Executive Update

ATTENTION EU MEMBERS OF iHEA!

Opting-in is Good for your Health (Economics)
If you live in an EU country, you must opt-in to continue to receive newsletters and announcements from iHEA. This also applies if you have not provided information on your country of residence. You must urgently login to your membership account and opt-in with your email preferences. Details on doing this can be found below.

The EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will come into effect on Friday May 25, 2018. Having access to a global network of professional health economists who share their science, job openings, grant offerings, and news makes you a better health economist. Protect the benefits of your membership.

Decision-making around Congresses

For each iHEA congress, one of the plenary speakers is proposed by the Local Organizing Committee and the other is selected by the Board. There are many ways to select a plenary speaker. This year the iHEA board first nominated a roster of 14 potential speakers for the 2019 iHEA congress in Basel, then went through two sequential online ranking exercises. We are delighted that both the Local Organizing Committee's proposed speaker and the Board's first choice speaker have agreed to make plenary presentations at the 2019 congress.

An intensive process is also undertaken to select the location of future iHEA congresses. After issuing a public call for proposals, seven excellent proposals to host the 2021 iHEA congress were received from countries in five of the six world regions. The Board carefully assessed each proposal in relation to several key considerations, including:

- Geographic region – priority given to regions that have not previously hosted an iHEA congress
• Local organising team – inclusion of local health economics researchers; experience of hosting large events
• Venues – sufficiently large venues to host all delegates for plenary, refreshments, lunches and social events (at least 1,000 delegates)
• Location of nearest airport and range of international flights into airport
• Delegate accommodation options, particularly sufficient lower cost accommodation in close proximity to the proposed congress venue
• Affordable cost to delegates from different parts of the world (particularly airfares and accommodation)
• Risk factors, including visa requirements, political stability, delegate security and other considerations which could affect iHEA members’ willingness to attend congress
• Potential for country-level financial support for congress

iHEA is delighted to announce that the 2021 Congress will be the first to be held in Africa. We would like to thank all those who submitted expressions of interest in hosting this congress; your efforts in preparing such a strong set of proposals is appreciated … and made the decision-making process a challenging one.

- David Bishai, iHEA President

iHEA Congress News

2019 Congress Plenary Speakers

iHEA is delighted to announce the plenary speakers for the 2019 Congress in Basel.

Janet Currie is the Henry Putnam Professor of Economics and Public Affairs at Princeton University and the Director of Princeton's Center for Health and Wellbeing. She also co-directs the Program on Families and Children at the National Bureau of Economic Research. She has served as the Vice President of the American Economics Association and is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and of the American Academy of Art and Sciences, and a fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Science and of the Econometric Society. Dr. Currie pioneered the economic analysis of child development in the early 90s and established the central role of childhood health for human capital and inequality. Her current research focuses on socioeconomic differences in health and access to health care, environmental threats to health, and the important role of mental health.
Raj Chetty is Professor of Economics at Stanford University and Co-Director of the Public Economics group at the National Bureau of Economic Research. He was the 2013 recipient of the John Bates Clark Medal, given by the American Economic Association to the best American economist under age 40. His research combines empirical evidence and theory to inform the design of more effective government policies and currently focuses on equality of opportunity: how can we give children from disadvantaged backgrounds better chances of succeeding? His selection as a plenary speaker reflects an enduring interest of health economists in understanding the determinants and manifestations of inequality. Chetty’s meticulous empirical work has underscored the multi-dimensional perpetuation of spatial inequalities in Rawlsian primary goods like schooling, economic opportunity, and health. These issues are universal and timely. The more our profession understands inequality, the more we can move our societies towards justice.

2021 Congress Location

iHEA is pleased to announce that Cape Town has been selected as the location for the 2021 congress. The Health Economics Unit (HEU) of the University of Cape Town will host the congress, with the local organizing committee being led by A/Prof Susan Cleary (HEU director from 2007-2012), A/Prof Edina Sinanovic (HEU director from 2012-2017) and A/Prof John Ataguba (current HEU director). The HEU is the oldest health economics research centre in Africa. HEU staff contributed to the organization of the successful Global Symposium on Health Systems Research held in Cape Town in 2014, which was attended by over 1,800 delegates from 91 different countries.

The congress will be held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) from July 24-28, 2021.
Special Interest Group for Early Career Researchers Launched

Early career researchers (ECRs) in Health Economics work in a diverse range of institutional contexts and often have very different cultural backgrounds. However, ECRs around the world face similar challenges when it comes to developing their research and administration skills, establishing collaborations and academic networks, teaching and competing for grants. The early stages of a research career are an exciting time during which years of study and training are being put to use, but focusing on the aforementioned tasks simultaneously can be challenging for ECRs.

Currently, nearly a third of IHEA’s members are registered within the student and ECR category. Although the iHEA biennial congress provides an important opportunity for connections to be made amongst junior and senior health economists, there have been very few initiatives within the organization that specifically target and address the core needs of this critical sub-population of the association, either during the biennial congress or in the off-congress years. The iHEA Board recently approved the establishment of an ECR Special Interest Group (SIG), which will lead efforts to address this critical gap.
The aim of the ECR SIG is to promote and foster a global network of ECRs in Health Economics where members exchange ideas, support and advice, with mentoring support from leading experts in the field. Its objectives are to:

1. Identify opportunities for members of the SIG to exchange ideas and give support.
2. Facilitate communication of ECR-SIG members with established senior researchers in the field, or with senior health economists who are active in government institutions or international organizations.
3. Enhance the profile of health economics in various research fields and topics related to policy to increase the demand for ECRs in health economics.

A range of SIG activities are envisaged, including: a moderated blog; a range of webinars that allow for sharing of ideas and experiences among ECRs and the development of specific skills; and dissemination of information on research grant, postdoctoral fellowship and other opportunities.

iHEA members who are PhD students, or scientists who have received their highest degree (MSc, MA or PhD) within the past seven years, are eligible to join the ECR SIG.

ECR SIG conveners
James Buchanan (UK)
Pablo Celhay (Chile)
Giulia Greco (Uganda/UK)
Angela Micah (Ghana)
Thorhildur Olafsdóttir (Iceland)

Regional News

Inaugural Meeting of the Asian Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics – Kyoto, December 2018

We are delighted to announce the launch of the Asian Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics and its Inaugural Meeting, which will take place in Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan, from Sunday, December 9th to Tuesday, December 11th, 2018.

The workshop series is intended to provide a forum for the development and dissemination of applications of econometrics in health economics, with a particular vision to:

1. promote health economics research with an applied microeconomics focus in Asia;
2. strengthen research networking within the region; and
3. strengthen research networking with other regions.

This workshop follows the format of the long-running European Workshops on Econometrics and Health Economics, which was founded by Andrew Jones and Owen O'Donnell in 1992. There are no parallel sessions, sufficient time is allocated to guarantee quality discussion, and all participants stay from the beginning to the end of the program. This workshop series will run annually. The second meeting will take place again in Japan around the same time of the year, and then it will move on to other Asian countries.

The 1st Meeting features an inaugural keynote lecture by Professor Randall Ellis (Boston University). We warmly encourage you to submit your paper at:

where full further details can be found. The deadline for the paper submission is August 21st, 2018. The authors of accepted papers are encouraged to submit to Health Economics. Their papers will be handled by editors who are involved with the Workshops on Econometrics and Health Economics. We are looking forward to welcoming you to Kyoto in December!

Workshop Organizers: Asian Workshop on Econometrics and Health Economics
Sok Chul Hong (Seoul National University, South Korea)
Tarun Jain (Indian School of Business, India)
Meliyanni Johar (National Team for the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction, Indonesia)
Xiaoyan Lei (Peking University, China)
Ming-Jen Lin (National Taiwan University, Taiwan)
Shiko Maruyama (University of Technology Sydney, Australia)
Haruko Noguchi (Waseda University, Japan)
Nada Wasi (Puey Ungphakorn Institute for Economic Research, Bank of Thailand, Thailand)
Joanne Yoong (National University of Singapore, Singapore)

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

In order to continue to receive email communications from iHEA you will need to adjust the email communication preferences in your membership profile. If you do not adjust these preferences and “opt-in” by May 25, we will automatically opt you out. As per GDPR compliance, you will NOT receive any further communications from iHEA if these preferences are not changed by this date.

If you are a current iHEA member, please follow the steps below to adjust your email communication preferences and accept the Privacy Policy:

1. Login to your membership profile on the iHEA website. (If you do not have your login information, please select “forgot password” or reach out to ihea@healtheconomics.org)
2. Select the “My Profile” section on the top header to view your current membership profile.
3. Under “Professional Information” click the edit icon.
4. Under ”Account Information” please select “Manage Email Preferences”.
5. Please check each email category (Congress, General, Newsletter) in which you would like to receive emails (if you would not like to receive any emails, please leave all boxes unchecked or simply disregard the above steps - you will automatically be opted-out).
6. Click “Save Preferences” and exit this box.
7. To accept the Privacy Policy, scroll down to “Additional Information” - you will see a drop down that says “I have read and accept the iHEA Privacy Policy”. Select “Yes”.

Scroll down and select “Save Changes”. Your email communication preferences can be adjusted at any time by logging in to your membership profile and following these steps again.

If you are a non-member who receives our emails, you will not be able to login to the website, so please simply click on the unsubscribe link at the bottom of this email to adjust your communication preferences. If you do not adjust these by May 25, you will no longer receive any communications from iHEA.

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