

Welcome by RSAI President

Representing our community, the Regional Science Association International (RSAI), I would like to welcome you all to the 9th World Congress in Timisoara, Romania, next May.

As you may know, RSAI is now basically composed of three super-regions, European Regional Science Association (ERSA), Pacific Regional Science Conference Organization (PRSCO), and RSAmericas (North American Regional Science Council and Latin American Sections). They each had their own backgrounds at the time of founding, have encouraged mutual exchange under the umbrella of RSAI, and have evolved in different manners by holding international meetings of RSAI every year for more than a half century. On the other hand, the World Congress, which was initiated in 1980, is truly an RSAI international meeting in the sense that it has traditionally fulfilled multilateral functions of the RSAI community as a whole. RSAI should still develop into the countries where official RSAI Sections are not yet established. This is one of major reasons why the RSAI Council Board is mainly composed of delegates from the three super-regions and the RSAI Council discusses about various matters from not only local/domestic/superregional views but also international and global views of our community.

Since 2008, our friends lead by Prof. Daniela Constantine, President of the Romanian Regional Science Association, which is an active section of ERSA and RSAI building bridges to the Eastern and Middle Europe, have unselfishly contributed for successful organization of the Congress. Romanian friends are so enthusiastic to welcome all of you and your family in Timisoara. It is a most beautiful city in any sense and people living there have progressive and enterprise spirit. You may enjoy not only academic activities scheduled in the Meeting but also historical and cultural exchange among your friends from all over the world.

The next world Congress is a good opportunity for us to understand and realize that we are parts of RSAI in every sense. I would cordially request you all active participation in the Congress.

I am looking forward to seeing you soon in Timisoara.

Yoshiro Higano, President of RSAI