

**Minutes of the
SIXTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
of the
REGIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION
(Company no. 4116288 Charity no. 1084165)
on
Wednesday 12th November 2025 at 4 pm GMT
at The Cumberland Hotel, Great Cumberland Place, Marble Arch, London, W1H 7DL,
and online using Zoom software**

Attendances:

Online: Pedro Amaral, John Bachtler, Christiane Gebhardt, Konstantin Gluschenko, Efthymios Spyridon Georgiou, Lavanya Gupta, Teodor Gyelnik, John Harrison, Jake Murdoch, Martin Maris Davide Luca Parrilli, Verena Radinger-Per, Simon Sanchez-Moral, Olga Shevchenko, Franziska Sohns

In person: Sarah Ayres (Chair), Ron Boschma, Ignazio Cabras, Jennifer Clark, Dmitri Corpakis, Marcin Dabrowski, Ugo Fratesi, Mia Gray, John Harrison, Simona Iammarino, Louise Kempton, Grzegorz Rzeznik, Zack Taylor, Viktor Varju

Attended by: Alan Kinder, Marcus Atkinson, Alex Holmes, Tom Merriweather and Samantha Wannop

Apologies: Grate Gansauer, Karen Lai, Luis Yi Lui

Sarah Ayres welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that the meeting was hybrid. She explained that all attendees were invited to vote on the following items on the agenda.

1. Minutes of the RSA Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 6th November 2024

The meeting agreed that the minutes were an accurate record and were signed and dated by the Chair.

2. To receive the report of the Board and the Statement of Accounts 2024

The meeting accepted the Report of the Trustees and the Statement of Accounts for 2024, which was noted to have been fully independently audited, agreed by Board members and lodged in accordance with the regulations with both the Charity Commission and Companies House in the UK.

3. To appoint and fix remuneration for an auditor for 2025

The meeting agreed to the delegation of the RSA Chief Executive and Treasurer of the appointment and remuneration for the auditor for 2025, currently Kreston Reeves.

4. To elect new members to the Board and to accept resignations, retirements and co-options if any

It was noted that an email carrying the standard call for nominations of potential new Trustees was sent to the RSA membership in September 2025.

The AGM was invited to note the retirement of Simona Iammarino as Trustee and Chair of the RSA Journals Committee.

Thanks were noted to Simona Iammarino for her service on the Board and her assistance and dedication to the Association in complex and at times challenging roles, which were performed with great skill and commitment.

One nomination was received from the membership, and approval for one new Trustee appointment was sought from the AGM.

The AGM approved the appointment of Grete Gansauer as a new Trustee for a 3-year term.

Nomination was received from the membership for the re-appointment of Marcin Dabrowski (Chair of the Territorial Networks) as an RSA Trustee.

At this point, Marcin Dabrowski was asked to leave the room for a short time.

The AGM approved the reappointment of Marcin Dabrowski as Trustee for a 3-year term.

At this point, Marcin Dabrowski returned to the room.

Thanks were noted for his commitment and hard work.

It was noted that the following people remained in post from previous years and have experienced no change of role during their term.

- Jennifer Clark - Editor in Chief, Regional Studies (from July 2023), Nov 2026
- Ron Boschma – Vice Chair and Chair Research Committee (from Nov 2015), Nov 2027
- Mia Gray – Vice Chair, Staffing Committee Chair. Board Secretary. Communication and Public Engagement Prizes and Awards (from Nov 2015), Nov 2027
- Ida Musialkowska – Vice Chair, EU/Regional Policy (from Nov 2023), Nov 2027
- Louise Kempton – Chair, Policy Committee Partnership and Cooperative-Working (from Nov 2024), Nov 2027
- John Harrison – Conference and Events Coordinator (from Nov 2020), Nov 2026
- Stefania Fiorentino – member without portfolio (from Nov 2024), Nov 2027
- Ignazio Cabras, Treasurer of the RSA (from June 2025), Nov 2028

Thanks were noted for their continuing work.

Sarah Ayres reported that the RSA governing documents allow for the appointment by the Board of additional co-opted members and the Board must report these appointments to the AGM.

The AGM was invited to note the following appointments as approved by the Board to continue as Co-optees:

- Ugo Fratesi to continue as Co-optee Editor-in-Chief, Spatial Economic Analysis
- Weidong Liu to continue as a Co-optee Editor, Area Development and Policy
- Mark Scott to continue as Co-optee Publications Committee Chair
- Zack Taylor to continue as Co-optee Editor-in-Chief, Territory, Politics, Governance
- Stephen Ramos, to continue as Co-optee Series Editor, Regions & Cities Book Series
- Luis Lui, to continue as Co-optee Editor-in-Chief, Regional Studies, Regional Science
- Lavanya Gupta, to continue as Co-optee Editor, RSA Blog

Resignation

The AGM was invited to note the following resignation from the RSA Board.

- Karen Lai, Observer Representative Editor, Finance and Space

Thanks were noted to Karen Lai for her service on the Board and assistance and dedication to the Association in a complex and at times challenging role, which was performed with great skill and commitment.

The AGM was invited to note a new appointment to succeed Karen Lai as Observer Representative Editor, Finance and Space

- David Bassens

The AGM was invited to note the following appointments as approved by the Board to continue as Observers:

- Shenjing He, Observer, Representative of Area, Development and Policy
- Kerstin Schaefer, Observer, Early Career Representative

Sarah Ayres confirmed that, as a result of the election of two Trustees (Grete Gansauer and Marcin Dabrowski), the RSA Board consists of 12 Trustees and 7 Co-optees.

1. To confer the title of RSA President to Heike Mayer's successor, Amy Glasmeier (from 2026)

The AGM noted the appointment of Amy Glasmeier as President of the Regional Studies Association from March 2026.

5. To agree authorisation of the Chief Executive and the Finance Manager with regard to financial institutions

The meeting agreed to authorise the Chief Executive and the Finance Manager to action and implement all requirements of any financial institutions with whom the Association has accounts.

6. Any other items for discussion but not decision

The Chair thanked the RSA staff team for their work during the year and Board members for their hard work, time and devotion to the Association.

The meeting was formally ended.