 onwards.

On March 30, 2004 already 119 members had paid their membership fee for 2004, 22 for 2005 and a few even for 2006.

Josef Richter
Treasurer, IIOA