

THE ECONOMETRIC SOCIETY

Africa Region

Aide Mémoire

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This *Aide Mémoire* contains a detailed description of the organization and procedures of the Econometric Society within the Africa Region. It complements the Rules and Procedures of the Econometric Society. It is maintained and regularly updated by the Chair and the Secretary of the Africa Standing Committee in accordance with the policies and decisions of the Committee.

1 Africa Standing Committee

1.1 Responsibilities

1. The Africa Regional Standing Committee (AfRSC) is responsible for the organization of the activities of the Econometric Society (ES) within the Africa Region. It should undertake the consideration of any activities in the Region that promote interaction among those interested in the objectives of the Society, as they are stated in its Constitution.
2. The Standing Committee is responsible for establishing regular and systematic procedures for the organization of the Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society (AFES). AFES is held annually except for those years in which there is a World Congress.
3. The Standing Committee selects the dates and locations of AFES, and appoints the Programme and Local Arrangements Chairs. These decisions should customarily be taken at least two years in advance, so that those responsible for future meetings have sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.¹

Some time before the Standing Committee meeting the Secretary sends a list of candidates that have been mentioned as potential Programme Chairs at previous meetings to the members of the Committee. This allows the members acquiring more detailed information about the candidates and suggesting new names in time. Any proposals for candidates for Programme Chairs should be accompanied by a recent CV or a reference to a homepage.

The Standing Committee also determines (a) the number of days the meeting should last, (b) the scheduling of meetings (e.g., the Annual General Assembly and the joint meeting RSC-ES central office) of members to be held during the regional meeting.

The Standing Committee is also responsible for coordinating all the other special activities in the region, such as Summer/Winter Schools² and Sponsored Lectures.

1.2 Membership

The members of the Africa Standing Committee of the Econometric Society are the following:

Voting members: The number of voting members on the committee at any year must be larger than or equal to six (6) and include:

- *Chair:* The first of the following list who resides in Africa:
 - The President of the Society
 - The First Vice-President
 - The Second Vice-President
 - The Past President

¹Appendix A provides specific ES guidance on selection of host and organization of regional meetings.

²See Appendix B for specific ES guidance on selection of host and organization of Summer/Winter schools.

If none of these resides in the Region, the President will appoint an African member of the Council of the Society to act as Chair.

- *Ex Officio Members*: Any other Officer of the Society on the above list who resides in Africa.
- *African Members* of the Council of the Society.
- *Elected Members*: At least two members are chosen by the members of the Society in the Region as stipulated in the Rules and Procedures of the Society. If the number of members at this point is less than six (6), additional committee members shall be elected by the members of the Society in the Region to extend the number of voting members to six (6) members. The Africa Standing Committee determines the total number of the elected members and respective ballot slots in any given year. Elected members serve a non-renewable term of four years.

Non-voting members:

- *Secretary*: Appointed by the Committee for a term of three years (beginning at January 1 of the first year). The appointment can be renewed up to a maximum of three terms.

A Search Committee for a Secretary is constituted by the Chair of the Standing Committee at least one year and a half before renewal and consists of the Chair of the Standing Committee, the Executive Vice-President of the Econometric Society (as a non-voting member) and at least two other members of the Standing Committee. The current Secretary is expected to be consulted by the Search Committee. The Search Committee selects a list of candidates and approval of this list is sought with the Standing Committee. In case of any event preventing the current Secretary to accomplish her/his duties, a Search Committee is constituted, a list of candidates is ranked and the candidates are approached by the Chair in the order of the list to see if they are willing to serve. This candidate is then proposed to the Standing Committee for approval.

- *Programme Chairs* of AFES of the past, and the current year.³

In addition,

- the President (if not residing in the Region),
- the Executive Vice-President,
- the Executive Director of the Society, and

are invited to attend the meeting of the Africa Standing Committee extended to the central office. This extended meeting is held once a year during the Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society (AFES) or the World Congress of the Econometric Society (ESWC).

³See Appendix D.

1.3 Procedures

1. The *Chair* of the Standing Committee, in coordination of the Secretary, is responsible for arranging meetings of the Committee and communicating the decisions of the Committee to the Executive Director of the Society. The Committee meets quarterly. Three of these meetings are held virtually and one in person. In years of an Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society (AFES), the yearly in person meeting is held at the same site, and, in world congress years, at the site of the World Congress (ESWC). If, in a certain year, AFES or ESWC is moved online, the regional committee meeting also takes place online. The Chair convenes the meetings and sets the agenda in cooperation with the Secretary. The latter is responsible for invitations to the meetings of the Standing Committee. The Secretary takes minutes at the meetings of the Committee. The Chair maintains correspondence between the members of the Committee, the Executive Vice-President, and the Executive Director of the Society. In coordination with the Secretary, he/she liaises with conference committees, Programme Chairs and the Local Arrangement Chairs with regard to their arrangements for AFES, and other activities in the region.

If the President of the Society is not present, the Chair of the Standing Committee chairs the meetings of members held during AFES and is responsible for the agenda.

2. The *Secretary* actively collaborates with the Chair in dealing with all issues facing the Standing Committee. He/she is responsible for invitations to the meetings of the Standing Committee and, in conjunction with the Chair, prepares the agenda and supporting memoranda. He/she takes minutes at the meetings of the Committee. He/she is responsible for maintaining and updating website of the Region: <https://www.africaeconometricsociety.com/> as well as the Aide Mémoire.

The Secretary maintains correspondence between the members of the Committee, the Executive Vice-President, and the Executive Director of the Society. He/she liaises with the Programme Chairs and the Local Arrangement Chairs with regard to their arrangements for AFES.

3. The *Programme Chairs* of AFES are responsible for organising the Plenary and Parallel Invited Sessions and the Contributed Sessions of the Meeting. They are entirely free to arrange the programme as they see fit. This includes lunch slots over the whole period of the conference. The Programme Chairs of the current and the following year are expected to attend the Standing Committee Meeting to facilitate the transmission of information about organizing the programme. The Programme Chairs of the current year provide a written report to the Standing Committee which summarizes their arrangements.

4. The Local Arrangements Chairs of AFES are responsible for arranging the physical facilities, accommodation, meals, and social events. They collaborate with Programme Chairs to arrange the meeting website, which should contain registration and programme information. The local website should be linked to the “Future Meetings” section of the Society’s website and the Africa Region Website. The Local Arrangements Chairs of the current year provide a written report about the local arrangements to the Standing Committee along with statement of accounts, after the conclusion of the conference.

1.4 Regional finance

AfRSC holds “the Africa Vanguard Fund”, which is the discretionary fund for African regional activities. This account is maintained by the central office of the Econometric Society on behalf of the Africa region, and the account balance can be ascertained by either the AfRSC Chair or Secretary, from either the Executive Vice President or Executive Director of the Society. This fund is supplied by surplus from previous conferences - see background below.

The central office of the Econometric Society has also initiated a fundraising campaign in 2019 to support African scholars which is collected in the “Fund for African scholars.” This is managed by the central office and decisions regarding its use are jointly made by the central office and the regional committee. The Africa Vanguard Fund and the Fund for African Scholars are held in cash on the US money market.

As of May 18, 2022, the balance of the Africa Fund is 16,942.17 USD and that of the Fund for African Scholars is 34,630.35 USD.⁴ Part of the Fund for African Scholars is used to fund the *Sponsored membership Program* initiated in 2021 and aiming to provide financial support to insufficiently funded Africa based scholars, researchers and graduate students to become member of the Econometric Society. Part of the fund has also been used to fund participation of African scholars to the 2020 Econometric Society World Congress that took place virtually in Milan. The up-to-date list of donors can be found in Appendix E.

The AfRSC funds have been offered as a buffer to mitigate uncertainty about the income of regional meetings (e.g., fees from participants) during the COVID pandemic. Typically \$10k was promised to the regional meetings as insurance that cover any shortage caused by unexpected events in 2021 and 2022. This measure may not be renewed in the future if the pandemic no longer prevents physical meetings.

Background

The Executive Committee decided to streamline the rules governing regional finances at its January 2016 meeting. Starting in 2017:

- at the end of each meeting, each region will remit to the main account of the Society 10% of the surplus generated by the regional meetings, cumulated over the year; the other 90% will accrue to the regional Vanguard fund. The AfRSC account is currently held in a US dollar money market fund.
- Africa will continue to receive a grant of \$10k for young economists activities every year from the central office. The \$10k grant can be used for any activity that benefits young economists. It has mostly been used for travel/accommodation expenses at regional meetings (including training workshops, summer schools), but its aims could be broadened. The Africa RSC, the central office, and the conference organizers jointly decide how to allocate these funds. Typically, the RSC will make a proposal, perhaps prompted by a request from the local organisers, and then the Executive Vice President will agree or not. A written justification of the use of the fund must be provided in the conference report by the local organizers. Information and sample documents can be found on the Program and Local Organizing Chairs webpage at:

⁴Yearly contributions to the Fund for African Scholars can be found in Appendix E.

<https://www.econometricsociety.org/content/program-and-local-organizing-chairs>. (Restricted to RSC members only.) The Executive Director of the Society can provide more information if needed.

2 Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society (AFES)

The Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society (AFES) is the official regional meeting.

2.1 Timing and Format

The first ever Africa Meeting of the Econometric Society took place in 2014 in Addis Ababa in Ethiopia and was organized by the Ethiopian Economic Association. Early editions of the meeting took place in July of each non Econometric Society World Congress year. However, since 2019, the AfrSC decided that the meeting shall take place preferably in the first half of June. This is to avoid the travel pick season which has an adverse effect on participation. The conference is a 3-days event starting, typically, on Thursday through Saturday.⁵ The Africa Regional Standing Committee conjointly with the central office of ES may decide in the future to increase the duration of the event. Such a decision shall be based on sustained up-trends in conference participation.

The meetings are in person events. Nevertheless, it is strongly encouraged to have a fully hybrid format allowing remote participation. This is at the discretion of the local arrangements committee.

The Standing Committee selects the dates and locations of AFES, and appoints the Programme and Local Arrangements Chairs. These decisions should customarily be taken two years in advance (at AFES in that year) so that those responsible for future meetings have sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.

The members of the AfrSC are encouraged to contact colleagues who might be interested in acting as local organizer of a future AFES. Proposals to host a meeting should specify the candidates for the Programme and Local Arrangements Chairs with their vita, the physical facilities available for sessions such as the maximum number of parallel sessions for contributed papers, accommodation and meal arrangements (lunch should be provided), and social events, as well as an estimated budget that includes total costs and revenues (from registration fees and from other sources). They should be submitted to the Secretary (the chair of AfrSC, when vacant), who can provide further information.

The Local Arrangements Chair (LAC) is responsible for arranging the physical facilities, accommodation, meals, and social events. He/she collaborates with the Programme Chairs to arrange the meeting website, which should contain registration and Programme information. The local website should be linked to the “Future Meetings” section of the Society’s website and to the Regional Standing Committee’s website.⁶ In the event that the organizing committee cannot provide a website, the Regional Standing Committee’s website shall provide a webpage for the conference. Relevant information shall then be displayed on that webpage accessible from the section conferences of the website.⁷

⁵The locations of past AFES are listed in Appendix C

⁶<https://www.africaeconometricsociety.com/>.

⁷<https://www.africaeconometricsociety.com/conferences>.

The Chair of the current year provides a written report about the local arrangements to the Africa Regional Standing Committee as well as the budget of the meeting within a reasonable time period after the meeting is completed. Additional information from the central office can be found on the Program and Local Organizing Chairs webpage at: <https://www.econometricsociety.org/content/program-and-local-organizing-chairs>.

2.2 Invited Sessions

The Programme Chairs are responsible for inviting the speakers and chairs of the Plenary and Parallel Invited Sessions. They also decide about whether to invite discussants for the Parallel Invited Sessions.

Presidential Address

The Presidential Address usually takes place on the first or second day of the conference. The President of the Society is invited for the lecture by the Programme Chairs. The Presidential Address is a plenary ‘A-session’, i.e. there are no other sessions or events at the same time. There are no discussants of the Presidential Address, and it is customary that the Chair of the standing committee chairs the session. The travel cost of the president will be covered by the central office of the society, but the program committee is expected to make efforts to raise its own funding to cover it.

Plenary sessions

There should be at least one or two plenary A-sessions in addition to the Presidential Address.

Parallel Invited Sessions

In addition to the plenary ‘A-sessions’, the Program committee may consider holding plenary ‘B-sessions’. A plenary B-session consists of two or three parallel sessions. The session titles are chosen by the respective Programme Chair. Note that no AFES has featured plenary B-sessions so far.

Named Lectures

The Marschak Lecture: Each year other than World Congress years, the Society’s Marschak Fund supports a Jacob Marschak lecture, the location of which rotates among the regional meetings held outside North America and Europe (see in Appendix C the list of scheduled named lectures to be hosted in Africa through 2029). The lecturer is appointed one year in advance by the Program Chair(s) of the meeting after consulting with the Executive Vice-President of the Society. The travel, accommodation and registration expenses of the lecturer are paid by the Marschak Fund, and are consistent with the terms offered to the President, with an upper limit of \$4,000. The Executive Committee decides the location of the lectures which rotate annually.

In addition, the Africa Region is entitled to \$4,000 in funding for a Marschak-like lecture when not hosting the Marschak lecture. The \$4,000 in support from the central office of ES may cover travel, accommodations, and registration expenses of the Marschak-like lecturer. These

donated funds for the Marschak and Marschak-like lectures should be clearly acknowledged in the conference materials.

The Marschak-like lectures can be named after a famous economist. Of importance is the Society's strong desire to improve the gender balance of invited speakers. The Program Chair must make an extra effort to seek out qualified female speakers. The Scientific committee must consult with the Executive Vice President of ES on the name of the Marschak and Marschak-like lecturers before approaching them in order to avoid overlaps across regions.

Lecture series: Griliches, Hotelling, and Sargan: Each year other than World Congress years, the Society organizes three series of lectures: the Griliches Lectures in Applied Economics, the Hotelling Lectures in Economic Theory, and the Sargan Lectures in Econometrics. The lectures present an overview of a topic in which the lecturers have done significant research. They are typically above PhD level, but not necessarily at the research frontier. Attendance is open to all members of the Society. The lecturers are strongly encouraged to submit their lectures to the Econometric Society Monograph Series.

The Program Committee shall accommodate the lecture series over two days with three 1.5-2hour sessions, preferably right before or after the official Congress program, and to announce them as a differentiated activity.⁸

The lecturers are proposed by a Lecture Series Committee appointed by the President. The Committee is chaired by a former President and includes two additional members of the Society. Their three-year appointments are staggered to provide some continuity. In addition, the two editors of the Monograph Series are ex-officio members but they do not have voting rights. In the spring of year t , the Lecture Series Committee will propose the lecturers for the year $t + 2$. The location of the lectures rotates among the regional meetings. The travel and accommodation expenses of the lecturers are paid by the local organizers. The central office of ES does not provide any funds for these lectures.

2.3 Contributed Sessions

1. The Programme Chairs handle all matters related to the submissions of papers contributed for presentation at AFES. The sole criterion for acceptance of a paper shall be its scientific merit. The Programme Chairs appoint as many members to the Programme Committee as considered appropriate.
2. The number of parallel sessions in the Contributed Sessions in any given time slot should remain within the range of 5 - 10. Each session should contain 3 - 4 presentations with about 30 minutes allocated by paper including Questions and Answers.
3. Each author may submit only one paper to AFES. The corresponding author of any paper submitted to AFES must be a member of the Econometric Society at the time the paper is submitted, and the same applies to any co-author who replaces the original submitter as corresponding author or presenter. These membership requirements must be prominently displayed

⁸Past and scheduled Named Lectures for the Africa Region can be seen in Appendix C

in the Call for Papers. The Programme Chairs are assisted by the Society's Executive Director in checking the membership status of submissions.

4. The processing of papers contributed to AFES is handled electronically through Conference Maker, or a similar cost effective provider such as Oxford Abstracts. The Programme Chairs are assisted by the Society's Executive Director to setup the digital platform.

5. Suggested timetable for submissions is as follows: (a) Call for papers must be out no later than 8 months before the conference, that is October for a meeting taking place in June, (b) Complete submissions must be received by approximately 6 months before the meeting - that is, first half of December for a meeting taking place in June, (b) Decisions on submissions are made approximately 4 months before the meeting, (c) Accepted papers are only included in the final programme if presenting authors have registered by approximately 3 months before the meeting.

Econometric Society Africa Region's Young Economist Best Paper Award

A competition for the best paper from young economists shall be open for papers presented in the contributed sessions at the conference by young scholars or graduate students.⁹ While the Program committee is in charge of elaborating the selection criteria and the choice of the award winning paper, the following guidelines shall be followed.

1. Candidates to the award must be informed of eligibility criteria and express their interest to compete prior to the start of the conference.
2. The competition shall be mainly open to presenters from underfunded institutions.
3. The name of the award - to be advertised and/or displayed on calls is "*Econometric Society Africa Region's Young Economist Best Paper Award*".
4. The Local Arrangements and Program committees are expected to find a sponsor for the prize in which case, the award is called: "*Econometric Society Africa Region's Young Economist Best Paper Award Sponsored by 'sponsor's name'*".
5. In the case where there are no sponsors, the organizers shall pay the default and minimum prize money of 500 USD to the winner from the event's resources.
6. Preferred sponsors are research centers, academic institutions, public or private companies and foundations. Individual donations may be accepted but recognition through the name display as above is not encouraged. Specifically, we do not encourage to circulate a name like: "Econometric (...) Sponsored by Mr X."
7. For a co-authored paper to be selected as award winner, the program committee must ensure that the presenter candidate is the major contributor to the paper. This should be a condition to enter the competition.
8. While the main target of the award is young scholars from underfunded institutions, if resources are available, the Program committee may open a second award to a large participation from young scholars irrespective of their affiliations.

⁹See Appendix F for the list of past recipients.

2.4 Other Events

The meeting of the Africa Regional Standing Committee extended to the central office:

The meeting of the Africa Regional Standing Committee extended to the central office (the Extended AfRSC meeting) is prepared by Chair with assistance of Secretary. Usually it takes place during AFES around lunchtime on the first and/or second day of the meeting.

The general assembly:

The general assembly gathers all members of Econometric Society affiliated to the region and registered for the conference and the Regional Standing Committee members. This meeting is prepared by the Chair with the assistance of the Secretary. It is typically scheduled as the closing session of the conference. It offers a suitable platform to collect feedback from members and also to make important announcements such as the winner of the Econometric Society Africa Region's Young Economist Best Paper Award, the place of the next conference, and summer schools.

Social Events

There should be an organized dinner for all the participants, usually on the second day. The cost of dinner should be included in the conference fee. Other social events, e.g., excursion to sightseeing spots, might be organized, but it should not be part of the conference budget and its cost should be completely born by the participants to the specific events.

3 Appendices

3.1 Appendix A: Econometric Society Rules and Procedures for Regional Meetings

See www.econometricsociety.org/society/organization-and-governance/rules-and-procedures#62

The Regional Standing Committee is responsible for establishing procedures for the organization of meetings in the region, choosing the dates and locations, the number of days the meeting should last, whether the meeting is to be held jointly with other Societies, as well as appointing the Program and Local Arrangements Chairs. These decisions should customarily be taken at least one year and preferably two years in advance, so that those responsible for future meetings have sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements.

Proposals to host a meeting should specify the physical facilities available for sessions, accommodation and meal arrangements, and social events, as well as an estimated budget that includes total costs and revenues (from registration fees and from other sources). Regional meetings are expected to be self-financing.

The Program Chair(s) appoint the Program Committee and arrange the program as they see fit, subject to the constraints on the number of days and sessions. The sole criterion for acceptance of a paper shall be its scientific merit.

The corresponding author of any paper submitted to any of the regional meetings, World Congress, workshops, or schools must be a member at the time the paper is submitted, and the same applies to any co-author who replaces the original submitter as corresponding author or presenter. These membership requirements must be prominently displayed in the Call for Papers for each meeting.

If there is a meeting of Fellows and/or members, it will be chaired by the President or the person that he/she designates.

Any award by another Society to be presented at a regional meeting must be approved by the Program Chair(s) and communicated to the Chair of the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee is responsible for sending meeting announcements at least one year in advance to the Executive Director of the Society to be posted on the Society's website and transmitted to the membership by email. The Local Arrangements Chair collaborates with the Program Chair(s) to arrange meeting websites, which should be linked to the "Future Meetings" section of the Society's website.

Within six months from completion of the meeting, both the Program Chair(s) and the Local Arrangement Chair should send detailed reports on the meetings to the Regional Standing Committee and the Executive Vice President, covering plenary, invited and contributed sessions, and final accounts with itemized revenues and expenses, respectively. The chair of the Regional Standing Committee, together with the regional officers, holds the responsibility for sending those final reports and 10% of any positive surplus to the Central office within 6 months of the meeting's completion.

Regional Standing Committees will ascertain that all members may enter and exit the country location. If this is not the case, the Regional Standing Committee must request an exemption from the Council.

3.2 Appendix B: Econometric Society Rules and Procedures for Summer Schools

In 2020, the Executive Committee decided to create a Schools Committee (SSC) to guide, approve and evaluate Summer/Winter Schools sponsored by the Society. It will consist of a chair and two or three additional members representing different regions and fields appointed by the Executive Committee for staggered three-year terms.

Current members are: Dilip Mookherjee (Boston University, Chair: 2020-2022), Andy McLennan (Princeton), and Whitney Newey (MIT).

Goals and Guidelines

The aim of the Summer/Winter Schools, Workshops and related activities for young scholar sponsored by the Society is to help build research capacity in areas defined geographically or by subject where participants have limited exposure to methods, outstanding teachers and researchers. They typically feature lectures providing an overview of recent developments at the research frontier or training in skills for high quality research, as well as opportunities for participants to receive feedback and mentoring advice, and to interact with one another, including contributed sessions by young scholars.

All applicants to Schools and related activities for young scholar must be members of the Society at the time of application.

Organization

The schools are organized by local hosts, who are responsible for raising necessary funds, selecting dates, location, topics and lecturers, inviting lecturers, preparing an announcement which specify topics, application requirements and deadlines, participation cost/financial aid and criteria for selection; screening applications and selecting participants, and all other local arrangements. The role of the ES is limited to (i) approving proposals for new schools and evaluating applications for renewal after every four years of operation, (ii) advertising the school through the Society's web site and blast email system, (iii) guiding local organizers with set up of Conference Maker submission software for receiving participant applications and registering participants. ES membership is required for all participants. If local organizers use conference software other than Conference Maker, they are responsible for checking ES membership status of all participants through the Society's new membership verification process. To verify membership, please click on the following link, <https://www.econometricsociety.org/membership-verification>, and cut and paste all names and/or email addresses of registered participants onto the displayed page. The function will allow regions to search in groups or individually by first and last name, partial name, and/or email address. Membership status will appear as either active if current, blank if not current, or "not found". If there are multiple matches, all will be listed.

The Executive Committee of the ES does not provide any financial support for schools, but concerned regional standing committees can decide on allocation of their resources to subsidize travel costs for students and younger faculty.

Schools can be organized either on a one-time basis or for multiple years. Multi-year proposals are encouraged, allowing schools and local organizers to learn from experience, gain reputation and provide training to larger numbers of participants. The organizers may rotate

locations in different years, but should take responsibility for coordination across different locations. The organizers can seek help and advice from the SSC and concerned RSCs. The Standing Committee will consult the relevant RSCs for their advice in connection with approval, organization and evaluation of each school. RSCs will be asked to approve dates of each school in order to avoid conflicts with other conferences, workshops or ES activities in the concerned region.

The Schools should be open to participants from all regions. The ES will be willing to collaborate with other sponsors who play an important role in funding or organization. The language of instruction and all presentations will be in English. Analogous to rules applying to regional meetings of the Econometric Society, within 6 months of meeting completion, the associated regional standing committee and the school organizers shall submit a financial report to the Society's EVP along with 10% of any positive surplus in the School budget. At the same time, if the school has utilized the Society's contract with Conference Maker to handle registration and fee collection, a 4.5% credit card processing fee will be applied to cover the Society's credit card transaction costs and a fee of \$500 will be deducted from the registration fees to be paid to Conference Maker for handling registration.

Initiation/Approval of New Schools

Proposals to set up new schools should be prepared by local organizers and submitted to the SSC for approval. Assistance and advice for preparing proposals to potential organizers can be provided by the SSC and RSC chairs. RSCs can help coordinate proposals submitted from their respective regions. In under-represented areas the SSC will work with RSCs to search for potential hosts and encourage them to initiate required schools (see further detail below).

Proposals should be submitted to the SSC at least 12 months in advance of the proposed date of the first school. The SSC will handle proposals on a rolling basis. Following consultations with the chair of the RSCs, it will make approval decisions within one month.

The SSC will coordinate coverage, names and dates of different schools. Names should include the Econometric Society, such as 'Econometric Society Summer School on _____ in _____', or '(Region X) Summer School in _____, sponsored by the Econometric Society and _____ (joint sponsors)'. The region or topic concerned should also feature in the school name. The SSC will strive to avoid conflict of dates with other conferences or schools, or excessive overlap of topics with other schools in neighboring locations.

Proposals should explain how the school would address the skill shortage or otherwise further the goals of the Econometric Society and the plan for its organization, including proposed location, dates and topics, and plans for (a) budgeted expenditures and fund-raising including sponsorships and registration fees, (b) lecturers to be invited, (c) approximate number of participants, procedures for recruitment and screening, participant fees and financial aid, (d) division of school hours into lectures and workshops, (e) opportunities for participants to receive individualized feedback on their research or mentoring advice from instructors, and (f) participant feedback on courses, instructors and school organization.

Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of assessed feasibility and extent to which the primary goal of research capacity building is likely to be furthered. The SSC is not wedded to any 'one size fits all' approach and is willing to entertain variations from the detailed guidelines listed here depending on local need and circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

Reporting Requirements and Renewals

Organizers should send the SSC a report on functioning of the school after three years of operation following the previous approval granted. The report should include details for the past three years concerning: (a) lecture topics, instructors, teaching materials (e.g., links to curriculum, reading lists, presentation slides), (b) number of participants, criteria for selection, geographic range of applications and participants, costs charged/financial aid provided for participants, (c) student presentations/instructor feedback opportunities; student evaluations if available.

Existing schools seeking renewal beyond 2020 (with the exception of those already approved for 2021) should submit a report and renewal application in 2020 at least 12 months prior to holding the next school. The renewal application should explain any changes envisaged for organization, scale or funding compared to past functioning. They will receive a decision within one month from the SSC after consultation with relevant RSCs. Going forward, approval will be granted for four years at a time, with reports and renewal applications due at the end of three years.

Initiatives for New Schools in Under-represented Areas

The SSC will work with RSCs of under-represented areas such as Africa to promote new schools. Primary responsibility for developing such a strategy is delegated to the concerned RSCs. The SSC will receive input from the RSCs regarding possible assistance that could be provided by the Econometric Society towards this end, and based on these make suitable recommendations to the Executive Committee. Strategies may include holding online schools, workshops or conferences; special funding for financial aid or school subsidies; helping organize events in the region concerned which attract distinguished speakers.

3.3 Appendix C: Past Africa Meetings and Summer Schools of ES

(a) AFES

More information regarding past conferences can be found at:

<https://www.africaeconometricsociety.com/conferences>

- 2022 Organizer: Ethiopian Economic Association; Place: Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia; date: June 2-4, 2022; featured the Hotelling lecture: May 31-June 1; Program Chair: *Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse*, IFPRI; Local organizing committee chair: *Amdissa Teshome*, EEA; Numbers: 186 participants, 128 presentations, 28 contributed sessions and 11 symposia. Meeting format: **Fully virtual**
Keynote Speakers:
Augustin Fosu (University of Ghana, Legon and ISSER); *Nobuhiro Kiyotaki* (Princeton University) - Hotelling Lectures; *Michael Kremer* (University of Chicago, Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics – 2019); *Tavneet Suri* (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sloan); *Guido Tabellini* (Bocconi University) - Presidential address; *Leonard Wantchekon* (Princeton University)
- 2021 Organizer: Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Statistique et d’Economie Appliquée (ENSEA); Place: Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire; date: June 3-5, 2022; featured the Marschak lecture June 2; Program Chair: *Prosper Dovonon*, Concordia University & *Ismael Mourifié*, University of Toronto; Local organizing committee chair: *Hugues Kouadio*, ENSEA; Numbers: 227 participants, 164 (contributed) presentations, 41 contributed sessions; 206 submissions.
Meeting format: **Fully Hybrid**. First ever fully hybrid meeting of Econometric Society.
Keynote Speakers and panelists:
Manuel Arellano (CEMFI, Madrid) - Marschak lecture; *Lisa Cook* (Michigan State University); *Pascaline Dupas* (Stanford University); *Pinelopi Goldberg* (Yale University) - Presidential Address; *James Heckman* (University of Chicago, Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics – 2000); *Kirabo Jackson* (Northwestern University); *Yaw Nyarko* (New York University);
Gilles Fagninou (UNICEF); *Raoul Kone* (Ministère de l’Éducation); *Isaac Mbiti* (University of Virginia); *Koffi N’guessan* (Ministre de l’Éducation Technique).
- 2019 Organizer: Bank Al-Maghib; Place: Rabat, Morocco; date: July 11-13, 2019; featured the Sargan lecture: July 10; Program Chair: *Abderrahim Taamouti*, Durham University; Local organizing committee chair: *Abderrahim Bouazza*, Bank Al-Maghib; Numbers: 150 participants, 106 (contributed) presentations, 30 contributed sessions; 289 submissions.
Keynote Speakers and Panelists:
Marc Hallin (Université Libre de Bruxelles); *Stephen Morris* (Princeton University) - Presidential address; *Dani Rodrik* (Harvard University); *Christopher A. Sims* (Princeton University, Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics – 2011); *Elie Tamer* (Harvard University) - Sargan lecture; *John Taylor* (Stanford University);
Mohamed Berrada (Hassan II University); *Zouhair Chorfi* (Ministry of Economy and Finance); *Larabi Jaïdi* (Mohammed V University); *Moubarack Lo* (Economic Prospective Bureau of Senegal); *Mohammed Tawfik Mouline* (Royal Institute for Strategic Studies).

- 2018 Organizer: African School of Economics; Place: Cotonou, Benin; date: July 12-14, 2018; Program Chair: *Prosper Dovonon*, Concordia University & *Leonard Wantchekon*, Princeton University; Local organizing committee chair: *Africa School of Economics*; Numbers: 120 participants, 89 (contributed) presentations, 28 contributed sessions; 195 submissions.
Keynote Speakers and panelists:
Tim Besley (LSE) - Presidential address; *Eliana La Ferrara* (Bocconi University); *Roger Myerson* (University of Chicago, Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics – 2007); *Moussa Blimpo* (The World Bank); *Renee Bowen* (UC San Diego); *Habiba Djebbari* (Aix-Marseille University); *Illenin O. Kondo* (University of Notre Dame); *Sara Lowes* (Bocconi University); *Nour Meddahi* (Toulouse School of Economics); *Victor Murinde* (SOAS, University of London); *Ismail Mourifie* (University of Toronto); *Patrizio Piraino* (University of Cape Town);
- 2017 Organizer: Banque d'Algerie; Place: El-Djazair, Algeria; Ethiopia; date: June 29 – July 1, featured the Griliches lecture; Program Chair: *Nour Meddahi*, Toulouse School of Economics & *Kaddour Hadri*, Queen's University Belfast; Local organizing committee chair: *Banque d'Algerie*; Numbers: 120 participants, 98 (contributed) presentations, 26 contributed sessions; 194 submissions.
Keynote Speakers: *Philippe Aghion* (College de France and LSE); *Raouf Boucekine* (Aix-Marseille School of Economics); *Pierre-André Chiappori* (Columbia University) - Griliches lecture; *Drew Fudenberg* (MIT) - Presidential address; *Jean-Charles Rochet* (University of Zurich); *Bernard Salanié* (Columbia University); *Jean Tirole* (Toulouse School of Economics, Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics – 2004).
- 2016 Organizer: Department of Economics, University of Pretoria, South Africa; Place: Kruger National Park, South Africa; date: July 26-28; Program Chairs: *Victor Murinde*, University of Birmingham & *Steve Koch*, University of Pretoria; Local organizing committee chair: *René van Eyden* & *Steve Koch*, University of Pretoria; Numbers: 120 participants, 80 (contributed) presentations, 20 contributed sessions; 159 submissions.
Keynote Speakers: *Eddie Dekel* (Northwestern University and Tel Aviv University) - Presidential address; *Richard Blundell* (University College London and Institute for Fiscal Studies, London); *Stephen Turnovsky* (University of Washington and Victoria University of Wellington, NZ).

2014 Organizer: Ethiopian Economic Association (EEA); Place: Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia; date: July 16-19, featured the Marschak lecture; Program Chair: *Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse*, EEA; Local organizing committee chair: *EEA*; Numbers: 120 participants, 106 (contributed) presentations, 33 contributed sessions; 194 submissions.
Keynote Speakers and panelists: *Manuel Arellano* (CEMFI); *Shiferaw Gormu* (Georgia State University); *Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse* (IFPRI) & Yaw Nyarko (NYU) - Presidential address; *Christopher Udry* (Yale University) - Marschak Lecture; *Justin Yifu Lin* (National School of Development, Peking University).
Abbi Kedir (Sheffield University); *Roger Tsafack Nanfosso* (Universite de Dschang); *James Wakiaga* (UNDP); *Eugenia Kaitesi* (IPAR-Rwanda); *Hoseana Bohela Lunogelo* (ESRF); *John Omiti* (Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis); *Abebe Shimeles* (AERC); *Bart Minten* (IFPRI); *Mekdim Dereje* (University of Bonn); *Mehari Hiluf* (IFPRI); *Fanaye Tadesse* (UNICEF); *Kalle Hirvonen* (IFPRI); *Guush Berhane* (IFPRI)

(b) Summer Schools

More information regarding past conferences can be found at:

<https://www.africaeconometricsociety.com/summer-schools>

2021 Africa Summer School in Econometrics; organized by Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Statistique et d'Économie Appliquée (ENSEA); Place: Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire; date: May 26 - June 2.

Lecturers:

Matias Cattaneo (Princeton University), Topics: (a) Overview of causal inference and program evaluation (b) Regression discontinuity designs; *Firmin Doko Tchatoka (University of Adelaide)*, Topic: Macroeconometrics - Time Series; *Pascaline Dupas (Stanford University)*, Topic: Causal inference and policy evaluation for (quasi) experimental data; *Christian Gourieroux (CREST, University of Toronto)*, Topic: Noncausality and speculative bubbles; *Michael Jansson (UC, Berkeley)*, Topic: Recent advances in bootstrap methods;

2018 Summer School of Econometric Society; organized by Africa School of Economics; place: Cotonou, Benin; date: July 6-11.

Lecturers:

Simon Alder (University of North Carolina), Topic: Transport Infrastructure and Regional Development; *Renee Bowen (University of California San Diego)*, Topics in Trade and Development *Firmin Doko Tchatoka (University of Adelaide)*, Topics: (a) Instrumental variables and GMM inference in structural models, (b) Forecasting time series using filters and ARIMA models; *Ian Heffernan (African School of Economics)*, Topics in Economic Theory; *Illemin O. Kondo (University of Notre Dame)*, Topics in Trade and Development; *Ismael Mourifié (University of Toronto)*, Topic: Recent Advances in Treatment Effects and Policy Evaluations; *Pierre Nguimkeu (Georgia State University)*, Topics in Econometrics; *Roberto Sarkisian (Toulouse School of Economics)*, Topics in Economic Theory; *Leonard Wantchekon (Princeton University and African School of Economics)*, Introductory lecture; *Jean-Pierre Benoît (London Business School)*, Topic: The role of theory in understanding behavioural experiments.

2015 Africa Region Training Workshop of the Econometric Society; organized by University of Zambia; Bank of Zambia, & Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research (ZIPAR), Lusaka; place: Lusaka, Zambia; date: July 22-24.

Lecturers:

Manuel Arellano (CEMFI, Madrid); *Christopher Udry (Yale University)*; *Yaw Nyarko (New York University)*; *Habiba Djebbari (Aix-Marseille University)*; *Kaddour Hadri (Queens University Belfast)*; *Victor Murinde (University of Birmingham)*.

Table C.1: Past and Scheduled named lectures for the Africa Region

Year	Lecture	Lecturer
2017	Griliches	Pierre A. Chiapporin (Columbia University)
2019	Sargan	Elie Tamer (Harvard University)
2021	Marschak	Manuel Arellano (CEMFI, Madrid)
2022	Hotelling	Nobu Kiyotaki (Princeton University)
2024	Griliches	-
2026	Marschak	-
2027	Sargan	-
2029	Hotelling	-

3.4 Appendix D: Members of Africa Regional Standing Committee

Standing Committee, 2022

Name (Affiliation)	Role	Email address
Yaw Nyarko (New York University)	Chair, Elected 2019-2022	yaw.nyarko@nyu.edu
Prosper Dovonon (Concordia University)	Secretary	prosper.dovonon@concordia.ca
Steve Koch (University of Pretoria, SA)	Elected Member 2022-2025	steve.koch@up.ac.za
Ismael Mourifie (University of Toronto)	Elected Member 2022-2025	ismael.mourifie@utoronto.ca
Victor Murinde (SOAS University of London)	Elected Member 2020-2023	v.murinde@soas.ac.uk
Sophie Osotimehin (UQAM, Montreal)	Elected Member 2020-2023	osotimehin.sophie@uqam.ca
Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse (IFPRI, Ethiopia)	AFES 2022 Program Chair	a.seyoumtaffesse@cgiar.org
Abderrahim Taamouti (U. of Liverpool)	Elected Member 2021-2024	Abderrahim.Taamouti@liverpool.ac.uk

Standing Committee, 2021

Name (Affiliation)	Role	Email address
Yaw Nyarko (New York University)	Chair, Elected 2019-2022	yaw.nyarko@nyu.edu
Prosper Dovonon (Concordia University)	Secretary, Elected 2018-2021	prosper.dovonon@concordia.ca
Nour Meddahi (Toulouse School of Economics)	Elected Member 2018-2021	nour.meddahi@tse-fr.eu
Ismael Mourifie (University of Toronto)	AFES 2021 Program co-Chair	ismael.mourifie@utoronto.ca
Victor Murinde (SOAS University of London)	Elected Member 2020-2023	v.murinde@soas.ac.uk
Sophie Osotimehin (UQAM, Montreal)	Elected Member 2020-2023	osotimehin.sophie@uqam.ca
Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse (IFPRI, Ethiopia)	AFES 2022 Program Chair	a.seyoumtaffesse@cgiar.org
Abderrahim Taamouti (U. of Liverpool)	Elected Member 2021-2024	Abderrahim.Taamouti@liverpool.ac.uk

Standing Committee, 2020

Name (Affiliation)	Role	Email address
Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse (IFPRI, Ethiopia)	Chair, Elected 2017-2020	a.seyoumtaffesse@cgiar.org
Nour Meddahi (Toulouse School of Economics)	Secretary, Elected 2018-2021	nour.meddahi@tse-fr.eu
Prosper Dovonon (Concordia University)	Elected Member 2018-2021	prosper.dovonon@concordia.ca
Ismael Mourifie (University of Toronto)	AFES 2021 Program co-Chair	ismael.mourifie@utoronto.ca
Victor Murinde (SOAS University of London)	Elected Member 2020-2023	v.murinde@soas.ac.uk
Yaw Nyarko (New York University)	Elected Member 2019-2022	yaw.nyarko@nyu.edu
Sophie Osotimehin (UQAM, Montreal)	Elected Member 2020-2023	osotimehin.sophie@uqam.ca

Standing Committee, 2019 (To be confirmed)

Name (Affiliation)	Role	Email address
Habiba Djebbari (Aix-Marseille School of Economics)	Chair, Elected 2016-2019	habiba.djebbari@univ-amu.fr
Nour Meddahi (Toulouse School of Economics)	Secretary, Elected 2018-2021	nour.meddahi@tse-fr.eu
Prosper Dovonon (Concordia University)	Elected Member 2018-2021	prosper.dovonon@concordia.ca
Steve Koch (University of Pretoria, SA)	Elected Member 2016-2019	Steve.Koch@up.ac.za
Yaw Nyarko (New York University)	Elected Member 2019-2022	yaw.nyarko@nyu.edu
Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse (IFPRI, Ethiopia)	Chair, Elected 2017-2020	a.seyoumtaffesse@cgiar.org
Abderrahim Taamouti (Durham U.)	AFES 2019 Program Chair	Abderrahim.Taamouti@liverpool.ac.uk

Standing Committee, 2018

Name (Affiliation)	Role	Email address
Habiba Djebbari (Aix-Marseille School of Economics)	Chair, Elected 2016-2019	habiba.djebbari@univ-amu.fr
Nour Meddahi (Toulouse School of Economics)	Secretary, Elected 2018-2021	nour.meddahi@tse-fr.eu
Prosper Dovonon (Concordia University)	AFES 2018 Program co-Chair, Elected 2018-2021	prosper.dovonon@concordia.ca
Elyes Jouini (Universite Paris-Dauphine)	Elected member 2015-2018	jouini@ceremade.dauphine.fr
Steve Koch (University of Pretoria, SA)	Elected Member 2016-2019	Steve.Koch@up.ac.za
Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse (IFPRI, Ethiopia)	Elected Member 2017-2020	a.seyoumtaffesse@cgiar.org
Abderrahim Taamouti (Durham U.)	AFES 2019 Program Chair	Abderrahim.Taamouti@liverpool.ac.uk
Leonard Wantchekon (Princeton University)	AFES 2018 Program co-Chair	lwantche@princeton.edu

Standing Committee, 2017

Name (Affiliation)	Role	Email address
Victor Murinde (SOAS University of London)	Chair	v.murinde@soas.ac.uk
Nour Meddahi (Toulouse School of Economics)	Secretary	nour.meddahi@tse-fr.eu
	AFES 2017 Program co-Chair	
Habiba Djebbari (Aix-Marseille School of Economics)	Elected Member 2016-2019	habiba.djebbari@univ-amu.fr
Prosper Dovonon (Concordia University)	AFES 2018 Program co-Chair	prosper.dovonon@concordia.ca
Elyes Jouini (Universite Paris-Dauphine)	Elected member 2015-2018	jouini@ceremade.dauphine.fr
Steve Koch (University of Pretoria, SA)	Elected Member 2016-2019	Steve.Koch@up.ac.za
Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse (IFPRI, Ethiopia)	Member, Elected 2017-2020	a.seyoumtaffesse@cgiar.org
Leonard Wantchekon (Princeton University)	AFES 2018 Program co-Chair	lwantche@princeton.edu

Standing Committee, 2016

Name (Affiliation)	Role	Email address
Victor Murinde (U. of Birmingham)	Chair	v.murinde@soas.ac.uk
Nour Meddahi (Toulouse School of Economics)	Secretary	nour.meddahi@tse-fr.eu
Kaddour Hadri (Queen's University Belfast)	AFES 2017 Program co-Chair	k.hadri@qub.ac.uk
Elyes Jouini (Universite Paris-Dauphine)	AFES 2017 Program co-Chair	jouini@ceremade.dauphine.fr
Habiba Djebbari (Aix-Marseille School of Economics)	Elected member 2015-2018	habiba.djebbari@univ-amu.fr
Steve Koch (University of Pretoria, SA)	Elected Member 2016-2019	Steve.Koch@up.ac.za
Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse (IFPRI, Ethiopia)	Elected Member 2016-2019	a.seyoumtaffesse@cgiar.org
	Member	

Standing Committee, 2015

Name (Affiliation)	Role	Email address
Victor Murinde (U. of Birmingham)	Chair	v.murinde@soas.ac.uk
Nour Meddahi (Toulouse School of Economics)	Secretary	nour.meddahi@tse-fr.eu
Kaddour Hadri (Queen's University Belfast)	Member	k.hadri@qub.ac.uk
Elyes Jouini (Universite Paris-Dauphine)	Elected member 2015-2018	jouini@ceremade.dauphine.fr
Yaw Nyarko (New York University)	Member	yaw.nyarko@nyu.edu
Leonard Wantchekon (Princeton University)	Member	lwantche@princeton.edu
Rabah Arezki (International Monetary Fund)	Non-voting: Treasurer	arezki@worldbank.org

Standing Committee, 2014

Name (Affiliation)	Role	Email address
Yaw Nyarko (New York University)	Chair	yawnyarko1@gmail.com
Victor Murinde (U. of Birmingham)	Member	v.murinde@bham.ac.uk
Kaddour Hadri (Queen's University Belfast)	Member	k.hadri@qub.ac.uk
Ahmed Kamaly (American University in Cairo)	Member	kamaly@aucegypt.edu
Yongfu Huang (Wider-United Nations University)	Member	Yongfu.Huang@wider.unu.edu
Ibrahim Kasirye (Economic Policy Research Center)	Member	ikasirye@eprc.or.ug
Leonard Wantchekon (Princeton University)	Member	lwantche@princeton.edu
Nour Meddahi (Toulouse School of Economics)	Member	nour.meddahi@tse-fr.eu
Rabah Arezki (International Monetary Fund)	Treasurer (Non-voting)	arezki@worldbank.org
Moses Kiptui (University of Nairobi)	Secretary (non-voting)	kiptuimc@ksms.or.ke

3.5 Appendix E: Fund for African Scholars

Table E.1: Yearly contribution to the Fund for African Scholars

Year	Contribution (US\$)
2019	27,675
2020	1,255
2021	7,129

Table E.1: Donations to the Fund for African Scholars, January 1, 2019-May 26, 2022

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Anonymous

\$1,000-\$4,999

Andrew Abel	Anonymous	John Ham	Robert Willig &
John Abowd	Ernst Fehr	Roger Koenker	Ginny Mason
Russell Davidson	Pinelopi Goldberg	Yaw Nyarko	Kezhou Xiao

Up to \$999

Pierpaolo Battigalli	Satoshi Fukuda	Rosa Matzkin	Anonymous
Jeffrey Bergstrand	Douglas Gale	Rachael Meager	Anonymous
Steven Berry	Anonymous	Konstantinos Meghir	Anonymous
Timothy Besley	Paul Glewwe	Margaret Meyer	Anonymous
Eric Budish	Andrew Harvey	Bruce Meyer	Ennio Stacchetti
John Campbell	Elhanan Helpman	Robert Moffitt	Lancess Stifel
Anonymous	Keisuke Hirano	Dilip Mookherjee	Sami Stouli
Kalyan Chatterjee	Lyn Hogan	Anonymous	Steven Tadelis
Satyajit Chatterjee	Thomas Holmes	Victor Murinde	Anonymous
Pierre Chiappori	Bengt Holmstrom	Roger Myerson	Francesco Trebbi
Janet Currie	Bo Honore	John Nachbar	Stephen Turnovsky
Steven Davis	David I Laibson	Anonymous	Christopher Udry
Anonymous	John B Jones	Yoshinori Nishimura	John Vickers
Habiba Djebbari	Charles Jones	Anonymous	Maher Walker-Said
Prosper Dovonon	Anonymous	Anonymous	Yoon-Jae Whang
Pascaline Dupas	Eiji Kurozumi	Anonymous	Jeffrey Wooldridge
Anonymous	Eliana La Ferrara	Fabien Postel-Vinay	Anonymous
Ray Fair	Peter Lerner	Andrea Raffo	Yves Zenou
Anonymous	Anonymous	Bernard Salanie	Tao Zha
Drew Fudenberg	Peter Lorentzen		

3.6 Appendix F: Young Economist Best Paper Award - Past recipients

2021 **Ramaele Moshoeshe** (Assistant Prof., National University of Lesotho)

The first prize was delivered at the 2021 Meeting organized by École Nationale Supérieure de Statistique et d'Économie Appliquée (ENSEA) - Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

Sponsored by: The Annals of Economics and Statistics - <https://annals.ensae.fr/>.

Winner: **Ramaele Moshoeshe** (Assistant Prof., National University of Lesotho)

Title: Long Term Effects of Free Primary Education on Educational Achievement: Evidence from Lesotho, Field: Empirical Microeconomics.

Prize: The Annals of Economics and Statistics offered this paper a fast-track submission route for a publication in Annals of Economics and Statistics. Ramaele was also given the opportunity to spend one week research visit – all cost covered by the journal – at the CREST (Center for Research in Economics and Statistics), France. This gives him the possibility of interactions and collaborations in that research center.