

**Tourism & Leisure Choices in Regional Science
(Special Session in North American Meetings of the Regional
Science Association International RSAI 2024)**

New Orleans, LA – November 12-15, 2024

Call for papers

As part of the Annual Meetings of 2024 North American Regional Science Council (NARSC) in New Orleans, LA from November 12 to 15, 2024, we would like to invite you to special session(s) for "Tourism & Leisure Choices in Regional Science" in the Era of Global Uncertainty" that Nectar clusters 5 and 6 are organizing jointly with the NARSC and RSAI.

The website for submission is now open in the User Area of NARSC website (<https://www.narsc.org/newsite/userarea/UserArea.php>). Short abstracts as well as full papers (also in draft format) will be accepted for the Special Session.

During your submission, do not forget to add that your paper is submitted for the **Tourism & Leisure Choices in Regional Science**. The deadline for the submission of abstracts is now August 1st 2024.

Please, also send a copy of the submission to Jaewon Lim, University of Nevada Las Vegas, jaewon.lim@unlv.edu, and Karima Kourtit, Open University of the Netherlands, k_kourtit@hotmail.com.

Main topic

Christaller (1964) was probably one of the first regional scientists who analysed, after the conference held in Lund during 1963, the patterns on geographical location of tourist activity. Christaller found that "It is typical for places of tourism to be on the periphery. In this way, regions economically benefit from factors which cannot be utilized otherwise: high mountain chains, barren, rocky landscapes, heather, unproductive dunes." (p.86). Since then, the tourism industry has changed dramatically. It is not so much the activity to move away from each other but instead to be with each other visiting their places and new places, also being involved with tourists in our own places because the we, and the places we live, are nice. That is why regional science – the study of human interaction within space with sound methods – has a say that can change the scientific perspectives on tourism that often miss space and the relation with each other. Regional Science as a discipline needs to analyse multiple strategies, policies and trends that are critical for tourist destinations that aspire to position and to consolidate their image in the world-wide network of tourist destinations at different geographical levels, urban or rural, within a framework of tough global competition. However, as world is currently experiencing, the unexpected events including but not limited to pandemic contagious diseases, regional political instabilities, safety issues with terrorist attacks, make the future of tourism uncertain. Due to the increasing concerns for mobility across space with the growing global uncertainty, tourism activities are expected to get downward pressure, while the increasing demand for various types of experience in tourism destinations may boost the worldwide growth of tourism in the future.

For this reason, potential topics discussed at the Special Session include:

- How can tourism studies benefit from Regional Science?
- Tourism Safety Issues in Uncertain Era
- Tourism Resilience & Sustainability
- Detourism/Detourification
- Overtourism and Local Quality of Life
- Quantitative methods of Regional Science applied to Tourism
- Pandemic Diseases and Tourism Industry
- Consumer Behavior & Tourism Analysis
- From Well-Being and Happiness of tourists to Quality of Life of host residents
- New Directions and Paradigms in Regional Science applied to Tourism
- From Decision Making to Travel Behavior
- Regional Science and Hospitality Research. The notion of industrial clusters
- Tourism Infrastructure. Natural and Cultural Endowments
- Tourism Flows. Place, Time and Activities
- National and Regional Tourism and Travel Competitiveness
- Tourism Trends. Climate Change and Sustainable Tourism
- Tourism Demand: Demographic, Behavioral and Social Changes

The abstracts/papers will be reviewed by the Organizing Committee and the notification of paper acceptance will be distributed by September 10, 2020.

Organizing committee. For more information or questions please contact Jaewon Lim, University of Nevada Las Vegas (jaewon.lim@unlv.edu), Karima Kourtit (k_kourtit@hotmail.com), and Peter Nijkamp (pnijkamp@hotmail.com).

Co-organized by

Tourist Safety Institute

UNLV GREENSPUN COLLEGE
OF URBAN AFFAIRS

and

The Regional Science Academy



The UNLV Tourist Safety Institute (TSI) is housed in the UNLV Greenspun College of Urban Affairs. The institute develops community resilience solutions and policies that enhance the safety and well-being of Nevada's tourists, citizens, and the tourism industry. Research projects will be conducted in partnership with industry professionals to further foster organizational and community coordination to support secure and safe tourist locations. For further information see: <https://www.unlv.edu/urbanaffairs/tsi>

The Regional Science Academy (TRSA) is an independent and balanced 'flat' network of recognised, dedicated and active scholars in the spatial sciences. For further information see: <https://www.facebook.com/regionalscienceacademy/>