

Report of the President – August 2020

Per Krusell

EEA Central Office

The EEA continues to be very grateful to Antonio Cabrales who is now serving his 5th year in the role of Executive Vice-President of the EEA - we thank him for his work in undertaking the enormous task. He is assisted by Gemma Prunner-Thomas, who continues to manage the running of the central office.

European Job Market

The EEA launched the European Job Market in Naples in December 2018, and held its second Job Market in Rotterdam in December, 2019. The EJM 2019, which from 2019 is now co-organised with the Royal Economic Society (UK) and the Spanish Economic Association (SAE) - saw 185 recruiting teams interview over 950 candidates who signed up to attend the event.

The 2020 European Job Market will be held virtually. All information on the Market, the novel sessions we will be introducing for candidates, and how to register can be found at the EJM website – www.europeanjobmarket.org

Journal of the European Economic Association (JEEA)

JEEA is now in its 18th year of publication and is published six times a year by OUP.

Publishing JEEA remains one of the main activities of the EEA, and JEEA continues to achieve major results in terms of impact factor, profile and the number of submissions received.

In 2020 there have been some new developments at JEEA. Given the large increase in submission numbers, we are publishing 75 articles over the six issues (in 2019 we published 55 articles). We have also launched a new initiative to provide **teaching materials** for papers published in JEEA in 2020 onwards. The idea behind this is to make it easier for other researchers to incorporate our papers into teaching syllabi.

The editorial team underwent a change at the beginning of this year - Guido Lorenzoni joined the editorial board. Claudio Michelacci stepped down after 6 years of service. We thank Claudio for his immense work during his term, and we welcome Guido to the board.

COVID 19 Registry

The JEEA Editorial Board was also instrumental in setting up the COVID-19 Registry in the months of March of April. The initiative was to create a register of projects undertaking such work, whether in Europe or elsewhere, with the goal of making aware and connecting researchers working on similar real-time projects in different countries. The success of the Registry has been

such that it has now been integrated into the [Economics Observatory \(ECO\)](#) website, which is a site set up set up by UK-based economists and funded by the ESRC, to disseminate economics research on all aspects of the COVID pandemic on the economy.

The EEA is extremely grateful to the immense work and dedication of the Editors. We thank all the editors for their hard work and look forward to continued success for JEEA.

Additional information on JEEA will be found in the Report of JEEA Editor.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing Committee on Women in Economics (WinE)

Ingela Alger, Chair of WinE, alongside her co-Chair of the WinE Retreat, Maria Guadalupe, run the eight WinE Retreat, its first virtual one, just before EEA Virtual 2020. This Retreat saw 40 mentees join her, Maria and 8 other mentors. I thank Ingela, Maria and all the mentors who gave up their time to take part in the Retreat, and I offer my congratulations to all involved for another extremely successful Retreat. Details of the Retreat are published on the WinE section on EEA homepage.

Furthermore, last year, the WinE Committee initiated a very large data collection on gender balance in EU research institutions. The objective of this is to monitor the status of women in the profession in Europe and undertake information collection. A website that stores all the information of gender in economics departments in the EU was launched around May - <https://www.women-economics.com>. We hope that it will help any department to benchmark on its gender balance in comparison with other departments in the EU of similar size and performance. We thank Guido Friebel (WinE Committee members), and his Research Assistant, Sascha Wilhelm, for the huge amount of work they have done on this data project.

My thanks also go to all the WinE Committee members for their work done over the past 12 months, which includes the continual support of the very large data collection on gender balance in EU research institutions - <https://www.women-economics.com> - and the establishing of a [WinE Bibliography](#), which collects research on women in economics.

Standing Committee on Economic Education

During EEA Virtual 2020, the Committee, chaired by Alvin Birdi – organized a workshop looking at teaching online and what we had learnt from the Covid-19 natural experiment and what we wanted to retain for the long-term. The session was recorded and is available on our virtual congress platform – www.eeavirtual.org. We thank, Alvin, and his fellow Committee member, Cloda Jenkins, for organizing the session.

We look also look forward to learning what plans the Committee has over the coming months and will let our members know via our newsletters.

Standing Committee on Research in Economics

The Standing Committee on Research continues to be chaired by Estelle Cantillon (ULB). The agenda of the Committee is twofold: First, to continue the Association's effort to encourage and support researchers to apply for an ERC grant. Second, to build on COEURE's recommendations to work towards making Europe a data research power-house.

During EEA Virtual, the Committee organised for the third consecutive year a highly successful virtual workshop on data, and a panel and mentoring hour on applying for ERC grants.

Standing Committee on Minorities

I am very happy to inform our members that Jan Eeckhout recently agreed to set up and chair a Committee on minorities. The members of this new formed Committee are Massimo Morelli, Bocconi, Ghazala Azmat, Sciences Po, Vincent Sterk, UCL, and Tim Lee, Queen Mary. There are a number of issues related to minorities – there is a feeling that the profession should take action and we feel that the EEA is ideally suited to take the lead. We will inform our members, in upcoming newsletters of the work and initiatives of these Committees.

JEEA-FBBVA Lecture at ASSA Meeting

The BBVA Foundation continues to sponsor a lecture at the annual meeting of the American Economic Association. This lecture is intended to increase the visibility of the JEEA, and the EEA in general, in the US. Ulrike Malmendier gave the 2020 lecture. Monika Piazzesi will give the 2021 JEEA-FBBVA lecture at the ASSA virtual meetings in January.

Young Economist Award

The 5th edition of the EEA Young Economist Award, sponsored by UniCredit Foundation, given to the 3 best papers presented by young economists (no more than 3 years past a PhD defence) was awarded at the EEA Virtual. I would like to thank the Award Committee, Vasco M. Carvalho, Katrine V. Løken and Giacomo Ponzetto, and the UniCredit Foundation for their support of this Award. I congratulate the recipients – Mishel Ghassibe, Alistair Macaulay and Arianna Ornaghi (and her co-author Nicola Mastrococco).

Nominations for EEA Officer Election

Nominations for election to the offices of the association have been made, and candidates have been selected. On behalf of the association I would like to thank the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Rachel Griffith, and the other committee members. Online elections for officers begin in late September and take place for a month.

EEA members can nominate suitable candidates (or self-nominate) for EEA officer elections through admin@eeassoc.org. The EEA central office will pass all nominations on to the EEA Nominating Committee Chair.

EEA Virtual 2020

EEA Virtual 2020 was a completely live event on a very large scale. We decided not to scale back the congress when we decided not to cancel the congress way back in April. We invited our speakers and all of our members to accompany us on this journey of embracing virtual meetings. The challenge was accepted, and it was accepted in droves - over 1800 economists signed up. The feedback has been excellent - participants embraced the spirit of the congress, shared research, chatted and networked virtually. We have seen that fully live virtual congresses can work, and they can work very well. We have understood that we now have other opportunities to organise more virtual events and put researchers, who for many reasons would not meet in person, in touch with each other, and we are excited about the role of the EEA in fostering closer links between students and more senior economists, in future virtual events.

EEA –ESEM 2021

We are planning for an “in-person” congress in 2021, which will be held from Monday, August 22 to Friday, August 26, in Copenhagen. Due to the COVID-19 challenges, we have decided that the default mode of organisation will be not to offer any social events. We hope that as we go into 2021, the situation will change and we go return to the “traditional” EEA-ESEM style of congress, where a lot of networking can take place.

The EEA, and the EEA President of 2021, Silvana Tenreyro, very much looks forward to welcoming you there.

Details will be available from the beginning of November on the EEA-ESEM website – www.eea-esem-congresses.org

Additional information on the activities of the EEA and the activities of the standing committees is available on the EEA website.