

**Western Regional Science Association 55th Annual Meeting
Hilton Waikoloa Village, The Big Island of Hawai'i February 14–17, 2016**



Conference Overview¹

The 55th annual meeting was all a multi-conference on regional development could hope for: great sessions, friendly and hospitable local inhabitants of these exotic islands, beautiful beaches with palm trees, warm and sunny weather, excellent conference company from well known academic institutions and great local food choices.

The main topics discussed included: Transportation Alternatives, All About Cities, Geography of Human Capital, Gone Fishing, Infrastructure and Resources, Trade and Development, Migration, Remote Regions: Sources of Population Change, Housing and Urban Planning, Going Green, Transportation, Land Use, and the Built Environment, Industry and Economic Development, Mobility: City Mouse, Country Mouse, The Urban Environment, Remote Regions: Improving Benefits from Resource Development in the North - ReSDA I, Climate Change, Climate Policy, Valuing Residential Land, Firms and Economic Evolution, Trade and Investment, Methods and Measurements, Employment and Labor Force Participation, Urban and Regional Change, Remote Regions: Improving Benefits from Resource Development in the North - ReSDA II, Geography of Economic Activity, Cities, Neighborhoods, and Interaction, Regions and Development, Defining Growth and Success, Demography Matters, Governance, Culture and Development, Location in Space: Applications, Policy, Place, and the Environment, Entrepreneurship, Regional Science Academy, Graduate Migration, The Quantified City, Dealing With Disasters, Regional Fiscal Issues.

The conference was a great success.

The participants exceeded 1500 which originated from over 40 countries (China, Saudi Arabia , UAE, Korea, Japan, USA, Mexico, Sweden , Norway , The Netherlands ,Poland, Switzerland, France, United Kingdom, Austria , Spain, Italy , Hong Kong ,Australia, etc ,to name a few.) Well reputed and published University professors, researchers and experts contributed to some of the more innovative current trends in regional development as it is practiced around the world. The social program of the conference was also outstanding, it included visits to local attractions –and well publicized points of interest.

¹ Conference overview by Dr. Richard-Nicolas Lacroix