Regional Science Association International

British and Irish Section

RSAI-BIS

Registered charity No. 277247

51st RSAI-BIS Annual Meeting
Cork

June 18 and 19, 2025

Welcome

Dear colleague,

On behalf of the Committee of the Regional Science Association International: British and Irish Section, I'm very pleased to welcome you to Cork for this year's conference. We hope you enjoy your time here and find the sessions engaging, thought-provoking, and useful.

I'd like to extend a special thank you to Declan Jordan for all his hard work in organising the conference on the ground in Cork.

We're always happy to welcome new members to RSAI-BIS. Your conference fee includes annual membership of the Section, which comes with a range of benefits. We encourage you to get involved and help shape the future of the Section. If you have any suggestions or ideas about how we can improve the Section or the annual conference, we would love to hear from you.

You'll also find in this booklet details of the Section's AGM and we would encourage you to consider putting yourself forward for election to the Section's Committee. You can let me or any of the other committee members know if you would like to do that. The Committee is appointed at the AGM, which takes place on Wednesday June 18 from 14.00 to 15.00, and we encourage you to consider applying.

The minutes from the 2024 AGM are included in this booklet as well.

This is my first year as Secretary, and I'm genuinely delighted to be part of the team behind the conference. RSAI-BIS has been a valuable part of my own academic journey, and it's a real privilege to now give something back by helping to support and shape the event. If you have any questions or would like to discuss anything related to RSAI-BIS or the conference, please don't hesitate to speak with our Chair Declan Jordan, Membership Secretary Tasos Kitsos, Treasurer Maria Plotnikova, or me.

Warm regards,

Matt Lyons
Secretary

Message from the RSAI-BIS Chair

Dear all,

I would like to warmly welcome you to our 51st annual conference in the beautiful city of Cork. Many thanks to the local organising committee and our Section committee for their efforts and support in building a stimulating and exciting programme of presentations and social events.

This conference will mark my first year as Section chair. I am honoured to have a leadership role in our Section. Thank you to everyone that reached out with good wishes. I am always happy to hear from members with their suggestions and feedback on the section.

It has been a busy year since our last annual conference in Bristol. We organised the Early Career Colloquium as an online event on January 23 and 24, 2025. This was the third annual colloquium, and it is quickly becoming an established part of our calendar. We encourage all our members to engage with the event.

This year we had 24 papers from early career researchers in 15 universities in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, and Greece. 14 of the 24 papers (60%) were presented by women and the research covered a broad range of topics and regions in South and Central America, South-Asia, Africa, Europe, and the US. There were sessions on spatial aspects of health and wellbeing, conflict and disasters, political economy, human capital and skills, and sustainability.

The best paper prize was awarded to Harm Jan Rouwendal, of the Universty of Groningen, for a paper called "New skill adoption and cities" that finds that new technology adoption is more likely to occur in areas with higher job density. Further congratulations to Jan-Harm for recently defending his doctoral thesis and we hope to see him regularly at our conferences. The best presentation prize was awarded to Daragh Corcoran, a doctoral researcher at the University of Galway, for a paper called "Developing Marine Ecosystem Extent Accounts for Ireland: A Standardized Approach". Daragh's work has the potential to provide a better mapping of marine assets in Ireland. You will have a chance to see Harm-Jan’s and Daragh’s papers at this year’s conference.

Special mention in the paper category was given to Thi Tham Ta of the University of Strathclyde for an excellent paper called "The aerial bombing of Cambodia and health in the very long run" and special mention in the presentation category was given to Matt Mason of the University of Liverpool for his presentation called "Whose news feeds do the radical right reach? An analysis of immigration-related digital ads placed by radical right parties across Europe on Meta platforms".

This event is now established in the calendar for colleagues at the start of their career in regional science and we look forward to it going from strength to strength. I’d like to thank the organisers of the event, Daragh O'Leary and Matt Lyons, and all who gave their time to attend and chair sessions.

This year our Spatial Economics Analysis plenary session will take a different format. To mark the twentieth anniversary of the journal, the new editor-in-chief, Ugo Fratesi, is putting together a special issue. At our conference we will see early work on two of the papers proposed for that special issue. The session will be chaired by Bernard Fingleton, the founding editor-in-chief of SEA. It will include a paper from Roberta Cappello, current President of ERSA, called “New Global Trends in a Regional Perspective: Future Research Avenues” and a paper from Marc Barthelemy, Research Director at the Institute of Theoretical Physics at Saclay, France, called “Mathematical modelling of urban sprawl”.

We will also have our third annual Early Career Plenary Lecture, which will be given by Dr Conor O’Driscoll, Assistant Professor in Economic Geography at the University of Groningen. Conor is a graduate of University College Cork and we are delighted to welcome him home.

Finally, a great many thanks to the officers of the association, who work very hard all year round on a volunteer basis to keep everything on track, and without whom nothing would happen: Matt Lyons (Secretary), Maria Plotnikova (Treasurer), and Tasos Kitsos (Membership Secretary). The section is fortunate to have such competent people in these roles. I am also very grateful to the members of the RSAI-BIS committee, for their advice, input, and enthusiasm for the association and our activities.

Thank you for participating in our annual conference. We hope you find the experience both academically rewarding and enjoyable!

With best wishes,

Deckie Jordan
Chair, RSAI-BIS

Our Association

Regional science is an expanding field devoted to the development of theory and method in urban and regional analysis and policy. It has a conscious aim of cutting across the traditional disciplinary approaches to these issues. The British and Irish Section of the Regional Science Association International was founded in 1968 and has been active ever since. The membership is drawn, in the main, from academics, consultants, and policymakers in local and national government, who share an interest in spatial issues. They come from a range of disciplines including economics, geography, data science, sociology, and planning.

Our Activities

- Organisation of an annual conference, and occasional workshops and seminars;
- Award of an annual best-paper prize, the Moss Madden Memorial Medal;
- Award of an early career best-paper prize at the annual Early Career Colloquium;
- Engagement with external organisations, and with other sections of the RSAI.

The Section is run by a committee of thirteen elected members. The committee may co-opt a further three members. The Chair and the committee are elected at the Annual General Meeting which is held during the Annual Conference each year. The conduct of the business of the Section is governed by the Constitution.

We are continually seeking new elected members of our committee. If you are interested in becoming an elected member then please contact our Chair (Deckie Jordan), Membership Secretary (Tasos Kitsos), Treasurer (Maria Plotnikova) and/or Secretary (Matt Lyons) in the first instance.

51st RSAI-BIS Annual Conference
Cork University Business School
University College Cork
West Wing, Main Quad

General Information

Social events

Tuesday Pre-Conference Meet Up: Costigans, 10/11 Washington Street. See costiganspub.ie There will be folks there from 8pm or so. On Google Maps use the Eircode T12 N768.

Wednesday Pub Quiz: Seventy Seven, 77 Grand Parade. See online at seventyseven.ie. On Google Maps use the Eircode T12 NF70. Starting at 19:00. Finger food and first drink will be provided; additional drinks to be covered by participants. Now's the time to start brushing up on your trivia! Thanks again to our master quizmaster, Calvin Jones.

Thursday conference dinner: Léa's Café at the Glucksman Gallery. Drinks reception starting at 19:00, to be followed by dinner at 20:00.

Overview of the Venue

All our formal meeting activities will be held in the centre of the University campus on the main quad (see the picture on the front page). This is a twenty-minute walk from the city centre. The session rooms are in the West Wing which is on the Main Quad.

The coffee breaks will take place in the West Wing Corridor. The lunch on Wednesday will be in the Main Restaurant on campus – beside the session rooms. You will have a voucher in your name badge which you can use to pay for your lunch. The lunch on Thursday will be in the Staff Restaurant and there is no need for a voucher for that lunch.

Session organisation

The sessions are all 90 minutes long, with typically three presentations per session. The aim is to have around 20-minute presentations, with 10 minutes for Q&A. If there are fewer than three presenters, I would like to encourage you to stick to this 20/10 schedule, to allow participants to attend presentations in other sessions.

The final presenter in the programme will be the session chair. The session chair will ensure that presenters keep to their allotted time. If necessary, session chairs may moderate the discussion, although this is usually not required.

Getting around Cork

There is a relatively good bus service around the city. To travel to the city from the campus you can take the 220, 205, or 208 bus which will have you in the city centre in a couple of minutes. The buses will accept cash but not debit/credit cards. There is also a Leap Card system but for short stays this may not be worthwhile getting. You can get more information at www.buseireann.ie/leap-card

We would strongly recommend the Cork City Bike scheme for which you can buy a 3-day pass for only €3. Any trip under 30 minutes (which would get you anywhere within the city) is covered by this pass. There are bike stands at the campus gates and there are good, segregated bike lanes from the city to the campus. Find out more about this at www.bikeshare.ie

Programme Overview

June 18				
	Room WW6	**Room WW9**	**Room WW5**	**Room WW7**
08:30 onwards	Registration (throughout the conference) and Tea/Coffee (West Wing Corridor)			
09:30-11:00	1A	1B	1C	1D
11:00-11:30	Tea and coffee (West Wing Corridor)			
11:30-13:00	2A	2B	2C	2D
13:00-14:00	Lunch (Main Restaurant)			
14:00-15:00	AGM (WW9)			
15:00-16:00	Early Career (WW6) - Coffee to go on Corridor			
16:15-17:45	3A	3B	3C	3D
18:00-19:30				
20:00	Annual Pub Quiz			

June 19				
	Room WW6	**Room WW9**	**Room WW5**	**Room WW7**
08:30 onwards	Registration (throughout the conference) and Tea/Coffee (West Wing Corridor)			
09:30-11:00	4A	4B	4C	4D
11:00-11:30	Tea and coffee (West Wing Corridor)			
11:30-13:00	5A	5B	5C	
13:00-14:00	Lunch (Staff Restaurant)			
14:00-15:30	SEA Lecture (WW6)			
15:30-16:00	Tea and coffee (West Wing Corridor)			
16:00-17:30	6A	6B	6C	
19:30	Conference Dinner Glucksman Gallery UCC			

RSAI-BIS Annual Conference 2025 Programme
Wednesday June 18th

Presenting Author	Paper Title
09:30 - 11:00	
S1A: Regional Policy	
Ernest Amrago	Environmental Innovation Adoption: The Role of Sustainable Agricultural Policy, Agricultural Education and Advisory Services
Davide Luca	Are NextGenerationEU funds effectively targeted? Assessing the territorial distribution of Italy's Recovery and Resilience Plan
Helena Lenihan	Exploring the impact of R&D grants on firm-level R&D: Urban and rural firms and industry concentration
S1B: Liveable Cities I	
Francesco Viviani	The Spread of Airbnb and Its Impact on the Real Estate Market: Evidence from Italy
Francisco Nobre	Proximity to gambling shops and gambling harms
Jack Williamson	A comparison of urban carbon accounting metrics for a single city: challenges for measurement and directions for informing policy actions
S1C: Politics, Migration, refugees and integration	
Conor O'Driscoll	The Geography of Being Stuck: Local and Regional Perspectives on Residential Immobility
Luise Koeppen	Money Is Not Illegal': The Corruption of Popular Democracy
Rachael Kawasaki	Does Immigrant Integration Foster Positive Attitudes towards Immigration? Evidence from England
S1D: Regional energy use and environmental impacts	
Daragh O'Leary	Identifying, Evaluating, and Analysing Ecosystem Services Indicators for Marine Protected Area Policy in Ireland
Huanjia Ma	The role of public procurement and retrofitting in achieving net-zero
Kevin Connolly	Reshoring of renewable energy manufacturing for regions and smaller nations: An exploration of offshore wind Northern Ireland

Presenting Author	Paper Title
11:30 -13:00	
S2A: Regional growth and productivity I	
Daragh O'Leary	The Heterogeneous Impact of High-Growth Firms on Start-Up Survival & Employment across Regions
Sabine D'Costa	Digitalisation and firm survival during the Covid-19 pandemic in the UK
Calvin Jones	Built on Sand? The quality of regional economic statistics and the implications for regional science
S2B: Liveable Cities II	
Mingming Xu	A systematic literature review of employer-paid parking and sustainable urban commuting choice

John Omwamba	Modelling Access and Local Travel Behaviour in a 15-Minute City: The Case of Trieste
Sofia Franco	Drug-related harm reduction and local communities: Evidence from Dutch drug consumption rooms

S2C: Regional inequalities I

Amaya Vega	Accessibility-based community vulnerability assessment to bridge failure: a spatial analysis of socio-economic impacts.
Christian Calvillo	A Just Transition for All? Understanding the Distributional Impacts of Net Zero on Groups with Protected Characteristics
Tasos Kitsos	Unpacking spatial earnings inequality in the UK: The role of people, place, and industry effects

S2D: Regional innovation and competitiveness

Sudhakar Brar	The Complementary Role of Open Innovation and R&D: A Pathway to Eco-Innovation
Maria Plotnikova	Digital transformation of SMEs in Spain
Kevin Mulligan	Beyond the Golden Triangle: Evaluating the impact of government R&D support on firm-level innovation inside and outside of the Oxford-Cambridge-London region

15:00 – 16:00

Early Career Plenary Lecture

Conor O'Driscoll	Mobility and Economic Geography

Presenting Author	**Paper Title**

16:15 - 17:45

S3A: Regional growth and productivity II

Bart Los	A Long-Term Analysis of the Functional Employment Structure in English Regions
Helena Barachino	COVID-19 and School-to-Work-Transition of Higher Education Graduates in the Netherlands
Ioana Jelea	Urban Structure and Carbon Footprint: The Significance of Subcentres in Emission Scaling

S3B: Wellbeing and Demographics

Vítor João Pereira Domingues Martinho	Soil management and its impact on the development of rural communities
Abdellah Abaida	Spatial lag models for housing price analysis in metropolitan areas
Megan Scherrer	At the Intersection of Fuel Poverty and Heating Decarbonisation Policy: Aims and Unintended Impacts in Scotland

S3C: Regional inequalities II

Edel Walsh	Gen Z and the Silent Epidemic: Examining Loneliness Among Young Adults in Europe
Marianne Mayer	Crisis of Care: How Unequal Healthcare Access Fuels Political Discontent in Europe

Richard Rijnks	Moving on up - Quality of life differentials and migration potential in the Netherlands

S3D: Environmental Assets and Economic Valuation

Darragh Corcoran	Developing Marine Ecosystem Extent Accounts for Ireland: A Standardized Approach
Long Zhou	How do alternative fuel poverty mitigation policies impact household and wider economic outcomes in the UK?
Roberto Koeneke	A New Method for Improving Economic Contribution Estimates for Commercial Saltwater Fishing in Florida

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Thursday June 19th

Presenting Author	Paper Title
09:30 - 11:00	
S4A: Regional growth and productivity III	
Frank Crowley	Road to Growth: The impact of motorway access on population, employment, and commuting mode choices
Vassilis Monastiriotis	Springing out of the development traps
John Paul Clifford	Spatial differences in the effects of deindustrialisation on deprivation

S4B: Sustainable regional development I

Touria Abdelkader B Conde	Reducing carbon dioxide emissions from energy use
Grant Allan	A global Social Accounting Matrix system for regional hypothetical extraction analysis

S4C: Regional inequalities III

Astrid Krenz	Regional Dynamics for jobs in Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, and Sustainability
Siobhán Lucey	Associations between U.S. county-level sociodemographic factors and deaths, 2014-2022
Danny Norton	Towards the net-zero transition in rural areas: developing a taxonomy for transport across Ireland's Western Region

S4D: Rural Economics

Brenda Lynch	Rural Entrepreneurship - Attitudes, Barriers, and Opportunities for Growth: Evidence from Norther European Regions
Franziska Bay	A Territorial Topology of Social Exclusion in European Rural Areas
Vítor João Pereira Domingues Martinho	5 models and 10 predictors for energy costs on farms in the European Union

Presenting Author	Paper Title
11:30 -13:00	
S5A: Tourism economics	
Lisa Noonan	How has COVID-19 shaped tourism in European regions?
Matthew Lyons	The regional economic impact of the reduction in tourism following the Maui wildfires
S5B: Regional labour markets	
Björn de Kruijf	Technological change and adult training participation
Beatriz Jambrina Canseco	The Political Impact of Active Labor Market Policies Amid Manufacturing Job Losses
Stuart McIntyre	Curves in Regional Labour Markets Revisited
S5C: Location and Socioeconomic Outcomes	
Marije Kooistra	Searching for the best place to age; happiness outcomes of post-retirement residential mobility
Edel Walsh	The effect of being an 'empty nester' on the individual life satisfaction of older European parents
Kevin Credit	Startup neighbourhoods: A Comparative Analysis of Micro-geographies of Entrepreneurial Ecosystems in Dublin and Berlin

Presenting Author	Paper Title
14:00 – 15:30	
Spatial Economic Analysis Twentieth Anniversary Special Session	
Bernard Fingleton (Chair)	Reflections on regional Science and Spatial Economic Analysis
Roberta Capello	New Global Trends in a Regional Perspective: Future Research Avenues
Marc Barthelemy	Mathematical modelling of urban sprawl
16:00 - 17:30	
S6A: Spatial political analysis	
Philip McCann	Is the UK Sterling-Zone an Optimal Currency Area? Comparisons with the Euro Area and the Rest of Europe Using City and Regional Investment Data
Davide Luca	Divided we spend. Brexit and the polarisation of household economic expectations and behaviour
Ugo Fratesi	Rule compliance in local administrations: the role of institutions

S6B: Regional growth and innovation

Harm-Jan Rouwendal	New skill adoption and cities
Bernadette Power	The role of household wealth in the decision to be self-employed: An analysis of pan-European countries
Nuo Jin	Homesickness matters: Regionalising the contextualisation of corporate innovation through entrepreneurial embeddedness

S6C: Circular Economy and ESG

Aman Kenjegaliev	ESG spillovers on the external returns to scale in the United States
Ana Isabeñ Mateos-Ansótegui	Policy Changes and Insights from Circular Economy in European SMEs
Joseph Swain	Reconciling Regional and Multi-Regional Input-Output Databases: Tracking the UK Healthcare sector's Plastic-related Emissions

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Agenda AGM 2025

West Wing Room 9, University College Cork

2pm, June 18, 2025

1) Minutes of the AGM 2024
2) Chair's Report
3) Treasurer's Report
4) Spatial Economic Analysis Journal Report
5) Election of the Committee 2025-2026
6) Election of the Chair 2025-2026
7) Appointment of Trustees
8) AOB

Nominations for election to the committee will close at 12 noon Tuesday June 18, 2025.

Please note all delegates are welcome to attend the AGM as your conference fee includes annual membership of the Section.

Minutes AGM 2024

1. **Minutes of the AGM 2023**
    - Approved – subject to correction that Newcastle conference generated small surplus.
2. **Chair's report**
    - Section is doing well, conferences running small surpluses thanks to support of special rates from host universities and. Some concern at the potential effect of UK university budget cuts on attendance. Experience of Bristol with lower conversion from submission to registration to attendance will inform the approach for subsequent conferences.
    - The Section had another successful early career colloquium.
    - There is a need to review the appointment of trustees and to link to the committee of the Section.
    - The Section thanked Maria Abreu for her tremendous work as Chair of the Section during a difficult period, including the global pandemic. The Section's strength is due to her commitment and dedication.
3. **Treasurer's report**
    - Section in good financial health.
    - The accounts were approved.
    - Stuart McIntyre was thanked for his dedication and effort as Treasurer and maintaining the
4. **SEA Journal Report**
    - Ugo Fratesi, SEA Editor-in-Chief, updated the Section on the journal's current standing. Submissions are broadly coming from lots of places in the world. Four new editors were appointed in the last year. An early career co-editor is currently being sought.
    - The journal would welcome more submissions from the UK and Ireland.
    - 2025 will be the 20th anniversary of the journal and special events are planned.
5. **Election of the Committee 2024/25**

    The following were proposed as committee members for the coming year by Calvin Jones and seconded by Hadi Arbabi. They were elected unanimously.

    Declan Jordan
    Daragh O'Leary
    Maria Plotnikova
    Matt Lyons
    Tasos Kitsos
    Emmanouil Tranos
    Peter Batey
    Lisa Noonan
    Grant Allan
    Rachel Franklin
    Aisling Reynolds
    Vassilis Monastiriotis
    Sabine D'Costa
    Richard Rijnks (Co-opted)
    Davide Luca (Co-opted)

6. **Election of the Chair 2024-2025**

    Declan Jordan was elected as Chair of the Section for the coming year, having been proposed by Aisling Reynolds-Feighan and seconded by Calvin Jones.

7. **AOB**

    Declan Jordan, on behalf of the Section, acknowledged and thanked the outgoing officers, Maria Abreu, Stuart McIntyre, and Richard Rijnks for their hard work for the Section over the last number of years, particularly through the challenging Covid period.

Delegate List

Delegate Name	Affiliation
Touria Abdelkader B Conde	Tutor Energy Engineering, UNED Madrid
Abdellah Abaida	Ibnou Zohr University
Grant Allan	Department of Economics, University of Strathclyde
Ernest Amrago	University College Cork
Helena Barachino	University of Groningen - Faculty of Spatial Sciences
Franziska Bay	University of Groningen, Urban and Regional Studies Institute
Sudhakar Brar	University College Cork
Christian Calvillo	Centre for Energy Policy, University of Strathclyde
John Paul Clifford	University College Cork
Kevin Connolly	University of Strathclyde
Darragh Corcoran	University of Galway, Marine Institute, & Central Statistics Office
Kevin Credit	Maynooth University
Frank Crowley	University College Cork
Sabine D'Costa	University of Westminster
Marcella D'Uva	University of Naples Parthenope
Björn de Kruijf	University of Groningen, Faculty of Spatial Sciences, Economic Geography
Vítor João Pereira Domingues Martinho	Agricultural School (ESAV) and CERNAS-IPV Research Centre, Polytechnic Institute of Viseu (IPV), Portugal
Lamia Enab	Tours University
Sofia Franco	University of California Irvine
Ugo Fratesi	Politecnico di Milano
María García-Alcober	Universidad CEU Cardenal Herrera
Beatriz Jambrina Canseco	University of Oxford
Ioana Jelea	The University of Sheffield
Nuo Jin	City-REDI, University of Birmingham
Calvin Jones	Jones the Numbers Cyf.
Declan Jordan	University College Cork
Aman Kenjegaliev	University of Hull
Tasos Kitsos	Aston University
Roberto Koeneke	University of Florida (USA)
Luise Koeppen	James Hutton Institute
Marije Kooistra	University of Groningen
Astrid Krenz	Ruhr University Bochum, LSE
Rachael Kawasaki	Robert Schuman Centre, European University Institute
Helena Lenihan	University of Limerick
Yibin Liu	Cork University Business School, University College Cork

Bart Los	University of Groningen
Siobhán Lucey	University College Cork
Davide Luca	University of Cambridge/London School of Economics
Brenda Lynch	The Hincks Centre, Munster Technological University
Matthew Lyons	City-REDI, University of Birmingham
Huanjia Ma	City-REDI, University of Birmingham
Vítor João Pereira Domingues Martinho	Agricultural School (ESAV), Polytechnic Institute of Viseu
Ana Isabeñ Mateos-Ansótegui	Universidad CEU Cardenal Herrera
Marianne Mayer	University of Groningen
Philip McCann	The Productivity Institute, Alliance Manchester Business School, University of Manchester
Stuart McIntyre	University of Strathclyde
Vassilis Monastiriotis	LSE
Kevin Mulligan	Queen's University Belfast
Aileen Murphy	Cork University Business School, University College Cork
Lisa Noonan	Cork University Business School, University College Cork
Francisco Nobre	Aston University
Conor O'Driscoll	University of Groningen
Daragh O'Leary	University of Galway
John Omwamba	IUSS Pavia and University of Trieste
Maria Plotnikova	Aberystwyth University
Bernadette Power	University College Cork
Richard Rijnks	University of Groningen
Harm-Jan Rouwendal	University of Groningen
Megan Scherrer	Centre for Energy Policy, University of Strathclyde
Joseph Swain	University of Strathclyde
Amaya Vega	Atlantic Technological University (ATU)
Francesco Viviani	University of Florence
Edel Walsh	Cork University Business School, University College Cork
Jack Williamson	Fraser of Allander Institute, University of Strathclyde
Mingming Xu	University College Cork
Long Zhou	Centre for Energy Policy, University of Strathclyde

Please use the following QR Codes to access the most up to date conference programme and the book of abstracts for all papers.

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