

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing this letter to invite you to participate in the WEA International's 2011 Conferences. There will be TWO meetings in 2011:

9th Biennial Pacific Rim Conference, April 26-29, 2011, hosted by the Queensland University of technology (QUT) in beautiful Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

86th Annual Conference, to be held at the beautiful San Diego Marriott Hotel & Marina, San Diego, CA 92101 (June 29-July 3, 2011).

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 has policy implications*, may I suggest that you consider participating in the *Contemporary Economic Policy* (CEP) sessions? For those of you that are familiar with the WEA know that CEP is one of the two professional publications of the Association (the other is the *Economic Inquiry*).

As usual, I will be organizing many of the CEP sessions. The topics typical cover almost all aspects of economics. The papers should have significant policy implications so as to fit the objective of CEP (Contemporary Economic Policy).

If you are interested, please e-mail (jackhou@csulb.edu) me your

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**)
7. **In the "subject" area, please indicate whether you are interested in the Pacific Rim Conference, the 86th Annual Conference, or BOTH.**

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.

For the **9th Biennial Pacific Rim Conference**, could you send in your material by 12/1. If you are interested in organizing a complete session (with chair/presenters/discussant), may I have the full session setup sheet by 12/31/10? And, if you need any assistant, please don't hesitate to let me know.

For the **86th Annual Conference**, could you send in your material by 1/10/11. If you are interested in organizing a complete session (with chair/presenters/discussant), may I have the full session setup sheet by 1/31/11? And, if you need any assistant, please don't hesitate to let me know.

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.

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 that participated in the 8th Biennial WEA Pacific Rim Conference in Kyoto (2011), the climate will be more moderate. It lacks the history/culture of Kyoto (the largest concentration

of World Heritage sites), but Brisbane more than makes up with its natural beauty (remember, the Gold Coast and the Great barrier Reef is not far away).

For those of you who attended the 85th conference in Portland, thanks for your support and hope you enjoyed it. San Diego is one of the most beautiful cities and the Marriott boasts the best location among downtown hotels. The local attractions are plenty (San Diego Zoo, SeaWorld, to name a few), and is a short trip from Los Angeles.

Again, thanks for your support. Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Hou', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Jack W. Hou

Contemporary Economic Policy
Coeditor and Session Coordinator