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**From the President**

Lutgarda L. Tolentino  
ARSA President and Chair of the Council, 2014-2018  
lutgardatolentino@gmail.com

Greetings from the ARSA President, 2014-2018! Let us be thankful for 2016 and welcome 2017 with open minds and hearts as we start to prepare for our 6th ARSA International Conference to be held in Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia in August 2018. Our theme for the next conference is “Building Sustainable Food Systems in Asia: Multiple Rural-Urban Linkages in a Globalizing World”. In June 2017 Newsletter, I will try to elaborate the domains of food systems. But for the time being, a food systems theme encompasses how food is produced, how it is packaged and processed, how it is distributed and retailed, and how it is consumed. These interlinked activities produce social, environmental and ethical outcomes, as well as food and nutrition security. Since most members of ARSA are scholars of rural studies, the papers that will be generated by our incoming 6th International Conference will deepen our understanding of food systems particularly for Asia.

During the ARSA Mid-Term Council Meeting held in Hasanuddin University last September 17-19, 2016, we decided to support the establishment of Journal Asian Rural Studies (JARS) by Hasanuddin University. It is our quasi-official journal. Our main role here is for selected ARSA members to serve as journal’s editorial board. This kind of arrangement with Hasanuddin University is beneficial for both organizations. On our part, we will have a quasi-journal with almost no cost at all except for the time to be expended by some of us who will become members of Editorial Board.
On the part of Hasanuddin University, it is assured of potential paper contributions coming from ARSA membership and services of Editorial Board. The maiden issue of JARS will be coming out in January 2017.

During the last ARSA’s Council Meeting, we decided to propose to the General Assembly the formalization of two types of membership to our organization; the institutional and individual memberships. We have thought about this to simplify the categories of our membership and we have already proven through time that ARSA is a living organization as evidenced by its ability to conduct a regular international conference every four years, its publication of international conference proceedings, conduct of mid-term Council meeting, membership to IRSA’s Council and other activities.

As 2017 proceeds, I will give you more updates of our activities and accomplishments as an organization. Once again, I look forward serving you until 2018.

LUTGARDA L. TOLENTINO, PhD
President and Chair of the Council, 2014-2018.
Retired Associate Professor, University of the Philippines Los Banos, and Incoming Honorary Associate Professor (2017-2019), School of Social Science, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia.

My experience with ARSA and my best wishes
Guoqing Li, Institute of Urban and Environmental Studies, CASS, China

I started council member of the ARSA council from July 2002 in the mid-term council meeting in Nagoya University, 14 years ago. The meeting was hosted by dear Prof. Atsushi Kitahara. I’m very thankful for the invitation from Prof. Kitahara because no Chinese scholar participated ARSA activities until then. I still remember that I presented a paper titled "Problems of Farmers, Rural Society, and Agriculture in the 21st century China: With Special Reference to the WTO Membership.

Two years after, the 2nd International Conference of the Asian Rural Sociology Association was hold in Mataram University, Lombok island, Indonesia, March 27, 2004. The chair of the conference was Prof. Sayuti, vice victor of Mataram University. I presented my paper titled "Transformation of Chinese Rural Society in the 1990’s: Resurgence and overall privatization reform of the village collective enterprises". However, I want to emphasize that one important decision was made at this meeting, that is the 3rd conference will be hold in China in 2007.

In order to prepare the 3rd conference, President Surichai organized the Symposium of the Asian Rural
Sociology Association and its Mid-term Council Meeting at the Center for Social Development Studies at Faculty of Political Sciences, Chulalongkorn University, July 28-29, 2006. Prof. Surichai applied for Japan Foundation for the conference support successfully. Prof. Surichai and his colleague, Prof. Kuroyanagi visited Beijing to arrange the program and venue before the conference and we worked together very happy.

The 3rd International Conference was hold in Sanhe City, Heibei Provence during August 8-10, 2007 successfully. The topic of the 3rd conference was Globalization, Competitiveness and Human Insecurity. More than 100 Chinese rural scholar and 100 rural researchers from Asian area participated the 3re conference. Prof. Lu xueyi, the president of Chinese Rural Sociology Association delivered a speech. Unfortunately he passed away in 2013. Prof. Li Peilin, the current vice president of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences(CASS) invited 5 directors from CASS to made key speech at meeting.

The 3rd conference was the main Chinese Contribution for ARSA. But I have to appreciate a lot of friends from other countries. Firstly, Professor Meizen Takahashi, the Honorary Professor of Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology initiated donation from Japan Sociology Society to raise 1 million Yun to support China. It was very important support for the conference. When we publish the presentations of the Conference as a E-book by Social Sciences Academic Audio-Visual and Electronic Press in 2008, Prof. Hiroyuki Torigoe, the founder of ARSA and the current President of Otemae University also called financial support from Japan. The hard copy of the E-book was published in Thailand latter by Prof. Surichai WunGaeo, Prof. Haruo Kuroyanagi and me.

I appreciate ARSA very much because I studied a lot, not only Rural Sociology but also Asian culture as well as English. My family also got chances to visited Thailand, Philippines and Laos with me and we love these countries so much. I attended the X World Congress of Rural Sociology, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2000 as well as the XI World Congress of Rural Sociology in Trondheim, Norway, 2004 which was sponsored by dear Professor Meizen Takahashi.

I attended the mid-term Council meeting of ARSA from September 17 to 20 2016 at the Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Sulawesi island, Indonesia. Dr. Yang Huan, the representative of Prof. Deng Dacai, the Chinese new council member from the Central China Normal University also joined the conference. I do hope more and more Chinese rural researcher join ARSA with their excellent effort.

Although my council member’s term has finished, as the editorial board member of Journal of Asian Rural Studies, I would like to continue to contribute to ARSA.

I wish the conference in 2018 a complete success!

Guoqing Li, Ph.D.
ARSA Council Member 2002-2016
Pre-Announcement of 6th ARSA Conference in 2018

1. Venue of the 6th Conference:
Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia
Hasanuddin University Rector, Prof Dwia Aries Tina, officially endorsed and granted permission for holding the Conference at the university. Professor Saleh Ali and Muhammad Arsyad, Ph.D. (Department of Agricultural Socio-economics) was appointed to Chair and Co-Chair of the Local Organizing Committee.

2. Conference Schedule:
August 27 - 30, 2018

3. Main Theme:
"Building Sustainable Food Systems in Asia: Multiple Rural-Urban Linkages in a Globalizing World"

4. Deadlines (provisional):
* Call for sessions/panels: August 1, 2017
* Deadline of sessions/panels proposal: September 1, 2017
* Call for abstract: October 1, 2017
* Deadline of abstract submission: November 15, 2017
* Notification of acceptance of abstract: January 15, 2018
* Deadline of submission of full paper: March 15, 2018
* Revision and resubmission of full paper: July 15, 2018
* Acceptance of paper: August 15, 2018

5. Two types of proceedings (proposed)
a. Abstract proceedings only of accepted papers/posters
b. SCOPUS indexed proceedings of full papers that have passed the scrutiny of Editorial Board (with additional payment)

5. Membership fee (proposed)
Membership fee system was proposed to support daily expense of the Association such as maintaining website. Membership fee can be collected by embedding it into the registration fee of international conference participants. The following fee system was proposed depending on country category.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Membership fee</th>
<th>Student membership fee (1/2 of Full membership)</th>
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<td>US$30/20/10</td>
<td>$15/10/5</td>
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Further details of the ARSA Conference will be posted on the conference website later.
NEW JOURNAL: Journal of Asian Rural Studies (JARS)

Journal of Asian Rural Studies (J. Asian Rural Stud. - J ARS) is a peer-reviewed journal published by Hasanuddin University (UNHAS) in collaboration with Asian Rural Sociology Association (ARSA) twice a year in January and July.

This journal is an international, academic, citation indexed and blind peer reviewed which covers original research articles, short notes and communications, reviews (including book), concepts, commentaries, and letters on a diverse topic related to rural studies in Asia.

The aim of this journal is to provide a venue for academicians, researchers and practitioners to share/discuss theories, views, research results, on issues related to social, economics, culture, communication, technology, ecology, administration and power relation in rural of Asia.

For further details:  http://pasca.unhas.ac.id/ojs/index.php/jars/index

Minutes of the ARSA Mid-term Council Meeting

Date: 17-18 September, 2016
Venue: Makassar, Indonesia
Attendance: Lutgarda Tolentino, Motoki Akitsu, M. Saleh Ali, Li Guoqing, Oakla Cho, Chul-Kyoo Kim, Dexanourath Seneduangdeth, Huan Yang, Muhammad Arsyad, Masashi Tachikawa

Matters discussed

A. 6th ARSA International Conference

1. Venue of the 6th Conference:
   Hasanuddin University, Makassar, Indonesia

2. Conference Schedule:
   August 27-30, 2018

3. Main Theme:
   "Building Sustainable Food Systems in Asia: Multiple Rural-Urban Linkages in a Globalizing World"

4. Deadlines for Calls (provisional):
   * Call for sessions/panels: August, 2017
   * Deadline of abstract submission: November, 2017
   * Notification of acceptance of abstract: January 2018
   * Deadline of submission of full paper: March 2018
   * Revision and resubmission of full paper: July 2018
   * Acceptance of paper: August 2018

5. Two types of proceedings (proposed)
   a. Abstract proceedings only of accepted papers/posters
   b. SCOPUS indexed proceedings of full papers that have passed the scrutiny of Editorial Board
B. ARSA Organization

1. Amendment of ARSA Constitution
The ARSA Council discussed to amend ARSA’s Constitution and By-Laws on membership and agreed to propose such to the General Assembly Meeting to be held during the 6th ARSA International Conference. The Council thought that there should only be two types of membership to ARSA. These are the institutional and individual memberships. There are two types of institutional membership such as regional organizations (e.g., Japan, Korea) and academic institutions. Individual memberships can be full memberships and student memberships. The Council further thought of removing “quasi-membership” as one type of ARSA’s membership.

2. Membership fee system was proposed to support daily expense of the Association such as maintaining website. Membership fee can be collected by embedding it into the registration fee of international conference participants. The following fee system was proposed depending on country category.
# Full membership fee: US$30/20/10
# Student membership fee (1/2 of Full membership): US$15/10/5

3. Succession of Council Members
* Dr. Li Guoqing is succeeded by Prof Deng Dacai (Central China Normal University)
* Dr. Oakla Cho is succeeded by Prof Chul-Kyoo Kim (Korea University)

4. IRSA Council Membership
Dr. Lutgarda Tolentino: Vice President of the IRSA (reappointed)
Dr. Motoki Akitsu, Council Member
Dr. Saleh Ali, Council Member

5. MOU with Hasanuddin University
Through the ARSA Council, ARSA signed an MOU with Hasanuddin University for collaborative work on education, research and journal publication between the ARSA and the Hasanuddin University. Agreed by the Council with minor modification based on the understanding that activities related to the cooperative work with academic institute is already codified in the Constitution.

4. Other Business
* Launching a new journal by the Hasanuddin University
Prof Saleh Ali explained their plan to launch a new journal called *Journal of Asian Rural Studies (JARS)* during the Council meeting. Council agreed to support the editorial activities related to the journal. Further details will be discussed later related to editorial board, ARSA’s official recognition etc.

C. Adjournment
Constitution of the ARSA

Name & Mission

The name of the organization is the Asian Rural Sociology Association (ARSA).

The mission of the ARSA is to cultivate the development of the science of rural sociology, to extend the possible application of results of scientific inquiry to the improvement of the quality of rural life, and to exchange and generate meaningful scientific founding for the rural development in Asia. As a non-profit organization, ARSA strives for scientific and educational purposes only.

Structure

The organization consists of General Assembly, and Council.

General Assembly

The general assembly will be held approximately every four years, preferably in conjunction with Asian Rural Sociology Association Conference. The General Assembly may be held by the request of the Council.

Council

The Council will be composed of one representative of each country. The term of elected membership on the council shall not exceed for one conference periods, normally four years. The council shall be convened by the President. The council members will be elected by each country’s members. The council can include non-voting members such
as a secretariat to support the President and advisors to run the council smoothly. The main responsibility of the Council is the functioning of the organization. All decisions of the Council will be made by majority of the votes cast.

Membership

Membership of ARSA is open to any individual and organizations wanting to promote the objectives of the organization and paying the relevant fees.

There are four categories of membership:

* Sponsoring institutional or organizational membership is open to regional rural sociology organizations.

* Full membership has rights to participate in the general assembly, to vote, to submit articles, and to receive all newsletters and publication.

* Quasi-membership has same rights except right to vote.

* Student-membership is the same as quasi-membership but only receive newsletters. This membership is only applicable to graduate and university students.

* Membership fee depends on country’s economic status and be changeable with approval by council.

First group - Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore
Second group - China, Thailand, Malaysia,
Indonesia
Third group - other countries

Voting

All decisions needed for votes shall be taken by a simple majority rule. The place, date, and other administrative decisions for conference and general assembly can be decided by the council for management convenience.

Finance

The Association shall be financed by: member subscriptions, sale of the association publications, donations, and other research projects funds. The Council Committee shall decide reimbursement for any reasonable expenses incurred by any member who carry out work for the Association. Administrative work and management of financing will be mainly carried out by the secretariat with the control of council members.

By-Laws and Regulations

Any issues and subjects needed for detailed rules will be set forth by by-laws and regulations. Those will be decided by the Council.

Supplementary Provision
1. This constitution shall come into effect as from March 27, 2004.
2. Amendment made on September 3, 2014

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<th>Officer</th>
<th>Organizational Affiliation</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Lutgarda L. Tolentino</td>
<td>Retired Associate Professor, University of the Philippines</td>
<td>Philippine</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lutgardatolentino@gmail.com">lutgardatolentino@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
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<td>Kyoto University</td>
<td>Japan</td>
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<td>Council</td>
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<td>Chulalongkorn University</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
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**From the Secretary**

**About the electric Mailing List of the ARSA:**
- Currently I am preparing for an e-list where you can post information which could be shared among the members of the ARSA.

If you have any questions, comments and suggestions, please send an e-mail to the secretary: masashi.tachikawa.3@vc.ibaraki.ac.jp

Rural Asian Perspective is published regularly by the Asian Rural Sociology Association (ARSA). For further information, contact:

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