

# **THE SABE NEWSLETTER**

## **THE SOCIETY FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS**

### **Statement of Purpose**

SABE is an association of scholars who are committed to rigorous economic analysis and are interested in learning how other disciplines – for example, psychology, sociology, anthropology, history, political science, and biology - further our understanding of economic behavior. An important function of SABE is to serve as a forum for research which may not find either comprehension or acceptance in conventional economics societies. SABE also aims at facilitating communication between economists and scholars trained in related disciplines. Website: [www.sabeonline.org](http://www.sabeonline.org)

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Vol. 19, No. 2

Fall 2012

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## **From the President's Chair**

As most of you know, in July SABE had its annual conference in Granada, Spain. The conference program included four excellent keynote speakers, James Andreoni, Jordi Brandts, Rosemarie Nagel and Oscar Volij. I want to thank them for coming to the conference and sharing with us the interesting research they are doing. The conference was held in the nice Abades Nevada Palace Hotel, and the fact that sessions and accommodation were at the same place helped to create many opportunities for discussions – over the excellent meals provided but also at other times. We also enjoyed a lovely dinner in a restaurant with a beautiful view, and an interesting tour of the Alhambra palace. On behalf of SABE I want to thank the local committee and the scientific and program committees, and especially Natalia Jimenez who chaired the local committee, and Pablo Brañas-Garza and Nikolaos Georgantzís who proposed the idea to organize the conference over two years ago and continued to devote much time and energy to its organization later on. The efforts of them and the others on the team made this excellent and enjoyable conference possible. On the first day of the conference Alexis Belianin organized a Ph.D. workshop that was also successful and I want to thank him and the senior faculty who volunteered to help Ph.D. students in the workshop.

It was great to experience another SABE conference that was successful in attracting both young and senior people and in providing opportunities to hear about research of others, to share ideas, and to get to know others. I look forward to the SABE-IAREP-ICABEEP 2013 conference in Atlanta, organized by Shabnam Mousavi and Reza Kheirandish, and to the SABE 2014 conference organized by Mark Pingle in Nevada. I hope to see many of you in these two conferences.

After the conference my term as SABE President has started. I am honored to serve as SABE President and I want to encourage you to share with me ideas you have about how to improve SABE and whether it should do additional things to what it currently does in order to promote the field of behavioral economics. I want to thank Louis Levy-Garboua for his time and effort serving as SABE President over the past two years.

Yours,  
Ofer Azar  
SABE President

**Atlanta SABE/IAREP/ICABEEP Conference July 2013**  
**Bringing Economics and Psychology together in the Wake of the Financial Crisis**  
**Atlanta, July 25-29, 2013**

In the wake of the financial crisis, economists who've been calling bubbles wish they knew a bit more of people's psychology; psychologists are eager to fine-tune and make adoptable economists' tools of analysis; in business schools treating risk have always involved a mix of econ-psych with variable proportions ... Today many of us have the same goal. We want to generate knowledge for the *good society* to avoid another crisis... We aspire to define finance as the *stewardship of society's assets*... What can we learn from each other? Join us to explore...

*Keynote Speaker:* **James Buchanan, Nobel Laureate**

Tea Party Logic: Behavioral Sources of Fiscal Tragedy

*Kahneman Lecturer:* **David Laibson- Harvard University**

How to Design a Commitment Contract

*Simon Lecturer:* **Amnon Rapoport- University of Arizona**

Behavioral Traffic Flow in Congestible Networks

*Distinguished Speakers:*

**Jim Cox- Georgia State University**

Theory and Experiment for Homo Reciprocans

**Glenn Harrison- Georgia State University**

Behavioral Econometrics: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly

**Coming up:** call for papers on [www.sabeonline.org](http://www.sabeonline.org)

The conference website is:

<http://www.clayton.edu/2013-sabe-iarep-icabeep-conference>

Contact Program Chairs for more information:

Shabnam Mousavi ([shabnam@jhu.edu](mailto:shabnam@jhu.edu))

Reza Kheirandish ([rkheiran@clayton.edu](mailto:rkheiran@clayton.edu))

## **Reno-Tahoe: SABE Conference 2014**

Plan to attend SABE 2014, which will be held in the Reno-Tahoe area. Lake Tahoe, which is on the border of Nevada and California, is the number one outdoor tourist destination in the world. So, if you have not yet visited the area, attending the conference may provide a significant non-professional benefit. However, the conference promises to be professionally valuable also. Stay informed as plans for SABE 2014 at Reno-Tahoe develop.

Mark Pingle

Note from the Editor: We had a tremendous SABE conference at Reno-Tahoe in 2003 - very well organized by Mark Pingle and his colleagues – and I am sure the 2014 conference will also be well worth attending.

### **ICABEEP (The International Confederation for the Advancement of Behavioral Economics and Economic Psychology) news**

On behalf of the ICABEEP Executive Committee, I am happy to report about IAREP-SABE-ICABEEP sponsored activities. The sponsorship of these activities was possible due to the decision of IAREP and SABE to allocate money for such joint activities. The successful joint workshops that were organized and those that are planned indicate that the cooperation between IAREP and SABE is fruitful and helps to encourage workshops in economic psychology, behavioral economics, and related fields.

On July 2-6, 2012, a summer school on theories in environmental and economic psychology was held in Aarhus, Denmark, organized by John Thøgersen. On October 5, 2012, the workshop “Ambiguity in the Economy and in Economics” took place in Nijmegen, The Netherlands, organized by Esther-Mirjam Sent, Utz Weitzel, Eelke de Jong, Floris Heukelom, Kim Fairley and Jana Vyrastekova.

Later this month (November 22-24, 2012), the international scientific conference “Economic psychology in the modern world” will be held in Moscow, Organized by Alexander Lebedev, Alla Kupreichenko, Vladimir Poznyakov and Elena Tougareva.

Following the decision of SABE (in July 2012) and IAREP (in September 2012) to provide funding again for joint IAREP-SABE-ICABEEP activities (3000 Euros from SABE and 3000 Euros from IAREP), the ICABEEP Executive Committee issued a call for proposals. Four excellent proposals were received and the committee decided to fund all four. By doing so the annual budget of 6000 Euros was exhausted, and therefore the next call for proposals is not expected before the SABE-IAREP-ICABEEP Atlanta conference in July 2013, where I hope that the General Assemblies of SABE and IAREP will again dedicate some funding to joint activities.

The four proposals that we decided to fund are the following:

1. Bay Area Behavioral Economics Workshop, a proposal submitted by John Ifcher (Santa Clara University) and Alessandra Cassar (University of San Francisco). The workshop will take place in the Spring of 2013.
2. A workshop of the Behavioral and Experimental Economists of the Mid-Atlantic (BEEMA), a proposal that was submitted by John Smith (Rutgers University-Camden), who also serves as SABE Treasurer. The workshop is planned for the Summer of 2013.

3. A workshop proposed by Christoph Kogler and Eva Hofmann (Faculty of Psychology, University of Vienna) with the title “Shedding light on the shadow of economy: A critical assessments of methods in tax research” (September 26-27, 2013).
4. A workshop proposal submitted by Bernadette Kamleitner and Stephan Dickert (Vienna University of Economics and Business) on “Ownership and Economic Decisions” (September 19-20, 2013).

Of course we also look forward, after having separate conferences in 2012, to the joint IAREP-SABE-ICABEEP conference in Atlanta in July 2013, organized by Shabnam Mousavi and Reza Kheirandish. In 2014 we plan to have separate conferences (IAREP in Paris and SABE in the Reno/Lake Tahoe area), and in 2015 a joint conference is planned again, with a proposal to have it in Romania.

Additional information about ICABEEP activities is posted on [http://www.iarep.org/ICABEEP\\_activities.htm](http://www.iarep.org/ICABEEP_activities.htm) and some other information appears on <http://www.iarep.org/ICABEEP.htm>.

In October 2012 the two-year term of the former ICABEEP Executive Committee has ended. I want to thank the other members who served on this committee (Gerrit Antonides, Vera Rita de Mello Ferreira, Louis Lévy-Garboua, Charlotte Phelps and Gideon Yaniv) for their help in general and in particular in reviewing the proposals we received for joint workshops. The new committee, which was elected by IAREP and SABE and will serve until October 2014, includes Gerrit Antonides, Ewa Gucwa-Lesny, Vera Rita de Mello Ferreira, Charlotte Phelps, Gideon Yaniv and myself.

Ofer Azar  
Chairperson of the ICABEEP Executive Committee

## **Minutes of the Board and Business Meetings SABE Conference Granada, Spain**

The SABE Board Meeting was held on July 13, with the SABE Business Meeting on July 14. These meetings were held during the SABE Conference at Granada, Spain, July 12-15, 2012. Board Members at the Board and Business Meetings included Morris Altman, Gerrit Antonides, Ofer Azar, Simon James, Louis Lévy-Garboua, Charlotte Phelps, John Smith, and John Tomer. Attendees at the SABE Business Meeting included also Alexis Belianin, Pablo Branas-Garza, and Hamid Hosseini. President Louis Lévy-Garboua presided over both meetings. In the absence of SABE Secretary Shabnam Mousavi, unable to attend, minutes were taken by Ofer Azar, President-elect. These minutes reflect a composite of both meetings.

### **Elections**

SABE should have elections to replace board members who were elected in 2008 for four years, and also for President-Elect. A few names were mentioned as possible new candidates for SABE board, including Alexis Belianin who did a great job in organizing a PhD workshop just before the conference in Granada, and Pablo Branas-Garza who was involved in the conference organization. Both were contacted and agreed to present their candidacy.

For President-Elect the board thought that Gerrit Antonides will be an excellent candidate.

### **Treasurer's Report and Financial Matters**

The Treasurer's Report prepared by John Smith was presented. Charlotte Phelps made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Ofer Azar seconded the motion.

### **Future conferences**

#### **SABE-IAREP-ICABEEP conference in Atlanta, 2013**

In 2013 a joint conference is planned in Atlanta, GA (USA), to be organized by Shabnam Mousavi and Reza Kheirandish. Ofer Azar presented a Powerpoint presentation they sent about their plans. The Board approved this plan. A concern about possible hotels in addition to the university accommodation in the Clayton area was raised, with the hope that the conference organizers will help in locating several alternative hotels. Many suggestions for possible keynote speakers were made (and were later conveyed to the conference organizers). An idea to have a PhD Colloquium together with IAREP in the Atlanta conference was proposed.

#### **SABE Conference in Reno, 2014**

The plans are to have a 2014 SABE Conference in Reno (Nevada), organized by Mark Pingle. This will be a SABE only conference, because IAREP plans to have a conference joint with ICAP in Paris in July 2014.

### **Proposals for the future**

There is a proposal of Eugen Iordanescu to organize a joint IAREP-SABE-ICABEEP conference in Romania in 2015.

Morris Altman proposed to organize a conference in Wellington. A comment was made that this will be better as a SABE only conference due to the distant location, and that 2016 seems therefore to be a good year if indeed a conference in Wellington is to be organized.

### **SABE-IAREP-ICABEEP joint Workshops**

Ofer Azar (in his role as ICABEEP Executive Committee Chairperson) presented some information about the joint SABE-IAREP-ICABEEP workshops that have taken place. One workshop, on youth joblessness, received the UK Cabinet Office's attention and the organizers were contacted to discuss their results and to start collaboration on randomized controlled trials in London. The ICABEEP Executive Committee decided to ask again for an annual budget of 6000 Euros (from SABE and IAREP together) to sponsor joint SABE-IAREP-ICABEEP workshops and other activities. The ICABEEP Executive Committee issues a call for proposals and decides how to allocate the funding between the proposals. Morris Altman made a motion to approve a funding of 3000 Euros from SABE to such joint activities over the next year and Charlotte Phelps seconded the motion. The motion was approved (in September 2012 IAREP also approved their contribution of 3000 Euros).

### **SABE session in the ASSA Meetings**

It was suggested that the SABE session in ASSA 2013 Meetings will be in honor of Elinor Ostrom, Nobel Laureate in economics, who passed away recently and whose research (with co-authors) is included in the session. The suggestion was conveyed to Amnon Rapoport, who organizes the session.

Ofer Azar  
SABE President  
November 9, 2012

## **List of Honorable SABE Members**

The SABE Board decided to compile a list of Honorable SABE Members, recognizing the contribution to SABE of various people over the years. The list will be posted on the SABE website.

The criteria for inclusion in the list are the following:

- (1) All those who served as SABE Presidents;
- (2) All those who served as Treasurers, Secretaries, Newsletter Editors, or Website Managers for at least four years; and
- (3) All those who served on SABE Board for at least ten years.

If you satisfy any one of the above conditions, please write to Mark Pingle ([pingle@unr.edu](mailto:pingle@unr.edu)), who volunteered to compile the list. In that case please also provide information if you contributed in one of the following roles:

1. Organizing the annual conference of SABE or SABE/IAREP.
2. Serving as a SABE representative on the ICABEEP Executive Committee.
3. Serving as a Country Representative of SABE.

To make it easy to compile the list with a consistent style, please submit the information, if you satisfy one of the criteria mentioned at the top, in the following form:

Name (President xxxx-xxxx; Secretary xxxx-xxxx; Treasurer xxxx-xxxx; Newsletter Editor xxxx-xxxx; Website Manager xxxx-xxxx; SABE Board xxxx-xxxx; Organizer of the xxxx annual conference; ICABEEP Executive Committee xxxx-xxxx; Country Representative for Country xxxx-xxxx)

Delete the roles that are irrelevant. The xxxx-xxxx stands for the years you served in that position.

Thanks for your cooperation,

Ofer Azar and Mark Pingle

## **The Business and Economic Society International**

During July 6 to 9, 2013, The Business and Economic Society International will hold its conference in Monte Carlo, Monaco. At an after lunch session, John Tomer will give the keynote talk. It is entitled "Economic Decision Making: How Our Brain Works." For more information about this conference, information about the Business and Economic Society International, and how to contact the organizers, go to [www.besiweb.com](http://www.besiweb.com).

## **The Journal of Socio-Economics**

The mission of the Journal of Socio-Economics is to promote interdisciplinary dialogue about economic processes, institutions and policies. The core disciplines of interest to the journal are those belonging to the social sciences. But other sciences and the humanities are relevant and welcome. Biology, history and philosophy are of particular interest. The journal is interested in pure theory, empirical studies, policy analyses and literature reviews. The JSE is a widely distributed, peer reviewed journal with a long historical association with SABE. For further information see:

[http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws\\_home/620175/description#description](http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/620175/description#description)

## **SABE Country Representatives**

Information about events or developments in each country would be very welcome for the next Newsletter.

The current SABE Country Representatives are:

Australia: Gigi (Jennifer) Foster; University of South Australia

Brazil: Flavia Possas and Bruno Vio

Canada: Sonja Novkovic; Saint Mary's University

China: David Ong; Peking University HSBC School of Business; University Town

China: Shirley Wang; School of Economics; Renmin University of China; Beijing

Germany: Christian Cordes; Max Plank Institute

Israel: Ofer Azar; Ben Gurion University of the Negev

Italy: Francesco Scacciati; Univerisita di Torino

Poland : Ewa Gucwa-Lesney; University of Warsaw

Portugal: Francisco Garcia dos Santos

Russia: Alexis Belianen; Higher School of Economics

Taiwan: Shu-Heng Chen

Uruguay: Hugh Schwartz

UK: Simon James

US (Western Region) Homa Zarghamee; Santa Clara University

US (Eastern Region) Bijou Yang Lester; Drexel University

US (Southern Region) Shabnam Mousavi; Georgia State University

US (AAEA-IBES Coordination) Gary Lynne; Univ of Nebraska

Venezuela: Klaus Jaffe; Universidad Simón Bolívar



## **SABE Officers and Board**

Officers: Louis Lévy-Garboua President  
Ofer Azar President-elect  
John Tomer, Executive Director  
John Smith, Treasurer  
Shabnam Mousavi, Secretary  
Simon James, Editor of the Newsletter  
Reza Kheirandish, Webmaster

Members-at-large: Morris Altman  
Gerrit Antonides  
Nathan Berg  
Gary Charness  
Christian Cordes  
Simon Gachter  
Shoshana Grossbard  
Ewa Gucwa-Lesney  
Gary Lynne  
Charlotte Phelps  
Mark Pingle  
Amnon Rappoport  
Jean-Robert Tyran  
Bijou Yang Lester

## **SABE Website**

The SABE website has been overhauled so it can manage the SABE membership, advertise upcoming SABE events, collect SABE annual dues online for those who have not attended a conference during the year, allow those who find the SABE on the web to register their interest, and more.

You can go to <http://sabeonline.org/> to examine the site and upcoming events.

Please add a link to this website on your personal website so the ranking of the SABE site in an internet search will increase.

## **The Newsletter and Mailing List**

If you have a change of email address please let Shabnam Modarres Mousavi know at [smousavi@gsu.edu](mailto:smousavi@gsu.edu).

