

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing this letter to invite you to participate in the WEA International's **88th Annual Conference**, to be held at the Grand Hyatt Seattle, Washington, June 28-July 2, 2013.

Please consult the WEA website (www.weai.org) for details and deadlines. If, HOWEVER, you plan to participate in this conference *and if your paper is applied in nature (especially if there is a strong policy implication)*, may I suggest that you consider participating in our **Applied Policy Studies (APS)** sessions? Being part of the APS sessions has several advantages. First, it is listed as an invited/organized session. The paper submission fee is waived, and all participants in our sessions pay the member registration fee (\$250), regardless of whether you are a member (a potential saving of \$75), students register at \$150. And eligible for a waiver of submission fees if submitted to *Contemporary Economic Policy* or *Economic Inquiry* within 6 months of the conference.

If you are affiliated with an Institution member, you get a 20% discount. There are other benefits also. It may be worthwhile to get your University/Institution to join the WEA as an Institution member.

The APS sessions will cover almost all aspects of economics. The papers should have significant policy implications or applied in nature.

If you are interested, please e-mail me (jack.hou@csulb.edu) the following:

1. Name and affiliation;
2. Address, phone/fax, e-mail;
3. Title of the Paper (including 3 sets of JEL classification codes);
4. Brief abstract (no more than 350 words);
5. Areas willing to serve as Discussant (JEL codes would help).
6. Preference on Date/Time (e.g., 7/1, late AM **Be as flexible as possible please**)

I would also like to ask you to serve as a discussant, so as to share your expertise and enhance the exchange of ideas. I will try my best to assign you to papers consistent with your interest. This will be done after the preliminary sessions are completed, and I will e-mail you for your preference.

I would like to set the deadline for 1/11/2013 (Friday). If you are interested in organizing a complete session (with chair/presenters/discussant), may I have the full session setup sheet by 2/22/13? And, if you need any assistant, please don't hesitate to let me know.

If you have already submitted a proposal to the WEA, but would like to (instead) be in one of the CEP sessions, just let me know and I will ask the WEA to transfer you to me. If you have not sent anything to the WEA, then simply send your information to me, and NOT to the WEA (to avoid double-counting).

For those of you who attended the 87th conference in San Francisco, thanks for your support and hope you enjoyed it. Seattle is a wonderful city and June/July is the best season to visit. The Grand Hyatt Seattle is Located in the heart of Seattle's thriving retail and theater district. The Grand Hyatt Seattle is steps from Pike's Place Market, Seattle Waterfront and the Space Needle.

Again, thanks for your support. Best wishes,



Jack W. Hou

Coordinator of APS sessions