

2025 URPE Annual Report

Compiled by the URPE Steering Committee

I. Membership:

URPE Membership at the end of 2025 stood at 583, up from 500 in 2024. Revenues from membership exceeded our annual target by upwards of \$3,000, but fell short of 2024 revenues by over \$7,000. In order to expand URPE membership outside of the US, the Membership Committee has proposed a new membership level for periphery/Global South countries with reduced fees. The 2025 Membership Meeting was held Sunday, February 23rd, 10:00 am - 11:20am in the Riverside Ballroom of the Sheraton Times Square Hotel, during the Eastern Economic Association (EEA) Annual Conference. The Membership Meeting had moderate attendance (around 20 people) and lively discussion focused on increasing URPE membership, outreach strategies, the URPE website, and future programs and activities.

II. Review of Radical Political Economics

The RRPE publishes four issues per year (March, June, September, and December). In 2025, the RRPE received 224 total manuscript submissions, which is a continuation of its record-high submission rate from 2024 (224 submissions in 2025 represents a 26 percent increase over 2023 submissions, and a 60 percent increase over 2022 submissions). Of the 224 total submissions, 186 were original manuscripts (including for special issues). Of these 186 original manuscripts, 68 percent (127 submissions) have final decisions at the time of writing this report—109 of the 186 have been rejected (including desk rejections, for a rejection rate of 59 percent), 10 of the 186 have been accepted for publication (for an acceptance rate of 5 percent), and 8 were withdrawn from consideration. The remaining 59 submissions are still under consideration at the time of writing this report. The journal's 5-year impact factor is 1.4.

Of the 224 total submissions in 2025, 16 were conference proceeding submissions. Of these, 9 were from the URPE@ASSA sessions in San Francisco, and 7 from the URPE@EEA sessions in New York. Of the 9 submissions from ASSA, 7 were accepted for publication and 2 were rejected. Of the 7 submissions from EEA, 4 were accepted and 3 were rejected. These 11 accepted conference papers were published in the December 2025 issue along with the David Gordon Memorial Lecture, which was delivered by Radhika Desai via webinar. More information about published papers from URPE@ASSA, URPE@EEA, and the David Gordon Memorial Lecture can be found here <https://urpe.org/the-journal/browse-content/papers-from-the-assa/> and here <https://urpe.org/the-journal/browse-content/papers-from-the-eea/> and here <https://urpe.org/the-journal/browse-content/david-gordon-memorial-lecture/>

Of the 224 total submissions in 2025, 18 were book review submissions. Of these 18 book

reviews, 4 have final decisions (3 have been accepted for publication and 1 has been rejected), and the remaining 14 submissions are still under consideration at the time of writing this report.

In 2025, 25 percent of total submissions came from authors identifying North American countries as their location (Canada, Mexico, United States); 26 percent came from authors identifying European countries as their location; 24 percent came from authors identifying China or India as their location; and, 10 percent came from authors identifying Latin American countries (excluding Mexico) as their location.

In 2025, the RRPE published two special issues. The March 2025 issue (57:1) was a special issue on COVID and Capitalism, spearheaded by Editorial Board members Elif Karaçimen and Juan Santarcangelo (other members of the issue collective were Sara Cantillon, Lawrence King, Jeff Powell, Nuno Teles). The September 2025 issue (57:3) was a special issue on Anti-Capitalist Pedagogies and Teaching Radical Economics, spearheaded by Editorial Board member Smita Ramnarain in collaboration with the issue collective Surbhi Kesar, Andrew Mearman, Gary Mongiovi, Geoffrey Schneider, and Mary Wrenn.

The special issue on Anti-Capitalist Pedagogies included two essays in RRPE's ongoing series, "What 'Radical' Means in the 21st Century." This series was launched by the RRPE Editorial Board in 2011 to publish invited papers that explore what "radical" means in current contexts and conjunctures. The essays in the Pedagogy special issue were written by Fikret Adaman and Snehashish Bhattacharya.

In addition to these two special issues, RRPE published a special symposium in the June 2025 issue (57:2) on the Political Economy of Occupation, Colonialism, and Conflict in Palestine. Surbhi Kesar and Don Goldstein organized the symposium, and contributors were Jennifer Olmsted, Ibrahim Shikaki, Sachin Peddada, Amir Locker-Biletzki, and Shir Hever. In conjunction with the print symposium, SOAS in London hosted a seminar in October 2025 as a forum for the symposium authors to present their papers.

Looking ahead for 2026, RRPE has one special issue in the works, Climate Change and Capitalism, which will be published as the June 2026 issue (58:2). In addition, RRPE is publishing a symposium of invited papers to remember the influence and contributions of David Gordon upon the 30th anniversary of his death. Also in 2026, RRPE is publishing a series of invited tributes to Ann Davis, long-standing URPE member who passed away in August 2025.

For announcements and updates about the RRPE, please make it a habit to check the RRPE website: <https://urpe.org/the-journal/>.

III. URPE at the ASSAs 2024

Coordinators: Smita Ramnarain and Anastasia Wilson

The ASSAs were held in Philadelphia from January 3-5, 2026. URPE originally had 16 sessions in the program, three of which were joint with IAFFE. Usually, only two sessions are joint with IAFFE, but due to a lower number of submissions this year on URPE's end and a higher number on IAFFE's end, URPE extended the offer of one more joint session to IAFFE, which was accepted.

Due to a large number of withdrawals and cancellations, sessions were consolidated in the last minute and only 14 sessions ultimately took place (of which three were URPE-IAFFE joint, and one of these only had one presenter show up).

The following is the attendance for each of the sessions in which an URPE observer was present.

- Environmental and Ecological Debates: 10 (including 4 presenters)
- Heterodox Perspectives on AI: 19 (including 5 presenters)
- Roundtable on the Trump Economic Program and Its Impact: 50+ (room was full, there were too many people to count) [joint with AFEE and ASE]
- Gender in Productive and Reproductive Work: 11 (including 5 presenters)
- Political Economy of Modern Finance: 22 (including 5 presenters)
- Money, Debt, and Power: 25 (including 4 presenters)
- Political Economy perspectives on the Chinese Economy: 10 (including 4 presenters)
- Marxian Economic Thought: 16 (including 4 presenters)
- Political Economy Perspectives on the Environment: 11 (including 3 presenters)
- Political Economy of Space and Place: 6 (including 4 presenters)
- Wealth, Wages and Power: 25 (including 3 presenters).
- Gender Norms: Households, Jobs, and Credibility: 23 (including 3 presenters; 2 presenters were a no-show) [URPE-IAFFE joint session]
- Feminist Perspectives on Macroeconomics and Development: 15 (including 4 presenters) [URPE-IAFFE joint session]

We do not have much information on the session Gender and Power structures [URPE-IAFFE joint session]: it seems that only 1 presenter showed up, besides the Chair.

Thanks in particular to Swayam Sarangi, Daniel Ossa, and Debora Nunes for representing URPE on the ground, attending these sessions and recording attendance, and helping with the reception, etc.

URPE also participated in a joint reception with AFEE, ASE, HES, LERA and IAFFE. The joint reception came about in 2025 as a response to the hotel worker strikes in San Francisco, and was a resounding success then. The URPE conference committee spearheaded discussions on continuing this event this year. This year too, the reception – which followed the AFEE keynote lecture – was very well-attended. The reception was coordinated by Eric Hake

(AFEE), and URPE places on record its immense gratitude to him for this undertaking, as well as his generosity towards URPE.

IV. URPE at the EEAs

The 2025 EEA meetings were Feb 21- Feb 23, 2025, in the Sheraton Times Square Hotel, New York City. URPE had 24 panels on a broad range of topics, including: microeconomics, Keynesian political economy, money and monetary theory, agrarian and rural economics, finance, climate change, violence, alternatives to capitalism, race discrimination, gender discrimination, and Marxist political economy.

URPE had a table in with URPE t-shirts and tote bags for sale as well as URPE buttons and stickers for free in the exhibition hall. Further, there was a Reception (co-hosted with John Jay Economics) on Friday, February 21st, at Gossips Bar and Restaurant, which gathered dozens of members and non-members.

The Membership Meeting was held Sunday, February 23rd, 10:00 am - 11:20am in the Riverside Ballroom. The Membership Meeting had moderate attendance (around 20 people) and lively discussion focused on increasing URPE membership, outreach strategies, the URPE website, and future programs and activities. A Women and Non-Binary People Caucus meeting was scheduled to follow, but due to lack of attendance that meeting was re-schedule to a future opportunity.

V. URPE at the ICAPE

The ICAPE conference took place in January 5-6, 2025 in San Francisco. URPE continues to have a robust presence at the annual ICAPE conference that occurs immediately before and after the ASSA meetings. There were several panels on radical political economy topics at the ICAPE conference, and URPE members participated in all of the ICAPE plenaries. Like the ASSAs, ICAPE is now a smaller conference, about 60% of the size it once was. But ICAPE continues to provide a venue for URPE members and graduate students to present work that cannot be included on the ASSA program, and space for broader discussions about teaching and pedagogy, and the future of heterodox economics.

VI. URPE at the WSSA

URPE continues to have small but active participation in the World Social Science Association (formerly Western Social Science Association) conference, in partnership with the Association For Institutional Thought (AFIT) and the Association for Social Economics (ASE). URPE organized 3 panels at the WSSA conference in Seattle in April 2025. The upcoming WSSA conference in March 2026 in Albuquerque will also feature three URPE panels. All URPE

panels are cross listed with AFIT and ASE. URPE panels at the WSSAs feature a combination of established scholars and graduate students from western heterodox programs (UMKC, Utah, Colorado State).

VII. URPE Dissertation Fellowship

The URPE Dissertation Fellowship provides a stipend of \$6,500 to support a graduate student engaged in the writing of an approved dissertation topic within any discipline in radical political economics. The Dissertation Prize Committee met to revise the call for applications to more explicitly reflect the rubric used to judge applications. It was determined that applications must provide a cover letter (a) explaining how the fellowship would contribute to radical political economics overall and to URPE's mission, (b) providing information on how the fellowship would aid in the completion of the candidate's dissertation (including a clear timeline for completion and defense), and (c) justifying need. All three were deemed equally important criteria in the adjudication of applications. The Dissertation Fellowship received 15 applications for the 2025 prize, from graduate students across three continents. After careful and independent evaluations by the three members of the prize sub-committee, the 2025 URPE Dissertation Fellowship was awarded to Armando Alvarez, PhD student at The New School. Armando's dissertation, titled "Value, Prices, Endogenous Money, and Financial Instability," seeks to provide a theoretical framework through post-Keynesian and Marxian economics to explain money, its endogenous character, and the possibility of financial crises and sustained inflation. The dissertation examines the role of money in enabling capitalism to function as a self-organizing mode of production, as well as the contradictions that arise from the social relations underlying money and its credit form.

In addition, the previous year's winner Arielle Concilio Parra has submitted a lightning talk of their dissertation, which is available at the following link, which will be advertised on the URPE list and posted on the URPE website: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1vmrzBFvaQ>

VIII. URPE Forum (former newsletter)

During 2025, the URPE Newsletter transitioned to the URPE Forum. The last issue of the URPE Newsletter (Vol. 50, No. 4) was sent to the membership in January 2025. The purpose of the transition was to host articles on the URPE website instead of distributing them by email. Additionally, the change aimed to promote discussion by introducing a comment section on the URPE Forum. This change implied that, instead of having regularly scheduled publications, the submission and publication of articles would operate on a rolling basis.

Since the transition, five articles have been revised, approved, and posted in the URPE Forum section of the website. Additionally, two other articles were received but not published, as

they were withdrawn by the authors following suggestions from the editorial committee. A couple of calls for articles were circulated during 2025, but the number of submissions appears to have diminished following the transition. The editorial committee expects that the website update will help consolidate the transition to the URPE Forum and allow it to become more active than it was during 2025.

IX. Website, Listserv and Social Media

In 2025, the Steering Committee decided to hire an IT professional to help clean URPE's website, as this is a topic mentioned by membership in the former two membership meetings. To hire a web designer and completely redesign the website would be too costly, but to update the website functionalities and clear the backend (to get rid of glitches and other issues) was an urgent demand. The URPE SC hired Pablo Machado for the job, who already works for Feminist Economics and IAFFE's websites.

The first priority was to clear the backend and get the website to run smoothly, which generated a one-time extra charge of around \$200 from the website provider (to download the backup). After reviewing URPE site's storage usage, Pablo identified a large set of outdated backup files created with the BackupBuddy plugin. These backups date from before 2022, and they are no longer needed for our current operations, so we were able to delete them. By clearing out 46 GB out of the total 48 GB, we reduce our carbon footprint dramatically. According to the current rates provided by Electric Embers, this change will generate an estimated savings of around \$100 per month. And the actual savings could be even higher, since reducing storage also lowers data transfer costs and the space required for daily backups. Further improvements to the website will continue in 2026.

The announcements listserv and the discussion listserv continued to be separate in 2024. The announcements listserv is moderated to disseminate only posts that are official URPE announcements and members sending out information on recent publications or events. The discussion listserv, is monitored but moderated only in the circumstances in which posts violate the listserv guidelines, had some active discussion, but the SC encourages URPE members to participate more.

URPE's Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram accounts were inactive during 2025. A Bluesky account was established.

X. Webinar Committee

The URPE Webinar Committee was constituted in 2025. It plans to initiate a monthly webinar series in 2026. The purpose of this series is to 1) popularize and promote radical political economics and its practice, and 2) initiate discussions on issues of contemporary

political economy for a broad audience. The series will consist of panel discussions on ongoing issues comprising 2-3 panelists and a moderator, and individual paper presentations followed by remarks by a discussant. In order to reach out to a wider audience, both academic and non-academic, some of the webinars will be aimed at audiences from specific socio-political and geographical contexts such as Latin America, Asia, and Africa, with the possibility of conducting discussions or presentations in languages other than English. The Webinar Committee welcomes URPE members interested in this initiative to volunteer to coordinate and organize specific webinar sessions.

XI. Women and Non-Binary People Caucus

The WNBPC scheduled an in-person meeting Sunday, February 23rd, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm in the Riverside Ballroom of the Sheraton Times Square Hotel, during the Eastern Economic Association (EEA) Annual Conference. However, since only four people were present, it was decided that the caucus should meet online on a future date.

On June 30th, 2025 URPE's Women and Non-Binary caucus met online. Among several discussions that took place, the caucus requested that the SC call for a general membership meeting (virtual). The caucus consensually agreed that URPE is a radical organization that should discuss the current global attacks on women, reproductive rights, and other gendered issues among all membership. The meeting should serve not only as a forum for us to share resources and build solidarity, but also to articulate resistance through URPE. That meeting did not occur in 2025, and the caucus wants to organize together with URPE'S SC for the meeting to take place in 2026.

XII. Finances and Fundraising

URPE'S 2025 financial standing is largely in line with the expected budget, as showed by the budget versus actual comparison; we finished the year in the black, with almost \$11,000. That is partially explained by the interest and dividends income (more than 100% higher when compared to 2024, because we moved a lump sum into our Vanguard account, which gives more return). Membership also higher than projected by a couple thousand dollars, but donations are still below projection. On the expense side, our stipend and management fee are locked in as budgeted. No major red flags have emerged in our expense categories, and the RRPE budget remains minimal and currently underbudget.

The renewal of our SAGE contract (that happens in 2026), fundraising efforts, and our overall financial health are closely intertwined. After exploring alternatives, the tendency is for URPE to renew with SAGE. SAGE has projected that our revenues will experience a

nondramatic dip in the coming period, not due to a decline in royalties specifically, but rather because of broader shifts in the journal market.

This outlook reinforces the need for a more deliberate and significant focus on donations as a revenue stream. Looking ahead, we must develop a long-term plan for growing our endowment. A larger endowment would generate steady revenues that could help buffer us against the expected decline in royalty income and provide greater financial stability for the organization moving forward.

The fundraising committee identified a goal of raising \$10,000 from sustainer donations and general donations in 2025. The total amount from donations generated in 2025 was \$7,818 (under goal). Of that amount, \$4,144 came from general donations and \$3,674 came from sustainer campaign donations.

The committee discussed the importance of increasing sustainer donations, particularly from current members and drafted language to solicit donations via emails. Future campaigns to solicit general donations and sustainer donations may focus on the declining venues for heterodox economics or the effectiveness of all members making small donations. Members discussed drafting a proposal to organize webinar events for members that could also function as fundraising events.

XIII. Steering Committee Elections and Officers

The Steering Committee welcomed two new members in 2025: Swayamsiddha Sarangi (25-28), University of Rhode Island (RRPE); and Iván D. Velásquez, (25-28) University of Minnesota Morris.

During 2025, Paul Cooney served as Treasurer, the Secretary was Gary Mongiovi, and the President was Hannah Archambault, all elected during the Steering Committee meeting in October of 2024.

XIV. Other activities

URPE has continued to work on ongoing incorporation issues with the assistance of their lawyers, accountants, Organizational Coordinator, and Steering Committee. We anticipate these issues being fully resolved in 2027.

XV. Staff

Steve Theberge's contract was renewed in 2024 for 2024-2025 period as URPE's Organizational Coordinator and Clerk. Steve's 2024 contract was for five hours less than previous contracts, and this continued into 2025. The 2024 contract included a COLA increase, tied to the Social Security COLA, of 3.5%

Enid Arvidson continues as Editor of RRPE.
