Volume 33 Issue 3

IMS Bulletin

May/June 2004

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MERIT Award for HIV Statisticians

Dr Anastasios "Butch" Tsiatis is the lead investigator of a team from North Carolina State University, which also includes Dr Marie Davidian and Dr Marc Genton. Their work in the field of HIV treatment trial design and analysis shows such great promise that Butch has been awarded a five-year National Institutes of Health (NIH) award of $1.125 million. The award is renewable for an additional five years, for a potential total of $2.25 million.

Despite great progress in the past decade, HIV is still one of the most challenging health care problems facing the human race today. The virus mutates and adapts to new therapeutic assaults at a rate that keeps it just ahead of evolving treatment technologies.

In most medical settings, conventional wisdom says that patients should always take their drugs. However, this hasn't been the case with HIV. Although the powerful therapies currently in use are capable of causing the amount of virus in the body to fall to levels undetectable by standard tests, they require patients to take upwards of thirty pills per day, and they are expensive. Many HIV patients therefore intermittently stop and start their treatments.

HIV researchers have observed that stopping can cause virus levels to skyrocket. But surprisingly, in many patients, virus levels stay low even in periods when they are off treatment. In still others, virus levels stay low even if they decide to discontinue their drugs indefinitely.

Why does stopping and starting treatment keep the virus at bay? Could going on and off treatment be an effective way to manage HIV disease? These are some of the questions that the NC State statisticians are addressing.

The Method to Extend Research in Time (MERIT) Award, from the NIH's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, is given to outstanding investigators and is based on superior competence and productivity.

The award acknowledges the value of the statisticians' methodology in designing and analyzing complex clinical trials that could help to answer some of these questions.

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Member News

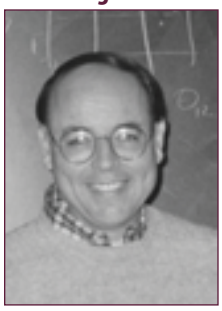
The University of Waterloo will present an honorary Doctorate of Mathematics degree to IMS Fellow John Chambers for "pioneering contributions to statistical computing" at the Spring Convocation for the Faculty of Mathematics on June 19.

John Chambers is the chief designer of the S language from Bell Labs, Lucent Technologies. S is the basis for the widely used R and S-Plus software systems. In 1996 Chambers was the first statistician to be made a Fellow in Bell Labs research.

The Association for Computing Machinery awarded him the 1998 Software System Award, the only time the award was given for statistical software (previous citations included Unix, TeX, and the World-Wide Web). Chambers donated the money from the award to the American Statistical Association to establish the John M. Chambers Statistical Software Award, presented annually at the Joint Statistical Meetings to recognize statistical software written by an undergraduate or graduate student: see www.statcomputing.org/awards/jmc/

John Chambers is the author or co-author of seven books, a fellow of ASA and AAAS, and is a past president of the International Association for Statistical Computing. At Bell Labs, he was previously head of the Statistics and Data Analysis Research Department and the Advanced Software Department. He continues active research, with emphasis on statistical software.

Samaniego awarded UC Davis Prize



IMS Fellow Francisco Samaniego, statistics professor at the University of California, Davis, has received the university's top prize. The $30,000 UC Davis Prize for Undergraduate Teaching and Scholarly Achievement, funded by the UC Davis Foundation, is believed to be the largest of its kind in the US.

UC Davis Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef said Samaniego "is internationally recognized for his research on statistics, and he combines his scholarly excellence with a creative and dedicated approach to teaching."

His research has focused on reliability theory, Bayesian statistics and a wide variety of applied projects including dam design, traffic congestion, plant genetics, the economics of recycling and the assessment of school quality.

Samaniego earned his BS in mathematics from Loyola University, a master's from Ohio State U and a doctorate from UCLA. He completed postdoctoral work at Florida State U before joining the statistics faculty at UCD in 1972. He spent the 1982-83 academic year at the University of Washington as a Ford Foundation fellow. He is currently editor of the "Theory and Methods" section of the *Journal of the American Statistical Association*. Samaniego is a fellow of the ASA and RSS, and is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

Have you achieved something? Don't be shy, tell us your news: email bulletin@imstat.org

IMS Elections 2004

Candidate Background Information

Presidential Candidate: ***Thomas G. Kurtz***

Professor, Depts of Statistics and Mathematics, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison

Education: BA (1963) Univ. of Missouri, MS (1965) and PhD (1967) Stanford Univ.

Research interests: Recent research interests include limit theorems for stochastic processes, particle representations of measure-valued processes, stochastic partial differential equations, filtering for Markov processes, large deviations, and modeling of spatial point processes. Application areas include communication networks, genetics, and finance.

Previous Service to IMS: Editor, *Annals of Probability* (2000-2002), Co-chair, Program Comm, 4th International Probability Symposium (2002), Associate Editor, *Annals of Applied Probability* (1997-2000), Special Invited Papers Comm (1993-96), Outreach Comm (1988-91), Program Chair, Regional Meeting, Madison (1988), Comm on Cross-disciplinary research (1987-88), Publications Comm (1981-82, Chair 1982), Nominating Comm (1980, 1987-88 Chair 1988), Associate Editor, *Annals of Probability* (1979-84).

Brief statement: The IMS is in a position to provide leadership regarding a number of issues facing our profession. Scholarly publication, for example, is changing rapidly in part because of soaring costs and in part because of the growing importance of electronic means of communication. The IMS publishes perhaps the lowest cost high quality journals of any professional society, and IMS members are among the leaders in the development of electronic journals and other means of electronic access to scholarly work. Other issues include the evolution of probability and statistics and their relationship and recruiting and training the next generation of statisticians and probabilists.

There are also 12 nominations for council members. These appear on pages 30-31.

Introducing…

We are pleased to introduce Nicole Lazar as the third Associate Editor of IMS Bulletin. She joins Susan Murphy and Ingram Olkin as our "additional eyes and ears", so is an extra point of contact if you think a story, announcement, obituary or other article should have appeared in the Bulletin (as well as emailing bulletin@imstat.org). Nicole works in the Department of Statistics at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA. Her article on the DC Principles appears on page 7, as well as a letter on page 4.

Past *IMS Bulletin* Editors

Leo Katz (1972-74);
Dorian Feldman (1975-80);
William C Guenther (1981-86);
George P H Styan (1987-92);
Susan R Wilson (1992-97);
Dipak K Dey (1998-2001)

New AOS Contacting Editors

As of May 1, 2004 the previous Editors of *The Annals of Statistics*, John Marden and Jon Wellner, are no longer handling Annals papers. All revisions need to be sent to the current Editors, Morris Eaton and Jianqing Fan. Details are at http://www.imstat.org/aos/contacts.html

John and Jon report on page 12, and Morris and Jianqing on page 13.

President's Column: Internationalism in a Cold Climate

IMS President Terry Speed writes:

"The IMS is an international professional and scholarly society devoted to…" It was formed in 1935 in a cold climate (see Stephen Stigler's remarks at www.imstat.org/history.htm)

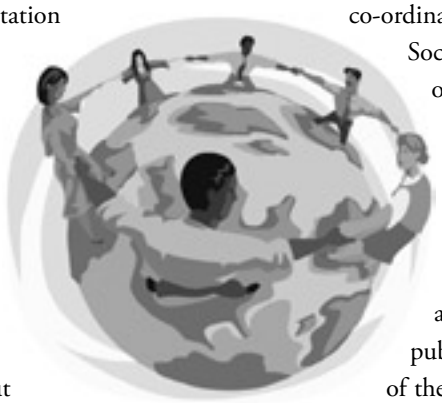
Initially the IMS was a decidedly American society: just look at the lists of past office-bearers and editors, and if you are really keen, the lists of people attending the IMS annual meetings published in the *Annals* for many years. For most of its early life, the IMS was pretty much an American show.

At some time between then and now, the IMS adopted an international outlook, and the preamble above to its mission statement. As far as I am aware, this aspect of the IMS history has yet to be written. I think I am correct in stating that Willem van Zwet was the first editor (AoS 1986-88) resident outside the US, and perhaps also the first such president. There were non-US-based associate editors of our journals before then, and our Council (which has only been in existence since 1987) and Committee on Fellows (in existence since 1976) have always had non-US members. My guess is that the IMS became serious about internationalism in the early 1970s, though I look forward to others correcting and completing these historical musings.

Interestingly, this was just the time that the Bernoulli Society got started (see http://www.cbs.nl/isi/BS/bshome.htm), and I have absolutely no doubt there is a story, a history, there to be told.

People sometimes ask me why I am wherever I happen to be when they ask me that question. Well, you have to be somewhere. It might be nice to be spread over many places, and it would definitely look less X-centric, wherever X might be, but the reality is that most organizations and people have to be based somewhere. We can't all be Paul Erdős, and permanently live out of a suitcase. And, of course, history matters.

What's my point? That the IMS is US-based, and will undoubtedly remain so for a long time yet. This has a few implications, and in the present climate, not all agreeable ones. Most of our meetings are in the US, and for non-US citizens, entering the US has become an 'experience', to put it mildly. One of our non-US members recently declined an invitation to present a Medallion Lecture in the US, and on enquiring about his reasons, I learned how he and his family and colleagues had been treated on entering the US. All I could say was "I'm very sorry you can't accept our invitation, but I understand". Recently there was a distinct possibility that we might be restricted in our ability to edit IMS journal articles from people living in the 5 countries under a US-government trade embargo. Fortunately, before any need to implement this restriction arose, the challenge by the IEEE to it was successful, and we remain free to publish all authors as usual. The current climate is definitely colder than we would like, but it will get warmer.



The IMS really is committed to its international role, and I want all our non-US members to know that. Meanwhile, you might ask: What is the IMS doing now in this regard, and where is it going?

The answer is that we are trying hard to strengthen our international role in two areas—meetings and publishing—and we are trying to strengthen our links with the Bernoulli Society.

Let's begin with meetings. As you all know, our 2004 Annual Meeting will be in Barcelona, jointly with the 6th Bernoulli World Congress [see page 14]. The Executive recently resolved to start holding every second annual meeting outside the US. Plans are under way for having the 2006 Annual Meeting in Rio de Janeiro. We are also co-sponsoring a meeting with the Chinese Society of Probability and Statistics, to be held in Beijing in July 2005. Look out for more details of these meetings. Naturally meetings outside the US must be co-ordinated with the Bernoulli Society, so that will be part of the expanded cooperation.

Now for publishing. The IMS is currently engaged in a wide-ranging review and reshaping of its publishing activities. One of the first of many resolutions recently passed by Council was to begin an electronic review journal "Probability Surveys", and I am delighted to tell you that this journal will be co-published with the Bernoulli Society. More generally, we believe that our publishing changes will help us to assist the Bernoulli Society, and to form more joint publishing ventures with them.

Finally, we are exploring joint agreements with the Bernoulli Society regarding membership, and other forms of cooperation.

If I were to have a dream on IMS internationalism, it would be that one day the IMS and the Bernoulli Society would be working together so closely that they might as well be two parts of the same organization, and that the whole was effectively independent of any local climate, cold or hot.

Letter to the Editor

Letters on any issue of interest to IMS members are welcome. Email your letters to the Editor at bulletin@imstat.org. The Editor's decision about whether to publish letters is final. Letters are submitted on the understanding that they may be edited before publication.

Dear Editor

I was interested to see Prof Terry Speed's column *"Keep Gender on the Agenda"* in the March/April *Bulletin*. I have recently been collecting data on women in "regular" (tenure track or tenured) faculty positions in Statistics and Biostatistics departments in the US and Canada. The findings of this (albeit informal) study shed light on Prof Speed's comments, and also illustrate an intriguing sociological phenomenon.

62 departments (48 Statistics and 14 Biostatistics) are represented in my sampling. 14.7% of all regular faculty in Statistics departments across all ranks are female; in Biostatistics departments, the figure is 28.1%. Over all departments and all ranks, 18.2% of the faculty are women. The Statistics department at Berkeley, with 3 women out of 20 regular faculty, is completely in line with these numbers.

When the data are broken down by rank, an interesting picture emerges. Looking at all departments, men and women combined, 23% of the faculty are Assistant Professors, 19% are Associate Professors, and 58% are Full Professors; in other words, most departments are "top heavy" with senior faculty. By contrast, 42% of the female faculty are Assistant Professors, 29% are Associate Professors, and 29% are Full Professors. 34% of all Assistant Professors, 27% of all Associate Professors, and 9% of all Full Professors in these 62 departments, are women. On average, 30% of Assistant Professors, 27% of Associate Professors, and 8% of Full Professors in a department, are female.

Twenty-five of the departments have no female Assistant Professors (7 departments have no Assistant Professors at all and there are 219 Assistant Professors, in total, in the 62 departments); 27 have no female Associate Professors (8 departments have no Associate Professors at all and there are 187 Associate Professors in the 62 departments); 33 have no female Full Professors (there are 556 Full Professors in the 62 departments). Considering the two fields separately, the picture in Biostatistics is rosier than in Statistics, with greater proportions of women faculty, and greater representation at more senior ranks.

A striking finding from all of this is that there is a serious drop-off in the women faculty, who admittedly start off in small numbers, but also seem to be failing to move through the ranks. Unexpectedly (at least to me), the bigger proportional drop is between the ranks of Associate and Full Professor. Since there doesn't appear to be a paucity of women in PhD programs, a tentative conclusion is that women aren't attracted to (or aren't encouraged to go into) jobs in academia. Those who do choose an academic career path don't necessarily follow through to the higher ranks. A similar phenomenon has been observed in the business world, with women being relatively better represented in entry-level positions, but "falling off the track" and failing to attain the higher ranking jobs. This is the phenomenon we need to address, if we are really to "keep gender on the agenda" - how can we attract more women to academic careers, and make it possible and desirable for them to flourish and advance? The issue is a delicate one. No female academic I know, myself included, wants to be the token woman on a committee or an editorial board, yet participation in such activities is one way to gain visibility and recognition in the academic community. If it is in the interest of our discipline to have female faculty in the universities, I think that we need to address the core issue of making a career in academia a viable option to the women who pursue doctorates in Statistics.

Sincerely,

Nicole A. Lazar, PhD
Department of Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA

Stuart Baker named Distinguished Alum Award Recipient

The Department of Biostatistics at the Harvard School of Public Health has named Dr Stuart Baker, of the National Cancer Institute, recipient of the 2004 Distinguished Alum Award. The Award recognizes an individual in government, industry, or academia, who by virtue of applications to support of research, methodology and theory, significant organizational responsibility, and teaching has impacted the theory and practice of statistical science. The overall career of the individual is considered with an emphasis on how the nominee has used their experience to bring out the best in life with research and academics. The award recipient will be presented with a plaque, and be invited to deliver a lecture on their career and life beyond the Department at the Harvard School of Public Health, for the primary benefit of the students.

Nominations for next year's award should be sent to the *Distinguished Alum Award Committee, Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health, 655 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115*. Nominations should include a letter describing the contributions of the candidate, specifically highlighting the criteria for the award, and a curriculum vita. Supporting letters and materials would be extremely helpful to the committee.

All nominations must be received by January 1, 2005.

AAAS News: Report from Annual Meeting

Juliet Shaffer is the IMS representative to the Statistics Section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). She reports from their Affiliates and Statistics Section business meetings which took place in February at the AAAS annual meeting:. Alan Leshner, CEO of the AAAS, opened the Affiliates meeting. He advocated closer relationships with the affiliated societies by, for example, the publication of joint statements on matters of common interest [e.g. the statement on Intelligent Design last year: see *IMS Bulletin* May/June 2003, p11]. AAAS is starting a 'listserv' for this.

Al Teich, Director of Science and Policy Programs, discussed science and national security in a post 9/11 environment, still a major focus. The Association started a project shortly after 9/11 to try to understand and develop responses to subsequent changes in the environment for science, technology, and education. With a current one-year NSF grant, AAAS is working on a more substantive follow-up, dealing with:

1. *Foreign students and scholars*
2. *Select agent rules*
3. *Federal grants and contracts*
4. *Scientific publication policies*
5. *"Secretive but unclassified" information*

Fuller information about these issues is available at www.aaas.org/spp/post911

Another concern mentioned by Dr Teich is the ruling, currently on the IEEE website www.ieee.org that any papers received for publication from selected countries (e.g. Iran) can be published only if camera-ready copy is received, and cannot be edited or revised in any way. [Since the meeting this restriction has been dropped: see the editorial by Donald Kennedy in the April 9 issue of *Science* for details]

Shirley Malcolm, Director of Education and Human Resources, discussed the need to develop science and technology expertise in an increasingly diverse US population. Under-represented groups need considerable academic support services and financial help in addition to special consideration for admission. She noted that anyone can get into *some* college; the real issues are acceptance and support in selective institutions, which provide the leadership in the country. A conference on these issues was held in January with representatives from academia, government, law, industry and the Department of Defense. The DoD is especially concerned because the Armed Services can enlist only US citizens, so cannot take advantage of talented foreigners who have contributed to US science and technology.

Donald Kennedy, the current editor of *Science*, spoke on concerns about regulations governing the determination of data quality to inform government regulations, including qualifications of expert witnesses and peer review guidelines. He gave the example of the controversy over clean air regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency, and the row between the Harvard scientists who conducted research into small toxic particles, and the American trucking industry, who wanted access to the Harvard research data. As a result of this, Senator Richard Shelby slipped in an amendment to a bill saying that all federally-supported research records must be made available under the Freedom of Information Act. In the resulting confusion about implementation of the amendment, the so-called "sons of Shelby" include:

1. Data quality act. *Any advice issued by the government to citizens (e.g. health, nutrition, etc.) is subject to evaluation with respect to quality, evidence, and 'reproducability' of data. Published information can be, and has been, challenged.*
2. Peer review guidelines. *Some review policies were suggested, including how peer-reviewed documents can serve as a basis for policy recommendations.*

The Competitive Enterprise Institute is concerned that more 'junk science' is being permitted. For example, should a peer-reviewed article published in a journal be passed without further review? (Critics note the articles by Schon published in *Science* that later had to be retracted due to data fabrication.) Further, concerning transparency, should referees be identified? Indeed, should reviews of grant-supported research exclude anyone who ever received a grant from the agency involved? This latter idea is unreasonable, but what 'conflict of interest' rules are reasonable? The general issue is how information is being used and should be used to reach regulatory judgments. The new legislation has resulted in a confused situation.

AAAS Section U (Statistics) Business Meeting: Donald Kennedy, editor of *Science*, discussed the initiative of the last few years to obtain better statistical review of articles in *Science*. The original plan of having three statisticians available for reviewing articles turned out to be too burdensome. One of them, Ron Brookmeyer, was at the meeting: he received about one paper per week, some of which had already been reviewed and some that were being reviewed concurrently for content; he said the quick turnaround required was unworkable. However, this has led to changes in the way statistical review is now carried out, which should lead to better statistical review. Kennedy has appointed two people on the Board of Reviewing Editors with statistical expertise, who now advise on which papers simply need to clean up the presentation, and which need further statistical review.

The minutes of this meeting are to be posted at http://anson.ucdavis.edu/~utts/aaas/

Free Access to Science?

Nicole Lazar writes: In the traditional mold of scientific publishing, authors publish research articles in journals sponsored by their learned societies. Membership in such societies often includes a subscription to society journals. Hence, as members of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, for instance, we receive along with our membership dues, reduced subscription rates to leading journals in our field. Publication costs are covered by a combination of subscriptions, advertisements, and minimal author fees. The professional societies, which operate as non-profit organizations, publish journals, help spread new research findings, provide backing for conferences and support the work of young researchers.

Recent years have seen an erosion of this model from two directions. On the one hand, are those pressing for immediate and "open access" to scientific and medical research. Advocates of open access believe that technical papers, often arising from government-sponsored research, should be made freely and immediately available to the public via the Internet, and criticize the common practice of charging readers who wish to access current journal volumes online. In the open access model, authors would be charged up to $1500 to publish a paper, thus shifting the cost burden away from the reader. On the other hand, for-profit publishing companies have become more prevalent, particularly in medicine, raising subscription prices for journals, and often leaving university libraries no choice but to cancel subscriptions.

Clearly, both of these trends threaten the traditional model, and so, on March 16, 2004, the leading not-for-profit publishers of medical and science journals, representing 48 societies and more than 300 journals, signed "The Washington DC Principles for Free Access to Science," as a partial answer to the different pressures raised by the open access advocates and the for-profit journal publishers. In the declaration, the not-for-profit publishers emphasize that their standard publishing practices have many benefits especially for young researchers, and reiterate their commitment to making current peer-reviewed research available to the public in a timely fashion, while maintaining the highest standards of quality.

Washington DC PRINCIPLES for FREE ACCESS to SCIENCE
www.dcprinciples.org

The signatories list seven broad principles in the declaration:

1) to maintain and enhance the qualities that have established scholarly journals as "reliable filters of information emanating from clinical and laboratory research";
2) to continue the practice of reinvesting journal revenues in direct support of science worldwide, including education outreach and free dissemination of information to the public;
3) to continue the support of free online access to journal contents;
4) to develop long-term solutions for the preservation of online journals;
5) to work with authors, referees and editors on the development of efficient online tools that will ease the publication process;
6) publication costs should not be borne solely by researchers and funding agencies, rather, the ability to publish in scientific journals should be equally available to all scientists, regardless of economic circumstance;
7) many publishing models can and should co-exist in a free society, and all should aim for the highest scientific standards.

The DC Principles were met with praise by the leading library associations, as well as public advocacy groups, who also noted the many positive contributions of learned societies and non-profit publishers.

Whereas the societies behind the DC Principles are mostly medical and biological, the issues raised are obviously relevant to other disciplines, including statistics. For-profit journals are not yet a major concern in our field, but many statisticians publish in medical and biological journals, and we should be aware of this controversy.

More information about the DC Principles and the reaction to them can be found at www.dcprinciples.org.

Statisticians encouraged to apply for AAAS Fellowship Program

Claudia Sturges is Director of AAAS Science and Technology Fellowship Programs. At the AAAS meeting (see page 6) she described the Program, which provides fellowships for scientists and engineers to spend a year in Washington, DC, participating in and contributing to the public policy making process of the federal government. She encouraged statisticians to apply.

The Program has expanded greatly in the last eight years. It is highly competitive: this year there were 670 applicants, and on average 60 fellows are chosen. The Programs seek participants with broad backgrounds and perspectives.

Steve Robinson, a recent fellow at the US Department of Agriculture, describes his experience in very positive terms. He has stayed on in government, and is now at the FDA.

Detailed information is available on the AAAS website http://fellowships.aaas.org/.

HIV Statisticians win MERIT Award: continued from Cover

Their research is not focused on developing new therapies. "Medical treatment is the job of physicians and clinical scientists," says Butch. "Our research instead is focused on a framework, based in statistical theory, that allows any set of therapies to be compared and evaluated properly."

"The fact that the award provides sustained support over a long period gives us the freedom and time to focus on the research without having to worry about the next grant deadline," says Marie Davidian. "We are very grateful to NIAID for giving us this opportunity."

The MERIT award will allow the statisticians to develop sophisticated statistical designs for especially complicated clinical trials. Their challenge is to design such trials for treatments with many variables, unlike clinical trials with "simple" structures.

"With the advent of highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART), which involves giving HIV-infected patients 'cocktails' of potent anti-HIV agents, great strides have been made in reducing mortality," Butch said. "But long-term use of these cocktails is expensive, burdensome, and may lead to adverse reactions. So, HIV scientists are looking for new ways to use these drugs for fewer complications and better prognosis."

One promising approach, he said, is "structured treatment interruption" where patients cycle on and off treatment, on purpose.

The idea is to cycle patients according to how well their immune system is fighting the HIV virus. But patients' widely varying responses to such cycling – and the possible variations in how to do the cycling – make standard clinical-trial designs inadequate.

"We hope to develop statistical designs where patients are randomized at different points in time to the next step in the cycle," says Butch, "with the goal of finding the optimal treatment strategy for how best to cycle patients on and off over time according to how they're doing at each stage."

The team believes their statistical work goes beyond HIV clinical research. "We think these statistical methods are broadly applicable," Tsiatis said. "They're relevant to any disease in which the treatment of patients would involve multiple decisions made over time according to the patient's response up to that point. The research in the MERIT award will extend greatly our current work, and help us deal with much more complex strategies."

Congratulations and every success to the team!

Some of this article originally appeared in *Scope*, from NCSU's College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences.

IMS Bulletin Associate Editor Susan Murphy interviewed Butch Tsiatis and Marie Davidian further about the team's work.

SM: *What drew you to this research area?*

BT: Our interest in this area evolved naturally through our exposure to problems we have encountered in HIV research. In particular, I am a member of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) Data Safety and Monitoring Board, which reviews most of the studies being conducted by this largest federally-funded (by NIAID) co-operative group doing HIV clinical trials. I have often seen interest in multi-stage treatment questions, but have noted that the proposed study designs are inadequate for really getting to the heart of the questions.

MD: I am co-investigator on a grant on HIV dynamics whose team is working with an HIV researcher who has been collecting data on HIV-infected patients undergoing structured treatment interruption. Similar questions with two-stage designs have come up in cancer research, and we have written some papers dealing with this. All of these experiences have led us to realize the need to have a formal framework in which to study multi-stage treatment strategies over time in the HIV clinical setting and to communicate these ideas to clinical trialists and promote their use.

In addition to methods for multi-stage treatments, the grant will also support work on topics such as joint modeling of longitudinal and time-to-event data.

SM: *Why do you think it is important for statisticians with a strong theoretical background to become involved?*

BT: These problems arise in very real applied settings, so there may be a tendency to feel that standard clinical trial techniques should be adequate to address them. Indeed, the analyses currently being performed in the multi-stage setting in HIV research do not really answer the questions. Usual methods for clinical trial design and analysis do not lend themselves well to the complex questions that investigators really want to answer about how to treat patients over time. A more sophisticated framework that acknowledges what the real questions are is needed, and a natural way to conceptualize this is through the work of Susan Murphy, Mark van der Laan, and Jamie Robins on dynamic treatment regimes. A good theoretical grounding is necessary to take this work and adapt it to the particular issues that we have seen arise in HIV clinical research.

More generally, problems that arise in medical and public health research often pose significant statistical challenges that need new methodological development. There is a real need for individuals with strong training to bring to bear their expertise to develop new ways to handle these challenges. NIH is a generous supporter of statistical methodological research along these lines, and there is broad recognition and expectation that new statistical methodological advances have the potential to lead to new substantive advances.

Meet the Members

Three more long-standing and new members tell us some interesting things:

Brad Carlin

Professor of Biostatistics at University of Minnesota; Member of IMS for "about 15" years.

If you could have dinner with someone famous, living or deceased, who would it be?
I guess the obvious answer here is Jesus, since he had a bigger impact on Western civilization than anyone else; the second most obvious for me might be Thomas Bayes! But I'd probably go with Isaac Newton, since I'd like to meet a guy so smart he invented calculus so he could work his physics problems. Abraham Lincoln would be a close second.
What is the last book you read or movie you saw?
I just rented *School of Rock* with Jack Black the other day; several of my friends recommended it, since they know I play in a variety of bands. It was OK; you had to go pretty heavy on the willing suspension of disbelief. Plus, "school" was too narrowly focused on 70s hard rock; how do you leave out Elvis?
What did you do last Saturday?
My wife and I took our 3 boys (11, 9, and 5) to the Spring Carnival at the older boys' elementary school. When I'm not traveling, I spend a lot of my Saturdays driving boys to soccer practice, birthday parties, etc.

IMS Council Members: 2003–04
Wilfrid Kendall, Thomas Liggett, Wing Wong, Michael Woodroofe, Bin Yu, Alan Karr, J. Steve Marron, Per Mykland, David W. Scott, Jane-Ling Wang, Jianqing Fan, Richard Gill, Hans R. Künsch, Christian P. Robert and Ruth J. Williams

You have unlimited funds for a one week dream vacation, where would you go?
I'd go skiing in the Alps the week before the Second Joint IMS/ISBA Meeting in Bormio, Italy next January!
Tell us something that others might find surprising about you?
While I still get paid to play from time to time, I'm mostly an unpaid church musician now! I'm keyboardist/singer/musical director for a Sunday night contemporary worship service at a Methodist church three blocks from my house. The guitar players are great and talented guys with remarkably small egos, and the outlook is liberal enough (if we were any further left, we'd be Unitarians) that I'm having a great time with it.

Eveyth P. Deligero

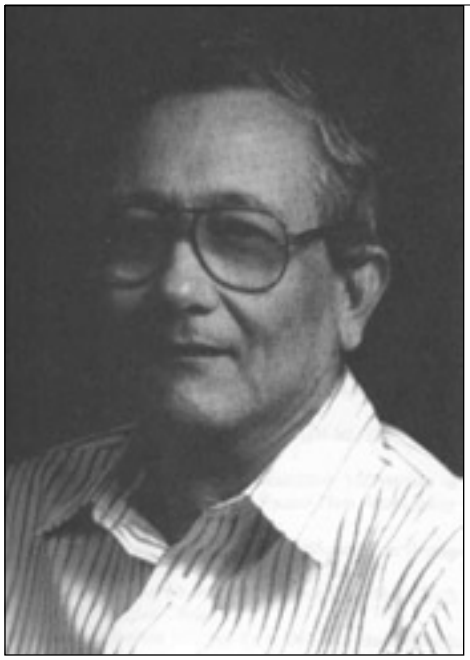
Graduate Student at Keio University, Japan; Recently joined IMS

If you could have dinner with someone famous, living or deceased, who would it be?
Prof Terry Speed, the present IMS President to thank him personally for choosing me to be one of the Laha Award recipients.
What is the last book you read or movie you saw?
Recently, I've only been reading sections of different books which will be useful in my research. For movies, *Matrix: Revolutions* (home viewing) and *A Beautiful Mind* (movie house viewing).
What did you do last Saturday?
Last Saturday, as a graduate student, I worked on my present research. In the evening, I went for a dinner with my friends and then we played badminton.
You have unlimited funds for a one week dream vacation, where would you go?
I'd love visit beautiful places in Italy, particularly Venice, and Rome for a Papal Blessing in St Peter's Square.
Tell us something that others might find surprising about you?
I love sports: I am good at volleyball, softball, basketball, badminton and table tennis.

Louis H. Y. Chen

Professor and Director of the Institute for Mathematical Sciences, National University of Singapore; Member of IMS "since 1967 when I first became a graduate student".

If you could have dinner with someone famous, living or deceased, who would it be?
I would love to have dinner with the cellist, Yo-Yo Ma.
What is the last book you read or movie you saw?
The last book I read was *The Hilbert Challenge* by Jeremy J. Gray and the last movie I saw was *Kill Bill Vol. 2*
What did you do last Saturday?
I was in Melbourne working on a paper with my co-author Aihua Xia.
You have unlimited funds for a one week dream vacation, where would you go?
I would go to an exclusive resort.
Tell us something that others might find surprising about you?
When I was a graduate student, I once played a musical duet with a bride in a wedding ceremony which took place in the woods. The bride played the flute and I played the recorder, but I was not the bridegroom!



Obituary: Sujit Kumar Mitra

Professor Sujit Kumar Mitra was born on January 23, 1932 in Calcutta, India. He earned his BSc degree in statistics from Presidency College, Calcutta, in 1949, an M.Sc. degree in statistics from Calcutta University in 1951 and a PhD degree in statistics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1956, under the guidance of Professor S N Roy.

In the early 1950s, Professor Roy was analyzing atom bomb casualty data from Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Professor Mitra became involved in that project and obtained the chi-square goodness-of-fit test through Roy's union-intersection principle. Their joint paper is regarded as a breakthrough in categorical data analysis.

Professor Mitra made pioneering contributions in many areas of statistics and mathematics, including survey sampling, categorical data analysis, linear models, design of experiments, and linear algebra.

He has been particularly credited for path-breaking contributions in the area of generalized inverses of matrices, culminating in a jointly authored landmark book with Professor C R Rao, *Generalized Inverse of Matrices and Its Applications,* (Wiley, 1971). He told me once that he was attracted to studies of matrices mostly because of the lectures given by C R Rao that he attended at Calcutta University around 1950-51.

In his PhD thesis, Professor Mitra gave proofs of the limiting distribution of the goodness-of-fit chi-square statistic. This was a fundamental paper. Looking back, he expressed his feelings about this piece: "This was a refinement of Cramér's original proof only to the extent of improving the treatment of matrices which Cramér gave in his book". He was always humble and very careful in claiming any credit for anything that he felt was due. From today's world of loud drum-beats, we have lost yet another individual of quiet scholarship of the deepest quality.

Professor Mitra was best known for his pioneering contributions in mathematical statistics and mathematics, but in India, he also worked on numerous large-scale applied projects along side luminaries such as Professors P C Mahalanobis, C R Rao, D B Lahiri, R G Laha, J Roy and others. He was Professor at the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), both in Calcutta and Delhi, for almost 40 years. He held visiting positions at Indiana University, Purdue University, University of Texas at Dallas, and Keio University, Japan. He retired from the ISI in January 1992 and became Professor Emeritus.

Unfortunately, Professor Mitra contracted Parkinson's disease in 1978. Despite an uphill battle against constant physical discomfort, he continued as a leading contributor in many directions of mathematics and statistics. In the past ten years or so, his main preoccupation was to create a solid footing for the concept of partial ordering of matrices arising out of their generalized inverses. Until last year, he regularly traveled to conferences throughout India and abroad.

Professor Mitra was very proud of his students, including Professors R B Bapat, P Bhimasankaram, and Dibyen Majumdar, to name a few. In a special issue of the journal, *Linear Algebra and Its Applications,* devoted to generalized inverses, the opening article of Bapat and Hartwig fondly and appropriately referred to Professor Mitra as "...a master of Row Space and Column Space", and what a Master he was. This article also included a bibliography of Professor Mitra's mathematical work up until 1994.

Professor Mitra earned many awards, honors and titles, including Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy, the Indian Academy of Science, and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. He was also elected President of the Statistics Section of the Indian Science Congress in 1988. He was associated with many journals, including Sankhya, Linear Algebra and Its Applications, Journal of the Indian Agricultural Statistical Society, and edited or co-edited several special volumes.

Professor Mitra passed away on March 18, 2004 after a twenty-six year battle with Parkinson's disease. He has left behind his wife of close to forty-seven years, Sheila, and three daughters and a son, and their families. Numerous students, colleagues, and friends in many parts of the globe are also deeply mourning his passing.

Professor Mitra has left us, but his eternal spirit to live for the zest of mathematics lives on forever amongst his larger family of admiring mathematicians and statisticians. Those of us who knew him personally indeed feel most fortunate to have been touched by this extraordinary mind and we will miss him very much in the years to come. May his soul rest in peace.

Nitis Mukopadhyay
University of Connecticut

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Affiliates Programs 2004

NISS is pleased to recognize the continuing and new members of the NISS Affiliates Program and NISS/SAMSI University Affiliates Program.

The programs conduct activities and services encompassing research, human resources, education, dissemination and the formation of relationships that deliver high value to the affiliates and support the NISS mission to identify, foster and catalyze high-impact cross-disciplinary research involving the statistical sciences.

Events planned for 2004 include the first Affiliates Problem Day, Technology Days on Statistical Disclosure Limitation for Spatial Data and Pharmcogenomics, workshops on National Defense and Homeland Security and Overarching Issues in Risk Analysis, and a short course on Validation of Mathematical Models, together with eight workshops sponsored by NISS' sister institute—the Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI). Program membership benefits include eligibility for project development awards from the Affiliates Proposal Development Fund (APDF), Affiliates Reimbursement Accounts that support participation in NISS and SAMSI events, as well as numerous events co-sponsored by NISS or SAMSI, and the Affiliates Job Listings, which serve as a portal to challenging employment opportunities at all affiliates. Ongoing human resource activities include a joint postdoctoral program between NISS and our Federal agency affiliates and increasing opportunities for access to and involvement in NISS–Affiliate research.

For additional information about the program, contact NISS by telephone at 919-685-9300, by E-mail at affiliatesinfo@niss.org, or visit the affiliates Web page

www.niss.org/affiliates/affiliatesmain.html

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National Institute of Standards and Technology
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NISS/SAMSI University Affiliates

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Iowa (Statistics)
Iowa State (Statistics)
Johns Hopkins (Statistics & Applied Mathematics)
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Missouri–Columbia (Statistics)
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North Carolina State (Statistics)
North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Biostatistics)
North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Mathematics)
North Carolina at Chapel Hill
(Statistics & Operations Research)
Oakland (Mathematics & Statistics)
Ohio State (Statistics)
Pennsylvania State (Statistics)
Purdue (Statistics)
Southern Methodist (Statistical Science)
Stanford (Statistics)
Texas A&M (Statistics)
UCLA (Statistics; Statistical Consulting Center)

The Annals of Statistics: Past…

John Marden and Jon A. Wellner write: On January 1, 2004 we became the "past editors" of the *Annals of Statistics*. We both feel honored to have had the opportunity to serve the IMS and the statistical profession in this role, but also feel ready to hand off to the new editors, Morris L. (Joe) Eaton and Jianqing Fan who will serve during the period 2004-2006. We feel sure that the *Annals* is in good hands. Joe and Jianqing are now handling the new submissions.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have helped with the editorial process during our term, from 2001 to 2003.

First our Editorial Coordinators: we were fortunate to have Janet Wilt and Nasrin Gahvari assisting as Editorial Coordinators. They did a superb job of keeping everything going smoothly in the editorial offices in Seattle and Champaign-Urbana.

Second our Associate Editors: Ørnulf Borgan, Larry Brown, Rainer Dahlhaus, Anirban DasGupta, Holger Dette, John H. J. Einmahl, Jianqing Fan, Friedrich Goetze, Peter Hall, Vladimir Koltchinskii, Jan T. Koster, Regina Liu, Enno Mammen, Adam Martinsek, Thomas Mathew, Xiao-Li Meng, Rahul Mukerjee, Michael Perlman, Dominique Picard, Nancy Reid, Donald Richards, Christian Robert, Peter Robinson, Trevor Sweeting, Elizabeth Thompson, David Tyler, Sara van de Geer, Aad van der Vaart, Larry Wasserman, Alan Welsh, Yi-Ching Yao, Zhiliang Ying, and Bin Yu. We also added two new Associate Editors during this past year: Hans Mueller and Qi-Man Shao. We owe them all a huge debt for their conscientious and faithful editorial work.

Without the work of referees, the Annals would not exist in its current form. Therefore we would also like to thank all the members of the statistical profession who served as referees for papers during our term as editors. We have been delinquent in not thanking them year by year, so now the list for all three years is very long: 635 individuals have produced 863 referee reports during our term (to date). [480 (1 report); 106 (2 reports); 32 (3 reports); 13 (4 reports); 3 (5 reports); 1 (7 reports)]. See the complete list of referees at www.imstat.org/aos/referees_list.html (with apologies in advance if we have missed anyone who did serve as referee but who is not included there).

Submissions:

During our term, submissions have increased: we received 274 submissions in 2001, 319 in 2002, and 362 in 2003. We printed 1811 pages in 2001, 1811 pages in 2002, and 2095 pages in 2003. We expect this number to increase to about 2400–2500 pages in 2004, still within the number of pages currently allocated by the IMS Council (2500 pages).

There is currently a backlog of about 1.5 to 2 issues (around 450-600 pages), and the new editors plan to reduce this by printing slightly more pages.

At the beginning of our term we began taking submissions in electronic form: 124 (45%) of our 274 submissions in 2001 were electronic, while 233 (73%) of the new submissions were electronic in 2002, and about 94% of submissions during 2003 were electronic. The new editors plan to conduct more of the review process itself electronically. We also created an "Editorial Board Only" part of the IMS web site which we used for managing the handling of manuscripts and for communicating with Associate Editors. This was only a partial success, and the new Editors plan to reorganize this aspect of the editorial work.

Memorial articles:

During our term we organized and published memorial articles for Lucien Le Cam, John W. Tukey, and Herbert Robbins: these appeared as follows:

- Lucien Le Cam, Vol. 30, No. 3, June 2002;
- John W. Tukey, Vol. 30, No. 6, December 2002;
- Herbert Robbins, Vol. 31, No. 2, April 2003.

Discussion papers:

Two discussion papers were in the works when we began our term in 2001:

- *Local extremes, runs, strings, and multiresolution,* P. L. Davies and A. Kovac (appeared in Vol. 29, No. 1, February 2001) and
- *Random rates in anisotropic regression;* Marc Hoffmann and Oleg Lepski (appeared in Vol. 30, No.2, April 2002).

We organized two more discussion papers which appeared during our term: *What is a statistical model?* by Peter McCullagh (Vol. 30, No.5), October 2002 and *Slice sampling;* Radford M. Neal (Vol. 31, No. 3, June 2003).

We are organizing four more discussions for publication late in 2004 or early 2005:

- Three papers on consistency in boosting (Vol 32, No. 1, February 2004):
  Process consistency for adaboost, by Wenxin Jiang,
  On the Bayes-risk consistency of regularized boosting methods, by Gábor Lugosi and Nicolas Vayatis and
  Statistical behavior and consistency of classification methods based on convex risk minimization, by Tong Zhang;
- *Least angle regression,* by Bradley Efron, Trevor Hastie, Iain Johnstone, and Robert Tibshirani (Vol. 32, No. 2, April 2004);
- *Breakdown and groups,* by P. L. Davies and U. Gather.
- *ANOVA: Why it is more important than ever,* by Andrew Gelman.

…and Present: A message from the 'new' Co-Editors

Morris (Joe) Eaton and Jianqing Fan write:

The Annals of Statistics was launched in 1973 when the *Annals of Mathematical Statistics* (founded in 1930) was split into two journals: *The Annals of Statistics* and *The Annals of Probability*. Its timeless name has been coined with the vision that the statistics discipline would evolve with time and respond to the developments of society. *The Annals of Statistics* has fostered and nurtured many creative ideas, especially in information and technology. It also provides a solid foundation and a deep understanding of statistical procedures.

Current statistical methodology plays an important role in the fields such as computational biology, quantitative finance, information engineering, machine learning, neuroscience, drug discovery and policy making. The increase in interdisciplinary and quantitative research makes statistics more relevant than ever and brings to our field new opportunities and challenges.

The forte of *The Annals of Statistics* has been the quality of its publications, particularly in mathematical statistics and this tradition will continue.

At the same time, it is important to realize that the diversity of current statistical research dictates the need for an extended vision. Fuelled by technological innovations, the research frontiers of science, engineering, medicine, the humanities and business have expanded dramatically. The journal should continue to make conscientious efforts to develop and promote statistical ideas that are motivated by emerging research across disciplines. Statistical properties of complicated inferential procedures are often difficult to establish using traditional mathematical tools. Not only are new mathematical methods often needed, but it is important to realize that insights into statistical methodology can be gained via carefully designed simulations.

Theory and application go hand in hand. Interdisciplinary research has generated a number of novel and stimulating statistical problems that require new theoretical understanding. At the same time, statistical theory and principles provide useful guidance for applications. Creative discussions of competing methodologies are essential to the viability of our science. All parties to the debate concerning best methodology benefit from the discussion.

The future of statistics depends largely on fostering a generation of young and vital statisticians. Our community has a long tradition of supporting new researchers. For about a decade, the IMS has organized the New Researchers Conferences *[see the announcement on page 18]*. These provide an environment for new researchers to exchange research expertise and to communicate with leaders in the profession. *The Annals of Statistics* has also made various efforts to nurture development of junior researchers.

The use of a Co-Editor format , begun in 1995, has helped expand the coverage of the *Annals*. Editorial policies have been in place for a number of years that foster diversity and promote the scholarly activities of both new and established researchers. A few of theses are highlighted below.

The *Annals* can and should publish any high quality material that, broadly speaking, involves statistical theory or methodology. It is in the interest of the *Annals* to be viewed as an outlet for a variety of statistical viewpoints. This includes the so called "non-traditional" papers whose strength lies in innovative methodology or solving emerging problems. The review of such papers will require special editorial handling.

New researchers have traditionally benefitted from the supportive efforts of the *Annals*' editorial staff and referees. This includes guidance on the preparation of PhD work for publication, and detailed comments concerning style and format for submitted papers. It is in the interest of all, especially new researchers, for the *Annals* to provide helpful and constructive criticism that can lead to quality *Annals* publications. Submissions from thesis work will be handled with special care.

Statistical developments over the past half century have led to many highly specialized research areas. For this reason *Annals* submissions need to contain an introductory section that is accessible to a wide range of readers. Such material should provide an overview of the research area in question and put the technical details into perspective. In recent years, it has become common to relegate some arguments to appendices or even simply to give a reference (paper or electronic) to a source where details can be found. However, proofs and/or arguments that contain new ideas should appear in original publications.

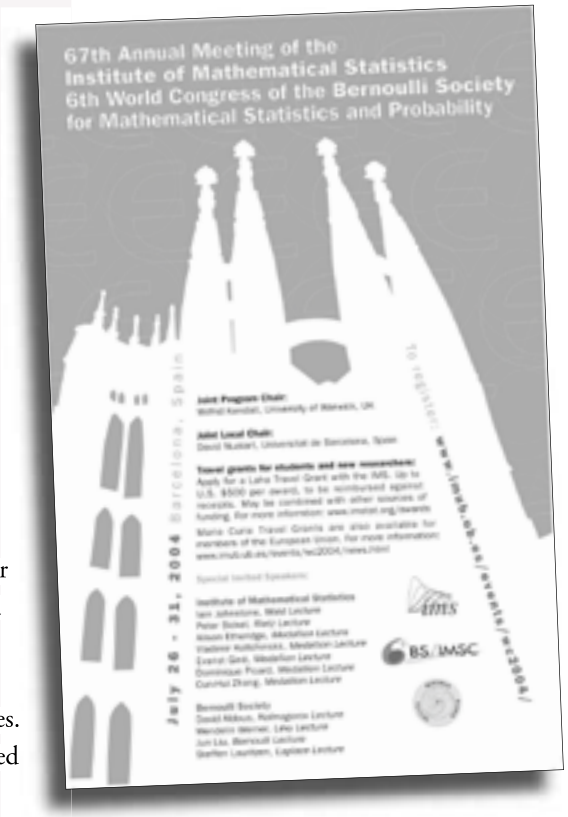
Timely handling of *Annals* submissions has high priority. Improvements have been made in recent years and the median time to first response is now very respectable. Every effort will be made to communicate with authors within six months of submission. Because of the nature of the peer review process, timeliness depends on the cooperation of the statistical community. The success of the *Annals* hinges on the research and service contributions of all statistical researchers.

2004 Spiegelman Award: Call For Nominations

The Statistics Section of the American Public Health Association invites nominations for the 2004 Mortimer Spiegelman Award honoring a statistician aged 40 or younger who has made important contributions to public health. More information at http://watson.hgen.pitt.edu/~dweeks/spiegelman/2004_Spiegelman.html

IMS Meetings around the world

Barcelona: 67th IMS Annual Meeting 2004



World Bernoulli Congress
Held in conjunction with the 67th IMS Annual Meeting
July 26–31, 2004, Barcelona, Spain
http://www.imub.ub.es/events/wc2004/index.html

We are glad to announce all plenary and invited session speakers. Please browse the website for all recent information, including contributed papers and posters.

We gratefully acknowledge the sponsorship of La Caixa, Barcelona Stock Market, the European Community, Forum 2004, the Catalan Institute of Statistics, Generalitat de Catalunya, Universitat de Barcelona and Ministerio de Ciencia y Tecnología.

If you haven't booked your accommodation, you will need to do this now, since July is the peak of the summer tourist season in Barcelona. We expect that during your visit you will also enjoy the multiple attractions Barcelona and its surroundings has to offer (see the congress webpage for a list of cultural activities). During the year 2004, Barcelona will also host the Forum 2004, a venue for multicultural events and discussions on global issues. Also we have various receptions and the congress Gala Dinner that we encourage you to participate and to taste the local dishes. We remain at your disposal if you need any further help or special assistance: contact email wc2004@imub.ub.es

Looking forward to seeing you in Barcelona!

David Nualart, Chair of the Organizing Committee

Special invited lectures
Iain Johnstone (IMS Wald Lectures, 3 sessions)
Peter Bickel (IMS Rietz Lecture): *The frontiers of statistics and computer science*
IMS Medallion Lectures:
Alison Etheridge: *Some mathematical problems from population genetics*
Vladimir Koltchinskii: *Data Dependent Complexities and Oracle Inequalities in Statistical Learning Theory*
Dominique Picard: *What do we learn from Maxisets?*
Cun-Hui Zhang: *Recent results in nonparametric regression and empirical Bayes*
Bernoulli Lectures:
David Aldous (Kolmogorov Lecture): *Scaling exponents and random combinatorial optimization: fifteen variations on the Beardwood-Halton-Hammersley theorem.*
Wendelin Werner (Lévy Lecture)
Jun Liu (Bernoulli Lecture)
Steffen Lauritzen (Laplace Lecture)

Organizing a meeting?
Tell us about it!
Send your announcement
to **ims@imstat.org**

IMS co-sponsored meeting: NEW
Fourth Workshop on
Bayesian Nonparametrics:
Methodology, Theory and Applications
June 13-16, 2004
Università "La Sapienza", Roma, Italy
Contact: gabriella.salinetti@uniroma1.it, bnp2004@uniroma1.it
The web link is the following:
http://3w.eco.uniroma1.it/bayes/

JSM 2004

IMS Member Social

Time and Date
Monday, August 9
5:15 – 6:45 pm
Fairmount Royal York Hotel
Salon A Room

All IMS members are welcome.

This is an opportunity to see old friends, network with colleagues and relax in an intimate setting. Appetizers and drinks will be served.

If you wish to join the IMS, but haven't, please come by the reception and we will have applications available, or you can join online at www.imstat.org

JSM 2004

IMS Welcome Reception

Time and Date
Tuesday, August 10
5:15 – 6:45 pm
Fairmount Royal York Hotel
Confederation 3 Room

New Members, New Graduates and Students

All members who have joined the IMS during the past two years, all IMS New Graduate members and all IMS student members are encouraged to attend. Appetizers and an open bar will be available.

Last year's New Members' Reception at JSM San Fransisco

If you wish to join the IMS, but haven't, please come by the reception and we will have applications available, or you can join on-line at www.imstat.org

More IMS Meetings around the world

IMS Co-sponsored Meeting:

2004 Joint Statistical Meetings
August 8 - 12, 2004
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

IMS Program Chair: Michael Evans, mevans@utstat.utoronto.ca, University of Toronto, Canada; IMS Contributed Paper Chair: Tim Swartz, tim@stat.sfu.ca, Simon Fraser University, Canada. Co-sponsored by ASA, IMS, ENAR, WNAR, SSC.

IMS Contributed Paper Sessions

There are three types of contributed paper sessions which are sponsored by IMS at JSM:

1. Topic Contributed Paper Sessions:

These sessions consist of a collection of contributed paper presentations and discussions (if desired) that share a common theme. The sessions are 110 minutes long with five presentations (including discussants) of 20 minutes each, with 10 minutes at the end for floor discussion and concluding remarks by the session chair.

To organize an IMS sponsored topic contributed paper session, you must arrange for five speakers to submit abstracts and pre-register before the February 1, 2004 deadline. On the abstract form, speakers should indicate that they are speaking in an IMS topic contributed paper session and give the name of the session organizer. Before abstracts are submitted, the organizer should provide the IMS Contributed Session Chair (Tim Swartz) with:
the proposed topic contributed paper session; contact information for the organizer; contact information for the session chair; contact information for the five speakers; and the titles of the five papers.

The organizer should also ensure each of the five speakers provides a draft manuscript of their talk to the session chair by June 1, 2004.

2. Topic Contributed Panel Sessions:

The traditional panel discussion format is used, i.e. a minimum of three and a maximum of five panelists provide commentary on a topic.

To organize an IMS sponsored topic contributed panel session, you must list the panelists and submit a single abstract before the February 4, 2004 deadline. Each panelist must provide a non-refundable registration payment before this deadline. Before the abstract is submitted, the organizer should provide the IMS Contributed Session Chair, Tim Swartz, with: the proposed topic contributed panel session; contact information for the organizer; and contact information for the speakers.

3. Regular Contributed Paper Sessions:

These sessions consist of a collection of paper presentations which are grouped according to topics which are as similar as possible. The sessions are a maximum of 110 minutes in length, with a maximum of seven speakers each having 15 minutes of floor time, followed by 5 minutes of closing remarks by the session chair.

To submit an IMS sponsored regular contributed paper, you must submit an abstract and pre-register before the February 4, 2004 deadline. Each speaker is responsible for submitting a draft manuscript to the session chair (whose identity will be made known) by June 1, 2004.

IMS Co-Sponsored Meeting

Fourth International Conference on Mathematical Methods in Reliability: Methodology and Practice
June 21-25, 2004; Santa Fe, New Mexico

http://www.stat.lanl.gov/MMR2004/index.htm

The MMR Conferences: The Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in conjunction with the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) is hosting the biennial Mathematical Methods in Reliability (MMR) Conference, June 21-25, 2004 at the Hilton in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The MMR conferences serve as a forum for discussing fundamental issues on mathematical methods in reliability theory and its applications. It is a forum that brings together mathematicians, probabilists, statisticians, and computer scientists from within a central focus on reliability. This international conference is the fourth in the series, and the first time it will take place in the United States. IMS Rep: Alan Karr

IMS Co-sponsored meeting

The Sixth ICSA International Applied Statistics Conference
July 21-23, 2004, Singapore

http://www.statistics.nus.edu.sg/ICSA.htm

The Sixth International Chinese Statistical Association Applied Statistics Conference will be held at the National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore: IMS Representative: Louis H.Y. Chen

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IMS Co-Sponsored Meeting,

2005 Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications
June 26 - July 1, 2005
Santa Barbara, California, USA

IMS Rep: Raya Feldman

http://www.pstat.ucsb.edu/projects/spa05/

New Directions in Probability Theory

August 6–7, 2004 Fields Institute, Toronto, Canada

The meeting *New Directions in Probability Theory* will take place on August 6–7, 2004; it is co-sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS) and the Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences. The meeting immediately precedes the Joint Statistical Meetings, August 8–12, 2004 (co-sponsored by ASA, IMS, ENAR, WNAR, SSC). It will take place on Friday/Saturday and will be held at the Fields Institute.

The meeting consists of five sessions and four one-hour lectures, of which two are IMS Medallion Lectures. It is intended for a general probability audience interested in recent developments in probability theory.

There will be no registration fee for the meeting. However, space at the Fields Institute is limited, and so early registration is recommended.

Sessions:

Greg Lawler (Cornell University) **Self-Avoiding Walks**

David Brydges (University of British Columbia): "Self-avoiding walk in four dimensions"; Tom Kennedy (University of Arizona): "Monte Carlo studies of self-avoiding walks"; Neal Madras (York University): "Knotting phenomena in self-avoiding walks"

Craig Tracy (University of California, Davis) **Random Matrices**

John Harnad (Concordia University and CRM Université de Montreal): "Two matrix models, duality and Riemann-Hilbert problems"; Roland Speicher (Queen's University): "Random matrices and free probability"

Mike Cranston (University of Rochester) **Random Media**

Gerard Ben Arous (Courant Institute): "Dynamics of spin glasses; a generalized random energy model"; Leonid Koralov (Princeton University): "Asymptotic problems in random transport"; Stanislav Molchanov (University of North Carolina, Charlotte): "The spectral bifurcations in the large random systems"

Tom Salisbury (York University) **Superprocesses**

Siva Athreya (Indian Statistical Institute): "Branching coalescing particle systems"; Roger Tribe (Warwick): "Two parameter phase diagram for a stochastic reaction diffusion system"; Xiaowen Zhou (Concordia University): "Self-duality of coalescing Brownian motion and its applications in measure-valued processes"

Robin Pemantle (University of Pennsylvania) **Markov Chains and Algorithms**

Thomas P. Hayes (Toyota Technological Institute, Chicago): "Better coupling with less effort"; Mike Molloy (University of Toronto): "Markov chains on the colourings of a graph"; Robin Pemantle (University of Pennsylvania): "The complexity of finding a path with nearly optimal drift in a branching random walk"

One-Hour Lectures:

Kurt Johansson (Royal Institute of Technology): "Measures from non-intersecting paths" (IMS Medallion Lecture)

Greg Lawler (Cornell University): "Self-avoiding walk in two dimensions: detailed conjectures and few results"

Craig Tracy (University of California, Davis): "Differential equations for Dyson diffusion"

H.T. Yau (Stanford University and Courant Institute): "Brownian motion in quantum dynamics" (IMS Medallion Lecture)

Program Organizer: Maury Bramson (University of Minnesota); Local Organizers: Jeremy Quastel and Jeffrey Rosenthal (University of Toronto), Tom Salisbury (York University)

More details at http://www.imstat.org/meetings/NDPT/

Sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and the Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences.

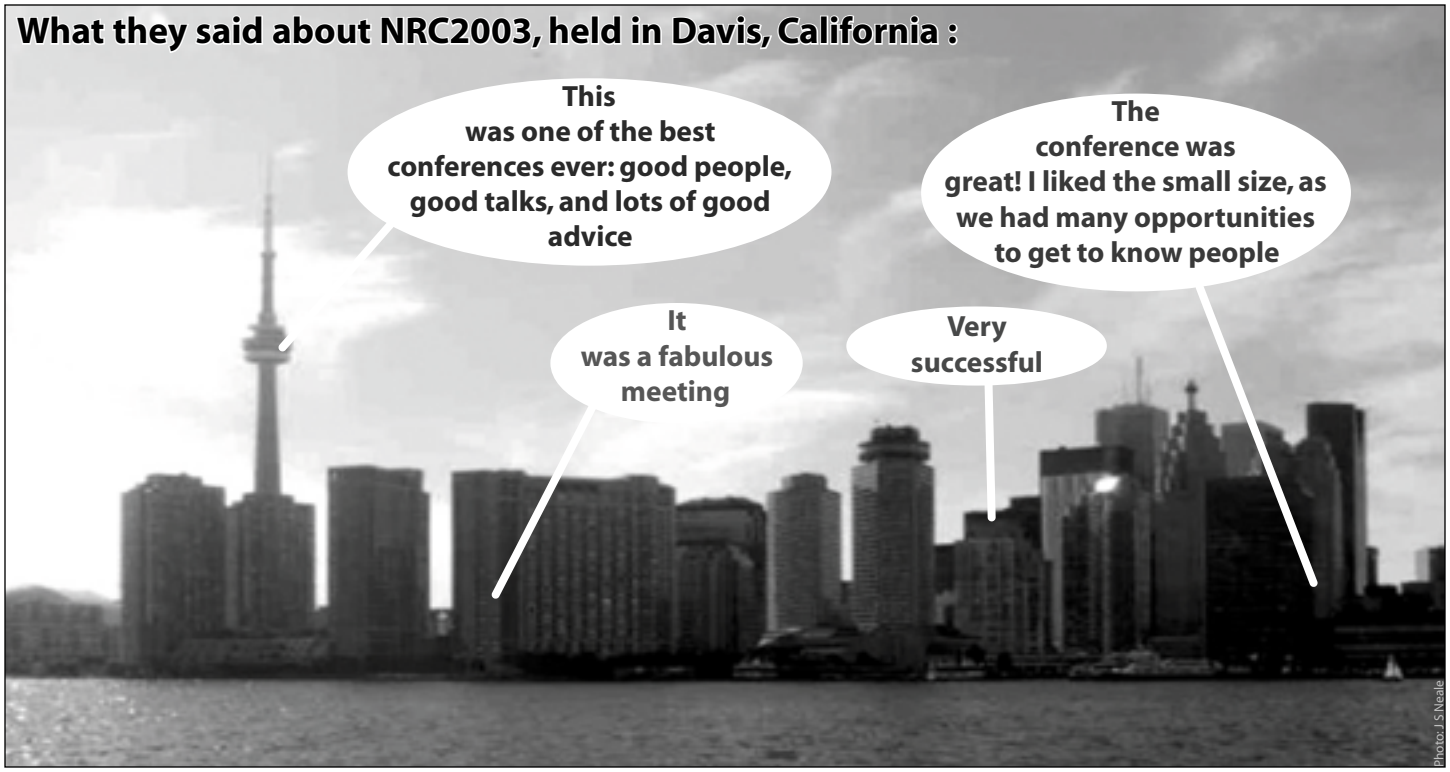
IMS Sponsored Meeting

The Seventh North American New Researchers Conference

August 4-6, 2004 (Just before JSM)

York University
Toronto, Canada

Conference objective:	To promote interaction among new Statistics researchers, by introducing them to each other's research in an informal setting.
Who is eligible:	Anyone who has received their PhD since 1999 in Statistics or a related field is eligible to attend. All participants are expected to present a short talk or poster on their research.
Abstract Deadline:	February 1, 2004
For more information:	Peter Song (Program Chair), York University song@mathstat.yorku.ca **http://www.math.yorku.ca/StatsSection/NRC**



IMS Co-sponsored meeting

WNAR/IMS Western Regional
June 27–30, 2004
Albuquerque, New Mexico

NEW WEBSITE: http://www.wnar.org/Meetings/WNAR%202004/2004%20mtg%20general%20information.htm

The 2004 joint WNAR/IMS meeting will be held June 27-30 at the University of New Mexico, in Albuquerque. The campus is located approximately two miles east of downtown Albuquerque, two miles north of the Albuquerque International Airport, and 10 miles west of the Sandia mountains, which border the eastern edge of the city. Albuquerque provides a unique blend of historic attractions, multi-culturalism, outdoor activities, and native cuisine, and serves as a gateway to the nearby cities of Santa Fe, Taos, Acoma, and the numerous pueblos of the Rio Grande Valley.

Early summer weather in the high desert environment surrounding Albuquerque tends to be hot and dry during the day (low to mid 90's), but with cool evenings (low 60's).

Local accommodations will be provided by the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Albuquerque and through the University of New Mexico housing office.

There are 13 invited-sessions planned for the meeting: Mortality Displacement: Inference from Air Pollution Time Series. (WNAR) Organizer: Paul Switzer, Stanford Univ; Inference using computer simulation code (WNAR) Organizer: Dave Higdon, LANL; Genetics: Linkage and Phylogenetics (WNAR) Organizer: Laura Salter, UNM; Design for Drug Discovery (WNAR) Organizer: Derek Bingham, SFU; Homeland Security (WNAR) Organizer: Sarah Michalak, LANL; Statistical Learning and Data Mining (WNAR) Organizer: Nando deFreitas, UBC; Social Network Analysis (IMS/WNAR) Organizer: Peter Hoff, University of Washington; Applications of Multivariate Survival Analysis in Genetic Epidemiology (IMS/WNAR) Organizer: David Glidden, UCSF; Functional Data Analysis (IMS) Organizer: Gareth James, University of Southern California; Interval Censored Data: Theory and Methods (IMS) Organizer: Michael Kosorok, University of Wisconsin; Markov Chain Monte Carlo Methodology (IMS) Organizer: Jim Hobert, University of Florida; Mixture Analysis: Theory and Applications (IMS) Organizer: Guenther Walther, Stanford University; Model Selection (IMS) Organizer: Mark van der Laan, UC-Berkeley

Program Chair: Jason Fine, (Univ of Wisconsin), fine@biostat.wisc.edu. IMS Local Arrangements Chair: Gabriel Huerta (Univ. of New Mexico), ghuerta@stat.unm.edu. WNAR Local Arrangements Chair: Ed Bedrick. Meeting type: Sponsored/Numbered (287)

IMS Co-sponsored Meeting:

Workshop on Recent Advances in Time Series Analysis
June 9-12, 2004, Protaras, Cyprus

http://www.ucy.ac.cy/~rats/

Theofanis Sapatinas, University of Cyprus: t.sapatinas@ucy.ac.cy
Keynote speakers: Rainer Dahlhaus, Richard Davis, Qiwei Yao, Dimitris Politis. Special Invited Lecturer: Clive Granger

All meetings are listed in *The International Calendar of Statistical Events*

IMS Co-sponsored Meeting:

2004 Joint Summer Research Conferences
July 17–24, 2004, Snowbird, Utah

http://www.ams.org/meetings/src03.html [it's not src04.html]

An AMS-IMS-SIAM Joint Summer Research Conference on "Gaussian Measure and Geometric Convexity" will take place at the Snowbird Resort, Utah, July 17-24, 2004.

The Conference will bring together an unusual grouping of researchers in convex geometry, probability, statistics, and the local theory of Banach spaces to discuss problems in which principal ingredients are Gaussian measure and the theory of convex bodies. Major themes will be the role of probabilistic methods in understanding properties of convex bodies, especially in high dimensions, and the application of convex-geometric methods to the study of stochastic processes. Among the topics will be central limit theorems, concentration of measure, Dvoretzky-type results, isoperimetry and Gaussian inequalities, intrinsic volumes and Gaussian processes, flag-coefficient renormalization, and random convex bodies. Further information from Rick Vitale at r.vitale@uconn.edu.

Tempted to organize a meeting?
There's lots of advice available on the IMS website, whether you're thinking of organizing a meeting or a mini-meeting, a session or a memorial lecture. Help for Program Chairs is available at http://www.imstat.org/program/program.html and there's a list of resources at http://www.imstat.org/program

Memorials and Scientific Programs
If you are thinking about memorializing someone with an invited session, memorial lecture or a workshop, you should coordinate this with the IMS Memorials Committee. The committee is currently chaired by Ingram Olkin.

Been to a good meeting lately?
If you have enjoyed a meeting, why not consider writing about it for the IMS Bulletin? Take some photos while you're there, talk to the organizers and speakers, and give us your impressions. Send it to bulletin@imstat.org.

"MCMSki" IMS-ISBA Joint Meeting
[See poster opposite]
Young Investigator Travel Support

The meeting's organizers anticipate limited financial support, from the NSF and perhaps other granting agencies, for junior investigators presenting posters. NSF requires such investigators to be from US institutions (though not necessarily US citizens), and within 5 years of their PhD. Persons requesting travel support must submit the following items (by email to ims-isba@eco.uninsubria.it):

- current CV (.pdf or .ps)
- copy of your paper (.pdf or .ps)
- supporting note from your advisor (can be just a paragraph)

The deadline to ask for financial support is **10 September 2004**.

Those receiving travel awards will have their registration and bus travel fees reimbursed by the conference. Please note however that if you register at this time, your credit card will be billed within 3 days.

The applications will be reviewed by the IMS-ISBA scientific committee: Dr Brad Carlin, University of Minnesota (co-chair), Dr Antonietta Mira, University of Insubria (co-chair), Dr Steve Brooks, Cambridge University, Dr Montserrat Fuentes, North Carolina State University, Dr Paolo Giudici, University of Pavia, Dr Giovanni Parmigiani, Johns Hopkins University. The committee will use the above criteria to select the recipients of the travel awards.

Forward planning…

For those of you who *really* like to plan ahead, here's a list of IMS Annual Meetings and Joint Statistical Meetings (and other information, where it is known at this stage) for the next five years. Happy planning!

2005

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM05
August 7–11, 2005: Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
IMS Program Chair: David Madigan, Rutgers University, madigan@stat.rutgers.edu; IMS Local Chair: Peihua Qiu, University of Minnesota, qiu@stat.umn.edu

2006

IMS Annual Meeting: venue TBC (possibly Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: see Terry Speed's article on page 4)
JSM06
August 6–10, 2006
Seattle Convention Center, Seattle, Washington
IMS Program Chair: tba; IMS Local Chair: tba

2007

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM07
July 29 – August 2, 2007
Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah

2008

IMS Annual Meeting: venue TBC
JSM08
August 3–7, 2008
Denver, Colorado
To be held at the Denver Convention Center

2009

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM09
August 2–6, 2009
Washington, DC
To be held at the Washington Convention Center

Any advance on 2009, anyone?

IMS Co-sponsored Meeting:

Second International IMS/ISBA Joint Meeting
Bormio, Italy (Italian Alps)

"M C M Ski": The Past, Present, and Future of Gibbs Sampling

Wednesday, January 12 to Friday, January 14, 2005

The second joint international meeting of the IMS (Institute of Mathematical Statistics) and ISBA (International Society for Bayesian Analysis) will be held in Bormio, Italy (site of the world ski championships). A central theme of the conference will be Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) and related methods and applications in the 15 years since the publication of Gelfand and Smith (1990, JASA), the paper that introduced these methods to mainstream statisticians. The conference will also feature 3 plenary speakers and 6 invited sessions from internationally known experts covering a broad array of current and developing statistical practice. As with the first joint IMS-ISBA meeting in Isla Verde, Puerto Rico, nightly poster sessions will offer substantial opportunity for informal learning and interaction.

Buses (exact times to be determined) will be organized to bring participants to the conference site from Malpensa Airport in Milan (approx. 3-3.5 hour ride) on Tuesday, January 11, 2005, and again to return to Malpensa on Saturday, January 15 and Sunday, January 16.

Plenary Speakers:

Persi Diaconis, Stanford University
Alan Gelfand, Duke University
Sylvia Richardson, Imperial College London

Program Committee:

Brad Carlin, University of Minnesota, Co-Chair
Antonietta Mira, University of Insubria, Co-Chair
Steve Brooks, Cambridge University
Montserrat Fuentes, North Carolina State University
Paolo Giudici, University of Pavia
Giovanni Parmigiani, Johns Hopkins University

Tentative Daily Schedule:

8:45-9:45	Plenary Session
10:05-12:05	Invited Session I
12:05-1:00	Lunch
1:00-4:30	Ski/Spa time
4:45-6:45	Invited Session II
7:00-9:00	Dinner
9:00-11:00	Poster Session
11:00-?	Informal Interactions

Conference center: http://www.alpicenter.com/inglese/centro_congressi.html
City and ski area: www.bormio.com, http://www.goski.com/rit/bormio.htm
Hotel Santanton: http://www.santanton.com

For more information please watch the conference website:
http://eco.uninsubria.it/webdocenti/IMS-ISBA-05/

INCLUDED WITH THIS ISSUE:
Poster for IMS-ISBA Meeting
Please display prominently!

Other Meetings Around the World: Announcements and Calls for Papers

Summer School on Imprecise Probabilities
University of Lugano, Switzerland
July 27-31, 2004

http://www.idsia.ch/~zaffalon/events/school2004/school.htm

Imprecise probability is a generic term for the many mathematical or statistical models which measure chance or uncertainty without sharp numerical probabilities. Imprecise probability models are needed in inference problems where the relevant information is scarce, vague or conflicting, and in decision problems where preferences may also be incomplete.

The school on imprecise probabilities will offer a wide and deep introduction to imprecise probability topics, both theoretical and applied. In particular, the school will focus on coherent lower previsions and their behavioral interpretation, decision theory, robust statistics, risk analysis, imprecise probability methods for artificial intelligence and knowledge discovery.

The school is organized by the Society for Imprecise Probability Theories and Applications (SIPTA). It is mainly intended for advanced master or Ph.D. students, postdoctoral fellows, and junior researchers.

PROGRAM:

The school is divided in 5 courses, one per day, of 8 hours each:

July 27: Introduction to using imprecise probability in risk analysis. Scott Ferson (Applied Biomathematics, USA)

July 28: Imprecise probability models and their behavioral interpretation. Gert de Cooman (Gent University, Belgium)

July 29: Some decision theory with imprecise and indeterminate probability and utility. Teddy Seidenfeld (Carnegie Mellon University, USA)

July 30: Independence, graphical models, knowledge discovery from data sets under weak assumptions, applications to classification. Serafín Moral (Granada University, Spain) & Marco Zaffalon (IDSIA, Switzerland)

July 31: Robust Neyman Pearson theory & summary view on imprecise probabilities. Thomas Augustin (Munich University, Germany)

One of Lugano's lakeside sculptures: Chain *by Piero Travaglini*

REGISTRATION FEE AND DEADLINE:

Registration cost will be about 50 Swiss Francs (~39 USD, ~32 EUR), including lectures and coffee breaks. People wishing to participate should apply by 31 May.

LOCAL CONTACT:

Marco Zaffalon (school organizer) Senior Researcher, IDSIA, Galleria 2, CH-6928 Manno (Lugano), Switzerland. phone +41 91 610 8665. fax +41 91 610 8661. email zaffalon@idsia.ch

Fourth International Conference on Statistics in Business and Industry: ISBIS-4
13–16 April 2005, Tropical North Queensland, Australia.

ISBIS-4 is a satellite meeting to the ISI Session in Sydney. It will focus on important statistical issues relating to productivity improvement, improved use of quantitative methods to support decision-making at all levels of business and industry, and statistical aspects of Finance. ISBIS4 will be held in the vicinity of Cairns, on the Great Barrier Reef, an area of remarkable natural beauty and one of Australia's best vacation areas.

More information: visit www.action-m.com/isbis4 or contact the conference Director, Nick Fisher, at nif@valuemetrics.com.au, phone +61 407 017 016.

If you are organizing a meeting, send in your announcement for the next issue (July/August 2004) by July 1, 2004 to Elyse Gustafson, IMS Executive Director, at erg@imstat.org. *Adverts will also appear on the IMS website* www.imstat.org. *See panel inside back cover for more information.*

NIH symposium on Biomedical Informatics for Clinical Decision Support: A Vision for the 21st Century, Bethesda, Maryland
June 21-22, 2004

http://www.becon.nih.gov/symposium2004.htm

Registration is now open for this National Institutes of Health (NIH) symposium, the seventh in a series of annual events coordinated by the Bioengineering Consortium (BECON). For the first time, this year's symposium will be a joint effort between BECON and the Biomedical Information Science and Technology Initiative Consortium (BISTIC). The event will be held on June 21 and 22, 2004, at the William H. Natcher Conference Center on the NIH main campus in Bethesda, Maryland.

The symposium focuses on software tools and approaches needed to deliver biomedical information technologies to clinicians and patients at the time and place where decisions are made regarding risk, diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up. Potential sources of input data include images, molecular sequences and structures, gene and protein expression, and patient medical records that are often managed and analyzed independently of each other.

The meeting will provide a vision of the scientific future where healthcare information technologies will be fully deployed in the clinical workflow to improve efficiency and outcomes. As healthcare accommodates the individual variation in the population, mass customization using comprehensive life information records will be needed.

In addition to increasing communication among software and computer scientists, researchers, clinicians, and the device and drug industries, the symposium will identify major challenges and opportunities that should be addressed by NIH policies and funding programs, including partnerships with the private sector. You are also invited to prepare and submit a scientific abstract to be considered for a poster presentation at the symposium. Abstracts can be submitted at the website above.

Immediately following the symposium, there will be several parallel satellite sessions: "Using Semantic Standards to Integrate Biomedical Imaging into Clinical Decision-Making"; "Public Private Partnerships: Potential means to support Biomedical Informatics Resources"; and "Current funding opportunities across the NIH".

For more information about the symposium, including the agenda, scientific poster session, and on-line registration, please visit http://www.becon.nih.gov/symposium2004.htm [screenshot below]

Continuing Medical Education: The NIH/FAES is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education to provide continuing medical education for physicians. The National Institutes of Health/Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences designates this educational activity for a maximum of 10.75 category 1 credits toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those credits that he/she actually spent in the activity.

National Institutes of Health
Bioengineering Consortium

International Conference on Reliability, Statistics, and Related Fields (ICRSRF), January 7-9, 2005
Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode Calicut, Kerala, India.

For details look at the website: http://www.iimk.ac.in/icrsrf.htm
Contact: Dr G Chaudhuri chaudhuri@iimk.ac.in or Dr R P Suresh rps@iimk.ac.in

SSC annual meeting June 12–15, 2005 Saskatoon, Canada.

For program information contact Augustine Wong at august@mathstat.yorku.ca

The D. Basu Lecture At JSM2004 in Toronto, Canada

Presented by the Friends of the Indian Statistical Institute

EVERYONE AT THE JSM2004 IS INVITED TO ATTEND

Sunday, August 8, 12:00 – 1:45 pm

An Expository Lecture and Discussions From Distinguished Researchers

The FISI (Friends of the Indian Statistical Institute) has arranged a special D. Basu Lecture to be held at the upcoming Joint Statistical Meetings in Toronto, Canada. Please note that this special session will be announced as "Friends of the Indian Statistical Institute Meeting" in the program schedule for Sunday, August 8, listed under the "Committee/Business Meetings". Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend this interesting session of expository lecture followed by discussions from distinguished researchers.

Organizer and Chair: Dipak K. Dey, University of Connecticut, Storrs

12:00-12:10: Dipak K. Dey: Introductory Remarks

12:15-13:00: Malay Ghosh, Distinguished Professor, University of Florida, Gainesville: Ancillary Statistics: A Selected Review

Abstract: Ancillary statistics, since introduced by Sir Ronald Fisher, have played a prominent role in statistical inference. Fisher recommended inference conditioned on ancillary statistics. Basu, in many of his writings, pointed out the non-uniqueness of ancillary statistics. I will discuss several examples of Basu in this regard, and the responses of contributors such as Barnard and Cox to Basu's examples. I will then touch briefly some of the later work, such as those by Efron, Hinkley, Barnard, Sprott, Barndorff-Nielsen, Cox, Reid and others. If time permits, I will also mention the recent notion of Bayesian ancillarity introduced by Severini.

13:05-13:20 Discussant: Nancy Reid, University Professor of Statistics, University of Toronto

13:25-13:30: Malay Ghosh: Rejoinder

Floor Discussion

For more information please contact Sujay Datta (sdatta@euclid.acs.nmu.edu) or Nitis Mukhopadhyay (mukhop@uconnvm.uconn.edu)

Summer School in Probability
July 10–23, 2005
Cornell University, NY

There will be a summer school in probability at Cornell University from July 10–23, 2005, sponsored by the National Science Foundation. The main program will consist of three speakers, each of whom will give a course of approximately 9 hours.

Richard Durrett, Cornell University:

Random networks: static and dynamic models

Jean-Francois Le Gall, DMA - Ecole normale superieure de Paris:

Random trees and applications

Russell Lyons, Indiana University:

Invariance in percolation, random walks, and random networks

There will be some additional talks, as well as many opportunities for informal interaction.

Support will be available for advanced graduate students and young researchers. For more information, check http://www.math.cornell.edu/~lawler/sum2005.html

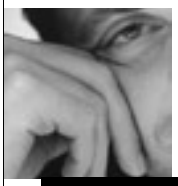
or contact Greg Lawler at lawler@math.cornell.edu

Employment Opportunities around the world

The Netherlands: Groningen

Working at the frontiers of knowledge

Working at the University of Groningen (RUG) means working at the frontiers of knowledge. The RUG offers researchers and students the opportunity to expand those frontiers, to develop their talents and together with others realise top quality achievements. The RUG therefore deliberately opts for an interdisciplinary approach to knowledge. Discoveries are born and innovation realised at the interfaces between the various scientific fields. Researchers and students in Groningen benefit from the rich assortment of disciplines that the RUG has built up since its founding nearly four hundred years ago.
Knowledge is universal and transcends boundaries. The RUG has deliberately chosen to make a priority of intensive and world-wide cooperation with other leading universities and organisations. As well as being outward looking, the RUG is also closely involved with its own region where it is one of the largest employers. The university's 20,000 students and 5,000 staff have a distinct academic identity, firmly rooted in the wider social context. They are a vital element of the vibrant city of Groningen – a great place for students and staff.



RuG

Additional information about vacancies at the RUG is available on the university web site:

www.rug.nl

The RUG has a special careers advisory service for the partners of new staff who move to the area.

The RUG is an equal opportunities employer. Because women are still underrepresented in a number of fields, they are particularly encouraged to apply.

Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences - Institute of Mathematics and Computing Science

• Two faculty positions in Probability and Statistics

One Professor
VACANCY NUMBER 204066
One Tenure Track Assistant Professor
VACANCY NUMBER 204067

The two new faculty members are to build a new group. Expertise in subfields related to life sciences is especially welcome. For the structure of the institute, see the institute's web-site www.math.rug.nl and www.cs.rug.nl

The qualifications expected from candidates and the tasks of the successful candidates are described on the website of the institute, under vacancies.

The University of Groningen can offer you a salary for a full-time job (38 hours per week), depending on qualifications and work experience:

- professor: up to a maximum of € 6592 gross per month. Employment basis: permanent (tenure).
- tenure track assistant professor: up to a maximum of € 4580 gross per month. Employment basis: tenure track.

Further information contact Prof. Dr. N. Petkov, phone +31 50 3637129, e-mail: petkov@cs.rug.nl
Websites: http://www.rug.nl/wiskunde/vacatures/vacaturesIWI
http://www.rug.nl/fwn/vacatures/vacaturesFWN

Applications with a curriculum vitae and a list of publications must be sent 4 weeks after publishing date, to: Personnel Department, University of Groningen, P.O. box 72, 9700 AB Groningen, The Netherlands or by e-mail: vmp@bureau.rug.nl
Please, specify vacancy number and level of the position you are applying for on the letter and the envelope.

Rijksuniversiteit Groningen

The Netherlands: Eindhoven

EURANDOM is a European research institute for the study of stochastic phenomena. The mission of EURANDOM is to foster research in the stochastic sciences and their applications. It achieves this mission by helping talented young researchers find their way to tenured positions in academia and industry, by carrying out and facilitating research through postdoctoral appointments, visitor exchange and workshops, and by taking initiatives for collaborative research at the European level.

The institute invites applications for the position of

SCIENTIFIC DIRECTOR

a position presently held by Professor Frank den Hollander, who will step down on September 30, 2005.

The research at EURANDOM is organized in three programmes: Statistical Information and Modelling (statistical learning, biomedical and biomolecular statistics, industrial statistics); Stochastic Networks (performance analysis of production systems, modelling and analysis of mobile communication systems, queueing theory), Random Spatial Structures (critical phenomena, disordered systems, combinatorial probability). In addition, two research projects are currently running on Battery management and Re-insurance, respectively.

The Scientific Director of EURANDOM

- is a scientist of international standing and reputation
- is an active researcher in the field of stochastic mathematics
- has a broad international network of contacts with other researchers in this field
- is prepared to extend this network to key persons in industry and government
- possesses adequate communication and human relations skills
- has competence in organisation and management.

It is deemed essential that the Scientific Director remains active in academic research and education; a part-time position at a Dutch or European university will be actively promoted. For the managerial tasks support is available from a full-time managing director and executive office.

Applicants for this position are invited to send their CV before August 31, 2004 to the President of the Board of EURANDOM, dr. J.M.M. Ritzen, EURANDOM, P.O. Box 513, 5600 MB Eindhoven, The Netherlands. More information can be obtained from: Professor W.Th.F. den Hollander (Scientific Director) or W.J.M. Senden (Managing Director), telephone + 31 40 247 8100 or from the website: http://www.eurandom.tue.nl.

Germany: Heidelberg

University of Heidelberg

The **Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Heidelberg,** invites applications for a tenured

professor position (C3) in Statistics

(a position comparable to an associate professorship).

Outstanding research and teaching achievement are required. The teaching language is German. The candidate's age at the time of appointment should not exceed 45.

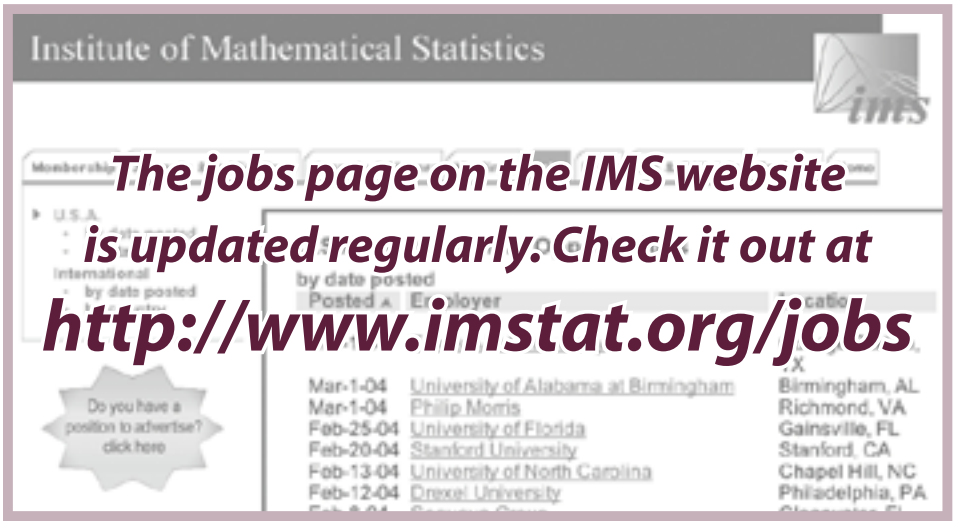
The Federal State of Baden-Württemberg intends to transpose the Federal Professorial Remuneration Reform Law into state law on 1st January 2005. For an appointment from that date, the new W remuneration arrangements are hence expected to apply.

This is essentially a permanent position. The first contract will be based on regulation § 67 Abs. 1 UG and will be temporary. Exceptions to the temporal initial contract can be made under special circumstances and especially for applicants from outside Germany or outside academia if she/he would not consider the position otherwise. Should the position be made permanent after the initial period then this will not require a new application process.

The University of Heidelberg seeks to increase the number of qualified women in teaching and research positions and strongly encourages applications of women. Handicapped applicants who are equally qualified will be shown preference.

Applications should be sent to: **Dekan, Fakultät für Mathematik und Informatik, Universität Heidelberg,** Im Neuenheimer Feld 288, D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany or to dekanat <dekanat@mathi.uni-heidelberg.de>

Send your job advert to Elyse Gustafson by July 1, 2004 for the July/August issue.
See the "Information for Advertisers" panel inside the back cover, especially if you want a logo included



USA: Texas

Head, Department of Statistics
Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas

A national search is underway to identify outstanding candidates for Head of Statistics at Texas A&M University, the fourth largest university in the nation with an enrollment of over 44,000 students and recently rated in the top 15 of public universities in the US News and World Report ranking of doctoral universities. The Department has a strong tradition of theoretical and interdisciplinary research. Current faculty members actively collaborate with members of several colleges, including Science, Agriculture and Life Sciences, Engineering, Geosciences, Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Public Health, as well as the Faculties of Genetics, Nutrition and Toxicology.

The Department has 90 graduate students, 26 full-time faculty members, and 5 lecturers. The University is committed to increasing the number of full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty to 36 by 2008. Further information about the Department, its faculty and its facilities can be found at our website: http://stat.tamu.edu.

The Department seeks an individual with a dynamic and internationally recognized research program, a sincere commitment to undergraduate and graduate education, and proven leadership skills. Applicants should send a curriculum vitae to: **Chair, Head Search Advisory Committee, Department of Statistics, 3143 TAMU, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-3143.**

The Search Advisory Committee will begin to review applications on May 15, and the review will continue until the position is filled.

Texas A&M University is an Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer. We strongly encourage applications from women, under represented ethnic groups, and individuals with disabilities.

L N M S

LECTURE NOTES – MONOGRAPH SERIES

LNMS 44

The First Erich L Lehmann Symposium: Optimality

Javier Rojo and Victor Pérez-Abreu, Editors

The First Erich L Lehmann Symposium was held in Guanajuato, México during May 2002, hosted by the Centro de Investigaciones Matemáticas (CIMAT).

The goal of this series of symposia is to examine the role that Optimality can play, or should play, in modern statistics. The articles presented here are a subset of all the papers presented during the Symposium. All papers have been refereed.

In the first article, *Optimality and Symposia: Some History*, Erich L Lehmann provides an interesting account of the development of the Neyman-Pearson lemma based on existing letters from Neyman to Pearson. In addition, Lehmann provides insights on Neyman's life and puts in perspective the history and impact of the Berkeley Symposia.

In the second paper, Juliet P Shaffer provides a thorough historical survey of the important problem of multiple testing, connecting some modern approaches to earlier work of Lehmann.

The other areas of discussion include, Nonparametric function estimation, analysis of internet traffic flow start times, k-class classification problems, stochastic approximations for studentized M-estimators in terms of U-statistics, optimality of unbiased predictors for stochastic processes, optimality from the viewpoint of the likelihood principle, and estimating proportions under order restrictions.

Price US$35

IMS Member Price US$21

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Tel: (301) 530-7029 Fax: (301) 571-5728 Email: staff@imstat.org

IMS Elections: Council Candidates' Background Information

Erwin Bolthausen

Professor, Mathematics, Univ. of Zürich

Education: Dr. Sc. Math. (1973) ETH Zurich, Habilitation (1978) Statistics, Univ. of Konstanz

Research Interests: Probability Theory; Random Media; Self-interacting Random Walks (Self-avoiding walks, Polymer measures, and the like); Large Deviations.

Previous Service to IMS: *Annals of Statistics*, Assoc. Editor (1987-89), *Annals of Probability*, Assoc. Editor (1988-93).

Brief statement: The IMS has been successful in promoting and coordinating scientific activities both in very applied statistical fields and in very theoretical research areas. It is important that the two sides are not drifting apart, and that there is maintained a fruitful communication between different branches. Both, with the publication activities and with conferences, the IMS had been very active in this enterprise. I would see it as my duty to help to maintain the high standards, and to see that emerging new branches find support. As a probabilist, I would represent this side better than the statistical side, but particularly in the past, I had strong ties to statistics as well.

Thomas J. DiCiccio

Associate Professor, Department of Social Statistics, Cornell University

Education: BSc (1977) McMaster Univ, MMath (1979) and PhD (1983) Univ. of Waterloo.

Research Interests: Asymptotics, Bayesian inference, likelihood inference, nonparametrics, resampling methods.

Previous Service to IMS: Program Chair for IMS meetings in Toronto (1994) and Banff (2002).

Brief statement: Being a valuable international organization, the IMS should make every effort to increase its membership; this is especially true in a time when membership in other statistical societies appears to be flagging. The IMS can attract new members by expanding its meetings and publishing activities. Recent efforts along these lines have proven successful, and they should be encouraged and enhanced.

Nancy Flournoy

Professor, Dept of Statistics, Univ. of Missouri

Education: PhD (1982) Univ. of Washington, MS (1971) and BS (1969) Univ. of California, Los Angeles

Research Interests: Adaptive Designs; Applications of Stochastic Processes in Experimental Design; Clinical trials Chemometrics.

Previous Service to IMS: IMS Representative to AAAS Section on Computing and Information Science

Brief statement: I have a long term interest in making "intelligent" use of accruing information from the sequential accrual of subjects in the design of experiments. The experiments I consider are too complex for dynamic programming, and for which optimal designs are functions of unknown parameters, and therefore not directly implementable. In these settings, sequential designs may have heurisitic appeal or they may provide a form of stochastic approximation to optimal designs. As a member of the IMS Council I would make decisions that reflect and promote excellence and the value of diversity in our field. It would be an honor to have this opportunity.

Friedrich Götze

Professor, Fakultät für Mathematik, Univ. Bielefeld

Education: PhD (1978) and Habilitation (1983) Cologne.

Research Interests: Asymptotic approximations in Mathematical Statistics and Probability; Resampling Methods; Convergence of Markov chains; Random spectral distributions and their applications.

Previous Service to IMS: Editor *Ann. Stat.* (1986-1996, 1998-2000, 2001-2003), Fellow of the IMS.

Brief statement: The IMS has extended its activities in organizing workshops and conferences internationally in the last years. I think that in order to increase international membership these efforts need to be extended.
Furthermore one should try to encourage workshops and meetings on topics which connect areas of Statistics and Probability with interesting fields of applications. In the last years a series of successful international workshops of that type had been initiated in Oberwolfach.

Xuming He

Professor, Dept of Statistics, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign/Program Director of Statistics, National Science Foundation

Education: PhD (1989) Univ. of Illinois

Research interests: Nonparametric and semiparametric regression; Large-sample theory; Robust statistics

Previous Service to IMS: IMS Fellow

Brief statement: I became a lifetime member of the IMS, not because I wanted to out-live others, but because I knew that I always care about mathematical statistics. We are living in an era where mathematical statisticians are blessed with unprecedented challenges and opportunities, as our beloved discipline begins to take off to play important roles in many areas of science and engineering. I am pleased to accept the nomination, and I am fully prepared to work for a society that will foster a new generation of probabilists and statisticians to meet all the challenges.

Susan Holmes

Associate Professor, Dept of Statistics, Stanford Univ

Education: BSc (1975), MS (1977) and PhD (1985) Montpellier, France

Research Interests: Multivariate Statistics; Computational Statistics: Bootstrap and nonparametric testing; Computational Biology, in particular phylogenetic trees and clustering;

Educational use of the internet; Stein's Method.
Previous Service to IMS: IMS Web Editor (1999-2002); Nominating Comm (2001); IMS nominee for the Women in Mathematics Associations Comm (2003-2004), Chair, Ad hoc Bulletin Editor Search Comm (2004)
Brief statement: I feel the IMS is a strong part of our research environment. We need a strong institution that helps us organises meetings and publishes quality papers at a minimum cost. I am eager to continue supporting the electronic dissemination of research that benefits statisticians worldwide.

Vladimir Koltchinskii

Professor, Dept of Mathematics and Statistics, Univ. of New Mexico
Education: PhD (1982) Kiev Univ, Ukraine
Research Interests: Empirical Processes, Probability in Banach Spaces, Concentration, Inequalities, Limit Theorems, Strong Approximation, Random Matrices, Nonparametric Statistics, Classification, Statistical and Computational Learning Theory, Applications of Learning Theory to Control and Brain, Imaging
Previous Service to IMS: *Annals of Statistics,* Associate Editor (2001-present).
Brief statement: The IMS is providing invaluable infrastructure for the development of Statistics and Probability. Maintaining high quality of IMS journals and facilitating their adaptation to changing environment, in particular, to growing role of electronic publications is an area especially important to me. I am also interested in developing strong connections of IMS with very active and rapidly growing groups of researchers outside Statistics and Probability, especially, in Computer Science, that are using statistical and probabilistic methods so extensively that they are essentially becoming experts in our fields. Integrating these groups into IMS is a vital task.

Russell Lyons

Professor, Dept of Mathematics, Indiana Univ
Education: BA (1979) Case Western Reserve Univ, PhD (1983) Univ. of Michigan.
Research Interests: random walks; percolation; statistical mechanics; trees; determinantal probability measures
Previous Service to IMS: None.
Brief statement: If elected, I will carry out the responsibilities of the Council with conscientiousness, thoroughness and attention to detail. I will represent the interests of probability and respect the interests of statistics.

Sonia Petrone

Associate Professor of Statistics, Institute of Quantitative Methods, Bocconi Univ, Milan, Italy
Education: Laurea/BS-MS (1984) Bocconi Univ, PhD (1989) Univ. of Trento
Research Interests: Bayesian inference, nonparametric inference, mixture models, predictive approach, dynamic models.
Previous Service to IMS: Member.
Brief statement: I would be enthusiastic of having the possibility of collaborating from inside to the activity of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. In years of fast changes, of large-scale, "team-work intensive" research, IMS has a leading role in disseminating Statistics and Probability methodology and in supporting the growth of a wide, international community, preserving the richness of diversity of approaches. I hope to contribute!

Ib M. Skovgaard

Professor, Dept of Chemistry and Biometry, The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural Univ
Education: MS (1978), PhD (1982), Dr.Sc. (1991) Univ. of Copenhagen
Research Interests: Asymptotics (higher-order); Principles of inference; Model-based and likelihood-based inference; Biological applications; Statistical genetics
Previous Service to IMS: Nomination Comm
Brief statement: The IMS is the international organization of statistics that is closest to my own line of work and view of statistics. It supports a strong theoretical basis while maintaining activities related to various statistical applications. Meetings and journals of the IMS should continue to have a high priority, but also electronic communication (website, discussion groups, etc.) should have be promoted as a key service to the members. Overall I am quite happy with the IMS and have no desire of drastic changes.

J. Michael Steele

C. F. Koo Professor of Statistics, Wharton School, Univ. of Pennsylvania
Education: PhD (1975) Stanford Univ, B.A. (1971) Cornell Univ
Research Interests: Probability and Algorithms; Probability and Finance; Financial Time Series
Previous Service to IMS: Editor, *Annals of Applied Probability*; Associate Editor, *Annals of Statistics*; Chair, Comm to Select Editors
Brief statement: The core activities of the IMS are the publication of its journals and the organization of its meetings. As a member of the IMS council my main focus would be on maintaining the excellence of these activities while supporting innovations such as expanded use of the Web and increased cooperation with other scholarly organizations.

Alan Welsh

E.J. Hannan Professor of Statistics, Centre for Mathematics and its Applications, Australian National Univ
Education: BSc (1982) Univ. of Sydney. PhD (1985) Australian National Univ
Research Interests: Statistical Inference; Statistical Modelling; Robustness; Nonparametric methods; Analysis of Sample Surveys; Ecological Monitoring.
Previous Service to IMS: Fellow; Associate Editor, *The Annals of Statistics;* Comm on Fellows; Nominating Comm
Brief statement: I have lived and worked in Australia, USA and Britain and have made several visits to Switzerland. I have a wide experience in research and teaching; I work both on theoretical and on applied problems. I enjoy collaborating with a variety of scientists and statistical scientists and actively pursue collaboration. I am an experienced consultant. I value the IMS as a highly prestigious professional society with an international scientific outlook to promoting mathematical statistics. I am very pleased to be nominated and would be honoured to serve on Council.

LECTURE NOTES – MONOGRAPH SERIES

LNMS

LNMS 43

Crossing Boundaries: Statistical Essays in Honor of Jack Hall

John E. Kolassa and David Oakes, Editors

The manuscripts in this volume represent some of the research presented at *The Symposium in Honor of the 70th Birthday of W. Jackson Hall.* This conference was held on September 25-26, 1999, at the University of Rochester in Rochester, New York.

Photo: Art Watts

W. Jackson Hall (seated, center) presented with his copy of LNMS by J. Kolassa and D. Oakes (seated L & R)

This work reflects Jack's interest in many areas of mathematical statistics, including reliability, decision theory, randomization tests, sequential analysis, large-sample theory, semiparametric inference, Bayesian methods and ROC curve analysis. Applications are given to a wide variety of disciplines, including medical device trials, health care resource management, oncology, data mining and information processing.

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International Calendar of Statistical Events

IMS meetings are highlighted in maroon with the IMS logo and new or updated entries have the NEW symbol. t means telephone, f fax, e email and w website. Please send additions and corrections to Tati Howell at bulletin@imstat.org

June 2004

June 1–3: Granada, Spain. **METMA'04: Second Spanish Workshop on Spatio-Temporal Modelling of Environmental Processes.** José M. Angulo **t** (34) 958 240492 **f** (34) 958 243267 **e** jmangulo@ugr.es or stomodst@ugr.es

June 7–11: Bressanone, Italy. **Computational and Statistical Aspects of Microarray Analysis II**. w: http://www.economia.unimi.it/marray/ or contact stefano.iacus@unimi.it

June 7-12: California State University, San Marcos. CBMS Conference: **The Combinatorics of Large Sparse Graphs.** Fan Chung Graham, lecturer. Radhika Ramamurthi and Andre Kundgen, organizers: 760-750-8095, ramamurt@csusm.edu; 760-750-8070, akundgen@csusm.edu. http://www.csusm.edu/Math/CBMS

IMS June 9–12: Protaras, Cyprus. **Workshop on Recent Advances in Time Series Analysis.** http://www.ucy.ac.cy/~rats/ Contact Theofanis Sapatinas, University of Cyprus: t.sapatinas@ucy.ac.cy

IMS NEW 13-16: Università "La Sapienza", Roma, Italy. **Fourth Workshop on Bayesian Nonparametrics: Methodology, Theory and Applications.** Contact: gabriella.salinetti@uniroma1.it, bnp2004@uniroma1.it **w** http://3w.eco.uniroma1.it/bayes/

June 16–18: Santander, Spain. **Distribution Theory, Order Statistics and Inference** - A Conference in Honor of Barry C Arnold. Organizers: Prof. N. Balakrishnan bala@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca, Prof. Enrique Castillo castie@unican.es, Prof. Jose-Maria Sarabia sarabiaj@unican.es

NEW June 21–22: Bethesda, MD. **NIH symposium on Biomedical Informatics for Clinical Decision Support: A Vision for the 21st Century. w** http://www.becon.nih.gov/symposium2004.htm

IMS June 21–25: Santa Fe, New Mexico. **MMR2004: 4th International Conference on Mathematical Methods in Reliability Methodology and Practice** http://www.stat.lanl.gov/MMR2004/index.htm

June 23–25: Nantes, France. **International Conference on Statistics in Health Sciences. w** http://www.sante.univ-nantes.fr/STAT

IMS June 27–30: Albuquerque, New Mexico. **WNAR Western Regional** Program Chair Jason Fine **e** fine@biostat.wisc.edu

June 27–July 2: Ascona, Switzerland. **Workshop on Statistics in Functional Genomics. w** http://www.stat.math.ethz.ch/talks/Ascona_04 Christina Künzli **e** kuenzli@stat.math.ethz.ch

June 28–July 1: Portland, Maine. **2004 Joint Meeting: International Environmetrics Society & Spatial Accuracy Symposium.** http://www.nrcse.washington.edu/ties/events/ties2004/default.html

July 2004

July 4–7: Sydney, Australia. **24th International Symposium on Forecasting w** http://www.isf2004.org

July 4–11: Copenhagen, Denmark. **10th International Congress on Mathematical Education. w** http://www.icme-10.dk

July 6–8: Leeds, UK. **Bioinformatics, Images, and Wavelets. e** workshop@maths.leeds.ac.uk **w** http://www.maths.leeds.ac.uk/statistics/workshop/

July 11–16: Cairns, Australia. **International Biometrics Conference 2004 and 2004 Australian Statistical Conference** Contact Lynne Billard, lynne@stat.uga.edu **w** http://www.ozaccom.com.au/cairns2004

July 14–18: Neuchâtel, Switzerland. **Celebrating Statistics: International Conference in Honour of Sir David Cox on the Occasion of his 80th Birthday. w** http://www.unine.ch/statistics/cox/welcome.htm

IMS July 17–24: Snowbird, Utah. **Joint Summer Research Conferences** IMS/AMS/SIAM sponsored **e** r.vitale@uconn.edu

July 19–24: Montreal, Canada. **Stochastic Networks Conference w** http://www.stanford.edu/group/stochnetconf/

IMS July 21–23: NUS, Singapore. **International Chinese Statistical Association Applied Statistics Symposium.** Co-sponsored meeting. IMS Rep: Louis Chen lhychen@ims.nus.edu.sg **w** http://www.statistics.nus.edu.sg/ICSA.htm

IMS July 26–30: Barcelona, Spain. **67th IMS Annual Meeting & 6th Bernoulli World Congress.** Joint Program Chair: Wilfrid Kendall wsk@stats.warwick.ac.uk Local Chair: David Nualart nualart@mat.ub.es **w** http://www.imub.ub.es/events/wc2004/

NEW July 27–31: University of Lugano, Switzerland. **Summer School on Imprecise**

Continued on **page 34**

International Calendar continued

Probabilities. Marco Zaffalon (school organizer) Senior Researcher, IDSIA, Galleria 2, CH-6928 Manno (Lugano), Switzerland. **t** +41 91 610 8665. **f** +41 91 610 8661. **e** zaffalon@idsia.ch **w** http://www.idsia.ch/~zaffalon/events/school2004/school.htm

August 2004

August 4–6: York University, Toronto. **New Researchers Conference: NRC2004** Peter Song (Program Chair), York University, song@mathstat.yorku.ca **w** http://www.math.yorku.ca/StatsSection/NRC

August 6–7: Fields Institute, Toronto. **New Directions in Probability Theory** IMS Program Chair: Maury Bramson bramson@math.umn.edu **w** http://www.imstat.org/meetings/ndpt

August 8–12: Toronto, Canada. **Joint Statistical Meetings** (ASA/IMS/ENAR/WNAR). Sponsored/Numbered. IMS Program Chair: Michael Evans, U of Toronto **e** mevans@utstat.utoronto.ca

NEW August 8: Toronto, Canada. **D Basu Lecture at JSM04**, presented by the Friends of the Indian Statistical Institute. Contact Sujay Datta sdatta@euclid.acs.nmu.edu or Nitis Mukhopadhyay mukhop@uconnvm.uconn.edu

August 15–20: The Rensselaerville Institute, Rensselaerville NY. CBMS Conference: **Non-Positive Curvature in Group Theory.** Martin Bridson, lecturer. Ted Turner, SUNY at Albany, organizer: 518-442-4610, ted@math.albany.edu. http://math.albany.edu/~ted/cbms.html

August 18-21: Bedlewo, near Poznan, Poland. 13th **International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics, in Celebration of Ingram Olkin's 80th Birthday.** Contact Augustyn Markiewicz amark@owl.au.poznan.pl or http://matrix04.amu.edu.pl/

August 23–27: Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic. **Compstat2004. w** http://www.compstat2004.cuni.cz

August 30–September 3: Laredo, Spain. **EMS Summer School: Empirical Processes and Statistical Applications** Grants available. **w** http://www.eio.uva.es/ems

September 2004

September 2–4: Oviedo, Edificio Histórico, Spain. **2nd International Conference on Soft Methods in Probability and Statistics: SMPS2004.** http://web.uniovi.es/SMPS Program Chairs: María Angeles Gil & Miguel López-Díaz (University of Oviedo). Contact: Luis J. Rodríguez-Muñiz, smps2004@correo.uniovi.es

20-24 September, 2004: Coimbra, CIM, and 26-30 September, 2004: Lisbon, Inst. Sup. Economia Gestão, Portugal. **Stochastic Finance 2004: Autumn School & International Conference.** Organizers: Chair: Maria do Rosário Grossinho (Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão, Lisbon, Portugal).W: http://pascal.iseg.utl.pt/~stochfin2004/

December 2004

December 28–30: Kandy, Sri Lanka. **International Sri Lankan Statistical Conference: Visions of Futuristic Statistical Methodologies.** Organizers: Basil M. de Silva (desilva@rmit.edu.au), Nitis Mukhopadhyay, Tim Swartz and S. Ganesalingam. **w** http://www.st.rmit.edu.au/~desilva/conference/slstat.htm

December 29–1 January 2005: Birla Science Museum, Hyderabad, India. **International Conference on the Future of Statistical Theory, Practice and Education. e** crr1@psu.edu **w** http://www.stat.ohio-state.edu/~hnn/hydstatconf.html

January 2005

January 6-8: Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India. **International Workshop/Conference on Bayesian Statistics and its Applications.** http://www.bayesian.org/ Contact S.K. Upadhyay, Convener, sku@bhu.ac.in

NEW January 7–9: Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode, Calicut, Kerala, India. **International Conference on Reliability, Statistics, and Related Fields (ICRSRF). w** http://www.iimk.ac.in/icrsrf.htm Contacts: Dr G Chaudhuri chaudhuri@iimk.ac.in or Dr R P Suresh rps@iimk.ac.in

January 12–14: Bormio, Italian Alps. Second International IMS/ISBA Joint Meeting "**MCMSki": The Past, Present and Future of Gibbs Sampling.** Brad Carlin and Antonietta Mira (Co-chairs) **w** http://eco.uninsubria.it/webdocenti/IMS-ISBA-05/

February 2005

15-17 February 2005, Beer Sheva, Israel. The International Symposium on Stochastic Models In Reliability, Safety, Security and Logistics (SMRSSL'05). Dr Ilia B. Frenkel, Industrial Engineering and Management Department, Negev Academic College of Engineering (NACE), Bialik/Bazel Sts., P.O. Box 45, Beer Sheva, 84100, ISRAEL. t: +972-8-6475642; f: +972-8-6475643; e: SMRSSL05@nace.ac.il w http://www.nace.ac.il/extra/SMRSSL05/

April 2005

April 5–12: Sydney, Australia. **ISI 2005: 55th Biennial Session.** Contact Annette Hants, isi2005@tourhosts.com.au http://

www.tourhosts.com.au/isi2005

NEW April 13–16: Cairns, Tropical North Queensland, Australia. **Fourth International Conference on Statistics in Business and Industry: ISBIS-4.** A satellite meeting to the ISI Session in Sydney. Conference Director, Nick Fisher nif@valuemetrics.com.au, **t** +61 407 017 016 **w** www.action-m.com/isbis4

May 2005

May 23-26: University of Siena, Italy. **International Conference in Memory of Two Eminent Social Scientists: C. Gini and M. O. Lorenz**. Contact Prof. Achille Lemmi, Chairman Organizing Committee:

June 2005

June 12–15: Saskatoon, Canada. **SSC2005: Annual Meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada. e** bickis@math.usask.ca

NEW Program information: Augustine Wong at august@mathstat.yorku.ca

June 26–July 1: Santa Barbara, California. **2005 Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications.** IMS Rep Raya Feldman **w** http://www.pstat.ucsb.edu/projects/spa05

July 2005

July 24–29: Oslo, Norway. **25th European Meeting of Statisticians** Organized by the Bernoulli Society. **w** http://www.ems2005.no

August 2005

August 7–11: Minneapolis, Minnesota. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2005.** IMS Program Chair: David Madigan, Rutgers University, madigan@stat.rutgers.edu; IMS Local Chair: Peihua Qiu, University of Minnesota, qiu@stat.umn.edu

July 2006

July 2–7: Salvador (Bahia) Brazil. **ICOTS7** Working Co-operatively in Statistics Education **w** http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7

July 3–6: Auckland, New Zealand. **Australian Statistics Conference & New Zealand Statistical Association Conference.** David Scott **e** d.scott@auckland.ac.nz

NEW July 10–23: Cornell University, New York. **Summer School in Probability. w** http://www.math.cornell.edu/~lawler/sum2005.html or contact Greg Lawler at lawler@math.cornell.edu

August 2006

NEW August 6–10: Washington, Seattle. **JSM2006.**

August 2007

NEW July 29 – August 2: Salt Lake City, Utah. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2007.**

August 2008

NEW August 3–8: Denver, Colorado. **JSM2008.**

August 2009

NEW August 2–6: Washington, DC. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2009.**

Volume 33 · Issue 3

In the next issue (July/ August 04)

Profiles of recent award recipients, as well as news from members around the world, meeting announcements and job opportunities. Send in your articles, feedback, letters…

Deadline for submissions: July 1, 2004

(Submissions in MS Word or plain text, please: see panel on page 2 for Bulletin contact details)

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