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**What about people in European Regional
Science?**

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What about people in European Regional Science?

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Abstract: The 51st ERSA Conference held in Barcelona in 2011 was one of the largest ever. Here, by examining the characteristics of the conference, this paper identifies the main trends in Regional Science at a moment in which the discipline is renewing its efforts to provide responses in a complex, globalised world in which cities and regions are acquiring greater and greater importance. This paper follows in the tradition of a long list of studies that have examined the nature of the field of Regional Science and draws on a broad array of sources of information: the delegates' demographic details, the conference program itself, a satisfaction survey conducted among delegates, a quality survey addressed to those chairing the sessions and, finally, a bibliometric database including each author signing a paper presented at the conference. With this information we describe the ERSA delegates: their relative youthfulness; the areas in which women are taking on a more important role; the countries and regions of the world that have the most dominant profile in Regional Science today; the thematic areas that are being driven by professionals as opposed to academics; the relevance of regional economic growth and innovation as *trending topics* in the field; the growing frequency of co-authorship and, consequently, of scientific collaboration; and, finally, and perhaps most importantly, the continuous enhancement of the quality of the work being undertaken in the discipline. Indeed, following on from this description, the results of the regression analysis conducted show that for ERSA delegates what matters most is quality, and this must be the direction that future conferences should move toward. Ultimately, therefore, ERSA conferences are comprehensive, all-embracing occasions, representing an ideal opportunity for regional scientists to present their work to each other and to network.

Keywords: regional science, bibliometrics, ERSA.

JEL classification: N00 · R00 · R11

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1. Introduction

The year 2010 marked the 50th anniversary of the European Regional Science Association (ERSA) and saw the passing away of the founder of the discipline of Regional Science, Walter Isard. In the twelve months that followed, a series of papers was devoted to analysing 50 years of the Western Regional Science Association (WRSA) (Franklin et al., 2011, Gibson et al., 2011, Kohlhase, 2011 and Plane, 2011) and what it is that makes WRSA meetings so exceptional. It is perhaps, therefore, an opportune moment to take stock and to reflect on what Regional Science is about today and what constitute the main concerns of regional scientists. This interest is not new, and has been addressed several times before. Years ago, Torsten Hägerstrand posed (1970) and reposed (1989) the question: “What about people in regional science?” in examining the differences between the regional science meetings held in Europe and North America, and in seeking to determine whether there might be a difference in “emphasis or tone” between what scientists were doing on either side of the Atlantic. What’s more he wondered if Regional Science was concerned at all about people. Several years later, various authors, when examining the state of Regional Science, presented pessimistic points of view (Jensen, 1991, Isserman, 1993 and 1995, and Bailly and Coffey, 1994) that were subsequently called into question by Quigley (2001) who described something of a “renaissance” in the discipline. As Plane (2012) has recently argued, “the field emerged from its mid-life crisis of the 1990s renewed and strengthened” (p. 3).

Several papers have inspected the state of the art, or what is “hot”, in Regional Science at various moments in time (Stratham, 1992, Taylor and Jones, 1992, O’Kelly, 1999, Rey and Anselin, 2000, Suriñach et al., 2003) while others have examined “who” has taken the leading roles in the field (Allen and Kau, 1991, Rey and Anselin, 2000). Typically, such analyses have been undertaken by examining publication patterns across regional science and urban journals, although others have looked specifically at the publication patterns of just one journal (Dear and Thrift, 1992; Duranton, 2010; Florax and Plane, 2004; Puga and Wrigley, 2006; Pike et al., 2007; Van Dijk, 2010; Wrigley and Overman, 2010; Rogríguez-Pose et al., 2011), region or country (Suriñach et al., 2002, 2004, Ramos et al., 2005, Royuela et al., 2005, 2006 and 2008).

However, regional science is not just an academic discipline, it also involves practitioners and policy makers as is apparent at the annual meetings of the science's associations. Indeed, conferences represent an essential element in the work of researchers and policy makers alike. As Borghans et al. (2010) point out, conferences "provide the possibility to acquire feedback on a paper, to get informed about the work of others, and to talk to colleagues to exchange ideas. A relaxed atmosphere and being away from the office can promote creativity." (p. 868).

It is these arguments that have led me to present the following report in which I summarise the main characteristics of the 51st ERSA conference held in Barcelona in 2011. It is my belief that by examining the activities undertaken at the conference we can obtain an accurate picture of the current state of Regional Science, in general, and of European Regional Science, in particular. Together with the 50th ERSA conference (Jönköping-2010), the Barcelona conference was the largest ever organised in Regional Science, with more than 1,000 participants¹. While I make no claims to the effect that bigger is necessarily better, the Barcelona conference can be considered more representative in statistical terms and, more importantly, it captures a good cross-section of the non-academic regional science public.

This paper is divided into six sections. Following on from this introduction, I describe the main features of Barcelona's ERSA conference. Next, in section 3, I present the main demographic characteristics of delegates and provide an initial insight into the distribution of bibliometric indices for Regional Science authors. Section 4 is devoted to an analysis of the main thematic trends in Regional Science based on the characteristics of the authors signing and presenting each paper, which should provide an up-to-date picture of the agenda of regional scientists today. In section 5, I run a simple model in order to obtain additional insights into what attracts people to sessions; again on the understanding that it might serve as a proxy of the concerns of regional scientists today. I finish by summarising the main findings of the analysis and drawing a number of conclusions.

¹ In fact it is not entirely clear which conference was larger and it is perhaps unimportant. Barcelona registered a total of 952 delegates to which can be added a considerable number of people from the organization itself.

2. The 51st ERSA conference in Barcelona

As Borghans et al. (2010) show, Barcelona is a popular location for a conference and this was perhaps an instrumental factor in attracting over 1,000 participants from 44 different countries. The conference was held over four days (see Figure 1), and there were eight time slots time devoted to 200 parallel sessions² plus five plenary sessions at which the following keynote speakers addressed the conference: David Audretsch, Maryanne Feldman, Richard Florida, Diego Puga and Piet Rietveld (the latter being the recipient of the 2011 EIB-ERSA prize). A plenary lecture was also given by the European Commissioner of Regional Policy, Dr Johannes Hahn, who was accompanied by Joaquim Oliveira-Martins (OECD) and Luis Espadas (Spanish Ministry of Economy and Finance). The conference was attended by the Major of Barcelona, Catalonia's Regional Minister of Economy and Knowledge, the Vice-President of Spain, and the President of the European Investment Bank.

Figure 1. Program overview

	Tuesday 30/8	Wednesday 31/8	Thursday 1/9	Friday 2/9	Saturday 3/9	
8:30 - 9:00		Registration	Registration	Registration		
9:00 - 10:30		Plenary Session: Diego Puga	Plenary Session: D Audretsch and M. Feldman	8:45 - 10:30 Parallel sessions	Social Excursions	
10:30 - 11:00		Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break		ERSAC meeting (invitation only)
11:00 - 12:45	Registration	Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions		RSAC meeting (invitation only)
12:45 - 14:00	EOC meeting (invitation only)	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		
14:00 - 15:45		Parallel sessions	Policy Lecture: Dr Johannes Hahn Joaquim Oliveira-Martins Chairman: Phillip McCann	YOUNG SESSIONS		
15:45 - 16:15	Registration	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break		
16:15 - 18:00	17:00 - 19:00 Opening ceremony. Richard Florida	Parallel sessions	Parallel sessions	Plenary Session: EIB Prize winner; RSAI announcements		
	19:00 - 21:00 Welcome reception (Palau de Pedralbes)	19:15 - 20:50 New Urban World - Drink	19:00 - 20:00 ERSA Football Cup	20:00 - 24:00 Gala Dinner MNAC Museum		

The conference was chaired by Jordi Suriñach, President of the Catalan Association of Regional Science. In the conference program he highlighted a number of “*very Special Sessions*”, with a panel of leading academics. The conference was also host to the first European Meeting of the Urban Economics Association.

² These figures are significantly higher than those of the 2000 ERSA conference, also held in Barcelona, which attracted around 400 participants.

3. Conference description

In conducting the empirical analysis, I draw on information from a range of sources.

- The conference program: the full list of papers delivered, the thematic area to which they belong, the session type and the time of presentation, and the number of authors that signed and/or presented the papers.
- Authors' registration details: age, sex, country of origin, the type of institution they represent and their position. Not all authors supplied this information, but a significant number (93%) did.
- ERSA satisfaction survey: comprising 396 completed responses (representing 40% of total participants).
- Bibliometric indices for each author signing a paper presented at the conference: namely, the h-, g- and hc-indices from the *Publish or Perish* software (Harzing, 2010)³. This information was compiled before the conference (June 2011) and completed following last minute changes to papers in September 2011.
- A survey conducted among those chairing the conference's parallel sessions that includes attendance numbers at each session, the quality of the papers presented, and the homogeneity of topics presented at the sessions. Complete information was collected for 62% of the sessions.

Using this information, I now proceed to characterize various aspects of the conference and, as such, of Regional Science in Europe.

Overall figures

The conference was attended by 952 registered delegates, 891 of whom presented papers. As each author could present up to two papers, and as each paper could be presented by two different authors, the number of authors did not coincide with the number of papers presented (914 papers). These were delivered in a total of 224

³ The **h-index**, proposed by J. E. Hirsch in 2005, is defined as follows: A scientist has index h if h of his/her Np papers have at least h citations each, and the other (Np-h) papers have no more than h citations each. It aims to measure the cumulative impact of a researcher's output by looking at the amount of citation his/her work has received. The **g-index**, proposed by Leo Egghe in 2006, aims to improve on the h-index by giving more weight to highly-cited articles. Finally, the **hc index** (contemporary h-index), proposed by Sidiropoulos, Katsaros, and Manolopoulos in 2006, adds an age-related weighting to each cited article, giving less weight to older articles.

sessions: 5 Plenary Lectures, 80 Ordinary Sessions, 36 Refereed Sessions, 7 Young Scientists Sessions and 96 Special Sessions. The sessions were organised around 25 themes and 44 different special sessions.⁴ A total of eight time slots were dedicated to parallel sessions and, consequently, at some points during the conference 32 simultaneous parallel sessions were taking place.

Authors and delegates demographic characteristics

The modal delegate was a Spanish male academic, aged between 31 and 40 (see Tables 1, 2 and 3). It should be noted that the proportion of women at Barcelona's ERSA conference (35%) was significantly higher than figures reported by Faggian (2009) at previous ERSA conferences (30% at the 2008 Liverpool conference) and at other Regional Science conferences (19% at NASRSC, New York 2008; 23% at WRSA, Napa 2009; 30% at RSAIBIS, Limerick 2009; and, 23% at PRSCO, Gold Coast 2009).

As for age, Franklin et al. (2011) reported a modal cohort at 60-69 at WRSA conferences⁵, which tell us that ERSA conferences are, by comparison, meetings of relatively young people. Again it should be noted that women participants are on average 3.5 years younger than men, and account for 42% of people aged 30 and below.

The Spanish represented by far the largest nationality group (15%) at the conference. However, this figure was much lower than the one recorded at the 2000 ERSA conference in Barcelona when Spanish delegates accounted for just over a third (34%). As van Dijk and Maier (2006) report, it is usual that a substantial number of participants are from the country hosting the conference. In common with previous ERSA conferences, there were sizeable representations of the following nationalities: Italians, Germans, Dutch, British and French, but in Barcelona there was a significant number of Portuguese and Turkish representatives too. Americans and Asians were also highly represented (7.3% and 6.8% respectively).

⁴ Initially 51 special sessions were planned, but seven did not receive a sufficient number of papers and so were included within the conference's general themes.

⁵ Franklin et al. (2011) in fact report data collected from a survey among WRSA members rather than a specific group of registered delegates. Thus, should their survey, as they discuss, not be fully representative, any comparisons here would be misleading.

The bulk of registered delegates listed themselves as Academics (91%). Significantly, 25% of them reported themselves as being Full Professors, but these figures differed markedly between men (30%) and women (14%). The opposite, however, was true for PhD Students, Junior Researchers and Post-Doc Researchers, where there were relatively more women.

Most delegates reported (ERSA satisfaction survey) that they had first learned about the conference via the ERSA website or other RSAI channels of communication, including the RSAI, ERSA or local newsletters (see Table 4), although 48% of them actually reported themselves as being non ERSA/RSAI members.

Table 1. Conference Demographics (1/3).

Age	Men		Women		Total	
24-30	86	22%	63	28%	149	24%
31-40	133	34%	82	37%	215	35%
41-50	79	20%	56	25%	135	22%
51-60	57	15%	19	9%	76	12%
over 60	31	8%	3	1%	34	6%

Not available	188	91	279
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Total	574	314	888
	65%	35%	

Note: 64 people did not submit age or gender information.

Source: Conference registration details.

Table 2. Conference Demographics (2/3).

Country	Men			Women			Total	
ANGOLA	1	0.2%	50%	1	0.3%	50%	2	0.2%
SOUTH AFRICA	3	0.5%	100%		0.0%	0%	3	0.3%
Total Africa	4	0.7%	80%	1	0.3%	20%	5	0.5%
BRAZIL	10	1.7%	63%	6	1.9%	38%	16	1.7%
CANADA	5	0.9%	83%	1	0.3%	17%	6	0.6%
CHILE	1	0.2%	100%		0.0%	0%	1	0.1%
COLOMBIA	1	0.2%	100%		0.0%	0%	1	0.1%
MEXICO		0.0%	0%	1	0.3%	100%	1	0.1%
UNITED STATES	24	4.2%	89%	3	1.0%	11%	27	2.8%
URUGUAY	1	0.2%	50%	1	0.3%	50%	2	0.2%
Total America	42	7.3%	78%	12	3.8%	22%	54	5.7%
CHINA		0.0%	0%	1	0.3%	100%	1	0.1%
JAPAN	34	5.9%	83%	7	2.2%	17%	41	4.3%
KOREA, REPUBLIC OF	1	0.2%	100%		0.0%	0%	1	0.1%
SINGAPORE	2	0.3%	100%		0.0%	0%	2	0.2%
SOUTH KOREA	1	0.2%	100%		0.0%	0%	1	0.1%
TAIWAN	1	0.2%	100%		0.0%	0%	1	0.1%
Total Asia	39	6.8%	83%	8	2.5%	17%	47	4.9%
AUSTRIA	20	3.5%	87%	3	1.0%	13%	23	2.4%
BELGIUM	9	1.6%	82%	2	0.6%	18%	11	1.2%
CROATIA	1	0.2%	33%	2	0.6%	67%	3	0.3%
CZECH REPUBLIC	5	0.9%	71%	2	0.6%	29%	7	0.7%
DENMARK	2	0.3%	50%	2	0.6%	50%	4	0.4%
FINLAND	11	1.9%	85%	2	0.6%	15%	13	1.4%
FRANCE	28	4.9%	62%	17	5.4%	38%	45	4.7%
GEORGIA	1	0.2%	100%		0.0%	0%	1	0.1%
GERMANY	53	9.2%	74%	19	6.1%	26%	72	7.6%
GREECE	12	2.1%	43%	16	5.1%	57%	28	2.9%
HUNGARY	3	0.5%	50%	3	1.0%	50%	6	0.6%
ISRAEL	8	1.4%	73%	3	1.0%	27%	11	1.2%
ITALY	47	8.2%	53%	41	13.1%	47%	88	9.2%
LATVIA		0.0%	0%	1	0.3%	100%	1	0.1%
NORWAY	7	1.2%	70%	3	1.0%	30%	10	1.1%
POLAND	18	3.1%	56%	14	4.5%	44%	32	3.4%
PORTUGAL	22	3.8%	47%	25	8.0%	53%	47	4.9%
ROMANIA	4	0.7%	24%	13	4.1%	76%	17	1.8%
RUSSIA	5	0.9%	71%	2	0.6%	29%	7	0.7%
SLOVAKIA	4	0.7%	80%	1	0.3%	20%	5	0.5%
SPAIN	93	16.2%	66%	48	15.3%	34%	141	14.8%
SWEDEN	19	3.3%	63%	11	3.5%	37%	30	3.2%
SWITZERLAND	15	2.6%	88%	2	0.6%	12%	17	1.8%
THE NETHERLANDS	43	7.5%	67%	21	6.7%	33%	64	6.7%
TURKEY	18	3.1%	41%	26	8.3%	59%	44	4.6%
UKRAINE		0.0%	0%	1	0.3%	100%	1	0.1%
UNITED KINGDOM	33	5.8%	72%	13	4.0%	28%	46	4.8%
Total Europe	481	83.8%	62%	293	93.3%	38%	774	81.3%
AUSTRALIA	6	1.0%	100%	0	0.0%	0%	6	0.6%
NEW ZEALAND	2	0.3%	100%	0	0.0%	0%	2	0.2%
Total Oceania	8	1.4%	100%	0	0.0%	0%	8	0.8%
Total	574	100%	65%	314	100%	35%	952	100%

Source: Conference registration details.

Table 3. Conference Demographics (3/3).

Position	Men		Women		Total general	
Academic: PhD Student	86	20%	62	25%	148	22%
Academic: Junior Researcher	14	3%	18	7%	32	5%
Academic: Assistant Professor	68	16%	43	17%	111	16%
Academic: Post-Doc Researcher	26	6%	25	10%	51	7%
Academic: Associate Professor	78	18%	40	16%	118	17%
Academic: Senior Researcher	22	5%	18	7%	40	6%
Academic; Full Professor	132	30%	36	14%	168	25%
Academic: Other	8	2%	8	3%	16	2%
Total Academic	434	91%	250	92%	684	91%

Professional: Assistant Researcher	2	5%	2	10%	4	6%
Professional: Researcher	33	77%	16	76%	49	77%
Professional: Manager/Director	3	7%	2	10%	5	8%
Professional: Other	5	12%	1	5%	6	9%
Total Professional	43	9%	21	8%	64	9%

Source: Conference registration details.

Table 4. Conference Marketing

	%
ERSA website	32.8%
Other	28.7%
ERSA e-newsletters	16.4%
ERSA Membership Section	12.6%
RSAI Website/Communication	6.5%
Barcelona University Website/Communication	2.5%
No Responses	<1%
Total	100%

Source: Conference satisfaction survey.

Authors' bibliometric information

As reported above, bibliometric information for the conference authors was collected. As my aim is to characterise the topics in Regional Science, the unit of analysis adopted here is the author, not the delegate, since 61 registered delegates (6.4% of the total) did not in fact present a paper at the conference. Thus, 891 delegates presented either one or two of the 914 papers delivered at the conference, which were signed by a total of 1,533 authors. Peter Nijkamp signed the highest number of papers (14), followed by Piet

Rietveld, who co-authored ten different papers. A total of 75 authors signed three or more papers, 200 authors signed two papers and 1,258 authors signed one paper.⁶

An examination of the co-authorship details of the papers showed that 34% had just the sole author, while 33% had three or more (see Table 5). According to Suriñach et al. (2002), in the decade 1991 to 2000, 52% of articles published in nine leading regional science and urban economics journals were single-authored. This statistic contrasts with findings concerning the authorship of papers delivered at the 51st ERSA conference in Barcelona. From this it might be deduced that either co-authorship is increasing (as Duque et al., 2011, have reported for Spanish articles in the fields of Economics and Business) or that academic papers that are eventually published are more frequently singled authored than those presented at conference.

Table 5. Co-authorship pattern.

Authors per paper	Papers		Total authors	
1	312	34%	312	16%
2	303	33%	606	31%
3	211	23%	633	33%
4	66	7%	264	14%
5	16	2%	80	4%
6	6	1%	36	2%
	914	100%	1931	100%

The bibliometric indices of the authors signing papers at the conference, h, g and hc, are highly skewed to the right, since several authors present particularly high values. Table 6 and Figure 2 show the main distribution patterns. It should be noted that for reasons of clarity, Figure 2 only displays the indices up to a value of 25, since this captures most of the population (92% of authors on the h-index, 99% on the g-index and 98% on the hc-index). The first quartile for all indices is equal to 0: 25% of authors have publications with no citations. This is perhaps unsurprising if we note that there was a significant proportion of PhD students (22%) and Junior Researchers (5%) among delegates. By contrast, to be included in the fourth quartile authors need an h-index of 6 or over. Finally, although three different bibliometric indices have been applied, Figure 2 clearly

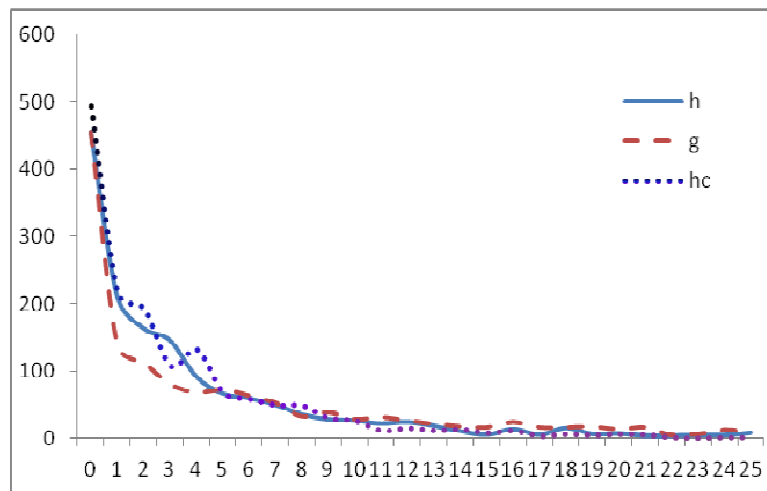
⁶ Of course, not all authors signing a paper attended the conference.

shows that all three share the same information (the lowest correlation between the indices being 0.95) and, consequently, in all further analyses I use just the h-index.

Table 6. Statistical characteristics of the bibliometric indices

	H	g	hc
Average	4.48	8.31	3.39
Standard Deviation	7.07	14.56	4.88
Asymmetry index	2.25	2.23	1.84
Kurtosis	21.21	32.42	21.52
Min	0	0	0
Q1	0	0	0
Q2	2	3	2
Q3	6	10	5
Max	74	168	60

Figure 2. Distribution of the bibliometric indices



The h-index allows us to compare the different session types held during the conference. Table 7 shows the average h-index for authors presenting and signing papers at four different session types. From here it can be seen that authors delivering papers at Special and Refereed Sessions present higher bibliometric indices than those presenting at Ordinary and, as expected, Young Scientist sessions. Interestingly, for all session types, non-presenting authors displayed slightly higher indices than presenting authors. This might in part reflect the two-paper per author maximum imposed at the ERSA conference, which restricts authors with many papers and probably with higher h-indices from presenting. As such, these results are neither good nor bad per se. Alternatively, these results might be indicative of the fact that younger or less experienced academics consider ERSA a good occasion on which to present their work.

Table 7. Bibliometric information by conference session type: average h-index

	Presenting Authors	Non-Presenting Authors	All Authors
Ordinary Session	3.17	4.47	3.78
Refereed Session	4.21	6.49	5.43
Special Sessions	6.65	7.18	6.93
Young Scientist Sessions	1.08	1.25	1.12
All Sessions	5.18	5.90	5.54

Note: these figures are based on papers signatures, and consequently every author can appear more than once. As a result, these averages differ from the ones in table 6.

Attendance

The conference organised a wide range of activities, which can be assumed as being a positive feature since diversity can help accommodate the variety of perspectives adopted in a multidisciplinary field such as that of Regional Science. In order to identify which activities attracted the interest of the delegates, we can draw on two information sources: the conference satisfaction survey, which asked the delegates how many sessions they had attended and enquired about how satisfied they were with different aspects of the conference; and a survey addressed to the person chairing each session, which provides details about attendance at each session, the average quality of the papers presented, the homogeneity of quality and topics presented at the sessions, and the adequacy of the facilities and services provided (full details were collected for 62% of the sessions). Tables 8 and 9 display the attendance statistics as recorded by these two surveys. Detailed information per conference topic is not provided for reasons of confidentiality; however, we do show aggregate information per session type.

The average delegate attended seven sessions, while the average (non-plenary) session attracted a mean of 18 delegates; although, there was considerable variance as two of the Special Sessions had audiences of 100 and 180, while several ordinary sessions were attended by just two or three delegates. Attendances were higher at Special Sessions, which also tended to be of a higher average quality and homogeneity than Ordinary and Refereed sessions. Based on the delegates' responses, the majority attended between five and nine sessions (19% attending more than ten), while 25% of delegates attended four sessions or less. This translates as an average attendance of between 550 and 600 delegates for each time slot, well below the overall registration figure of 952 delegates. This would seem to confirm that in addition to obtaining

international feedback on their research, delegates have other motives for attending conferences: networking, fun, etc. (Borghans et al., 2010). However, the ERSA satisfaction survey reports that the main reason given by delegates for attending the conference was to share their academic results with peers (83% of respondents), while a large number also attached importance to networking opportunities (67%).

Table 8. Conference attendance (1/2)

	%
5-9	54.5%
2-4	23.4%
More than 10	18.6%
1	2.7%
None	<1%
No Responses	<1%
Total	100%

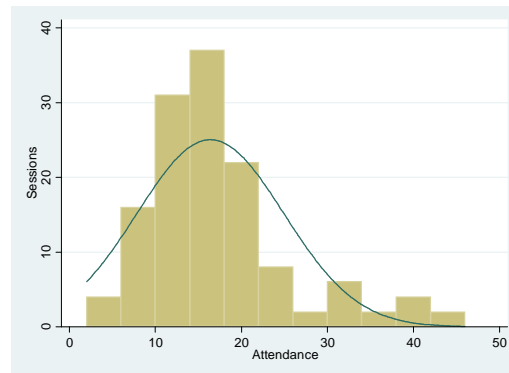
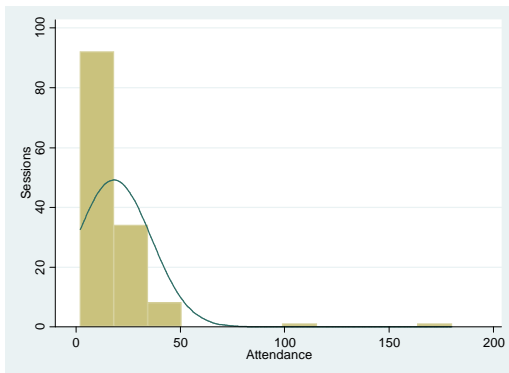
Source: ERSA satisfaction survey. The specific question posed was: *How many sessions did you attend?*

Table 9. Attendance statistics (2/2)

	Attendance
Min	2
Q1	10
Q2	15
Q3	20
Max	180
Average	18.20
Std. Dev.	17.85
Skewness	6.31
Kurtosis	53.87

Source: Chairperson survey.

Figure 3. Attendance histogram. Total. **Figure 4. Attendance histogram. Without extreme values**



Delegates and chairs alike reported highly positive opinions about the quality of the conference and individual sessions. Among the former, 64% reported being extremely

or very satisfied compared to 9% that were slightly or not at all satisfied with the overall level of the congress sessions. Among the chairpersons, 71% reported that the quality of papers was high or very high compared to just 1% who claimed they had been low or very low. In both surveys, higher marks were awarded to Refereed and Special Sessions than to Young Scientist Sessions. Interestingly, a small yet significant number of sessions were reported by the chairs as presenting low or very low levels of homogeneity, both in terms of the quality of the papers and of their topic. The chairs were more concerned about the homogeneity of their sessions than about the average quality of papers presented. Finally, the satisfaction survey asked delegates to evaluate the return on the money and time they had invested in order to participate at the conference: 56% of respondents reported a high return, 39% a medium return, and 6% a low return.

Table 10. Conference survey answers (1/2). Delegates' satisfaction survey

	1	2	3	4	5	Total	1+2
The overall level of the Conference Sessions	41	203	106	29	5	384	64%
The overall level of the Refereed Sessions	43	183	79	16	2	323	70%
The overall level of the Special Sessions	61	185	90	13	3	352	70%
The overall level of the Young Scientist Sessions	25	76	59	10	2	172	59%
The overall level of the Keynote Speaker Sessions	71	173	74	26	4	348	70%
The overall quality of the Technical Visits	32	59	16	3	1	111	82%
The overall quality of the Exhibition	23	92	66	10	3	194	59%
The overall quality of the Social Programme (Welcome Reception and Gala Dinner)	88	165	48	10	6	317	80%
Please evaluate the return on your investment (in time and money) to participate at this Conference	32	185	151	16	6	390	56%

Source: ERSA satisfaction survey. 1= Extremely satisfied, 2 = Very satisfied, 3 = Somewhat satisfied, 4 = Slightly satisfied, 5 = Not at all satisfied.

Table 11. Conference survey answers (2/2). Chairperson survey

				Attendance			Chairs' Opinion			
	Total	Survey	% Survey	Average	Max	Min	Average quality	Quality homogeneity	Average topic homogeneity	Quality of the facilities & services
Ordinary Sessions	81	50	62%	14.0	40	2	3.56	3.21	3.31	3.83
Refereed Sessions	35	20	57%	10.8	16	6	3.93	3.64	3.57	3.86
Special Sessions	96	60	63%	24.5	180	5	4.22	3.99	4.05	4.05
Young Scientist Sessions	7	6	75%	15.5	30	3	3.71	3.43	2.57	3.43
Total	219	136	62%	18.7	180	2	3.89	3.61	3.63	3.92

Source: Chairperson survey. Chairs' opinions were reported on a scale from 1 (poor) to 5 (good).

Table 12. Quality of the sessions according to the Chairpersons

	Average quality of the papers presented	Quality homogeneity of the sessions	Topic homogeneity of the sessions	Quality of the facilities and services
Very low	0%	3%	4%	1%
Low	1%	9%	11%	4%
Average	28%	30%	21%	21%
High	51%	42%	45%	51%
Very High	20%	17%	19%	24%

Source: Chairperson survey.

4. Themes in Regional Science. What is on the agenda of regional scientists?

The 51st ERSAs conference included 25 thematic areas and 44 special sessions. Below, drawing on information from the conference program, the delegates and the authors' characteristics, I describe the main features of each topic area. Remember that a registered delegate could present up to two different papers, yet sign many more, while each paper had to be assigned to a different thematic area. Consequently, as we turn now to look at these themes, it should be borne in mind that the analysis is based on the authors that signed the papers, not just the delegates.

Demographics by topic

Tables 13 and 14 describe the quantitative significance plus the bibliometric indices of the authors presenting in each thematic area. The thematic area that attracted most attention was *A. Regional economic growth and development*: 14 sessions (9 Ordinary [O], 4 Refereed [R] and 1 for Young Scientists), 67 papers and 71 presenting authors. It was followed by *O. Innovation, knowledge, economy and regional development*: 10 sessions, (6 O, 4 R), 52 papers, 64 presenting authors, and by *S. Infrastructure, transports and communications*: 8 sessions (5 O and 3 R), 39 papers and 39 presenting authors.

The theme attracting most attention in the Special Sessions was *ZZV. 1st European Meeting of the Urban Economics Association*, which had 11 sessions (10 special sessions and 1 for young scientists) and included 44 papers and registered authors. It was followed by *ZE. SS- Territorial governance, rural areas and local agro food systems*, with 8 sessions, 23 papers and 28 registered authors, and by *ZZB. SS-*

Industrial districts and clusters facing globalization, with 5 sessions, 19 papers and 21 registered authors.

Several differences were noted between thematic areas in terms of the number of authors signing each paper. For instance, *T. Land use real estate and housing markets* had an average of 2.6 authors per paper, while *C. Social capital and regional development* had just 1.7 authors per paper. Several differences were also found between thematic areas and Special Sessions in their respective h-indices. Thus, for the 25 conference themes, the average h-index was lower for presenting authors (3.3) than it was for all signing authors (4.1). As seen above (Table 7), this could mean that the conference is seen as a good place for young scientists with lower h-indices to present their work.

Several Special Sessions display very high average and median h-indices (*ZZY. SS- Global Grand Challenges to Regional Science; ZA. SS- The determinants of regional migration; ZB. SS- Do we need place-based policies?; ZC. SS- Innovation and regional growth in Europe; ZD. SS- Retail and local and regional development*). Several topics display central values higher than the rest (*C. Social capital and regional development* and *I. Regional population change, migration, diasporas and development*), while others have lower values (*M. Climate change and its implications for urban and regional development*). These differences can be explained in terms of authors' age, academic and professional position, and the different publication culture in each line of research. An analysis of the main drivers of bibliometric indices lies beyond the scope of this paper, but it is a subject that requires further attention.

For registered authors, it was possible to identify the main demographic characteristics per thematic area (Tables 15 and 16). Thus, the themes attracting the largest proportion of women were *J. Social segregation poverty and social policy* and *C. Social capital and regional development*, while *Z. Territorial Marketing*, *H. Cross-border cooperation and development* and *F. Public finance and regional development* attracted few women authors. The topics attracting the youngest authors were *Y. Barcelona as a case study*, *R. New frontiers in regional science: theory and methodology* and *F. Public finance and regional development*, while *Z. Territorial Marketing* and *M. Climate change and its*

implications for urban and regional development attracted authors with the highest average age.

Many thematic areas attracted solely academic authors, while the largest proportion of non-academics was observed in *M. Climate change and its implications for urban and regional development*, which also attracted the largest proportion of non-European authors.

At the Special Sessions, *ZF. SS- Tourism externalities* and *ZZQ. SS- The impact of the Global Financial Crisis on the Banking Sector at local – national – international levels* attracted high proportions of women; *ZZN. SS- Processes of urbanisation along European coastal areas* attracted the youngest authors; 100% of papers delivered at *ZG. SS- JSRSAI 50th Anniversary Session* were by Asian authors; *ZZX. SS- The territorial impact of the electric car* attracted many professionals; while all the authors in thematic areas *ZB. SS- Do we need place-based policies?* and *ZZY. SS- Global Grand Challenges to Regional Science* were full professors.

Table 13. Sessions by thematic area. Attendance and bibliometric information.

Topic	Sessions			Papers		Presenting authors						All signing authors					
	Run	Cher	Out	Pa	Pe	Tot	rs	pe	rs	pe	rs	pe	rs	pe	rs	pe	rs
A. Regional economic growth and development	9	4	1	67	4.8	71	1.1	4.1	0	2.0	20	134	2.0	4.6	0	3.0	25
B. Rural and local development	4	3	0	29	4.1	29	1.0	4.3	0	2.0	28	60	2.1	4.5	0	2.0	28
C. Social capital and regional development	2	0	0	11	5.5	13	1.2	2.9	0	2.0	13	18	1.6	6.0	0	2.5	30
D. Agglomeration, clusters and policy	4	3	0	30	4.3	31	1.0	3.1	0	2.0	13	50	1.7	4.5	0	3.0	42
E. Regional policy in Europe	3	1	0	17	4.3	18	1.1	3.8	0	1.5	25	34	2.0	5.9	0	3.0	28
F. Public finance and regional development	2	0	0	10	5.0	10	1.0	1.6	0	1.0	6	17	1.7	2.3	0	1.0	8
G. Globalisation and regional competitiveness	3	2	1	22	3.7	23	1.0	4.2	0	1.0	25	46	2.1	4.3	0	2.0	25
H. Cross-border cooperation and development	1	0	0	5	5.0	5	1.0	3.0	2	3.0	5	10	2.0	3.3	2	3.0	7
I. Regional population change, migration, diasporas and development	4	1	0	24	4.8	25	1.0	4.1	0	3.0	20	48	2.0	6.0	0	3.0	52
J. Social segregation poverty and social policy	2	0	0	8	4.0	8	1.0	3.6	0	2.0	10	17	2.1	4.5	0	3.0	11
K. Spatial issues of the labour market	3	3	0	27	4.5	27	1.0	3.6	0	1.0	29	58	2.1	4.1	0	1.0	29
L. Sustainability issues	5	1	0	30	5.0	33	1.1	2.5	0	1.0	25	68	2.3	2.6	0	1.0	25
M. Climate change and its implications for urban and reg dev	1	1	0	5	2.5	5	1.0	1.8	0	0.0	5	12	2.4	1.8	0	1.5	5
N. Entrepreneurship, networks and innovation	4	2	1	27	3.9	28	1.0	3.8	0	2.0	18	55	2.0	3.6	0	2.0	26
O. Innovation, knowledge, economy and regional development	6	4	0	52	5.2	64	1.2	3.3	0	1.0	25	113	2.2	3.8	0	1.0	25
P. Geographical information systems and spatial analysis	3	1	0	19	4.8	20	1.1	1.9	0	1.0	7	41	2.2	2.7	0	2.0	13
Q. Spatial econometrics	2	1	1	15	3.8	15	1.0	3.3	0	3.0	16	29	1.9	4.0	0	3.0	19
R. New frontiers in regional science: theory and methodology	2	0	0	12	6.0	14	1.2	3.7	0	3.0	12	33	2.8	4.9	0	2.0	52
S. Infrastructure, transports and communications	5	3	0	39	4.9	39	1.0	3.9	0	2.0	42	81	2.1	5.3	0	2.0	52
T. Land use real estate and housing markets	4	3	0	29	4.1	33	1.1	3.4	0	1.0	25	76	2.6	4.7	0	2.0	42
U. Location studies	2	1	0	14	4.7	17	1.2	3.0	0	1.0	18	27	1.9	4.9	0	1.0	25
V. Tourism, cultural industries and regional development	4	1	1	24	4.0	25	1.0	1.6	0	1.0	12	46	1.9	2.0	0	1.0	22
W. Urban governance and cities regeneration	3	1	1	22	4.4	24	1.1	1.3	0	0.0	6	43	2.0	2.1	0	1.0	24
Y. Barcelona as a case study	1	0	0	3	3.0	4	1.3	2.5	0	2.5	5	8	2.7	1.8	0	0.5	5
Z. Territorial Marketing	1	0	0	2	2.0	2	1.0	1.0	0	1.0	2	2	1.0	1.0	0	1.0	2
TOTAL	80	36	6	543	4.5	583	1.1	3.3	0	2.0	42	1126	2.1	4.1	0	2.0	52

Table 14. Special Sessions by thematic area. Attendance and bibliometric information. (1/2)

Topic	Sessions		Papers		Presenting Authors						All Signing Authors					
	Special Session	Young	Papers	Average Papers per session	Total	Authors per paper	Average h-index	Min	Median h-index	Max	Total	Authors per paper	Average h-index	Min	Median h-index	Max
ZA. SS- The determinants of regional migration	1		5	5.0	5	1.0	12.40	1	9.0	25	10	2.0	11.2	0	5.5	25
ZB. SS- Do we need place-based policies?	1		4	4.0	4	1.0	24.50	23	25.0	25	4	1.0	24.5	23	25.0	25
ZC. SS- Innovation and regional growth in Europe	2		7	3.5	7	1.0	11.86	2	10.0	21	16	2.3	15.2	1	9.5	52
ZD. SS- Retail and local and regional development	2		8	4.0	9	1.1	14.22	0	17.0	38	16	2.0	13.9	0	12.0	38
ZE. SS- Territorial governance, rural areas and local agro food systems	8		23	2.9	28	1.2	2.43	0	1.0	19	58	2.5	2.5	0	2.0	19
ZF. SS- Tourism externalities	2		6	3.0	6	1.0	2.33	0	2.0	5	11	1.8	2.4	0	1.0	8
ZG. SS- JSRSAI 50th Anniversary Session	2		8	4.0	7	0.9	3.43	0	2.0	14	26	3.3	2.2	0	2.0	14
ZI. SS- Productivity & financing reg transport infrastructure	2		8	4.0	8	1.0	8.63	0	4.0	30	12	1.5	11.2	0	9.0	30
ZK. SS- History and institutions in regional development	1		4	4.0	4	1.0	3.00	0	1.0	10	8	2.0	3.6	0	2.5	10
ZL. SS- Air transport and local development	2		9	4.5	9	1.0	1.56	0	2.0	3	28	3.1	3.1	0	2.0	18
ZM. SS- Cross border regions and transport accessibility	1		4	4.0	4	1.0	1.50	0	2.0	2	9	2.3	2.2	0	2.0	9
ZN. SS- Rethinking the Economic Region. New Challenges for the Regional Analysis with Data at Small Scale	2		11	5.5	14	1.3	5.79	0	3.5	28	24	2.2	5.5	0	3.0	28
ZO. SS- Estimating regional impacts of global climate changes	1		3	3.0	3	1.0	21.67	1	12.0	52	6	2.0	20.3	1	11.5	52
ZP. SS- Modelling 'spatio-temporal data'	1		4	4.0	4	1.0	6.00	0	4.0	16	9	2.3	9.7	0	6.0	28
ZQ. SS- Public finance and regional economy	1		5	5.0	7	1.4	9.29	3	8.0	17	12	2.4	8.4	3	8.5	17
ZR. SS- Wages and regional labour markets	2		9	4.5	11	1.2	5.00	0	6.0	10	18	2.0	4.6	0	4.0	13
ZS. SS- Main patterns and economic implications of migratory flows: a regional perspective	1		3	3.0	3	1.0	15.67	7	12.0	28	9	3.0	6.6	0	2.0	28
ZT. SS- Computable General Equilibrium in Reg Sc & Urban Ec	2		7	3.5	7	1.0	6.71	0	6.0	16	15	2.1	5.9	0	4.0	24
ZU. SS- The web of housing supply: markets, finance, development and infrastructures	3		10	3.3	10	1.0	10.40	0	8.5	27	17	1.7	10.0	0	8.0	27
ZV. SS- Creativity and regional development	2		7	3.5	7	1.0	2.57	0	2.0	8	18	2.6	2.9	0	1.0	19
ZW. SS- Turkish cases in contemporary issues/dimensions for regional development	2		8	4.0	10	1.3	1.10	0	0.0	5	16	2.0	0.8	0	0.0	5
ZX. SS- Regional science and development in Africa	1		4	4.0	4	1.0	0.50	0	0.0	2	5	1.3	2.0	0	0.0	8
ZY. SS- Science and Policy Integration for Sustainable Regional Development	1		4	4.0	4	1.0	1.50	0	1.5	3	12	3.0	5.3	0	0.0	52

Table 14. Special Sessions by thematic area. Attendance and bibliometric information. (2/2)

Topic	Sessions		Papers		Presenting Authors						All Signing Authors					
	Special Session	Young	Papers	Average Papers per session	Total	Authors per paper	Average h-index	Min	Median h-index	Max	Total	Authors per paper	Average h-index	Min	Median h-index	Max
ZZ. SS- Interregional migration	3		10	3.3	11	1.1	4.64	0	3.0	15	23	2.3	8.0	0	6.0	48
ZZA. SS- Territorial cohesion in the context of new EU member states - policy impact assessment	3		14	4.7	18	1.3	0.72	0	0.0	3	22	1.6	0.7	0	0.0	3
ZZB. SS- Industrial districts and clusters facing globalisation	5		19	3.8	21	1.1	2.76	0	2.0	11	46	2.4	3.6	0	3.0	11
ZZC. SS- Modelling the knowledge-based regional economy	1		4	4.0	4	1.0	6.25	1	5.5	13	6	1.5	4.2	0	2.5	13
ZZD. SS- Reg development, structural changes and services	3		14	4.7	14	1.0	6.29	0	3.5	20	35	2.5	4.8	0	2.0	20
ZZE. SS- Cultural Diversity, Skills and Productivity: The labour market impacts of immigrants	3		11	3.7	11	1.0	3.27	0	1.0	19	24	2.2	11.2	0	3.5	52
ZZF. SS- Understanding factors and processes underlying spatial dependence	1		4	4.0	5	1.3	14.20	1	9.0	33	8	2.0	14.9	1	10.0	33
ZZG. SS- Relocation of plants and firms: new insights	2		7	3.5	7	1.0	5.29	0	3.0	16	17	2.4	4.8	0	3.0	16
ZZH. SS- Transport investment and reg econ development	1		4	4.0	5	1.3	5.80	1	2.0	19	10	2.5	6.2	1	4.0	19
ZZM. SS- Spin-offs and the diffusion of innovation and routines: a micro perspective	1		4	4.0	4	1.0	6.00	3	5.5	10	11	2.8	4.7	0	3.0	17
ZZN. SS- Processes of urbanisation along Eur. coastal areas	2		9	4.5	9	1.0	1.22	0	0.0	5	30	3.3	1.8	0	1.0	8
ZZO. SS- Sustain City Conference on land-use and transport	3		9	3.0	11	1.2	7.73	0	8.0	21	26	2.9	8.7	0	5.5	28
ZZP. SS- Knowledge, Innovation and Economic Geography	3		9	3.0	10	1.1	19.90	4	17.0	55	17	1.9	14.5	3	10.0	55
ZZQ. SS- The impact of the Global Financial Crisis on the Banking Sector at local – national – international levels	1		2	2.0	2	1.0	0.00	0	0.0	0	4	2.0	0.0	0	0.0	0
ZZR. SS- Putting social science into W	1		3	3.0	3	1.0	6.00	1	5.0	12	9	3.0	9.1	0	4.0	52
ZZT. SS- Transportation in cities: Historical perspectives	1		4	4.0	4	1.0	1.75	0	1.5	4	5	1.3	2.8	0	3.0	7
ZZU. SS- Knowledge Commercialization and Valorization in Regional Econ Dev: New Approaches and Concepts	3		10	3.3	11	1.1	9.64	1	6.0	47	19	1.9	11.6	1	6.0	52
ZZV. SS- 1st European Meeting of the UEA	10	1	44	4.0	44	1.0	8.86	0	7.0	56	100	2.3	10.9	0	7.0	74
ZZW. SS- The New Urban World	4		20	5.0	23	1.2	20.96	2	23.0	52	23	1.2	21.0	2	23.0	52
ZZY. SS- Global Grand Challenges to Regional Science	1		4	4.0	4	1.0	27.25	15	21.0	52	4	1.0	27.3	15	21.0	52
ZZX. SS- The territorial impact of the electric car	1		2	2.0	3	1.5	3.00	0	0.0	9	4	2.0	2.3	0	0.0	9
TOTAL	96	1	368		399	1.1	7.40	0.00	3.0	56	802	2.2	7.3	0	3.0	74

Table 15. Thematic Area. Demographic information.

Topic	Registered	Average Age	% Women	European	American	Asian	Rest of the World	% Professional	% Full Professors & Manager-Director
A. Regional economic growth and development	83	39.3	39%	87%	7.2%	6.0%	0.0%	14%	29%
B. Rural and local development	37	41.6	41%	81%	10.8%	8.1%	0.0%	13%	31%
C. Social capital and regional development	13	38.0	62%	77%	23.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	27%
D. Agglomeration, clusters and policy	35	40.7	29%	91%	2.9%	5.7%	0.0%	4%	18%
E. Regional policy in Europe	23	42.4	22%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5%	10%
F. Public finance and regional development	10	34.6	20%	80%	10.0%	10.0%	0.0%	20%	10%
G. Globalisation and regional competitiveness	26	35.0	42%	88%	7.7%	3.8%	0.0%	0%	13%
H. Cross-border cooperation and development	6	34.8	17%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	0%
I. Regional population change, migration, diasporas and development	29	38.6	45%	93%	3.4%	0.0%	3.4%	12%	36%
J. Social segregation poverty and social policy	11	41.7	91%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	0%
K. Spatial issues of the labour market	33	39.4	24%	97%	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7%	32%
L. Sustainability issues	40	37.5	45%	83%	7.5%	7.5%	2.5%	18%	15%
M. Climate change and its implications for urban and regional dev.	6	47.0	33%	33%	0.0%	66.7%	0.0%	33%	33%
N. Entrepreneurship, networks and innovation	37	38.8	35%	95%	5.4%	0.0%	0.0%	10%	19%
O. Innovation, knowledge, economy and regional development	78	37.2	41%	97%	1.3%	1.3%	0.0%	10%	19%
P. Geographical information systems and spatial analysis	23	37.9	43%	91%	4.3%	4.3%	0.0%	10%	15%
Q. Spatial econometrics	17	37.8	35%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13%	7%
R. New frontiers in regional science: theory and methodology	18	32.7	33%	74%	0.0%	26.3%	0.0%	0%	14%
S. Infrastructure, transports and communications	51	40.1	27%	84%	0.0%	15.7%	0.0%	20%	20%
T. Land use real estate and housing markets	45	42.2	31%	98%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	15%	21%
U. Location studies	21	39.9	24%	95%	0.0%	4.8%	0.0%	13%	19%
V. Tourism, cultural industries and regional development	28	40.0	46%	89%	7.1%	3.6%	0.0%	4%	17%
W. Urban governance and cities regeneration	29	37.9	52%	93%	3.4%	0.0%	3.4%	4%	28%
Y. Barcelona as a case study	5	30.0	60%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	50%
Z. Territorial Marketing	2	44.0	0%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	0%
TOTAL	706	39.0	38%	90%	4.2%	5.1%	0.4%	11%	21%

Table 16. Special Sessions description. Demographic information. (1/2)

Topic	Registered	Average Age	% Women	European	American	Asian	Rest of the World	% Professional	% Full Professors & Manager-Director
ZA. SS- The determinants of regional migration	7	35.2	29%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14%	57%
ZB. SS- Do we need place-based policies?	4	39.3	0%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	100%
ZC. SS- Innovation and regional Growth in Europe	13	38.9	38%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	42%
ZD. SS- Retail and local and regional development	13	47.9	31%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	33%
ZE. SS- Territorial governance, rural areas and local agro food systems	34	42.7	41%	94%	0.0%	5.9%	0.0%	4%	21%
ZF. SS- Tourism externalities	7	37.6	71%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	0%
ZG. SS- JSRSAI 50th Anniversary Session	14	42.9	14%	0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0%	44%
ZI. SS- Productivity & financing reg. Transp. Infrastructure	11	41.3	0%	73%	0.0%	18.2%	9.1%	0%	56%
ZK. SS- History and institutions in regional development	5	35.5	40%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	40%	0%
ZL. SS- Air transport and local development	16	34.6	63%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	6%
ZM. SS- Cross border regions and transport accessibility	6	31.3	67%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20%	20%
ZN. SS- Rethinking the Economic Region. New Challenges for the Regional Analysis with Data at Small Scale	17	34.1	18%	94%	5.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	33%
ZO. SS- Estimating reg. impacts of global climate changes	6	44.0	33%	67%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	60%
ZP. SS- Modelling 'spatio-temporal data'	6	36.3	0%	83%	16.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	60%
ZQ. SS- Public finance and regional economy	8	39.4	13%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	29%
ZR. SS- Wages and regional labour markets	12	38.1	25%	92%	8.3%	0.0%	0.0%	9%	18%
ZS. SS- Main patterns and economic implications of migratory flows: a regional perspective	4	52.3	0%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	75%
ZT. SS- Computable General Equilibrium in Regional Science and Urban Economics	8	41.4	0%	75%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	14%	57%
ZU. SS- The web of housing supply: markets, finance, development and infrastructures	10	31.0	10%	50%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	0%	88%
ZV. SS- Creativity and regional development	9	37.3	44%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13%	25%
ZW. SS- Turkish cases in Contemporary issues/dimensions for regional development	12	46.1	50%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	18%	45%
ZX. SS- Regional science and development in Africa	4	41.7	25%	25%	0.0%	0.0%	75.0%	25%	0%
ZY. SS- Science and Policy Integration for Sustainable Regional Development	7	36.0	57%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	0%

Table 16. Special Sessions description. Demographic information. (2/2)

Topic	Registered	Average Age	% Women	European	American	Asian	Rest of the World	% Professional	% Full Professors & Manager-Director
ZZ. SS- Interregional migration	17	34.8	47%	88%	5.9%	5.9%	0.0%	0%	10%
ZZA. SS- Territorial cohesion in the context of new EU member states - policy impact assessment	20	47.4	30%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	21%
ZZB. SS- Industrial districts and clusters facing globalisation	27	42.2	26%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14%	38%
ZZC. SS-Modelling the knowledge-based regional economy	4	40.7	25%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33%	33%
ZZD. SS- Regional development, structural changes and services	22	42.6	36%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5%	40%
ZZE. SS- Cultural Diversity, Skills and Productivity: The labour market impacts of immigrants	21	37.1	24%	90%	0.0%	0.0%	9.5%	11%	33%
ZZF. SS- Understanding factors and processes underlying spatial dependence	4	42.3	25%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	25%
ZZG. SS- Relocation of plants and firms: new insights	12	35.8	42%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	20%
ZZH. SS- Transport investment and regional economic development	8	46.9	38%	88%	0.0%	12.5%	0.0%	0%	43%
ZZM. SS- Spin-offs and the diffusion of innovation and routines: a micro perspective	6	42.6	33%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	0%
ZZN. SS- Process. of urban. along the European coastal areas	14	28.0	29%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	0%
ZZO. SS- SustainCity Conference on land-use and transport	16	37.4	19%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	27%
ZZP. SS- Knowledge, Innovation and Economic Geography	11	37.7	36%	91%	9.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	33%
ZZQ. SS- The impact of the Global Financial Crisis on the Banking Sector at local – national – international levels	3	41.0	100%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	67%	0%
ZZR. SS- Putting social science into W	4	35.5	0%	50%	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	33%
ZZT. SS- Transportation in cities: Historical perspectives	5	29.5	0%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	0%
ZZU. SS- Knowledge Commercialization and Valorization in Regional Economic Development: New Approaches and Concepts	16	46.1	25%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	58%
ZZV. SS- 1st European Meeting of the UEA	63	38.6	14%	95%	0.0%	4.8%	0.0%	9%	22%
ZZW. SS- The New Urban World	20	54.6	10%	85%	0.0%	5.0%	10.0%	0%	94%
ZZY. SS- Global Grand Challenges to Regional Science	4	56.0	25%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0%	100%
ZZX. SS- The territorial impact of the electric car	3	35.0	0%	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100%	33%
TOTAL	533	40.0	28%	91%	1.7%	4.5%	2.8%	6%	33%

5. Modelling conference attendance

The empirical model

Having described the main characteristics of the conference, in this section I seek to determine what influences a delegate's attendance at a particular session. Thus, rather than identifying the most popular themes (given that we have already seen which topics attracted most contributions), what we are interested in examining is the extent to which quality (as we would expect) matters in attracting delegates to sessions, or whether, by contrast, other *circumstances* matter more. To do so, I regress attendance against a list of variables that capture the following aspects (see Table 17):

Table 17. Variables included in the regression analysis

Variable	Description
att	Attendance at the session (total, including presenters)
day	Day on which the session took place: 1 st (base) to 3 rd
time	Time slot in which the session took place: 1 st (base) to 4 th
Session_type	Ordinary (base), Refereed, Special or Young Scientist
papers_per_session	Number of papers presented in particular parallel session
size_s_ta	Number of authors presenting in that session
size_s_pa	Number of authors signing the papers in that session
size_t_ss	Number of sessions programmed in the conference on session theme
size_t_pp	Number of papers programmed in the conference on session theme
age	Average age of delegates attending session's thematic area (over total registered)
women	Proportion of women attending session's thematic area (over total registered)
europe	Proportion of Europeans attending session's thematic area (over total registered)
professional	Proportion of Professionals attending session's thematic area (over total registered)
full_pr	Proportion of Full Professors attending session's thematic area (over total registered)
h_av_pa	Average h-index of the presenting authors
h_max_pa	Maximum h-index of the presenting authors
h_av_ta	Average h-index of the signing authors
h_max_ta	Maximum h-index of the signing authors
h_chair	h-index of session's chairperson
qual_paper	Average quality of papers presented (in opinion of the Chair)
hom_quality	Quality homogeneity of the session (in opinion of the Chair)
hom_topic	Topic homogeneity of the session (in opinion of the Chair)
qual_fac	Quality of the facilities and services (in opinion of the Chair)

- Conference program: the day on which the paper was delivered, time slot, type of session, and the size of thematic area (the larger the theme, the larger the

potential audience, but at the same time the greater the competition between parallel sessions).

- Demographic characteristics of each session's thematic area: we control for age, gender, geographical origin, professional activity and the proportion of full professors and or directors or managers. We identify which characteristics of a thematic area matter most, for instance, if themes that attract high proportions of women or professionals are popular topics across the board.
- Bibliometric information: we control for quality using the bibliometric h-index, whereby an author with a high h-index can be expected to be producing good new material for presentation at the conference. We use the average h-index of the session (either of the authors presenting or signing the paper), its square, and the maximum. We also use the h-index of the person chairing the session to see if this serves as a signal to the potential audience.

Finally, our empirical model is as follows:

$$Attendance = f(Day, Time, Sess. Type, Topic Size, Demog. Charac, Bibliometric Indices)$$

Estimation results

The regressions were run considering two data sets: one including the full sample and the other a restricted sample in which two outliers with extremely high attendance figures (100 and 180 delegates) were excluded. Tables 18 and 19 display the results for both data sets. In order to show the power of each aspect under consideration, we introduce the variables sequentially, and list the results in columns. Below, the main findings are described.

Conference program: the day on which the session was held is never significant; however, the third time slot (just after lunch) is positive and significant in several models obtaining six more delegates (model 06, Table 19) than the first slot of the day (base category). The session type obviously mattered at the conference with Special Sessions attracting a higher attendance than Ordinary Sessions (base category). Offering more papers in a session did not guarantee a higher attendance, but if the session was dedicated to a popular theme (one for which more sessions were organised), it attracted

a larger audience, although *diminishing returns* existed (as there is a significant and negative parameter for the total amount of *papers* presented for a thematic area).

Demographic characteristics: themes presented by authors with a low average age attracted fewer delegates. This might be evidence of three features: one, young scientist sessions in general attract smaller audiences than the other sessions (albeit that the descriptive statistics show this not to be the case); two, younger authors are not likely to be so well known to the delegates and so it is not so easy for them to attract large audiences; and three, young people tend to be interested in topics that do not attract such large audiences. Gender and the proportion of professionals were found not to matter at all, which tells us that those thematic areas in which women and professionals are over or under represented attract the same relative audiences as the rest. The geographical origin of the delegates attending each thematic area only mattered in the case of the model that included the two *outliers*, which reflects the fact that these two sessions offered a marked European point of view. Geographical origin was not significant in the other 134 sessions.

The proportion of full professors participating in the thematic area is significantly important in most models in accounting for higher attendance figures, which is clearly related to the potential quality of the session. In the regressions conducted here, this is controlled with the use of the bibliometric h-index, which is included in the model as the average, squared and maximum values for both presenters and signers of the papers.

The main results are as follows:

- The average h-index of both the presenters and signers of the paper matter.
- The h-index of the person chairing the session has no influence on audience size. When either the maximum h-index or the squared value of the average h-index of the presenters or signing authors are included, the parameters are significant and the adjustments higher. Non-linear relationships arise, but the picture varies with the model. Thus, in the regression run with the full sample, the squared value of the average h-index of the signing authors is positive, suggesting that having three or four leading researchers in the same room will attract a large audience. By contrast, when we eliminate the two outliers (restricted sample), the parameter for the squared variable is negative, i.e., having leading researchers in a session increases attendance but at a diminishing rate.

Table 18. Regression results. All parallel sessions (N=136).

	Model 01		Model 02		Model 03		Model 04		Model 05		Model 06	
2 nd Day	4.356	<i>4.32</i>	3.162	<i>4.41</i>	1.050	<i>3.78</i>	2.83	<i>3.44</i>	3.593	<i>3.02</i>	2.169	<i>2.95</i>
3 rd Day	-3.489	<i>5.48</i>	-4.873	<i>5.61</i>	-7.371	<i>4.85</i>	-3.20	<i>4.53</i>	-3.655	<i>3.97</i>	-4.454	<i>3.85</i>
Time slot #2	-0.578	<i>5.31</i>	-0.287	<i>5.37</i>	-0.495	<i>4.60</i>	1.81	<i>4.22</i>	0.192	<i>3.75</i>	1.324	<i>3.58</i>
Time slot #3	0.403	<i>7.58</i>	-1.280	<i>7.62</i>	-1.668	<i>6.49</i>	2.01	<i>5.96</i>	1.079	<i>5.27</i>	2.145	<i>5.06</i>
Time slot #4	-5.280	<i>6.83</i>	-6.720	<i>6.97</i>	-6.968	<i>6.01</i>	-5.12	<i>5.46</i>	-6.435	<i>4.83</i>	-4.577	<i>4.65</i>
Refereed Sessions	-3.374	<i>4.69</i>	1.738	<i>5.69</i>	-2.542	<i>4.91</i>	-3.95	<i>4.45</i>	-5.823	<i>3.93</i>	-2.479	<i>3.80</i>
Special Sessions	10.491***	<i>3.35</i>	13.526***	<i>4.15</i>	2.914	<i>3.85</i>	-0.01	<i>3.52</i>	-1.478	<i>3.10</i>	2.046	<i>3.02</i>
Young Sessions	3.212	<i>9.81</i>	7.765	<i>10.73</i>	-1.681	<i>9.26</i>	2.74	<i>8.52</i>	4.907	<i>7.49</i>	-2.094	<i>7.28</i>
papers_per_session			6.238*	<i>3.67</i>	3.088	<i>3.25</i>	2.67	<i>2.95</i>	0.105	<i>2.61</i>	1.845	<i>2.51</i>
size_s_ta			-1.612**	<i>0.66</i>	-0.839	<i>0.60</i>	-0.70	<i>0.54</i>	0.204	<i>0.52</i>	-0.161	<i>0.47</i>
size_s_pa			-0.222	<i>2.33</i>	-0.576	<i>2.06</i>	0.85	<i>1.89</i>	2.515	<i>1.72</i>	0.570	<i>1.60</i>
size_t_ss			0.610	<i>2.17</i>	1.781	<i>1.95</i>	2.73	<i>1.93</i>	3.167*	<i>1.69</i>	3.529**	<i>1.66</i>
size_t_pp			-0.183	<i>0.49</i>	-0.378	<i>0.44</i>	-0.64	<i>0.43</i>	-0.735*	<i>0.38</i>	-0.748**	<i>0.37</i>
age					-0.927 **	<i>0.39</i>	-0.725**	<i>0.35</i>	-0.431	<i>0.31</i>	-1.025***	<i>0.30</i>
women					1.962	<i>8.70</i>	8.10	<i>8.00</i>	2.237	<i>7.07</i>	0.722	<i>7.02</i>
Europe					32.00***	<i>12.19</i>	25.293**	<i>11.09</i>	15.225	<i>9.84</i>	18.786**	<i>9.47</i>
professionals					-16.125	<i>11.56</i>	-3.48	<i>10.68</i>	3.972	<i>9.42</i>	-6.751	<i>9.08</i>
full_pr					66.11***	<i>9.86</i>	44.024***	<i>9.79</i>	31.612***	<i>8.80</i>	32.939***	<i>8.47</i>
h_av_pa							0.44	<i>0.51</i>	1.673**	<i>0.69</i>	1.525*	<i>0.81</i>
h_av_ta							1.345**	<i>0.54</i>	3.258***	<i>0.76</i>	-3.149***	<i>0.88</i>
h_chair							-0.07	<i>0.23</i>	0.027	<i>0.20</i>	-0.196	<i>0.20</i>
h_max_pa									-1.101***	<i>0.26</i>		
h_max_ta									-0.399**	<i>0.15</i>		
h_av_pa^2											-0.069**	<i>0.03</i>
h_av_ta^2											0.255***	<i>0.04</i>
Constant	15.374**	<i>7.056</i>	4.926	<i>12.89</i>	9.526	<i>22.44</i>	-6.220	<i>20.44</i>	-5.396	<i>17.88</i>	24.828	<i>17.94</i>
Observations	136		136		136		136		136		136	
R-squared	0.127		0.178		0.442		0.558		0.668		0.687	
Adj. R-squared	0.072		0.090		0.356		0.477		0.600		0.623	

Note: *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1. Standard errors in italics

Table 19. Regression results. Restricted sample of parallel sessions (N=134).

	Model 01		Model 02		Model 03		Model 04		Model 05		Model 06	
2 nd Day	-0.146	<i>1.91</i>	0.296	<i>1.95</i>	-0.224	<i>1.91</i>	0.626	<i>1.85</i>	1.037	<i>1.83</i>	0.545	<i>1.84</i>
3 rd Day	-1.646	<i>2.41</i>	-0.997	<i>2.48</i>	-2.740	<i>2.47</i>	-0.921	<i>2.44</i>	-0.803	<i>2.41</i>	-0.593	<i>2.42</i>
Time slot #2	3.202	<i>2.36</i>	2.440	<i>2.40</i>	1.771	<i>2.34</i>	2.186	<i>2.26</i>	1.280	<i>2.26</i>	2.758	<i>2.26</i>
Time slot #3	6.340*	<i>3.35</i>	5.575	<i>3.39</i>	4.140	<i>3.29</i>	5.462*	<i>3.19</i>	4.327	<i>3.18</i>	6.103*	<i>3.18</i>
Time slot #4	2.847	<i>3.03</i>	1.867	<i>3.11</i>	0.085	<i>3.06</i>	-0.023	<i>2.94</i>	-1.184	<i>2.93</i>	0.664	<i>2.94</i>
Refereed Sessions	-3.053	<i>2.06</i>	-1.199	<i>2.52</i>	-1.971	<i>2.48</i>	-2.269	<i>2.38</i>	-2.018	<i>2.38</i>	-2.500	<i>2.37</i>
Special Sessions	6.346***	<i>1.48</i>	7.237***	<i>1.86</i>	5.194***	<i>1.95</i>	4.009**	<i>1.90</i>	4.073**	<i>1.91</i>	4.139**	<i>1.89</i>
Young Sessions	-0.645	<i>4.31</i>	1.765	<i>4.74</i>	-0.182	<i>4.67</i>	0.628	<i>4.56</i>	1.655	<i>4.51</i>	1.880	<i>4.55</i>
papers_per_session			1.118	<i>1.64</i>	0.718	<i>1.65</i>	1.000	<i>1.58</i>	0.654	<i>1.58</i>	0.804	<i>1.57</i>
size_s_ta			0.102	<i>0.30</i>	0.009	<i>0.31</i>	-0.003	<i>0.29</i>	-0.086	<i>0.31</i>	-0.098	<i>0.29</i>
size_s_pa			0.339	<i>1.03</i>	0.487	<i>1.04</i>	0.920	<i>1.01</i>	1.680	<i>1.04</i>	1.087	<i>1.00</i>
size_t_ss			1.866*	<i>0.96</i>	2.378**	<i>0.98</i>	2.869***	<i>1.03</i>	2.905***	<i>1.02</i>	2.519**	<i>1.04</i>
size_t_pp			-0.372*	<i>0.22</i>	-0.470**	<i>0.22</i>	-0.594**	<i>0.23</i>	-0.605***	<i>0.23</i>	-0.524**	<i>0.23</i>
age					-0.611***	<i>0.21</i>	-0.505**	<i>0.20</i>	-0.547***	<i>0.20</i>	-0.488**	<i>0.20</i>
women					-2.181	<i>4.40</i>	0.741	<i>4.33</i>	-0.593	<i>4.30</i>	0.964	<i>4.39</i>
Europe					9.622	<i>6.27</i>	8.447	<i>6.02</i>	7.492	<i>5.95</i>	7.627	<i>5.97</i>
professionals					-2.834	<i>5.87</i>	1.145	<i>5.72</i>	1.678	<i>5.67</i>	2.778	<i>5.71</i>
full_pr					15.095***	<i>5.70</i>	10.331*	<i>5.61</i>	9.736*	<i>5.52</i>	8.472	<i>5.61</i>
h_av_pa							0.449	<i>0.28</i>	1.211***	<i>0.42</i>	-0.144	<i>0.55</i>
h_av_ta							0.296	<i>0.30</i>	-0.073	<i>0.52</i>	1.793**	<i>0.77</i>
h_chair							-0.094	<i>0.12</i>	-0.024	<i>0.12</i>	-0.006	<i>0.13</i>
h_max_pa									-0.388**	<i>0.17</i>		
h_max_ta									0.122	<i>0.10</i>		
h_av_pa^2											0.032	<i>0.02</i>
h_av_ta^2											-0.099**	<i>0.05</i>
Constant	11.451***	<i>3.11</i>	2.399	<i>5.69</i>	19.073	<i>11.74</i>	9.469	<i>11.55</i>	11.777	<i>11.41</i>	7.724	<i>11.46</i>
Observations	134		134		134		134		134		134	
R-squared	0.266		0.301		0.381		0.449		0.477		0.471	
Adj. R-squared	0.219		0.225		0.284		0.346		0.368		0.361	

Note: *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1. Standard errors in italics

Interestingly, these simple models are able to reproduce up to 69% of the variance for the full sample (136 sessions) and 47% of the variance for the restricted sample (134 sessions).

The most important variables by far are those related to the quality of the presenters. This is, of course, to be expected: at a conference: the supply of sessions is considerable and time is limited. Consequently, delegates choose to attend the sessions that potentially offer the highest return in terms of scientific quality. There are two indications of such quality at the ERSA conferences. First, papers presented at Refereed Sessions have passed a review process by the Scientific Committee, while those presented at Special Sessions have been reviewed by the specially nominated Convenors. And second, an author's reputation in his or her line of research counts for a great deal. Our findings show that reputation is at least as important (if not more) than the formal indications of quality.

6. Conclusions

This paper has presented the state of the art of Regional Science by analysing contributions made at the 51st ERSA Conference held in Barcelona in 2011. The main findings can be summarised as follows:

1. The thematic areas attracting greatest attention are, by some distance, *Regional economic growth and development* followed by *Innovation, knowledge, economy and regional development* and the topics discussed within the *1st European Meeting of the Urban Economics Association*. By contrast, a number of other themes included in the program attract little attention.
2. The attendance of female and young delegates at the conference is high and on the increase.
3. The European conference is attended principally by European delegates; however, a sizeable number (10% of the 952 registered delegates) come from outside Europe.
4. The attendance of professionals in the field of Regional Science is significant, but remains relatively low (11%).
5. Co-authorship is gaining in importance.

6. Authors presenting papers at the Special and Refereed Sessions have higher bibliometric indices, their papers display a higher quality and a higher degree of homogeneity than is the case of papers presented at Ordinary Sessions. However, only the Special Sessions attract significantly higher attendance.
7. Non-presenting authors have higher h-indices than those of the presenting authors. This might reflect the two-paper per author maximum imposed at the ERSA conference or, alternatively, it might be indicative of the fact that younger or less experienced academics consider ERSA a good occasion on which to present their work.
8. Both the delegates and those chairing the sessions reported significantly high levels of satisfaction with the sessions and the conference in general. The homogeneity of the sessions is an important concern for delegates while the Special Sessions help ensure a high degree of homogeneity.
9. The conference schedule seems to be influential in determining which sessions delegates attend: the time slot immediately following lunch being the most popular.
10. Quality matters but an author's reputation is more important than any formal recognition granted (refereed versus ordinary sessions).

In short, the ERSA conference is a massive meeting in Regional Science, at which young academics and professionals enjoy the opportunity to present their research and discuss it with leaders in the field. Moreover, the conference organises an excellent range of sessions delivered by top academics, making it the ideal setting for networking.

How then might ERSA improve the quality of its conference? Table 20 shows the delegates' responses recorded in the ERSA satisfaction survey. Most respondents called for fewer parallel sessions and for more time to be dedicated to each paper. Arguably, these suggestions run contrary to the event's current strengths. ERSA conferences seek to be comprehensive, all-embracing occasions, promoting regional science among young academics and professionals, from developing countries, and covering a wide range of themes and points of view. In short, the ERSA conference is an event at which everyone in the field has an opportunity to meet and talk together. The quality of sessions in this multidisciplinary science are apparent in the rejection rate (around 5%) and the session types: thus, Ordinary Sessions allow researchers to get feed-back on

their work in progress; Refereed Sessions are for finished studies that have been reviewed by the Scientific Committee and which dispose of more time for in-depth discussion and comments from colleagues; and, Special Sessions are for papers reviewed by the session convenors and which function as a specialist workshop within the framework of the broader conference and ensure that the presenter finds the right audience among what is a large multidisciplinary gathering.

Table 20. How can we improve the quality of the conference papers selected?

	1	2	3	4	5	Total	1+2	1+2+3
Fewer parallel sessions	136	61	104	39	30	370	53.2%	81%
More time set aside for discussion in each session	75	93	104	83	18	373	45.0%	73%
Improve the quality of international representation in each session	42	64	110	90	33	339	31.3%	64%
Add new session formats including the participation of other thematic areas such as urban planning, public administration	38	60	95	81	58	332	29.5%	58%
Increase the number of exhibitors	14	27	70	92	46	249	16.5%	45%

Source: ERSA satisfaction survey. 1 = Strongly agree, 3 = Agree, 5 = Totally disagree.

Thus, the delegates are in favour of maintaining the comprehensive nature of the ERSA conference but would like to see an improvement in the means of signalling the formal recognition afforded higher quality papers. This might be achieved by better publicity for session types and, more importantly, by introducing a formal policy regarding the work of the Scientific Committee at the conference. All such steps would improve the quality of the papers delivered in the Refereed Sessions and, consequently, boost attendance.

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2006

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2007

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2009

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XREAP2009-10

Solé-Auró, A. (RFA-IREA), **Guillén, M.** (RFA-IREA), **Crimmins, E. M.**

“Health care utilization among immigrants and native-born populations in 11 European countries. Results from the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe”

(Octubre 2009)

XREAP2009-11

Segarra, A. (GRIT), **Teruel, M.** (GRIT)

“Small firms, growth and financial constraints”

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XREAP2009-12

Matas, A. (GEAP), **Raymond, J.Ll.** (GEAP), **Ruiz, A.** (GEAP)

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XREAP2009-13

Sole-Ollé, A. (IEB)

“Inter-regional redistribution through infrastructure investment: tactical or programmatic?”

(Novembre 2009)

XREAP2009-14

Del Barrio-Castro, T., **García-Quevedo, J.** (IEB)

“The determinants of university patenting: Do incentives matter?”

(Novembre 2009)

XREAP2009-15

Ramos, R. (AQR-IREA), **Suriñach, J.** (AQR-IREA), **Artís, M.** (AQR-IREA)

“Human capital spillovers, productivity and regional convergence in Spain”

(Novembre 2009)

XREAP2009-16

Álvarez-Albelo, C. D. (CREB), **Hernández-Martín, R.**

“The commons and anti-commons problems in the tourism economy”

(Desembre 2009)



2010

XREAP2010-01

García-López, M. A. (GEAP)

“The Accessibility City. When Transport Infrastructure Matters in Urban Spatial Structure”

(Febrer 2010)

XREAP2010-02

García-Quevedo, J. (IEB), **Mas-Verdú, F.** (IEB), **Polo-Otero, J.** (IEB)

“Which firms want PhDs? The effect of the university-industry relationship on the PhD labour market”

(Març 2010)

XREAP2010-03

Pitt, D., Guillén, M. (RFA-IREA)

“An introduction to parametric and non-parametric models for bivariate positive insurance claim severity distributions”

(Març 2010)

XREAP2010-04

Bermúdez, Ll. (RFA-IREA), **Karlis, D.**

“Modelling dependence in a ratemaking procedure with multivariate Poisson regression models”

(Abril 2010)

XREAP2010-05

Di Paolo, A. (IEB)

“Parental education and family characteristics: educational opportunities across cohorts in Italy and Spain”

(Maig 2010)

XREAP2010-06

Simón, H. (IEB), **Ramos, R.** (AQR-IREA), **Sanromá, E.** (IEB)

“Movilidad ocupacional de los inmigrantes en una economía de bajas cualificaciones. El caso de España”

(Juny 2010)

XREAP2010-07

Di Paolo, A. (GEAP & IEB), **Raymond, J. Ll.** (GEAP & IEB)

“Language knowledge and earnings in Catalonia”

(Juliol 2010)

XREAP2010-08

Bolancé, C. (RFA-IREA), **Alemany, R.** (RFA-IREA), **Guillén, M.** (RFA-IREA)

“Prediction of the economic cost of individual long-term care in the Spanish population”

(Setembre 2010)

XREAP2010-09

Di Paolo, A. (GEAP & IEB)

“Knowledge of catalan, public/private sector choice and earnings: Evidence from a double sample selection model”

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XREAP2010-10

Coad, A., Segarra, A. (GRIT), Teruel, M. (GRIT)
“Like milk or wine: Does firm performance improve with age?”
(Setembre 2010)

XREAP2010-11

Di Paolo, A. (GEAP & IEB), Raymond, J. Ll. (GEAP & IEB), Calero, J. (IEB)
“Exploring educational mobility in Europe”
(Octubre 2010)

XREAP2010-12

Borrell, A. (GiM-IREA), Fernández-Villadangos, L. (GiM-IREA)
“Clustering or scattering: the underlying reason for regulating distance among retail outlets”
(Desembre 2010)

XREAP2010-13

Di Paolo, A. (GEAP & IEB)
“School composition effects in Spain”
(Desembre 2010)

XREAP2010-14

Fageda, X. (GiM-IREA), Flores-Fillol, R.
“Technology, Business Models and Network Structure in the Airline Industry”
(Desembre 2010)

XREAP2010-15

Albalade, D. (GiM-IREA), Bel, G. (GiM-IREA), Fageda, X. (GiM-IREA)
“Is it Redistribution or Centralization? On the Determinants of Government Investment in Infrastructure”
(Desembre 2010)

XREAP2010-16

Oppedisano, V., Turati, G.
“What are the causes of educational inequalities and of their evolution over time in Europe? Evidence from PISA”
(Desembre 2010)

XREAP2010-17

Canova, L., Vaglio, A.
“Why do educated mothers matter? A model of parental help”
(Desembre 2010)



2011

XREAP2011-01

Fageda, X. (GiM-IREA), **Perdiguero, J.** (GiM-IREA)

“An empirical analysis of a merger between a network and low-cost airlines”

(Maig 2011)

XREAP2011-02

Moreno-Torres, I. (ACCO, CRES & GiM-IREA)

“What if there was a stronger pharmaceutical price competition in Spain? When regulation has a similar effect to collusion”

(Maig 2011)

XREAP2011-03

Miguélez, E. (AQR-IREA); **Gómez-Miguélez, I.**

“Singling out individual inventors from patent data”

(Maig 2011)

XREAP2011-04

Moreno-Torres, I. (ACCO, CRES & GiM-IREA)

“Generic drugs in Spain: price competition vs. moral hazard”

(Maig 2011)

XREAP2011-05

Nieto, S. (AQR-IREA), **Ramos, R.** (AQR-IREA)

“¿Afecta la sobreeducación de los padres al rendimiento académico de sus hijos?”

(Maig 2011)

XREAP2011-06

Pitt, D., Guillén, M. (RFA-IREA), **Bolancé, C.** (RFA-IREA)

“Estimation of Parametric and Nonparametric Models for Univariate Claim Severity Distributions - an approach using R”

(Juny 2011)

XREAP2011-07

Guillén, M. (RFA-IREA), **Comas-Herrera, A.**

“How much risk is mitigated by LTC Insurance? A case study of the public system in Spain”

(Juny 2011)

XREAP2011-08

Ayuso, M. (RFA-IREA), **Guillén, M.** (RFA-IREA), **Bolancé, C.** (RFA-IREA)

“Loss risk through fraud in car insurance”

(Juny 2011)

XREAP2011-09

Duch-Brown, N. (IEB), **García-Quevedo, J.** (IEB), **Montolio, D.** (IEB)

“The link between public support and private R&D effort: What is the optimal subsidy?”

(Juny 2011)



XREAP2011-10

Bermúdez, Ll. (RFA-IREA), **Karlis, D.**

“Mixture of bivariate Poisson regression models with an application to insurance”
(Juliol 2011)

XREAP2011-11

Varela-Irimia, X-L. (GRIT)

“Age effects, unobserved characteristics and hedonic price indexes: The Spanish car market in the 1990s”
(Agost 2011)

XREAP2011-12

Bermúdez, Ll. (RFA-IREA), **Ferri, A.** (RFA-IREA), **Guillén, M.** (RFA-IREA)

“A correlation sensitivity analysis of non-life underwriting risk in solvency capital requirement estimation”
(Setembre 2011)

XREAP2011-13

Guillén, M. (RFA-IREA), **Pérez-Marín, A.** (RFA-IREA), **Alcañiz, M.** (RFA-IREA)

“A logistic regression approach to estimating customer profit loss due to lapses in insurance”
(Octubre 2011)

XREAP2011-14

Jiménez, J. L., Perdiguero, J. (GiM-IREA), **García, C.**

“Evaluation of subsidies programs to sell green cars: Impact on prices, quantities and efficiency”
(Octubre 2011)

XREAP2011-15

Arespa, M. (CREB)

“A New Open Economy Macroeconomic Model with Endogenous Portfolio Diversification and Firms Entry”
(Octubre 2011)

XREAP2011-16

Matas, A. (GEAP), **Raymond, J. L.** (GEAP), **Roig, J.L.** (GEAP)

“The impact of agglomeration effects and accessibility on wages”
(Novembre 2011)

XREAP2011-17

Segarra, A. (GRIT)

“R&D cooperation between Spanish firms and scientific partners: what is the role of tertiary education?”
(Novembre 2011)

XREAP2011-18

García-Pérez, J. I.; Hidalgo-Hidalgo, M.; Robles-Zurita, J. A.

“Does grade retention affect achievement? Some evidence from PISA”
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