

Online Appendix to “Networks of Historians of Economics: Fifty Years of History of Economics Society Conferences,” by Andrej Svorenčik

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This online appendix provides additional information about the HES conferences and their attendees.

Table A.1 list countries of education with at least four regulars. All degrees, not just PhD, are considered and this table shows the larger variety of educational background of HES regulars.

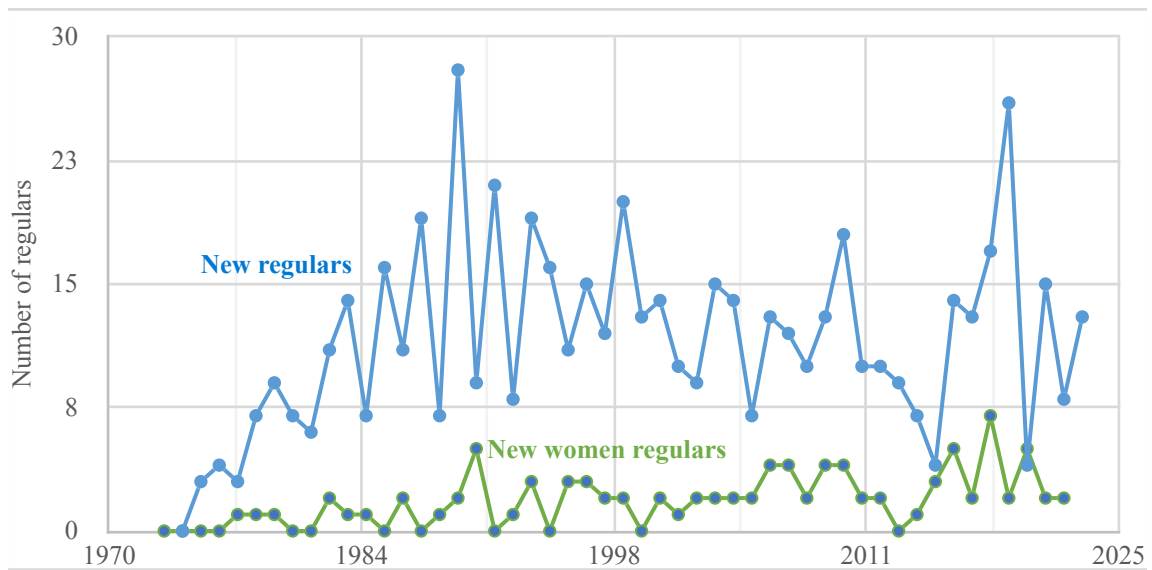
Table A.1: Countries of education

Country	Number of Regulars	Country	Number of Regulars
USA	282	Australia	13
UK	96	Colombia	9
France	78	Switzerland	8
Italy	40	Portugal	7
Canada	35	Spain	6
Germany	29	Belgium	5
The Netherlands	22	Denmark	5
Brazil	21	Austria	5
Japan	14	India	5

Notes: Only countries in which at least 4 HES regulars did their undergraduate or graduate studies are included.

Figure A.1 focuses on the number of attendees who just became new HES regulars, and women new regulars more specifically. Except for 1990, 2015, and 2020, women make a small share of new regulars, and their share has only slightly improved in the past two decades.

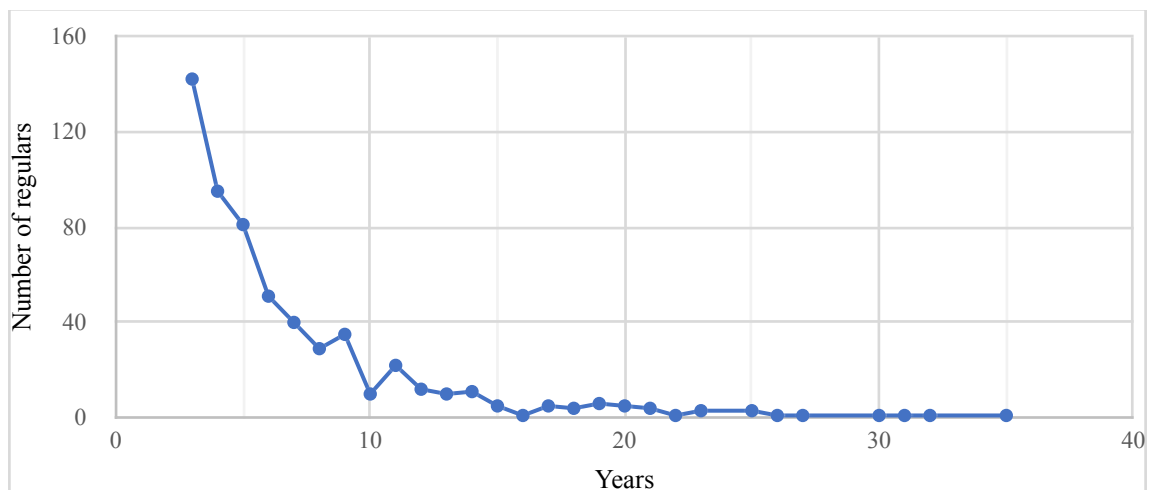
Figure A.1: Number of HES regulars.



Notes: Each year, several conference attendees reach three participations and are labeled as new regulars as they join the set of HES regulars. The lower line refers to women new regulars.

The median length to become a regular is five years. However, for 108 regulars, it took at least ten years to reach this status, with eleven regulars needing at least twenty years and one who took thirty-five years (Figure A.2).

Figure A.2: Years needed to become a regular.



Notes: Histogram of the years needed to become a regular HES attendee.

HES Young Scholars Program

From 2000 until 2023, 240 PhD candidates or early career scholars, within three years of obtaining a PhD, participated in the Samuels Young Scholars Program (YS) program.¹ Put differently, more than 11% of all HES conference attendees, even those before the program's establishment, have been part of the YS program. Table A.2 cross-tabulates the frequency of participation in the YS program and the frequency of attending HES conferences. This comparison reveals several metrics about the YS initiative. First, 39% of young scholars came just once and 24% twice. Second, more than a third of young scholars, 36% or eighty-eight in absolute terms, became HES regulars by 2023.

The ESHET has its young scholar program, but it is far smaller. Only 75 young scholars participated in the ESHET program, while there were 205 young scholars in the HES program. There are the five HES regulars who were ESHET young scholars but were not part of the HES YS program — they either might not have applied or were not selected.

Table A.2: Attendance of HES Young scholars at HES conferences

Frequency of YS participation	Frequency of HES conference participation																	Sum
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	11	12	14	15	16	18	19	20	
1	92	48	24	15	7	2	5	2	2	1	4			2	1	1	1	207
2	2	10	3	6		2		1				1	1					26
3			3		2	1												6
4					1													1
Total number of young scholars	94	58	30	21	10	5	5	3	2	1	4	1	1	2	1	1	1	240

¹ <https://historyofeconomics.org/young-scholars/past-young-scholars/> [Access on December 1, 2023]

Additional information about advisor-advisee networks

Almost 52% of HES regulars, 197 in total, had just one advisor, sixty-three had two advisors, sixty-four had three, forty-two had four, and fourteen had five advisors listed.²

In general, committee members were assigned equal weight unless there was information specifying a primary supervisor or co-supervisors.³ In cases where some committee members were distinguished from others, unequal weights were applied. In a committee of two people, the weights of 0.6 and 0.4 were used. The weights 0.5, 0.3, and 0.2 were used in a three-person committee.⁴ In a committee consisting of four, two situations were observed. First, when two co-advisors were involved, the weights 0.4, 0.4, 0.1, and 0.1 were used, respectively. Second, when one key advisor (chair) was designated, the weights 0.6, 0.15, 0.15, and 0.1 were used. In the rare cases of five committee members, the leading advisor had a weight of 0.6, and the remaining four had an equal weight of 0.1.⁵

According to the intensive supervision measure, only sixty advisors supervised more than one HES regular. The intensive supervision measure of 108 advisors was equal to one, indicating they supervised one person exclusively or more with weights added to one. The remaining 400 advisors had a total intensive supervision measure below one. In terms of the extensive supervision measure, there were 470 advisors involved in supervising one person, sixty-one involved in supervising two people, eighteen in supervising three, and nineteen advisors who supervised four up to ten HES regulars.

² Robert W. Clower presents a particular case as he did postgraduate work at Oxford with a Rhodes scholarship in the 1950s. He failed to receive a PhD and returned to the US, but on re-examination, he was awarded a doctorate from Oxford in 1978 (Snowdon and Vane 1999, 178). Only information about John Hicks as his external examiner is available.

Snowdon, Brian, and Howard R. Vane. 1999. *Conversations with leading economists: interpreting modern macroeconomics*. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Pub.

³ Typically, a title page of a US dissertation contains a list of names of committee members with their signatures, and the chair or co-chairs are specified explicitly or implied when they are not listed in alphabetical order or described as such in the acknowledgment.

⁴ No case of two co-supervisors and one other committee member was observed; as such, a case would have had weights 0.45, 0.45, and 0.1.

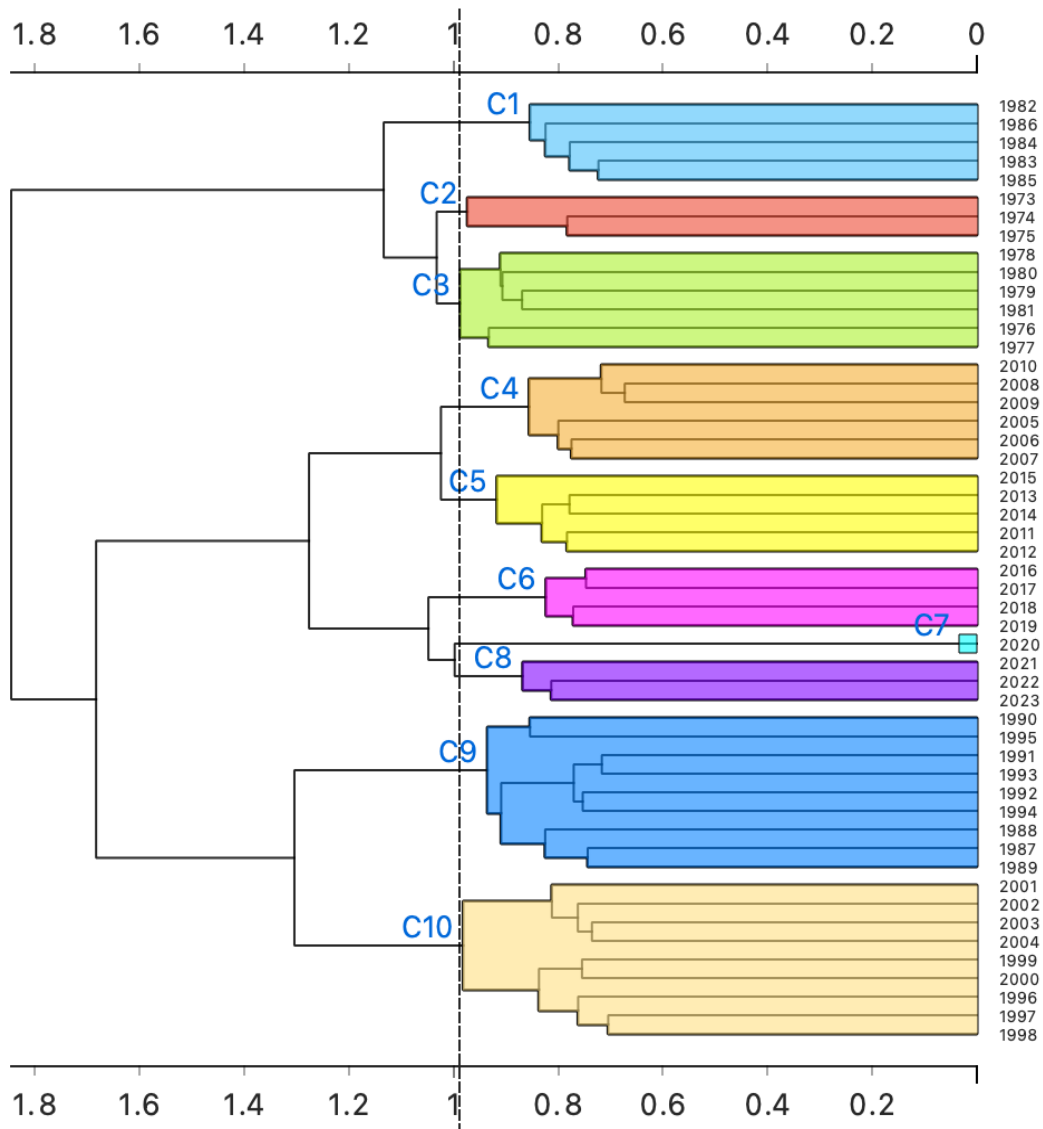
⁵ No case of two co-supervisors in a committee of five was observed.

Additional information about hierarchical clustering analysis

The Jaccard measure calculates the proportion of attendees shared by two conferences relative to the total number of all attendees who came in those two years. This is repeated for all conference pairs. A larger intersection of attendees in any two conference years leads to a higher Jaccard measure, and when both are identical, that is, the intersection is equal to the union of the attendees of the two conferences; the measure equals one as the same set of people went to two conferences. The complement of the Jaccard measure provides a distance metric and once calculated for all conference pairs, conferences are merged into progressively larger clusters using a linkage decision algorithm called Ward's method that optimizes for within-cluster distance variance (there are other linkage methods available).

Further disaggregation into ten clusters is depicted in Appendix Figure A.3. showing different extent of fragmentation. Cluster C2 covers the years 1973-1975, which is closest related to C3 (1976-1981) and then to C1 (1982-1986) — all showing the early cohorts of HES participants. Clusters C9 (1987-1995) and C10 (1996-2004) are the least fragmented clusters. Cluster C7 is the outlier year 2020, with C6 (2016-2019) and C8 (2021-2023) being related but distinct clusters. The period since 2004 also includes clusters C4 (2005-2010) and C5 (2011-15), suggesting an ongoing transformation of attendees coming to the HES conferences, which is consistent with Figures 4 and 5.

Figure A.3: Hierarchical clustering (disaggregated clusters)



Notes: Dendrogram of HES conferences based on Jaccard's similarity measure and Ward linkage method. Highlighted are the smaller, more similar clusters, the vertical axis is identical