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Results of the IASE Officers Election:

President-Elect:

Allan Rossman (USA)

Vice-Presidents:

Andrej Blejec (Slovenia)

John Harraway (New Zealand)

Christine Reading (Australia)

Michiko Watanabe (Japan)

Larry Weldon (Canada)

IASE sessions at ISI 55, 5-12 April 2005, can now be found on the following website: <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/iase55>.

ICOTS-7: Working Cooperatively in Statistics Education

Salvador (Bahia), Brazil, July 2 - 7, 2006

The International Association for Statistical Education (IASE) and the International Statistical Institute (ISI) are organising the Seventh International Conference on Teaching Statistics (ICOTS-7), which will be hosted by the Brazilian Statistical Association (ABE) in Salvador (Bahia), Brazil, July 2-7, 2006. 2004 has been an important year of planning. The ICOTS

website has been in place since the beginning of the year, thanks to the work of John Shanks and John Harraway, who are continuously updating the information. By now, the website



contains summaries of Topics and Sessions, and contact addresses for Session Organisers, as well as a list of deadlines, first announcements and some guidelines. An ICOTS planning meeting was held in July, on the occasion of ICME-10 in Copenhagen, where members of the International Programme Committee met with some

Topic Convenors, Session Organisers and potential participants. Other informal meetings of the International Planning Committee (IPC) and Local Committee members have taken place or are planned for 2005, and the first announcement was distributed to conferences, e-mail lists, websites and publications. The planning is accelerating now, since Session Organisers are receiving expressions of interest by researchers and teachers



Salvador (Bahia), Brazil

from all around the world. Please remember that there is still time to offer Invited Papers. More information about the venue and activities is given below.

Bahia's capital of Salvador sits on a spit of land sticking south south-west into the Atlantic Ocean), and the topography is mainly hill and valley. Salvador sits on a vast bay, which at 1,100 square kilometres, 70 kilometres from north to south, and 60 kilometres from east to west (at its widest point), is the largest in Brazil.

A Bahia de Todos os Santos (the Bay of All Saints) is fed by the Paraguaçu river (among numerous smaller sources), which opens into the smaller bay of Iguaque, which in turn gives way to the principal bay. Although it sits well within the tropics at a southern latitude of thirteen degrees, it receives a refreshing sea-breeze which seldom falters until the wee hours of the morning when things have generally cooled off anyway. The settlement was founded in 1549 by Thomé de Souza and quickly became the main Brazilian sea port and first capital of Portuguese Brazil until 1763. The city still contains many colonial buildings, including the first cathedral in Brazil, over 350 churches and the nation's oldest medical college, but it has become more famous due to the strong influence of African culture on the city. Salvador is characterised by intense cultural and artistic activity with cheerful, hospitable and proud people. The city has several universities, including the Universidade Federal da Bahia, Universidade do Estado da Bahia, and Universidade Católica do Salvador. The majority of the population of the city are of African ancestry. The rich mixture of beliefs, traditions and races has led to the development of a vast culture that is manifest in its popular music, dance, art and cuisine. It is the center of Yoruba Candomblé and the martial dance art of capoeira. Salvador is famous for its traditions, including processions, coming-of-age celebrations and its carnival. Its historical precinct has been the cultural centre of the arts since 1985. It is a place of famous artists and writers who have gained international reputation. You can learn more about Salvador and Bahia, its history, attractions and people from <http://www.bahia-online.net/>.

Call for Papers

Statistics educators, statisticians, teachers and educators at large are invited to contribute to the Scientific Programme. Types of contributions include *Invited Papers*, *Contributed Papers* and *Posters*. No person may author more than one Invited Paper at the Conference, although the same person can be co-author of more than one paper, provided each paper is presented by a different person.

Voluntary refereeing procedures will be implemented for ICOTS-7. Details of how to prepare manuscripts, the refereeing process and final submission arrangements will be announced later.

Invited Papers

Invited Paper Sessions are organised within 9 different Conference Topics. The list of Sessions themes, with e-mail contact information for Session Organisers, is available on the ICOTS-7 website at <http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7>, under "Scientific Programme".

Contributed Papers

Contributed Paper sessions will be arranged in a variety of areas. Those interested in submitting a contributed paper should contact either Joachim Engel (Engel_Joachim@ph-ludwigsburg.de) or Alan MacLean (alan.mclean@buseco.monash.edu.au) before September 1, 2005.

Posters

Those interested in submitting a poster should contact Celi Lopes (celilopes@uol.com.br) before February 1, 2006.

Special Interest Group Meetings

These are meetings of Special Interest Groups of people who are interested in exchanging and discussing experiences and/or projects concerning a well-defined theme of common interest. *Proposals to hold a SIG Meeting specifically oriented to reinforce Latin American statistics education cooperation in a particular theme are especially welcome.* In this case, the Organisers may decide to hold the meeting in the Portuguese and Spanish languages.

Normally, an SIG Meeting will be held in the evenings and will be allotted up to two 1½-hour time slots. Please note that the number of SIG Meetings is limited, so they are offered on a "first come first served" basis. The following SIG Meetings have been recently organised:

SIG1: *Training Mathematics Teachers to Teach Statistics in Spanish and Portuguese Speaking Countries.* Organisers: Margarida Cesar (Portugal), macesar@fc.ul.pt and Teresita Terán (Argentina), teresitateran@hotmail.com (Portuguese and Spanish).



SIG2: *Young Latin American Researchers in Statistics Education.* Organisers: Cileida Coutinho (Brazil), cileda@pucsp.br and Blanca Ruiz (Mexico), bruiz@itesm.mx (Portuguese and Spanish).

SIG3: *International Research Forum on Statistical Reasoning, Thinking and Literacy.* Organisers: Dani Ben-Zvi (Israel), dbenzvi@univ.haifa.ac.il and Joan B. Garfield (USA), jbg@umn.edu (English).

SIG4: *Curricular Development in Statistics Education in Latin America.* Organisers: Olga Leticia Escudero (México), olgal@sep.gob.mx and Clayde Regina Mendes (Brazil) clayde@uol.com.br (Portuguese and Spanish).

Individuals or groups may submit proposals to establish a Special Interest Group to Carmen Batanero (batanero@ugr.es). Only clearly non-commercial SIGs will be accepted in the Scientific Programme. The IPC is in charge of reviewing and accepting SIG proposals.

Organisers

Local Organisers

Pedro Alberto Morettin, (Chair), Lisbeth K. Cordani, Clélia Maria C. Toloi, Wilton de Oliveira Bussab and Pedro Silva.

IPC Executive

Carmen Batanero (Chair), Susan Starkings (Programme Chair), Allan Rossman and Beth Chance (Editors of Proceedings), John Harraway (Scientific Secretary) and Lisbeth Cordani (Local Organisers Representative).

More information is available from the ICOTS-7 website at <http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7> or from the ICOTS IPC Chair Carmen Batanero (batanero@ugr.es), the Programme Chair Susan Starkings (starkisa@lsbu.ac.uk) and the Scientific Secretary John Harraway (jharraway@maths.otago.ac.nz).

Statistics Education Research Journal (SERJ)

The editorial board of the *Statistics Education Research Journal* (SERJ) is pleased to announce the publication of the November 2004 issue of the *Statistics Education Research Journal* (Vol. 3, No. 2). This new issue, as well as archives of older issues, can be found on the SERJ web page at: <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/serj>.

The complete issue can be downloaded as a single PDF (about 1MB) or individual papers can be retrieved separately. Access to issues of SERJ is free.

Contents of Vol. 3, No. 2 (Nov 2004):

Special Issue on reasoning about variability and variation

(Guest Editors: Dani Ben-Zvi and Joan Garfield)

Dani Ben-Zvi and Joan Garfield (Invited Paper). *Research on reasoning about variability: forward.*

Robert Gould (Invited Paper). *Variability: one statistician's view.*

Jim Hammerman and Andee Rubin. *Strategies for managing statistical complexity with new software tools.*

Dani Ben-Zvi. *Reasoning about variability in comparing distributions.*

Arthur Bakker. *Reasoning about shape as a pattern in variability.*

Chris Reading. *Student description of variation while working with weather data.*

This issue contains an Editorial announcing important changes in the SERJ Statement of Goals and Policy and the addition of a Brief Reports manuscript format. The issue also contains sections with information about past and future IASE conferences and announcements of other future conferences with a statistical education research strand.

Inquiries and submissions should be sent to the Co-Editor Flavia R. Jolliffe (UK) at: F.Jolliffe@kent.ac.uk. Guidelines for authors and referees, a template for authors, and a copyright form, as well as prior and current issues of the journal, can be downloaded from the SERJ web page:

www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/serj.

Update on International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP)

Over the past several months, two new pages have been added to the ISLP website. These are one on Assessment at <http://course1.winona.edu/cblumberg/islp/assess.htm> and one with relevant Newspaper and Internet Articles at <http://course1.winona.edu/cblumberg/islp/part.htm>. If you have any good articles (especially from countries other than the USA), please submit the articles along with an approximately 3 to 5-sentence paragraph of how they can be used when training teachers to Eunice Goldberg at egoldberg@nl.edu. Please make sure to include a complete reference to where the article is located and, if possible, information on who needs to be contacted to get permission to reproduce the article on the website.

Also, the project is in need of one or more people to co-ordinate the web page dealing with resources in statistical literacy at the primary school level. If you have expertise in this area and are willing to help with the coordination of these pages, please contact Carol Blumberg at

cblumberg@winona.edu.

Further, if you have other resources that you would like to see included on existing web pages, please send them to the appropriate page coordinators (see

<http://course1.winona.edu/cblumberg/islp/coord.htm>

for e-mails). If you have ideas for additional web pages or other projects that you would like to have the ISLP Advisory Committee consider or any questions, please contact Carol Joyce Blumberg, ISLP Coordinator, Department of Mathematics & Statistics, Winona State University, Winona, MN 55987-5838, USA; e-mail: cblumberg@winona.edu; Fax: +1-507-457-5376.

IASE Invited Paper Session Scheduled During Joint Statistical Meetings

The IASE has had its proposal for an Invited Session on "Publishing in Statistics Education Journals: Views from the Editors" accepted for the 2005 Joint Statistical Meetings. This Session will have the Editors (or their representatives) of the *Statistics Education Research Journal*, *Journal of Statistics Education and Teaching Statistics* prepare and present papers on the mission of their journal, the types of articles they would like to receive, and some of the common errors they find in submitted manuscripts that result in rejection. Gilberte Schuyten (IASE President) will serve as Discussant. Following the presentations by the Editors and the Discussant, there will be 30 to 40 minutes of open discussion devoted to questions from the audience and discussion by the Editors and members of the audience of what the journals and the organisations that publish them can do in the future to fit the needs of the statistics education community. This Session is also being organised by Carol Joyce Blumberg. The co-sponsors are the ISI and the ASA Section on Statistical Education. Details on the 2005 Joint Statistical Meetings to be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, from 7 to 11 August are at <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2005/index.cfm>.

2004 Issue of IASE Review Available on IASE Website

The 2004 issue of the *IASE Review* is available on the IASE website by going to

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications.php> and then clicking on the link to "IASE Review".

News of Members

Helen MacGillivray has been awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Statistical Society of Australia (SSAI). Helen is an outstanding statistician who has made very significant contributions to the statistical profession, the IASE and the SSAI. She has filled major roles in many professional and government bodies, where she tirelessly advocates the importance of statistical practice and statistical education in our society. She has filled management roles in the SSAI since 1985, rising to the level of President in 1995. Effective statistical education in Australia is crucial to the future health of statistics. Helen has made distinguished contributions to statistical education with her own excellent teaching, involvement in senior secondary school teaching in Queensland, and international conferences on teaching. She has written many influential papers on the teaching of statistics.

Susan Starkings, one of the IASE Vice-Presidents, has been elected to serve as Chair of the Education Strategy Group and as Honorary Education Officer for the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) for the 2004 - 2007 term of office. For details of the RSS Education Activities, see the website <http://www.rss.org.uk/education/index.html>.

US-COTS, Columbus, Ohio, US, May 17 - 19, 2005

This major U.S. Conference on Teaching Statistics is sponsored by CAUSE, a new Consortium for the Improvement of Undergraduate Statistics Education (CAUSE Director, Dennis Pearl, Ohio State University, USA, pearl.1@osu.edu, <http://www.CAUSEweb.org>).

Arising from strategic initiatives of the American Statistical

Association (ASA), the mission of the Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education (CAUSE) is to support and advance undergraduate statistics education in four target areas: resources, professional development, outreach, and research. This Consortium now involves participation from individuals at approximately forty institutions and recently won major funding from the National Science Foundation to create a digital library of resources for statistics instructors at CAUSEweb.org. This broad resource collection includes everything from teaching tips to computer laboratories to lecturing examples to cartoons for classroom use. An important feature of the digital library is the review of materials

by an editorial board of experienced statistics educators. The CAUSEweb.org site also highlights an array of materials for those interested in statistics education research.

Website for Up and Coming Conferences

If you have a conference that is of interest to statistical education, then please contact Andrej Blejec, e-mail: andrej.blejec@Uni-Lj.si, who will add this to the IASE website. The IASE main page for communicating about conferences is <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/conferences.php>, so have a look to see what is up and coming.