
Proposals for sessions are actively invited.

The 25th SCORUS Conference celebrates the 50th year of SCORUS activity within ISI. Focusing on the role of urban and regional development in world, SCORUS has encouraged groups of individuals working on the local level to look beyond their region, learn how economic and social activity at the local level affects national and international events, and supports the sharing of experience and expertise. The members of SCORUS embody the adage “think globally, act locally”.

This year’s conference opens with a plenary examining the first 50 years of SCORUS, celebrating the achievements of the past and looking forward to how we can contribute to the development of local knowledge and international cooperation in the future.

The developing program includes the following:

50 Years of SCORUS: celebrating our past and formulating our future

Regional patterns of foreign direct investment: effects of FDI on the regional development of the host countries; the role of trans-national corporations; impact of business relocation on local economic growth, etc.

International cities as poles of economic growth: international cities as centres of growth.

Regional effects of international migration: the profile and impact of international migration on the evolution of internal migration within the host countries; policies and evidence.

Location, agglomeration and clustering: regional effects of industrial location; determinants of spatial choice and attractiveness of certain areas; the role of infrastructure and accessibility.

Functional regions: defining functional urban regions; analytical uses of functional regions.

The Role of International Organisations in Understanding Globalisation: how organisations such as the UN, OECD and EU can help in the analyses and understanding of the impact of globalisation.

Additional parallel sessions:

China: session in Chinese, devoted to the main interests of the Chinese audience;

Measuring inequality at local level: indices of deprivation, diversity, poverty, social exclusion etc.;

Parallel sessions on:

Specific regions of the world and their role in / impact on the global economy: SCORUS regions of Africa, the Americas, Europe, India and China

Common concerns of urban areas working within an increasingly international economic and political framework: shared concerns, analysis methods, the role of individual urban and regional areas in the national and international arena

Join us this summer to celebrate the 50th anniversary of SCORUS in beautiful Wroclaw Poland, to explore the role of urban centres in the development of national and international social and economic structures.

For information on contributing papers, program development and conference attendance; please visit the conference site at http://www.scorus2006.ae.wroc.pl/

Competing and Caring: Urban Research for European Urban Policy – Amsterdam, 14-17 September 2005

We urge all of you to take the time to visit the web site for the “Competing and Caring: Urban Research for European Urban Policy” conference held in September 2005 and sponsored by SCORUS, KCGS International, and O+S the Department of Research and Statistics of the Municipality of Amsterdam.

http://www.kggs-i.nl/duec/bijeenkomsten/speeches/index.html

The conference site has posted power-point presentations and papers from the conference as well as a Conference Journal. The following quotes from the Conference Journal indicate both the quality and scope of this conference as well as highlighting the concerns of SCORUS as expressed over the past 50 years of its existence.

“At the national level, the roles of cities are more and explicitly recognized. At the same time, the cities themselves have increasingly gone in search of cooperation. The most important aspect is the exchange of knowledge between cities. Cities can inspire each other. This means that the wheel does not need to be invented over and over again. By learning from each other we build on successes, and the quality and effectiveness of urban policy is visibly increasing.”

“The point of creating encounters was a recurring issue: bringing people into contact with each other within the community. Supporting creativity and engagement with everybody in the community were the final points related to governance. A second central theme was leadership, important to create initiatives from the public and the private sector, and who can work with young and older people in education. People are needed who can make new combinations in the cities. And embedded leadership is required so that there is a structure that the community can fall back on when the leader is gone. A long-term perspective and planning is welcomed by researchers who are often asked for short-term results. Without urgency from outside for change, there won’t be any change in policy.”

For general information on SCORUS or to join in an open dialogue among SCORUS members visit:

http://www.scorusnet.com