IMS Bulletin

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Elect your Council

Each year IMS holds elections so that its members can choose the next President-Elect of the Institute and people to represent them on IMS Council. The candidate for President-Elect is Bin Yu, who is Chancellor's Professor in the Department of Statistics and the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, at the University of California at Berkeley.

The 12 candidates standing for election to the IMS Council are (in alphabetical order) Rosemary Bailey, Erwin Bolthausen, Alison Etheridge, Pablo Ferrari, Nancy L. Garcia, Ed George, Haya Kaspi, Yves Le Jan, Xiao-Li Meng, Nancy Reid, Laurent Saloff-Coste, and Richard Samworth.

The elected Council members will join Arnoldo Frigessi, Steve Lalley, Ingrid Van Keilegom and Wing Wong, whose terms end in 2013; and Sandrine Dudoit, Steve Evans, Sonia Petrone, Christian Robert and Qiwei Yao, whose terms end in 2014.

Read all about the candidates on pages 12–17, and cast your vote at http://imstat.org/elections/. Voting is open until May 29.

Left: Bin Yu, candidate for IMS President-Elect.
Below are the 12 Council candidates.
Top row, l–r: R.A. Bailey, Erwin Bolthausen, Alison Etheridge, Pablo Ferrari
Middle, l–r: Nancy L. Garcia, Ed George, Haya Kaspi, Yves Le Jan
Bottom, l–r: Xiao-Li Meng, Nancy Reid, Laurent Saloff-Coste, Richard Samworth

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IMS Members' News

IMS Tweedie Award announced

The Institute of Mathematical Statistics has selected Huixia Judy Wang as the winner of this year's Tweedie New Researcher Award. Huixia received her PhD in 2006 from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and is currently an Assistant Professor in the Department of Statistics at North Carolina State University (http://www4.stat.ncsu.edu/~wang/). The IMS Travel Awards Committee selected Dr. Wang, "For deep and varied contributions to the theory and applications of quantile regression, and for outstanding collaborative statistical research in a wide variety of areas, including genomics, cytometry, neuroimaging and wildlife science; and for service to the profession."

The IMS Tweedie New Researcher Award will fund Dr. Wang's travel to present the Tweedie New Researcher Invited Lecture at the IMS New Researchers' Conference, held this year in San Diego, CA, USA in July, just before JSM. The award was created in memory of Richard Tweedie, who played a significant role throughout his professional career in mentoring young colleagues at work and through professional society activities. More information on the meeting is available at http://math.ucsd.edu/~nrc2012/index.html.

Huixia Judy Wang, the 2012 IMS Tweedie Invited Lecturer

Ming Yuan awarded Georgia Tech Coca-Cola Junior Professorship

Ming Yuan, associate professor in Georgia Tech's H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISyE), has been awarded the Coca-Cola Junior Professorship for a three-year term.

Ming Yuan

"During Dr. Yuan's time on the ISyE faculty, he has made valuable contributions in research, teaching, and service. Dr. Yuan's exceptional teaching ability is evident in the excellent teaching evaluations and student praise he receives. We are fortunate to have him as a colleague and now as the ISyE's newest Coca-Cola Junior Professor," said Jane C. Ammons, H. Milton and Carolyn J. Stewart School Chair.

The Coca-Cola Junior Professorship is supported by a gift from Coca-Cola, in order to support research and development in ISyE. Endowed professorships, such as this one, are awarded to outstanding faculty, ensuring them the resources they need to remain at the forefront of their fields and to lead teaching and research efforts in their key areas.

Yuan received his PhD in statistics from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He also holds a master's in computer science from the University of Wisconsin, and a bachelor's in electrical engineering and information science from the University of Science & Technology of China. Yuan's current research interests include statistical learning, bioinformatics, and methods of regularization.

IMS Members' News

Sloan Research Fellowships

IMS members Allan Sly (University of California, Berkeley) and Sebastien Roch (University of California, Los Angeles) are among the Sloan Research Fellows selected in 2012.

"Today's Sloan Research Fellows are tomorrow's Nobel Prize winners," said Dr. Paul L. Joskow, President of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. "These outstanding men and women are responsible for some of the most exciting science being done today. The Foundation is proud to support them during this pivotal stage of their careers."

The Sloan Research Fellowships seek to stimulate fundamental research by early-career scientists and scholars of outstanding promise. These two-year fellowships are awarded yearly to 126 researchers in recognition of distinguished performance and a unique potential to make substantial contributions to their field. The list of recipients is at http://www.sloan.org/fellowships/page/21

Honorary degrees awarded to C.R. Rao

IMS Fellow C.R. Rao has received three more Honorary Doctorate degrees: a DSc from University of Colombo, Sri Lanka in December 2011; a DSc from Karanatic University, Dharwad in January 2012; and a DLitt (Vachaspati) from the International Sanskrit University, Tirupati, in February 2012. This brings to 36 the number of honorary degrees Professor Rao has received from universities in 19 countries.

Dr. Rao was formerly the Director of the Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, where he worked for 40 years before retiring at the mandatory retirement age of 60. He is the founder of the new institute, the C.R. Rao Advanced Institute for Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science (C R Rao AIMSCS) in the campus of the University of Hyderabad. At the age of 92, he is still actively trying to develop the institute as an institute of national importance for advanced research in mathematics, statistics and computer science. He is currently Eberly Professor Emeritus at Penn State and Research Professor, University at Buffalo, USA, and Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Advisor of the C R Rao AIMSCS. He started the Statistics Olympiad program, the first in the world, to encourage the study of statistics and has plans to establish a museum of statistics for public education of statistics.

In the December 2011 issue of *Significance* magazine, the editor Julian Champkin interviewed Professor Rao, of whom he says, "C.R. Rao is a great name from the golden age of statistics. His work was done in India; his intellect shaped statistics worldwide."

C.R. Rao (centre) receives his 36th honorary degree, at the International Sanskrit University, in Tirupati, India

Author Identity and Open Bibliography

Jim Pitman, Professor of Statistics and Mathematics, University of California, Berkeley, writes:

A recent letter to the *IMS Bulletin* Editor, "How a nonexistent publication can have 20 citations," by Czesław Stępniak, draws attention to the increasing importance of author identity in the online universe. The importance of correct author identification has been widely recognized: to allow authors due credit for their work, to assist researchers in navigating the vast universe of bibliographic data, and to facilitate collaborations between authors with similar or complementary interests.

ORCID (www.orcid.org) is a non-profit organization formed in August 2010, with the aim of solving the author/contributor name ambiguity problem in scholarly communications, by creating a central registry of unique identifiers for individual researchers, and an open and transparent linking mechanism between ORCID and other current author ID schemes.

The initiative to form ORCID came from major commercial interests in scientific publishing and information management: Thomson Reuters, Elsevier, and the Nature Publishing Company. To their credit, these publishers recognized that in order to create a widely-adopted author identifier system it was essential to engage other participants in scholarly communication. The 14 directors of ORCID now include representatives from major universities and library organizations (Cornell, Harvard, MIT, OCLC), the Wellcome Trust (a funding organization with a strong commitment to open access), and representatives of both commercial and non-commercial publishers. One notable participant is CERN, which in February 2010 published its entire book catalog under a CC0 License which dedicates the data to the public domain. As Jens Vigen, head of the CERN Library, said:

"Books should only be catalogued once. Currently the public purse pays for having the same book catalogued over and over again. Librarians should act as they preach: data sets created through public funding should be made freely available to anyone interested."

The same should be said of records for articles, journals, authors, subjects, and so on, which constitute the bibliographic universe now available to scholars through a growing variety of academic information services. This is the idea behind the Principles for Open Bibliographic Data developed by the Open Knowledge Foundation. See also the recent article, *Open Bibliography for Science, Technology, and Medicine* (http://www.jcheminf.com/content/3/1/47).

The creation of ORCID signals a radical change in the governance of bibliographic data. Major publishers are collaborating with major universities and supporters of open access initiatives to develop an open indexing system for authors. Within a few years, such a system, spanning all fields, with institutional backing from both publishers and universities, will likely replace the patchwork of closed systems developed and maintained by subject-specific scholarly societies, such as the AMS MathSciNet Authors Database and ACM Author Profile Pages. These closed systems are unsustainable, and will come under strong pressure in the next few years to open up their data. No matter how carefully curated they may be, or how profitable to their maintaining societies, these databases artificially separate the communities they enclose from the larger scholarly universe inhabited by researchers, many of them statisticians, who work across a spectrum of mathematical science, computer science, and various domain sciences—biology, astronomy, and so on—all with their own indexing systems which are currently incapable of exchanging data with each other.

The breaking down of walls separating the bibliographic assets of various disciplines has been accelerated by the emergence of Google Scholar and Microsoft Academic Search. These semi-open academic search tools now compete with the major subscription indexing services in providing citation indexing across all fields. It is notable that Microsoft Research is a participant in the ORCID consortium, but Google is not. Google does not need to play with ORCID: Google has its own authentication mechanisms which it is now leveraging to create Google Scholar Citations. See for instance http://scholar.google.com/citations?user=cH0pbIwAAAAJ for my Google Scholar Citation Profile. The user value "cH0pbIwAAAAJ" in the above URL is a unique author identifier for me which has been credibly established by Google through a verified email address at stat.berkeley.edu.

It will take some time to determine which agent or coalition of agents in the scholarly communication game will end up providing the most reliable and useful author identification system. But publishers and universities between them have all the information necessary to identify and track authors and their associated bibliographic data. So, too, do individual scholars together with either Google or Microsoft. It is in the interest of most individual scholars and universities—which have no stake in selling bibliographic metadata, and little interest in buying it if it can be obtained for free—to give away their bibliographic metadata in machine-readable formats (JSON, XML, RDF, …) now easily generated from raw bibliographic data. Such

metadata serves as an advertisement for the real product: the research output of the individual or university expressed in the full text provided by publishers.

Collaboration between publishers and universities through ORCID, and trans-disciplinary indexing services such as Google Scholar and Microsoft Academic Search, should be expected to disrupt traditional subject-specific abstracting and indexing services. An emerging environment of open bibliographic services can be expected to pressure the traditional services to reinvent themselves as open data providers, doubtless with some additional component (reviews, annotations, ratings, data visualizations, etc.) to protect their subscription business model, which will not be given up easily. To stay afloat in a rising sea of open bibliographic data, traditional subscription services will need to facilitate the following scenario, which is still typically inhibited by excessive licensing restrictions. An individual, university department, or research organization subscribing to the service should be able to process and post feeds to the web of personal or subject bibliographic collections derived from the service, comparable to the way an author can now derive their Google Scholar Profile from the ocean of Google Scholar data. Such collections should be made available as structured data (including author and subject identifiers) with CC0 or similar license which permits remixing and reuse without permission. For instance, an author working in multiple fields should be able to pull a bibliographic data feed from some service in each field, merge these feeds also with data provided by Google Scholar and/or Microsoft, and come up with their own personal display of their bibliographic assets. Tools for this purpose are provided by the BibServer software (http://bibserver.berkeley.

edu/) and BibJSON format (http://bibjson.org/) for bibliographic data which I developed over the last few years, supported at times by IMS and NSF. This software and underlying data format are now being further developed as open source projects with support from JISC via the Open Biblio 2 project. Another suitable tool is Harvard Open Scholar, a full-featured open-source web site-creation package designed for the academic community. Tools such as these empower individuals, research groups, departments and universities to take back and curate their bibliographic data and become full participants in an open bibliographic ecosystem.

It remains to be seen what agent or agents will end up providing the best service for individual researchers, departments or universities to display the bibliographic data they generate, and how best such data will be aggregated for search and discovery. But don't wait for the big publishers and information brokers to monopolize this function. You can push the publishers and subscription services to support open access to your research work and open bibliographic data, by taking as many of the following steps as you can:

1) Post all new articles to arXiv (http://arxiv.org) at the same time you submit to a journal. After the article is refereed, revise the post with the final form sent to the publisher.

2) Ask your university library to help support arXiv (http://arxiv.org/help/support) and to push indexing services to grant rights to republish selected data to the web with CC0 or similar license.

3) Make a Google Citation Profile for yourself, and link to it from your website.

4) Maintain on your website a comprehensive list of your publications, preferably

in a machine-readable format such as BibTeX, BibJSON or logical equivalent, using open bibliographic management and display software such as Open Scholar or BibServer. Best of all, include abstracts or summaries, which arguably by US law can be posted online in accordance with "fair use" doctrine, even if the article itself is copyrighted by a publisher.

5) If legally possible, provide open access copies of the full text of your work, best of all on arXiv or an institutional repository, and second best as files beneath your homepage.

6) Register your website address with any open author identification service that is willing to take it, e.g. Thomas Krichel's AuthorClaim Service (http://authorclaim.org/) or Google Scholar Citations, to make it easy for researchers to navigate back and forth between researcher websites and whatever author indexing capability develops from ORCID and other author identification systems.

7) Contact representatives of scholarly societies you may belong to, and encourage them to support modern web services to facilitate integration of bibliographic data they provide into personal and departmental web displays.

8) Ask your university library to register as a participant in ORCID, and to push ORCID to support open bibliographic data services.

9) Contact me pitman@stat.berkeley.edu if you are interested in assisting further development of open bibliographic data services in probability and statistics or related fields.

OBITUARY: **Franklin Graybill**

1921–2012

FRANKLIN ARNO GRAYBILL, Professor Emeritus and founding Chair of the Department of Statistics at Colorado State University, died Friday, February 17, 2012 at the age of 90. He is survived by his wife Jeanne, his children Dan and Kathy, three grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Frank was born to Arno and Lula Graybill on September 23, 1921, in Carson, Iowa, a farming community of about 600 inhabitants. He had two brothers and four sisters. He attended Carson Consolidated School for all twelve years of public school and graduated in 1939. His graduating class consisted of 19 students. He then attended two years of college, from September 1939 to June 1941, at Tabor Junior College (Tabor, Iowa, 30 miles from Carson). In September 1941 he enrolled at William Penn College in Oskaloosa, Iowa, and completed one semester of course work. When he went home for the Christmas break in December of 1941, days after the Pearl Harbor bombing, he volunteered to join the Army Air Corps. He did attend William Penn College for part of the second semester, until March 1942, when he quit college and began his army duty soon after that. He was sent to the Philippine Islands as part of a special troops unit.

After the war, Frank returned to his home in Iowa in 1946 and later attended summer school at Colorado State Teachers College in Greeley, Colorado. However, the college would not accept his course credits from Tabor Junior College, which had gone out of business during the Second World War. He then returned to William Penn College and completed his BA degree in Education in May 1947, with Mathematics and Physics as his main subjects. It was during this period that Frank met Jeanne

Bunting, who had earlier graduated from William Penn College and was teaching elementary school. Days after graduation, on May 24, 1947, Frank married Jeanne.

In September 1947 Frank and Jeanne moved to Stillwater, Oklahoma, where Frank attended Oklahoma A&M. He received a Master's degree in Mathematics in May 1949, under the direction of Professor Carl Marshall. Frank and Jeanne's first child, Dan, was born in 1948. In the fall of 1949 Frank went to Iowa State University to do his PhD in Statistics, where he would work under the direction of Professor Oscar Kempthorne. Frank and Jeanne had their second child, Kathryn, in 1950. Frank wrote his dissertation on *"Quadratic Estimates of Variance Components"* and graduated with a PhD degree in 1952. He then went back to Oklahoma A&M as an assistant professor of Statistics and stayed there until 1960.

In 1959, Frank attended the IMS meeting in Laramie, Wyoming, at which time he met Elmer Remmenga from the Department of Mathematics, Colorado State University. Professor Remmenga informed him that the Dean of Faculty at Colorado State, Andrew Clark, and the head of the Mathematics department, Les Madison, were interested in creating a graduate program in Statistics and were looking for a suitable candidate to lead this effort. Shortly thereafter, Frank interviewed for this position at Colorado State and received an offer to join the Department of Mathematics. Both Frank and Jeanne had always wanted to live in Colorado, so when the opportunity arose, Frank accepted the professorship position in the Mathematics department. In August 1960, he began his tenure at Colorado State University where he would stay for the next 37 years.
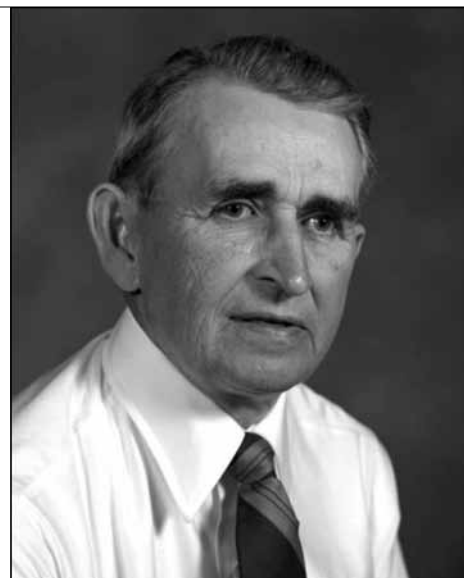
Franklin Graybill

Soon after Frank's arrival, the Department of Mathematics changed its name to Department of Mathematics and Statistics. During his initial years at Colorado State University, Frank created the Statistical Laboratory (on January 13, 1961) and also initiated the PhD program in Statistics. He successfully recruited and hired many talented faculty members. In 1971, the Department of Mathematics and Statistics split into two separate departments and Frank became the head of the newly born Department of Statistics. He served as department head until 1975.

Frank served on several committees in the various statistical societies. He was President of WNAR of the International Biometric Society in 1967. In 1968, Frank served as an Associate Editor of the *Annals of Mathematical Statistics*. He was the editor of *Biometrics* during 1972–75, and was the president of the American Statistical Association in 1976.

Frank taught graduate courses in Linear Models, Experimental Design, and Matrix Theory. He advised 33 MS and 26 PhD students during his tenure at CSU. Many of his students have gone on to make important contributions to the field of statistics in their own right. Frank published a number of books, both theoretical and

Franklin Graybill: 1921–2012
continued from previous page

applied, including his books on *Theory and Application of the Linear Model*, *Matrices with Applications in Statistics*, *Introduction to the Theory of Statistics* (Mood-Graybill & later Mood-Graybill-Boes), *An Introduction to Statistical Models in Geology* (with Professor W.C. Krumbein), and *Confidence Intervals on Variance Components* (with R.K. Burdick). During the 1990s he also wrote a book on regression analysis (with H. Iyer) and an introductory statistics book for undergraduate students with accompanying computer lab manuals for SAS and Minitab (with H. Iyer and R.K. Burdick).

In 1981, Frank changed his appointment in the Department of Statistics to part-time status. He continued to teach and advise even as a part-time professor until his retirement in 1997, at which time Frank and Jeanne moved to Mesa, Arizona.

The success of the statistics program at Colorado State University is in large part due to Frank's efforts, his astute hiring during the 1960s, his vision for the department, his creation of the statistical laboratory (which now bears his name), and his leadership and hard work over the years. To thank Professor Graybill for his many contributions to the development of Statistics at Colorado State, the Department annually presents a graduate student with the Graybill Award for Excellence in Linear Models and hosts the Graybill Conference Series.

Frank Graybill will be remembered by his students and colleagues not only for his professional achievements but also as a warm, kind man with great devotion to his family and a wonderful, down-home sense of humor.

Duane Boes, Jay Breidt, and Hari Iyer,
Department of Statistics,
Colorado State University

Statistical Issues in Assessing Hospital Performance

The white paper *"Statistical Issues in Assessing Hospital Performance"* has been released. The paper was commissioned by the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies at the request of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The COPSS–CMS White Paper Committee included: Arlene S. Ash, Stephen E. Fienberg, Thomas A. Louis, Sharon-Lise T. Normand, Thérèse A. Stukel, and Jessica Utts.

The goal of the committee was to "provide hospital-specific performance metrics for an array of procedures that incorporate the best possible information for each hospital as to how well it performs with its patients in comparison to the outcomes that would be expected if the same patients were to receive care that matched the national norm."

The full paper can be viewed here: http://www.cms.gov/HospitalQualityInits/Downloads/HospitalStatisticalIssues-in-AssessingHospitalPerformance.pdf

Below: **The Spice Bazaar in Istanbul, Turkey, is one of the largest bazaars in the city. Located on the Golden Horn, in the old western side of the city, it has been a place where spices and dried foods have been traded for centuries. Why not visit when you're at the World Congress? www.worldcong2012.org**

Photo: Damien Roué

Anirban's Angle: Learning from a Student

Anirban DasGupta reveals his ongoing love of learning through teaching:

I have only a nebulous idea of why I came into academics. It ran in the family, and everyone assumed that I would be a teacher too. In my thirty years as a professional mathematician, I have learned most of what I know from my own teachers and countless fellow researchers. But I now realize that every once in a while, a twenty-something teaches and enlightens me like no one did ever before. Today, I wish to share my wondrous joy of mingling with a bright student.

A year ago, in teaching the canonical doctoral course on inference, I followed the predictable path of telling my class about various methods of point estimation: UMVUEs when they exist, MLEs, moment estimates, Bayes, default Bayes, empirical Bayes, and minimax estimates. I was using as my pedestal the problem of estimating the probability of no events, namely $e^{-\lambda}$, in the Poisson case, a relevant problem in some applications. If we write T for the sample total, $\bar{X}$ for the sample mean, and W for the number of zero values, then, fortunately, we can write most of these estimates in closed form: the UMVUE is $\left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right)^T$, the MLE is $e^{-\bar{X}}$, the Jeffrey-Bayes estimate is $\left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)^T$, empirical Bayes stemming from an exponential prior is $\left(\frac{nT+n}{(n+1)T+n}\right)^{T+1}$, and the basic moment estimate is $\frac{W}{n}$. The minimax estimate is more elusive; I think that compactness arguments and analyticity derived from the exponential family structure imply that it would be Bayes against a finitely supported prior. I do not believe that the support or the masses can be found except, perhaps, approximately. There is plenty of work in the similar Gaussian problem, and there, Peter Kempthorne has written a program for iterative computing of the required prior.

A student in the class asked me privately which of these numerous estimates should be used.

I had never consciously thought about the question. But the student led me there. My first instincts told me to derive asymptotic expansions for their bias, variance, and MSE, and after patient mathematical work, a crystalline idealistic picture emerged. Differences would show up only in the n^{-2} term, and comparison of the coefficients of the n^{-2} term shows that for $\lambda \leq 4/7$, the Jeffrey-Bayes estimate has the smallest MSE, for $4/7 < \lambda < 4/5$, the MLE has the smallest MSE, and surprisingly, otherwise (i.e., for all $\lambda \geq 4/5$), it is the UMVUE. I later understood that the MLE rarely came out on top because I used it without a bias correction.

I was now quite curious: what do the estimate values look like for practical data? So I simulated some data and evaluated the estimates. For example, for 30 Poisson values with a true $\lambda = 2$, so that

Anirban DasGupta

$e^{-\lambda}$ = .1353, the UMV was .1448, the MLE .1496, the Jeffrey-Bayes was .1543, and the EB .1542. Since $\lambda = 2 > 4/5$, the predicted winner is the UMV, and it did win! But, frankly, I did not much care, because the various estimates differed by less than 0.01.

What did I learn from my student's question that I want to tell my future students? I am gratified that the theorem predicted the correct winner; this experience reinforced my immutable faith in the utility of a theorem, that a theorem exposes the landscape, all at one shot. But, because of my student, I am now also more conscious of the need to tell my students about bias correction of an MLE. I have never warned my students about that in the past. I also learned that different foundational and mathematical approaches to the same problem may, in the end, result in essentially the same conclusion, but this does not diminish the aesthetic and educational importance of knowing and understanding the different approaches.

I want to mention another anecdote that has educated me, this one related to a student too. It was demonstrated in Brown, Cai, and DasGupta (2001, 2002, 2003) that operating characteristics of the score confidence interval for the binomial p are significantly better than those of the usually prescribed Wald interval. Lehmann and Romano (2004) and Bickel and Doksum (2003) have implicitly recommended that the score interval be used in that problem. In my own lectures, I have done the same for a few years now. When I asked my students to compute the intervals for real data, a student said to me that he noticed that when computed, the score and the Wald intervals are not meaningfully different.

The question inspired me to try to understand this problem a little better. I found, by a theoretical calculation, that when the Wald interval misses the correct p, it misses by just a hair. However, the differences between the limits of the Wald and the score interval are such that, when the Wald interval misses the true p, the score interval tends to catch it by the skin of its teeth. Alan Agresti and I have looked at this more comprehensively; as one example, for $n = 50$ and $p = .1$, the conditional probability that the score interval catches the true p when the Wald interval misses it is (exactly) .880! However, the limits of the two intervals are physically close by; the upper limits are within .01 of each other on the average. Here again, my student took me to a point where I feel the sense of an internal conundrum. Even if to a practitioner's eyes, as intervals, the difference between the two is of no practical importance, in operating characteristics, the score interval comes out very much the better! And, thankfully, we can understand this apparent paradox theoretically, as I explained above.

In small but significant ways, these two events were each an eye-opener for me. In my narcissistic moments, when I thought that I knew something, a young student showed me that I didn't know it. How glad I am that I now know that I never knew that I didn't know it…!

I am glad that my parents asked me to be a teacher.

Recent papers

PROBABILITY SURVEYS Volume 8 (2011)

Access papers at http://www.i-journals.org/ps

Probability Surveys publishes survey articles in theoretical and applied probability. The style of articles may range from reviews of recent research to graduate textbook exposition. Articles may be broad or narrow in scope. The essential requirements are a well specified topic and target audience, together with clear exposition. Probability Surveys is sponsored by IMS and by the Bernoulli Society.

The IMS
New
Researchers'
SURVIVAL
Guide

Read the free PDF online at http://imstat.org/ publications/books/ newresearchersguide.pdf

COPSS Fisher Lecture: Roderick Little

Roderick Little to deliver Fisher Lecture: *"In Praise of Simplicity, Not Mathematistry! Ten Simple, Powerful Ideas for the Statistical Scientist"*

John D. Kalbfleisch, and Ross L. Prentice, Chair of the 2012 Fisher Lecture Committee, write: The Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS) has named Roderick J. A. Little as the R.A. Fisher Lecturer at the 2012 Joint Statistics Meetings in San Diego. Little is Associate Director for Research and Methodology and Chief Scientist at the US Census Bureau, and Richard D. Remington Collegiate Professor in the Department of Biostatistics

Roderick Little

at the University of Michigan, where he also holds appointments in the Department of Statistics and the Institute for Social Research. He has made many outstanding and fundamental contributions to statistical theory and applications. The scope, depth and influence of his work are all truly impressive. Further, his theoretical work is closely tied to problems arising in science and public policy and, very much in the Fisherian tradition, many of his methodological contributions are intrinsically tied to his applied work.

Little received his BA in Mathematics from Cambridge University, and MS and PhD degrees in Statistics from Imperial College, London. Prior to his appointment at Michigan, he held faculty appointments at the University of California at Los Angeles and the University of Chicago, and non-academic positions as ASA/Census/NSF Research Fellow at the US Bureau of the Census, Expert Consultant at the US Environmental Protection Agency, and Scientific Associate at the World Fertility Survey. He was Coordinating and Applications Editor of *JASA* from 1992–94. Interested in federal statistical issues, he has served as a member of the Committee on National Statistics, the Federal Advisory Committee of the National Children's Study, and other National Research Council committees, including two committees devoted to Census issues. He recently chaired a National Academy Committee on the treatment of missing data in clinical trials.

Little has been a leading researcher in the modeling, evaluation and analysis of missing data, sample survey and causal inference. In work in the 1980s, he made extensive contributions on likelihood-based analyses of incomplete data, and on related single and multiple imputation methods. Other related work is on the analysis of panel surveys with attrition, comparisons of imputation and weighting, design for nonresponse and models for non-ignorable response. He is an authority in this important area, and his collective work is widely cited. His 1987 book co-authored with Don Rubin, *Statistical Analysis with Missing Data*, is now a classic

reference for statisticians and practitioners alike. The second edition, published in 2002, is an important and wide reaching revision that summarizes more recent work in the area, including much due to Little, his students and his co-authors.

Survey research is a second area of Little's substantial and ongoing contribution, and his research in the design and analysis of sample surveys is widely known and highly influential. His work in this area has been balanced between model based and design based methods, and his pioneering work in model-based methods is being followed by many researchers. He is a leader in sample survey methodology as recognized in his appointment as senior research scientist in the University of Michigan's Institute of Social Research, and his current role at the Bureau of the Census.

Little's early collaborative research focused on survey work in environmental statistics and demography; of specific note is his extensive work with the World Fertility Survey and on the Income Supplement of the Current Population Survey. At Michigan, he has played important roles in various collaborative projects across the campus. He currently serves as director of the Biostatistics Cores for three major research centers.

Little served as associate editor for a number of journals. He served on and chaired important high profile committees of ASA, COPSS and the International Biometrics Society, and he currently serves as Vice-President of the American Statistical Association. His leadership, however, goes well beyond statistical society roles. At the University of Michigan, Little served as Chair of the Department of Biostatistics for thirteen years and was instrumental in the development of the Department to a strong internationally recognized research Department. He also played an outstanding role as mentor of both faculty and students. During his time at Michigan, he has supervised 22 PhD students through to their graduation with two more in progress. During the past 12 years, he has published over 40 methodological papers with his PhD students, a truly remarkable level of mentorship and scholarship.

Little is a Fellow of the ASA and an Elected Member of ISI. He received the ASA's 2006 Wilks Award, was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2010 and to the Institute of Medicine in 2011. He has made fundamental contributions to statistical methodology and has had significant impact on public policy and scientific practice. This breadth and depth of contribution are very much in the spirit of Sir Ronald Fisher and make him a fitting recipient of the Fisher Lectureship Award.

IMS Elections 2012

President-Elect Nominee

Bin Yu

Chancellor's Professor, Department of Statistics and Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, University of California at Berkeley

Education

PhD, UC Berkeley, 1990; MA, UC Berkeley, 1987; BA, Peking University, 1984

Research Interests

- High dimensional inference: statistical machine learning and large scale computation
- Information theory: Minimum Description Length Principle for model selection
- Interdisciplinary research: neuroscience, remote sensing, and computational social science

Previous Service to the Profession

- Co-chair, National Advisory Committee, SAMSI
- Member, Board of Mathematical Science and Applications, NAS (2010–2013)
- Member, Committee to Select Editors 2004–2006 (Chair, 2005–2006)
- Member, Committee on Special Invited Lectures 2001–2003 (Chair, 2002–2003)

- Member, Council, 2001–2003, 2008–2010
- Member, IEEE Information Theory Society Board of Governors, 1999–2001, 2002–2004
- Associate Editor, *Annals of Statistics*, 1998–2000, 2001–2003, 2004–2006
- Action Editor, *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 2001-
- Associate Editor, *Technometrics*, 2007–2011
- Associate Editor, *JASA*, 2005–2007
- Associate Editor, *Statistica Sinica*, 1996–2001, 2005–2010

Brief Statement

As a leading international society of statisticians and probabilists, IMS is uniquely positioned to help society extract meaningful information from massively available data and push frontiers of science, engineering and social science. I am very honored to be nominated for President-Elect of IMS. If elected, I would work with colleagues at IMS to encourage and facilitate its members to meet major data challenges, advance fundamentals of statistics and probability, increase diversity within IMS, and keep IMS solid financially. Moreover, I would seek opportunities to forge new connections with other scientific societies and between statistics/probability societies in different countries/regions.

Web

http://www.stat.berkeley.edu/~binyu/Site/Welcome.html

Council Nominees

Note that this year there are 12 candidates standing for six places on the IMS Council

R. A. Bailey

Professor of Statistics, School of Mathematical Sciences, Queen Mary, University of London

Education

BA honours, Class I, in Mathematics, 1968, University of Oxford

Diploma in Advanced Mathematics, 1970, University of Oxford

DPhil (thesis title "Finite Permutation Groups"), 1974, University of Oxford

Research Interests

- Design and analysis of experiments, especially: multi-stratum experiments; multi-phase experiments; factorial design; neighbour effects; restricted randomization; incomplete-block designs
- Collaborative research with biologists
- Combinatorics
- Finite permutation groups

Previous Service to the Profession

- Member of the British Combinatorial Committee (1977–1981)
- Meetings and Membership Secretary

of the London Mathematical Society (1979–1983)
- Member of the Royal Statistical Society Committee for Research Workshops (1982–1987)
- London Mathematical Society trustee on the Applied Probability Trust (1983–1992)
- Member of the Royal Statistical Society Research Section Committee (1986–1989 and 2000–2004)
- Member of the Royal Statistical Society Local Groups Coordinating Committee (1988–1989)

- Member of the Council of the London Mathematical Society (1991–1996)
- Vice-President of the London Mathematical Society (1992–1994)
- Member of the Personnel and Office Management Committee of the London Mathematical Society (1992–1998)
- Member of Council of the International Biometric Society (1996–2003)
- President of the Mathematical Sciences section of the British Association for the Advancement of Science (1997–1998)
- President of the British Region of the International Biometric Society (2000–2002)
- Vice-President of the British Region of the International Biometric Society (1999–2000 and 2002–2003)
- Member of the Fisher Memorial Committee (2003–)
- Member of the Nominating Committee of the London Mathematical Society (2003–2006)
- Member of the Committee on Special Lecturers of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (2004–2006)
- Scrutineer for the London Mathematical Society (2009)
- Associate editor of *Biometrika* (1981–1986)
- Member of the editorial board of *The Mathematical Scientist* (1987–2009)
- Associate editor of *Journal of the American Statistical Association* (1988–1990)
- Associate editor of *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference* (1989–1991)
- Member of the editorial panel of *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series B* (1989–1992)
- Member of the editorial board of *Journal of Combinatorial Designs* (1992–1998)
- Associate guest editor for a special issue of *Discrete Mathematics* (1999–2000)
- Associate editor of *Scandinavian Journal of Statistics* (2001)
- Member of the editorial board of *Australasian Journal of Combinatorics* (2001–)
- Member of the editorial board of the *London Mathematical Society* (2006–2008)
- Organizer of various sessions and meetings

Brief Statement

Statistics is exciting because it spans the range from very pure mathematics to the basics of gathering, analysing and interpreting data in an ever-growing field of applications. Some results in statistical theory depend for their proofs on parts of pure mathematics not commonly studied by statisticians: we should not reject them because of that. Some novel fields of application seem mysterious to some colleagues, but we should not reject them either.

Growing numbers of people and organizations collect data and draw conclusions from it. Often, very elementary mistakes are made because statisticians are not seen to be needed. We need to try to have an effect at this level at the same time as pursuing our statistical research.

Web

http://www.maths.qmul.ac.uk/~rab

Erwin Bolthausen

Professor, Institute of Mathematics, University of Zurich

Education

Ph.D. Mathematics, ETH Zurich 1973
Habilitation, Statistics, University of Konstanz 1978

Research Interests

- Probability Theory
- Random Media

Previous Service to the Profession

- *Annals of Statistics*, Assoc. Editor 1987–1989
- *Annals of Probability*, Assoc. Editor 1988–1993
- *PTRF* Editor-in-chief 1994–2000
- *PTRF*, Assoc. Editor 2000–2005
- *ALEA*, Assoc. Editor since 2004
- *Annals of Appl. Prob.*, Assoc. Editor, since 2010
- Member of the Council of the IMS, 2003–2007

Brief Statement

A list of my priorities for the work in counsel would be:

1. Promotion of young researchers, for instance by supporting special meetings for them.
2. Support of interactions between probability and statistics with other fields outside and inside mathematics.

Web

http://www.math.uzh.ch/index. php?professur&key1=106

Alison Etheridge

Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Oxford, UK

Education

BA Oxford 1985
DPhil Oxford 1989

Research Interests

- Stochastic models in population genetics
- Stochastic models in ecology
- Measure-valued processes

Previous Service to the Profession

- Associate Editor *Annals of Probability* 2006–2011
- Member of various Programme Committees including SPA 1999, 2006 and 2011.

For London Mathematical Society (learned society for mathematics in the UK):

- Council: 2003–2007
- Research Meetings Committee:

1999–2008

- Research Policy Committee: 2010–
- Programme Committee: 2003–2007
- Nominations Committee: 2010–
- UK Research Assessment Exercise 2008, member of Statistics, Probability and Operations Research sub-panel
- UK Research Excellence Framework 2014, member of Mathematical Sciences sub-panel
- UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, member of Mathematical Sciences Strategic Advisory Team 2010–
- IMS Fellowship Committee member

Brief Statement

At the heart of the success of the IMS is the quality of its journals and meetings and there is no doubt that these activities influence the direction of our discipline. It is important that they are accessible to, and reflect the interests of, the vast range of researchers doing innovative work in statistics and probability. In this context I believe that it is crucial to continue the IMS tradition of open access publishing of the highest quality. High quality modelling combined with high quality statistical analysis is of fundamental importance to every scientific discipline. The IMS has a central role to play in communicating and promoting both fundamental and applied research and, crucially, the connection between the two. If elected, these considerations will be at the core of my contribution to Council.

Web

http://www.stats.ox.ac.uk/~etheridg

Pablo Ferrari

Professor, Departamento de Matemática, Universidad de Buenos Aires
Education

Licenciado en Matemática, 1974
Universidad de Buenos Aires
PhD 1982, Universidade de São Paulo

Research Interests

- Interacting particle systems
- Quasi stationary distributions
- Random walks in random environments
- Point processes

Previous Service to the Profession

- Chair of SLAPEM, Sociedad Latino Americana de Probabilidad y Estadistica Matemática

Associate Editor of

- *European Series in Applied and Industrial Mathematics. Probability and Statistics* (2006–2009)
- *ALEA, Revista Latino-Americana de Probabilidade e Estatística* (2005–)
- *Annals of Probability* (2003–2006)
- *Mathematical Physics* Electronic Journal (2002–)
- *Electronic Journal of Probability* (1996–2006)
- *Revista Brasileira de Probabilidade e Estatística* (Brasil) (1994–2000)
- *Revista de Matematicas Aplicadas* (Chile) (1993–2008)
- *Probability Theory and Related Fields* (2008–2011)
- *Journal of Statistical Physics* (1993–96, 2010–)

Brief Statement

Probability theory and stochastic processes is growing fast. It has been attracting many students from all parts of the world. The integration between the younger and well established centers is crucial now. I will use my previous experience as one of the organizers of SLAPEM (Latin American Society for Probability and Mathematical Statistics) to work in this direction.

Web

http://mate.dm.uba.ar/~pferrari/

Nancy L. Garcia

Full Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Campinas, Brazil
Education

PhD in Statistics, University of Wisconsin–Madison (1993)
MSc in Statistics, IMPA, Rio de Janeiro (1988)
BSc in Statistics, University of Campinas (1985)

Research Interests

- Perfect simulation of point processes
- Chains of infinite memory
- Inference for chains of variable memory
- Random projections of Poisson processes
- Inference for aggregated functional data
- Analysis of neuroscience data

Previous Service to the Profession

- Editor of Theory and Methods *Brazilian Journal of Probability and Statistics,* 2008–
- Associate Editor *Environmetrics,* 2009–
- President of the Advisory Committee for Mathematics/Probability and Statistics at Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Level Personnel (Capes) 2011–
- Treasurer of the Brazilian Mathematical Society, 2009–2011
- IMS Nominations Committee Member 2007–2008

Brief Statement

I believe IMS plays a major role in the development of Probability and Statistics worldwide. I think that right now these are some important points that IMS can tackle:

(1) Promoting the development of Probability and Statistics in countries that lack the necessary resources, infrastructure and/or expertise;

(2) Stimulating the use of mathematical modeling in areas such as neuroscience,

genomics and astronomy where there is a large development in data collection while keeping incentivating the development of methodology and theoretical results.

(3) Supporting open access electronic publishing.

Web

http://www.ime.unicamp.br/~nancy/

Edward I. George

Universal Furniture Professor and Chairman, Department of Statistics, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Education

AB Cornell University 1972
MS SUNY at Stony Brook 1976
PhD Stanford University 1981

Research Interests

- Bayes/frequentist interface
- Model uncertainty
- Predictive inference
- Shrinkage estimation
- Tree based modeling
- Variable selection

Previous Service to the Profession

- Executive Editor, *Statistical Science* (2005–2007)
- Associate Editor, *JASA* (1993–1999), *Biometrika* (1994–1999), *Bayesian Analysis* (2004–), *Statistics Surveys* (2005–), *Statistical Science* (2008–)
- President, ISBA (2003)
- IMS Committee on Fellows (1996–1998)
- Nomination Committee Chair: IMS (1998), ASA (2004), ISBA (2004)
- Chair, ISBA Objective Bayes Section, 2012
- ISBA Prize Committees: DeGroot

(2001–2007), Mitchell (2010, Chair), Lindley (2011)
- ISBA Board of Directors (1996–1999)

Brief Statement

The IMS plays a crucial role in advancing a worldwide environment for the development, dissemination and application of probability and statistics. It has done so brilliantly in these times of rapid change by its promotion of open access journal publication, by its creation of new journals and publications, by its vast organization of global and local conferences, and by its engagement of other scholarly societies through co-sponsorship and affiliation. We must continue to go forward with these and future opportunities that strengthen the vitality of our profession.

Web

http://www.wharton.upenn.edu/faculty/george.html

Haya Kaspi

Professor, Industrial Engineering and Management, Technion, Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel

Education

BSc Mathematics and Statistics. 1971. Hebrew University, Jerusalem.
MSc Applied Mathematics. 1975. Technion, Haifa, Israel
PhD Operations Research. 1979. Cornell University

Research Interests

- Probability and Stochastic processes: Markov Processes and Regenerative Systems, Local Times of Markov processes, Permanental Processes
- Applied Probability: Stochastic Optimization-Multi Armed Bandits,

Many Server Queues.

Previous Service to the Profession

- Associate Editor: *Probability Theory and Related Fields* 1992–1994
- Advisory Board: *Probability Theory and Related Fields* 1994–2000
- Associate Editor: *Stochastic Processes and their Applications* 2002–2009
- Associate Editor: *Annals of Probability* 2009–2012
- Member of IMS Nominations Committee 2007, 2010
- Member of IMS Fellow Committee 2011–
- Member of the 2013 SPA meeting Scientific Committee

Brief Statement

Through its excellent journals, books, meetings and many other activities the IMS has played an important role in the development of Probability and Statistics. It is a leading international association with strong connections with other scientific societies dealing with those and connected subjects. I have been a member for many years (since being a graduate student) and for a long time benefited from the service of those that have led it. If elected I will be honored to serve on its council and participate in its doing.

Web

http://ie.technion.ac.il/iehaya.phtml

Yves Le Jan

Professor, Department of Mathematics, Université Paris Sud (Orsay),France

Education

PhD (Thèse d'Etat) in Paris 6 (1979)

Research Interests

- Markov Processes
- Stochastic Calculus

- Branching and Lévy processes
- Stochastic Dynamics
- Relativistic Diffusions
- Stochastic properties of Geodesic Flows
- Filtering
- Loop ensembles and Free Fields

Previous Service to the Profession

- Chief editor of *AIHP* (2000–2006)
- Associate editor of *AOP* (since 2008)
- Associate editor of *SMF Bulletin* (since 2007)

Brief Statement

I am honoured to have been nominated. I think the IMS board has to reflect the variety of scientific interests among statisticians and probabilists. Interactions of Statistics with other disciplines is essential, and there should be no loss of continuity between "applied" and "pure" mathematics On the other hand, new techniques have modified the way information is circulated, and the size of the community of scientists has grown, so that evaluating scientific progress has become more difficult. In my opinion, the role of bibliometrics should not be dominant.

Web

http://www.math.u-psud.fr/~lejan/

Xiao-Li Meng

Whipple V. N. Jones Professor of Statistics and Department Chair Department of Statistics, Harvard University

Education

1982: BS in Mathematics - Fudan University, Shanghai, P.R. China
1986: Diploma in Graduate Study of Mathematical Statistics - Research Institute of Mathematics, Fudan University, Shanghai, P.R. China

1987: MA in Statistics - Harvard University
1990: PhD in Statistics - Harvard University

Research Interests

- Statistical inference with partially observed data, pre-processed data, and simulated data.
- Quantifying statistical information and efficiency.
- Statistical principles and foundational issues, such as multi-party inferences, the theory of ignorance, and the interplay between Bayesian and frequentist perspectives.
- Effective deterministic and stochastic algorithms for Bayesian and likelihood computation, especially Markov chain Monte Carlo.
- Statistical issues in physical, social and medical studies.
- Elegant mathematical statistics.

Previous Service to the Profession

- 2009– Editor, Statistics Series, IMS/ CUP (Cambridge University Press) *Monograph* and *Textbook* Series
- 2006–2009 Council, IMS
- 2005–2007 Committee on Special Lectures, IMS
- 2003–2005 Committee on Nominations, IMS
- 1998–1999 Chair, IMS Program Committee for the 1999 JSM.
- 1997–2003 Associate Editor, *The Annals of Statistics*
- 1996–1997 IMS Program Committee for the 1997 ENAR Spring Meeting.
- 1995 Co-organizer, IMS/ASA invited panel on "Speeding the Referee Process".

Brief Statement

Statistics is a language used to communicate with Mother Nature (or God), and Probability provides much of its grammar. The arrival of the information age demands exponentially more scholars and educators who can help modern citizens to gain a basic appreciation of the statistical language

with correct probabilistic grammar. Those of us who are fortunate to be active in this golden era of Statistics and Probability also have the fundamental responsibility to deepen the foundations of our discipline while expanding our horizons. IMS council, being the policy-setting body for a leading international society of Statistics and Probability, has a vast role to play in both educational outreach and foundation-firming in-reach. I remain committed to contributing my experience and lessons to both, regardless of the election outcome.

Web

http://www.stat.harvard.edu/faculty_page.php?page=meng.html

Nancy Reid

University Professor of Statistics, University of Toronto, Canada

Education

BMath, University of Waterloo, 1974
MSc, University of British Columbia, 1976
PhD, Stanford University, 1979

Research Interests

- Theoretical statistics and foundations of inference
- Accurate approximations for inference
- Statistics in public policy and science policy

Previous Service to the Profession

- Associate Editor, *Annual Reviews of Statistics and its Application*, 2011–
- Associate Editor, *Statistical Science*, 2008–
- Chair: Steering committee for Long Range Plan in Mathematics and Statistics, NSERC, 2010–2012
- Nominations Committee, International Statistical Institute, 2011–
- Council Member, Bernoulli Society,

2009–2013
- Committee to Select Administrative Officers, IMS, 2009–2012
- F.N. David Award Committee, IMS, 2010–
- Noether Award Committee, ASA, 2010–
- President, SSC, 2004–2005
- President, IMS, 1996–1997

Brief Statement

The IMS has been very innovative in many recent efforts, and is exceptional for its publishing activities and international stature. I think the IMS can provide a unique perspective on statistical science and public policy, and if elected would seek opportunities for the IMS to be so engaged. These efforts may be more difficult with an international organization, as many policy issues are national, but at the same time the international perspective can carry stronger weight, and thus be more effective, on a range of issues that cut across national boundaries. These include research funding, social and geographic diversity, open access publishing, misuse of statistical arguments in science and public policy.

Web

http://www.utstat.utoronto.ca/reid/

Laurent Saloff-Coste

Professor and Chair, Department of Mathematics, Cornell University, USA

Education

PhD (1983) and Doctorat d'Etat (1989) Université Paris VI

Research Interests
- Probability
- Potential Theory
- Analysis and Geometric Analysis

Previous Service to the Profession

- Associate Editor *Annals of Probability* (1994–2000)
- Associate Editor, *Stochastic Processes and their Applications* (1999–2005)
- Editor, *Mathematische Zeitschrift* (2001–2011)
- Editor, *Probability Theory and Related Fields* (2003–present)
- Editor, *Journal of Theoretical Probability* (2003–present)
- Chief Editor, *Potential Analysis*, (2006–present)
- Editor, *Annales Scientiques de L'Ecole Normale Supérieure* (2012–present)
- Chief Editor, *Probability Surveys* (2012–present)

Brief Statement

I would be happy to serve on the IMS council. I believe that the diverse activities of the IMS are very valuable: representation, information, support for conferences, support for travel, in particular for those who need it most, publications (including *Probability Surveys*), coordination with other professional societies, etc.

Web

http://www.math.cornell.edu/~lsc/lau.html

Richard Samworth

Reader in Statistics, Statistical Laboratory, University of Cambridge, UK

Education

BA, Univ. Cambridge, 1999
MMath, Univ. Cambridge, 2000 (awarded retrospectively in 2011)
MA, Univ. Cambridge, 2003
PhD, Univ. Cambridge, 2004

Research Interests
- Shape-constrained estimation problems
- Nonparametric classification, clustering and regression problems
- High-dimensional statistical inference
- The bootstrap
- Applications, including archaeology and oceanography

Previous Service to the Profession
- Associate Editor, *Journal Royal Statistical Society, Series B*, 2006–present
- Associate Editor, *Biometrika*, 2006–present
- Associate Editor, *Statistica Sinica*, 2011–present
- Member of the Research Section Committee of the Royal Statistical Society, 2007–2010; honorary secretary 2009–2010
- Member of the IMS Committee on New Researchers, 2007–2010
- Member of the Royal Statistical Society Council, 2012–present
- Member of the European Regional Committee of the Bernoulli Society, 2010–present

Brief Statement

The IMS plays a central role for statisticians and probabilists, for instance by keeping them in touch with developments in our field, organizing meetings, publishing journals and recognizing outstanding achievement. But it faces several challenges, among them the need to ensure financial viability of its activities in a difficult climate, and to retain and develop its core, while at the same time reaching out to other disciplines that could benefit from our knowledge and insights. If elected, I would seek to work with colleagues to address these and other challenges, and to preserve the IMS hallmark of quality.

Web

http://www.statslab.cam.ac.uk/~rjs57/

Don't forget to vote!
imstat.org/elections

Awards: nominate or apply now

AWM Humphreys Award

The Executive Committee of the Association for Women in Mathematics has established a prize in memory of M. Gweneth Humphreys to recognize outstanding mentorship activities. This prize will be awarded annually to a mathematics teacher (female or male) who has encouraged female undergraduate students to pursue mathematical careers and/or the study of mathematics at the graduate level. The recipient will receive a cash prize and honorary plaque and will be featured in an article in the AWM newsletter. The award is open to all regardless of nationality and citizenship. Nominees must be alive at the time of their nomination.

The 2013 Humphreys Award will be presented at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Diego, CA, January 2013.

Check the list of required nomination materials at http://sites.google.com/site/awmmath/programs/humphreys-award

Nomination materials for this award should be compiled into one PDF file and submitted online at https://www.mathprograms.org/db/programs/124 by April 30, 2012.

AWM/NSF Travel Grants

Please note that the next deadline for the AWM/NSF Travel Grant is May 1, 2012. The Association for Women in Mathematics travel program supports women mathematicians attending mathematics conferences.

For complete eligibility and application details please visit http://www.awm-math.org/travelgrants.html. All applications are now submitted via an online system.

The Travel Grant Program is sponsored by the National Science Foundation Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS).

AWM Hay Award

The Association for Women in Mathematics established the Louise Hay Award for Contributions to Mathematics Education, awarded annually to a woman at the Joint Prize Session at the Joint Mathematics Meetings every January. The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding achievements in any area of mathematics education, to be interpreted in the broadest possible sense. The 2013 Hay Award will be presented at the Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Diego, CA, January 2013.

The nomination should include: a one- to three-page letter of nomination highlighting the exceptional contributions of the candidate to be recognized; a curriculum vitae of the candidate not to exceed three pages; and three letters supporting the nomination. It is strongly recommended that the letters represent a range of constituents affected by the nominee's work. Nominations are kept active for two additional years.

Nomination materials for this award to should be compiled into one PDF file and submitted online at https://www.mathprograms.org/db/programs/123 by April 30, 2012.

The Eleventh Annual Janet L. Norwood Award
for Outstanding Achievement by a Woman in the Statistical Sciences
Call for nominations

The Section on Statistical Genetics and the Department of Biostatistics in the School of Public Health, University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) are pleased to request nominations for the Eleventh Annual Janet L. Norwood Award for Outstanding Achievement by a Woman in the Statistical Sciences. The award will be conferred on September 12, 2012. The award recipient will be invited to deliver a lecture at the UAB award ceremony, and will receive all expenses, the award, and a $5,000 prize.

Eligible individuals are women who have completed their terminal degree, have made extraordinary contributions and have an outstanding record of service to the statistical sciences, with an emphasis on both their own scholarship and on teaching and leadership of the field in general and of women in particular and who, if selected, are willing to deliver a lecture at the award ceremony. For additional details about the award, please visit our website at http://www.soph.uab.edu/ssg/norwoodaward/aboutaward.

How to nominate: Please send a full curriculum vitae accompanied by a letter of not more than two pages in length describing the nature of the candidate's contributions. Contributions may be in the area of development and evaluation of statistical methods, teaching of statistics, application of statistics, or any other activity that can arguably be said to have advanced the field of statistical science. Self-nominations are acceptable.

Please send nominations to David B. Allison, PhD (Distinguished Professor; Quetelet Endowed Professor of Public Health; Associate Dean for Science; Director, Office of Energetics; Director, Nutrition Obesity Research Center) **e** dallison@uab.edu

The deadline for receipt of nominations is June 29, 2012. Electronic submissions of nominations are encouraged. The winner will be announced by July 6.

Previous Recipients: Jane F. Gentleman (2002); Nan M. Laird (2003); Alice S. Whittemore (2004); Clarice R. Weinberg (2005); Janet Turk Wittes (2006); Marie Davidian (2007); Xihong Lin (2008); Nancy Geller (2009); L. Adrienne Cupples (2010); Lynne Billard (2011).

Terence's Stuff: Oscars for Statistics?

Terry Speed wonders whether the Hollywood version of the statistical analysis of baseball, sabermetrics, in the film *Moneyball* does us any good…

What aspect of *statistical analysis* is most widely-known among the general public?

For a long time I have thought it was the statistical methods associated with quality control and quality assurance. We have *SPC, TQC, TQM, 6σ, Lean 6σ, Zero Defects* and many other acronyms and slogans embodying statistical concepts and analyses. I've always felt—without supporting data—that these statistical ideas reach many more people world-wide than the kind of statistics we teach in universities and colleges, or the statistical analyses carried out in business, government and research. Perhaps I'm wrong, but when I read that in the late 1990s, about two-thirds of the Fortune 500 organizations had begun *6σ* initiatives, I found myself thinking of hundreds of thousands—or millions—of people becoming acquainted in some way with statistics as a force for good, contributing directly to profitability, quality and customer satisfaction. What can beat that? Agricultural field experiments, econometrics or survey sampling? I think not. And who is better known in the wider world: Shewhart, Deming, Juran, Crosby, Ishikawa, and Taguchi, or a set of six of our institute's heroes (Fisher, Hotelling, Neyman, Wald, Blackwell, Scott)?

That was what I used to think. Now I think the most widely-known form of statistical analysis is *sabermetrics,* the search for objective knowledge about baseball. (The name derives from the acronym SABR denoting the Society for American Baseball Research.) Of course

I came to this conclusion after seeing the movie *Moneyball,* later reading the book *Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game*, and learning about Bill James, the baseball writer, historian, and statistician who in 2006 was one of *Time* magazine's 100 "men and women whose power, talent or moral example is transforming our world." How many Americans, indeed people anywhere, now know that the success of the Oakland Athletics (the A's) in 2002 (103 wins, 59 losses, a winning streak of 20 games), while having the sixth-lowest payroll in major league baseball, was a result of the use of statistics? All due to a commitment to sabermetrics by the A's general manager Billy Beane and his assistant, the Harvard economics graduate Paul DePodesta (played in the movie by Jonah Hill as Yale economics graduate Peter Brand). It must be many millions by now.

Moneyball the movie received six Academy Award nominations, including best picture, best actor (for Brad Pitt), best supporting actor (for Jonah Hill). When you saw this, did you think: *Movie about statistics* nominated for Best Picture! *User of Statistics* nominated for Best Actor! *Statistician* nominated for Best Supporting Actor! I did, and I wasn't the only one. The day before the Oscars our local newspaper contained this: "The plodders in the race [include] … *Moneyball*, in which Brad Pitt reforms baseball through statistics (that last word may be what kills its chances)." That snide remark suggests that we aren't quite there yet in terms of recognition in movies, and the casting and direction of Jonah Hill in the role of Paul DePodesta reinforces that view. The picture of DePodesta in Wikipedia shows an athletic(!) type who played baseball in college, while Jonah Hill plays Peter Brand as a tubby geek who looks as though he's never played any sport in his life. We statisticians are clearly not

cool around Hollywood, and neither is statistics, despite *Numb3rs* and *The Big Bang Theory*. Notwithstanding these bad signs, I've been happy to tell anyone who would listen that *Moneyball* (book and movie) and sabermetrics are the best advertisement for statistical analysis I've ever seen. That is, until I learned of the existence of a contrary view, forcefully presented in *The Beauty of Short Hops: How Chance and Circumstance Confound the Moneyball Approach to Baseball*. Reading this book (chapter 4: "Two cheers for sabermetrics") depressed me, and now I don't know what to think. While I'd like to believe in sabermetrics, I don't know enough about baseball to tell who is right. The A's haven't done so well lately, but that could be because they have changed the game to the point where most teams have their own sabermetricians, and so money becomes important once more. The authors of this book don't think so, but who knows?

Oddly enough, there's a similar contrary view in the quality world. The Japanese industrial engineer Shigeo Shingo (1909–1990) who studied the Toyota Production System, gave us the term *poka-yoke* (mistake proofing) and the notion of *zero quality control* (eliminating the need for inspection of results). He once wrote, "When I first heard about statistics in 1951, I firmly believed it to be the best technique around, and it took me 26 years to be completely free of its spell." People want proof that *6σ* works, that sabermetrics works: in fact, they probably want experiments, not experience!
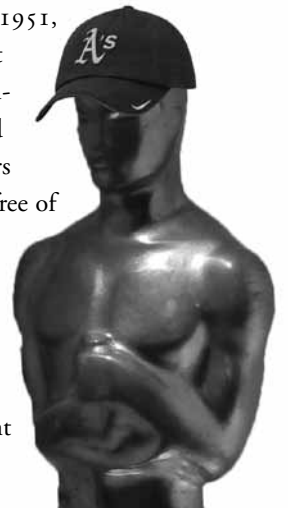
IMS meetings around the world

IMS Annual Meetings, 2012 & 2014

IMS sponsored meeting
2012 World Congress/IMS Annual Meeting
July 9–14, 2012
Grand Cevahir Hotel & Convention Center, Istanbul, Turkey
w http://www.worldcong2012.org/

Registration and abstract submission now open at www.worldcong2012.org

The eighth World Congress in Probability and Statistics will be held in Istanbul from July 9 to 14, 2012. It is jointly organized by the Bernoulli Society and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. Scheduled every four years, this meeting is a major worldwide event for statistics and probability, covering all its branches, including theoretical, methodological, applied and computational statistics and probability, and stochastic processes. It features the latest scientific developments in these fields.

Contacts: Elvan Ceyhan and Mine Çağlar, Co-chairs of the Local Organizing Committee; Arnoldo Frigessi, Chair of the Program Committee.

Istanbul's Bosphorus Bridge connects Europe (on the left) and Asia (right)

IMS sponsored meeting
2014 IMS Annual Meeting
July 7–11, 2014
Sydney, Australia
w TBC

The location for the 2014 IMS Annual Meeting has been selected as Sydney, Australia. Details will follow, but you can mark your calendars now!

Joint Statistical Meetings, 2012–2017

IMS sponsored meeting
2012 Joint Statistical Meetings
July 28 – August 2, 2012
San Diego, CA
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012/

IMS Invited Program: Hans Mueller, University of California, Davis **e** mueller@wald.ucdavis.edu; IMS Contributed Program: Fang Yao, University of Toronto **e** fyao2001@gmail.com
May 1: Registration (early-bird) and housing opens

Featuring, among other highlights, three Medallion lectures (Yoav Benjamini, Emanuel Candes and Donald Geman) and a special session on the Best of the *Annals of Applied Statistics*.

The invited program is online now at http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012/onlineprogram/

IMS sponsored meeting
IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM 2013
August 3–8, 2013: Montréal, Canada
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

IMS sponsored meeting
JSM 2014
August 2–7, 2014: Boston, USA
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

IMS sponsored meeting
IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM 2015
August 8–13, 2015: Seattle, USA
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

IMS sponsored meeting
JSM 2016
July 30 – August 4, 2016: Chicago, USA
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

IMS sponsored meeting
IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM 2017
July 29 – August 3, 2017: Baltimore, USA
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

At a glance:

forthcoming IMS Annual Meeting and JSM dates

2012

IMS Annual Meeting @ World Congress: İstanbul, Turkey, **July 9–14, 2012**
w http://www.worldcong2012.org/

JSM: San Diego, CA, **July 28–August 2, 2012**
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012/

2013

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM: Montréal, Canada, **August 3–8, 2013**

2014

IMS Annual Meeting: Sydney, Australia, **July 7–11, 2014**

JSM: Boston, MA, **August 2–7, 2014**

2015

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM: Seattle, WA, **August 8–13, 2015**

IMS co-sponsored meeting
Southeastern Probability Conference
May 14–15, 2012, Duke University, NC

w http://www.math.duke.edu/~rtd/SEPC12/SEPC2012.html

The 2012 Southeastern Probability Conference will be held May 14–15 at Duke University. The meeting will begin Monday morning and end early afternoon on Tuesday. This year's meeting is organized by Rick Durrett, Yuri Bakhtin, Amarjit Budhiraja, Jim Fill, Jonathan Mattingly, and Tai Melcher. One hour talks will be given by: Alexei Borodin (MIT); Sandra Cerrai (Maryland); Christian Houdré (Georgia Tech); Scott McKinley (Florida); Chuck Newman (Courant); Laurent Saloff-Coste (Cornell); and Presad Tetali (Georgia Tech).

We hope to have funds to partially support graduate students and researchers without NSF grants. Watch the web page for more details about funding and registration. This conference is co-sponsored by the Institute for Mathematical Statistics.

IMS Reps on Program Committees: Rick Durrett, Yuri Bakhtin, Amarjit Budhiraja, Jim Fill, Jonathan Mattingly, and Tai Melcher

IMS co-sponsored meeting
Second IMS Workshop on Probability and Statistics in Finance (FPS)
May 30–31, 2012
UC Berkeley, California

w http://www.ieor.berkeley.edu/~xinguo/IMSworkshop-FPS2012/

Registration is now open for the IMS Second Workshop on Probability and Statistics in Finance (FPS), at UC Berkeley on May 30–31, 2012. This is the second workshop, co-sponsored by IMS, for the recently formed special interest group within IMS on Finance: Probability and Statistics (FPS). The focus of the workshop is the use of probabilistic and statistical analysis and models for problems arising in finance. By bringing together both leading experts and junior researchers, the conference will highlight important contributions made through the use of statistics and probability, and identify emerging issues where statistics and probability promise to play an important role in the future.

The plenary speakers are M. Davis, J.P. Fouque, N. Garleanu, M. Kijima, S. Peng, M. Schweizer, and R. Tsay. In addition, there are invited and contributed sessions.

Registration is open. Participants who are interested in giving talks should send emails to xinguo@ieor.berkeley.edu with the subject "IMS FPS 2012".

There is a satellite workshop at Stanford University on risk modeling and management following this workshop, on June 1–2. Details about the workshop and the FPS group can be found at the website above.

IMS co-sponsored meeting
Conference on New Statistical Methods for Next-Generation Sequencing Data Analysis
May 11, 2012
Iowa State University, Ames, USA

w http://www.stat.iastate.edu/Conference2012/

IMS Representative(s) on Program Committees: Dan Nettleton

IMS co-sponsored meeting
Modeling High Frequency Data in Finance 4
July 19–22, 2012
Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ, USA

w http://kolmogorov.math.stevens.edu/conference2012/

IMS Reps: Ionut Florescu, Frederi Vien.

Topics include: mathematical, statistical and computer science models for data sampled with high frequency; market microstructure theory and practice; multiscale modeling of financial events; trading rules and strategies when using high frequency data; regulatory aspects of financial markets. These topics are to be complemented with ideas related to mathematical finance, financial engineering, quantitative finance, stochastic processes and applications, etc.

Submit abstracts by April 30: see http://kolmogorov.math.stevens.edu/conference2012/index.php/call-for-papers

IMS co-sponsored meeting
First Conference: International Society for NonParametric Statistics
June 15–19, 2012
Chalkidiki, Greece

w www.isnpstat.org

The International Society for NonParametric Statistics (ISNPS) will host its first conference in Chalkidiki, northern Greece, June 15–19, 2012. The meeting is co-sponsored by the IMS, the ISI, the Bernoulli Society, and the Nonparametric Statistics Section of the ASA. The venue is the G-Hotel complex (www.ghotels.gr), 40 miles (60km) from Thessaloniki (also know as Salonica), which is Greece's second-largest city.

The plenary speakers are Emmanuel Candes (Stanford and CalTech); Peter Hall (Univ. of Melbourne and UC Davis); and Jon Wellner (Univ. of Washington).

Special Invited Speakers: Laszlo Gyorfi (Budapest Univ.); Wolfgang Hardle (Humboldt Univ.); Ingrid Van Keilegom (Univ. Catholique de Louvain); Bruce Lindsay (Penn State Univ.); Enno Mammen (Univ. of Mannheim); and Peter Robinson (LSE).

More IMS meetings around the world

IMS sponsored meeting
14th IMS Meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability
July 26–28, 2012
University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, California, USA
w http://math.ucsd.edu/~nrc2012/

The 14th Meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability will be held at UC San Diego, in La Jolla, July 26–28, 2012. The meeting is open to recent PhD's and graduate students within one year of completion; the applications deadline has now passed.

The meeting will feature the IMS Tweedie New Researcher Invited Lecture, from Huixia Wang.

The meeting will be partially supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation, and part of the funds will be used to defray some of the participants' expenses of attending the meeting.

IMS co-sponsored meeting
International Workshop on Recent Advances in Time Series Analysis (RATS2012)
June 9–12, 2012
Protaras, Cyprus
w http://euclid.mas.ucy.ac.cy/~rats2012/

IMS Rep Dimitris Politis
The International Workshop on Recent Advances in Time Series Analysis (RATS2012) will take place from June 9–12, 2012 in Protaras, Cyprus. The keynote speakers are

David Brillinger (Berkeley) and

Paul Doukhan (Université Cergy-Pontoise).

IMS co-sponsored meeting
Quantitative Methods in Statistics, Biostatistics and Actuarial Sciences
May 30 – June 1, 2012
Institut de statistique, biostatistique et sciences actuarielles (ISBA), Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
w http://www.uclouvain.be/393243.html

On the occasion of its twentieth anniversary the ISBA at Université catholique de Louvain is organizing a conference covering the three main fields of research represented in the institute: there will be invited speakers sessions on actuarial sciences, mathematical statistics and biostatistics. A poster session will complete the program.

The degree of *Doctor Honoris Causa* will be conferred on Ray Carroll, Texas A&M University, and Paul Embrechts, ETH Zürich.

IMS co-sponsored meeting
Third Workshop for Women in Probability
October 14–16, 2012
Duke University, NC, USA
w www.math.duke.edu/~rtd/wwp12/WWP2012.html

The Third Workshop for Women in Probability will be held October 14–16, 2012, at Duke University (Sunday morning to mid-day Tuesday). The scientific program organized by Tai Melcher (Virginia) and Amber Puha (California State U, San Marcos) will feature talks by Janet Best (Ohio State); Alexandra Chronopoulou (UCSB); Cindy Greenwood (Arizona State); Alice Guionnet (ENS Lyon); Kay Kirkpatrick (UIUC); Nevena Marić (Missouri); Dana Randall (Georgia Tech); Amandine Véber (CMAP); Amy Ward (USC); and Jessica Zúñiga (Duke)

Women probabilists, especially young researchers and advanced graduate students, are encouraged to attend the workshop and participate in the poster session. There will be partial support for travel expenses. Over time more details will be available on the conference web page. This meeting is co-sponsored by the IMS. If you have questions you can contact the local organizers Rick Durrett and Jonathan Mattingly.

IMS co-sponsored meeting
Workshop on Analysis of High-Dimensional and Functional Data in honor of Peter Hall
May 19–20, 2012
Davis, California

IMS Rep on Program Committees: Hans-Georg Müller
w http://www.stat.ucdavis.edu/~mueller/peterhall2012/

The Department of Statistics will host a workshop in honor of our most distinguished colleague Peter Hall, to celebrate his 60th birthday. The workshop will serve as a forum to discuss recent developments in the rapidly evolving areas of analysis of high-dimensional and functional data and related topics, including theory, methods and applications.

Registration (free) is required: please see the link at the website above.

IMS co-sponsored meeting
36th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications
**July 29 – August 2, 2013**
University of Colorado, Boulder, USA
w http://math.colorado.edu/spa2013/

IMS sponsored meeting

The Second IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meeting
July 1–4, 2012
Tsukuba, Japan

w http://www.ims-aprm2012.org/

Program Chairs: Byeong U. Park **e** bupark@stats.snu.ac.kr, Runze Li **e** rli@stat.psu.edu

The second IMS-APRM will be held in July 1–4, 2012, in Tsukuba, the science city and academic center of Japan, which is about 60km from Tokyo. The program covers a wide range of topics in statistics and probability, presenting recent developments and the state of the art in a variety of modern research topics and in applications. Detailed program information can be found the conference website above. We cordially invite you all to attend this major statistical conference in the Asia–Pacific Rim area.

Akimichi Takemura, LOC Chair; Byeong Park & Runze Li, SC Co-Chairs.
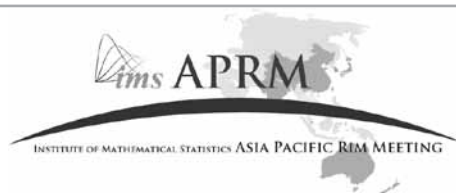
IMS co-sponsored meeting

Ninth Conference on *NEW*
Bayesian Nonparametrics
June 10–14, 2013
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

w http://www.bnp9.win.tue.nl/
e bnp9info@gmail.com

IMS Representative(s) on Program Committees: Subhashis Ghosal

The 9th Conference on Bayesian Nonparametrics will be held June 10–14, 2013, in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. The webpage currently under construction, more information will follow soon.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

19th IMS/ASA Spring Research Conference on
Statistics in Industry and Technology *NEW*
June 13–15, 2012
Cambridge, MA

w http://www.stat.harvard.edu/SRC2012/

The theme of the 19th SRC is *"Enabling the Interface between Statistics and Engineering".* The conference will be jointly hosted by Department of Statistics and School of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Harvard University. We call for talk or poster submission to the conference. The deadline for abstract submission is April 15th, 2012.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

8th Cornell Probability Summer School
July 16–27, 2012
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

w http://www.math.duke.edu/~rtd/CPSS2012/index.html

The Eighth Cornell Probability Summer School will feature six lecture series by David Aldous (UC Berkely), Sourav Chatterjee (NYU) and Remco van der Hofstad (Eindhoven). In addition Shankar Bhamidi (UNC), Amir Dembo (Stanford), Raissa D'Souza (UC Davis), Gregory Miermont (Paris Sud), and Joel Spencer (NYU) will each give two lectures.

The conference web page above will soon have more information, and a registration form for people who would like to participate. All accepted participants will have their dorm room paid for. US participants can apply for $400 toward the cost of meals. This meeting is supported by a Research Training Group grant from the National Science Foundation to the probability group at Cornell. This will be last meeting organized by Rick Durrett but the conference series will continue for at least one more year.

ENAR, 2013–2015

IMS sponsored meeting
2013 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 10–13, 2013
Orlando, Florida, USA

w http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm

IMS sponsored meeting
2014 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 16–19, 2014
Baltimore, Maryland, USA

w http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm

IMS sponsored meeting
2015 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 15–18, 2015
Miami, Florida, USA

w http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm

IMS co-sponsored meeting

International Conference
***Ars Conjectandi* 1713–2013**
October 15–16, 2013, Basel, Switzerland

w http://www.statoo.ch/bernoulli13/

2013 marks the 300th anniversary of the publication of Jacob Bernoulli's book, *Ars Conjectandi,* in 1713. A meeting has been organized to celebrate this: the "International Conference *Ars Conjectandi* 1713–2013" will be held October 15–16, 2013, in Basel, Switzerland.

IMS Reps on the program committee are Hans Künsch and Lutz Dümbgen.

IMS co-sponsored meeting

International Symposium in Statistics on Longitudinal Data Analysis Subject to Outliers, Measurement Errors, and/or Missing Values
July 16–18, 2012
Memorial University, St. John's, Canada

w www.iss-2012-stjohns.ca

IMS Rep: Brajendra Sutradhar

Other meetings around the world

9th International Conference on Statistical Sciences
May 28–30, 2012
National College of Business Administration & Economics, Lahore, Pakistan

w http://www.isoss.net/9th%20Conf.pdf

CALL FOR PAPERS

The theme of this ISOSS conference is "Official Statistics and its Impact on Good Governance and Economy of Pakistan". See the call for papers and full details at www.isoss.net/9th%20Conf.pdf

Sixth international workshop on
Statistical Analysis of Neuronal Data (SAND6)
May 31 – June 2, 2012
Pittsburgh, PA.

w http://sand.stat.cmu.edu

The sixth international workshop on Statistical Analysis of Neuronal Data (SAND6) will take place May 31-June 2, 2012, in Pittsburgh, PA. There will be talks by senior investigators and junior investigators, and a poster session, to which all participants are invited to contribute.

Here are the confirmed keynote speakers: Carlos Brody (Boston U.); Charles Gray (Montana State); Nancy Kopell (Boston University); Chris Moore (Brown); Shigeru Shinomoto (Kyoto); Irene Tracey (Oxford); Nathan Urban (Carnegie Mellon); Van Weeden (MGH, Harvard)

The organizers are Emery Brown, Elizabeth Buffalo, Rob Kass, Liam Paninski, and Jonathan Victor.

Progress on statistical issues in searches
June 4–6, 2012
Stanford, CA, USA

w www-conf.slac.stanford.edu/statisticalissues2012

Astrophysics, particle physics and X-ray laser photon science have all acquired or are planning new machines and telescopes that deliver unprecedented amounts of data to experiments that will produce exciting new discoveries. This Conference is devoted to the statistical issues that arise in such experiments.

MMDS 2012: Workshop on Algorithms for Modern Massive Data Sets
July 10–13, 2012
Stanford University, Stanford, CA

w http://mmds.stanford.edu
e mmds-organizers@math.stanford.edu

Online registration for the 2012 Workshop on Algorithms for Modern Massive Data Sets (MMDS 2012) is now open. In addition to the talks, there will be a poster session. Send a title and abstract to mmds-organizers@math.stanford.edu if you would like to present a poster.

Synopsis: The 2012 Workshop on Algorithms for Modern Massive Data Sets (MMDS) will address algorithmic, mathematical, and statistical challenges in modern statistical data analysis. The goals of MMDS 2012 are to explore novel techniques for modeling and analyzing massive, high-dimensional, and nonlinearly-structured scientific and internet data sets, and to bring together computer scientists, statisticians, mathematicians, and data analysis practitioners to promote cross-fertilization of ideas.

See the website above for more information about this and previous MMDS meetings.

Organizers: Michael Mahoney (Stanford), Alex Shkolnik (Stanford), Gunnar Carlsson (Stanford), Petros Drineas (RPI)

Algebraic Statistics 2012
June 9–15, 2012
Penn State University, University Park, PA, USA

w http://www.math.psu.edu/morton/aspsu2012/index.html

Algebraic statistics exploits algebraic geometry and related fields to solve problems in statistics and its applications. Methods from algebraic statistics have been successfully applied to address many problems including construction of Markov bases, theoretical study of phylogenetic mixture models, ecological inference, identifiability problems for graphical models, Bayesian integrals and singular learning theory, social networks, and coalescent theory. The conference covers methods and applications of algebraic statistics, broadly defined, including but not limited to the above topics. The meeting will have tutorials over the weekend, followed by a week of invited and contributed talks, and a poster session. Participation of students and young researchers is encouraged. Partial travel and lodging support is available.

Fifth Probability at Warwick Young Researchers Workshop
July 23–27, 2012
University of Warwick, UK

w www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/statistics/research/paw/paw2012
The University of Warwick Department of Statistics is pleased
to announce the fifth Probability at Warwick Young Researchers
Workshop, which will run from 23 to 27 July 2012. The workshop
has the principal
aim of bringing
together young
researchers working
in probability, and
will feature lectured
courses by two
excellent speakers
intended to be
accessible to graduate mathematicians and probabilists:
* *Graphical probability and disordered systems:* Prof. Geoffrey
Grimmett (University of Cambridge)
* *Topics in branching processes:* Prof. John Biggins (University of
Sheffield)
Registration is now open, with the deadline for the allocation of
subsidised places being 31 May 2012. For further information,
please visit the workshop webpage above.

Young Statisticians Meet: An International Conference
December 24–25, 2012
Burdwan, West Bengal, India

w http://www.buruniv.ac.in/Notices/UBUR_2012032_NOT_WEBPAGE.
pdf
We are pleased to announce the first "Young Statisticians Meet:
an International Conference", which will be held in Burdwan
University, West Bengal, India on December 24–25, 2012. We
invite scientists, professionals, students from different fields in
theoretical and applied statistics (e.g. biological statistics, financial
statistics, survey sampling, industrial statistics etc.). The conference
will be organized with invited session, contributory sessions and
poster session.

Meeting organizer's to-do list

To do
~~Set date~~
~~Sort venue~~
~~Book speakers~~
Advertise in
IMS Bulletin!

29th European Meeting of Statisticians (EMS2013)
July 20–25, 2013
Budapest, Hungary

w http://www.ems2013.eu
The European Meeting of Statisticians is uniquely the broadest and
most prestigious regular meeting of the profession in Europe, hav-
ing long history and well established traditions. Two distinguishing
feature of the current occasion are worth being emphasized,
however. Beyond providing a natural forum for exchange of ideas
for European statisticians and probabilists, particular organisational
effort has been made to represent both traditional and newly
emerging ties of the European professionals with the whole World.
Hence, we expect colleagues from India, China, South-East Asia,
the Middle-East, North- and Latin-America to participate in greater
than usual number. It is also the ambition of the organisers to
stimulate the inseminating tie between probability and statistics by
a balanced representation of intertwined topics of both disciplines.

Other meetings around the world

International Conference on Robust Statistics 2012 (ICORS2012)
August 5–10, 2012
University of Vermont, Burlington, Vermont, USA

w http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~dtyler/ICORS2012/

The International Conference on Robust Statistics has been an annual international conference since 2001. The aim of the conferences is to bring together researchers interested in robust statistics, data analysis and related areas. ICORS welcomes contributions to both theoretical and applied statistics, and in particular to new problems related to robust statistics and data analysis. Contributed talks on other related topics are also welcomed. Financial support for US based junior faculty and graduate students may be available. The deadline for contributed talks and early registration is June 1, 2012.

2012 Stochastic Networks Conference
June 18–22, 2012
MIT, Cambridge, MA

w http://stoch-nets-2012.lids.mit.edu/

Registration is open for the 2012 Stochastic Networks Conference, to be held at MIT, Cambridge, MA, June 18-22. This week-long event continues a tradition that was started in 1987 and that has now become a biennial event. Its aim is to bring together researchers who share an interest in stochastic network models, to survey recent developments, and identify future research directions. As in the past, the meeting will be structured in a workshop format, with approximately twenty hour-long invited talks, and ample free time, so as to maximize interactions between speakers and participants, and to facilitate a fruitful exchange of ideas. In addition, there will be a poster session for contributed papers.

The conference features a distinguished lineup of 20 invited speakers and plenty of time for interaction: http://stoch-nets-2012.lids.mit.edu/speakers.html. In addition, there are calls for a) poster paper submissions, b) applications for travel fund support for new researchers. The deadlines for both are April 15. Please see the conference web site for more details.

David Gamarnik, Devavrat Shah, and John Tsitsiklis

HOW TO announce your meeting

Are you organizing a meeting, conference, seminar, symposium…? Meetings announcements can be placed on the IMS website and in the *IMS Bulletin*, for free. Submit the meeting details using the form at http://imstat.org/submit-meeting.html. IMS publishes meeting advertisements as a service to its members and the statistical community. There is no charge to run a meeting advertisement. Ads are subject to editorial approval and may be edited.

Announce Early
As soon as the meeting name, dates, location and webpage are set, submit this information and we will place it immediately on the IMS web calendar (www.imstat.org/meetings), and in the next *Bulletin*. This will help people put it on their radar screen.

The sooner, the better for this: we can place this information years in advance.

Print Advertisements
Advertisements should be limited to 200 words (⅓ page). Meetings that are not IMS sponsored/co-sponsored are limited to one advertisement, though the meeting will remain in the *Bulletin*'s Calendar until it happens. IMS sponsored and co-sponsored meetings can (and should) have multiple announcements: re-write as new information becomes available, to keep them fresh.

Advertisements should be submitted 6–9 months prior to the meeting. Consider deadlines when placing ads: you want to ensure people have a chance to see the ad in time to make your deadlines. Mail dates for the *Bulletin* can be found inside the

back cover. Most members will receive their copy by a month after the mail date, and it is available free online two weeks before the mail date.

Include the following: meeting name, dates and location; meeting website; important deadlines (abstract submission, registration); titles of plenary sessions and speakers; and other items to entice attendees (this varies from meeting to meeting). If you have a suitable print-quality image, you can include this (at least 300dpi tiff, jpeg, etc).

Overall the goal is to grab readers' attention; they then should be directed to the website to get more information and register. There's no need to include general items that are on the website, i.e. abstracts, registration forms, local information.

Don't forget to enjoy the meeting!

Employment Opportunities around the world

Chile: Santiago

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Department of Statistics

Tenure Track Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=9372650

Hong Kong

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

Senior Instructor of Rank Comparable to Associate Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=8746034

Italy: Lucca

IMT Institute for Advanced Studies, Lucca

Tenured Faculty Position

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=9784670

United States: Lincoln, NE

University of Nebraska–Lincoln, IANR

Professor and Chair, Department of Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=9785049

United States: Pittsburgh, PA

Carnegie Mellon University, Department of Statistics

Tenure-track, lecturer, and visiting faculty

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=8789253

United States: Seattle, WA

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Statistical Research Associate II and III (SC-24417)

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=9678053

United States: Seattle, WA

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow (ML-23949

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=9818909

United States: Seattle, WA

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Biostatistics (ML-24040)

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=9476889

United States: College Park, MD

University of Maryland, College Park School of Public Health Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Position Vacancy: Biostatistics, Assistant Professor (Tenure Track)

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=9375402

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, University of Maryland, College Park (http://www.sph.umd.edu/EPIB) invites applications for an Assistant Professor tenure-track position in biostatistics.

Qualified candidates should possess a doctoral degree in biostatistics or statistics and submit a record of scholarly achievement in biostatistics or statistics that supports a tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor rank. Candidates should demonstrate the potential to develop and conduct an independent research program using statistical methods to address public health issues. The ability to work collaboratively with colleagues in the department, the school, and the University is highly desirable. We are particularly interested in candidates with expertise such as multilevel modeling, structural equation modeling, spatial-temporal analysis, and Bayesian methods that can be applied to the study of chronic and infectious diseases, population and epidemiologic research, environmental studies, or related areas. Qualified candidates will have the ability to teach graduate level biostatistics courses, mentor graduate students, and collaborate in research projects.

Applicants must apply electronically to https://jobs.umd.edu specifying 112966, listed under the faculty section. Review of applications will begin immediately and applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Inquiries about the position should be directed to: Dr. Sandra Hofferth, Search Committee Chair (hofferth@umd.edu). For questions concerning application submission, please contact Ms. Karen Mackey (klmackey@umd.edu).

The University of Maryland is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer dedicated to increasing the diversity of its faculty and administrators. We encourage applications from qualified individuals with varied experiences, perspectives and backgrounds. Applications from minority and women candidates are strongly encouraged.

International Calendar of Statistical Events

IMS meetings are highlighted in maroon **with the** _ims_ **logo, and new or updated entries have the** *NEW* **or** *UPDATED* **symbol. t means telephone, f fax, e email and w website. Please submit your meeting details and any corrections to Elyse Gustafson at** erg@imstat.org

May 2012

ims May 14–15: Duke Univ, NC. **Southeastern Probability Conference w** http://www.math.duke.edu/~rtd/SEPC12/SEPC2012.html

ims May 11: Iowa State University, Ames, USA. **New Statistical Methods for Next-Generation Sequencing Data Analysis w** http://www.stat.iastate.edu/Conference2012/

May 16–18: Cooley Peninsula, Co. Louth, Ireland. **CASI: Conference on Applied Statistics in Ireland w** http://www.scss.tcd.ie/conferences/CASI2012/

ims May 19–20: Davis, California. **Workshop on Analysis of High-Dimensional and Functional Data, in honor of Peter Hall w** http://www.stat.ucdavis.edu/~mueller/peterhall2012/

May 21–25: Brussels, Belgium. **44th Journées de Statistique w** http://jds2012.ulb.ac.be/

May 24–25: Växjö, Sweden. **3rd Linnaeus University Workshop in Stochastic Analysis and Applications w** http://tinyurl.com/lsaa2012

NEW May 28–30: Lahore, Pakistan. **ISOSS 9th International Conference on Statistical Sciences w** http://www.isoss.net/9th%20Conf.pdf

ims May 30 – June 1: Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium. **Quantitative Methods in Statistics, Biostatistics and Actuarial Sciences w** http://www.uclouvain.be/393243.html

NEW May 31 – June 2: Pittsburgh, PA, USA. **6th international workshop on Statistical Analysis of Neuronal Data** (SAND6) **w** http://sand.stat.cmu.edu

June 2012

June 1–22: Institute for Mathematical Sciences, National University of Singapore. **Financial Time Series Analysis: High-dimensionality, Non-stationarity and the Financial Crisis w** http://www2.ims.nus.edu.sg/Programs/012hidim/index.php

June 3–6: Guelph, Ontario, Canada. **SSC Annual Meeting w** TBC

June 3–6: Jekyll Island, Georgia, USA. **SRCOS 2012 Summer Research Conference w** http://www.sph.emory.edu/srcos2012/

NEW June 4–6: Stanford, CA, USA. **Progress on statistical issues in searches w** www-conf.slac.stanford.edu/statisticalissues2012

June 4–6: Mohamed First University, Oujda, Morocco. **International meeting on Statistical Analysis: Theory and Applications (JIASTA2012) w** http://sciences1.ump.ma/JIASTA2012

June 4–6: Eindhoven, The Netherlands. **Workshop on Parameter Estimation for Dynamical Systems w** http://www.few.vu.nl/~shota/peds2.php

June 4–8: University of Rouen, France. **International Workshop on Sequential Methods and their Applications (IWSM&A) w** http://www.univ-rouen.fr/LMRS/RMR12

June 4–8: Columbia University, New York. Conference on Probability, Control and Finance, to honor Prof. Ioannis Karatzas' 60th birthday **w** http://math.columbia.edu/procofin/

June 4–29: University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. **PIMS-Mprime Summer School in Probability w** http://www.math.ubc.ca/Links/ssprob12/

June 5–8: Chania, Crete. **2nd Stochastic Modeling Techniques and Data Analysis International Conference w** http://www.smtda.net/

ims June 9–12: Protaras, Cyprus. International Workshop on Recent Advances in Time Series Analysis (RATS2012) **w** http://euclid.mas.ucy.ac.cy/~rats2012/

NEW June 9–15: Penn State University, PA, USA. **Algebraic Statistics 2012 w** http://www.math.psu.edu/morton/aspsu2012/

June 11–14: Inbal Hotel, Jerusalem, Israel. **International Workshop in Applied Probability 2012 w** http://www.reg.co.il/iwap

NEW _ims_ June 13–15: Cambridge, MA. 19th IMS/ASA Spring Research Conference on Statistics in Industry and Technology **w** http://www.stat.harvard.edu/SRC2012/

June 12–15: Nashville, Tennessee. **UseR! 8th International Meeting of R Users. w** http://www.R-project.org/useR-2012

June 14–15: Rochester, New York. **Symposium on Modeling Immune Responses from Complex Data w** https://cbim.urmc.rochester.edu/education/2012-symposium/

ims June 15–19: Chalkidiki, Greece. **First Conference of the International Society for Nonparametric Statistics (ISNPS) w** http://www.isnpstat.org/

NEW June 18–22: MIT, Cambridge, MA, USA. **2012 Stochastic**

Networks Conference **w** http://stoch-nets-2012.lids.mit.edu/

June 18–29: St Petersburg, Russia. **St Petersburg School in Probability and Statistical Physics w** http://spspsp.chebyshev.spb.ru

June 20–24: Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. **8th International Symposium on Statistics w** www.stat.purdue.edu

June 23–25: National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan. **Second International Conference on the Interface between Statistics and Engineering (ICISE2) w** http://conf.ncku.edu.tw/icise/

June 23–26: Boston, MA, USA. **ICSA 2012 Applied Statistics Symposium w** http://www.icsa.org/2012/

June 25–29: Kyoto, Japan. **2012 ISBA World Meeting w** http://www2.e.u-tokyo.ac.jp/~isba2012/

July 2012

July 1–4: Tsukuba, Japan. **IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meetings. w** http://www.ims-aprm2012.org/

July 3–5: University of Leeds, UK. **31st Leeds Annual Statistical Research (LASR) Workshop w** www1.maths.leeds.ac.uk/Statistics/workshop/lasr2012

July 3–6: Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. **International Symposium on Asymptotic Methods in Stochastics w** http://www.fields.utoronto.ca/programs/scientific/12-13/stochastics/index.html

July 3–6: Oslo, Norway. **Third biennial International Statistical Ecology Conference w** www.cees.uio.no/news/2010/isec2012.html

July 4–6: Vienna, Austria. **Workshop on Statistical Inference in Complex/High-Dimensional Problems w** http://www.univie.ac.at/inference2012/

July 9–14: Istanbul, Turkey. **IMS Annual Meeting 2012 in conjunction with 8th World Congress in Probability and Statistics. w** http://www.worldcong2012.org/

NEW July 10–13: Stanford University, CA, USA. **MMDS 2012: Workshop on Algorithms for Modern Massive Data Sets w** http://mmds.stanford.edu

July 16–18: Memorial Univ, St. John's, Canada. **International Symposium in Statistics (ISS) on Longitudinal Data Analysis Subject to Outliers, Measurement Errors, and/or Missing Values w** www.iss-2012-stjohns.ca

July 16–18: Göttingen, Germany. **Recent Developments in Statistical Multiscale Methods w** http://www.stochastik.math.uni-goettingen.de/for916/SMM2012

July 16–20: Prague, Czech Republic. 27th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling **w** http://iwsm2012.karlin.mff.cuni.cz/

July 16–20: Będlewo (near Poznań), Poland. **Trends and Perspectives in Linear Statistical Inference [LinStat 2012], and 21st International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics [IWMS 2012] w** http://linstat2012.au.poznan.pl/

July 16–27: Cornell, Ithaca, NY. **8th Cornell Probability Summer School w** http://www.math.duke.edu/~rtd/CPSS2012/

July 17–20: SAMSI, NC, USA. **Nonlocal Continuum Models** *[SAMSI Research Program]* **w** www.samsi.info

July 19–21: Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. **International Workshop on New Advances in Statistics: Theory and Applications w** https://www.stats.umanitoba.ca/events/new-advances-theory-applications

NEW July 19–22: Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, NJ, USA. **Modeling High Frequency Data in Finance 4 w** http://kolmogorov.math.stevens.edu/conference2012/

July 23–24: NIMBioS at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. **Modeling Dengue Fever Dynamics and Control w** http://www.nimbios.org/workshops/WS_dengue

NEW July 23–27: University of Warwick, UK. **5th Probability at Warwick Young Researchers Workshop w** www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/statistics/research/paw/paw2012

July 26–28: University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, California. **14th IMS Meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability w** http://math.ucsd.edu/~nrc2012/

July 28 – August 2: San Diego, California. **JSM2012. w** http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012/index.cfm

August 2012

August 5–8: Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. **IEEE Statistical Signal Processing Workshop w** www.ssp2012.org

NEW August 5–10: Vermont, USA. **International Conference on Robust Statistics 2012 (ICORS2012) w** http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~dtyler/ICORS2012/

August 6–10: Seattle, WA, USA. **Ten Lectures on Statistical Climatology. w** http://www.statmos.washington.edu/wp/?p=42

August 6–11: Recife, Brazil. **16th Brazilian School of Probability w** http://www.de.ufpe.br/~xviebp/

August 6–17: SAMSI, NC, USA. **Computational Advertising** *[SAMSI Research Program]* **w** www.samsi.info

August 26–29: SAMSI, NC, USA. **Data-Driven Decisions in Healthcare** Opening Workshop **w** www.samsi.info

International Calendar *continued*

September 2012

September 3–7: Pavia, Italy. **Summer school on Stochastic Modelling for Systems Biology w** www.mi.imati.cnr.it/conferences/abs12.html

September 9–12: SAMSI, NC, USA. **Statistical and Computational Methodology for Massive Data Sets** *[SAMSI Research Program]* Opening Workshop **w** www.samsi.info

September 9–22: Ulm University, Germany. **International Summer School on Advanced Stochastic Methods to Model Risk w** http://www.uni-ulm.de/mawi/summer-academy-2012/

September 12–13: Statistical Center of Statistics Korea, Daejeon, South Korea. **4th International Workshop on Internet Survey Methods w** kostat.go.kr/iwis

October 2012

October 14–16: Duke University, NC, USA. **Third Workshop for Women in Probability w** www.math.duke.edu/~rtd/wwp12/WWP2012.html

December 2012

NEW December 24–25: Burdwan, West Bengal, India. **Young Statisticians Meet:** An International Conference **w** http://www.buruniv.ac.in/Notices/UBUR_2012032_NOT_WEBPAGE.pdf

March 2013

March 10–13: Orlando, Florida. **2013 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting. w** http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm

March 12–14: Brisbane, Australia. **NatStats 2013:** *"A better informed Australia: the role of statistics in building the nation"* **w** http://www.nss.gov.au/blog/natstats.nsf

June 2013

NEW June 10–14: Amsterdam, The Netherlands. **9th Conference on Bayesian Nonparametrics w** http://www.bnp9.win.tue.nl/

July 2013

NEW July 20–25: Budapest, Hungary. **29th European Meeting of Statisticians (EMS2013) w** http://www.ems2013.eu

July 29 – August 2: University of Colorado, Boulder, USA. **36th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications w** http://math.colorado.edu/spa2013/

August 2013

August 3–8: Montréal, Canada. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2013. w** http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

August 4–10: XVII Brazilian School of Probability (XVII EBP), Rio de Janeiro State, Brazil (exact location TBA). **w** http://www.im.ufrj.br/ebp17/ (under construction)

August 24–31: Hong Kong. **International Statistical Institute: 59th ISI World Statistics Congress w** www.isi2013.hk

October 2013

October 15–16: Basel, Switzerland. **International Conference** *Ars Conjectandi* 1713–2013 **w** http://www.statoo.ch/bernoulli13/

March 2014

March 16–19: Baltimore, Maryland. **2014 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting. w** http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm

July 2014

July 7–11: Sydney, Australia. **2014 IMS Annual Meeting. w** TBC

August 2014

August 2–7: Boston, MA. **JSM2014 and ASA's 175th Anniversary. w** http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

August 2015

August 8–13: Seattle, WA. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2015. w** http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

July 2016

July 30 – August 4: Chicago, USA. **JSM 2016 w** http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

See the full list at **imstat.org/meetings**

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The scientific journals of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics are *The Annals of Statistics*, *The Annals of Probability,* *The Annals of Applied Statistics*, *The Annals of Applied Probability*, and *Statistical Science*. The *IMS Bulletin* is the news organ of the Institute.

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4:	June/July	May 1	May 15	June 1
5:	August	July 1	July 15	August 1
6:	September	August 15	September 1	September 15
7:	Oct/Nov	September 15	October 1	October 15
8:	December	November 1	November 15	December 1

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Articles

Correction

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