I can report as Chair of this year's Carver Selection Committee that we have decided that this year's Carver Medal should go to Professor Richard A. Johnson of the Department of Statistics, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin.

Rich Johnson has served the IMS in many capacities, including:

Served as IMS Program Secretary 1980-1986
Associative Program Secretary for Central Region 1972-1980
On IMS Program Committee for meetings 1972, 1987, 1988, 1991
Committee on Nominations 1993-94
Committee on Publications 1981-1986 (ex-officio)
Committee on Special Lectures 1982-1984
Committee on Travel Awards 1993-1995 (Chair 1995)

With all best regards,

Steve

_____
****
Stephen M. Stigler
****

To: Jianqing Fan, President, Institute of Mathematical Statistics

From: Uwe Einmahl, Chair, IMS Committee on Fellows

Re: Final report of the Committee

The 2008 IMS Fellows Committee received nominations for 47 candidates in early February. We have completed our review. Here is my final report.

We had three rounds of votes and discussions and came up with 17 elected fellows. These 17 names were finally voted as a group and I have received unanimous support from the members of the committee. Here are the names:

Agresti, Alan
Arcones, Miguel
Bayarri, María-Jésus
Bolthausen, Erwin
Chen, Xia
James, Lancelot
Jiang, Jimin
Kaspi, Haya
Koenker, Roger
Krieger, Abba
Le Gall, Francois
Lin, Zhenyang
Mallick, Bani K.
Massam, Hélène
Nobel, Andrew
Peres, Yuval
Van Keilegom, Ingrid

After preparing a first file with citations which was based on the material submitted by the nominators, I sent it to the other committee members and asked for comments and suggestions . There was some discussion on that and there seemed to be a consensus that we should tone down the wording for the research part. Some nominators wrote "fundamental", "significant" and "important" and it is difficult to tell which of these qualifiers means more and which less. So after our discussion I prepared a second file without these qualifiers with the understanding that it should be clear from the fact that these persons are elected fellows that their research is important and significant. This is certainly a slight change from the previous years, but we felt that we should have a somewhat uniform style for the 17 citations. (This year we had quite a variety of styles for the suggested citations.) If you find that the style is too different from the previous years or some extra editing is necessary, please let me know and I will try to do another rewriting. Citations as approved by Council.

In general, I think that everything went very smoothly and in my opinion the system as it is now, is very good. Of course, sometimes the chances of a candidate depend on the expertise on the committee, but having 12 members on the committee makes it possible to cover many areas of probability and statistics. One should also keep in mind that a candidate who did not succeed (also sometimes due to being in a research area not well represented on the committee) can be nominated in subsequent years again.

Finally, I would like to make the following small proposal: There is a rule that members of the committee are not allowed to nominate any candidate and I would add a second rule that they should not write any support letters during their tenure on this committee. There were some cases of that type during the last three years

which did not lead to any problem at all, but it might be also helpful for the committee members to have an "excuse" if they are approached by some nominators. Working on this committee is certainly a rewarding assignment as one can support other people who perform well, but it requires also much work and this might help to keep the work load of the committee members at a reasonable level. (As everybody in our "business" knows, composing a good recommendation letter requires also a lot of time).

Overall, I think we have elected a very strong group of fellows for the year 2008.

IMS Finance Committee Annual Report

Annual audit. The Audit Subcommittee reviewed the annual audit in a conference call with the auditors from the Bregante Company. One issue of continuing concern is that the lean, distributed nature of the organization makes maintaining strong internal financial controls a challenge. Distribution of responsibilities is maintained by the requirement that checks must be prepared by the Executive Director and signed by the Treasurer; however, the volunteer Treasurer does not have time to check all the accompanying documentation. Former Treasurer, Jiayang Sun, has suggested providing the Treasurer with a part-time assistant to enable the detailed, routine checks, while the Treasurer serves as an overall/final examiner of all checks and all the monthly statements with an option of sampling the detailed documents.

Annual review of IMS investments. The IMS Investment Policy requires that "The distribution of funds should be reviewed annually and should be rebalanced if the actual allocations differ from the targets given here by more than 5%." This review was initially carried out in May, and the Committee decided to wait until the July quarterly investment report was received from Vanguard before rebalancing. That report is now under discussion.

Report of the Memorials Committee

This is the first committee report to the Council in at least five years. A reconstituted committee now consists of Cindy Christiansen, Geoffrey Grimmett, John Hartigan, George Styan, and Don Ylvisaker.

The committee has gone back over the members who have passed away over the past few years, discussed appropriate remembrances that go beyond a Bulletin notice, and to this point has forwarded two matters to the Council for action.

Other cases are being considered for special attention, and we note that this past year has taken another heavy toll among prominent members of the IMS. We welcome input on possible memorials, and on individuals, as this process goes forward.

Don Ylvisaker

Chair

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE REPORT – 2008.

There are essentially only two projects to report on this year.

1: Ad hoc committee on textbooks. A committee comprised of Robert Adler (Chair), Peter Bickel, George Casella, Anthony Davison, Elyse Gustafson, Jim Pitman and Sid Resnick were charged with investigating possibilities that the IMS enter into an agreement with an established publisher for the publication of one or more book series. Three possible series were considered,

(i) IMS Lecture Notes, to replace the Lecture Notes and Monographs part of the Lecture Notes-Monograph Series.

(ii) IMS Collections, to publish conference proceedings, festschrifts etc, which actually make up the majority of recent volumes in the current LNMS.

(iii) A new venture, IMS Textbooks.

Of these three series, the first two involve no significant change in IMS activities, beyond making some current, purely IMS activities, joint. Entering the textbook market would be, however, be a completely new venture for the IMS.

There was a long and very lively discussion within the committee on this third issue, with the final recommendation, more or less, being that entering the graduate textbook market was a good idea, but entering the undergraduate market was something that the IMS was not suited for.

There was a strong minority view (championed by Sid Resnick) of "if it ain't broke, don't fix it, and if it is, then do". The implications of this view, applied to textbooks, was that the graduate texbook market was functioning quite well, and there was little IMS could add to this other than perhaps making a little money out of it by acting as a middle man between authors and publishers. (It was, admittedly, never clear where this money might be coming from, whether out of the authors' royalties, the commercial publisher's profits (unlikely) or the consumer.)

On the other hand, the undergraduate textbook market is obviously "broken", in the sense that prices are exorbitant, with new editions coming out regularly to maintain profits for publishers and, to a lesser extent, authors.

However, the overall feeling was that, even given the above, the IMS is simply not set up to impact on this market.

Nevertheless, there might be some point into joining with other organisations, such as the ASA, to investigate this issue in the future.

2: Impact factors

In early in 2006 a committee (Robert Adler, Terry Speed, Andy Stevens and Marc Yor) was set up to investigate the (ab)use of impact factors, citation counts, etc, within areas of IMS

interest. This group was effectively replaced by a joint committee of IMS, AMS and ICIAM, under IMU auspices, with the same goals but with its charge broadened to cover the general mathematical sciences.

John Ewing (AMS) chaired this committee, the other two members being Peter Taylor (ICIAM) and myself for IMS.

The committee has recently completed its report, which was adopted by all three participating organisations, and it is posted at
`http://www.mathunion.org/Publications/Report/CitationStatistics`.

The bottom line of the report is that while there is obviously useful information in bibliometric data, this data is often misunderstood and misused by university administrations and, more seriously, by government funding agencies looking for a "quick and easy" way to evaluate research. I recommend the report to all, although I doubt that all will agree with all of its details.

In particular, there seems to be a very interesting difference of views between the (pure) mathematical and (applied) statistical community in terms of belief in the value of bibliometric data. Pure mathematicians, with traditionally low citation counts, are very suspicious of using bibliometric data in any serious decision making process. Applied statisticians, whose citation counts are much closer (although they rarely actually reach) the disciplines in which they work, feel far more positively about bibliometry.

For what it is worth, my guess is that the difference in attitude lies not in the obvious self-interest of these stands, but rather is more likely due to a sample size effect. In mathematics, where absolute numbers of citations are generally low, it is hard to use them as differentiating tools. This is less so in areas where these numbers are higher.

In any case, I strongly encourage all to read the actual report.

Robert Adler

2008 Special Lectures Committee Report
May 30, 2008

The 2008 Special Lectures Committee was tasked with the selection of:

1. one Wald Lecturer (for 2009)
2. one Le Cam Lecturer (for 2009), and
3. eight Medallion Lecturers (for 2010).

The Committee worked through e-mails and online discussions from April 11 to May 30, 2008, and selected the special lecturers sequentially following the order listed above. In the selection process, the Committee had considered research excellence of the candidates and also the diversity in gender, minority, geographical distribution, and research areas. All discussions throughout the selection process were archived in Basecamp.

The numbers of nominations under consideration are as follows:

- Wald Lecturer: 7 nominations (including 1 woman)
- Le Cam Lecturer: 6 nominations (including 1 woman)
- Medallion Lecturers: (including 2 woman and 1 African American)
  Probability: 8 nominations; *Statistics*: 10 nominations; *Interdisciplinary*: 6 nominations

The following list of selected special lecturers is submitted to the IMS Council for approval:

I) **Wald Lecturer (2009)**: Jerome Friedman (Stanford University, USA)

2) **Le Cam Lecturer (2009)**: Aad van der Vaart (Vrije Universiteit, The Netherlands)

3) **Medallion Lecturers (2010):**
(Within each category, alternatives are listed in the ranking order, according to the votes received.)

[S] STATISTICS

- Ed George, University of Pennsylvania, USA
- Xiao-Li Meng, Harvard University, USA
- Marie Davidian, North Carolina State University, USA

[P] PROBABILTY

- Marek Biskup, University of California, Los Angelas, USA
- Terence Lyons, University of Oxford, UK
- Jonathan Taylor. Stanford University, USA

[I] INTERDISCIPLINARY

- Hans Foellmer, Humboldt Universitat zu Berlin, Germany
- Laurens de Haan, Erasmus University, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

By matching research areas of the selected medallion lecturers with the potential participants in the five meetings, the Committee recommends the following allocation of the selected medallion lecturers:

1. IMS 2010 Annual Meeting: 3 session
   (August 2010, exact dates TBA, Gothenburg, Sweden)
   Laurens de Haan (I), Hans Foellmer (I), Marek Biskup (P)
2. JSM 2010: 2 sessions
   (August 1 – 5, 2010, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada)
   Ed George (S), Xiao-Li Meng (S)
3. WNAR 2010: (TBA, end of June): 1 session
   Jonathan Taylor (P)
4. ENAR 2010: (March 21-24, 2010, New Orleans, LA): 1 session
   Marie Davidian (S)
5. SPA 2010 (Osaka, Japan, September 2010): 1 session
   Terence Lyons (P)

Comments on voting and selecting procedures --

The problem of voting systems comes up on almost all IMS committees. Under the short time frame allowed, our committee was not able to devote sufficient time and effort to identify the best voting procedure before getting on with the assigned task. Many members support the alternative voting system for named lecturers (e.g. Wald, Le Cam Lecturers), in which one numbers candidates in order of preference until one has no further preference. The candidate(s) with the least first preferences is to be eliminated, and votes are redistributed until one candidate emerges as the absolute winner. A different procedure would be appropriate where, as in the selection of Medallion Lecturers, a group of fixed size is to be elected, possibly subject to constraints. Recognizing that voting systems is a science in itself, we believe that all IMS committees would be well served by sound voting procedures set down by the IMS Council and we wish to flag this up as an issue requiring urgent attention.

Comments on the categories of medallion lecturers --

Medallion Lectures are classified in three categories: statistics, probability, and interdisciplinary. The first two categories are more or less self-explanatory, but the last is less obvious. Some members interpret "interdisciplinary" as work that reaches significantly outside the fields of probability and statistics, while others interpret it as relating to work in both probability and statistics. Clarification of the category "interdisciplinary" in Medallion Lectures is needed.

This report is prepared by *2008 IMS Special Lectures Committee*:
Regina Liu (Chair), Maury Bramson, Tony Cai, Brad Efron, Irene Gijbels, Peter Hall, Steffen Lauritzen, Gregory Lawler, Jean-Francois Le Gall, David Madigan, Susan Murphy, Andrew Nobel, Marta Sanz-Sole, Bernard Silverman, Ed Waymire

Voting Systems for IMS Committees

This paper sets out voting systems for three different scenarios and also makes clear how the chair should act. It allows for multi-stage procedures where the committee can discuss the results between stages if it wishes. The amount of discussion between rounds of voting is up to the chair and the committee. This paper does not consider the question of how candidates for voting are obtained, only how votes should be conducted and counted when they actually take place. In every vote conducted, the chair votes along with the rest of the committee. Where there is no simple way of breaking ties, the chair has an additional casting vote as set out below.

A. Selection of a single individual (eg Wald Lecture)

Stage 1:

Each committee member ranks up to three candidates 1=first preference, 2=second preference, 3=third preference. If M preferences are used, then all the others are assigned rank M+1 when the votes are counted, so that if all 3 preferences are used then all the others are assigned rank 4. Within the M preferences expressed, equal ranks are not allowed. (So the voter may assign ranks 1-2-3-4-4-4-4-... or 1-2-3-3-3-3-3... or 1-2-2-2-2....)

The resulting ranks assigned by all voters are summed, and the two candidates with the smallest total rank are chosen to go on to the next stage.

If tie-breaking is needed, the number of first preference votes is used to break a tie (so among those with equal summed ranks, candidates with more first preferences are preferred). If this does not resolve the tie, there is a runoff vote between the tied candidates. In the runoff, each committee member including the chair has one vote. In the event of a tie in the runoff, the chair has the casting decision.

Stage 2:

The committee votes again (possibly after further discussion) between these two candidates to yield the winning candidate. The chair has an additional casting vote in case of a tie.

B. Selection of a slate of individuals of fixed size N > 1 (eg any Medallion Lecture field where more than one candidate has to be selected)

If there are segmented fields (e.g. a number for Probability and a number for Statistics) then the procedure operates separately for each field. In some cases these votes can be carried out concurrently, but in others they would have to be sequential (for instance if there is a "wild card" field.)

Stage 1:

If there are more than N+2 candidates, narrow down to N+2 using the same procedure as in Stage 1 of Scenario A. Each voter expresses up to three preferences with no ties within these preferences; if M preferences are expressed all others are given rank M+1; then the N+2 candidates with the lowest summed rank (and, within those of the same summed rank, the highest number of first preferences) are chosen to go on to the next stage.

Stage 2:

Possibly after further discussion, narrow down to the final N candidates using the same procedure as in Stage 1 for just these N+2 candidates. The N candidates with the lowest summed rank (and, within those of the same summed rank, the highest number of first preferences) are chosen to be the final selection.

In both cases the tie-breaking procedure, if needed, is as set out for Stage 1 of Scenario A.

C. Selection of a slate of individuals of indefinite size (eg Fellows)

Let M be the size of the committee and let K be the integer part of (M+1)/2. There are at most five rounds of voting. In each round proceed as follows:

Stage 1:

Each selection committee member, including the chair, votes for or against or abstain on each candidate still in consideration (ie who has not been finally rejected or selected; initially this is all the candidates). For each candidate the net score is the number for minus the number against.

In each round of voting, any candidate who achieves a net score of K or more is put on the final slate and is not voted on again. Those with a score less than Z are eliminated from further consideration, where Z= -2 in the first round of voting, 0 in rounds 2, 3 and 4, and K in round 5. Those with net scores between Z and K-1 inclusive are retained for future consideration and voting, unless the process is terminated by the vote taken as described in Stage 2 below.

Stage 2:

After the third and fourth round of voting, have a single vote on whether to approve the current slate of finally selected candidates or whether to continue voting. [*If there is a tie in the single vote, the committee moves to the next round and does not terminate the process.*] After the first two rounds voting is reopened automatically provided that there are still candidates who have not been finally selected or rejected. If the voting goes as far as five rounds, after the fifth round of voting all candidates who have not been finally selected are rejected and the resulting slate of selected candidates is automatically approved.

Annals of Applied Probability
Annual Report 2008
June 10, 2008

Summary journal data for 2007 provided from EJMS is the basic reference for this report. There were 271 submissions via the Electronic Journal Management System (EJMS) for 2007. The 11 year historic submission rates are now: 134, 183, 145, 170, 137, 149, 164, 196, 207, 220, 271 manuscripts.

The Acceptance/Rejection split for 2007 was 63/271 (23% accepted). This is a little lower than previous years, but there is no explicit effort to control the number of publishable papers in AAP, beyond quality control standards imposed by peer referees and the editorial board.

The plan for 2007 had been to move from previous Fat 4 Issue Model to a Lean 6 Issue Model. However, to maintain a reasonable backlog it was decided to run 5 issues for 2007 which involved combining Issues 5 and 6 into a single issue numbered 5/6. 2008 should be the full six separate issues.

From an editor's perspective I am quite content with the functionality of EJMS. The complaints from AEs and/or authors are infrequent and are always quickly resolved by the prompt and effective attention provided by Mattson Publishing Services.

The median review time is 5.65 months. As editor I have put more emphasis on quality of reviews than length of time. This position is no doubt arguable, and I have heard arguments against it from a few authors, but it is realistic in making allowances for the highly technical nature of some submissions together with the many-fold other demands on peer reviewers and Associate Editors. I would argue against too much regimentation in an all volunteer system.

The current Editorial Board consists of second term continuations by:
Paul Dupuis, Maury Bramson, Claudia Kluppelberg, Russell Lyons, Leonid Mytnik, Timo Seppalainen, Denis Talay, and Ofer Zeitouni.
New (first term) members are: Jinho Baik, Rabi Bhattacharya, Brigitte Chauvin, Rick Durrett, Luc Devroye, James Allen Fill, Jean-Pierre Fouque, David Gamarnik, Steve Krone, Charles Newman, Vladas Sidoravicius, Qi-

Man Shao, Jason Ross Schweinsberg, Prasad Tetali, Enrique Thomann, and Ruth Williams

The success of the journal is mostly in the hands of this very hard working and dedicated group of AEs and their anonymous referees who continue to do an outstanding job for the IMS and the larger profession. A special highlight for the journal this year was the recognition of authors H. Christian Gromoll, Amber L. Puha, and Ruth J. Williams as the 2007 Best Publications by INFORMS for three papers published in 2007, each of which appeared in AoAP.

A new issue arose this year that merits attention of IMS council. Namely, a non-English submission arrived. The language happened to be French, but apparently IMS has no general language policies for its journals. I informally consulted with Greg Lawler and polled a few AEs about this matter. The AE responses were mixed. Perhaps the voice of reason was best reflected in a recommendation that the language requirement should be consistent with that of lectures delivered at IMS meetings if there is a policy in this regard (?). In the end, the submission in French was withdrawn due to a technical error uncovered by the authors, so a policy decision was not required. At this point, however, it is my impression that such decisions are left to editors. Greg and I agreed to have an English only policy for AoP and AoAP during the remainder of our terms as editors.

Ed Waymire, June 10, 2008

ANNUAL REPORT, ANNALS OF APPLIED STATISTICS

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The Annals of Applied Statistics (AOAS) is well into its first full year of publication, with the first two issues of 2008 now printed and available electronically. This makes four issues in all that have appeared, enough to give readers a good sense of what the journal hopes to be. A look at the tables of contents (and the papers) on our web-page, http://www.imstat.org/aoas/ , shows a wide variety of applied topics-- from the lost tomb of Jesus to nanoscale brain mapping to empirical Bayes estimates for batting averages. Upcoming papers can be viewed on the "Next Issues" page, and show the same catholic range over the world of applied statistics. The fourth issue of 2008 will feature a special section on atmospheric science, with a subsequent special section on "astrostatistics" planned for 2009.

New submissions have averaged about 22 papers per month, with an acceptance rate of roughly 30%. Rejections often relate to inappropriate style for an applied journal-- too theoretical-- and we have encouraged revisions that concentrate more on the intended application. The three AOAS editorial areas, biostatistics, social science, and physical science, have received about the same number of papers each. Median review time is currently 3.5 months until first response.

Bradley Efron, Stephen Fienberg, Michael Newton, Michael Stein

2008 REPORT, ANNALS OF PROBABILITY

The overall rate of submissions at the Annals is about the same as previous years so I will not bother to give a detailed summary. I do wish to bring up two issues.

I have been editor without an editorial assistant. This is an experiment, and I do not believe it has been successful. I have not had the ability (or at least the willingness) to spend as much time dealing with author correspondence and pestering of referees and is needed. I believe that future editors will need assistance.

A second issue that has arisen is that of language. I received a paper in French and found out that there is no official policy on language of papers although certainly a number of papers have been published in French. After a lot of thought, I decided that at this point I would not accept papers in French. I should give my rationale. There are a number of potential editors and referees who do not feel comfortable reading carefully papers written in French. While this is probably a minority of the readership of the Annals, it can include the very people whose comments one most wants on a paper. I do not believe that I set future precedent on this issue, but the Council may wish to discuss this matter.

Greg Lawler

The Annals of Statistics, 2008 Annual Report

Susan Murphy and Bernard Silverman, Editors

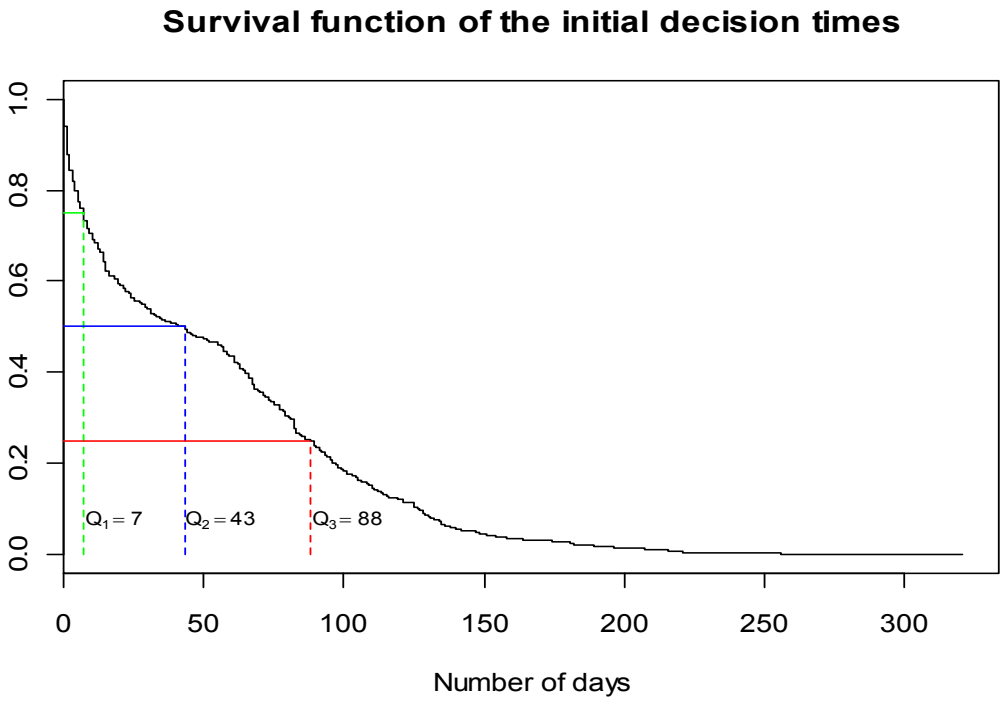
SUBMISSIONS: Submissions were up in 2007 and very high relative to the historical norm: 569 manuscripts (of which 90 were resubmissions from the prior editors' tenure) were received (in comparison to 274, 319, 362, 323, 343 and 397 in 2001 – 2006, respectively). Our editorial policy continues to emphasize that The Annals of Statistics aims at publishing research papers of highest quality reflecting the many facets of contemporary statistics, including all mathematical, methodological, computational and interdisciplinary work.

ACCEPTANCE RATE: During 2007, we made 125 acceptance, 412 rejection, and 29 tentative decisions on all live manuscripts. The acceptance rate among these 537 final decisions in 2006 is about 23% percent. This is compared with 22% for the manuscripts submitted during 2006. The historical acceptance rate for the Annals has been about 25-30 percent.

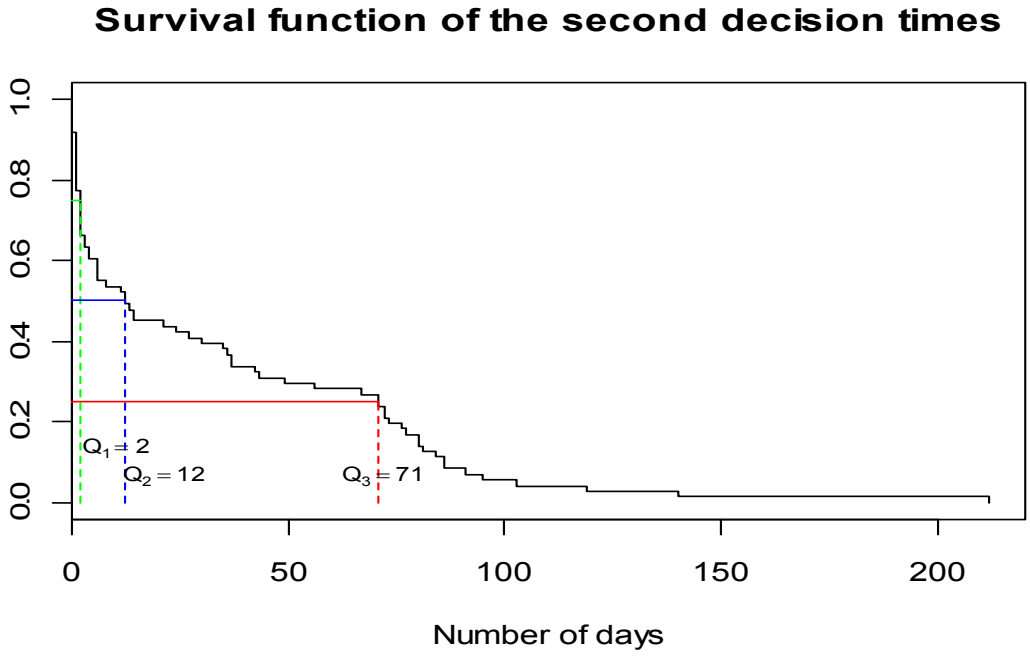
BACKLOG: During 2006, we printed 2817 pages. In 2008 we expect to use an allotment of 3000 pages. There is a current backlog of about 3.75 issues. We are continuing to experience an excessive backlog. Manuscripts accepted now may not appear until October 2009.

PAGE REQUEST: We request an allotment of 3300 pages for 2008. This is a conservative request particularly given the increase in submitted papers.

REVIEW TIMES: The quartiles of the distribution of the initial decision times for manuscripts submitted in 2007 are 7 days, 43 days and 88 days. They are decisively shorter than the quartiles of are 25 days, 130 days and 240 days from 2006. The EJMS system has clearly had a great impact. The details of the review times are summarized in the graph below, which provides an estimated survival curve of initial decision times for submissions in 2007.



We have begun tracking the distribution of the time from submission of the first revision to second decision as well. The quartiles of the distribution of the second decision times for 71 manuscripts with revision submitted in 2007 are 2 days, 12 days and 71 days. See below.



IMS Bulletin: Report to Council 2008

The *IMS Bulletin* continued this year with regular columns from Terry Speed and Rick Durrett. News about IMS activities and IMS members remained the major focus. In addition, we published three special issues: on membership (January/February 2008), on refereeing (March 2008), and on IMS China (June 2008, timed to coincide with the IMS China meeting in Hangzhou). We increased international coverage, and resumed the 'Letters to the Editor' section.

Following the meeting with the Contributing Editors (Peter Bickel, Louis Chen, Nicole Lazar and Terry Speed; Rick Durrett was unable to attend) at the 2007 JSM, the *Bulletin* adopted a new procedure on proof-reading to minimize errors.

The IMS IT Project Manager improved the *Bulletin* website earlier this year and created more convenient archives of past issues. This website, now a sub-domain of the IMS website, is located at http://bulletin.imstat.org. Printed copies (circulation just under 5,000) continue to be mailed around the first of each month, with the PDF version uploaded around the 15th of the month (i.e. two weeks earlier than the shipping date). The PDF version of the *Bulletin* (available from the website above) is still popular, receiving around 5,000 downloads per month.

As reported elsewhere, IMS has entered into an agreement with JobTarget for its job advertisement services to the prob/stat community. Until May this year, jobs were advertised in full in the *Bulletin*, and also online at http://www.imstat.org/jobs. Now jobs are advertised in full at http://jobs.imstat.org and only the summary data will be published in the *Bulletin*: location, job title, and a link to the full details. This will enable us to reallocate some hours spent laying out the ads in issues, particularly at peak advertising time, September–December.

As ever, we rely very much on IMS members to volunteer their news. We invite all members, and particularly Council members, to be proactive in this area – and in offering to write longer articles. Please don't be shy! We receive occasional feedback (mostly positive) which is very welcome, but we like to engage with readers. If anyone has comments, suggestions or feedback, please email bulletin@imstat.org.

Xuming He & Tati Howell
June 2008

Editor's Report on Lecture Notes-Monographs Series and IMS Collections

During 2007, four new monographs were published in the Lecture Notes-Monographs Series. They are on Bayesian supervised classification (author Olivier Catoni), Asymptotics on particles, processes and inverse problems (editors Eric A. Cator et al.), Complex data sets and inverse problems (editors Regina Liu, William Strawderman and Cun-Hui Zhang), and Multivariate Statistics (author Morris L. Eaton).

A few new monographs have been approved for review for the year 2008. The topics are neuroinformatics, surface estimation, and decision theory for survey sampling, by Chunming Zhang, Byeong Park, and Yosef Rinott, respectively. There are some other possibilities which have not been approved yet.

For the new IMS Collections series, lead editors have been appointed for fifteen selected works volumes of distinguished probabilists and statisticians, emeriti or deceased. The editorial board of the IMS Collections has assisted in selecting the names of the scholars to be honored. The editorial work has been completed on three of the fifteen selected works. Administrative work is in progress. In addition, volumes of articles in honor of David Freedman, J. K. Ghosh, and Pranab K. Sen were published in the IMS Collections series in 2008; these were edited by Anthony Davison.

Proposals for original research monographs on any topic in probability theory, mathematical statistics, and interface with the sciences are strongly encouraged. The enquiries should be directed to the series main editor. We also welcome books of problems, preferably with sketches of solutions for the difficult problems, or interesting simulation based monographs on hard unsolved problems. Any other suggestions are also most welcome.

Anirban DasGupta

Editor, Lecture Notes-Monographs Series, and Editor, IMS Collections

Report of the Managing Editor

Probability and Statistics

Michael Phelan

As my first combined report as Managing Editor of Probability and Statistics, I would like to say a word of appreciation of Paul Shaman, the outgoing Managing Editor of Statistics, for his many years of dedicated service to the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. I wish him well on his retirement from the Department of Statistics, University of Pennsylvania, and hope to sustain his professional example and attention to quality in the publication of IMS journals. Many of us know that Patrick Kelly, our Production Editor, was trained by Paul, and the positive ripples of that silent service have been felt by us all.

The page counts for 2007 turned out as follows: 2417 printed pages for *Annals of Probability*, 1807 for *Annals of Applied Probability*, 2816 for *Annals of Statistics*, 775 for *Annals of Applied Statistics*, 652 for *Statistical Science*.

As of this report, production is caught up or ahead on all issues. The one exception is *Statistical Science,* which is now being given priority. Many thanks to Patrick Kelly for his efficiency in the production process, and for his responsiveness to the timely publication of accepted manuscripts. The tables, below, provide the numbers for each of the journals.

The Annals of Probability

Volume 35	2007 Printed Pages	Volume 36	2008 Printed Pages
No. 1	397	No. 1	396
No. 2	409	No. 2	409
No. 3	394	No. 3	402
No. 4	421	-	-
No. 5	398	-	-
No. 6	398	-	-
TOTAL	2417	TOTAL	1207

The Annals of Applied Probability

Volume 17	2007 Printed Pages	Volume 18	2008 Printed Pages
No. 1	419	No. 1	359
No. 2	359	No. 2	465
No. 3	336	No. 3	453
No. 4	329	No. 4	390
No. 5/6	364	-	-
TOTAL	1807	TOTAL	1667

The Annals of Statistics

Volume 35	2007 Printed Pages	Volume 36	2008 Printed Pages
No. 1	464	No. 1	487
No. 2	466	No. 2	542
No. 3	420	No. 3	478
No. 4	498	No. 4	515
No. 5	463	-	-
No. 6	505	-	-
TOTAL	2816	TOTAL	2022

The Annals of Applied Statistics

Volume 1	2007 Printed Pages	Volume 2	2008 Printed Pages
No. 1	433	No. 1	285
No. 2	342	-	-
TOTAL	775	TOTAL	285

Statistical Science

Volume 22	2007 Printed Pages	Volume 23	2008 Printed Pages
No. 1	153	No. 1	150
No. 2	148	-	-
No. 3	175	-	-
No. 4	176	-	-
TOTAL	652	TOTAL	150

Annual Report - *Statistical Science*

David Madigan, Executive Editor

June, 2008

As of May 31, 2008, 39 manuscripts were at various stages of review or revision for *Statistical Science*. From Jan 1, 2007 – May 31, 2008, an additional 108 manuscripts were submitted. Of the total 147 manuscripts considered during this period, 81 were rejected, 25 are still in various stages of review or revision, and 41 have been accepted.

Month	Received	Rejected	Under review or revision	Accepted
Pre Jun 07	48	29	7	12
June 07	2	0	0	2
Jul 07	10	5	1	4
Aug 07	7	6	0	1
Sept 07	11	8	1	2
Oct 07	9	3	4	2
Nov 07	9	4	2	3
Dec 07	14	10	2	2
Jan 08	10	4	1	5
Feb 08	5	2	2	1
Mar 08	7	4	1	2
Apr 08	11	6	2	3
May 08	4	0	2	2
Total	**147**	**81**	**25**	**41**

I took over from Ed George as Executive Editor of *Statistical Science* on January 1, 2008. Ed did an outstanding job and passed along a healthy backlog of accepted and in-review high quality papers. Ed has stayed on as an Editor and has been extraordinarily helpful during the transition. Two special issues/sections for 2008 are at an advanced stage of preparation: "A Half Century of Minimax Shrinkage Estimation" (Guest Editor - Bill Strawderman), and "Thirty Years of the EM Algorithm" (Guest Editors – Xiao Li Meng and David Van Dyke). I anticipate that the total manuscript pages for 2008 will be around 600. Roughly the same number of manuscript pages should be planned for 2009. For 2009 we hope a have special issue on climate change issues as a well as an issue on "Bayesian methods that frequentists should know" (Guest Editors Partha Lahiri and Eric Slud).

I am very grateful to both Mattson Publishing Services and VTEX, who continue to be very responsive to my needs. EJMS has evolved considerably and now provides an excellent platform for journal management. I would like to gratefully acknowledge the efforts of the outgoing Editorial Board: Roger Berger, Alicia Carriquiry, Dean Foster, Constantine Frangakis, Sallie Keller-McNulty, Rob McCulloch, Sally Morton, Peter Mueller, Richard Smith, Marty Wells and Mike West. The new Editorial Board has gotten off to a terrific start and I am very grateful to each and every one of the members: Yali Amit, Richard Davis, Constantine Frangakis, Ed George, Diane Lambert, Peter Mueller, Nancy Reid, Glenn Shafer, and Marty Wells. I receive invaluable editorial support from Elyse Gustafson, Patrick Kelly, Geri Mattson and Paul Shaman.

Finally I want to acknowledge again the extraordinary support Ed George has provided during the transition.

Annual Report
Electronic Journal of Statistics

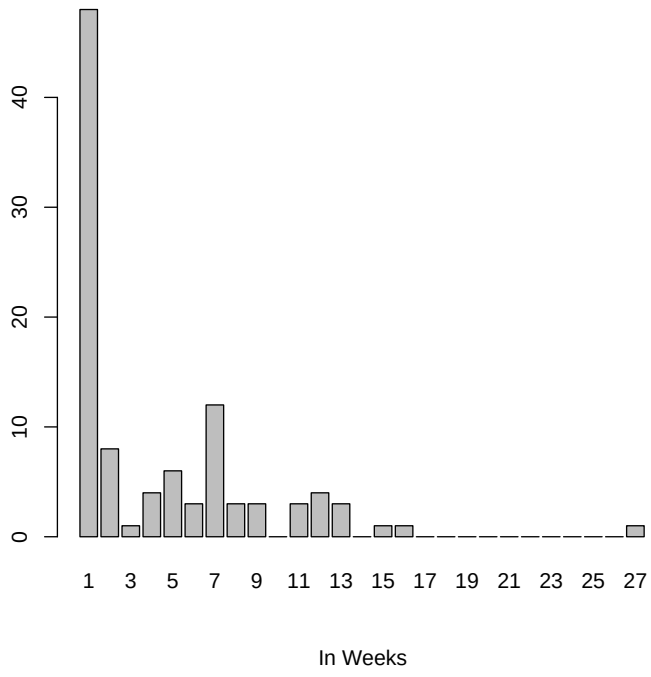
Larry Wasserman

May 9, 2008

EJS has been very active since its creation in 2007. Here are some summary statistics.

Published articles in 2007	26 (676 pages)
Published articles Jan 2008-May 2008	13 (331 pages)
Acceptance rate	.40
Time to first review	median = 2 weeks ($q_{.25}$ = 1 week, $q_{.75}$ = 7 weeks)

More detail on time to first review (in **weeks**) in the following plot:



Probability Surveys Annual Report 2008

Volume 4 (2007) contained 7 papers (364 pages), a mild decrease over Volume 3. As of May 5 2008, Volume 5 contains 2 papers (79 pages) and 4 more papers are under review. The quality of published papers is pleasantly high, though increasing the number of submissions would be desirable.

Acceptance percentages are not comparable to those of other IMS journals for various reasons. Of papers formally submitted in 2007, there were 4 papers rejected as "more like new research than a survey paper". Such rejections are generally made very quickly, directly by Editor or after consultation with an Associate Editor. I also receive (and welcome) informal enquiries about suitability of draft papers, which obviates later need for rejection of formal submissions.

David Aldous