



ISI Newsletter



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Calendar of Events: <http://isi.cbs.nl/calendar.htm>



Message from the President



Denise Lievesley
President ISI

Dear Colleagues

I am extremely pleased to announce the appointment of a new Director of the ISI. As from August 1st, Ada van Krimpen has taken up this position. Some of you will already know Ada who joins us from the Netherlands Central Bureau of Statistics. I hope that others of you will have the opportunity to get to know Ada at the forthcoming ISI Conference in Durban. I am very excited about this appointment as I have every confidence that Ada will help the ISI and ISI Sections to develop their services and activities. I am sure you all join me in wishing her a very successful period at the ISI.

I am writing this sitting in the sunshine next to a canal in The Hague on a Sunday before a two-day visit to the ISI Office. On checking into my hotel, I was delightfully surprised to discover that also staying there for the weekend were some 300 statisticians from official agencies across Europe. They were competing in a volleyball competition that I understand was won by the team from Russia.

Plans for the ISI Session in Durban from 16th-22nd August are well advanced and I urge you to register your attendance for what promises to be a rich programme across the whole spectrum of statistics. May I particularly draw your attention to the exciting array of training courses being run in the week before the Conference itself. These will appeal not only to statisticians at the start of their careers, but also to those wishing to update their professional knowledge.

As President of the ISI, I gave an invited talk at a small and intensive meeting organised by the Observatoire de la Finance and the University of Geneva. One of the sessions focused on the implications for statistics of the current financial crisis – a topic that will loom large at our Durban Session.

I have recently been invited to join the newly formed European Statistical Advisory Committee, which provides me with an opportunity to represent the views of users of statistics. I welcome feedback from ISI and Section members on the ways in which the European statistical system should develop and on how it should be integrated with data from other regions to provide a global picture.

My ISI-related activities since I last wrote to you have included a visit to Statistics South Africa to work with Jairo Arrow and colleagues on the organisation of the ISI Session. This was followed by a fascinating three days in Luanda, Angola, to attend the 4th Africa Symposium on Statistical Development, which focussed on Processing Census Data in the Africa 2010 round of Population and Housing Censuses. Particularly impressive was the large number of young African participants in the Symposium with their typically infectious enthusiasm for our subject.

The Royal Statistical Society has also been active in career development for young statisticians and I was delighted to contribute to a well-attended meeting showcasing the wide variety of opportunities in statistics. I look forward to hearing your views on how we can involve more young and mid career statisticians in the ISI. 85% of ISI members are aged over 50. We are simply not nominating enough statisticians to be members of the ISI and I urge you to think about colleagues and contacts who might be interested in having their names put forward. The procedure is very easy these days and you can find the nomination forms on the web:

<http://isi.cbs.nl/candidateform.asp>.

The ISI Executive met for two days in London and a summary appears in this *ISI Newsletter* on page 18. We also took the opportunity to discuss the future of the *International Statistical Review* with Wiley-Blackwell and will be reporting back on our ideas for the future of the ISR shortly.

Wim Senden who has been Acting Director of the ISI since 1st August 2008 completed this assignment and I would like to record our deepest thanks to him for his capable leadership of the ISI Office during this period.

May I conclude by offering my sincere congratulations to Pedro Morettin, the deserved winner of the Mahalanobis Prize, and to Jae C. Lee, Vijay Nair, Louis Chen and Hallgrímur Snorrason for their election to the Executive Committee of the ISI, which will take office at the end of the Durban Conference. But it is also appropriate to pay tribute to those who work behind the scenes. In these cases, most notably Lynne Billard who chaired the Mahalanobis Committee and Jelke Bethlehem who acted as member auditor for the ISI elections (a new position which I created to provide greater accountability of our system).

With my very best wishes, I look forward to seeing you in Durban.

Denise Lievesley
President ISI
d.lievesley@uclmail.net

Messages from the Directors



Wim Senden
Former Director ISI

This is my last message because my interim directorship ended 1st of June. I originally promised to serve the ISI for six months until February. Some delay and setbacks in the search for a new director made me agree to continue ultimately until June. Although the nomination of a new director was not finalised by June, considering another continuation was for personal reasons not an option for me. It was a decision with mixed feelings, especially because the way that you all (members and Office staff) have received me from the beginning: Open and cordial, certainly justifying the term “family” for this institute/society.

Ten months seem like a long time, but are not enough to get to know and understand in-depth the ISI family as I was so unlucky to prove rather explicitly. Lack of knowledge and time pressure were the causes for a big mistake I made in the organisation of the voting process for some changes of the Statutes and Bylaws, where the French translation of the documents was forgotten. It was generous of President Denise and President-Elect Jef to cover for me, but it was my responsibility to do it right! I hope that you all, but especially the French speaking members of the ISI, will accept my

sincere apologies and that my mistake has not influenced your vote.

In discussions on Restructuring, the architectural adagium “form follows content” came up, suggesting that it would be better to direct ISI focus and energy now more towards content, while implementing restructuring in small steps. Two interesting ideas in that respect could be the following ones. The unfortunate events of last year made the general public aware of concepts like risk, predictability, reliable data and models. The ISI itself should use this opportunity to develop, via workshops, conferences and maybe white papers, a forum for sound understanding of these issues. The primary target group would not be the professionals in the ISI family but other professions like politicians and journalists. Many important societal problems and interesting research questions arise at the borders of the areas covered by the Sections. The ISI is unique in having this all in house, however, it does not capitalise this enough (as far as I know) in joint workshops, conferences and projects.

It was an interesting, sometimes very demanding job I had these past months, but I enjoyed doing it. I thank the staff at the PO for their help and loyalty and thank the EC, especially Denise and Jef for their trust and support.

May I end with wishing the ISI and you all a prosperous future.

On another note, if you have not yet registered, please do so and come to Durban.

Thanks,
Wim Senden
Former Director ISI



Ada van Krimpen
Director ISI

My appointment as Director of ISI from 1st of August onwards is a big honor for me. I am looking forward to fulfilling this position and to contributing to the goal of making ISI and its Sections flourishing networks of statisticians.

For 16 years now I have been working in International Relations at Statistics Netherlands (CBS). Before coming to the CBS, I was employed by the Faculty of Economics of Erasmus University Rotterdam and during that time I completed my studies in Business Law in the Faculty of Law of Erasmus University. In 1993, I started as International Relations Officer for CBS where I could really build on my desire to work in an international environment. During the first years, I participated in the technical assistance programs to countries in Central Asia and Caucasus, which was a rich experience. In the context of the European Statistical System,

a lot of initiatives were launched as well as new ways of working. Looking back, it is really good to see what was achieved over the years: new co-operative networks, new ways of communicating, and above all the new Regulation on European Statistics (the European Statistical Law). Apart from EU meetings, I had the privilege to represent the CBS in the UN Statistical Commission, ECE/CES and OECD CSTAT.

The ISI has always had a special place. The ISI itself is widely recognized as a highly respected organization of statisticians from all kinds of disciplines. Although not a statistician by profession, I was elected member in the year 2002. As an active member of IAOS, I fulfilled the function of IAOS Vice-President in the years 1999-2001 and coordinated the IAOS programme for the ISI Korea Session.

For the future, I see so many opportunities for the ISI and the Sections to grow and increase their ability to attract new members and make the networks vigorous. I am confident that with the support of the EC, the Council and the Sections, we can make important steps forward. The Session in Durban will offer the possibility to meet many people who are active in the ISI. I am definitely looking forward to all new opportunities and working together with the ISI family.

Ada van Krimpen
Director ISI

Invited Paper Meetings for the 57th ISI Session, Durban, South Africa

Number	Time Slot	Title	Committees Responsible	Organiser Name, country, e-mail	Participants Name, country
IPM1	Sat 2	Part 2 of President's Invited Papers Meeting (see IPM103)	ISI	Denise Lievesley, UK, d.lievesley@uclmail.net	MEETING TBA Closer to the time of the session
IPM2	Mon 1	MEETING CANCELLED		MEETING CANCELLED	
IPM3	Tue 3	Inference under Qualitative Restrictions	Bernoulli Society	Holger Dette, Germany, holger.dette@rub.de	1. Victor Chernozhukov, USA 2. Lutz Dümbgen, Switzerland 3. Dragi Anevski, Sweden Disc: Irene Gijbels, Belgium
IPM4	Wed 1	Semi- and Nonparametric Statistics	Bernoulli Society	Graciela Boente, Argentina, gboente@dm.uba.ar and Wenceslao Gonzalez Manteiga, Spain, wenceslao@usc.es	1. Ingrid van Keilegom, Belgium 2. Andreas Christmann, Germany 3. Juan-Carlos Pardo-Fernandez, Spain Disc: Oliver Linton, UK
IPM5	Wed 2	Model Building and Regularization	Bernoulli Society	Axel Munk, Germany, munk@math.uni-goettingen.de	1. Pedro Valdes Sosa, Cuba (TBC) 2. Ian Dryden, UK 3. Jeffrey Morris, USA Disc: Stephan Huckemann, Germany Disc: Victor Panaretos, Switzerland
IPM6	Thu 1	Stochastic Geometry with Applications	Bernoulli Society	Viktor Benes, Czech Republic, benesv@karlin.mff.cuni.cz	1. Ilya Molchanov, Switzerland 2. Guenter Last, Germany 3. Zbynek Pawlas, Czech Republic 4. Stephan Huckemann, Germany Disc: Lothar Heinrich, Germany
IPM7	Thu 2	Concentration Inequalities	Bernoulli Society	Sara van de Geer, Switzerland, geer@stat.math.ethz.ch	1. Pascal Massart, France 2. Colin McDiarmid, UK 3. Bruce Reed, Canada Disc: Emmanuel Candes, USA
IPM8	Mon 3	MEETING CANCELLED	Bernoulli Society	MEETING CANCELLED	

IPM9	Fri 2	Statistical Modelling and Data Analysis for Neural Coding	Bernoulli Society	Britt Anderson, Canada, britt@uwaterloo.ca and Elie Bienenstock, USA, elie@dam.brown.edu	1. Sonja Grün, Germany 2. Ernst Niebur, USA 3. Asohan Amarasingham USA; 4. Jonathan Tapson, South Africa Disc: Markus Diesmann, Germany
IPM10	Thu 3	The Role of Chance in Evolution	Bernoulli Society	Peter Jagers, Sweden, jagers@math.chalmers.se	1. Amaury Lambert, France 2. Nicolas Champagnat 3. Arndt von Haeseler, Austria Disc: Fima C. Klebaner, Australia
IPM11	Sat 1	Stochastics in Neurophysiology	Bernoulli Society	Pedro Valdes Sosa, Cuba, peter@cneuro.edu.cu	1. Tohru Ozaki, Japan 2. Luiz Baccala, Brazil Disc: Felix Carbonell, Cuba
IPM12	Tue 1	Statistics in Biodiversity	Bernoulli Society	Miguel Nakamura, Mexico, nakamura@cimat.mx	1. Subhash Lele, Canada 2. Anne Chao, Taiwan Disc: Abdel El-Shaarawi, Canada
IPM13	Mon 1	Stochastics of Genome	Bernoulli Society	Jun Liu, USA, jliu@stat.harvard.edu	1. Elizabeth Thompson, USA 2. Agnes Chao Hsiung, Taiwan 3. Winston Hide, South Africa Disc: TBA
IPM14	Mon 2	Complex Data Analysis, Dimension Reduction and Sparsity	Bernoulli Society	Ursula Gather, Germany, gather@statistik.uni.dortmund.de	1. Ery Arias-Castro, USA 2. Yingying Fan, USA 3. Lixing Zhu, China (Hong Kong) Disc: Hannes Leeb, Austria
IPM15	Thu 1	The challenge of building a supply of statisticians for the future	IAOS IASE	Nancy McBeth, New Zealand, Nancy.McBeth@stats.govt.nz	1. Olav Ljones, Norway - Chair IAOS 2. Allan Rossman, USA - Chair IASE Panelist: Enrico Giovannini, Italy Panelist: John Kovar for Munir Sheikh, Canada Panelist: Sastry Pantula, USA Panelist: Tertius De Wet, South Africa
IPM16	Thu 2	Comparing Poverty and Prices across National Boundaries - the ICP Programme and Poverty PPPs	IAOS IASS Local Hosts	Fred Vogel, USA, fvogel@worldbank.org	1. Wen Jianwu, China 2. Abdoulaye Adam with Athieu Djayeola, African Development Bank 3. Yuri Dikhanov, World Bank 4. Joe De Beer, South Africa

IPM17	Wed 2	Implementing the 1993 System of National Accounts	IAOS IFC	Carl Obst, Australia, carl.obst@abs.gov.au and Michael Davies, Australia, michael.davies@abs.gov.au	1. Bernard Williams, Australia 2. Ivo Havinga, The Netherlands 3. Reimund Mink, Germany Disc. Henk Lub, The Netherlands Disc: Johann van den Heever, South Africa
IPM18	Sat 1	Sustainable Development Indicators - New Challenges	IAOS TIES	Rosie Fyfe, New Zealand, Rosie.Fyfe@stats.govt.nz and Rachael Milicich, New Zealand, rachael.milicich@stats.govt.nz with Walter Radermacher, Germany (Chair)	1. Michael Kuhn, Germany 2. Kefiloe Masiteng, South Africa Panelist: Oliver Zwiner, European Commission Panelist: Rutger de Hoekstra, The Netherlands Panelist: Daniela Cocchi, Italy
IPM19	Mon 3	Globalisation and official statistics - how to ensure international comparability, while retaining national relevance	IAOS Local Hosts	Robyn Lynch, UK, robin.lynchltd@ntlworld.com	1. Peter Van De Ven, The Netherlands 2. Guy Goodwin, UK 3. Ralph Kozlow, International Monetary Fund 4. William Cave, UK
IPM20	Wed 1	Bringing Stats Home: Role of Official Statistical Offices in supporting comparable statistics at regional, urban and local level	IAOS	Dominic Leung, Hong Kong, China, dktleung@censtatd.gov.hk	1. Andrew Reamer, USA 2. Klaus Trutzel, Germany 3. Stephen Kwan Chi Leung with G. Wei and Y. Wang, China
IPM21	Fri 1	Improving comparability of urban and regional data: Standards, harmonization, and sharing metadata resources for survey development	IAOS	Wendy Thomas, USA, wlt@pop.umn.edu	1. Bryan Fitzpatrick, UK 2. Matthew Sobek 3. Kobus Herbst, (TBC) 4. David Van Riper with Kevin Horne and Wendy Thomas, USA Disc: Markandey Rai
IPM22	Thu 3	Methodological and measurement challenges in Economic Statistics	IAOS	Peter Harper, Australia, peter.harper@abs.gov.au	1. George Djolov, South Africa 2. Roland Gross, Germany 3. Mark Vancautern, The Netherlands Disc: Ivo Havinga, UNSD
IPM23	Mon 1	Contemporary methodological challenges in Social Statistics	IAOS	Michel Glaude, France, Michel.Glaude@ec.europa.eu	1. Jogeswar Dash, India 2. Diane Stukel, Canada 3. Anders Sundström, Sweden Disc: Nancy M. Gordon, USA
IPM24	Tue 1	Quality Control and Assurance of Administration Data used in Statistics Production	IAOS	Hilkka Vihavainen, Finland, hilkka.vihavainen@stat.fi	1. Piet Daas, The Netherlands 2. Riitta Harala, Finland 3. Ron McKenzie, New Zealand Disc: Steve Vale, ECE

IPM25	Tue 2	Measuring Prices statistics: A National Conspiracy of Numbers?	IAOS	In honor of Michael Ward, UK with Chair TBA	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Leslie Tang, Hong Kong 2. Derek Blades, UK 3. Mathew Powell, UK (TBC) 4. David Fenwick, UK 5. Inna Steinbuka, European Union
IPM26	Mon 2	Functional Data Analysis: Theory and Applications	IASCBS	Jason Fine, USA, fine@biostat.wisc.edu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jeng-Min (Jamie) Chiou, Taiwan with Hans Georg Muller, USA 2. Yi Li, USA 3. Ian McKeage, New Zealand Disc: Ingrid Keilegom, Belgium
IPM27	Thu 2	Uncertainty in Statistical Matching	IASC IASS	Mauro Scanu, Italy, ISTAT, scanu@istat.it with Tomas Aluja-Banet, Spain, tomas.aluja@upc.edu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Marco Di Zio with Marcello D'Orazio and Mauro Scanu, Italy 2. Christopher Moriarity, USA 3. Suzanne Raessler with Hans Kiesl, Germany 4. William Winkler, USA Disc: Fritz Scheuren, USA
IPM28	Mon 3	Statistics and the Internet for Development in e-Education e-Health and Other Fields with particular reference to Africa	IASC	Fionn Murtagh, Ireland, fmurtagh@acm.org	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Neil Higgs, South Africa 2. Jonathan Donner, USA 3. Jacques de Vos with Craig Friderichs and Maruis Conradie, South Africa 4. Claude Akpabie, Togo Disc: John Haslett, Ireland
IPM29	Tue 2	Statistical Methods for Non Linear Latent Variable Models	IASC	Salvatore Ingrassia, Italy, s.ingrassia@unict.it with Gilbert Saporta, France (Chair)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi with Laura Trinchera, Italy 2. Donald Michael Titterington, UK 3. TBA Disc: Gilbert Saporta, France
IPM30	Tue 3	Statistical Online Monitoring	IASC	Roland Fried, Germany, fried@statistik.uni-dortmund.de	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bjoern Schelter, Germany 2. Daniel Pena, Spain 3. Marie Huskova, Czech Republic Disc: Christophe Croux, Belgium
IPM31	Wed 1	Statistical and computational challenges from new environmental sensing systems	IASC	Bronwyn Harch, Australia, bronwyn.harch@csiro.au with Murray Cameron, Australia, Murray.Cameron@csiro.au	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mark Berman, Australia 2. Stephen McNeil, New Zealand 3. John Haslett, Ireland Disc: Bronwyn Harch or Murray Cameron, Australia

IPM32	Wed 2	Sensometrics and chemometrics in food industry	IASC	El Mostafa Qannari, France, elmostafa.qannari@enitiaa-nantes.fr	1. Per Bruun Brockoff, Denmark 2. Douglas Rutledge, France 3. Achim Kohler, Norway 4. Harald Martens, Norway Disc: Philippe Courcoux, France
IPM33	Thu 1	MEETING CANCELLED	IASC	MEETING CANCELLED	
IPM34	Thu 3	MEETING CANCELLED	IASC	MEETING CANCELLED	
IPM35	Fri 2	Spatial Statistics: Recent Advances in Epidemiological Applications	IASC	Elvan Ceyhan, Turkey, elceyhan@ku.edu.tr	1. Maria Dolores Ugarte Martinez, Spain 2. Toshiro Tango, Japan 3. Renato M. Assunção, Brazil Disc: Paul Fatti, South Africa Disc: Aila Särkkä, Sweden
IPM36	Tue 1	Random projection for multimedia retrieval	IASC	Jean-Hugues Chauchat, France, jean-hugues.chauchat@univ-lyon2.fr	1. Ping Li, USA 2. Gérard Biau, France 3. Juan A. Cuesta-Albertos, Spain Disc: Annie Morin, France
IPM37	Mon 2	The roles of statistical agencies in developing statistical literacy	IASE IAOS	Reija Helenius, Finland, Reija.Helenius@stat.fi	1. Gunter Schaefer, Germany 2. Siu-Ming Tam, Australia 3. Pedro Campos with Pinto Martins, Portugal (TBC) Disc: Heli Mikkilä, Finland
IPM38	Tue 1	Educating the public on how to use official statistics.	IASE Local Hosts	Peter Wingfield-Digby, UK, pwdigby@btconnect.com	1. Ben Paul Mungyereza, Uganda 2. Chun-Keung Leo Yu, Hong Kong 3. Mary Townsend with Art Ridgeway, Canada Disc: Davaasuren Chultemjamts, Mongolia Disc: Hilary Joffe, South Africa
IPM39	Fri 1	Challenges faced in Statistics Education in African countries	IASE Local Hosts	Delia North, South Africa, northd@ukzn.ac.za	1. Temegen Zewotir, South Africa/Ethiopia 2. Eshetu Woncheko, Ethiopia 3. John W. Odhiambo, Kenya
IPM40	Mon 1	Balancing the training of future statisticians for workplace and research	IASE	Helen MacGillivray, Australia, h.macgillivray@qut.edu.au	1. Charles Rohde, USA 2. Linda Haines, South Africa 3. Murray Cameron, Australia 4. Pam Arroway, USA Disc: Pieter Verhoeven, The Netherlands

IPM41	Tue 3	Exploiting the Progress in Statistical Graphics and Statistical Computing for the benefit of Statistical Literacy	IASE	Juana Sanchez, USA, jsanchez@stat.ucla.edu	1. Dianne Cook, USA 2. Enrico Giovannini, Italy 3. Naomi Robbins, USA
IPM42	Mon 3	Survey Research in Statistics Education	IASE	Irena Ograjenšek, Slovenia, irena.ograjensek@ef.uni-lj.si	1. Mojca Bavdaž with Irena Ograjenšek, Slovenia 2. Paul Fields, USA 3. Natalie Shlomo, UK Disc: Steven Heeringa, USA
IPM43	Tue 2	Research on Informal Inferential Reasoning	IASE	Katie Makar, Australia, k.makar@uq.edu.au	1. Chris Reading, Australia 2. Aisling Leavy, Ireland 3. Peter Johnston-Wilder, UK 4. James Hammerman, USA Disc: Siu-Ming Tam, Australia
IPM44	Tue 1	Teaching, Learning and Assessing Statistics Problem Solving in Higher Education	IASE	Neville Davies, UK, neville.davies@ntu.ac.uk	1. Jennifer Vanessa Freeman, UK 2. Helen MacGillivray, Australia 3. Penelope Bidgood, UK Disc: John Marriott, UK
IPM45	Wed 1	Technologies for learning and teaching in developing countries	IASE	Gabriella Belli, USA, gbelli@vt.edu with Chair TBA	1. Blanca Ruiz, Mexico 2. Elizabeth (Bettie) Basson, South Africa 3. Tae Rim Lee, Korea Disc: Neville Davies, UK
IPM46	Wed 2	Virtual Learning Environments for Statistics Education	IASE	Pieterneel Verhoeven, The Netherlands, n.verhoeven@roac.nl	1. Dirk Tempelaar, The Netherlands 2. Jane Horgan, Ireland 3. Annette Dobson, Australia 4. Paul Darius, Belgium Disc: Irena Ograjensek, Slovenia
IPM47	Mon 1	Designing and Conducting Surveys in Adverse Conditions (tentative title).	IASS GTC	Michael Colledge, Australia, Michael.Colledge@gmail.com	1. Luay Shabaneh, Palestine 2. Alfredo Navarro with Deborah Griffin, USA 3. Robert Fakudze, Swaziland Disc: Steve Heeringa, USA
IPM48	Mon 2	Sampling and Estimation Issues in Health Statistics	IASS Local Hosts	Wilton Bussab, Brazil, bussab@fgvsp.br or wilton.bussab@fgv.br with chair TBA	1. Kirk Wolter, USA 2. Carlos Caceres, Peru or Imon Rahmatullah (TBC) Disc. Pedro Luis do N. Silva, Brazil

IPM49	Mon 3	Measuring and Assessing Respondent Load	IASS Local Hosts	Richard Penny, New Zealand, Richard.Penny@stats.govt.nz	1. Dan Hedlin, Sweden 2. Rebecca Merrington, New Zealand 3. Marlize Pistorius, South Africa Disc. TBA
IPM50	Wed 1	New Developments in Monitoring and Controlling Field Data Collection Activities	IASS	Dina Neiger, Australia, dina.neiger@abs.gov.au	1. Robert M.Groves, USA 2. François Laflamme, Canada 3. Louise Gates, Australia Disc: Jaak Billiet, Belgium Disc: Peter Lynn, UK
IPM51	Sat 1	Recent Developments in Survey Methodology Research - Design and Estimation	IASS	Paul Smith, UK, paul.smith@ons.gov.uk	1. Changbao Wu with J.N.K. Rao, Canada 2. Jan van den Brakel, The Netherlands 3. Claes Andersson, Sweden Disc: Phil Kott, USA
IPM52	Wed 2	Outliers in Complex Sample Surveys	IASS	Julie Gershunskaya, USA, Gershunskaya.Julie@bls.gov and Partha Lahiri, USA, plahiri@survey.umd.edu	1. Jean-François Beaumont, Canada 2. Beat Hulliger, Switzerland 3. Raymond Chambers, Australia Disc: Michael Elliott, USA
IPM53	Thu 1	Nonresponse Bias in Surveys	IASS	Jelke Bethlehem, The Netherlands, jbtm@cbs.nl	1. Vasja Vehovar, Slovenia with Ineke Stoop, The Netherlands 2. Barry Schouten, The Netherlands, with Natalie Shlomo, Israel and Chris Skinner, UK 3. Jill Montaquila, USA Disc: Bob Groves, USA
IPM54	Thu 2	MEETING CANCELLED	IASS	MEETING CANCELLED	
IPM55	Fri 1	New Methodologies in Sampling Rare and Elusive Populations	IASS	Sanghamitra Pal, India, mitra_pal@yahoo.com	1. Steven Thompson, Canada 2. Graham Kalton, USA 3. Arijit Chaudhuri, India (TBC) Disc: Alastair Scott, New Zealand
IPM56	Fri 2	Modelling Economic Data to Produce Small Area Estimates	IASS	Mike Hidioglou, Canada, Mike.Hidioglou@statcan.gc.ca and Susana Rubin-Bleuer, Susana.Rubin- Bleuer@statcan.gc.ca	1. Isabel Molina, Spain with J.N.K. Rao, Canada 2. Elzbieta Golata with Grazyna Dehnel, Poland 3. Stefano Falorsi with Michele D'alo and Loredana Di Consiglio, Italy Disc: Raymond Chambers, Australia

IPM57	Thu 3	Integrated Household Surveys - Design, Implementation, and Estimation	IASS	Denise Silva, Brazil, Denise.Silva@ons.gsi.gov.uk	1. Paul Smith, UK 2. Jean-Louis Tambay, Canada 3. Geof Lee, Australia 4. Marcia Quintslr, Brazil Disc: Ralf Hussmans, Switzerland
IPM58	Tue 2	Issues In Price Index Methodology and Measurement	IASS	Sylvie Gauthier, Canada, Sylvie.Gauthier@statcan.gc.ca	1. John Wood, UK 2. Robert Parker, USA 3. Zdenek Patak with Jean-François Beaumont, Canada Disc: Bert Balk, The Netherlands
IPM59	Tue 1	Dissemination of Survey Results to Public	IASS	Tommy Wright, USA, twright@census.gov	1. Thomas Moore, USA 2. Nireen Naidoo with Ashwell Jenneker, South Africa 3. Kees Zeelenberg with Steven de Bie, The Netherlands Disc: David Dolson, Canada
IPM60	Tue 3	What Role, If Any, Should Weights Play in the Analysis of Survey Data	IASS	Phil Kott, USA, phil_kott@nass.usda.gov	1. J.N.K. Rao with Milorad Kovacevic, Mike Hidiroglou and Wesley Yung, Canada 2. Wayne Fuller, USA 3. Stephen du Toit, South Africa Disc: Chris Skinner, UK
IPM61	Fri 1	Capturing Unobserved Heterogeneity in Latent Variable Modelling	ISBIS IASC	Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi, Italy, vinzi@essec.fr with Francesco Palumbo, Italy (Chair)	1. Tomas Aluja-Banet with G. Sanchez, Spain 2. Laura Trinchera with Giorgio Russolillo, Italy 3. Giuliano Galimberti with Gabriele Soffritti, Italy Disc: Francesco Palumbo, Italy
IPM62	Tue 2	MEETING CANCELLED	ISBIS	MEETING CANCELLED	
IPM63	Thu 3	Statistics in Finance	ISBIS	Rong Chen, USA, rongchen@stat.rutgers.edu with David Banks, USA (Chair)	1. Dale Rosenthal, USA 2. Wolfgang Haerdle with B. Choros and O. Okhrin, Germany 3. Junni Zhang, China Disc: David Banks, USA
IPM64	Tue 3	Statistics in the Pharmaceutical Industry	ISBIS	Chihiro Hirotsu, Japan, hirotsu@ge.meisei-u.ac.jp	1. Peter Bauer, Austria 2. Robert T. O'Neill, USA 3. Hiroyuki Uesaka, Japan Disc: Frank Bretz, Germany
IPM65	Wed 1	MEETING CANCELLED	ISBIS	MEETING CANCELLED	

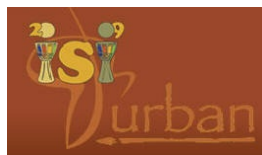
IPM66	Wed 2	Energy Statistics	ISBIS IAOS	Carol Joyce Blumberg, USA, carol.blumberg@eia.doe.gov	1. Pilar Muñoz with Cristina Corchero and F. Javier Heredia, Spain 2. Olav Ljones, Norway 3. Alan Clarke, UK Disc: TBD
IPM67	Tue 2	Models of modern data and metadata systems	GTC IFC IASS	Steven Keuning, The Netherlands, steven.keuning@ecb.europa.eu	1. Ashwell Jenneker with Matile Malimabe, South Africa 2. Sabata Legwaila, Bostwana 3. Michel Cloutier with Alice Born, Canada 4. Gérard Salou, France 5. Shuangge Ma, USA 6. Mary Vardigan, USA Disc: Lars Thygesen, Denmark
IPM68	Wed 1	Risks in Finance - The state of the art in statistical methods.	GTC IFC ISBIS	Richard Walton, UK, Richard.Walton@ecb.europa.eu	1. Paolo Poloni, Italy, with Violetta Damia, Greece and Jean-Marc Israël, France 2. Kgomotso Matlapeng, with Thabo Mbeleki and Francis Selialia, South Africa 3. Madoda Petros with Nico de Lange, South Africa 4. Jan Lubbe with Flippie Snyman, South Africa Disc: Susana Filipa Lima, Portugal Disc: Satoru Hagino, Japan
IPM69	Mon 1	Quantification of qualitative data from surveys	GTC IFC	Cevriye Aysoy, Turkey, cevriye.aysoy@tcmb.gov.tr	1. Tomasz Lyziak, Poland 2. Ece Oral, Turkey 3. Vahe Movsisyan, Armenia Disc: Enrico Giovannini, Italy Disc: Ghislain Poulet, Belgium
IPM70	Mon 2	The size and impact of statistical revisions	GTC IFC	Rudi Acx, Belgium, rudi.acx@nbb.be	1. Gabriel Quiros with Wim Haine et al, Spain 2. Giuseppe Parigi with Guido Bulligan and Roberto Golinelli, Italy 3. R. Keshishbanoosy, Canada (TBC) Disc: K. Todani, South Africa
IPM71	Mon 3	Statistics of institutional investors	GTC IFC	Mary Amiti, USA, Mary.Amiti@ny.frb.org	1. Zeph Nhleko with Nonny Nhlapo and Barend de Beer, South Africa 2. Jani Matilainen, Finland with Henning Ahnert, Barbara Zupancic, Rafael Quevedo, Antonio Matas and Paolo Poloni 3. Ian James Nield with Rochelle Barrow, New Zealand 4. Celestino Giron Pastor, Spain Disc: Michael Kock, South Africa

IPM72	Tue 3	Measuring access to monetary and financial services	GTC IFC	Vukani Mamba, South Africa, vukani.mamba@resbank.co.za	1. Joao Cadete de Matos, Portugal 2. Penelope Hawkins, South Africa 3. Gastón Repetto, Argentina 4. Vijay Mahajan, India (TBC) Disc: Cassim Coovadia, South Africa Disc: Cigdem Kogar, Turkey
IPM73	Tue 2	Relative survival	GTC LS BS	Janez Stare, Slovenia, janez.stare@mf.uni-lj.si	1. Jacques Estève, France 2. Michal Abrahamowiz, Canada 3. Maja Pohar Perme, Slovenia
IPM74	Fri 1	Group sequential analysis design	GTC LS	M.J.van der Laan, USA, laan@stat.berkeley.edu	1. Bruce Turnbull, USA 2. Scott Emerson, USA 3. Michael Rosenblum, USA Disc: TBA
IPM75	Tue 1	Inference and prediction in competing risks and multi-state models	GTC LS	Hein Putter, The Netherlands, h.putter@lumc.nl	1. Martin Schumacher, Germany 2. Bendix Carstensen, Denmark 3. Ørnulf Borgan, Norway Disc: Niels Keiding, Denmark
IPM76	Thu 2	Challenges and new advances of large dimensional failure time data analysis with applications in population sciences	GTC LS	Yi Li, USA, yili@jimmy.harvard.edu	1. Ross Prentice, USA 2. Jianqing Fan, USA 3. Jason Fine, USA 4. Malka Gorfine, Israel Disc: Els Goetghebeur, Belgium
IPM77	Tue 3	Statistical methodology for the analysis of sleep studies	GTC LS	Ciprian M. Crainiceanu, USA, ccrainic@jhsp.edu with Henry Mwambi, South Africa (Chair)	1. Ciprian M. Crainiceanu, USA 2. Brian Caffo, USA 3. Ana-Maria Staicu, UK 4. Naresh Punjabi, USA Disc: TBA
IPM79	Wed 2	Prognostic modelling for proteomic data	GTC LS	Bart Mertens, The Netherlands, b.mertens@lumc.nl	1. Philip J. Brown with Foteini Strimenopoulou, UK 2. Alexander Gammerman, UK 3. Jennifer Barrett, UK 4. David Hand, UK
IPM80	Fri 2	Measuring fertility	GTC	Niels Keiding, Denmark, N.Keiding@biostat.ku.dk with Chair TBA	1. Rémy Slama, France 2. Mette Gerster, Denmark 3. Niels Keiding, Denmark Disc: TBA

IPM81	Thu 1	MEETING CANCELLED		MEETING CANCELLED	
IPM82	Thu 3	Statistical Issues associated with climate change	GTC TIES	David Marker, USA, markerd1@westat.com with Chair TBA	1. Peter Guttorp, USA 2. Walter Radermacher, Germany 3. David Marker, USA Disc: Olva Ljones, Norway
IPM83	Sat 1	New studies of the association between human health and pollution and their impact in air quality regulation	GTC TIES	Montserrat Fuentes, USA, fuentes@stat.ncsu.edu with Larry Cox, USA, lgc9@CDC.GOV (Chair)	1. Kiros Berhane with Jim Gauderman and Duncan Thomas, USA 2. Gavin Shaddick, UK 3. Wenceslao Gonzales-Manteiga with M. Pineiro-Lamas and M. Febrero-Bande, Spain Disc: Peter Guttorp, USA
IPM84	Thu 1	Spatial modelling of large and disparate environmental datasets	GTC TIES	Montserrat Fuentes, USA, fuentes@stat.ncsu.edu with Gavin Shaddick, UK, gavinshaddick@gmail.com (Chair)	1. Sudipto Banerjee, USA 2. Sujit K. Sahu, UK 3. Catherine A. Calder, USA
IPM85	Thu 2	Mesoscale studies of temperature trend	GTC TIES	Robert Lund, USA, lund@clemsun.edu	1. Colin Gallagher, USA 2. QiQi Lu, USA 3. Bo Li, USA Disc: Lynne Seymour, USA
IPM86	Wed 1	MEETING CANCELLED		Jacky Galpin, South Africa, jacky@galpin.co.za	
IPM87	Fri 2	New methods for improving access to statistics by the general public	GTC IAOS	Siu-Ming Tam, Australia, siu-ming.tam@abs.gov.au with Chair TBA	1. Lars Thygesen, Denmark 2. Siu-Ming Tam with Andrew Mair, Australia 3. Alan Smith, UK Disc: Nireen Naidoo, South Africa
IPM88	Fri 2	Statistics for Development	GTC IAOS Local Hosts	Misha Belkindas, USA, mbelkindas@worldbank.org	1. Ben Kiregyera, Uganda with Charles Lufumpa, Zambia and Michel Mouyelo-Katoula, Republic of the Congo 2. Pieter Everaers, The Netherlands with James Whitworth, UK 3. Graham Eele, UK with Mustafa Dinc, Turkey, and Neil Fantom, UK Disc: Anne Letsebe, South Africa Disc: Antoine Simonpietri, France
IPM89	Mon 2	Institutional Strengthening - Building and maintaining the infrastructure in an environment of scarce resources	GTC IAOS Local Hosts	Michel Mouyelo-Katoula, Republic of the Congo, m.mouyela-katoula@afdb.org with Chair TBA	1. Mustafa Khawaja, Palestine 2. Thomas Wollnik with Daniel Byk, Germany 3. Michel Mouyelo-Katoula, Republic of the Congo 4. Ada van Krimpen, The Netherlands

IPM90	Mon 1	Institutional Strengthening - The role of Official Statistics in Meeting Global Challenges	GTC Local Hosts	Paul Cheung, Singapore, Paul.Cheung@un.org with Dae-Ki Kim, Korea (Chair)	1. Dennis Trewin, Australia 2. Samia Zekeria Gutu, Ethiopia 3. (John) Steven Landefeld, USA Disc: Shigeru Kawasaki, Japan Disc: Pali Lehohla, South Africa
IPM91	Mon 3	Institutional Strengthening - Developing the capability of the people producing and analysing official statistics.	GTC Local Hosts	Ben Kiregyera, Uganda, bkiregyera@yahoo.com or Bkiregyera@uneca.org	1. Lehana Thabane, Canada 2. Roger Stern, UK 3. Agnes Ssekiboobo, Uganda 4. Markus Wauschkuhn, Germany Disc: Dr. Sastry, India
IPM92	Thu 1	Biostatistics in Health the case of HIV/AIDS	GTC Local Hosts	Carl Lombard, South Africa, Carl.Lombard@mrc.ac.za	1. Hulin Wu, USA 2. Leigh Johnson, South Africa 3. Simon Heisterkamp, The Netherlands Disc: TBA
IPM93	Thu 1	Statistics in Africa	Local Hosts	Miranda Mafafo, South Africa, MirandaM@statssa.gov.za with Pali Lehohla, South Africa, palil@statssa.gov.za (Chair)	1. Ben Kiregyera, Uganda 2. Joao Loureiro, Mozambique 3. Rashad Cassim, South Africa 4. Jacob Ryten, Canada
IPM94	Mon 2	Do new trends in official statistics, more administrative data and use, with governmental guarantee for independency, present new ethical dilemmas?	GTC Ethics Committee	Olav Ljones, Norway, Olav.Ljones@ssb.no	1. Denise Lievesley with Richard Alldritt, UK 2. Øyvin Kleven with Tor Morten Normann, Norway 3. Thomas Mesenbourg, USA 4. Walter Radermacher, Germany 5. Peter Harper with Brian Pink and Paul Sullivan, Australia
IPM95	Thu 1	Adversarial Risk Analysis	GTC Risk Analyses Committee	David Banks, USA, banks@stat.duke.edu with Lutz Edler, Germany, edler@dkfz-heidelberg.de (Chair)	1. David Rios-Insua with Jesus Rios, Spain 2. David Banks, USA 3. Nozer Singpurwalla, USA Disc: Mehmet Sahingolu, USA
IPM96	Fri 2	Progress, politics and statistics: interactions and implications	GTCOECD	Jonathon Hall, Australia, jon.hall@oecd.org with Ken Prewett as chair (TBC)	1. Alan Krueger, USA 2. Ronette Engela, South Africa 3. Jonathon Hall, Australia Disc: Grace Bediako, Ghana Disc: François Bourguignon, France

IPM97	Fri 1	Estimating demographic statistics with flawed vital registration systems	GTC IUSSP IASS	Carla Lidia Abou-Zahr, UK, abouzahr@who.int	1. Alex Ezech, Kenya 2. Prasanta Mahapatra, India 3. Kenneth Hill, USA 4. Rafael Lozano, USA 5. Debbie Bradshaw, South Africa Disc: One of John Cleland, UK or Ben Kiregyera, Uganda, TBC
IPM98	Sat 1	Issues in the analysis of multivariate data in the spatial domain	GTC IAMG	Eric Grunsky, Canada, egrunsky@iamg.org	1. William F. Christensen, USA 2. Trevor Bailey, UK 3. Allan A. Nielsen, Denmark Disc: TBA
IPM99	Mon 1	Biostatistics and Clinical Research: A Symbiosis	ISI	Norbert Victor, Germany, victor@imbi.uni-heidelberg.de	1. Emmanuel Lesaffre, Belgium 2. Lutz Edler, Germany 3. Rumana Omar, UK 4. Aeilko Zwinderman, The Netherlands Disc: Niels Keiding, Denmark Disc: Geert Molenberghs, Belgium
IPM100	Tue 3	Improving Data Archiving and Dissemination System for a Better Access and Utilization of Survey and Census Data	ISI	Robert McCaa, USA, rmccaa@umn.org and Dmitri Sanga, Canada (Chair)	1. Lynn Woolfrey with Matthew Welch, South Africa 2. Solome Sevumi, Uganda 3. Robert McCaa with Wendy Thomas, USA 4. Mamadou Niang, Senegal Disc: Margaret Mbogoni, Uganda
IPM101	Tue 2	Jan Tinbergen and Cochran-Hansen Awards for best papers by young statisticians	ISI	Denise Lievesley, UK, d.lievesley@uclmail.net	1. Hukum Chandra, Cochran-Hansen Prize winner 2. Jan Tinbergen winners: Mr. Pierre Joubert Nguetse Tegoum (Cameroon), Mr. Mohammad Arashi (Iran), Mr. Sudheesh Kumar Kattumannil (India)
IPM102	Fri 2	Invited paper meeting in honour of David G. Kendall	Bernoulli Society ISI	Wilfrid Kendall, UK, w.s.kendall@warwick.ac.uk and Jef Teugels, Belgium, jef.teugels@wis.kuleuven.be	1. Jef Teugels, Belgium 2. John Gower, UK 3. Victor Panaretos, Switzerland
IPM103	Tue 1	Part 1 of President's Invited Papers Meeting (see IPM 1)	ISI	Denise Lievesley, UK, d.lievesley@uclmail.net	MEETING TBA Closer to the time of the session



Important Updates:

Please visit the ISI Durban Session website for the IPM schedule:
<http://www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009/ScientificProgramme/lpms.aspx>.

The list of Short Courses is available at <http://www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009/ShortCourses.aspx>.
Please see Information Bulletin III: <http://www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009/welcome/news.aspx>.

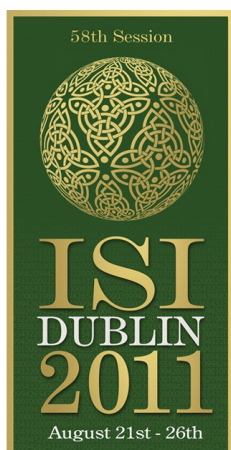
Administrative Meetings Schedule

	Friday 14 August	Saturday 15 August	Sunday 16 August	Monday 17 August	Tuesday 18 August	Wednesday 19 August	Thursday 20 August	Friday 21 August	Saturday 22 August
07:30 - 09:00				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint meeting of the ISI General Topics Committee & Programme Co-ordinating Comm. for the 58th Session, together with representatives of Outgoing Programme Co-ordinating Comm. for the 57th Session, as well as both Local Program Comm., Chairs • ISI Member Auditors • IASE/ICMI Project Meeting • Mahalanobis Committee • East Asia Outreach Committee • IAOS Prize for Young Statisticians Presentation of Winners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISI Program Co-ordinating Comm. I • ISI Comm. on Risk Analysis • Country Representatives Mtg. (Women in Statistics Comm.) • Life Sciences Comm. • Khwarezmi Comm. • Marco Polo Travel & Tourism Comm. • IASE International Statistical Literacy Committee • ISI Service Certificates Review Comm. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IAOS General Assembly • BS Council Meeting • ISBIS Executive Comm. • Agricultural Statistics Comm. • Global Adult Tobacco Surveillance with special focus on Africa Open Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TIES Open Meeting for Interested Participants • IASS Executive Comm. • ISBIS Council Meeting • BS Program Comm. • SERJ Editorial Board • IASE Open Meeting for ISLP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISBIS General Assembly • BS Executive Comm. • PARIS 21
09:00 - 11:15				Scientific Meetings	Scientific Meetings	Scientific Meetings 08:15 - 13:00	Scientific Meetings	Scientific Meetings	Scientific Meetings
11:15 - 13:00 & Lunch Break	ISI Joint EC Meeting 10:00 - 17:00	ISI Joint Council Meeting 10:00 - 17:00	Registration	ISI Joint EC Meeting 10:00 - 12:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISI Nominations Comm. I • ISI General Topics Comm. I • IAOS Exec. Comm. • BS East Asian & Pacific Reg. Comm. • BS European Regional Comm. • BS Comm. for Stochastic Sciences Institutes • SCORUS Meeting • IASS Council Meeting • IASE Executive Comm. • ISI Committee on Professional Ethics 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BS General Assembly • IAOS Program Comm. • IASE Program Comm. • IASC Program Comm. • IASS Program Comm. • ISBIS Program Comm. • TIES Program Comm. • History of Statistics Comm. • Women in Statistics Comm. • IASE Open Meeting (SERJ/IASE) • Open Meeting of National Statistical Societies & Committee for the Strengthening of Co-operation between the ISI & Statistical Societies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IASE General Assembly • BS Comm. for Probability & Statistics in the Physical Sciences • IASC Council Meeting • Sports Statistics Comm. • ISI Nominations Comm. II • ISI Publications Comm. • Bernoulli Editorial Board Meeting • ISI & African Statisticians Mtg. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IASS General Assembly • ISI Nominations Comm. III • ISI General Topics Comm. II • IASC ERS BoD • Publications ISR Sub-Comm. • Open Meeting of the Astrostatistics Interest Group
13:00 - 15:15*			IFC General Assembly 15:00-16:30	Finance Committee Meeting 13:00-14:00	Scientific Meetings	Scientific Meetings	Scientific Meetings (Including Jan Tinbergen & Cochran-Hansen Winning Paper Presentations)	Scientific Meetings	President's IPM Meeting
15:30 - 17:45			Opening Ceremony & Welcome Reception (from 16:30)		Scientific Meetings	Scientific Meetings	Optional Tours	ISI General Assembly (Jan Tinbergen, Cochran-Hansen & Mahalanobis Awards Presented)	Closing Ceremony
Evening	EC Dinner	Council Reception			Forum for Young Statisticians	Networking Event (Beach Party)	Women in Statistics Dinner (women only)	Statistician-General's VIP Dinner (by invite only)	Gala Dinner

* Afternoon Tea & Coffee Break

Last update: 11 August 2009

Call for Proposals – ISI Dublin, August 2011



Invited Paper Meetings

Organizing an Invited Paper Meeting at ISI is a very good way to increase interest in a research area and highlight to a broad audience the opportunities and the research results that are being achieved. In 2011 at the ISI Dublin Session, an aim will be to highlight the contributions that statistics can make to global challenges. To this end, there will be a special 'Theme Day' devoted to the topic Water, Quality and Quantity.

Planning of the Scientific

Programme for the Dublin Session is ramping up, for the Theme Day and for the rest of the Programme. Invited Paper Meetings will be central to the success of the ISI and the Programme Coordinating Committee (PCC) is looking for proposals for Invited Paper Meetings – for the Theme Day and for the rest of the meeting. Proposals should have been submitted to the Programme Coordinating Committee by Friday, July 24th, 2009.

The Dublin Session will have 70-75 Invited Paper Meetings (IPMs). We anticipate more proposals than this. Proposals will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Is the topic of interest to more than one Section?
- Does the topic link users and developers of new methods?
- Is the topic at the cutting edge of research or application?
- What is the ranking by the Sections of the proposals they are nominating?

Special consideration will be given to ensure that the Programme:

- Has a balance of organisers from around the world
- Has a good representation of organisers who are early career statisticians
- Has a good representation of organisers who are female
- Is attractive to the diverse membership of the ISI and its Sections

Training Courses, Continuing Education and Workshops

ISI provides an opportunity to provide training on specialized topics and to conduct workshops and continuing education on advanced and rapidly changing areas. Many of these will occur with the active cooperation and support of the various ISI Sections and Committees. Expressions of interest are requested from individuals and groups interested in organizing such events in association with the Dublin Session.

Further Information

The website for ISI 2011 (<http://www.isi2011.ie/>) has further information on the Scientific Programme and the guidelines for proposals and expressions of interest as well as contact information for the Programme Coordinating Committee, including the representatives of the different Sections.

Proposals and Expressions of Interest can be submitted via members of the PCC or through the undersigned at the addresses listed.

Murray Cameron (murray.cameron@csiro.au)

Silvia Regina Costa Lopes (silviarc.lopes@gmail.com)

Co-Chairs, Programme Coordinating Committee

58th ISI World Statistics Congress, Dublin

Report from Meeting of the ISI Executive Committee

The ISI Executive Committee met at the end of April at King's College London. This note gives a brief summary of the highlights of our discussions. A large part of our discussions concerned the plans for the ISI Session in Durban which I have not repeated here since more up to date information is provided elsewhere in the *ISI Newsletter*, see from pages 4. We also received updates on the plans for Dublin in 2011 and Hong Kong in 2013.

Finances

The financial results for 2008 show a deficit of € 115,000 due to an increase in the staffing costs which total € 500,000. This increase is largely due to the departure of the previous Director, the search for a new Director and the costs of the Interim Director. Despite this deficit it was decided to increase the membership dues by only the cost of living as it was appreciated that the current times are very hard for many members. We had a useful discussion on the ex-officio dues structure and agreed that a review of this is a high priority for the incoming Director of the ISI in consultation with the Finance Committee as well as the IAOS and the ISI Executive Committees. We also considered the fact even though we offer

a reduction of 50% of dues to developing country statisticians, this is still very high for many people in the really poor countries of the world. We need to review this together with the definition of developing countries.

Membership

The ISI membership figures show a net loss of 25 members over 2008, with only 11 candidates being nominated for the first round of the 2009 membership elections. It was agreed that I should write to all ISI members urging them to nominate colleagues and other statisticians for membership.

ISI Director

We took the opportunity to thank Wim Senden for his commitment to the post of interim Director of the ISI which continued until 1st June, and we discussed the recruitment of a full time Director (I am sure that you will be pleased to see the report of the appointment of Ada van Krimpen to this position in this *ISI Newsletter*, see page 2).

Restructuring

The President-Elect, Jef Teugels, has taken responsibility for moving forward the ideas concerning a new structure for the ISI family and he reported on his progress and opinions. He expressed some concerns about the plans regarding open membership because he felt there are signs that some elected members would not support this change and would see the move from the category of 'elected members' to 'fellows' as somewhat superficial. He pointed out that 40% of ISI elected members do not sign up for a free Section and we understand very little as to why these members do not see a free section as attractive. Thus his conclusions were that a 'light' version of membership in the ISI is needed and the category of elected membership should stay. It was his recommendation that more consultation and debate is needed before we have formal proposals to place before the membership. I expressed my gratitude to Jef Teugels for his commitment to this work.

Council

We are concerned that the current Council does not function optimally because the roles of Council members are not clear. Should the Council be consultative or decision-making? Is the EC considered really part of the Council or mostly operating separately? Council members are sufficiently involved in the ISI partly because the cost of holding a face-to-face Council meeting is expensive. Some attempts have been made to allocate roles to Council members and this could be extended to incorporate roles representing their own regions as well as specific responsibilities. This is to be discussed at the forthcoming Council meeting.

Nominations Committee

The Executive Committee agreed that Len Cook should chair the next Nominations Committee to select a slate of candidates for the ISI Executive and Council. Ideas should be sent to him at len_cook@xtra.co.nz

Auditing of Votes

Professor Jelke Bethlehem has audited the votes for the elections to the ISI Executive and Council, a task for which we are very grateful. We thus thanked Jelke for this commitment.

Publications Committee

We received updates from the Vice-President Vijay Nair on the development of the Springer online Encyclopedia and on the search for a new Chief Editor of the *ISReview* (and I am very pleased to announce that Ali Hadi, Vice Provost and Director of Graduate Studies and Research in The American University in Cairo has accepted this important position). We also discussed how we can make much needed improvements to the *ISI Newsletter* and website and we look forward to discussions on this in Durban. We also began some early discussions on a proposal for a rapid research communications journal.

Future Sessions

The ISI Executive Committee has been exploring the future of the ISI Sessions under the leadership of Vice-President Stephan Morgenthaler. From the Dublin Conference onwards, the Session will officially be called: 58th ISI World Statistics Congress. As a consequence of this there will be other name changes:

Invited Sessions instead of IPM
Contributed Sessions instead of CPM
Special Topic Sessions instead of STCPM

Stephan has been reviewing the committee structure and will propose some changes to be considered in Durban. The idea of theme day(s) at the Congresses such as the health statistics in Sydney and the day on water statistics planned for Dublin, are seen as exciting. Theme day(s) could be half a day, a full day or could be as a track through all five days. The possibility of named lectures was discussed and it was agreed that we might start modestly with two or three to be organised per World Congress.

The sensitive issue of the host country contributing to the ISI finances was discussed. One possibility would be to use an agreed percentage of the ISI registration fees to create a President's Fund to be used to invite special speakers and provide proper financial support for key people who would not otherwise get funding to attend a Session. Concerns were expressed about the fact that each host country has to develop an Abstract/Paper management system, and the possibility was again raised that the system should move from one congress organiser to the next. This needs further exploration.

Briefing of Heads of National Statistical Offices

Vice President Len Cook had been allocated responsibility for proposing the future of these briefing sessions. He will prepare a paper for consideration by the Executive Committee and for consultation with other interested parties. His current thinking is that the focus of such briefings could be on the top ten most difficult issues for heads of national statistical offices.

Meeting of National Statistical Societies

A meeting of emerging and existing national statistical societies is scheduled to be held in Durban. The idea is that the ISI can act as an umbrella for national statistical societies bringing them together to share experiences and expertise. The Committee for the NSSs has only met at the Sessions with very little activity taking place between Sessions. The ISI Office needs to update its list of national statistical societies and information to assist with this is always welcome and should be sent to Mr. Sieriel Hoesenie: s.hoesenie@cbs.nl.

Denise Lievesley
President ISI

Awards, Prizes and Competitions

Mahalanobis Prize

Initiated and financially supported by the Government of India, the biennial 'Mahalanobis Prize' serves to honour the memory of Professor P.C. Mahalanobis by recognising the lifetime contribution of selected statisticians from developing countries

who have earned their reputation in developing countries. Previous winners of this Prize include Prof. C.R. Rao, Prof. Ben Kiregyera and Dr. Isidoro P. David. We are proud to announce that the winner of the fourth edition of the Mahalanobis Prize is Pedro Alberto Morettin from Brazil. We

congratulate Professor Morettin on this well deserved recognition, and also thank the Mahalanobis Prize Jury, chaired by Professor Lynne Billard, for their efforts. The Honourable Shri Sriprakash Jaiswal, the Indian Minister of State for Statistics & Programme Implementation, will confer the Mahalanobis Prize upon Professor Morettin in a special ceremony during the ISI General Assembly on 21st August. Please attend the ISI General Assembly and witness this special event!



Pedro Alberto Morettin

Jan Tinbergen Prize

One of the fundamental objectives of the ISI is to define and institute a constructive role for the ISI in supporting the development of young statisticians. With this in mind, we are delighted to announce the following winners of the ISI Jan

Tinbergen Award, named after the famous Dutch econometrician:

- Mr. Pierre Joubert Nguetse Tegoum (Cameroon)
- Mr. Mohammad Arashi (Iran)
- Mr. Sudheesh Kumar Kattumannil (India)

In addition to a cash prize, generously provided by the Dutch 'Stichting Internationaal Statistisch Studiefonds', these three individuals will receive support to enable their participation at the Durban Session and present their winning papers at a special Invited Paper Meeting (IPM 101). We are grateful to the Jan Tinbergen Jury, chaired by Mr. Eric Schulte Nordholt, for their work in selecting the award winners.

The Weldon Memorial Prize for 2008

The Weldon Medal is awarded each year, to perpetuate the name of Walter Frank Raphael Weldon, MA, D.Sc. formerly Linacre Professor of Comparative Anatomy and Fellow of Merton College, and to encourage Biometric Science. This year, unusually, it has been awarded to an Oxford scientist.

The Prize has been awarded to Professor Peter Donnelly, FRS FMedSci, Professor of Statistical Science and Director of the Wellcome Trust Centre for Human Genetics, University of Oxford.

Weldon Memorial Prize for 2008 website:

<http://www.well.ox.ac.uk/news.shtml>

News of Members



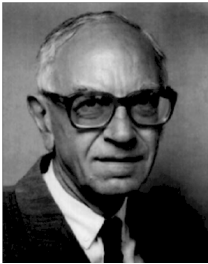
*Professor
George Roussas*

George G. Roussas, Distinguished Professor, University of California, Davis, Corresponding Member of the Academy of Athens, and an elected member of the ISI since 1973, was elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) "for fundamental contributions to the field of statistical

inference in stochastic processes, particularly developing Large Sample Theory, and for significant contributions to your university and profession".

We regret to announce the deaths of the following members:

	Born	Elected	Deceased
Professor John Hajnal	1924	1961	30 November 2008
Mr. Svein Longva	1943	1993	16 April 2009
Mr. Yury Orlov	1936	1995	18 May 2005
Professor Heihachi Sakamoto	1914	1976	14 April 2004



Mr. Raymond
Lévy-Bruhl

Mr. Raymond Lévy-Bruhl (1922-2008)

A life devoted to statistics, hence to evidence-based policy-making¹

1. Living in an Academic Family in difficult times

Grandson of the well-known French philosopher and sociologist Lucien Lévy-Bruhl (1857-1939), who often served as a mentor of his growing grand-child. Raymond reached the age of 18 when France was defeated and soon, under German authority, adopted anti-Semitic rules. The family moved to Toulouse, where application of these rules was early more accommodating. At the university Raymond graduated with two diplomas: in law and mathematics. But young men of his age were then assigned to STO (service du travail obligatoire). Under a different assumed name and age, Raymond worked in Auch at the department of civil engineering.

From the summer 1944 to the spring 1945, France experienced a return to normal legislation. The Lévy-Bruhl family moved back to Paris and Raymond was engaged in the French army, where he served up to October 1945. He then registered at the University of Paris, where he took higher diplomas in public law and economics. In April 1946 INSEE was instituted and Francis-Louis Closon appointed as its Director General (*ISI Newsletter*, vol 23, n°1, 1999). Raymond Lévy-Bruhl happened to meet him, as well as the then director, Eugène Morice, of the INSEE School. On the basis of his curriculum vitae and of a law then ruling entry of the young Jews in the French civil service, he was appointed to the staff of INSEE on July 1, 1946. Simultaneously, he was granted a Rockefeller fellowship to be spent for a semester at Columbia University, followed by a quarter at the US Census Bureau. It was then agreed that Raymond Lévy-Bruhl would join, in October 1947, Pierre Thionet (ISI, 1955), who had graduated in mathematics at Ecole Normale Supérieure and was becoming a specialist in statistical sample surveys.

The fall 1947 was also the time when a new academic research unit was created at the Sorbonne²: the VIth Section of the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes, a section that would later grow and become the 'Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales. The VIth Section had a chair on 'Sociology of Law'. From 1950 to 1954 the chair was held by Henry Lévy-Bruhl (1884-1964), an uncle of Raymond, who later had himself much to do with that field when he served as the chief of the statistical division of our Ministry of Labor, from 1951 to 1962.

2. A first phase of activity at INSEE (1947-1951)

Historians of the French public statistical service know that it belonged to Pierre Thionet and Raymond Lévy-Bruhl to really launch sample surveys at INSEE during the years 1947 to

1951³. The most strategic choice was then to opt between the technique of random sampling as against the so called 'technique of quotas', which had been chosen for opinion pools, the set of units to be sampled being only requested to meet some preassigned conditions of proportionality to the population to be described⁴.

Experience has shown that the technique of quotas was not reliable, whereas random sampling, rigorously applied on sufficiently large samples, was giving in practice a measurable degree of approximation⁵. The French mathematicians and probabilists, like Maurice Fréchet and Georges Darmais were, of course, aware of that, as well as such precursor statisticians as Ronald Fisher in England. This being said, in France the random sampling technique had still to be implemented in the context of public statistics.

Leading this operation at INSEE was the main function of the unit led by Thionet and Lévy-Bruhl, later assisted by such younger statisticians as Jacques Desabie. Surveys had to be made on a number of demographic and economic subjects concerning activity of the French population. Random samples had to be drawn from the latest general population census (ran in 1946 or, later, in 1954). An incidental function for statisticians was also to provide relevant information to the people and to a variety of users, particularly those building our

³ See Jacques Antoine, *Histoire des sondages*, Odile Jacob, Paris 2005, p. 68.

⁴ The first chapter of Antoine's book has the title 'prehistory and origin of sample surveys'. It concludes that, when sample surveys were introduced in central Europe, the corpus of the doctrine and methods was already known and prowled thanks to American experience. In simple words, what Europeans found and applied in the 1950s and 1960s matched with what had been experimented in the 1930s, and even sometimes earlier. That chapter recalls the dominant role of the International Statistical Institute and its sessions since 1895. In 1903 a resolution drew attention to the considerable advantage to be found in applying 'the representative method'. In 1925 another resolution put, on the same level, two methods to ensure representativity: the sample may either be randomly chosen (with equal probabilities) or be 'judiciously' chosen, 'the units being distributed in groups according to such choice that these groups present, in total, about the same characteristics as the whole'. The resolution states additional recommendations about the control of representativity, calculation of accuracy and, in any case, publication of a detailed account of the selection procedures. The chapter also points to the fact that Jersey Neymann published in 1934 in the *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, an important article 'On the two different aspects of the representative method: stratified sampling or purposive selection'; The article was read as a full validation of stratified sampling. However, Antoine's prehistory also stresses the roles of psychologists and sociologists, as well as of opinion polls and market studies.

⁵ The literature on this question was then quickly substantial, with some 'Etudes théoriques' written by Thionet, and a chapter on 'Random Sampling in M.G. Kendall, *The Advance Theory of Statistics*, Volume 1, Fourth edition, Griffin and Co, London, 1948.

¹ See also 'In Memoriam' published in French by A. Desrosières et Béatrice Touchelay in *Courrier des Statistiques*, Mai-Octobre 2008.

² See *Une Ecole pour les Sciences Sociales*, Editions du Cerf, Paris 1966, p.145-165 and p. 511.

system of national accounts. Lévy-Bruhl took a large part in promoting such functions.

A first opportunity was offered when UNESCO opened for three months in Paris (October to December 1949) a 'Centre Européen d'Application Statistique et Démographique'. Lectures were given not only by Lévy-Bruhl and Thionet, but also by F.Yates, a senior British collaborator of R.Fisher, and by M.Hansen, an American statistician who had co-authored in 1943 an article 'On the theory of sampling from finite populations'. It is noteworthy that in the mimeographed booklet which was edited by INSEE and distributed to auditors, 69 pages were written by Lévy-Bruhl, out of hardly more than 100 pages.

Later in 1957, an 'Institut des sciences sociales du travail' asked Lévy-Bruhl to give a regular main course, a task he performed from to 1958. The Institut is now attached to the University Paris 1. Historians might search whatever archives from that period would be now available.

Foreign readers of this article may not realize the full impact in France of this first period of activity of Lévy-Bruhl and of collages of his age at INSEE⁶. For several decades we would have many opportunities to hear about this impact from civil servants of our generation referring, for instance, to lectures given by Raymond at the ENA (Ecole Nationale d'Administration).

3. The second period of activity

The second period of activity of Lévy-Bruhl covered the years 1951 to 1962, when he was heading the statistical division of our Ministry of Labor. In France, like in a number of other countries, labor statistics dated from the late nineteenth century, embedded, as they were, in the administration of labor laws. They had even be improved in the 1930s. The evolution had been temporarily interrupted by the war and German occupation, but was quickly resumed, with even the founding of a statistical survey, called ACEMO (standing for <activité et emploi de la main d'oeuvre>) and of a journal (*Revue française du Travail*). The scientific guarantee of INSEE had moreover been obtained in 1946 when sharp budgetary cuts had been imposed to all ministries.

When Lévy-Bruhl was assigned his new function, at a time of rapid turnover in administrative responsibilities, he made it clear that: first, he meant to stay; second that, remaining officially attached to INSEE, he was not ready to accept more than suggestions from the Minister of Labor; third, that he would reorganized ACEMO, so as to permit quick publication of the results (evolution of the number of employees by type of establishment and industry, of the average duration of work, of the average wage by sex and skill, in each industry and geographical zone); finally that the collection of data would be taken away from the responsibility of 'inspecteurs du travail'.

Lévy-Bruhl did not write his own biography. Neither was he a man to report at length on his own doughty deeds. However, we have two direct testimonies from him, which are worth reporting here about this second period of his activities. For the *Journées d'étude sur l'histoire de la statistique* (June 1976), in which most authors were historians writing on former times, he

⁶The background and emergence of this period are well described in F. Penissat et B. Touchelay, 'Les statistiques du travail en Revue (1906-1950)', 16 pages, Mars 2008.

was asked to write an article about his main recollection of the years 1945-1960⁷. About his function at the Ministry of Labor and the survey ACEMO, he had, with INSEE's agreement, to change the source on wages and salaries, from the reports of local arbitration courts (conseils des prud'hommes) to a direct collection of these data from individual employers. About his association with INSEE, Lévy-Bruhl chose to report the selective governmental manipulation in 1956-57 concerning which consumer prices to take as a reference for the determination of the minimum wage, and how that led INSEE to decide to compute a new consumer price index, on a richer collection of price data, so as to prevent selective manipulation.

The second direct testimony exists in a long and rich interview made of Lévy-Bruhl in 1991 by the 'Comité pour l'Histoire du Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances'. The general spirit is already conveyed in the concluding paragraph of his 1976 article referred to above. He there wrote:

«What should we conclude from this rapid bird's eye view of French statistics between 1945 and 1960?

The riches of the following periods should not lead us to forget that important works were then developed. Many of them still stand at the basis of the statistical production of 1976.

Moreover, outside of INSEE, Claude Gruson built up during this period, within the Ministry of Finances, the SEEF (Service for economic and financial studies). The small team of that service took the charge of developing the work on national accounts, which had been initiated after the war by a very small staff built at the 'Commissariat du Plan'. Elaboration of national accounts and economic budgets, which require a good consistency of statistical sources, was going to reveal deficiencies in the basic statistical information and to make obvious the necessity of improvements which were brought out in the following period».

Such is the background against which the third phase of Lévy-Bruhl activity must be seen

4. Being number 2 at INSEE

It was, indeed, a long period, which is naturally divided into three sub-periods.

4.1 Coordinating new developments (1962-66)

When, in the fall 1961, Claude Gruson was called to replace Francis-Louis Closon, a reorganization between SEEF and INSEE was clearly needed, implying that the bulk of the task of establishing the national accounts be transferred to INSEE, which was accumulating experience on objective collection of data and on precise determination of economic aggregates. Gruson naturally felt attached to his team and had no objection to the transfer, quite the contrary because he realized that participation of INSEE staff had been useful in economic analysis and economic budgeting. Neither did entry of national accountants in INSEE raise objections. Moreover, Raymond Lévy-Bruhl had served in 1961 as a good 'rapporteur' of the 'Commission de la main d'oeuvre' of the Fourth French Plan. Gruson then thought that Lévy-Bruhl could be replaced as heading the statistical division of the Ministry of Labor and should come close to him as coordinator of the reorganization.

⁷Pour une histoire de la statistique, Tome 1, pages 559-64, INSEE 1977 and Economica/INSEE 1987.

This turned out to have been an excellent idea, since Raymond was easily accepted as *de facto* Number 2 within INSEE, being in charge also of administrative and some other matters of general interest. Gruson could so even succeed in further substantially increasing INSEE staff during the following four years, and in appointing Raymond as his 'Chef de cabinet' before being himself replaced.

4.2 Heading the staff of the General Director (1967-71)

When he was appointed General Director of INSEE, Jean Ripert understood that his main task was to raise the productivity of the Institute. Indeed, he coined the following motto for INSEE: 'to organize itself so as to be ever more useful'. and he called on the consultant firm Mac Kinsey, giving it the target to survey the inner organization of INSEE and to make such proposals which could be discussed and implemented by 1971.

Simultaneously, realization of projects which had matured within INSEE during the preceding years and had been followed by Lévy-Bruhl went on. Some projects directly concerned the Institute as a producer and distributor of statistics, like the development of electronic tools, or of a rich system of surveys. Others concerned it as a coordinator of the various units making up the whole French statistical system, like creation and upkeep of registers of firms and establishments or publications such as 'Economie et Statistique' and 'Le courrier des statistiques', or still institution of the 'Conseil National de la Statistique' and the 'Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés'.

Clearly, many were involved in the array of problems and decisions that INSEE had thus to master in the late 1960s and early 1970s. But Lévy-Bruhl had clearly to examine them and expose them for decision of the General Director.

4.3 General Secretary of INSEE(1972- 89)

This was so much so that Ripert decided in 1972 to make this function explicit and to create the General Secretariat of INSEE under the authority of Lévy-Bruhl. It would be too long to expose here now at length how Raymond Lévy-Bruhl practised that responsibility up to his retirement, then serving with three General Directors in succession (Ripert, myself, Jean-Claude Milleron). I shall then finish this essay with just few comments.

All along Lévy-Bruhl was recognized as a statistician with high morals and competence, who greatly contributed to the consolidation and independence of INSEE, hence also to the quality of the public service in his country.

The International Statistical Institute is indebted to Lévy-Bruhl because of the care with which he organized in Paris in 1989 its 47th Session⁸ He became an elected ISI member in 1979.

When retiring, Raymond also took great care to leave clean archives for his successors, as well as oral explanations to his immediate successor, Gérard Maarek.

Edmond Malinvaud

Philippe Nasse (1939-2008)

Philippe Nasse passed away on November 26, 2008. He was 69 years old and an ISI elected member since 1994. He belonged to this very special kind of statisticians who are at the same time economists and econometricians, with a very solid theoretical knowledge allied to a strong practical capacity for analysing



Philippe Nasse

facts and an extraordinary pedagogic ability, whatever were his public, students, colleagues, experts, and politicians. Thanks to his various talents, he was able to fulfil different roles during his career: statistician and econometrician, researcher, economic adviser in the ministry of economic and finance, manager of statistical schools and teacher, magistrate in the Court of Accounts..

He started to work as a researcher at the National Institute for Statistics and Economic Studies (INSEE, the French central statistical office) in 1964 and got a Ph.D. in economic mathematics and econometrics three years later, in 1967, after having developed an econometric model for analysing household consumption. At the beginning of the 1970s, a number of countries tried to complete yearly national accounts with quarterly accounts: Philippe Nasse proposed a very original approach by elaborating an econometric model using current short term data, which was very innovating compared to the methods used by other countries. He had to supervise the implementation of his proposals when he became head of the national quarterly accounts division in 1975, then head of the economic forecasts department in 1978. His remarkable capacity to build practical and operational tools based on a

sound theoretical background is certainly one of the various Philippe Nasse's talents.

In 1982, he was called to work in the directorate of the Ministry of Economic and Finance in charge of macroeconomic forecasting and economic analysis. He spent six years in this directorate where he was a member of the staff of economic advisers, successively as the responsible of international affairs, head of the department of economic forecasting, and finally deputy director.

He came back to INSEE in 1988 as a member of the Research Department at INSEE, then, in 1990, he was appointed as the managing director of the Paris based School of Statistics and Economic Administration (ENSAE). He was at the origin of an important and sagacious reform of this school that is now one of the most known French institutions in its domain and established links with its best foreign counterparts like the London School of Economics. He was also at the origin of the creation of a second school within the same group dedicated to the statistical engineering. In fact, Philippe Nasse was always attracted by pedagogic activities and teaching; he was for instance professor at the economic department of the prestigious Ecole Polytechnique from 1974 to 1988. He also established strong links between these school and research activities, and chaired after 2004 the Council for Research activities within the INSEE.

⁸ INSEE had already been involved in organizing in Reims in 1978 the 11th general conference of the International Association of Regional and Urban Statisticians.

In 1994, he was called once again to work in the directorate of macroeconomic forecasting and economic analysis as its director. He was at that time one of the main economic advisers of three successive ministers. After the legislative elections of 1997 won by the socialist party, the new government asked to Philippe Nasse to produce a report on the state of the French economy, which he made in a total spirit of independence and professionalism, so much so that, five years after, when the socialist party was defeated, the same task was asked to Philippe Nasse by a government having totally different political views.

In 1997, he knew a last change in his professional activities by being appointed as a magistrate in the Court of Accounts. In this capacity, he was also appointed as a member of the French competition regulatory authority (the Competition Council), the vice-chairman of which he was since 2001.

His statistical career was certainly very specific but he was nevertheless happy with his election as an ISI member and he maintained his membership even during the last phase of his professional life when his activities were farer from statistics. I had the privilege to meet at several times Philippe during the recent past years since we both participate in an Economic and Financial Franco-Vietnamese Forum. His pedagogic capacities and his ability to make accurate and pertinent analysis of the Vietnamese economy were very much appraised.

It is a chance for the ISI to recruit members having the same kind of vision as Philippe Nasse.

Jean-Louis Bodin

ISI Committee Matters: ISI Committee for the Strengthening of Cooperation between the ISI and Statistical Societies

The main objective of this committee is to undertake cooperative activities and to develop systems for mutual support amongst the ISI and other statistical societies. At the recent Executive Board, we agreed that the ISI should pay more attention to the potential benefits of forging stronger relations between the ISI and NSSs.

At each ISI biennial Session, representatives of regional and national statistical societies have met to exchange information about their recent activities. Although these meetings have been very lively, it is regrettable that the committee has not been active between Sessions. So in Durban, we shall be meeting to consider how we might develop and sustain cooperative arrangements amongst statistical societies. In particular, we shall consider the possible establishment of an International Federation of National Statistical Societies. The

purpose of such a networked organisation would be to share knowledge and experience amongst member bodies, encourage education in Statistics, advance international cooperation and promote the discipline of Statistics.

We are especially keen to examine how we might support the establishment of new statistical societies, particularly in poorer countries. Another priority is to exchange experiences amongst societies concerning the involvement of young statisticians.

We welcome your views about the role that the ISI might play in furthering the concept of an international network of statistical societies. Please feel free to e-mail me at d.lievesley@uclmail.net.

Denise Lievesley
President ISI

ISI Officers' Elections Results

We would like to thank our members for voting and Professor Jelke Bethlehem for auditing the votes. A total of 581 ballots regarding ISI Officers resulted in the election of the following persons:

President-Elect (2009-2011)
Jae Chang Lee (Korea)

Vice-Presidents (2009-2011)
Louis H.Y. Chen (Singapore)
Vijayan N. Nair (Malaysia/USA)
Hallgrímur Snorrason (Iceland)

Council (2009-2013)
Bovas Abraham (Canada)
Martha B. Aliaga (USA)
A. John Bailer (USA)
Marie Husková (Czech Republic)
Jens Ledet Jensen (Denmark)
Geoffrey F. Lee (Australia)

Awa Thiongane (Senegal)
Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi (Italy)

Present Council members who will be continuing their service for a further two years (2009-2011) are:

Jaromir Antoch (Czech Republic)
Carolee Bush (USA)
Alicia L. Carriquiry (Uruguay)
Tim Dunne (South Africa)
Ursula Gather (Germany)
Mathisca de Gunst (The Netherlands)
Genshiro Kitigawa (Japan)
Jung Jin Lee (Korea)

The formal approval of the election results is due to occur during the Durban Session by the ISI General Assembly, which is scheduled for 21st August 2009. We are grateful to all candidates for their enthusiasm and willingness to support the ISI. The newly elected team, under the leadership of incoming President Jef Teugels, will start its work at the completion of the ISI Durban Session on 22nd August 2009.

ISI Executive Committee (2009-2011)

President



Jef L. Teugels
(Belgium)

President-Elect



Jae Chang Lee
(Korea)

Vice-Presidents



Louis H.Y. Chen
(Singapore)



Vijayan N. Nair
(Malaysia/USA)



Hallgrímur Snorrason
(Iceland)

Newly Elected Council (2009-2013)



Marie Husková
(Czech Republic)



Martha B. Aliaga
(USA)



A. John Bailer
(USA)



Bovas Abraham
(Canada)



Jens Ledet Jensen
(Denmark)



Geoffrey F. Lee
(Australia)



Awa Thiongane
(Senegal)



Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi
(Italy)

Dhaka Hosts International Statistics Conference

The North South University (NSU), Bangladesh, and Carleton University, Canada, jointly organized an International Conference on 'Recent Development in Statistical Sciences' at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre, Dhaka, Bangladesh during 26-27 December 2008. The Conference honoured A.K.Md. Ehsanes Saleh, Distinguished Research Professor & Professor Emeritus, Carleton University, in recognition of his outstanding contributions in the development of Statistical sciences through his pioneering research, outstanding supervision of PhD students and postdoctoral fellows, and exceptional professional services via organizing international symposia, as well as editing special volumes, books and journals over the last four decades. Professor Saleh is a Fellow of the ASA, IMS, RSS and Bangladesh Academy of Science; an elected member of the ISI; and an honorary member of the Statistical Society of Canada.

The Governor of Bangladesh Bank (Central Bank), Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed (chief guest); President of Bangladesh Academy of Science, Professor M. Shamsheer Ali (special guest) and Chair of Board of Governors of NSU, Mr Abdul Awal spoke in the inaugural session and welcomed and thanked Professor Saleh for participating in the conference. The Chair of the Steering Committee and Vice Chancellor of NSU, Professor Hafiz G A Siddiqi; Chair, International Scientific Committee, Dr Shahjahan Khan from the University of Southern Queensland, Australia; and Chair, Executive Committee, Dr Abdul Hannan Chowdhury of NSU welcomed the international and local participants of the conference. Before Professor Saleh welcomed all the participants, a video snippet on his career was shown to the audience. At the concluding part of the inaugural session, Dr Salehuddin Ahmed presented a crest of honor to Professor Saleh while his wife Shahidara Saleh and grand daughter Sarah Alam watched it with pride from among the audience.

The conference presentations covered many areas of current Statistical research and applications such as statistical inference, distribution theory, probability models, stochastic process, survival analysis, biostatistics, bioinformatics, epidemiology, reliability theory, quality control, sampling methods, statistical computing, Bayesian analysis, time series, econometrics, demography, robust methods, Monte-Carlo methods, statistical education, financial mathematics, forecasting, actuarial science, environmental statistics, economic statistics, official statistics, multivariate analysis, operations research, spatial analysis etc.

Out of over 120 papers, 85 were accepted for presentation in the conference. About 200 delegates from 15 different countries including Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Indonesia, Malaysia, Iran, Kuwait, Pakistan, Libya, Singapore, UK, and USA participated in the conference. Most of the contributed papers were presented by young academics and researchers from various public and private Universities in Bangladesh. The proceedings of the conference have been published. Some selected papers presented in the conference would be considered for publication in the Journal of Applied Probability and Statistics (JAPS) after peer-review.

The event received significant attention from the local printed and electronic media in spite of prescheduled national election on 29 December 2008. A full-page coverage of the conference was published in a national daily, the News Today on 26 December, highlighting the importance of the event and its scientific and national benefits. The wide ranging role and applications of Statistics in many different aspects of life were focused in a popular article on "Statistics: From Data to Decision and Development" published in the News Today as well as in the conference booklet. Several national dailies also published pre and post event news on the conference. Some TV channels also covered the news.

The closing session of the conference was held in the Sarina Hotel with Bangladesh-style dinner for the participants and guests. The chief guest of the session, Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman of University Grants Commission, provided some statistics on the current state of the higher education sector in Bangladesh. He also shared his memories with Professor Saleh while both were PhD students at the University of Western Ontario, Canada. Professor Munir Ahmed, founding President of ISOSS, spoke in the session on behalf of the international participants.

The conference paid deepest respect to late National Professor Qazi Motahar Hosain and Shaheed Professor Moniruzzaman for introducing the discipline of Statistics in the then East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) in the early fifties. Other pioneering Bangladeshi Statisticians who participated and was recognized in the conference are M Obaidullah, M G Mustafa, Anwar H Talukder, Kazi S Ahmed, and Sultan Ahmed.

*Shahjahan Khan
Chair of International Scientific Committee
President of ISOSS
Department of Mathematics & Computing
University of Southern Queensland, Toowoomba, Australia*



Some participants of the conference (from left) A.K.Md. Ehsanes Saleh (Canada), M Obaidullah (Bangladesh), Shahjahan Khan (Australia), Munir Ahmad (Pakistan), Abdunanabi Ali (Libya), and Emad-Eldin Aly (Kuwait)

Historical Anniversaries: William Playfair

William Playfair was born near Dundee, Scotland, on September 22, 1759. The fifth of eight children and the youngest son of Reverend James Playfair, minister of the parish of Liff and Bevie, he lost his father in 1772 and was looked after by his eldest brother, John Playfair, who was later to become professor of mathematics, then professor of natural philosophy at the University of Edinburgh.

After completing his formal education, he worked as an apprentice at the Houston Mill of the Phantassie estate, near East Linton, under Andrew Meikle, the inventor of the threshing machine. Thereafter, Playfair was taken on by the steam engine manufactory of Boulton and Watt in Birmingham, where he became a personal assistant to James Watt, preparing and copying drawings of steam engines for several years. During this period, Playfair was acquainted with the members of the Lunar Society, including Joseph Priestley who had proposed in 1765, with some success, a timeline chart that used individual bars to compare the life spans of persons.

Playfair left Boulton and Watt in 1782 and, with William Wilson, a co-worker, set themselves up as silversmiths and plate-makers in Marylebone, Middlesex. They opened a shop in London but this first attempt soon failed. This experience was the first element of an often-to-be-repeated pattern of enthusiastic projects, conflicts with associated people and ultimate failure.

In 1785, Playfair started to write about economics with a book devoted to the *Regulation of the Interest of Money*, inaugurating a set of books and pamphlets including one of the first critical editions (1805) of Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations*. In 1786, he published a study devoted to an examination of English trade during the eighteenth century entitled *Commercial and Political Atlas*. One of the peculiarities of this book is of statistical essence: it contains statistical charts. In this *Atlas* (which contains no maps as opposed to the familiar geographical atlas!) Playfair used a series of 34 plates about the import and export from different countries over the years, which he presents as shaded or tinted line graphs or surface charts. Because he lacked the similar series data for Scotland, he graphed its trade data for a single year as a series of 34 bars, inspired by the timelines of Priestley: this first bar chart gives a representation of Scotland's imports and exports from

and to 17 countries in 1781 and is considered as a particular solution to the problem of discrete quantitative comparison. It is a wonder that the graphs in the *Atlas* differ little from those proposed nowadays (shading, colour coding, grids, labels...). During the ten years which followed his appointment by Boulton and Watt, Playfair gave proof of his capacities with various activities. For example after the discovery of the French telegraph, he adapted this innovation to British use by introducing an alphabet of his invention. He also received no less than five patents for new inventions. But Playfair noticed that these activities did not bring him fortune and reputation, perhaps because the English industry and commerce were too prosperous to give him the fame he wanted. He believed that he could obtain more profit in a France striving to industrialize. Hoping in this way to obtain better results in another economic context, Playfair moved to Paris in 1787 where he intended to establish a rolling-mill in the style of Boulton and Watt. Although Louis XVI himself approved the plan, he met failure once again and decided to abandon engineering for the world of enterprise.

An interesting episode of his life in Paris concerns his partnership with Joël Barlow, Parisian representative of the American Scioto Land Company. Their purpose was to establish a colony of French people on the Ohio River among whom one would find distinguished participants to the American War of Independence. On the other hand, while living in the Saint Antoine quarter of Paris, in 1789 Playfair assisted in the capture of the Bastille. But on account of mismanagement and embezzlement, he left Paris for Frankfurt and returned to London in 1793 where he opened a "security bank", the activities of which were making him liable to prosecution by the Bank of England. He also co-edited a daily paper, *The Tomahawk*, and a weekly one, *Anticipation*, which was not published for very long.

During this period, Playfair published several tracts including graphs: *Lineal Arithmetic* (1798), *Statistical Breviary* (1801) in which he introduced the circle diagram as well as the pie chart, *Decline and Fall of Powerful and Wealthy Nations* (1805) and also *British Family Antiquity* in 9 volumes (1809-1811) which contained illustrations and chronological graphs.

After a brief and unsuccessful return to France after the restoration of the Bourbon monarchy, Playfair moved back to London where he died in poverty on February 11, 1823 at Covent Garden.

One of his children, Andrew William, emigrated to Canada where he became successful in private business, founding the town of Playfairville, not far from Ottawa.

His biographers have emphasized that Playfair was, in turn, millwright, engineer, draftsman, accountant, inventor, silversmith, merchant, investment broker, economist, pamphleteer, translator, publicist, land speculator, convict,

banker, ardent royalist, journalist, editor and blackmailer but we prefer to recall here that he was also a statistician who, against the tradition of graphical representation, allowed to understand that a graph can help a user of statistics in his studies.

Jean-Jacques Droesbeke

Chairman

Christiaan Huygens Committee on the History of Statistics

International Association for Official Statistics



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IAOS and National Statistics Institute (INE) of Chile are pleased to welcome you to the

IAOS/Scorus Conference on Official Statistics and the Environment: Approaches, Issues, Challenges and Linkages

October 2010, Santiago, Chile

Introduction

As ever more countries focus on understanding the factors that affect the environment and seek ways to protect it, they are realizing that a broad range of economic and social activities matter, and more importantly, that the effects of those activities with the environment are intertwined. Also, greater consideration is being given to the issue of the measurement of sustainability, with environmental issues as an important component.

For the statistical community in general and for National Statistics Offices (NSOs) in particular, a first step is to provide the foundation for informed policy decisions by collecting data and releasing statistical products for each environmental area separately. Integrating information from different sources, and perhaps from different countries, is also essential, because of the interdependent effects on the environment from government policies and from the economic and social activities of households, firms, and governments.

The theme of the 2010 IAOS Conference focuses on the environment in the broad sense.

1. Title of the Conference

"Official statistics and the environment: Approaches, issues, challenges and linkages"

2. Date and Venue: October 2010, Santiago, Chile

3. Conference Programme Committee (CPC)

Chair:

Peter Harper, Deputy Australian Statistician, Population, Labour, Industry and Environment Statistics Group, Australian Bureau of Statistics;

Deputy Chair:

Torstein Bye, Director for Department for Economy, Energy and Environment, Statistics Norway;

Members:

Grace Bediako, Government Statistician, Ghana Statistical Service;

Pieter Everaers, Director of Directorate E - Agriculture and environment statistics, Statistical cooperation, Eurostat;

Gabriel Gamez, Head of the EFTA Statistical Office (ESO), EFTA – European Free Trade Association;

Enrico Giovannini, Chief Statistician and Director, OECD, Statistics Directorate;

Hector Maldonado Gomez, Director of El Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadística, DANE Colombia

Nancy M. Gordon, Associate Director for Strategic Planning and Innovation, U.S. Census Bureau;

Eszter Horvath, Chief of Environment and Energy Statistics Branch, United Nations Statistics Division;

Dae-ki Kim, Commissioner, National Statistical Office, Korea;

Irena Krizman, Director-General, Statistical Office of the Republic Slovenia;

Dominic Leung, SCORUS, Chair;

Rowena Orok, Director, Environment Accounts and Statistics, Statistics Canada;

Eduardo Pereira Nunes, Director of Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística, IBGE Brasil;

Mariana Schkolnik Chamudes, National Director, National Statistics Institute (INE) of Chile;

Marian Scott, 2008-2012 TIES European regional representative;

Mojca Suvorov, Director of Environment and Natural Resources Statistics, Regional Statistics and Geomatics, Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia, Secretary of CPC;

Representative of the IASS, name to be confirmed later;

4. Main Topics

The theme of the Conference is environment in its broader sense. How can statistics measure the impacts of different

strategies and policies which have the effect on the environment and life of the people?

Main topics could be ⁹:

Theme 1: Compiling environmental statistics – sources, methods and quality. This would include both conventional (i.e. survey based) and non-conventional (e.g. modelling, estimations, remote sensing, forecasting, combination of surveys and administrative records, integration of information of different sources) methods and collaboration between official statisticians and other collectors of information.

Theme 2: Challenges and innovations in the dissemination of environmental and related information. This would include GIS, grids, design of public-use statistical products, indicators, statistical confidentiality vs. the right to know, remote access to data.

Theme 3: Integration of environmental information – frameworks, standards and classifications. This would include GHG emissions, SEEA, NAMEA, UNFCCC concepts, land use and land cover classification, ecosystem services.

Theme 4: Environmental and socio-economic linkages – drivers, impacts, adaptation and instruments, including impacts of energy, transport, agricultural, health and other policies; measuring effects on specific resources – water, forests, how to evaluate the transboundary effects, agro-environmental indicators, consumers' awareness.

Theme 5: The environment and sustainability, including the conceptual approaches, frameworks, measurement, the role of indicators, etc.

5. Organization of Work

The proposal is to organize the work in 2 Plenary Sessions, 3 Panel Discussions and 5 Parallel Sessions.

Plenary Session 1:

The proposed theme is "Environmental policy on the world level and on the Latin America level".

Plenary Session 2:

The proposed theme is "Official statistics' role in environmental and related socio-economic information".

We propose that the papers be grouped under 5 main topics. Every Parallel Session will include 1 main topic session in which invited papers will be presented and 2 sessions in which contributed papers of two other main topics will be presented. The topics will be circulated through 5 Parallel Sessions in the way that the participants will be able to hear all presentations for one main theme. Here follows a colour scheme of the sessions and draft agenda.

The Conference Programme Committee is looking forward to receive your comments and suggestions concerning the Scientific Programme, potential keynote speakers, organisers, authors of the invited papers, discussants, panellists, chairs and authors of the contributed papers, as well as the proposals for some side events such as posters, exhibitions, etc.

Proposals and comments should be sent to:

iaos2010.surs@gov.si

DAY 1					
10.00 - 11.00	Plenary Session 1				
11.30 - 13.00	PS 1	Theme 1 IP	Theme 2 CP	Theme 4 CP	SCORUS TBC
14.30 - 16.00	PS 2	Theme 2 IP	Theme 1 CP	Theme 3 CP	SCORUS TBC
16.30 - 17.30	Panel Discussion 1				
DAY 2					
9.00 - 10.00	Plenary Session 2				
10.15 - 11.45	PS 3	Theme 3 IP	Theme 1 CP	Theme 5 CP	SCORUS TBC
13.15 - 14.45	PS 4	Theme 4 IP	Theme 2 CP	Theme 5 CP	SCORUS TBC
15.15 - 16.45	PS 5	Theme 5 IP	Theme 3 CP	Theme 4 CP	SCORUS TBC
17.00 - 18.30	Panel Discussion 2				
DAY 3					
9.00 - 10.30	Panel Discussion 3				
11.00 - 12.00	Closing Session				

PS 1 to PS 5: Parallel Sessions 1 to 5

IP: invited papers

CP: contributed papers

SCORUS TBC: to be confirmed as an independent session

⁹ This is the latest version of the Conference Programme reviewed by Peter Harper and Torstein Bye (Chair and Deputy Chair of the Conference Programme Committee for IAOS 2010 Conference). The document is currently under discussion in the Conference Programme Committee. The paper was also sent to Latin American NSIs Directors General in order to stimulate the participation of the LA countries in the Conference work. All comments are highly appreciated.

Standing Committee on Regional and Urban Statistics



www.scorusnet.com

Submitted by Wendy Thomas

Preparing for ISI Session

Once again the ISI Session provides a wonderful opportunity for individuals interested in SCORUS concerns to meet, talk

and plan for the future. SCORUS has been involved in the preparation of two invited sessions sponsored by the IAOS. *Bringing Stats Home: Role of the Official Statistical Offices in supporting comparable statistics at regional, urban and local level* (IPM 20, Wednesday, 19 August, at 8:15 hours) and *Improving comparability of urban and regional data: Standards, harmonization, and sharing metadata resources for survey development* (IPM 21, Friday, 21 August, at 9:00 hours) both focus on the relationship between how data is collected at the national level and prepared for distribution at the local level. Because of the need to present local level data in an aggregated format, additional attention needs to be paid to how aggregation is performed, the geographies covered, and topical detail provided. In addition to meeting local analysis needs, we must also be aware that this is the information used to make international comparisons of sub-national regions and urban areas. These two sessions fit well within the overall theme of IAOS sponsored sessions and should provide a basis

for interesting dialogue during the conference week and beyond.

Important meetings to note for those interested in SCORUS activities:

Monday, 17 August, 11:15-13:00 hours

SCORUS meeting

Thursday, 20 August, 7:30-9:00 hours

IAOS General Assembly

SCORUS 2010 – Riga, Latvia

The 2010 meeting of SCORUS is already under development. The conference will be held in Riga, Latvia. Work is currently being done on program topics and organization. Full information on dates, location, and topic will be available at the 2009 ISI Durban Session.

Local Arrangements: Jolanta Minkvica

Program Chair: Petra Kuncova

SCORUS – The International Network for regional and urban statistics

For information on joining the SCORUS list server or providing suggestions to the leadership group, please contact SCORUS Secretary, Wendy Thomas at wlt@pop.umn.edu.

International Association for Statistics Education



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IASE Website

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase>

SRTL-6: The Sixth International Research Forum on Statistical Reasoning, Thinking, and Literacy

The Role of Context and Evidence in Informal Inferential Reasoning

University of Queensland, Australia, July 10-16, 2009

The Sixth International Research Forum on Statistical Reasoning, Thinking and Literacy (SRTL-6) will be held in Brisbane, Australia from July 10 to July 16, 2009. The Forum is sponsored by The University of Queensland's Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences, The American Statistical Association (Section on Statistics Education), and Springer Publishers. The School of Education and School of

Mathematics and Physics at The University of Queensland will host the Forum.

The Forum's focus will build on the work presented and discussed at SRTL-5 on informal ideas of statistical inference. Recent research suggests an important role for developing ideas of informal types of statistical inference even at early educational levels. Researchers have developed instructional activities that encourage students to infer beyond samples of data and use technological tools to support these informal inferences.

The findings of these studies reveal that the context of the data and the use of evidence may be important factors to study further. The role of context is of particular interest because in drawing (informal) inferences from data, "students must learn to walk two fine lines. First, they must maintain a view of data

as 'numbers with a context' (Moore, 1992)." At the same time, "they must learn to see the data as separate in many ways from the real-world event they observed" (Konold & Higgins, 2003, p. 195). That is, they must abstract the data from that context. The role of evidence is also of particular interest because in learning how to make data-based claims (argumentation), students must consider the evidence used to support the claim, the quality and justification of the evidence, limitations of the evidence and finally, an indication of how convincing the argument is (Ben-Zvi, Gil, & Apel, 2007).

Based on SRTL-5, we characterize Informal Inferential Reasoning (IIR) as the cognitive activities involved in drawing conclusions with some degree of uncertainty that go beyond the data and having empirical evidence for them. Three principles appear to be essential to informal inference: (1) generalizations (including predictions, parameter estimates, and conclusions) that go beyond describing the given data; (2) the use of data as evidence for those generalizations; and (3) conclusions that express a degree of uncertainty, whether or not quantified, accounting for the variability or uncertainty that is unavoidable when generalizing beyond the immediate data to a population or a process (Makar & Rubin, 2007).

An exciting Scientific Program includes a keynote address by former IASE President Professor Chris Wild, nine extended presentations by internationally recognized researchers from four continents, an interdisciplinary discussant panel, four poster presentations from promising early career scholars, and a series of formal and informal small and whole group discussions. The extended presentations address the role of context and evidence when reasoning about informal inference from the Early Years through to Tertiary levels, including the professional development of teachers. We look forward to a stimulating and enriching gathering.

The Forum is co-chaired by Dani Ben-Zvi (University of Haifa, Israel) and Joan Garfield (University of Minnesota, USA), locally organized by Katie Makar and Michael Bulmer (The University of Queensland), and planned by a prestigious international advisory committee. Conference attendance, by invitation only, has now been finalized. For more information, visit the SRTL website at: <http://srtl.stat.auckland.ac.nz/> or email SRTL2009@gmail.com.

Katie Makar

Innovative Approaches to Turn Statistics into Knowledge

Washington, D.C, USA, 15-16 July 2009

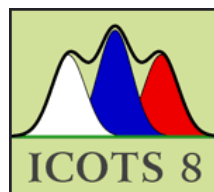
The OECD, the US Census Bureau and the World Bank are pleased to invite you to attend a jointly sponsored seminar on "Innovative Approaches to Turn Statistics into Knowledge" to be held on 15-16 July 2009 in Washington, D.C. The seminar builds on the progress made in the successful seminars held in 2007 and 2008 in Rome (Italy) and Stockholm (Sweden). As you can see in the attached outline, the seminar is about the art of making statistics understandable and appealing to modern audiences. Leading-edge products will be showcased. A review of technical solutions (e.g. Flash, video) are expected to be made and participants will have the opportunity to participate in discussions on how to select, develop and implement excellent solutions, as well as engaging and thought-provoking applications of statistics.

Recent years have seen a growing awareness worldwide of the importance of new techniques to communicate data and to interact with audiences. This is one of the themes of the Global Project on "Measuring the Progress of Societies". It is expected that the best outcomes of the workshop will flow through to inform the next OECD World Forum, 27-30 October

2009 in Busan, Korea, when a second international exhibition on Transforming Information into Knowledge is foreseen.

For more information visit a web page www.oecd.org/progress/ict/statknowledge or contact Julie.branco-marinho@oecd.org

Adapted by the Editors from the invitation letter



ICOTS 8
Data and Context in
Statistics Education:
Towards an Evidence-
Based Society
Ljubljana, Slovenia, 11-16 July
2010 icots8.org

ICOTS is held every four years. Its main purpose is to give statistics educators and professionals around the world the opportunity to exchange information, ideas and experiences, to present recent innovation and research in the field of statistics education, and to expand their range of collaborators.

An Update

Planning is moving ahead at a fast pace for what promises to be another successful international conference on statistics education. The ten invited paper topics are listed below. Each topic is divided into sessions. There are 75 sessions of three or four invited speakers. A total of 240 invited speakers from 34 countries have been confirmed to present in these sessions. Details of sessions, their organizers and the invited speakers can be viewed on the website (icots8.org).

Invited Paper Topics

1. Data and context in statistics education: Towards an evidence-based society
2. Statistics education at the school level
3. Learning to teach statistics
4. Statistics education at the post secondary level
5. Assessment in statistics education
6. Statistics education, training and the workplace
7. Statistics education and the wider society
8. Research in statistics education
9. Technology in statistics education
10. An international perspective on statistics education

Contributed Papers

Contributed paper sessions will be arranged in a variety of areas. Those interested in submitting a contributed paper should contact one of the three Convenors:

Flavia Jolliffe F.Jolliffe@kent.ac.uk
 John McKenzie mckenzie@babson.edu
 Gilberte Schuyten gilberte.schuyten@ugent.be

The authors of contributed papers can decide whether their paper should be refereed or not. If a contributed paper is to be refereed, an abstract should be submitted by 31st August 2009 with the final version of the paper due by 31st October 2009. If the contributed paper is not to be refereed, the abstract should be submitted by 30th November 2009 with the final version of the paper due by 15th December 2009.

Posters

Those interested in submitting a poster should contact the poster Convenors:

Mojca Bavdaz mojca.bavdaz@ef.uni-lj.si
 Alesa Lotric Dolina alesa.lotric.dolina@ef.uni-lj.si

The poster abstracts are due by 15th January 2010 with the abstracts to be finalised by 15th March 2010.

Keynote Speakers

I am happy to report that the keynote speakers are:

- Anuska Ferligoj, University of Ljubljana
- Gerd Gigerenzer, Max Planck Institute for Human Development
- Cliff Konold, University of Massachusetts
- Hans Rosling, Karolinske Institute
- Jessica Utts, University of California

There will also be a Plenary Panel Debate organised by Chris Wild, University of Auckland.

Abstracts for the plenary papers and the plenary debate can be viewed on the Conference website (icots8.org).

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John Harraway (New Zealand)

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Irena Krizman (Statistical Office of Slovenia)

Katja Rostohar (Agriculture Institute of Slovenia)

Irena Vipavc-Brvar (University of Ljubljana)

Venue

The 2010 Conference will be in the city of Ljubljana, Slovenia, in conjunction with the Statistical Society of Slovenia (SSS). It will be held at the Ljubljana Cultural and Congress Centre at Cankarjev Dom, a first-class conference venue providing many halls and meeting rooms and excellent facilities.

Due to its compact size, the capital city of Ljubljana is a walking and environmentally-friendly city. It has one of the best-preserved Baroque quarters in Europe that blends harmoniously with the younger Art Nouveau buildings. Bridges abound, and it is blessed with the talent of Joze Plecnik who created the cosmopolitan image of the city with his eclectic architecture.

Easily accessible from abroad and conveniently located in the centre of the country, Ljubljana is also an ideal departure point to discover all the amazingly diverse features of Slovenia. The unique Karst region, the Adriatic coast, the Alps and lakes region, the hilly wine-growing areas, the 15 natural spas and several historic towns are all within a two-hour drive.

If you go to the Conference website (icots8.org) and select the option *About Ljubljana* on the home page, you will be able to access a series of photos of Ljubljana and will be able to inspect Google Maps of the city, the country and the surrounding countries as well as locating three tourism links.

John Harraway

2009 IASE Satellite Conference Next Steps in Statistics Education 14-15 August 2009, Durban, South Africa

Continuing the successful tradition of satellite conferences coinciding with each ISI Session, the International Association for Statistics Education is pleased to announce that the sixth IASE Satellite Conference will be held in Durban, South Africa, on the 14th and 15th of August 2009. The IASE Satellite Conferences have proven to be a very popular component of the Statistics Education calendar. These Conferences are smaller and more personal in nature than the ICOTS conferences providing a wonderful opportunity for establishing new professional relationships and cementing existing ones. The format of this year's Conference will follow that of the 2007 Satellite Conference: plenary sessions will be supplemented by two parallel breakaway sessions. The theme of the Conference is Next Steps in Statistics Education. All submissions addressing this theme will be welcome. This theme has been chosen to particularly attract papers under the following headings:

1. What constitutes best practice for the curriculum beyond the "Introductory Statistics" course? What courses should follow on for those wishing to major in Statistics and what additional training should we offer to those in other disciplines?
2. What elements of our undergraduate curriculum specifically prepare our students for their careers post-graduation, either in the workplace or as masters/doctoral students? How can we improve these elements?
3. Since the 1949 formation of its precursor, the ISI Statistical Education Committee, the IASE has matured as an organisation. As we move towards ICOTS 8, we note that great progress has already been made in the field of Statistics Education, but the challenge we face now is to consider the next steps that we must take. How can we build on past progress to raise the profile of our field so that it becomes a more visible and vibrant pursuit?

We hope that you will be able to join us in Durban on the 14th and 15th of August 2009, so please put these dates in your diary.

For more information, visit the Conference website <http://www.sastat.org.za/iase/> or contact Patrick Murphy (Chair of the IASE Satellite Conference), School of Mathematical Sciences, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland. Tel: +353-1-7167641, E-mail: Patrick.Murphy@ucd.ie

Adapted by the Editors from the IASE web page

IASE Sessions at the 57th Session of the International Statistical Institute 16-22 August 2009, Durban, South Africa

This is the main conference of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) and will be held in Durban, South Africa, 16-22 August 2009. As it does at each major ISI conference, the IASE will be organizing about 10 statistics education sessions for the 57th ISI Session. For more information, visit the Conference website <http://www.sastat.org.za/iase/>.

International Statistical Literacy Project

Looking forward to the ISIBALO International Statistical Literacy Competition, August 20, 2009.

The Statistical Literacy Competition of the ISLP has reached an end in most countries. You may see the names of the winners, their schools, teachers, and national committees in the front page of the ISLP web site at <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/islp/>. More details can be found by clicking on the country's name in that list.

Phase 2 was entirely managed by the national committees to select the students who will represent their countries in South Africa's ISIBALO International Statistical Literacy Competition. While each committee has managed its competition autonomously, in its own creative way and with country specific exams, all have shared the same high standards and similar contents for the 5 levels of students tested. We thank all the volunteers that made the event possible. They are too many to list here, but they can be seen in our web site. The IASE and ISI contributed some prizes for the students. What now? National Committees are working to raise funds to support the travel of students and teachers to Durban to participate in the ISIBALO International Statistical Literacy Competition on August 20th and events organized around it.

Nominations Received for the Best Cooperative Project Award in Statistical Literacy

The ISLP has received 4 nominations for the Best Cooperative Project Award. They are:

- "EarlyStatistics: Enhancing the Teaching and Learning of Early Statistical Reasoning in European Schools" (Cyprus)
- "New Zealand Certificate on Official Statistics" (New Zealand)
- "Statistics for School:E-school" of Statistics Lithuania (Lithuania)

- "Maths4stats project of Statistics South Africa" (South Africa)

A panel of international judges evaluated these projects and selected a winner. From June 1st, all the materials in support of the projects, including their Internet locations, were made available on our ISLP website. Voting was open to all via the website. The popular vote was taken into account by the judges in the final selection.

ISLP Lottery

The ISLP is holding a lottery to help raise funds to defray the costs of traveling and many other expenses of the students and teachers participating in the ISIBALO International Statistical Literacy Competition.

Items for prizes include:

(1st prize) A one night hotel stay in South Africa during the ISI meeting, <http://www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009/default.aspx>

(2nd prize) One day safari in South Africa during the ISI meeting.

(3rd prize) Dinner for two at a fancy restaurant in Durban during the ISI meeting.

(4th-100th prizes) Zulu jewellery from Kwazulu Natal, Fashion designers' donated garments and accessories, ipods, graphics calculators, computers, software, art pieces, origami decorations, and many other items donated by friends of the ISLP.

We welcome donations for other prizes.

The draw for prizes took place on July 16th, 2009.

To participate, visit the ISLP website:

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/islp/>

Juana Sanchez
International Statistical Literacy Project

International Association for Statistical Computing



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Websites IASC website: <http://www.iasc-isi.org/>
CSDA SSN website: www.csdassn.org

IASC Elections

We have received and we are pleased to publish this letter from **Professor Yutaka Tanaka**, Chair of IASC Election Committee and forthcoming President of the IASC

Dear IASC Members,
in these days you receive the ballot papers for the election of the IASC Executive Committee for the period 2009-2011 and six Council Members for the period 2009-2013.

It is important that our Executive Committee and Council represent our entire membership and therefore I would like to ask you to take part in the election. Please return the ballot as soon as possible. The return address is given on the ballot sheet.

IASC Election Committee has done its best to propose a list of distinguished researchers in the various fields of statistical computing, who are willing to serve IASC for the next term. It is now your turn to vote. Taking this opportunity let me invite you to attend the IASC General Assembly to be held during the

57th Session of the ISI in Durban and to join various future activities of the IASC. The General Assembly is scheduled for Friday August 21, 2009 from 11:15 to 13:00.

Sincerely yours,
Yutaka Tanaka

Forthcoming events Compstat 2010, Paris



The COMPSTAT 2010 symposium will take place in Paris. The meeting is scheduled for August 23rd to 27th, in the premises of Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers (CNAM), located in the

heart of Paris (<http://www.cnam.fr/>).

The conference will be organized by CNAM statisticians with the support of INRIA, the French national institute in computer science and control (<http://www.inria.fr/index.en.html>).

Besides the main conference, a satellite meeting or a tutorial will be organized at INRIA Rocquencourt Research Unit, a campus near Versailles at a few kilometres from Paris.

The local organizing committee is chaired by Gilbert Saporta (CNAM), with Yves Lechevallier from INRIA as vice-chairman.

Scientific Programme Committee (SPC)

Members ex-officio:

COMPSTAT'2010 organizer and Chairperson of SPC:

Gilbert Saporta, CNAM

Past Compstat organizer:

Maria Paula Brito, University of Porto

Next Compstat organizer:

Erricos Kontoghiorghes, University of Cyprus

Incoming IASC-ERS Chairman:

Patrick J. F. Groenen, Erasmus University, Rotterdam

Members:

Ana Maria Aguilera	Universidad Granada
Avner Bar-Hen	Université René Descartes, Paris
Christophe Croux	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
Michel Denuit	Université Catholique de Louvain
Gejza Dohnal	Technical University, Prag
Georges Hébrail	TELECOM ParisTech
Martina Mittlböck	Medical University of Vienna
Christian P. Robert	Université Paris-Dauphine
Maurizio Vichi	Università La Sapienza, Roma
Peter Winker	Universität Giessen

Consultative Members:

Representative of the ARS of IASC:

Moon Yul Huh, SungKyunKwan University, Seoul, Korea

Representative of the IFCS:

Henk Kiers, University of Groningen

Representative of KDD community:

Djamel Zighed, Université Lumière, Lyon

Early Scientific Programme Infos

Three eminent researchers have been invited to give the keynote lectures. They are:

Luc Devroye	McGill University, Montreal
Lutz Edler	German Cancer Research Center, Heidelberg
David Hand	Imperial College, London

Invited Sessions:

14 invited sessions with their organizers, have been decided by the SPC:

ABC methods for genetic data (C. Robert & A. Bar Hen)

Algorithm for Robust statistics (C. Croux)

Brain imaging (H. Abdi)

Computational Econometrics (E. Kontoghiorghes)

Computer-intensive actuarial methods (M. Denuit)

Data stream mining (G. Hébrail)

Functional Data Analysis (A. M. Aguilera)

Kernel methods (P. J. F. Groenen)

Monte Carlo methods in system safety, reliability and risk analysis (G. Dohnal)

Optimization heuristics in statistical modelling (P. Winker)

Spatial statistics / spatial epidemiology (M. Mittlböck)

ARS Session (Financial) Time Series (I. Yeo)

KDD Session: Topological learning (D. A. Zighed)

IFCS Session: New developments in two or higher mode clustering; model based clustering and reduction for high dimensional data (H. Kiers & M. Vichi)

Three tutorials are planned:

Bayesian computation methods:

Machine learning

Statistical approaches for complex data:

Besides these sessions, contributed papers are welcome: see the website <http://www.compstat2010.fr/> for more information.

IASC-ERS Summer School

Next IASC-ERS Summer School will be organized on "Computational Aspects in Environmental Statistics" and it will be held on 7-11 September 2009 in the picturesque venue of the Gorni Voden Monastery "St. Kirik and Yulita", District of Plovdiv, BULGARIA.

Organizing Committee:

Prof. N. Neykov, (chair)

National Inst. of Meteorology and Hydrology

Prof. M. Bojkova, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ochridski"

Prof. K. Prodanova, TU of Sofia

Prof. P. Neytchev, National Inst. of Meteorology and Hydrology

Prof. V. Noncheva, Plovdiv University "St. Kiril and Metodii"

Prof. N. Yanev, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

Scientific Program and Lecturers:

1. P. Filzmoser - Applied environmental statistics;
2. N. Neykov and R. Gueorguieva - Modelling of environmental time series using Generalized, Linear and Mixed Models;
3. F. Leisch and B. Grün-Flexible mixture modelling of environmental data and some computational issues;
4. D. Jaruskova and E. Pancheva - Modelling environmental extremes;
5. J. Antoch and D. Jaruskova - Change points detection in environmental time series data.

All lectures will be given in English and the work material will be in English, too. Case studies application and training in the PC room will be in R.

More information will be available on the IASC web site.

Refer to the school WEB site for more and more detailed information <http://info.meteo.bg/conferences/iasc09/>.

Conferences endorsed or sponsored by the IASC

In the spirit of co-operation with other scientific communities and/or ISI Sessions, and aiming at having an even wider

horizon of scientific relationships, the IASC Council – according to the IASC statute - may deliberate the sponsorship of conferences that are organized (or co-organized) by distinguished IASC members on topics close to the Computational Statistics.

PLS'09 – 6th International Conference on Partial Least Squares and Related Methods

The 6th International Conference on Partial Least Squares and Related Methods (PLS'09) will take place in Beijing (China) on September 4th-7th, 2009. PLS'09 focuses on research in Management, Engineering and Life Sciences. This conference is a unique event through which outstanding experts in PLS methods, from all over the world, can meet and communicate.

Prof. Esposito-Vinzi, who co-chairs the Program Committee, is an extremely active member of the IASC. Two IASC past-Presidents are in the Program Committee: prof. Carlo Lauro (Italy) and prof. Gilbert Saporta (France).

Program Committee is co-chaired by

Prof. Michel Tenenhaus	(France)
Prof. Xiangdong Chen	(China)
Prof. Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi	(France)
Prof. Huiwen Wang	(China)

Members:

A. Morineau, C. Lauro, F. L. Bookstein, G. Saporta, H. Martens, H. Hwang, M. Martens, N. Kettaneh-Wold, R. Rosipal, T. Naes, W.W. Chin.

Computational and Financial Econometrics 3rd International Conference, 29-31 October 2009

Grand Resort Hotel, Limassol, Cyprus

<http://www.dcs.bbk.ac.uk/cfe09>

This conference invites presentations that contain computational or financial econometric components. Papers containing strong computational statistical or econometric components or substantive data-analytic elements will be considered for publication in a special peer-reviewed (6th special issue on Computational Econometrics), or regular, issue of the journal Computational Statistics & Data Analysis.

The conference is endorsed by the IASC and takes place jointly with the ERCIM working Group meeting on Computing & Statistics.

For further information please contact matrix@dcs.bbk.ac.uk.

2nd International Workshop of the ERCIM Working Group on Computing & Statistics, 29-31 October 2009,

Grand Resort Hotel, Limassol, Cyprus

<http://www.dcs.bbk.ac.uk/ercim09/>

The Workshop considers for presentation all topics within the interface of Computing & Statistics. The organization of tracks and suggestion of possible sessions within the framework of the Working Group are strongly encouraged.

The meeting is endorsed by the IASC and will take place jointly with the 3rd International Conference on Computational and Financial Econometrics (CFE09).

For further information please contact matrix@dcs.bbk.ac.uk.

International Association of Survey Statisticians



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Website	http://isi.cbs.nl/iass

Message from the IASS President

Registration is now open for the IASS Short Courses to be offered before the main ISI conference in Durban, South Africa. An exciting programme with top class instructors in a fantastic venue makes this an opportunity for personal development not to be missed.

The IPMs organised or co-sponsored by IASS during the 2009 ISI Session in Durban under the leadership of council member

Leyla Mohadjer are now complete. The full list of topics, authors and discussants for IPM sessions is available from the website:

<http://www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009/ScientificProgramme/lpms.aspx>.

It's time to register, complete your travel arrangements for the trip to South Africa, and make sure that you do not miss the impressive scientific and social programme that is lined up for you in Durban.

The IASS established the Cochran-Hansen Prize in celebration of its 25th anniversary. This prestigious prize is to be awarded every two years to the best paper on survey research methods submitted by a young statistician from a developing or transitional country. Participation in the competition for the Prize was open in 2009 to nationals of developing or transitional countries who are living in such countries and who were born in 1967 or later. The Prize Committee lead by Paul-André Salamin (Switzerland) has now reached a unanimous decision to award the 2009 Cochran-Hansen Prize to Dr. Hukum Chandra, from India, for his paper "Small Area Estimation Under Transformation To Linearity". Dr. Chandra will present his paper in an IPM session in Durban, together with the winners of the Jan Tinbergen Award.

The consultation process for the preparation of the Invited Paper Meetings for the 2011 ISI World Statistics Congress in Dublin has now started. Geoff Lee (geoff.lee@abs.gov.au) chairs the IASS Programme Committee for Dublin. If you have any ideas for challenging, innovative topics, do not hesitate to let Geoff know of your ideas.

Over the last couple of months, the IASS Executive and Council have debated and agreed on a "Policy on the use of IASS funds to provide financial support to relevant international workshops, conferences and similar events of which it is not an organiser or co-organiser". The policy document has been approved and will shortly appear on the website of the IASS. A longer news item detailing this policy will appear on the next issue of The Survey Statistician. Anyone who would like to know more can contact Vice-President Pierre Lavallée at pierre.lavallee@statcan.gc.ca.

IASS Executive and Council are also debating a report prepared by an ad hoc committee lead by Council Member Don Royce on "Improving IASS Services to Members". This report will form the basis of a document to be presented to the IASS General Assembly in Durban. If you would like to contribute anything to this debate, please e-mail the Chair of the ad hoc committee at Don.Royce@statcan.gc.ca.

Finally, IASS has been approached by the organising committee in charge of the next International Conference on Establishment Surveys (ICES IV) and has agreed to co-sponsor this conference, which is planned to take place in North America during the spring/summer of 2012. You will hear more about this exciting event in the coming months.

The IASS is keen to welcome new members, both individual and institutional. The registration form for individual members can be found on our website (<http://isi.cbs.nl/iass/>). For organizations wishing to join, please contact our Executive Director, Michel Péronnet (see address above).

*Best wishes,
Pedro Silva
pedronsilva@gmail.com*

Message from the IASS Scientific Secretary

Greetings. The 2009 ISI Session's meetings are now less than three months away. As reported in issue 1 of the *ISI Newsletter*, the IASS has organized seven short courses to be offered prior to the start of the 57th Session of the ISI. The seven short courses will be offered over two two-day sessions, August 12-13, 2009 or August 14-15, 2009. The following table lists the sessions, course topics and the instructors who have volunteered to present each short course.

IASS Short Courses for the 2009 ISI Durban Session

Session/Course

Volunteer Instructors

IASS Session 1: Aug 12-13, 2009

Editing and Imputation
Business Survey Design
Sample Design

John Kovar, Eric Rancourt
Wesley Yung, Michael Hidioglou
Colm O'Muircheartaigh, Steve Heeringa

IASS Session 2: Aug 14-15, 2009

Survey Quality (August 15 only)
Seasonal Adjustment of Data
Analysis of Complex Sample Data
Small Area Estimation

Paul Biemer
Craig McLaren, Dominique Ladiray, Brian Monsell
Jay Breidt, Kirk Wolter, Wayne Fuller
Jon Rao, Isabel Molina

Registration for the IASS short courses is now open and registration information and materials can be found on the official website of the 57th Session of the ISI, <http://www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009/>. On the conference home page, select the Short Courses menu button. This will direct you to the short course page where you can click the "read more" link to see a description of the short courses and biographical sketches of the instructors.

The course fee schedule can be accessed through a link on the ISI 2009 short course page. To register you will need to download a PDF registration form from the website. The completed form should be faxed along with your payment information to the Local Organizing Committee using the fax number that is provided on the website.

The ISI and IASS members who are planning their travel itinerary for the 2009 ISI meetings in Durban should note that

the IASS short courses will now be offered at a Durban venue, the Hotel Southern Sun Elangeni. Short course participants may choose to arrive early and stay on-site at the Southern Sun Elangeni or at their regular conference hotel or lodging. The ISI Session Organizers are arranging shuttle transportation between the Hilton (and nearby conference hotels) and the Southern Sun Elangeni venue.

As IASS Scientific Secretary, I will be coordinating this activity in close liaison with the ISI short course coordinator and the

Local Hosts in South Africa. If at any time you have questions or concerns about the 2009 IASS short courses, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at sheering@jsr.umich.edu.

Regards,
Steve Heeringa
sheering@jsr.umich.edu

International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics



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Websites ISBIS website: www.isbis.org
ISBIS official Journal - *Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry* (ASMBI): www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/jhome/66002616

Message from the ISBIS President

Revision of Statutes: Vijay Nair chaired a small *ad hoc* committee comprising himself, Yves Grize and Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi to develop recommendations for updating the ISBIS Statutes. The original Statutes were developed some years ago from a basic template used by other groups seeking Section status, as indeed was ISBIS at that time. Now, with a Strategic Plan in place, ISBIS is much better placed to know what sorts of structures are needed to support the development and growth of the Section. This committee completed its work expeditiously, with some very good recommendations for change that were subsequently approved by the Society at large and have now been adopted. As a consequence, the ISBIS elections were held under the new Statutes. Each person elected will have interesting and defined responsibilities ... in other words, the opportunity to contribute uniquely to the growth of ISBIS.

Young Statistician activities: *y-BIS*, the Young Statisticians' group within ISBIS, has now been established. A small team of enthusiastic young statisticians developed specifications for what they would like the group to do, and for products and services they want to have available, to support their progress in their professional lives. Their proposals were accepted by the ISBIS Council. Under the new ISBIS Statutes, *y-BIS* will have a representative on the Executive Committee (Paulo Canas from Portugal has been recently elected as the ISBIS Vice President for *y-BIS* members till 2011), and *y-BIS* will have an important contribution to make in our biennial conferences – to both the scientific and the social aspects. If you define yourself as a Young Statistician and would like to be involved in either the setting up of *y-BIS* or planning for ISBIS 2010, or both, please contact *y-BIS* Chair Paulo (paulocanas@gmail.com)!

Speaking of conferences, 2009 will be a busy year: we have major involvement in three Regional meetings, as well as a significant amount of the Invited Paper program at the ISI in Durban. You'll find more details below, and also on the ISBIS

web site. We very much hope to see you at as many of these events as you can attend ... starting in Cagliari in Sardegna, at the end of May and then in Stellenbosch in South Africa at the end of August!

Nick Fisher

Past conference activities: CAPS2008 in Hanoi

The ISBIS Mission is to facilitate the advancement and exchange of knowledge in business, financial and industrial statistics. A key strategy in pursuing this mission is to hold regional conferences, where host region provides a lot of the organisational effort and ISBIS provides significant assistance with developing the scientific program. This is a brief report on CAPS2008 (Hanoi, December 2008), the first regional meeting since the strategy was adopted in July 2008. Considerable effort was devoted to attracting people from the South-east Asian region to attend, as well as ensuring the participation of some international leaders in the field.

Vietnam was selected as a place for a regional meeting for a couple of reasons. Firstly, and most importantly, there was someone local, Dr Nam-Ky Nguyen, who was keen to 'make it happen'. Secondly, Vietnam has a very large population (some 86 million people) yet has very few statisticians, and with little formalised communication between them. One key goal for ISBIS was to catalyse intra-regional cooperation between statisticians, particularly within Vietnam itself.

The Organising Committee was chaired by Nam-Ky Nguyen with members Pham Gia Thu (University of Moncton, Canada), Vijay Nair (University of Michigan, USA) and Dennis Lin (Pennsylvania State University, USA). Chairs of the Scientific Program Committee were: Sudhir Gupta (Northern Illinois University, USA), Pham Gia Thu and Nicholas Fisher (University of Sydney & ValueMetrics Australia).

There were some 115 delegates from 22 countries, including 28 from Vietnam and representatives from 8 other South-East Asian countries.

Four Keynote addresses were presented:

"How can Statisticians Help Vietnam Prosper?" – Nick Fisher, University of Sydney

"The Sample Size Determination Problem: Frequentist vs Bayes?" – Thu Gia Pham, University of Monckton
 "Recent Developments in Degradation Modeling and Applications to Reliability and Maintainability" – Vijay Nair, University of Michigan
 "Process Mining and RFID" – Dennis K.J. Lin, Pennsylvania State University

The other 8 Invited Paper sessions covered areas such as Financial Statistics, Biopharmaceutical Studies, Discrete Choice Modelling in Business, Design of Experiments, Hydrological Statistics, and Statistics and the Environment, and there were a further 10 sessions containing over 40 contributed papers.

Detailed reports on this and previous meetings can be found at: <http://www.isbis.org/pastconferences.html>

Nick Fisher

ISBIS Elections

New Officers for ISBIS August 2009 – August 2011

ISBIS has now completed the process of electing an Executive and Council for 2009 – 2011. The final slate of candidates proposed by the Nominating Committee has been accepted by the Executive and Council Members with no additional nomination. Since there is only one nomination per position, the nominated persons shall be declared elected without vote from the membership.

The new officers for the period 22nd August 2009 - 26th August 2011 are:

For the Executive Committee:

President-Elect:	Vijay Nair (USA/Malaysia)
Vice President Scientific Program:	Nick Fisher (Australia)
Vice President Communications:	Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi (France)
Vice President Membership & Outreach:	Yulia Gel (Russia/Canada)
Vice President y-BIS Members:	Paulo Canas (Portugal)

The incoming President is Yves Grize, Switzerland.

For the Council:

Council Members with voting rights:

Riaan De Jongh	South Africa
Eugenio Epprecht	Brasil
Alberto Ferrer	Spain
Dennis Lin	USA
P. G. Sankharan	India
Stephan Steiner	Canada
Fugee Tsung	China (Hong Kong)
Shu Yamada	Japan

Council Members without voting rights:

ISBIS Web master	George Michailidis (USA/Greece)
Editor in Chief ASMBI	Fabrizio Ruggeri (Italy)
Editor ISBIS News	Werner Müller (Austria)

Yves Grize

ISBIS Invited Sessions at ISI Conferences

57th ISI Session in Durban, South Africa

(16-22 August 2009)

ISBIS has a significant share of the Scientific Program at the 57th Session of the International Statistical Institute in Durban, South Africa, 16-22 August, 2009.

<http://www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009/>

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi

58th ISI Session in Dublin, Ireland (20-27 August 2011):

Call for Proposals

This is a call for proposals for ISBIS invited paper sessions for the 58th Biennial Session of the ISI to be held in Dublin, Ireland, August 20th-27th 2011.

As usual, a competitive procedure for determining the invited sessions has been started. Candidate proposals from the various ISI sections will be discussed at the upcoming Durban meeting in August 2009.

Therefore, we solicit receiving proposals for invited sessions to be held under the auspices of ISBIS (or perhaps jointly with another ISI-section).

If you feel your topic meets (at least some of) the guidelines given e.g. in ISBIS News 1(1) available at the ISBIS website: http://www.isbis.org/newsletter/NEWSLETTER1_1_08.pdf,

please do not hesitate to contact our member of the Program Coordinating Council Werner Müller (werner.mueller@jku.at) with your suggestions, providing as much detail as possible, including purpose of session, and some names of possible presenters and discussants.

Werner Müller

Forthcoming ISBIS Regional Conferences

EURISBIS'09: May 30 – June 3, 2009

Cagliari, Sardinia Island, Italy

<http://www.eurisbis09.it>

The *European Regional Meeting of the International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics* (EURISBIS'09) will take place in Cagliari (Sardinia Island, Italy) on May 30 - June 3, 2009.

The International Association for Statistical Computing (IASC, a section of ISI) will be a Participating Organization in this meeting.

EURISBIS'09 themes will be related to Quantitative Methods for Banking and Finance, Environment, Quality of Services for SMEs, Transport and Tourism.

EURISBIS'09 will provide a varied and stimulating scientific program of invited and contributed papers, and excellent opportunities for formal and informal exchanges. Authors will have the opportunity to submit extended versions of their papers for publication in the ISBIS Society's journal, *Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry*, in the Springer's journal *Advances in Data Analysis and Classification* (ADAC) and in the Italian Journal of Applied Statistics (*Statistica Applicata*).

The keynote speakers will be:

Bill Cleveland, Purdue University, USA
 Alessandro Fassò, University of Bergamo, Italy

Moreover, there will be about 25 Invited Sessions focusing on topics such as: On-Line Methods for Quality Control, Models and Quantitative Methods in Finance and Insurance, Statistics for Health and Environment, Statistical Process Control, Case Studies in Business and Industrial Statistics, Improving financial ratings through XBRL balance sheet analysis, Statistical Methods for Tourism, Applications in Transports,

Mathematical Instruments in Decision-Making Processes, Statistical Methods for Transport Analysis, Banking, Statistics and Finance, Control Charts for Quality Improvement, E-data Mining, Computer Experiments for Innovation, Visual Data Exploration in the Business Process.

Finally, 45 contributed papers will be presented in parallel sessions. More than 120 delegates have already registered for EURISBIS'09.

The EURISBIS'09 International Scientific Program Committee is co-chaired by:

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi, ESSEC Business School of Paris, France – vinzi@essec.fr

Nicholas Fisher, ValueMetrics, Australia
nif@valuemetrics.com.au

Francesco Mola, University of Cagliari, Italy
mola@unica.it

Useful information can be downloaded from: www.euribis09.it
Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi

ISI Satellite Meeting Stellenbosch, South Africa August 24-26, 2009

ISBIS is organizing a Regional Meeting in Stellenbosch (South Africa) as a Satellite Meeting of the 57th Session of the International Statistical Institute. For further enquiries, please contact Tertius De Wet at: tdewet@sun.ac.za.

This meeting is being held in one of the most beautiful areas in South Africa, and a lot of fine organisational work has been done to make it a delightful conference experience in the spectacular university town of Stellenbosch, which is in the heartland of the South African wine industry.

This Satellite Meeting will be hosted by the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science of Stellenbosch University and will focus on quantitative aspects of the Banking, Insurance, Manufacturing and Engineering Industries of South Africa and abroad. The emphasis will be on important statistical issues relating to productivity improvement and decision-making at all levels of Business and Industry.

Many world leading quantitative business analysts and industrial statisticians will participate and the organisers hope to attract a significant number of delegates from South African Business and Industry.

The following 4 plenary speakers are confirmed at this stage:

Jac Laubscher – SANLAM, Bellville, Western Cape - South Africa

“The South African Economy in an African and Global Context: Opportunities and Obstacles”

Yves-Laurent Grize - BALOISE INSURANCE, Basel, Basel-Stadt - Switzerland

“Title to be announced”

David L Banks - Duke University, Durham, North Carolina - United States of America

“The Business side of Information”

There will also an ASMBI Discussion session organized by Fabrizio Ruggeri (Editor-in-Chief of the ASMBI Journal) and 8 invited sessions on the themes of: Statistical Process Control and Process Understanding, Design of Experiments, Cost Effectiveness in Medical Research and Delivery, Financial Statistics, Energy Engineering in South Africa, Contemporary

Approaches to Problems in Business and Industrial Statistics, Statistics in Industry, The SAS System.

More information can be downloaded from:

www.sastat.org.za/sss2009

Register soon at:

<http://www.sastat.org.za/sss2009/registration.htm>

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi

International Symposium on Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS-2010): Portorož (Portorose) - Slovenia, July 6-9, 2010

The next biennial International Symposium for Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS-2010) will now be held at an excellent venue in Slovenia, rather than Croatia, due to the unavailability of a suitable venue in Croatia.

ISBIS-2010 will be held at St. Bernardin Adriatic Resort & Convention Center located in lovely little coastal town Portorož (Portorose) in Slovenia, during 6-9 July, 2010, preceded by a Workshop day on 5 July. Apart from its broad coverage of topics, ISBIS-2010 will feature two particular areas of activity: industrial applications of Image Analysis (for which Professor Jean Serra, co-founder of Image Analysis and Mathematical Morphology is already confirmed as a Keynote Speaker), and current and future developments in handling large and complex data sets. There will also be sessions of particular interest to younger members of the statistical profession, organised by the ISBIS Young Statisticians group, y-BIS.

Stefan Steiner (shsteine@uwaterloo.ca) from the University of Waterloo (Canada) will chair the scientific program committee.

More details are available on the conference website:

www.action-m.com/isbis2010

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi

ASMBI Special Issue on ISBIS-6

This special issue of *Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry* (ASMBI) reports on the 6th International Symposium on Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS-6) and will appear in autumn.

ISBIS-6 was an ISBIS satellite meeting to the 56th Session of the International Statistical Institute in Lisbon. It was held in the island of Azores Sao Miguel at Ponta Delgada during August 18-20, 2007.

ISBIS-6 provided a forum for presenting and exchanging ideas in statistical methods applicable to business, finance, and industry. Prof. Francisco J. Samaniego from University of California, Davis was the program chair. The local organizer was Helena Bacelar Nicolau from University of Lisbon.

Talks ranged from very applied to cutting edge research. The exchange of knowledge and experiences fostered international collaboration in research and other technology transfer activities. It provided also an opportunity for dialogue between statisticians working in business, finance and industry, and academia.

The ISBIS-6 special issue comprises 5 papers (out of a total of 31 submissions) that underwent three rounds of a peer review process.

I remind you that the *Journal of Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry* (ASMBI) is the official journal of ISBIS. As such, I truly wish this special issue will further stimulate the submission of papers from the numerous ISBIS members who do outstanding research in the growing field of business and industrial statistics.

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi

ISBIS at other Conferences

One of the objectives of ISBIS is to develop and promote relationships among national and regional organizations involved in activities similar to those of ISBIS.

PLS'09: 6th International Conference on Partial Least Squares and Related Methods Beijing, 4-7 September 2009

ISBIS is sponsoring the 6th International Conference on Partial Least Squares and Related Methods taking place in Beijing, China, 4-7 September 2009.

PLS'09 focuses on research in Management, Engineering and Life Sciences. This conference is a unique event through which outstanding experts in PLS methods, from all over the world, can meet and communicate.

During the four-day meeting, experts from different countries and regions will present their state-of-art and up-to-date research on the PLS methods, which will reflect challenging advances in this fields for the 21st century. The PLS techniques will be compared with other typical methods and empirical applications to real data will be performed. The Symposium will provide participants with different insights on both theoretical and practical aspects of PLS and related methods. Furthermore, the symposium will be also precious chance and platform for academic scholars and specialized professionals to meet and talk on their own interests in versatile fields where PLS can be applied to.

The following invited talks are confirmed at this stage:

"Some thoughts about Generalized Structured Component Analysis"

Yoshio Takane, McGill University

"Partial Least Squares methods for Organismal Systems Biology: Some Science and some Speculation"

Fred Bookstein, University of Washington

"Discovering latent structure features using divergences"

Clive Bowman, University of Reading, United Kingdom

"PLS modelling in high-dimensional dynamic nonlinear differential equation systems"

Harald Martens, Nofima Mat / Norwegian University of Life Sciences

"Conjugate Gradient: a Statistical Framework for Partial Least Squares Regression"

Nicole Krämer, Berlin Institute of Technology

"The OPLS method and its extensions: a paradigm shift in PLS modeling and its impact on interpretation and visualization in biology and medicine"

Johan Trygg, Umeå University, Sweden

"On the Statistical Power of PLS using Product Indicators: A Clarification, Extension, and Cautionary Note"

Wynne W. Chin, University of Houston

More details at: www.pls09.org

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi

ISBIS website (www.isbis.org)

The address of the official ISBIS website is www.isbis.org. This is the place to look for up-to-date information on the activities of ISBIS including a member-only zone with electronic access to the ASMBI-Journal, list of members, papers from past conferences and much more.

For further information on the website, or suggestions for its content, please contact Yves Grize (ISBIS President Elect) at: yves-laurent.grize@baloise.ch

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi

ISBIS Membership

ISBIS membership is open to all individuals and organizations with a professional interest in any aspect of business, financial and industrial statistics. There are individual, institutional, and student memberships. Details and application forms can be obtained from the ISBIS website (www.isbis.org) or contact Nicholas Fisher (nif@valuemetrics.com.au).

If you are already a member of the ISI and one of its sections, you can add ISBIS to your membership for a small fee by sending a mail to Margaret de Rooter-Molloy in the ISI office (mrmly@cbs.nl).

You can now renew your ISBIS membership electronically by using the form on: <http://isi.cbs.nl/intro-payment.htm>.

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi

Irving Fisher Committee on Central Bank Statistics

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Website <http://www.bis.org/ifc>

Regional workshops on CPI measurement

Two regional central banking groups have expressed an interest in sponsoring a workshop with the IFC in 2009. The South East Asian Central Banks Research and Training Centre (SEACEN) is an institutional member of the IFC. The topic would be on CPI measurement (headline, core, inflation perception, inflation expectations). The workshop with SEACEN will take place on 12-16 October 2009 in the Philippines. Participation will be by invitation only.

Training event on National Accounts methodology

The National Bank of Belgium (NBB), one of the founding members of the IFC, will organise a training event for IFC members on National Accounts methodology in October 2009. It will build on its expertise in compiling the national accounts for Belgium, but will also draw on support of other IFC member institutions. Participation will be by invitation only.

IFC publications

The 29th and the 30th issues of the IFC Bulletin, which will contain the results of IFC organised workshops on "Challenges to improve global comparison of securities statistics" and "The use of surveys by central banks" will be published shortly.

The IFC also encourages the publication of analytical work on topical statistical issues of interest to the international central banking community, other than that presented at various IFC meetings. Analysis by experts of the Committee's institutional members as well as by other analysts, including outside the central banking community, can be submitted for publication in the IFC Working Paper series. Working Paper number 3 on "Design and evaluation of core inflation measures for Turkey" was published in March 2009. More information on the criteria and review process is available on the IFC website <http://www.bis.org/ifc/publications.htm>.

The IFC's contribution to the ISI Session in Durban

The IFC will sponsor or co-sponsor 7 IPMs and 3 STCPMs for the 57th ISI Session in Durban. The Committee will also organise a seminar with the South African Reserve Bank prior to the start of the ISI Session. The topic of the seminar is "Economic and financial convergence en route to regional economic integration: Experience, prospects and statistical issues amidst global financial turmoil". The seminar is aimed at IFC members and central banks from the Southern African Development Community (SADC). Participation will be by invitation only.



The International Environmetrics Society

President Daniela Cocchi: president@environmetrics.org
Publications Officer Michael Dowd: mdowd@mathstat.dal.ca
Website <http://www.environmetrics.org/>

News from TIES

The 20th Annual Conference of The International Environmetrics Society (TIES) was held in Bologna, Italy, from July 5-9, 2009. This was a joint meeting of TIES and GRASPA (Italian Group for environmental applications) reflecting their common interest in handling complexity and uncertainty in environmental data.

The TIES awards committee chaired by Peter Guttorp has selected to give the Abdel El-Shaarawi Young Researcher's Award for 2009 to Sudipto Banerjee. This was presented at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Bologna.

A TIES North American Regional Meeting on "Measuring, Monitoring, and Modeling Environmental Resources" was held from June 15-17, 2009, in Corvallis, Oregon, USA.

For more information, see our website at www.environmetrics.org.

3rd OECD World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policy"

The 3rd OECD World Forum on "Statistics, Knowledge and Policy" Charting Progress, Building Visions, Improving Life will take place in Busan, Korea on 27-30 October this year. Please circulate this announcement to your colleagues.

PDF link: <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/46/8/42830430.pdf>

HTML version: www.oecdworldforum2009.org

Call for Papers

The Institute of Statistical Research and Training, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, is going to publish a special volume of the *Journal of Statistical Research* (JSR) in honor of Professor Bradley Efron, Department of Statistics, Stanford University for his outstanding contribution to Statistical, Mathematical and Physical Sciences. After completion of his Ph. D. from the Stanford University, he joined as an assistant professor in the Department of Statistics in 1964 and retired as a Professor from the Department of Community, Family

and Preventive Medicine (currently known as department of Health Research and Policy) of the same university. He developed the bootstrap method, which is one of the world's most often-cited statistical method. He has written several books and published more than 150 papers in the world leading journals, such as *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, *Biometrika*, *Biometrics*, *Technometrics*, *Annals of Statistics*, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, *Sankhya*. Professor Efron is the Fellow of the American Statistical Association, Institute of Mathematical Statistics, Royal Statistical Society, American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the International Statistical Institute. He received numerous awards for his extraordinary contributions in Statistical and Mathematical Sciences. Among many of them, Ford Prize, Mathematical Association of America, 1978, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1983, Outstanding Statistician of The Year", ASA, Chicago Chapter, 1981, National Academy of Sciences, 1985, Wilks Medal, American Statistical Association, August 1990, Honorary Doctor of Science Degree, University of Chicago, June 1995, Fisher Prize, Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS), July 1996, Doctor Honoris Causa, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain, 1998, Doctor Honoris Causa, University of Oslo, Norway, 2002 C. R. and Bhargavi Rao Prize, The Pennsylvania State University, 2003 and Noether Prize, American Statistical Association, 2006 are notable. Professor Efron has been awarded with the prestigious award, National Medal of Science award, 2005 (awarded 2007) for his contributions to theoretical and applied statistics, especially the bootstrap sampling technique; for his extraordinary geometric insight into nonlinear statistical problems; and for applications in medicine, physics and astronomy. Professor Efron is the founding editor of *The Annals of Applied Statistics* and has been involved with the editorial board of several international leading statistical journals.

Colleagues, friends, well wishers, and former students of Professor Efron are invited to contribute papers (both applied and theoretical) for this volume. These papers will be fully refereed before publication. The papers may be submitted to the undersigned no later than October 31, 2009. The special volume will be published in January 2010. The length of the papers may not be more than 25 pages. Accepted papers must be typed in LaTeX. The LaTeX template and the style file are available at <http://www.isrt.ac.bd/jsr/>. Final versions of accepted papers must be submitted by December 31st, 2009. All authors are encouraged to send their manuscripts to the Overseas Managing Editor with a copy to the Editor-in-Chief whose addresses are given below.

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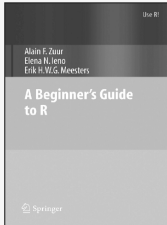
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Participants registering at the 36th ISI Session in Sydney in 1967

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