

February 2021

Greetings from the [American Committee on Asian Economic Studies](#). After the challenges of 2020, we are hitting a new stride in 2021 and hope the world may follow suit.

This newsletter welcomes new members to our governing bodies; reports on our ASSA session for 2021 and puts out the call for papers for 2022; and provides an update on the Asia Economics Blog.

Additions to Our Governing Bodies. As of 2021, we welcome three new members to our Advisory Council and two to our Executive Board:

[Advisory Council](#)

- Arsenio Balisacan, Chair, Philippine Competition Commission;
- Ayhan Kose, Acting Vice President of Equitable Growth, Finance and Institutions Practice Group, World Bank (moving from our Executive Board);
- Scott Rozelle, Professor, Stanford University and Co-Director of the brand new Stanford Center on China's Economy & Institutions;

[Executive Board](#)

- Nadia Doytch, Associate Professor, City University of New York;
- Monzur Hossain, Research Director, Bangladesh Institute for Development Studies.

We appreciate their endorsement and look forward to their input.

ASSA Sessions. Our 2021 session at the Allied Social Science Association Annual Meeting was on the Economics of Innovation in Asia, program details [here](#). If you missed it live you can catch it on Youtube [here](#).

Our topic for 2022 at the meeting be held in Boston (fingers crossed), 7-9 January, is Pandemic & Recovery in Asia. The deadline for paper proposals is April 30. Preference will be given to more developed work-in-progress. Submissions may be sent to calla.wiemer@acaes.us.

Asia Economics Blog. We launched a new flagship publication in 2020 with the [Asia Economics Blog](#). The blog spans five categories: Current Issues; Research; Reviews; Activities; and Publishing Environment.

Our recent ASSA panel on the Economics of Innovation generated three posts in the Research category and a related post in the Review category:

- Lee, Kang & Park, [Intellectual Property Rights in Economic Development: The Korean Experience](#);
- de Vries & Gentile, [Fabrication vs Knowledge Activities in Global Value Chains: Contributions to Asian Development](#);
- Chen, Luan, He & Park, [The Geography of Innovation in China](#);
- Wiemer, [Review of Keun Lee, The Art of Economic Catch-Up](#).

Our latest post in the Current Issues category jumps off from a webinar on fiscal policy by Olivier Blanchard and Arvind Subramanian to examine fiscal space in Southeast Asian countries:

- Wiemer, ['The New Fiscal Consensus' As Per Blanchard & Subramanian Interpreted for Southeast Asia](#).

Just posted in the Research category is a piece arguing for the urgency of greater integration among ASEAN member states:

- Plummer, Petri & Zhai, [ASEAN and Megaregionalism: Challenges Ahead](#).

The Activities category offers a steady stream of webinar and online conference announcements that remain on the main blog page until the event has passed and may subsequently be accessed through the archive box for potential tracking down of recorded versions.

Finally, the Publishing Environment category contains a number of posts triggered by our loss of the Journal of Asian Economics to a takeover by Elsevier last year beginning with the post that inaugurated the blog which has now garnered more than 2800 hits:

- Wiemer, [The State of Journal Publishing: Elsevier vs Academics](#).

Submissions are welcome! The blog is getting good traffic and we need a continuing flow of content.

Best wishes for good physical, emotional, and economic health in 2021.

Calla Wiemer

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Moderator, [Asia Economics Blog](#)

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