

Letter from the Chair



Welcome to the second newsletter of the Comité sobre la Situación de la Mujer en la Economía (COSME) of the Spanish Economic Association, founded to foster and promote the status of women in the economic profession. It is an honor to take over from Sara de la Rica as Chair of this committee during 2014 and 2015. I would like to take this opportunity to anticipate what you will find in this second edition of our newsletter, and to acknowledge the work of those who make it possible for the committee's activities to continue.

In addition to the composition of the current executive committee and a section of announcements and news, the newsletter includes a retrospective report on women's participation in the Symposium of the Spanish Economic Association (SAEe) in the last 14 years by Libertad González, Matilde Machado and Virginia Sánchez . Juanjo Dolado and Florentino Felgueroso have contributed an article on the problems of youth in the Spanish labor market nowadays, with a special emphasis on gender differences. Finally, the newsletter ends with an interview with Lena Edlund, the COSME invited speaker in the 2013 SAEe that would be particularly relevant for economists at the start of their academic career.

I would also like to comment that the activities of the Committee keep going:

1. In May, COSME organizes a workshop with the aim of promoting quality research in the Economics of gender. In May 2015 the workshop will take place in Madrid, at the Ramón Areces Foundation, on the 28th and 29th. It will feature invited presentations from Libertad González and Nezh Guner. In addition, the scientific committee will select eight papers to be presented over a day and a half. These presentations will continue to benefit from the exceptional work done by professional colleagues discussing them. We are sure the discussants in the past have contributed decisively to the growing number of submissions we receive each year.
2. In December, coinciding with the celebration of the SAEe, COSME invites a researcher expert in gender issues to deliver a keynote address. In 2014, our guest speaker will be Michèle Tertilt who will speak on "Female Empowerment and Economic Development". In addition, several sessions of the scientific program of the SAEe receive the additional title of "COSME Session" so that we can visualize the high-level research in Gender Economics. Of course, every paper presented in these sessions follows the same evaluation process than the rest. Finally, also this year COSME offers a free babysitting service for registered participants.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who in the past were part of the Executive Committee of COSME: Manuel Bagües, Miguel Ángel Ballester, Antonio Cabrales, Sara de la Rica and Carmen

Herrero. My gratitude is even greater with those that today continue to work tirelessly to move COSME ahead: Caterina Calsamiglia, Libertad González, Nagore Iriberry, Matilde Machado, Pedro Rey, Virginia Sánchez and Marcos Vera; to which Irma Clots - Figueras and Rosa Ferrer will join from January 2015. I am also very grateful to Juanjo Dolado and Florentino Felgueroso for his terrific contribution to this edition of the newsletter, as well as to Lena Edlund for answering our questions. I would like to give a special recognition to Manuel Arellano, not only for his must-read article in the first newsletter, but also for his invaluable role as mentor. He knows as well as I do that without his encouragement the committee had never been a reality. Finally, COSME is nothing without its members, professional colleagues who receive our messages, follow our activities and support them. To all of you, once again, thank you very much. Now, enjoy reading!

Laura Hospido (COSME Chair 2014-15)