

International Association for Statistical Education



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IASE Elections

The IASE Elections are now organised and the nominations committee worked very hard to get the final list of candidates. We were glad to perceive that within the IASE there are many experienced people who are willing to invest part of their time on behalf of statistics education. The selection of candidates was then difficult, given so many possibilities. Below is the final list.

We are very grateful to these IASE friends, who, in spite of being very busy are generous enough to offer their time and knowledge to serve the association.

Also a big thank you to those who after spending two or more years at the IASE Executive, still have enough energy to continue supporting us. Thanks are also due to those who will be leaving the committee next year after spending a period of their professional life in shaping the IASE. I am sure they will continue to help the new Executive from a distance.

IASE ELECTIONS: LIST OF CANDIDATES

PRESIDENT– ELECT

Gilberte Schuyten (Belgium)

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Five to be elected:

- Andrej Blejec, Slovenia
- Carol Joyce Blumberg, USA
- Lisbeth Cordani, Brazil
- Joachim Engel, Germany
- Susan Starkings, UK
- Christine Reading, Australia
- Larry Weldon, Canada

IASE Activities at the 54th Session of the ISI, Berlin, Germany, August 13–20, 2003

Our programme for the 54th Biennial Session of the ISI to be held in Berlin, Germany in August 2003 is now complete. Gilberte Schuyten (gilberte.schuyten@rug.ac.be), our IASE representative on the ISI Programme Co-ordinating Committee for Berlin has organised a wide and varied list of topics for Invited Paper Meetings, both those organised by the IASE alone and in conjunction with other ISI Sections and Committees. There is still time to propose contributed papers.

Furthermore, we are organising an IASE Satellite Conference on Statistics Education and the Internet in co-operation with the German Statistical Society, the Section on Stochastics of the German Mathematics Education Association, the Max-Planck-Institute for Human Development, and the Probability and Statistics Interest Group of the German Mathematical Association. The conference is going to be held at the Max-Planck-Institute for Human Development, Berlin. Larry Weldon (weldon@sfu.ca) is Chair of the Scientific Committee and Joachim Engel (engel_joachim@ph-ludwigsburg.de) is Chair of the Local Organising Committee. Guidelines and information are provided at the web page (<http://www.ph-ludwigsburg.de/iase/>).

For further information see the ISI 54th Session Web Page <http://www.isi-2003.de/>

IASE Activities at the 55th Session of the ISI, Sydney, Australia, 2005

Chris Wild is the IASE representative at the ISI Programme Co-ordinating Committee for ISI-55th Session, to be held in Sydney, Australia, April 5–12, 2005. There is still time to propose an Education Session. If you would like to run one please contact Chris Wild at c.wild@auckland.ac.nz in the near future.

ICOTS-7 Brazil, August 2006

ICOTS-7 will be held in August 2006 in Brazil. Pedro Alberto Morettin will chair the local organising committee and the International Programme Committee Executive will consist of Carmen Batanero (Chair), Allan Rossman and Beth Chance (Editors of Proceedings), John Harraway (Scientific Secretary), Susan Starkings (Programme Chair) and Lisbeth Cordani (local representative at the IPC). IASE is now in the process of appointing the Topic Convenors and creating a website for the conference. Those of you interested in organising a session at this important statistical education conference should contact Carmen Batanero at (batanero@ugr.es) for further information.

IASE Statistical Education Research Journal (SERJ)

The editorial board of the SERJ is pleased to announce that the second issue of volume 1 was published in December 2002. This is the electronic research journal of the IASE and initially it is being published twice a year. The board is also pleased to announce that the Executive Committee and Council of the ISI have approved its request that SERJ is to be a joint publication of the ISI and the IASE.

The URL for the SERJ web-site is <http://fehps.une.edu.au/serj> Access to issues of SERJ is currently free, so please do visit the site and see what is on offer.

Contents of volume 1, issue 2:

Refereed papers –

- Beth Chance and Joan Garfield – New approaches to gathering data on student learning for research in statistics education;
- Maxine Pfannkuch and Amanda Rubick – An exploration of students' statistical thinking with given data;
- Maria Meletiou-Mavrotheris and Carl Lee – Teaching students the stochastic nature of statistical concepts in an introductory statistics course;
- Nigel Smeeton – Undergraduate courses in dental statistics in Britain and Ireland.

Other features such as reports and announcements of meetings of relevance to statistical education research. Peter Holmes from the UK has also included some basic references for the teaching of undergraduate statistics.

If you are interested in and/or involved with statistics education you are encouraged to contribute to SERJ and to join IASE see the website

<http://www.cbs.nl/isi/iase.htm> if you are not already a member. Full information about the journal, including its aims, guidelines for referees and contributing authors, and a template are available at the website.

International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP) Website Now Available

The ISLP homepage is now accessible to the public and is located at <http://course1.winona.edu/cblumberg/islphome.htm>. As part of the ISLP, webpages have been developed on resources for enhancing the statistical literacy of various groups at all age levels, including the primary and secondary school levels. An index to these resource pages is at <http://course1.winona.edu/cblumberg/islplist.htm>. For further information contact Carol Joyce Blumberg at cblumberg@winona.edu or at Department of Mathematics & Statistics, Winona State University, Winona MN 55987-5838, USA, Fax: +1-507-457-5376.

The International Research Forums on Statistical Reasoning, Thinking, and Literacy (SRTL)

The growing interest in research on the interrelated and often poorly defined topics of Statistical Reasoning, Statistical Thinking, and Statistical Literacy, has led to the emergence of a series of international research forums focusing on these themes. The first research forum (SRTL-1) was held in July 1999. Sixteen statistics educators from six different countries met for five days at Kibbutz Be'eri in Israel to lay the foundations for the definitions, distinctions and interrelations of statistical reasoning, thinking and literacy. The second research forum (SRTL-2) was held at the University of New England, in Armidale, Australia in August 2001. Twenty researchers from six countries met for six days to focus on the challenges in describing, learning, teaching, and assessing statistical reasoning.

One unique feature of these research forums is the use of videos of classroom work or interviews with students, as a way to present, discuss and argue about research related to these topics. In addition, the small size of the forums allows for plenty of time for interaction and discussion. One outcome of the first two forums is a book on "The Challenge of Developing Statistical Literacy, Reasoning, and Thinking", edited by Dani Ben-Zvi and Joan Garfield, that will be published by Kluwer in 2003.

The third in the series of research forums (SRTL-3) will be held at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln USA in July 2003. The topic of the third forum will be reasoning about variability. Few of the questions we wish to investigate are: Why is variability important? When and how do children begin to develop the preliminary idea of variability? How does reasoning about variability develop? What are instructional tasks and technological tools that promote the understanding of variability? What are the common misconceptions regarding variability? What are ways to assess

understanding of variability? This gathering offers an opportunity for a small, interdisciplinary group of researchers from around the world to meet for a few days to share their work, discuss important issues, and initiate collaborative projects. One outcome of the third forum will be the publication of a proceedings book summarising the work presented, discussions conducted, and issues emerging from this gathering. Bill Mickelson (University of Nebraska–Lincoln, USA) and Chris Reading (University of New England, Australia) are organising and co-ordinating SRTL–3.

The research forums were initiated by and are co-chaired by Joan Garfield (University of Minnesota, USA) and Dani Ben-Zvi (University of Haifa, Israel). Various academic institutions and statistics education associations, including the IASE, support the SRTL research forums.

For further information see the SRTL–3 Forum Website: <http://tc.unl.edu/srtl>

Inter-American Meetings on Teaching of Statistics

The Inter-American Meetings on Teaching of Statistics (Jornadas Interamericanas de Enseñanza de la Estadística–JIEE), jointly organized by IASI and the Universidad Nacional de Tres de Febrero of Argentina, were held in Caseros, Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina on October 28–November 1, 2002. These Meetings were held under the auspices of the IASE and of the ISI.

The Meetings were held jointly with the Fifth Latin American Congress of Statistical Societies organized by the Argentine Society of Statistics, the Argentine Group of Biometry, the Chilean Society of Statistics, and the Uruguayan Society of Mathematics and Statistics. Some 500 persons, from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Honduras, Italy, Spain, Panama, United States, and Uruguay, participated in these events. The programme for JIEE included 9 conferences, 4 round tables, 6 short courses, 30 orally presented contributed papers, and 10 posters.

The symposium attracted over 500 participants from many Latin-American countries, the United States, Spain and Italy. This large number of participants together with the high level of many presentations under the form of keynote speeches, invited lectures, round tables and invited papers, made of this statistical conference a major success and, thus, reflected the great interest of our statistical community in the topic.

For more information, please contact Lic. Roberto Muiños, Assistant Technical Secretary of IASI. His e-mail address is rmuin@indec.mecon.gov.ar.

IASE Invited Paper Session on ‘Using the History of Statistics to Improve the Teaching of Statistics’ to be held at the Joint Statistical Meetings

This invited session represents the first time that IASE will have an Invited Paper Session at the Joint Statistical Meetings of the American Statistical Association (ASA), The International Biometric Society, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and the Statistical Society of Canada. The session will be co-sponsored by the ISI, the ASA Section on Statistical Education, and the ASA Section on Teaching of Statistics in the Health Sciences.

The organiser of the session is Carol Joyce Blumberg (Winona State University, USA, cblumberg@winona.edu). The speakers will be Herbert A. David (Iowa State University, USA) on "The History of Statistics in the Classroom", David R. Bellhouse (University of Western Ontario, Canada) on "Statistical Ideas in the Classroom – Lessons from History" and Fred Bookstein (The University of Michigan, USA) on "Learning from the Coercive Power of Numerical Evidence: Three Classical Examples". The two discussants will be Jay Devore (Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo, USA) and Jeff Witmer (Oberlin College, USA). The IASE wishes to thank ISI President-Elect Stephen Stigler for his help in organising this session.

The abstracts of the talks in this session can be found at <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2003/>. Copies of the papers and discussants' remarks will be published in the 2003 Proceedings of the American Statistical Association.

The new home of the ICOTS-6 IPC Website is at the University of Haifa

The ICOTS 6 website is now up and running again. Its new home is at the University of Haifa. The new website address is <http://icots6.haifa.ac.il/icots6.html>.

Forthcoming Conferences with Statistics Education Components

Hawaii International Conference on Statistics and Related Fields June 5-8, 2003.

Sheraton Waikiki Hotel, Honolulu Hawaii, USA

The Second Hawaii International Conference on Statistics and Related Fields will be held at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel in Honolulu, Hawaii. The conference will provide many opportunities for academicians and professionals from statistics and related fields to interact with members inside and outside their own particular areas of specialisation. Cross-disciplinary submissions are welcome. The Hawaii International Conference on Statistics and Related Fields encourages the following types of papers/abstracts/submissions:

Research Papers – Completed papers.

Abstracts – Abstracts of completed or proposed research.

Student Papers – Research by students.

Poster Sessions/Research Tables – informal presentation of papers or abstracts.

Work-in-Progress Reports or Proposals for future projects.

Reports on issues related to teaching.

Panel Discussions, Practitioner Forums and Tutorials.

Workshop Proposals.

For more information about submissions see the website

http://www.hicstatistics.org/cfp_stats.htm or e-mail statistics@hicstatistics.org

The Mathematics Education into the 21st Century Project

The Mathematics Education into the 21st Century Project has just completed its fifth successful international conference in Sicily, following conferences in Egypt, Jordan, Poland and Australia.

The next conference will be in Brno, Czech Republic from September 19–25, 2003. The conference will be held in the heart of the historic city of Brno, the regional capital of Moravia, famous for its beautiful countryside, its castles and its wines and food. Brno is the second largest city in the Czech Republic and is easily accessible in Europe by plane, car, bus and train.

The Chairman of the Local Organising Committee is Professor Ivan Mezník of the Technical University of Brno. The title of the conference is "The Decidable and the Undecidable in Mathematics Education", a tribute to Kurt Gödel who was born and educated in Brno. Plenary Speakers will include Nicolina Malara and Filippo Spagnolo.

Papers are invited on all innovative aspects of mathematics education including Statistics Education, Gender & Equity, Ethnomathematics, Rich Learning Tasks, Problem Solving, Applications, Research on Teaching and Learning, Technology in the classroom, Computer Graphics and Teacher Education. For further conference details please contact Alan Rogerson, e-mail: arogerson@vsg.edu.au

International Conference on Creativity in Mathematics Education and the Education of Gifted Students August 3 – 9, 2003 Rousse, Bulgaria

This conference is to be held at the University of Rousse. The main aim of the conference is to formulate the problem and globally define the direction of the development of creative mathematics education of gifted students. The basic issues to be discussed are (i) how to stimulate mathematical creativity in students and their teachers; (ii) what areas, methods and problems in mathematics are appropriate for stimulating the creative activity of students and (iii) who the gifted students are and how can they be identified. For further information see the websites www.cmeegs3.rousse.bg or www.ami.ru.acad.bg/conference2003 or e-mail conf_orgcom@ami.ru.acad.bg