

THE ECONOMETRIC SOCIETY
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
Toulouse, France, August 24-25, 2014

Present:	Manuel Arellano	President
	Robert Porter	First Vice-President
	Eddie Dekel	Second Vice-President
	James J. Heckman	Past President
	Matthew Jackson	At-Large Member of the Executive Committee
	Margaret Meyer	At-Large Member of the Executive Committee
	Larry Samuelson	At-Large Member of the Executive Committee
	George Mailath	Editor of <i>Theoretical Economics</i>
	Rosa Matzkin	Editor of <i>Quantitative Economics</i>
	Bernard Salanié	Executive Vice-President

Guest: Olav Bjerkholt History of the Econometric Society initiative

Attended only on August 24:

	Daron Acemoglu	Editor of <i>Econometrica</i>
	Hidehiko Ichimura	At-Large Member of the Executive Committee
	Claire Sashi	General Manager

Arellano opened the meeting. Acemoglu, Ichimura and Sashi were on conference call on August 24; they were excused for August 25.

Minutes of the January 2014 Meeting

1. The minutes of the January 2014 meeting in Philadelphia were approved without change.

Disclosure agreement for submissions to the Society's journals

2. The Executive Committee **APPROVED** the text of the Econometric Society Disclosure Policy.

Report of the Editor of *Econometrica*

3. Acemoglu presented the report of the editor of *Econometrica*. There was discussion on the field categories of paper submissions for trending purposes. The statistics for paper revisions were reviewed.
4. The Executive Committee discussed the issue of ethical standards and disclosure policies for papers that involve experiments on human subjects. The Society's policy is closely modeled

on that of the American Economic Association and its disclosure policy was adopted at the January 2013 San Diego meeting of the Executive Committee. US institutions are required to have an Institutional Review Board (IRB) on human participants. The Executive Committee discussed how to deal with experimental papers that come from institutions outside the US that do not require an IRB procedure. It was **AGREED** that the Society would take the IRB standard as the norm, and that any research that comes from a non-IRB institution would meet the IRB standard. Authors from a non-IRB institution would be directed to IRB websites and asked to ensure that the standards have been met.

Report of the Editor of Theoretical Economics

4. Mailath presented the report of the editor of Theoretical Economics. There was discussion on what supplemental materials should be printed versus online only, the value of typesetting, and page limits. Mailath noted that the field categories of paper submissions should be reviewed.
5. The Executive Committee received the reports of the two search committees for coeditors of TE (the searches being mandated by the scheduled ends of the terms of Faruk Gul and Nicola Persico in 2015). The Executive Committee **AGREED** on a ranking of potential coeditors and asked Mailath to approach them.

Report of the Editor of Quantitative Economics

6. Matzkin presented the report of the editor of Quantitative Economics. There was discussion on the procedures for the transferring of paper submissions from Econometrica to Quantitative Economics. The statistics for turnaround time were reviewed.
7. The three journals have used different policies so far. It was decided to discuss the uniformity of policies for page limits, the ordering of papers in each issue, and the typesetting of supplemental materials across the journals at the January Executive meeting.

Report of the Editors of the Monograph Series

8. Salanié presented the report of the Editors of the Monograph Series (Don Andrews and Jeff Ely.) There was discussion on the publishing arrangement for the Monograph Series, including how the Monographs are marketed and discretion over the publishing and marketing process.

Publication fees

9. The Executive Committee asked Salanié to report on the use for publication fees by other journals for the January 2015 meeting.

Editorial Appointments

10. The Executive Committee received the report of the search committee for a new editor of Econometrica, chaired by Robert Porter (the search being mandated by the scheduled end of Acemoglu's term in 2015.) The Executive Committee **AGREED** on a ranking of potential editors and asked Robert Porter to approach them.

Regional Meetings

11. Arellano gave an account of the meetings he had attended: the Asian meeting in Taiwan, the Australasian meeting in Hobart, and the first African meeting of the Society in Addis Abeba. Heckman reported on the second China meeting in Xiamen. It was suggested that in regions like Latin America, the Society may consider organizing new activities focusing more on constituencies that are not sufficiently well served by local associations.

Elections to Regional Standing Committees

12. Arellano introduced this item. Following the Society's governance changes, the new Rules and Procedures require that each Regional Standing Committee should have at least five voting members, of whom at least two must be elected by the members in the region. The Executive Committee discussed how to determine the number of voting members, the role of secondary affiliations, the staggering of terms, and the procedures for the RSC elections. It **AGREED** to recommend to the Regional Standing Committees the following guidelines:
 1. In steady state, the number of elected voting members should be 4 or 5 in Europe and in North America, bringing the size of the voting RSC to about 12 members. Far East, Australasia, Latin America, and South/Southeast Asia should elect 7 or 8 voting members. (If the two Asian regions decide to merge, the merger can only take place after the elections.)
 2. Elections should be staggered to reach these steady-state numbers over several years.
 3. The elections will have several stages:
 - a. Any member of a region can propose any other member for election.
 - b. The RSC and the Executive Vice-President will check eligibility of nominees. Only nominees who are not active members of the Region or active Fellows with a secondary affiliation in the Region will be ineligible.
 - c. The RSC may conduct a first vote to narrow down the list of nominees. It then will proceed to rank them, using the Society's rank-order voting procedure. For an election with n slots, the first 2n nominees will be asked whether they are willing to stand for election. If a nominee refuses, the next nominee on the list will be asked.
 - d. The Executive Vice-President will be copied on all exchanges regarding the elections. The Executive Committee mandates him to watch the fairness of the process, and to alert the Executive Committee as needed.

The Executive Committee decided to allow members of other regions with links to Africa to declare a secondary affiliation in Africa, for a limited time. This will allow them to vote and to be eligible on their Regional Standing Committee.

Council

13. The new rules imply that the representation of Australasia on the Council is reduced from 2 to 1 member. It was **AGREED** that the two Council members of the Australasia region (MacLennan and Pagan) would both serve the last year of their term in 2015.

2015 World Congress

14. Porter gave an update on the preparations for the 2015 World Congress in Montréal. The program chairs are Larry Samuelson, Bo Honoré, Ariel Pakes, and Monika Piazzesi. The local organization is chaired by Jean-Marie Dufour. Bernard Salanié and Claire Sashi will visit with the local organizers in October.

Application for charitable status of the Society

15. Salanié gave an update of the “1023 filing” of the Society for charitable status, named after the Internal Revenue Service form that needs to be filed for application for charitable status in the United States. Approval of the 1023 filing enables the Society to accept tax-deductible gifts. The 1023 application follows the Society’s incorporation as a Delaware Non-Stock Corporation in December 2012. The application is now ready, and it should be filed in the early Fall of 2014.
16. The 1023 filing comes with the requirement of officers and Council members to submit an annual Conflict of Interest disclosure form, and for the forms to be reviewed by the Executive Committee at one of its meetings. The forms collected were examined by the Executive Committee, and it was **AGREED** that no Council member or officer had a conflict of interest.

Report of the Secretary

17. Salanié presented the Report of the Secretary.

New Website

18. At its January 2014 meeting in Philadelphia the Executive Committee decided that the Society would take over its website from Wiley-Blackwell. An ad hoc Committee selected New York firm DesignBrooklyn to create the new website, which came online on August 24. Salanié presented the new website. The Executive Committee **APPROVED** the new website and proposed some improvements.

Fellows nomination process

19. Samuelson reported on the work of the Fellows Nominating Committee. Several changes in procedure were **ADOPTED** by the Executive Committee:
 - The sentence “The Committee’s list of candidates should normally include at least one candidate from each region” will be deleted from the Rules and Procedures subject to ratification by the Council. This is an impractical requirement, especially with the addition of an African Region.
 - The guidelines sent to the Nominating Committee will be reviewed. In particular, the target number of nominees will be “normally 10 to 15”.

- The Nominating Committee will be sent a list of non-Fellows who have published in *Econometrica*, and a list of individuals who only received two endorsements in the past year.

Report of the Treasurer

20. Salanié presented the draft Report of the Treasurer. The Society had agreed to increase institutional rates for 2014 by 6% in an earlier email vote in June. It was **AGREED**:
1. To also increase the ordinary member rates by 6% for the high-income category,
 2. To increase the ordinary member rates by 3% for the middle-income category.
 3. To create a new low-income category, mirroring our existing arrangement for institutional rates. The pricing for this new low-income category will be \$60 for the print+online option, and \$10 for online only.
 4. To keep student rates aligned with the middle-income rate for ordinary members.
21. The low-income rates will apply to the countries classified as low-income by the World Bank. The middle income rates will apply to the countries classified as lower middle-income or upper middle-income by the World Bank.
22. Salanié explained that as our auditors were taken over by KPMG, the audit process has not yet been completed. The Society secured an extension from the IRS and should file its taxes at the end of October. It was **AGREED** that the Society's audited accounts will be posted on the Society's webpage as soon as they are available, and that the audited accounts will be presented to the Executive Committee by the First Vice President, as the chair of the Audit Committee.

Interim report on Investments

23. Salanié reported that the rate of return on the Society's financial investments was still about 7%. The Investments Committee will review changes in the market outlook in January 2015.

Proposal from EconJobMarket

24. Porter presented a draft agreement between the Society and EJM. This stipulates that
- EJM will offer recruiters the option of having their ad also posted on the ES website, for a fee of \$50.
 - This agreement applies to 2014-15; it will be reviewed at the World Congress.
25. The Executive Committee **AGREED** to these terms.

Initiative on the history of the Econometric Society

26. Heckman introduced Bjerkholt, who reported on the History of the Econometric Society initiative. The Executive Committee **AGREED** to ask Heckman to propose new steps for the initiative.

Proposal for a Lecture Series

27. Arellano proposed that the Society establish an annual series of lectures on Economic Theory, Applied Economics, and Econometrics. These lectures would be given by eminent scholars and rotate between the regional congresses. In a World Congress year there would be no lectures. The lectures would be podcasted and videotaped; they could be published as Econometric Society monographs, at the discretion of the editors. The Executive Committee **AGREED** that Arellano would set up an ad hoc Committee to discuss the implementation of this proposal.

Respectfully submitted,
Bernard Salanié, Secretary