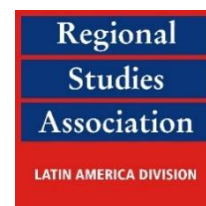


**Call for Abstracts and
Call for Early Career Plenary Speaker**

Regional Studies Association – Latin America Division Conference 2019
(#RSALatinAmerica)



Institutions, Governance and Regional Development: Rethinking Local Economic Development from the Peripheries

30th September – 1st October 2019, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia

Extended abstract submission deadline: 25th June 2019

Much of our understanding of local economic development is based on large urban agglomerations as nodes of innovation and competitive advantage that connect territories to global value chains. This framework not only over-represents the urban and regional dynamics of cities of the global North, it also fails to address the challenges of smaller cities and peripheral regions in both the North and the South. These cities and regions can be following different development trajectories and modes of insertion to the global economy while still subject to the forces of globalisation, financialisation and planetary urbanisation that affect large urban agglomerations. This can be seen not only as a worrying gap in the literature, but also as a problem for practitioners in small and intermediate cities. Theories and policies that seek to support the ascent of global city-regions, such as export zones, high-tech clusters, and business and talent attraction strategies do not transfer well to the economic development reality of smaller cities and peripheral regions. This is where planners are striving to diversify their economic base in the face of youth migration to large urban centres, to improve public-private synergies in the context of low levels of trust or to manage the environmental consequences of extractive industries.

The 2019 RSA Latin American Division Conference in Bogotá will focus on understanding the formal and informal institutional processes through which local economic development occurs. It will have a particular emphasis on peripheral regions and small and medium-sized cities, both in the global North and the South, as well as on how the relationship between areas with large agglomerations, both domestic and globally, affect their opportunities for development. Despite decades of local and regional development policies and planning, uneven development and inter-regional differences continue to persist between large urban agglomerations and peripheral regions. We seek papers that explore new and interdisciplinary theoretical and methodological approaches in regional studies to better capture the potential of institutions in local economic development, particularly when institutions are from the peripheries of local economic development debates. In this context, it is also crucial to understand how extractive economies, racial and patriarchal logics, infrastructure development or the increasing financialisation of the economy are affecting the local economic development possibilities of peripheral regions and cities around the globe.

Conference themes:

Institutions and Local Economic Development	Universities and Regional Development
Uneven Development Dynamics in Peripheral Regions	Extractivism, Biodiversity and Local Economic Development
Rural-urban Linkages	Place-leadership and Territorial Development
Urban and Regional Politics and Governance	Infrastructure and Regional Development
Innovation and Cluster Policies in Peripheral Regions	Global Value Chains and Global Production Networks
Creative Districts and Displacement	Post-Development and Post-Colonial Approaches to Local Economic Development
Decentralisation and Urban and Regional Planning	Class, Race, Gender and Local Economic Development
Place-based and Place-sensitive Policies	

The conference will have sessions in English, Spanish and Portuguese, and we welcome abstracts in these three languages.

Submission Details: Please submit your abstract (up to 250 words and text only) through the RSA conference portal at <https://www.regionalstudies.org/events/2019latinamericadivision/>. Abstracts will be considered and reviewed by the Conference's Committee against the criteria of originality, interest, subject balance and geographical spread. We also welcome Special Session submissions. Please see the separate Call for Special Sessions and email your proposal to Katharina Bürger, katharina.buerger@regionalstudies.org.

Abstract submission deadline is 25th June 2019.

Academic organisers:

Sergio Montero (Universidad de los Andes, Colombia)

Miguel Atienza (Universidad Católica del Norte, Chile)

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More information at <https://www.regionalstudies.org/events/2019latinamericadivision/>