Volume 34 Issue 7

IMS Bulletin

August/September 2005

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2005 IMS Election Results

Congratulations to the new IMS Council members and President-Elect! Pictured in the top row [l-r]: Maury Bramson, Merlise Clyde, John Einmahl, Jun Liu, and Daniel Peña are the new members of Council. Jim Pitman [right] is the new President-Elect. All of them will be taking up their new roles at the 68th IMS Annual Meeting at the Joint Statistical Meetings which take place in Minneapolis, August 7–11.

We are pleased to announce the results of the 2005 IMS Elections. The next President-Elect will be Jim Pitman (UC Berkeley). The 5 new council members are, in alphabetical order, Maury Bramson (University of Minneapolis), Merlise Clyde (Duke University), John Einmahl (Tilburg University, The Netherlands), Jun Liu (Harvard University), and Daniel Peña (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain). A total of 860 votes were cast, with just 4 paper ballots received.

According to the IMS constitution, there are at least 15 members of Council, whi serve for three years, with the terms of approximately one third terminating at each year's Annual Meeting (you can read the IMS handbook online, or download it from http://www.imstat.org/handbook/). Retiring from Council this year are Alan Karr, J Steve Marron, Per Mykland, David W Scott, and Jane-Ling Wang. We thank them for their service.

The new council members will join Richard Gill, Hans R Künsch, Christian P Robert and Ruth J Williams, who will serve for another year, and Susan Holmes, Nancy Flournoy, Erwin Bolthausen, Michael Steele, and Xuming He, whose terms last another two years.

At which meeting was this beautiful butterfly spotted? Turn to page 16 to find out!

Photo: Ian Carlson

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Member News

2005 SSC Honorary Memberships

Honorary SSC members Ehsanes Saleh (above) and James Zidek (below)

The Statistical Society of Canada announced that Professor A K Md Ehsanes Saleh of Carleton University and Professor James V Zidek of the University of British Columbia have been awarded Honorary Memberships in the Society. An Honorary member is a statistical scientist of outstanding distinction who has contributed to the development of statistics in Canada.

Professor Emeritus A K Md Ehsanes Saleh is awarded the rank of Honorary Member of the SSC for his outstanding research and development of nonparametric methods for preliminary test and shrinkage estimation, auto-regression quantiles, and order statistics; for his superb service towards the development of graduate programs at Carleton University and the training of PhD and young postdoctoral fellows in statistics; for his dedicated service to the profession, especially in the creative organization of symposia with edited volumes. Professor Saleh is a Fellow of IMS, ASA, Royal Statistical Society and the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences, and an elected member of ISI.

Professor Zidek, who is also an IMS Fellow, has made fundamental research contributions ranging from theoretical foundations for decision making to environmental modeling of spatial air pollution data. For his work, he has been named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and was awarded the SSC Gold Medal in 2000, the Ninth Eugene Lukacs Symposium Distinguished Service Award, the Distinguished Achievement Medal of the Environmental Statistics Section of the ASA, and the Izaak Walton Killam Research Prize. He has served the statistical community in many ways, including as NSERC Group Chair of the Mathematical Sciences and President of the Statistical Society of Canada. Professor Zidek was also the first Head of UBC's Department of Statistics.

2005 CRM-SSC Prize

The Statistical Society of Canada announced today that Professor Jiahua Chen of the University of Waterloo has been awarded the CRM-SSC Prize for 2005. The SSC-CRM Prize is awarded annually by the Statistical Society of Canada and the Centre de recherches mathématiques in recognition of a statistical scientist's professional accomplishments in research during the first fifteen years after earning a doctorate.

Professor Chen's research is remarkable for its breadth, depth and quality. Within 15 years of his PhD, he has made major sustained contributions to three areas: design of experiments, inference for mixtures, and survey methodology. Professor Chen combines powerful mathematical ability with keen insight into what is important statistically. His work combines deep theory and practical methodology for dealing with difficult issues. Professor Chen has written papers on many other topics including fish surveys, fractals, genetics and robust estimation.

Shelemyahu Zacks receives Haifa University Honorary DPhil

Nitis Mukhopadhyay reports: Professor Shelemyahu Zacks of Binghamton University, New York, has been awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Haifa. The citation for the Honoris Causa degree was for his "innovative and multifarious contribution to the study of statistics and the advancement and development of applied statistics in various scientific fields; and in token of his longstanding aid to the University of Haifa's Department of Statistics through teaching and research."

Professor Zacks is best known for his groundbreaking research on change-point and common mean problems, Bayes sequential strategies and reliability analysis. He made fundamental contributions in naval research and other defense related areas. He is widely published, with more than 150 journal articles, and his authoritative book, *The Theory of Statistical Inference* (1971, Wiley). Many hold him in the highest esteem as a mentor.

Professor Zacks is an elected Fellow of IMS, ASA, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. See "A Conversation with Shelemyahu Zacks" by Nitis Mukhopadhyay (2005, *Statist. Sci.*, no. 1, vol 20, pp. 89-110) for more details about Professor Zacks.

Scott Grimshaw receives 2005 Hartley Award

Dr Scott Grimshaw is the 2005 recipient of the H O Hartley Award given by the Texas A&M Department of Statistics. The H O Hartley Award is given annually to a former student of the Department of Statistics at Texas A&M University for distinguished service to the discipline of statistics.

Dr Grimshaw is a Professor in the Department of Statistics at Brigham Young University. He received his PhD from Texas A&M in 1989 under the direction of Professor Emanuel Parzen. The Hartley Award is in honor of the founder of the department, H O Hartley. The award committee attempts to select a recipient who parallels Dr Hartley's well-rounded career. Dr Grimshaw's career has not only included distinguished service, but has demonstrated excellence in teaching, research and consulting. In the spirit of H O Hartley, Dr Grimshaw is a great teacher; his research is characterized by developing new statistical methodology to provide solutions to real-world problems arising from business and engineering. An outstanding example of this research is his paper in *Technometrics*, "Eliciting Factor Importance in a Designed Experiment", for which he received the 2001 Wilcoxon Prize. His service contributions and outreach activities are extensive. The Hartley Award will be presented to Dr Grimshaw during the Aggie Reunion on August 8, 2005 at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Minneapolis.

Herman Otto Hartley (1912–1980) was an IMS Fellow. The H O Hartley Award is given annually by Texas A&M University in his memory

More News of Members

News from Texas A&M University:

Elaine Washington reports on these three IMS members.

Statistics Department Welcomes New Department Head

Professor Simon J Sheather has been named the new Head of the Department of Statistics, from March, moving from the Australian Graduate School of Management at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia where he served as the head of Statistics and Operations Group as well as the Associate Dean of Research. Among his achievements are: ranking in the top 200 mathematicians worldwide; the inaugural AGSM Award for Excellence in Research; and a 3-time recipient of the AGSM Alumni Association Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Suojin Wang Wins Distinguished Achievement Award

The Association of Former Students has selected statistics professor Suojin Wang as the recipient of a Distinguished Teaching Award. This award recognizes and rewards superior classroom teachers whose teaching methodologies, communication skills, and commitment to the learning process exemplify the meaning of teacher in its highest sense. Dr Wang is rated remarkably highly by undergraduate and graduate students throughout Texas A&M. An undergraduate engineering student wrote, "I had taken no statistics courses prior to entering Dr Wang's class, and after I left I had a deeper understanding and respect for not only the subject, but also the teacher who taught it so well."

H Joseph Newton Receives Award in Administration

Statistics professor and Dean of the College of Science, H Joseph Newton received this year's only Distinguished Award for Administration from the Association of Former Students. This award recognizes an administrator who has contributed to the welfare of Texas A&M through outstanding administrative service beyond the expectation of the position. In addition to his busy schedule as Dean, Dr Newton remains an active scholar and teacher, both in the classroom and as a mentor to graduate students. Among his service activities, Dr Newton chairs the Research Environment Council, one of four university-wide councils that were established in 2003 to afford faculty and academic leaders greater influence in guiding the university's development. One of his colleagues wrote, "Dr Newton has had a tremendously positive impact on the College of Science and Texas A&M as a whole."

AAPOR Innovators Awards

The American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) has presented the 2005 Innovators Award for public opinion research to two IMS members, Miron L Straf and Judith M Tanur, who, together with Thomas Jabine and Roger Tourangeau, created the **Interdisciplinary Workshop on Cognitive Aspects of Survey Methodology.**

Miron L Straf is Deputy Director of the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education at the National Academies. He has over 30 years' experience in teaching, research, and research management at the University of California, Berkeley; the London School of Economics and Political Science; the National Academy of Sciences; and the NSF. Dr Straf is a nationally recognized expert and senior adviser in government statistics, the federal statistical system, statistical evidence in the courts, and the use of information for public policy decision making. He received a PhD in statistics in 1969 from the University of Chicago.

Judith M Tanur attended Antioch College and received a BS in psychology in 1957 and an MA in Mathematical Statistics in 1963, both from Columbia University. In 1972 she received a PhD in sociology from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. She has taught at Stony Brook since 1967, where she is now Distinguished Teaching Professor. She is a Fellow of ASA and the American Association of Arts and Sciences and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. Dr Tanur is author or co-author of eight books and over 60 papers.

The AAPOR Innovators Award is designed to recognize accomplishments in the fields of public opinion and survey research that occurred in the past ten years, or that had their primary impact on the field during the past decade. These innovations could consist of new theories, ideas, applications, methodologies or technologies. The award can be given to individuals, groups or institutions.

The 2005 Innovators Award honors the invention of a workshop of scientists from two different fields—cognitive psychology and survey methodology—to discuss the possibility that they could, through sharing concepts and insights, improve their understanding of their individual domains. AAPOR salutes this unusual gathering for its catalyzing effect on research on survey measurement.

The workshop has led to the creation of cognitive laboratories in federal statistical agencies and in many larger survey organizations, the expansion of the survey community by the addition of new researchers trained in cognitive psychology, the application of protocol analysis and cognitive interviewing techniques, and an explosion of experimentation in question wording.

Mark van der Laan named Myrto Lefkopoulou Distinguished Lecturer

The Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health, has named Mark van der Laan, University of California at Berkeley, as the 2005 Myrto Lefkopoulou Distinguished Lecturer. Professor van der Laan will present a lecture on Thursday, September 15 at Harvard School of Public Health. The title of the lecture is *"History Adjusted Marginal Structural Models: Applications in AIDS Research"*. A reception will be held following the lecture.

The lectureship was established in perpetuity in memory of Dr Myrto Lefkopoulou, a faculty member and graduate of Harvard School of Public Health. Dr Lefkopoulou tragically died of cancer in 1992 at the age of 34 after a courageous two-year battle. She was deeply beloved by friends, students and faculty.

Each year the Myrto Lefkopoulou Lectureship is awarded to a promising statistician who has made contributions to either collaborative or methodologic research in the applications of statistical methods to biology or medicine and/or has shown excellence in the teaching of biostatistics. Ordinarily, the lectureship is given to a statistician within 15 years of receiving an earned doctorate.

Previous recipients of the Lefkopoulou Memorial Lectureship have been Michael Boehnke, Ronald S Brookmeyer, Brad Carlin, Steven N Goodman, Trevor Hastie, Hans-Georg Mueller, Giovanni Parmigiani, Kathryn Roeder, Louise Ryan, Danyu Lin, Marie Davidian, and Geert Molenberghs.

Nominate

Nominations for next year's lectureship are welcome and should be sent to:

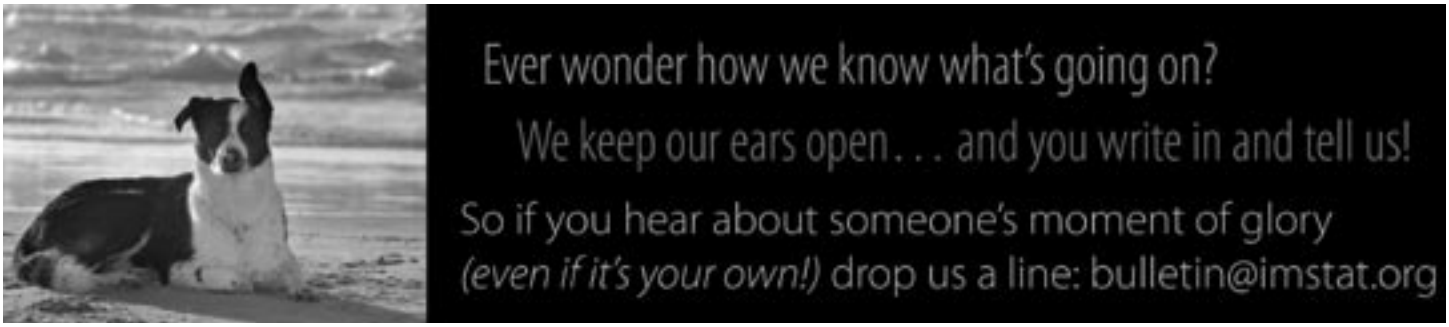
Myrto Lefkopoulou Lecture Committee,
Department of Biostatistics,
Harvard School of Public Health,
655 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115.

Nominations should include a letter of nomination and a CV. The deadline for submission of nominations is March 15, 2006.

Sam Efromovich to speak at Abraham Wald Prize Ceremony in Sequential Analysis at JSM

Presented by *Sequential Analysis Journal*
Tuesday, August 9, 2005: 12:30 - 2:00 pm
Hilton Minneapolis, Room Conrad D
EVERYONE AT JSM 2005 IS INVITED TO ATTEND
Organizer and Chair: Nitis Mukhopadhyay, Editor of *Sequential Analysis,* University of Connecticut, Storrs
12:30-12:50: Award Ceremony
12:55-1:40: Sequential Analysis Editor's Special Invited Paper Speaker: Professor Sam Efromovich, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of New Mexico: *Sequential Nonparametric Curve Estimation and Wald's Ideas: Theory and Applications*

Abstract: The theory and methods of sequential and minimax inference, pioneered by Abraham Wald in the 1940s, have shaped the way statisticians view this field today. This lecture will aim at discussing Wald's approaches via the modern theory and applications of nonparametric curve estimation. Recent results on the Oracle analysis and sharp minimax adaptive sequential estimation will be presented. Considered theoretical settings include density estimation and regression. Practical applications, whose discussion will be the primary topic of this lecture, include financial and civil engineering examples.
1:40-2:00: Floor Discussion
Sponsored by Taylor & Francis, *Sequential Analysis*
Need more information? Please contact Nitis Mukhopadhyay
mukhop@uconnvm.uconn.edu



Obituary: George Bernard Dantzig

1914–2005

George Bernard Dantzig, Professor Emeritus of Operations Research and Computer Science at Stanford University, died on May 13, 2005, at the age of 90.

Dantzig's most famous achievements — the formulation of linear programming, the primal and dual optimization problems and their solution by the simplex method — earned him many honors, including the National Medal of Science in 1975. Dantzig, an IMS Fellow, was also a member of the National Academy of Engineering, the National Academy of Science, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, as well as the recipient of eight honorary degrees. He is regarded by many as the "Father of Linear Programming".

While these aspects of his work lie outside of statistics, Dantzig began his academic career as a statistician. After obtaining his MS in Mathematics from the University of Michigan in 1938, he worked as a Junior Statistician at the Bureau of Labor Statistics until 1939, when he became Jerzy Neyman's first American student at Berkeley.

From 1941–1946 his studies were perforce interrupted by the Second World War, during which he served as Head of the Combat Analysis Branch, USAF Headquarters Statistical Control. For this work he was awarded the War Department Exceptional Service Medal.

He obtained his PhD in Mathematics from Berkeley in 1946. His dissertation consisted of the solution to two problems: at least one of which, the generalized Neyman-Pearson Lemma, remains notable. His path to this thesis has become legendary, and purportedly inspired the recent film *Good Will Hunting*.

One day Dantzig arrived late for Neyman's graduate theory class. He saw two problems written on the board which he assumed were the day's homework. Some weeks later he turned in solutions to Neyman apologizing for his lateness and remarking that these problems "seemed harder to do than usual." Indeed, Neyman had written down two major unsolved problems of the field at the time: the multivariate generalization of the Neyman-Pearson Lemma, and the non-existence of a non-trivial test for $\mu=0$ in the classical Gaussian one sample problem whose power function did not depend on sigma. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Dantzig is survived by his wife Anne S Dantzig, his daughter Jessica Klass (who is married to Michael Klass, currently a faculty member in the Berkeley Statistics Department), his sons David and Paul Dantzig, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

The family requests that donations be made to the George B Dantzig Dissertation Award, INFORMS, 7240 Parkway Drive, Suite 310, Hanover, MD 21076.

Peter Bickel
Department of Statistics, University of California at Berkeley

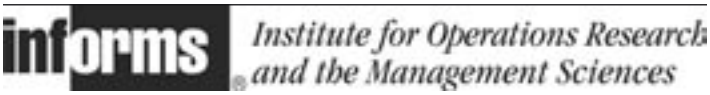
More information about the life of George Dantzig is available online at http://www.informs.org/Prizes/whoisDantzig.html and at http://www.umass.edu/wsp/statistics/tales/dantzig.html

Medallion Lecture Preview: Art Owen

A Quasi-Monte Carlo Metropolis Algorithm

Art's lecture will be given at JSM on August 8, 2–3.30pm in MCC:200F.

Recent decades have brought many improvements to Monte Carlo (MC) methods. Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) methods have greatly extended the applicability of MC techniques. Parallel efforts in quasi-Monte Carlo (QMC) sampling have brought significant improvements in accuracy, improving the rate of convergence. This talk presents a combination of QMC and MCMC methods. Some QMC constructions give completely uniformly distributed (CUD) points. CUD points can be used to drive Metropolis-Hastings sampling and give consistent results. CUD sampling is like using the entire period of a small random number generator. Variance reductions as high as 200-fold have been observed in a Gibbs sampling example with QMC-MCMC. This is based on joint work with Seth Tribble. Open access article at http://www.pnas.org/cgi/reprint/0409596102v1



INFORMS, the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences, sponsors the George B Dantzig Dissertation Award. This award, first presented in 1994, is given "for the best dissertation in any area of operations research and the management sciences that is innovative and relevant to practice. The award was established to encourage academic research that combines theory and practice and stimulates greater interaction between doctoral students (and their advisors) and the world of practice."

The 2005 award deadline has just passed. See http://www.informs.org/Prizes/DantzigAward.html

Obituary: Adhir Kumar Basu

1941–2005

Adhir Kumar Basu, Professor of Statistics at the University of Calcutta in India, and the former Chair of the Department of Statistics, passed away peacefully on April 25, 2005 at the age of 66. Basu made important contributions to probability theory, mathematical statistics, statistical inference and time series analysis.

Adhir Kumar Basu received his bachelor degree from the Presidency College, Calcutta (under the University of Calcutta), a master's degree from University of Calcutta and Purdue University, and doctoral degree from Purdue University under the supervision of Y S Chow. During his career he worked in many institutions around the world, including in Canada Queen's University, Laurantian University, University of Regina, McMaster University, and University of Ottawa; CIMAT in Mexico; University of Brasilia in Brazil; and in the US, University of Illinois, Chicago and University of California, Santa Barbara; and the Indian Statistical Institute. He was a faculty member at the University of Calcutta from 1982-2004.

Adhir Basu began his research in the area of probability theory, in particular invariance theory, law of iterated logarithm, rate of convergence to CLT and others. Later he developed his interest in the area of density estimation, time series analysis, and statistical inference. His research interest encompassed both independent and dependent variables. He published more than eighty research papers, the first of which was in the *Annals of Mathematical Statistics* in 1971.

Basu was a Fulbright scholar and received research fellowships from NSF, NRC and NSERC (Canada), UGC (India) and others.

He was a member of IMS, the International Statistical Association, the Bernoulli Society, Statistical Science Association, Academica Sinica, International Society for Bayesian Analysis, Calcutta Statistical Association, Indian Statistical Association, Indian Statistical Institute, and others. He was a regular reviewer for *American Mathematical Review* and *Zentralblatt MATH*. He was associated with the editorial board of various journals of repute and he was the founder editor of the journal *Stochastic Modeling and Application.* He wrote two books: 'Measure Theory and Probability' (Prentice Hall of India) and 'Stochastic Processes for Statistics' (Narosa, New Delhi, India). He was also one of the editors for the *Proceeding Volume of the Third International Calcutta Triennial Symposium* (Oxford University Press). He guided 6 PhD dissertations.

He is warmly remembered by his students, colleagues and friends as being an excellent academician. Basu is survived by his wife Bandana and son Rick. May his departed soul rest in peace.

Debasis Bhattacharya, Visva-Bharati University and Sugata Sen Roy, University of Calcutta

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)

Nominations Sought for Marvin Zelen Leadership Award in Statistical Science

The Department of Biostatistics at the Harvard School of Public Health named Ross L Prentice, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Public Health Sciences, as the recipient of the 2005 Marvin Zelen Leadership Award in Statistical Science. Dr Prentice delivered a lecture entitled "Chronic Disease Prevention: Research Strategies and Needs" on June 3 at Harvard University.

This annual award, supported by colleagues, friends and family, was established to honor Dr Marvin Zelen's long and distinguished career as a statistician and his major role in shaping the field of biostatistics.

The award recognizes an individual in government, industry, or academia, who by virtue of his/her outstanding leadership has greatly impacted the theory and practice of statistical science. While individual accomplishments are considered, the most distinguishing criterion is the awardees contribution to the creation of an environment in which statistical science and its applications have flourished. The award recipient will deliver a public lecture on statistical science at the Harvard School of Public Health and will be presented with a citation and an honorarium.

Nominations for next year's award, to be given in June 2006, should be sent to the *Marvin Zelen Leadership 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 vitae. Supporting letters and materials would be extremely helpful to the committee.

All nominations must be received by November 1, 2005.

Annual Survey reports rise in temp positions

Nicole Lazar reports: The Annual Survey of the Mathematical Sciences is directed by a joint committee of the AMS, ASA, IMS and MAA. The 2004 Annual Survey represents the forty-eighth in an annual series begun in 1957 by the American Mathematical Society. The 2004 Annual Survey Second Report has been published in the *Notices of the American Mathematical Society*. The second report updates the first report with additional data (40 additional new PhD recipients in 2003-2004), as well as providing information from a survey of the new PhD recipients. Some highlights are shown below.

Full copies of all reports published since 1996 are available at http://www.ams.org/employment/surveyreports.html.

There were 1081 new doctoral recipients in the Mathematical Sciences from US universities in 2003–04. This is the highest number since 2000–01. Probability, Statistics and Biostatistics doctorates continue to form the largest group, with 346 (32%). The next largest group is Algebra and Number Theory, with 151 new PhDs.

In this summary, we focus on the new data reported from the Employment Experiences of New Doctoral Recipients (EENDR) survey. These data are not broken down by field of study, so we report on the figures as a whole, with no separate discussion for statistics.

914 of the 1041 recipients from the first report had known addresses. These were sent the EENDR survey in October of 2004; 525 responded. As might be expected, response rates differed according to type of employment. The highest response rate was among those employed in US academic institutions. The lowest response rate was among those employed in non-US, non-academic institutions (62% for the former versus 38% for the latter).

A disturbing new employment trend is that among the 449 new PhD recipients starting jobs in the US in Fall 2004, slightly more than half (229) were in "temporary" positions. This is the first time in the last five years for which the number of temporary positions is greater than the number of permanent positions. Of the 229 in temporary jobs, 81 reported that they could not find a suitable permanent position.

Among those employed in the US in permanent positions, the percentages employed in academic positions rose steadily from 59% in Fall 2000 to a high of 76% in Fall 2003, decreasing slightly to 72% this past year. Correspondingly, among those with permanent positions the proportion in business and industry was 41% in Fall 2000 and 28% in Fall 2004, a slight rise over Fall 2003.

Of the 229 individuals with temporary employment in the US, 97% this year were in academia. This is higher than the proportion in recent years, but not dramatically so.

The median age of new doctoral recipients was 31 years, while the mean was 33 years. This represents a slight increase over the previous six years, in which the median has generally been 30 and the mean 32.

In Other News: More SSC Awards

SSC Gold Medal

The Statistical Society of Canada (SSC) has awarded the 2005 SSC Gold Medal to Dr David Andrews of the University of Toronto. The award is made to a person who has made substantial contributions to statistics, or to probability, either to mathematical developments or in applied work. Professor Andrews was awarded the Gold Medal for his pioneering research contributions in the areas of robustness, graphics and symbolic computation, for his leadership at the University of Toronto and in the Canadian statistics profession, and for inspiring many students with his infectious teaching and his love of statistical science.

SSC Pierre Robillard Award

Dr Zeny Zhe-Qing Feng has been awarded the Pierre Robillard Prize for 2005 for her PhD thesis "Statistical Methods in Affected Sib Pairs Analysis". The thesis, which is co-supervised by Professors Mary Thomson and Jiahua Chen, concerns the analysis of data on Identical By Descent sharing of gene forms by pairs of siblings affected by an inheritable disease.

Through a methodology in statistical genetics called linkage analysis, affected sib pair data help scientists to determine the approximate positions on chromosomes of genes contributing to the disease. The thesis advances this methodology by using probabilistic modeling to provide new and better threshold levels for several linkage test statistics. Dr Feng is currently a postdoctoral student at Yale University. She plans to continue her research on problems in the fast-moving field of statistical genetics.

The Robillard Prize is awarded annually by the Society to the doctoral student defending the best thesis in the previous year. The criteria used in the assessment include the originality of the ideas and techniques, the possible applications and their treatment and the potential impact on the statistical sciences.

Bayesian Analysis and Electronic Publication

The International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA) is launching a new journal, *Bayesian Analysis*. The appearance of this journal should be of interest both to people who study and use Bayesian statistical methods, and to those who are concerned with electronic publication of journals. *Bayesian Analysis* is electronic and freely available at http://ba.stat.cmu.edu. It is dedicated to rapid editorial turnaround and publication of manuscripts. Its founding editors are Alicia Carriquiry, Phil Dawid, David Heckerman, Xiao-Li Meng, Christian Robert, Fabrizio Ruggeri, and Dalene Stangl, with Michael Jordan joining the board later this year.

Content of the Journal

Bayesian Analysis seeks to publish a wide range of articles that demonstrate or discuss Bayesian methods in some theoretical or applied context. The journal welcomes submissions involving presentation of new computational and statistical methods; reviews, criticism, and discussion of existing approaches; historical perspectives; description of important scientific or policy application areas; case studies; and methods for experimental design, data collection, data sharing, or data mining. Evaluation of submissions will be based on importance of content and effectiveness of communication.

We currently anticipate the following articles will appear in the first issue: S Fienberg: *"When did Bayesian Inference become 'Bayesian'?";* A Gelfand, J Silander, S Wu, A Latimer, P Lewis, A Rebelo and M Holder: *"Explaining Species Distribution Patterns Through Hierarchical Modeling"* with commentary by J Hoeting and J VerHoef; J Andrade and A O'Hagan, *"Bayesian robustness modelling using regularly varying distributions";* D Blei and M Jordan, *"Variational inference for Dirichlet process mixtures";* C Holmes and L Held: *"Bayesian auxiliary variable models for binary and multinomial regression";* L House, M Clyde and Y Huang: *"Bayesian Identification of Differential Gene Expression Induced by Metals in Human Bronchial Epithelial Cells"*

Electronic publication & responsive refereeing

Slow refereeing has been a chronic problem in statistics. As Carroll (2001, *Biometrics*, 57: 1-6) has argued, fixing this requires a fundamental change in attitude. *Bayesian Analysis* is attempting to force some degree of change by

(1) using a large board of editors and associate editors who are committed to handling papers reasonably quickly,
(2) creating an electronic manuscript-handling system that both reduces bookkeeping overhead for editors and allows them to track progress easily; and
(3) putting in place some oversight procedures devoted specifically to identifying and handling bad situations.

A reasonable goal is to provide reports to authors within 10 weeks of submission on at least 80% of articles submitted. We have achieved this goal for the approximately 50 papers handled to date. A key component of the process is our manuscript-handling system, which was designed to reduce the organizational effort required of editors and associate editors and, in addition, relieve the editorial assistant from most of these chores as well (thereby reducing the assistant's job to only a few hours per week, and making the cost of running the journal very small). Because ISBA is a small society, we could not afford a commercial system with the characteristics we envisioned. We therefore decided to create our own. Written in PHP/MySQL, and constructed with supervisory advice from our Electronic Production Manager, Pantelis Vlachos, the system has the following features:

* Articles are submitted in PDF format and are accessible to relevant referees and editorial board members on the system web site.
* Articles are tracked by a unique article reference number, and authors may use this number to check on the status of a submitted article.
* Editors, AEs and referees may view a list of the articles assigned to them, and may then examine the history and current status of any of these articles.
* Editors have access to an editorial load monitor so that AEs can be picked taking account of load over the past 12 months.
* When an editor, AE, or referee does not respond quickly the system automatically sends an email reminder, with a copy sent to the editor and/or AE and also to a managing editor in charge of identifying delinquency.
* Letters to authors are composed by Editors, checked by the Editor-in-Chief, and sent to authors using the system; then archived by the system, accessible to relevant past and future reviewers.
* The system allows editors, AEs, and referees to compose messages for other users of the system and archives all such correspondence. This is intended to help with organization of all internal email discussion concerning an article.
* The system maintains logs of all editorial activities related to each article.
* We expect publication on the website to occur with minimal delay (in the order of 1 day) once the authors have submitted their final, corrected article in LaTeX, with figures in postscript.

We intend to make this system available to others who wish to do their own editing and publishing on the web.

Rob Kass
Editor-in-Chief, Bayesian Analysis

Terence's Stuff: *Going to China*

Terry Speed is off to Beijing for the first joint meeting between IMS and the Chinese Society of Probability and Statistics.

As I write this, I am preparing for my departure to China, to participate in the first meeting of the IMS and the Chinese Society of Probability and Statistics (CSPS) in Beijing. I'll be representing the IMS formally at one or more dinners, and I'll be doing so informally the rest of the time.

In both formal and informal situations I'll be telling everyone how delighted I am to be there, to be able to strengthen the IMS's ties with what can only be described as the world's largest producer of probabilists and statisticians. That will be easy: I have many friends—current and former students and colleagues—who grew up and did their initial statistical training in China, many of whom work there now. I really do welcome the opportunity to see and hear them on their own turf, to participate in one of their conferences, to be in the minority for a change, and to be their guest, one among many others from ROW (the Rest Of the World, a team I play for frequently, in different places). And I look forward to enjoying the food, the surroundings, and the culture more generally. (The heat and the traffic are another matter.)

But what else is there to be gained from the CSPS meeting the IMS, apart from a warm feeling, and outstanding tourism opportunities for us from ROW?

Well, we have much to learn from each other. My overwhelming impression is that the locals are concerned with learning about the latest, most exciting and important research in probability and statistics from ROW, in the hope that this knowledge will have a positive impact on teaching and research trends in China. I expect that the IMS visitors will meet this challenge. There will be presentations by people from over 40 universities and institutes in China, most of which are quite unfamiliar to Western participants. So we can all learn about the research in our field that goes on in China, and the circumstances under which it is conducted.

Many of the IMS visitors left China to study in Europe or North America, and stayed working there, and we can expect their contributions to the meeting and interactions to be especially important, as they are familiar with 'both worlds'.

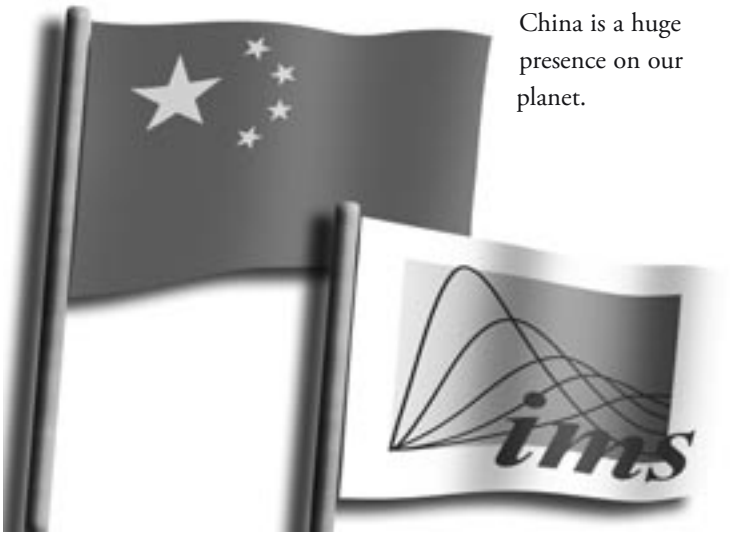
The leadership of Chinese statistics is undergoing a transformation, with people whose education and training predate the Cultural Revolution (~1966–76) coming up to retirement. The gap caused by the Cultural Revolution has long been evident, but it is not the only one. Relatively few of the students who left China after the mid-1980s to train in ROW have returned, and so the gap extends well beyond the Cultural Revolution.

Of course, there are first-rate researchers in China: the breadth and depth of the conference program testifies to that. But no country can expect to build a world-class research base in a field if many of the best and brightest in that field leave for graduate work overseas, and never return… though this exodus is slowing, and perhaps even reversing. None of these issues is unique to China; many of us from ROW will have experiences and knowledge to share.

One specific topic of interest to me is interdisciplinary research. This is hard enough to get going in the West, and it seems harder still in China. Attitudes, interpersonal relations, general openness, and patterns of authority all play a role in getting started and continuing such collaborative activities. I'm looking forward to hearing about Chinese experience in this area, and to learning whether any of my experience is relevant. In a different direction, I'm eagerly anticipating my visit to the Beijing Genome Institute, where I hope to see the fruits of their astonishing progress first-hand. They started from scratch in 1998, contributed one percent of the human genome sequence three years later, and a produced a complete rice genome shortly after that.

Finally, I expect to see and discuss with Chinese friends some of the matters we read about in our newspapers, such as the positive and negative aspects of China's remarkable economic progress, and I'll certainly be wondering about human rights, and where China is going in the near future.

Whatever we think about these matters, ignoring them is not an option. Chinese probabilists and statisticians are a huge component of our profession, and China is a huge presence on our planet.



Meet the Members

Continuing our regular slot, some IMS members reveal a little of themselves…

Robert Adler

Professor
Technion–Israel Institute of Technology

How many years have you been a member of the IMS?

32: I joined in 1973, the year I started my PhD, and as a consequence have full sets of the *Annals of Probability*, *Applied Probability*, and *Statistics*. The cover on *Ann Prob* Vol 1, Issue 1 has nearly fallen off by now—it was a great opening issue and Ron Pyke did a fantastic job putting it together.

If you could have any other occupation, assuming money is not an object, what would it be?

Given that the only assumption that I am allowed to change here is financial, and I am not allowed to change my personality, abilities, early education etc, I guess I would have to say that rather than being a mere probabilist, I would choose to be an incredibly rich probabilist.

Where is your favorite place to travel and why?

Definitely Jerusalem. We take almost all our holidays there. There is really no other city in the world that has as wide a blend of cultures, religions and peoples, with history that calls out at every turn. On every visit we find new things to see and do. Sometimes they are new because they have only just been built, but more often they are "new" because they have only recently been uncovered, seeing the light for the first time in two or three thousand years.

The most useful invention is...

…definitely the television remote control, since it allows me to change channels without having to put my laptop down. Aside from that, it has brought me fame and world renown.

Tell us something that others might find surprising about you.

I receive many letters each year from school students the world over asking me about my invention of the TV remote (*cf.* "fame and world renown" above). Unfortunately, it was another Robert Adler who came up with the idea (as well as many others - he was a prolific inventor, with over 150 US Patents) when working for Zenith in the 1950s.

Jianqing Fan

Professor of Statistics and Financial Engineering
Princeton University

How many years have you been a member of the IMS? 17 years

If you could have any other occupation, assuming money is not an object, what would it be?

I love my own profession. But if I had to, I would choose Economics as my profession.

Where is your favorite place to travel and why?

Rome and Paris. They have my favoriate Italian and French foods and artitecture.

The most useful invention is...

…the mobile phone as I am always happy to talk with my friends. I don't like emails: they are boring.

Tell us something that others might find surprising about you?

I have taken only one midterm exam in my life… and got 0 on my hypothesis testing class at the midterm! (after taking a more advanced Le Cam type of asymptotic class with grade A+).

Fadoua Balabdaoui

Doctor, Institut für Mathematische Stochastik, Georg-August-Universität, Göttingen, Germany
Member of the IMS for less than a year

If you could have any other occupation, assuming money is not an object, what would it be?

Arabic teacher

Where is your favorite place to travel and why?

Morocco, because I still have a lot to learn about my country

The most useful invention is...

…the pen

Tell us something that others might find surprising about you

I am shy

Profile: Martin Barlow, FRS

Terry Lyons writes: Martin Barlow comes from a family with a long tradition of distinction and academic life. He has kept with this tradition, and is now one of the world's most distinguished probabilists.

Martin started to learn mathematics seriously as an undergraduate at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he learned to tackle 'impossible' problems under the guidance of Béla Bollobás. On graduating, he went on to take the diploma in statistics and then for his PhD, he left the ivory towers to work with David Williams in Swansea. This was a critical and brave move, but as David Williams was, and is, one of the strongest probabilists that the UK has ever had, it was certainly not a sacrifice in the scientific sense. In the late Seventies stochastic processes were still in an early stage of development and Martin played an important part in developing the subject as we know it today. In particular his thesis is one of the origins of the concept of enlargement of filtration. This topic remains of importance today: for example, it can be used to discuss the different amounts of information which various participants in a financial market might possess.

After a postdoc with James Taylor in Liverpool, Martin returned to Cambridge with a Prize Research Fellowship at Trinity and then a University Lectureship. In 1985 he was awarded a Royal Society University Research Fellowship which he held until he moved to his current institution, the University of British Columbia, in 1992. Over this period, Barlow's scientific career developed substantially into new areas, and he is recognised today as one of the leading specialists in the study of diffusions on fractal-like domains. Fractal domains are the mathematical model for an environment where are the usual space-time scaling relation breaks down, and as one moves to fine and finer scales there seemed to be bigger and bigger obstacles. It is already remarkable that one can develop a mathematical theory for diffusion processes in such environments as there are no local charts or manifold structures to be used. But by exploiting the recent developments on heat kernel bounds which were developed initially by Varopoulos and Davies to deal with more classical spaces, Barlow obtained deep results on the behaviour of these anomalous diffusions. These results have potential to affect our understanding of diffusion of contaminants in soil, transport properties of polymers, and diffusions on critical percolation clusters. Martin's recent work on the last of these applications is amazing for the way that it brings methods and technologies developed to describe the continuous setting of PDEs, Harnack inequalities, and so on, into very effective use in describing percolation behaviour.

Martin Barlow is a charming and thoughtful person. He has had a number of distinguished graduate students who are themselves distinguished, and has been recognised in many ways. For example, he was invited to speak at the International Congress in Kyoto (1990), and received the Rollo Davidson Prize in 1984, and the Junior Whitehead Prize of the London Mathematical Society in 1990. He was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1998. Martin has served the IMS on the Committee on Nominations and as Editor of Electronic Communications in Probability. He was elected IMS Fellow in 1991.

Call for Proposals for BIRS 2007 Scientific Programme

Nassif Ghoussoub, BIRS Scientific Director, writes: The Banff International Research Station for Mathematical Innovation and Discovery (BIRS) is now accepting proposals for its 2007 programme. Full information, guidelines, and online forms are available at the website, http://www.pims.math.ca/birs

BIRS is aiming for a 48-week scientific programme in 2007. Each week, the station will be running either a full workshop (40 people for 5 days) or two half-workshops (20 people for 5 days). As usual, BIRS provides full meals, accommodation, and research facilities at no cost to the organizers and to the invited participants, in a setting conducive to research and collaboration.

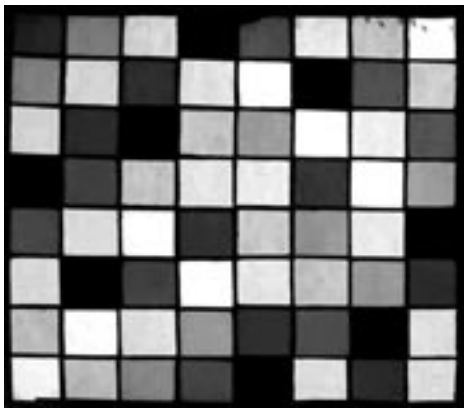
The deadline for 5-day Workshop and Summer School proposals is October 14, 2005.

In addition BIRS will operate its *Research in Teams* and *Focused Research Groups* programmes, which allow smaller groups of researchers to get together for several weeks of uninterrupted work at the station. Details at the Submit proposals online at the address above.

Profile: David Spiegelhalter, FRS

David Spiegelhalter has been elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society, acknowledging his many pioneering contributions to theoretical and practical aspects of statistical methodology, including Bayesian approaches to clinical trials, innovative contributions to artificial intelligence, development of Bayesian graphical modelling and leadership in the BUGS software project, as well as contributions to the area of performance monitoring and the associated public debate.

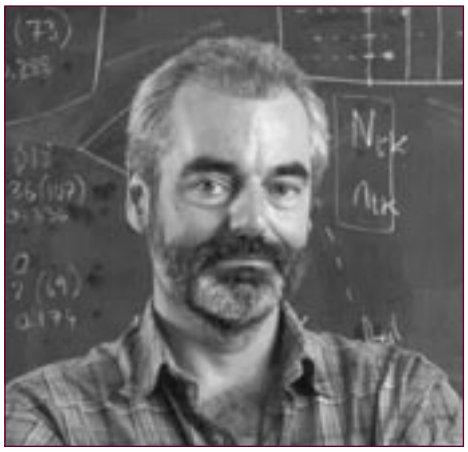
David studied mathematics for his undergraduate degree at Keble College, Oxford, continuing at the University of London for a MSc and PhD, the latter awarded in 1978. In 1981 he was appointed Statistician at the Medical Research Council Biostatistics Unit, and promoted to Senior Scientist in 1986: this post is still the main base of his professional activities. Over the years he has served in numerous committees and received several awards, including the Guy Medals in Bronze and Silver, the ASA award for "Outstanding Application" (jointly with Steffen Lauritzen) and an Honorary Doctorate from Aalborg University, Denmark.



David's stained glass "Latin Square" is the pattern of the first 8 x 8 latin square in Fisher and Yates statistical tables, 1938. The idea is "stolen" from the memorial window to RA Fisher in Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. It looks much better in color! Check this and David's other designs at http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/personal/davids/glass/index.htm

His work on probabilistic expert systems has made probability and statistics indispensable within modern applied Artificial Intelligence (AI) and machine learning. At a very early stage, David had the idea that reasoning under uncertainty could essentially be seen as a problem of Bayesian statistical inference, and statistical thinking could be applied to central issues, using ideas and tools from graphical models. Before David entered this field, probability in AI was a game for "a few hairy intellectuals". The developments have been reinforced by strong groups of researchers in the USA and elsewhere, but David's initiative, inspiration and pioneering work has been an important condition for this to happen. Probability and statistics have successfully penetrated the area and David has been a major contributor

Another of David's principal achievements is the recognition that the successful developments in AI could subsequently be fed back again to general statistics, combining modular model specifications with Markov chain Monte Carlo methods of computation, using graphical models. The tangible representation of this achievement is the software BUGS and several variants and descendants of it. This has changed statistical practice. The change is partly due to the software itself, which makes it possible



for a large number of statisticians to use Bayesian graphical models in their research work. But, more fundamentally, it represents a completely new approach to tackling the process of interpreting data using statistics, enabling the analysis of problems of a different complexity, corresponding to demands of modern applied sciences.

It is always an inspiration to be in David's company. Apart from being a pleasant and entertaining person, he has a never failing sense of what are the important issues which need consideration and what are less important details.

In his spare time he is a frequent trekker and has recently begun playing with stained glass art (see the Latin Square stained glass window, below left). His personal home page contains more information on these activities.

Royal Society of Canada elects new Fellows

The Royal Society of Canada (RSC), the Canadian Academy of the Sciences and Humanities, has elected sixty new Fellows and three Foreign Fellows to its ranks. Only one of these new Fellows works in the field of statistics. Ray Hilborn (School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle) has made important contributions to the advancement of science by his pioneering work in the statistical analysis of fisheries. His work has allowed the quantitatively reliable assessment of stocks and effective management policies. He developed modern statistical methods that allowed analysis of complex ecological systems. He has used modern computational methods to compare complex models with biological data. Election to the RSC is the highest honour that can be attained by scholars, artists and scientists in Canada.

Santa Barbara: Report on SPA05

Raya Feldman was Chair of the Organising Committee for the 30th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications (SPA). The meeting was held June 26–July 1, with a one-day Workshop on Stochastic Models in Systems and Molecular Biology held June 26 (see page 17).

Photos on this page: Ian Carlson

Some of the Invited Speakers at SPA [l-r] Balint Toth, Ruth Williams (filling in for Vlada Limic who was unable to attend), Nina Gantert, Alain-Sol Sznitman, Jean-Francois Le Gall, Leonid Mytnik, Jean Bertoin, János Engländer, Peter Glynn.

The 30th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications took place at the University of California at Santa Barbara. This annual international meeting was held under auspices of the Bernoulli Society and was co-sponsored by the IMS. This was the first SPA meeting featuring two IMS Medallion Speakers, a win-win innovation both for the SPA meetings and for Medallion Lecturers doing their research in probability.

The meeting gathered about 150 participants from 27 countries, including over 40 graduate students and many young participants. The sea of young faces caused one of the more seasoned participants to comment with satisfaction about the healthy state of the field. At the opening session, UCSB Chancellor Henry Yang welcomed the participants to UCSB. Next, there was a dramatic moment when David Aldous, the Chair of the Loeve Prize Committee, opened a sealed envelope and revealed the name of the 2005 Loeve Prize recipient: Wendelin Werner.

A total of 97 talks were were delivered at the meeting, including a Levy Lecture delivered by Jean Bertoin (Paris VI), two IMS Medallion Lectures presented by Jean-Francois Le Gall (Paris VI) and Alain-Sol Sznitman (ETH Zurich), 12 SPA invited lectures delivered by distinguished probabilists, and over 80 contributed talks. The papers presented were an interesting mix of theoretical and applied topics with almost half of the contributing talks in the areas of stochastic analysis, stochastic control, and financial applications. Other major areas discussed included random matrices, stochastic modeling in physics and biology, limit theorems, stochastic networks, extremes and path properties of stochastic processes, time series, long-range dependence and heavy-tails, information theory, filtering and estimation. Abstracts of the lectures as well as a photo gallery from the meeting and other details are available at the conference web site at http://www.pstat.ucsb.edu/projects/spa05/

Participants enjoyed strolling in downtown Santa Barbara on Monday evening and relaxed during the conference banquet held at the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum on Thursday. Wednesday afternoon was devoted to informal interactions and excursions, of which hiking in the Santa Ynez Range and a Santa Ynez Winery tour were the most popular.

The conference owes an enormous debt to our generous financial sponsors: The US National Science Foundation, The USA Army Research Office, IMS, Elsevier Publishing Company, College of Letters and Science (UCSB), Division of Mathematical, Life and Physical Sciences (UCSB), and three UCSB Departments: Economics, Mathematics, and Statistics and Applied Probability. We are also indebted to Sally Vito and her staff of the UCSB Conference Center for doing an outstanding job with the local arrangements.

Participants enjoyed a conference banquet at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History (below), where some took a stroll through the butterfly exhibit (right)

Report on Stochastic Models in Molecular and Systems Biology Workshop: a satellite event to the SPA'05 meeting

Guillaume Bonnet, UC Santa Barbara, reports: A satellite one-day workshop on Stochastic Models in Molecular and Systems Biology took place on Sunday, June 26.

The event, featuring six invited talks, was a great success gathering more than 55 participants. Although a large majority of the attendees came to Santa Barbara for the SPA meeting, a good fraction of workshop participants arrived specifically for the workshop, and included computer scientists, chemical engineers, and biophysicists—atypical attendees of a stochastic processes meeting.

The speakers and the participants were a mixture of engineers, applied probabilists, and biophysicists. A very important area of research today, and central to systems biology, is the understanding of regulatory networks in individual cells.

An opening talk by Linda Petzold (UC Santa Barbara) gave an excellent overview of the state of the art in multi-scale numerical simulation methods for models of biochemical reactions. Johan Paulsson(Cambridge) and Rudy Guanawan (UC Santa Barbara) talked about mathematical and engineering methods for the analysis of such models while Michael Samoilov (HHMI/UC Berkeley/LBNL) covered methodological aspects. Applied probabilists, John Fricks (UNC and Penn State) and Samuel Kou (Harvard), presented respectively an analysis of a model for molecular motion and statistical methods for single molecule experiments.

Speakers from the workshop on Stochastic Models in Molecular Biology and Systems Biology [l–r] Rudiyanto Gunawan, Johan Paulsson, Michael Samoilov, Linda Petzold, John Fricks, Samuel Kou (photo: Ruth Williams)

The principal goal of the workshop was to initiate interest in probability community on these challenging biological problems, and build interdisciplinary interactions. The many informal discussions that took place at lunchtime and during refreshment breaks on the sunny terrace of the Marine Science Building at UCSB suggest that there is reason for optimism about future of these interactions.

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.** *Some small print:* the Editor's decision is final; we may edit your letter before publication; publication does not necessarily imply endorsement of the opinions expressed therein, and the *IMS Bulletin* and its publisher do not accept any responsibility for them.

Book Editions: New, but not necessarily Improved

Dear Editor

We have become increasingly concerned about a fairly common practice in the textbook publishing business. New editions are published on a regular cycle, with a period as short as four years, with little if any consideration of whether these new editions are justified on academic grounds. We understand that new book sales decrease in years following publication of new editions, as used copies become more available. Given the very high prices of new mathematics texts, it is not surprising that students often choose to buy used copies. To fight the reduction of income to publishers and authors, new editions appear for no apparent reason. This practice costs students money, and forces often trivial but irritating changes in course outlines.

This letter is prompted by the announcement that a particular text we have been using for a number of years is now going into the seventh edition. Successive editions of this text have appeared every four years for some time. In our view, they have gotten worse rather than better, because of the inclusion of more examples and verbiage that apparently are only intended to justify each new edition.

We have no problem with books that go into second and third editions because of the desire to correct errors, improve presentation, or change topics covered, based on the experience of users of the original version. But if the author can't get it right by the third edition, he/she should give up. The decision to publish a new edition should be based on pedagogy, not money.

To put some pressure on publishers to adopt what we consider a more responsible approach to this issue, the undergraduate studies committee of the UCLA Mathematics Department, at its meeting of June 7, 2005, adopted the following resolution:

Whenever one of our textbooks appears in a new edition beyond the third, if there is no evidence that it represents a significant pedagogical improvement over the previous edition, the Mathematics Department will immediately start a search for a replacement text."

At the same meeting, we decided to change the text mentioned in the first paragraph above. This text has also been used by the UCLA Statistics Department. Robert Gould, who is my counterpart in that department, has endorsed this letter.

Sincerely

Thomas M. Liggett

Undergraduate Vice Chair of Mathematics

University of California at Los Angeles

IMS Meetings around the world

Minneapolis: Joint Statistical Meetings 2005

IMS Co-sponsored Meeting:

2005 Joint Statistical Meetings (including the 68th IMS Annual Meeting)

August 7–11, 2005

Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, MN

http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2005

UPDATED

***Key Dates** from www.amstat.org/meetings*

- *July 1–21:* Advance registration (increased fees now apply)
- *July 12:* Final PDF program available
- *July 14:* Hotel reservations deadline
- *August 6–11:* On-site registration

Program

The JSM 2005 Preliminary Program is available at http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2005/onlineprogram. The printed version reflects the program as it was on May 16. Any changes made to the program after that date are reflected in the online version, which is the most accurate program to refer to at all times.

Registration

Registration and hotel bookings are now available at the JSM website. For IMS members registration costs $280 ($395 for non-members of IMS, ASA, SSC or WNAR/ENAR). The 'Early Bird' deadline has passed.

IMS SESSIONS:

IMS Invited Program Chair:
David Madigan dmadigan@rci.rutgers.edu

Wald Lectures:
Srinivasa Varadhan (Courant Institute, New York University): *Large Deviations in Different Contexts*

Neyman Lecture:
David Brillinger (University of California at Berkeley): *Dynamic Indeterminism in Science*

IMS Medallion lecturers:
Andrew Barron (Yale University)
Oleg Lepski (Université de Provence)
Art Owen (Stanford University)
Adrian Raftery (University of Washington)

Above: S R S Varadhan, Wald lecturer. Below: David Brillinger, Neyman lecturer

Late-breaking Sessions at JSM

Daniel F Heitjan, University of Pennsylvania, is the JSM 2005 Program Chair. He reports on the Late-breaking Sessions:

The 2005 Joint Statistical Meetings, to be held August 7–11 in Minneapolis, will be the fourth JSM to feature late-breaking sessions. These are special invited sessions that highlight the role of statistics in recent developments in science, technology, and policy, covering important issues that arose too late to be included as part of the regular JSM invited program. Late-breaking sessions substantially increase the interest of the JSM to both the members of the sponsoring societies and to the press and general public, who are offered a glimpse of the central role of our profession in the affairs of the day.

The Committee on Meetings—which includes representatives from all five JSM sponsoring societies (ASA, IMS, International Biometric Society ENAR and WNAR, and SSC)— has selected two late-breaking sessions from the proposals we received this year. The Monday early-afternoon session will discuss bias in exit polls, highlighting the recent national elections in the Ukraine and the United States. The Wednesday late-morning session will cover statistical issues in the evaluation of the toxicities of COX-2 inhibitors. Full details are given below and, as always, the complete JSM program is available online at http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2005/onlineprogram

The JSM 2005 Program Committee and I hope you will enjoy these late-breaking sessions, as well as the invited, topic-contributed, and regular contributed sessions we have planned. On behalf of the Program Committee, I also wish to thank all of you who helped us organize what we believe will be a stimulating and enjoyable JSM. We look forward to seeing you all this summer in Minneapolis.

Late Breaking Session #1

Monday, August 8, 2005, 2:00–3:50pm [MCC-200 ABC]

Bias in Exit Polls

Organizer & Chair: Clyde Tucker, *U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics*
2:05pm: Exit Poll Bias in the 2004 U.S. General Election; Warren Mitofsky, *Mitofsky International*
2:30pm: Ohio Election Analysis; Mary Batcher, *Ernst & Young LLP*
2:55pm: Exit Polls in the Ukraine; Anna Andreenkova, *CESSI, Ltd.*
3:20pm: Investigating Causes of Within-Precinct Error In Exit Polls: Confounds and Controversies Elizabeth Liddle, *University of Nottingham*
3:45pm: Floor Discussion

Session Summary: Since the 2004 presidential election, there has been heightened interest in exit polls among both statisticians and the general public. Exit polls are unique in that they are not only used to predict the outcome of presidential elections, but they also are one of the few sources of measures of error in surveys. Moreover, they are one of the most public displays of the use of statistics.

Exit polls in the 2004 U.S. presidential election were criticized for predicting early in the day that John Kerry would win. They also were in the news for another reason—their possible use in uncovering election fraud. The controversy over the 2004 exit polls does not seem to end. This session will examine the technical details of exit polling from an international perspective.

Late Breaking Session #2

Wednesday, August 10, 10:30am–12:20pm [MCC-200 ABC]

The COX-2 Inhibitors Story: What do/should we know and when do/should we know it — and what should we do about it?

Organizer & Chair: Susan Ellenberg, *University of Pennsylvania*
10:35am: A Meta-Analysis of Effects of COX-2 Inhibitors; Patricia Kearney, *University of Oxford*
11:05am: Monitoring Drug Safety: The Vioxx Story; Raymond Bain, *Merck & Co., Inc.*
11:35am: Disc: Steven J. W. Evans, *London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine*
11:50am: Disc: Robert O'Neill, *US Food & Drug Administration*
12:05pm: Floor Discussion

Session Summary: It is well recognized that some risks of medical treatments may not be identified until the treatments have been in widespread use over a period of time. Monitoring the safety of medical treatments to detect such risks, however, can be challenging. Over the past year, concerns have arisen about the class of drugs known as COX-2 inhibitors, products developed to provide relief of pain from arthritis and similar conditions without causing the gastric irritation that frequently arises in chronic users of traditional pain relievers such as aspirin, ibuprofen, and naproxen. While clinical trials conducted to support marketing approval did not demonstrate any clear risks of serious outcomes, further studies—observational studies as well as clinical trials—indicated a higher rate of serious cardiovascular outcomes in users of COX-2 inhibitors compared to individuals receiving placebo or other pain relievers. There has been substantial debate concerning the interpretation of the emerging data, and whether action by pharmaceutical companies and regulatory authorities was sufficiently rapid.

In this session, the existing data for these products will be reviewed, and the chronology of developing information for one product, rofecoxib, will be presented as a case study.

New Directions in Probability Theory 2005

IMS co-sponsored meeting

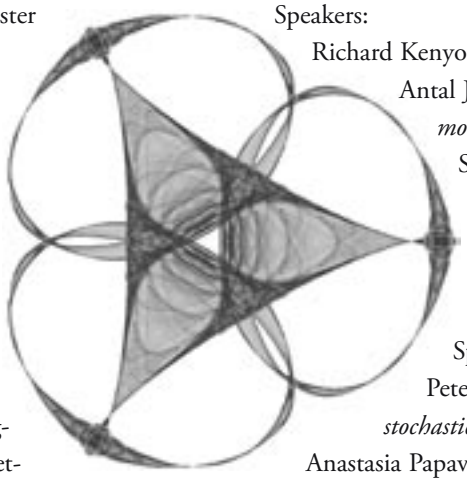
August 5-6, 2005, IMA, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

http://www.imstat.org/meetings/NDPT05/

The meeting *New Directions in Probability Theory* will take place on August 5-6, 2005. It is co-sponsored by IMS and the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (IMA).

The meeting immediately precedes the Joint Statistical Meetings of August 7-11 (co-sponsored by ASA, IMS, ENAR, WNAR). It will take place on Friday/Saturday and will be held at the IMA at the University of Minnesota.

The meeting consists of five sessions of invited lectures, a poster session of contributed papers, and four one-hour lectures, of which three 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 is limited, and so early registration is recommended.

One-Hour Lectures:

Terry Lyons, Oxford University: *Rough paths: a top down description of controls*

Amir Dembo, Stanford University (IMS Medallion Lecture): *TBA*

Ofer Zeitouni, University of Minnesota (IMS Medallion Lecture): *Recent results and open problems concerning motion in random media*

Program & Local Organizer:

Maury Bramson, University of Minnesota
bramson@math.umn.edu

Program:

Flows and Random Media

Organizer: Mike Cranston, University of California, Irvine and University of Rochester

Speakers:

Timo Seppalainen, University of Wisconsin: *Spatial inhomogeneities and large scale behavior of the asymmetric exclusion process*

Peter Mueller, Goettingen University: *Spectral asymptotics of Laplacians on bond-percolation graphs*

Ken Alexander, USC: *Pinning of polymers and interfaces by random potentials*

Probability, Combinatorics, and Statistical Mechanics

Organizer: Russell Lyons, Indiana University

Speakers:

Richard Kenyon, University of British Columbia: *Simple random surfaces in Z3*

Antal Jarai, Carleton University: *Infinite volume limit of the Abelian sandpile model on Z^d*

Scott Sheffield, Courant Institute and IAS: *Tug of war and the infinity Laplacian*

Stochastic Integration

Organizer: Terry Lyons, Oxford University

Speakers:

Peter Friz, Cambridge University: *Some applications of rough path theory to stochastic analysis*

Anastasia Papavasiliou, Princeton University: *Applications of rough paths to speech recognition*

Zhongmin Qian, Oxford University: *Stochastic integrals for processes with long-time memory*

Stochastic Partial Differential Equations

Organizer: Jonathan Mattingly, Duke University

Speakers:

Martin Hairer, University of Warwick: *Stochastic modulation equations*

Nicolai Krylov, University of Minnesota: *On the foundation of the Lp-theory of SPDEs*

Jonathan Mattingly, Duke University: *Ergodicity of the Degenerately forced Stochastic Fluid Equations*

Random Walk in Random Environment

Organizer: Ofer Zeitouni, University of Minnesota

Speakers:

Nina Gantert, University of Karlsruhe: *Random walk in random scenery*

Vladas Sidoravicius, IMPA: *Aggregation type growth - conjectures and new results*

Martin Zerner, University of California, Davis: *On some self-interacting random walks in random environment*

IMS Sponsored meeting:

8th North American New Researchers Conference
August 2–6, 2005 (immediately before JSM)
University of Minnesota

http://pages.pomona.edu/~jsho4747/NRC/NRC.htm

Contact: Jo Hardin, Pomona College, Department of Mathematics, 610 North College Avenue, Claremont, CA 91711 **t** (909) 607-8717 **e** jo.hardin@pomona.edu; Galin Jones, School of Statistics, University of Minnesota, 313 Ford Hall, 224 Church Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455. **e** galin@stat.umn.edu; **f** 612.624.8868

Invited Keynote Speakers:

Grace Wahba University of Wisconsin, Madison

Sandy Weisberg University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Rick Cleary Bentley College

The winner of the Tweedie New Researcher Award (to be announced)

Louis Chen President of the IMS, National University of Singapore

Speakers at Journal panel session: Frank Samaniego University of California, Davis, editor of *JASA – Theory and Methods;* Jim Albert Bowling Green State University, editor of *The American Statistician.*

Speaker at Funding panel session: Bob Serfling, NSF

IMS co-sponsored meeting:

Frankfurter Stochastik-Tage / German Open Conference on Probability and Statistics
March 14–17, 2006
Goethe-University Frankfurt/Main, Germany

http://stoch2006.math.uni-frankfurt.de/index_en.html

IMS Reps: Norbert Henze, Arnold Janssen, Christine Mueller, Axel Munk, Rainer Schwabe, Anton Wakolbinger

This conference is held every two years by the Fachgruppe Stochastik of the German Mathematical Society. It provides a forum for participants from universities, business, and industry to discuss new results in the area of probability and statistics.

Contact: Frankfurter Stochastik-Tage 2006, German Open Conference on Probability and Statistics, c/o Prof. Dr Götz Kersting, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, ISMI - Institut für Stochastik & Mathematische Informatik, Robert-Mayer-Str. 10, D-60325 Frankfurt, Germany. **f** 0049-(0)69-798 23881; **t** 0049-(0)69-798 22644/28651; **e** stoch2006@math.uni-frankfurt.de

NOW IMS-SPONSORED

First Cornell Summer School in Probability
July 10-23, 2005
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA

http://www.math.cornell.edu/%7Elawler/sum2005.html

Primary Lectures:

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*

IMS Co-sponsored meeting:

Workshop on Stochastic Methods in Game Theory
September 24– October 2, 2005
Centro Majorana, Erice, Italy

http://web.econ.unito.it/scarsini/Erice2005/

IMS Representative Marco Scarsini marco.scarsini@unito.it

This workshop aims to give an overview of the interaction between stochastic methods and game theory. Probability is central in the theory of choice under uncertainty. In game theory, where several decision makers interact, the presence of uncertainty adds a further complication, since different players could have different opinions, and therefore employ different probability measures to make their strategic decisions. The relatively recent consideration that economic agents do not have infinite cognitive abilities and do not possess full information about their environment raises new challenges, that need a treatment through advanced and innovative mathematical tools.

The conference will put a special emphasis on the following topics: bounded rationality, asymmetric information, and learning.

The spectrum of the meeting will be broad, ranging from foundational issues to technical probabilistic tools to applications in economics, computer science, statistics, and operations research. The speakers will be young international scholars who are active in various areas of the above fields. They will survey the recent advances in the discipline, describe their own contributions, and bring the audience to some open problems and possible research topics.

IMS Co-sponsored meeting:

2006 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting: March 19-22, 2006

Hyatt Regency, New Orleans, LA

http://www.enar.org/meetings.htm

IMS co-program chairs: Michael Kosorok and Jason Fine, University of Wisconsin-Madison

More IMS Meetings Around the World

IMS co-sponsored meeting:

Conference on Nonparametric Inference and Probability with Applications to Science:
Honoring Michael Woodroofe's Career and 65th Birthday
September 24–25, 2005
The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

http://www.stat.lsa.umich.edu/conference/mw2005/index.html

There have been extensive developments recently in modern nonparametric inference and modeling. Nonparametric and semi-parametric methods are especially useful with large amounts of data that are now routinely collected in many areas of science. Probability and stochastic modeling are also playing major new roles in scientific applications. This research conference will highlight challenges and developments at this interface of statistics, probability and the sciences.

Topics covered will include biased sampling and missing data, shape-restricted inference, contemporary sequential analysis, modern nonparametric inference, probability, and statistics applications.

The conference will provide opportunities for young researchers to interact with leaders in the profession, exchange ideas, and promote collaborations.

The conference will also serve as an occasion to recognize Professor Michael Woodroofe's pioneering contributions to nonparametric inference and probability. There will be a banquet celebrating his 65th birthday on Saturday evening, September 24.

Planned Sessions: Statistics in Astronomy and Physics; Biased sampling and missing data; Statistics in Biology; Nonparametric inference; Probability; Shape restricted regression; Modern sequential analysis and clinic trials.

Organized by: Robert Keener and Jiayang Sun.

Invited Speakers include: Persi Diaconis, Nancy Heckman, Robert Keener, Steve Lalley, T.L. Lai, Mario Mateo, Mary Meyer, Vijay Nair, Gordie Simons, Jiayang Sun, Michael Woodroofe, Wei Biao Wu, Cun-Hui Zhang, Charles Hagwood, Steve Coad, Hira Koul, Connie Page, Anand Vidyashenkar, Art Cohen, Harold Sackrowitz, Zhiliang Ying, Arniban Das Gupta, Moulinath Banerjee, Anna Amirdjanova, Bill Strawderman. Other Invited Participants Include: Tom Sellke, Byron Roe, Vince Melphi, Herman Chernoff, Martha Aliaga.

Registration: There are no registration fees, but participants must register by the deadline below. There will be a modest fee for the banquet.

Deadlines:

- June 30, 2005. Abstracts (invited and contributed)
- August 30, 2005, On-line Registration
- October 30, 2005, Papers Due (for a refereed IMS monograph)

Questions: mwconference@umich.edu

Looking further ahead…

IMS Annual Meetings and Joint Statistical Meetings, where details are known, over the next few years.

2006

IMS Annual Meeting: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, **July 30–August 4, 2006**. Meeting held in conjunction with the X Brazilian School of Probability (XEBP) at Instituto Nacional de Matemática Pura e Aplicada.

JSM06: August 6–10, 2006
Seattle Convention Center, Seattle, WA
IMS Program Chair: Chris Genovese; IMS Contributed Paper Chair Jennifer Hoeting

2007

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM07: Salt Lake City, Utah, **July 29 – August 2, 2007**
To be held at the Salt Palace Convention Center.

2008

IMS Annual Meeting: Singapore, **July 20–26, 2008**. Meeting held in conjunction with the 7th Bernoulli Society World Congress.

JSM08: Denver, Colorado, **August 3–7, 2008**. 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

Please send your meeting announcement to **erg@imstat.org**

IMS co-sponsored meeting:

Workshop on Frontiers of Statistics

NEW

May 18–20, 2006

Princeton, NJ

http://www.orfe.princeton.edu/conferences/frontiers/index.htm

IMS Reps: Jianqing Fan, Luisa Fernholz, Hira Koul

The work intends to bring top and junior researchers together to define and expand the frontiers of statistics. It provides a focal venue for top and junior researchers to gather, interact and present their new research findings, to discuss and outline emerging problems in their fields, and to lay the groundwork for fruitful future collaborations. A distinguished feature is that all topics are in core statistics with interactions with other disciplines such as biology, medicine, engineering, computer science, economics and finance. Topics include:

Nonparametric inference and machine learning

Longitudinal and functional data analysis

Nonlinear time series, Financial econometrics

Computational biology, geomics and survival analysis

MCMC, Bootstrap, robust statistics

Experimental design and industrial engineering

Travel support: There is financial assistance available for graduate student, post-doctoral fellows, and junior scholars to contribute to their expenses such as housing or travel or registration. Download an application form from the website.

IMS Sponsored meeting:

31st Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications

July 17–21, 2006

Paris, France

http://www.proba.jussieu.fr/pageperso/spao6/index.html

IMS reps: Edwin Perkins, Jim Pitman, Philip Protter, Alain-Sol Sznitman, Simon Tavaré and Ed Waymire.

IMS Co-sponsored Meeting:

2006 WNAR/IMS Western Regional Meeting

June 2006

Flagstaff, Arizona

IMS Program Chair: TBA.

IMS co-sponsored meeting:

Probability Summer School

June 26 - July 7, 2006

Ithaca, NY

Details to follow…

IMS co-sponsored meeting:

Nonparametric Models for Complex Biological Data

August 15–17, 2005

Davis, CA, USA

IMS Reps: Jianqing Fan, Hans-George Mueller and Chunming Zhan

http://anson.ucdavis.edu/~mueller/frg/index3.htm

The meeting will focus on developments of advanced nonparametric and semiparametric methods for complex biological data. These include high-dimensional data as in genomics and microarrays and associated problems of normalization, large n small p situations and dimension reduction, image data such as fMRI brain images, and functional data. Functional data arise in longitudinal studies, samples of growth curves, trajectories of reproduction, time-dynamic microarray expression trajectories, and other complex time-varying responses of biological systems.

The complexity of such biological data requires new nonparametric/semiparametric approaches that are flexible, scale up to large data and enable a synthesis between different approaches, such as functional and longitudinal methodologies. The meeting will focus on current developments and avenues of future research in nonparametric modeling, data-analytic methods and theory for these challenges.

IMS Co-sponsored meeting:

2007 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting

April 15-18, 2007

Fountainebleau Hilton Resort Miami, FL

http://www.enar.org/meetings.htm

Check the IMS meetings pages at http://www.imstat.org/meetings for regular updates

Other Meetings Around the World: Announcements and Calls for Papers

Workshop on Statistical Inverse Problems
University of Goettingen, Germany
March 23–25, 2006

NEW

http://www.num.math.uni-goettingen.de/gk/conference/conferences.php?LANG=EN

First announcement:

The Graduiertenkolleg 1023 "Identification in mathematical models: Synergy of stochastic and numerical methods" at the University of Göttingen announces a workshop on Statistical Inverse Problems. Inverse Problems is an area of growing interest both for statisticians and numerical analysts since such problems arise naturally in many applications e.g. in in medical imaging, economy, finance, physics, chemistry, biology and industrial research. So far a large part of the research on inverse problems in statistics and numerics has followed different paths. Whereas a lot of progress has been achieved on nonlinear deterministic inverse problems over the last decade, the literature on nonlinear statistical inverse problems is scarce. In contrast, a variety of sophisticated adaptive techniques for parameter and model selection have been developed in statistics, which do not have a counterpart in deterministic theory. Many questions of fundamental theoretical and practical importance arise in both fields: identifiability, consistency, computation of estimators, and optimality in various forms. Therefore, this workshop intends to establish and strengthen links between research in the statistical and the deterministic inverse problems communities.

The workshop will cover the following topics:

Methods and Techniques: Algorithmic Aspects of Inverse Problems; Bayesian Approaches; Minimax Theory; Convergence Analysis; Iterative Methods for Non-Linear Inverse Problems

Fields of Application: Econometrics; Image Reconstruction; Deconvolution; Medical Applications; Technical/Physical/Industrial Applications

Registration

There will be no conference fee. Please register for the conference by 01/11/2005 using the following email-address: gk1023@math.uni-goettingen.de We intend to provide ample opportunity for discussions. Therefore the official program will be limited to invited talks. However, there will be a possibilty to present a poster in a special poster session. If you intend to do so please indicate this in your registration and provide a title and an abstract by 01/11/2005.

For further requests contact:

Heike Ahrens
Institut für Numerische und Angewandte
Mathematik, Georg-August-Universitaet Göttingen
Lotzestr. 16-18
37083 Göttingen, Germany
t ++49-(0)551/39-4523
e gk1023@math.uni-goettingen.de

25th Annual Conference of the
Indian Society for Probability and Statistics
December 28–30, 2005
Bangalore, India

NEW

Jointly organised by Bangalore University and the Indian Statistical Institute. Organising Secretary: H J Vaman, email isps_conf2005@yahoo.co.in

Conference on
Stochastic Control and Numerics
September 15–18, 2005
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

NEW

http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/Math/Events/Stochastic/main.htm

The conference will focus on control theory and numerical methods for stochastic models and its applications in diverse areas such as biology, finance and operations research.

The conference will comprise five one-hour presentations, approximately twelve thirty-minute lectures and poster sessions each day. Submissions to the poster sessions are encouraged.

Keynote speakers:

Thomas Kurtz, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Stanley Pliska, University of Illinois at Chicago

Philip Protter, Cornell University

Jerome Stein, Brown University

Denis Talay, INRIA

Limited support is available to help graduate students and recent PhDs to participate in the conference. Deadline August 1, 2005 for requests for financial support, requests to contribute a poster, and abstracts for contributed posters

Other Meetings Around the World: Announcements and Calls for Papers

Statistics in the Technological Age
December 27–31, 2005
Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

NEW

Organized by the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and held at the Eastin Hotel, Petaling Jaya, this international conference aims to bring together academicians and professionals from various fields in statistics to discuss and present their research findings on statistics and its applications in the technological age. The scope of this international conference covers (but is not limited to): Bioinformatics, Statistical Modeling and Inference, Life Time Analysis, Experimental Designs, Bayesian and Robust Analysis, Computational Statistics and Directional Data Analysis.

Professor C R Rao has kindly agreed to be the keynote speaker. The plenary speakers include Rakesh Agrawal (IBM Almaden Research Center), B C Arnold (University of California, Riverside), Louis Chen (National University of Singapore), Lee Mei Ling (Harvard University), G J McLachlan (University of Queensland), Rahul Mukherjee (Calcutta Institute of Management, India), G P Patil (Pennsylvania State University) and P K Sen (Univ. of North Carolina). The organizing committee consists of Ramesh Gupta (University of Maine, USA) (Chair), Pushpa Gupta (University of Maine, USA), Dipak Dey (University of Connecticut, USA) and S H Ong (University of Malaya).

There will be a one day workshop (27 December 2005) on "Geographic and Network Surveillance for Arbitrarily Shaped Hotspots with Applications" organized by G P Patil. For further information, please visit the website http//iscm.math.um.edu.my or contact Ramesh Gupta rcgupta@maine.maine.edu or S H Ong ongsh@um.edu.my

Twenty-Seventh Midwest Probability Colloquium
October 20-22, 2005
Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

NEW

http://www.math.northwestern.edu/mwp/

The 27th Midwest Probability colloquium will feature the Main Speaker Robert Adler of the Technion, speaking on "Random fields on manifolds" in a series of two lectures on Friday October 21. In addition there will be a special tutorial program on Thursday October 20 on "Lipschitz-Killing curvatures and Weyl's tube formula", presented jointly by Adler and Jonathan Taylor of Stanford University.

On Saturday October 22 the program will consist of one hour lectures by Marek Biskup (UCLA) and Alice Guionnet (Lyon).

The local organizer is Mark Pinsky pinsky@math.northwestern.edu

Information about hotel reservations and other local connections may be found on our website.

The Future of Data Analysis: a Conference in Honor of Jon Kettenring
Sponsored by the National Institute of Statistical Sciences
September 30, 2005
Avaya Labs Research, Basking Ridge, NJ

NEW

NISS

The National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) is pleased to announce a one-day conference, The Future of Data Analysis, honoring Jon Kettenring's multiple contributions to the profession and to NISS. The conference will be held on Friday, September 30, 2005, at Avaya Labs Research in Basking Ridge, NJ, and will be followed by a dinner in Jon's honor. Reflecting Jon's strong and persistent interest in data, the conference will consist of four technical sessions and multiple opportunities for interaction among participants. The technical sessions:

Jon Kettenring: *Clustering—The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*

Colin Mallows: *Tukey's Paper after Forty Years: What's Been Done? What Remains? What's New?* with discussants to include Andreas Buja (University of Pennsylvania), James Landwehr (Avaya Labs Research) and Daryl Pregibon (Google)

Finding Structure in Data—From EDA to Data Mining and Beyond, with presentations by Sid Dalal (Xerox), Diane Lambert (Bell Labs) and David Madigan (Rutgers)

Inference in Large Databases, with presentations by Alan Karr (NISS) and Sallie Keller-McNulty (Los Alamos National Laboratory)

Registration for the conference is available on the NISS affiliates web site, at www.niss.org/affiliates/jkconference200509/kettenringconference.html. There is no registration fee. However, registration in advance is required. Additional information, including details for the dinner and housing, is available on the conference web page.

International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM 2006)
August 22–30, 2006
Madrid, Spain

http://www.icm2006.org

Travel Grants

The American Mathematical Society has applied to the National Science Foundation (NSF) for funds to permit partial travel support for US mathematicians attending the 2006 International Congress of Mathematicians (ICM 06) August 22-30, 2006, in Madrid, Spain. Subject to the award decision by the NSF, the Society is preparing to administer the selection process, which would be similar to previous programs funded in 1990, 1994, 1998 and 2002.

Applications for support are printed in this issue of the *Notices*, and forms will be available on the AMS website (at http://www.ams.org/careers-edu/icmapp.html) beginning August 1, 2005. All completed application forms must be mailed to the AMS by October 31, 2005. This travel grants program, if funded, will be administered by the *Membership and Programs Department, AMS, 201 Charles Street, Providence, RI 02904-2294*. You can contact us at ICM06@ams.org, 800-321-4267, ext. 4058 or 401-455-4058.

This program is open to US mathematicians (those who are currently affiliated with a US institution). Early career mathematicians (those within six years of their doctorate), women, and members of US groups underrepresented in mathematics are especially encouraged to apply. ICM06 Invited Speakers from US institutions should submit applications, if funding is desired.

Applications will be evaluated by a panel of mathematical scientists under the terms of a proposal submitted to the National Science Foundation (NSF) by the Society.

Should the proposal to the NSF be funded, the following conditions will apply: mathematicians accepting grants for partial support of the travel to ICM06 may not supplement them with any other NSF funds. Currently, it is the intention of the NSF's Division of Mathematical Sciences to provide no additional funds on its other regular research grants for travel to ICM in 2006. However, an individual mathematician who does not receive a travel grant may use regular NSF grant funds, subject to the usual restrictions and prior approval requirements.

All information currently available about the ICM06 program, organization, and registration procedure is located on the ICM06 website, http://www.icm2006.org.

Interface 2006: Massive Data Sets and Streams
May 24–27, 2006
Pasadena, California

http://www.galaxy.gmu.edu/Interface2006/i2006webpage.html

Interface 2006 will be held May 24–27, 2006 at the Westin Hotel in Pasadena, California; the theme is *Massive Data Sets and Streams*.

We look forward to a vibrant program focussing on modern problems related to data and information overload, and what we as professional data analysts can contribute to their solution. Topic areas include but are not limited to medicine, statistics and the arts, physics, forensics, telecommunications, climate and weather, Earth science, public policy, the internet, alcoholism, genomics, streaming data, siesmology, text mining, data fusion, and information technology. However, we expect and strongly encourage contributions related to other topics, techniques and applications relevant to the theme, including all areas of data mining. In addition we hope to attract discipline scientists who will share their problems and solutions with us, whether or not those solutions appeal to traditional statistical or data mining methods. See http://www.galaxy.gmu.edu/Interface2006/i2006webpage.html for more information, or contact Amy Braverman at Amy.Braverman@jpl.nasa.gov

Amy Braverman
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f (818) 393-6141

International Conference on Statistical Models for Biomedical and Technical Systems
May 29–31, 2006, Limassol, Cyprus.

http://www.ucy.ac.cy/biostat2006

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Conference provides the forum for presenting new statistical models and mathematical methods for Survival Analysis, the Reliability of Engineering and Technical Systems as well as the Reliability of Biological and Biomedical Systems. The Conference is organized by the University of Cyprus and the Seminaire Europeen - European Seminar "Methodes Mathématiques pour l' Analyse de Survie, Fiabilite et Qualite de Vie". A single registration fee enables the participants to attend all sessions of the conference as well as the Special Workshop on "The Analysis of Microarray Data" to be presented during the conference. For details contact: Ilia Vonta, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Cyprus, email: biostat2006@ucy.ac.cy

Employment Opportunities around the world

Directory of Advertisements

USA: Pennsylvania

Statistics Faculty Positions
Penn State

The Department of Statistics at Penn State seeks to fill the Eberly Chair and one position at any rank beginning August 2006. Candidates with research experience in social science methodology, bioinformatics and environmental applications are encouraged to apply. Primary responsibilities: conduct research, teach undergraduate and graduate courses and pursue collaboration.

Qualifications: Requires PhD in Statistics or related field. Candidates must demonstrate potential for excellence in research and teaching. See http://www.stat.psu.edu for more information.

Please send a letter of application, curriculum vita and three letters of recommendation to: *Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Statistics, Penn State, 326B Thomas Building, University Park, PA 16802-2111, USA.*

Screening will begin November 15, 2005, and continue until the positions are filled. Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity and the diversity of its workforce.

Canada: Manitoba

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

University of Manitoba, Winnipeg
Head of the Department of Statistics
Position # AP631

The Faculty of Science at The University of Manitoba invites applications or nominations for the position of Head of the Department of Statistics. The appointment will begin on July 1, 2006, or on a date mutually agreed upon. The appointment will be at the rank of Professor or Associate Professor commensurate with qualifications and experience. The successful candidate must have a PhD degree in Statistics or a cognate discipline. Strong academic leadership experience in research, undergraduate and graduate programming is preferred.

The Department of Statistics is one of the oldest and largest in Canada. It currently has 15 full-time academic members with research interests in various areas of Statistics and Probability. The Department is seeking new leadership to assist in the reshaping and renewal of its research and teaching programs. Applications should include a curriculum vitae, the names of three referees, and a brief statement indicating his/her views on the future of research and teaching in Statistics and Probability in an academic department. Review of applications will begin on September 19, 2005 and continue until the position is filled. Additional information about the department can be found on the web at http://www.umanitoba.ca/statistics

Nominations or applications should be forwarded to:
Dr Mark Whitmore, Dean
Faculty of Science
University of Manitoba
250 Machray Hall
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada, R3T 2N2

The University of Manitoba encourages applications from qualified women and men, including members of visible minorities, Aboriginal people and persons with disabilities. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Application materials, including letters of reference, will be handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (Manitoba).

Winnipeg has a great deal to offer, both culturally and recreationally, with a number of professional and ethnic arts groups, professional sports teams, outstanding restaurants, and opportunities for all types of outdoor activities in all seasons. The Winnipeg housing market is one of the most favourable in Canada. Further information can be found on the web at http://www.tourism.winnipeg.mb.ca/

USA: California

CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE

Ruth and Joseph Reed Professorship in Applied Mathematical Statistics

The Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science of Claremont McKenna College announces a tenure track position at the Associate/Full professor level beginning July 1, 2006. Candidates must have a PhD in mathematical or applied statistics. Both teaching and professional accomplishments are highly valued. Data analysis experience and cross-disciplinary interests are preferred. Salary is competitive, summer support is available, and the normal teaching load is four courses per year.

For the complete ad, see http://math.mckenna.edu/. Send vita, teaching philosophy, program for professional activity, undergraduate and graduate transcripts and three or more recommendations letters to:

Prof Janet Myhre, Chair Search Committee,
Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science,
Claremont McKenna College,
850 Columbia Ave.,
Claremont, California, 91711-6420.

Review of applications will begin on November 1, 2005, and will continue until the position is filled.

Claremont McKenna College is a highly selective undergraduate institution ranked among the top liberal arts colleges nationally. CMC is a member of The Claremont Colleges that also include Pomona, Scripps, Pitzer, Harvey Mudd, the Claremont Graduate University and the Keck Graduate Institute for Applied Science. Collectively, The Claremont Colleges constitute an academic community of 6,000 students. Claremont is located 35 miles east of downtown Los Angeles.

Claremont McKenna College is an equal opportunity employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. For more information on CMC visit our website http://www.claremontmckenna.edu

USA: Mississippi

Mississippi State University
Head of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Confidential nominations and applications are invited for the position of Head of the 35-faculty Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Mississippi State University.

For complete information, including application details, visit http://www.msstate.edu/Dept/Math or e-mail math.position@dept.msstate.edu.

A doctorate in Mathematical Sciences, strong administrative skills, and an established research record are required. Position is open until filled. AA/EOE.

USA: Florida

University of Central Florida
Chair: Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science

The Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, University of Central Florida, invites applications for the position of Department Chair. Candidates for the position must have a PhD in statistics or related field and be qualified for appointment at the rank of full professor with tenure. Necessary qualifications include a strong research record, excellent communication skills, and demonstrated interest in interdisciplinary activities. A record of grant activity and expertise in administration is preferred. The department is seeking a leader to facilitate the development of a PhD degree program in Statistics with concentration in Data Mining, to strengthen the department's BS in Statistics, BS in Actuarial Science, and Actual Science and Data Mining Tracks within the MS in Statistical Computing, and to pursue further industrial, government, academic, and research partnerships in Central Florida and the Southeastern United States. This is a tenured position to be filled effective Fall 2006. Send resume (PDF or electronic WORD format) and a list of references to:

Dr Diane Z Chase
Statistics and Actuarial Science Chair Search
Academic Affairs, 311 Millican Hall
University of Central Florida
PO Box 160065
Orlando, FL 32816-0065

Review of applications will begin on November 1, 2005 and continue until the position is filled.

For more information, contact the chair of the search committee at chase@mail.ucf.edu or visit the department's web site at http://www.cas.ucf.edu/statistics/

UCF is one of the nation's fastest growing universities with a current enrollment of over 43,000 students. It is located in Orlando approximately 50 miles from the Atlantic coast and 100 miles from the Gulf of Mexico. Faculty at UCF enjoy the same combination of climate and recreational activities that draws millions of visitors to the area each year. In addition, a vigorous economy with a high-technology component provides special opportunities for the Chair of Statistics and Actuarial Science.

UCF is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer. Women and minorities are strongly urged to apply. As an agency of the State of Florida, UCF makes all search records available for public inspection. AA/EOE

USA: Maryland

Department of Health & Human Services
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Child Health & Human Development
Division of Epidemiology, Statistics and Prevention Research
Biometry and Mathematical Statistics Branch

Tenure/Tenure-Track Investigator

The Biometry and Mathematical Statistics Branch of the Division of Epidemiology, Statistics and Prevention Research, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (DESPR), NIH is seeking a **BIOSTATISTICIAN** with training or experience in mathematical statistics or a **MATHEMATICAL STATISTICIAN** with training or experience in biostatistics. Candidates should have experience **COLLABORATING** in epidemiologic or medical research. The appointment will be at the level of a tenure-track investigator. Senior candidates with exceptional experience may be considered for appointment with tenure.

DESPR conducts intervention, cohort and case control studies in the areas of reproductive, perinatal and child health epidemiology, and child and adolescent behavior. The position offers a great opportunity to capitalize on the expertise, resources and collaborative environment of DESPR and to pursue independent research on statistical methods relevant to DESPR studies.

Applicants should have a doctoral degree in statistics, biostatistics, or related fields, or equivalent qualifications. Applicants must also have a strong record of post-PhD research demonstrating both an ability to collaborate effectively with scientists in other disciplines and to conduct research on statistical methodology. Candidates with experience conducting statistical research, and/or collaborating with investigators, in subject matter relevant to DESPR studies are particularly encouraged to apply.

For additional information regarding substantive issues of the position, please contact Kai Fun Yu, Ph.D., Chief, BMSB, DESPR, NICHD at **yukf@exchange.nih.gov** or 301-496-6813, or visit web page: **http://www.nichd.nih.gov/about/despr/despr.htm** For technical questions regarding the application process, contact Michael Munday at 301-451-7873 or **mundaym@mail.nih.gov**

To apply, please submit a cover letter, statement of recent research interests and collaborative research experience, curriculum vitae, and three letters of reference, at least one of which is from a collaborator in epidemiologic or medical research, by **September 2, 2005** to: Michael Munday, Administrative Officer, NICHD, NIH, 6100 Executive Blvd, Room 7C07, Bethesda, MD 20892-7510.

NIH and DHHS are Equal Opportunity Employers

USA: Massachusetts

Boston University

MA Degree Program in Mathematical Finance

Exceptional candidates with expertise in Mathematical Finance are invited to apply for a tenure-track Assistant Professor position at Boston University. The appointment will be effective as early as January 1, 2006. All applicants should demonstrate outstanding potential as researchers and educators and extensive knowledge of Theoretical Finance, Stochastic Analysis and Probability Theory. Applicants should submit a cover letter and three copies of the following: (a) detailed vita; (b) detailed description of current and future research plans; (c) brief teaching statement; and (d) selected reprints and preprints. Complete applications must be mailed to:

Mathematical Finance Search Committee
MA degree program in Mathematical Finance
Boston University
111 Cummington Street
Boston, MA, 02215, USA

Applicants should have at least four letters of recommendation, one of which evaluates teaching, sent directly to the above address. Applications received by October 1, 2005 will be given full consideration. Early application is advisable.

Boston University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

USA: Utah

University of Utah

The Department of Mathematics at the University of Utah invites applications for the following positions:

Full-time tenure-track or tenured appointments at the level of assistant, associate or full professor.

Three-year Scott, Wylie, Burgess, or possibly VIGRE Assistant Professorships, depending on funding availability. Persons receiving PhD degrees in 2004 or later (2005 or later for VIGRE) are eligible.

IGERT and RTG Postdoctoral Fellowships. IGERT fellowship applicants should have a background in Mathematical Biology; while RTG fellowship applicants should have a background in applied and computational mathematics and have interests in working in mathematical biology. These postdoctoral fellowships are 3-year positions. See www.math.utah.edu/research/mathbio/opportunities.html

Please see our website at www.math.utah.edu/positions for information regarding available positions, application requirements and deadlines. Applications must be completed through the website www.mathjobs.org

The University of Utah is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer and encourages applications from women and minorities, and provides reasonable accommodation to the known disabilities of applicants and employees.

USA: New York

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer - 03983

The Department of Social Statistics in the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell University invites applications for a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer position for a term of one to three years beginning August 24, 2005. For the 2005-2006 academic year, the teaching assignment would be five semester-long introductory-level Statistics courses, and the duties would include coordinating the teaching of all introductory Statistics courses.

Candidates are required to have a relevant Master's degree and evidence of teaching ability for introductory Statistics courses at the undergraduate level.

Salary in the range $45K-$60K is appropriate to qualifications.

Send an application with a statement of your teaching philosophy, a CV, and three letters of recommendation to:

Search Committee, Department of Social Statistics
358 Ives Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853-3901

Electronic submissions can be made to:
klr3@cornell.edu

Cornell University

Cornell University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer and Educator.

http://chronicle.com/jobs/profiles/2377.htm

USA: Washington

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow - JS-016314

The statistical Center for HIV/AIDS Research and Prevention seeks a PhD in Statistics/Biostatistics or related field for a one-to-two year postdoctoral position to work on problems including surrogate endpoint in HIV vaccine trials, with the potential for extension to longer term.

The ideal candidate will possess:

- Strong statistical computation and programming skills [experienced in (a) R or S-plus, or (b) Fortran, or (c) SAS, best if has experience with Matlab programming]
- Proficiency in statistical theories and their applications,
- An interest or experience in biomedical applications of statistics, preferably with experience in nonparametric statistical methods, survival analysis and longitudinal analysis,
- Knowledge/experience in statistical methods and applications in immunology and HIV/AIDS related research (a plus but not a prerequisite),
- Excellent communication skills, written skills and ability to take initiative and give creative inputs.

Compensation: Per NIH guidelines

To apply, send a current CV, a research statement, three letters of recommendation, and/or manuscripts via email to helen@scharp.org, or via US mail to

Helen Pagal, SCHARP, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center,
1100 Fairview Ave N. LE-400, PO Box 19024
Seattle WA 98109-1024

USA: Virginia

William and Mary

Tenure track assistant professorship, beginning August 2006.

Demonstrated excellence in scholarship and teaching, and PhD in operations research, mathematics or related field required. Incumbent will work with Mathematics Department faculty to support MS degree in Computational Operations Research (http://www.math.wm.edu/~leemis/or.html).

Research area open but teaching of MS-level courses in optimization or stochastic modeling expected. Visiting positions may also be available. See http://www.math.wm.edu for more information.

Submit application letter, CV, research description, and three or more recommendation letters (at least one concerning teaching) to:

Search Committee,
Mathematics Department,
P.O. Box 8795,
William and Mary,
Williamsburg,
VA 23187-8795

Review begins November 10 and continues until appointment is made. Department members will be available at the November INFORMS meeting and the January AMS/MAA Meetings.

AA/EEO employer.

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 submit your meeting details and any corrections to Elyse Gustafson at erg@imstat.org

August 2005

August 2–6: University of Minnesota, Minneapolis. **8th North American New Researchers Conference. w** http://pages.pomona.edu/~jsh04747/NRC/NRC.htm

August 5–6: IMA, Minneapolis. **New Directions in Probability Theory.** IMS Program Chair Maury Bramson. **w** http://www.imstat.org/meetings/NDPT05/

August 5–11: Budapest, Hungary. **Logic in Hungary. w** http://www.renyi.hu/~lh05/

August 7–11: Minneapolis, Minnesota. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2005.** IMS Program Chair: David Madigan madigan@stat.rutgers.edu; IMS Local Chair: Peihua Qiu, qiu@stat.umn.edu **w** http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2005

August 15–17: Davis, CA. **Nonparametric Models for Complex Biological Data.** IMS Reps: Jianqing Fan, Hans-George Mueller and Chunming Zhan. **w** http://anson.ucdavis.edu/~mueller/frg/index3.htm

August 15–19: Gothenburg, Sweden. **4th Conference on Extreme Value Analysis: Probabilistic and Statistical Models and their Applications. w** http://www.math.ku.dk/~mikosch/maphysto_extremes_2005/extremes.html

August 17–19: Shanghai, China. **MCP2005: 4th International Conference on Multiple Comparison Procedures. w** http://www.stat.ohio-state.edu/~mcp2005

August 24–26: Washington, DC. **Fifth Annual Total Microarray Data Analysis and Interpretation. w** http://www.healthtech.com/2005/mda/index.asp

September 2005

September 12-14: Bandung, Indonesia. **National Statistical Competition for Engineering.** Competition for undergraduate students. Hosana Konstansius **e** 6102031@student2002.unpar.ac.id

September 15–16: ISPED, Bordeaux, France. **Workshop in Honor of Niels Keiding: Life history events analysis in epidemiology and fertility studies.** Daniel Commenges **e** daniel.commenges@isped.u-bordeaux2.fr **w** http://www.isped.u-bordeaux2.fr/IFR99/ACCUEIL/FR-IFR99-Accueil.htm

NEW September 15–18: University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. **Conference on Stochastic Control and Numerics. w** http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/Math/Events/Stochastic/main.htm

September 16–17: Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA. **Eighth Workshop on Case Studies in Bayesian Statistics.** NEW RESEARCHERS: call for talks & posters, deadline July 1, 2005. Rob Kass **e** kass@stat.cmu.edu **w** http://www.stat.cmu.edu/bayesworkshop

September 24–25: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. **Conference on Nonparametric Inference and Probability with Applications to Science: Honoring Michael Woodroofe's Career and 65th Birthday. w** http://www.stat.lsa.umich.edu/conference/mw2005/index.html

September 24 – October 2: Centro Majorana, Erice, Italy. **Workshop on Stochastic Methods in Game Theory.** IMS Rep: Marco Scarsini. **w** http://web.econ.unito.it/scarsini/Erice2005/

September 26–29: Braunschweig, Germany. **Statistical Week: Annual Meeting of the German Statistical Society. w** http://www.statistische-woche.de

NEW September 30: Avaya Labs Research, Basking Ridge, NJ. **The Future of Data Analysis: a Conference in Honor of Jon Kettenring.** Sponsored by the National Institute of Statistical Sciences. **w** http://www.niss.org/affiliates/jkconference200509/kettenringconference.html

October 2005

October 3-7: Bern, Switzerland. **Stochastic Geometry and its Applications. w** http://www.cx.unibe.ch/~ilya/wbec

October 6–8: University of Firenze (Florence), Italy. **New Mathematical Methods In Risk Theory: Workshop In Honour Of Hans Bühlmann. w** http://www.riskworkshop.it/

NEW October 20-22: Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. **Twenty-Seventh Midwest Probability Colloquium.** Mark Pinsky pinsky@math.northwestern.edu **w** http://www.math.northwestern.edu/mwp/

December 2005

NEW December 27–31: Petaling Jaya, Malaysia. **Statistics in the Technological Age.** Organized by the Institute of Mathematical Sciences, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Contact Ramesh Gupta rcgupta@maine.maine.edu or S H Ong ongsh@um.edu.my **w** http//iscm.math.um.edu.my

NEW December 28-30: Bangalore, India. **25th Annual Conference of the Indian Society for Probability and Statistics (ISPS).** Jointly organised by Bangalore University and the Indian Statistical Institute. Organising Secretary: H J Vaman **e** isps_conf2005@yahoo.co.in

January 2006

January 16–18: Honolulu, Hawaii. **Fifth Annual Hawaii International Conference on Statistics, Mathematics and Related Fields.** Andrew Burge, Conference Coordinator. **t** 808-946-9927 **f** 808-947-2420 **e** statistics@hicstatistics.org **w** http://www.hicstatistics.org

February 2006

February 15–16: Santa Monica, CA. **First Annual Conference on Quantitative Methods and Statistical Applications in Defense and National Security.** Contact Technical Program Chair Lara Schmidt Lara_Schmidt@rand.org **w** http://www.rand.org/events/nsm2006.html

March 2006

March 14-17: Goethe University Frankfurt/Main, Germany. **German Open Conference on Probability and Statistics. w** http://stoch2006.math.uni-frankfurt.de/index_en.html

March 19–22: New Orleans, LA. **2006 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting.** IMS Program Chair TBA. **w** http://www.enar.org/meetings.htm

March 20-24: CIMAT, Guanajuato, Mexico. **Conference on Stochastics in Science, in honor of Ole E Barndorff-Nielsen's 71st Birthday.** Further information pabreu@cimat.mx

NEW March 23–25: University of Goettingen, Germany. **Workshop on Statistical Inverse Problems.** Heike Ahrens **t** ++49-(0)551/39-4523 **e** gk1023@math.uni-goettingen.de **w** http://www.num.math.uni-goettingen.de/gk/conference/conferences.php?LANG=EN

May 2006

May 17–19: Cork, Ireland. **Annual meeting of the Irish Statistical Association.** Local organiser: Kingshuk Roy Choudhury, University College Cork, Ireland. **e** kingshuk@stat.ucc.ie

NEW May 18–20, 2006: Princeton, NJ. **Workshop on Frontiers of Statistics.** IMS Reps: Jianqing Fan, Luisa Fernholz, Hira Koul. **w** http://www.orfe.princeton.edu/conferences/frontiers/index.htm

NEW May 24–27, 2006: Pasadena, California. **Interface 2006: Massive Data Sets and Streams.** Amy Braverman **e** Amy.Braverman@jpl.nasa.gov **w** http://www.galaxy.gmu.edu/Interface2006/i2006webpage.html

May 28–31: London, Ontario. **2006 Annual Meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada.** Local Arrangements Chair, David Bellhouse: Dept of Statistical & Actuarial Sciences, Western Science Centre, U of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, Canada, N6A 5B7, **e** bellhouse@stats.uwo.ca **t** (519) 661-3614 **f** (519) 661-3813. Scientific program chair Richard Lockhart **e** lockhart@sfu.ca

NEW May 29–31, 2006: Limassol, Cyprus. **International Conference on Statistical Models for Biomedical and Technical Systems.** Ilia Vonta, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Cyprus **e** biostat2006@ucy.ac.cy **w** http://www.ucy.ac.cy/biostat2006

June 2006

June 1-7: Benidorm, Spain. **Valencia / ISBA 8th World Meeting on Bayesian Statistics.** Join the Valencia 8 mailing list: **e** valenciameeting@uv.es **w** http://www.uv.es/valenciameeting

June 5–9: Smolenice Castle, Slovak Republic. **PROBASTAT 2006: Fifth International Conference on Probability and Statistics.** PROBASTAT2006, Institute of Measurement Science, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Dubravska cesta 9, 841 04 BRATISLAVA, Slovak Republic. **e** probastat@savba.sk **w** http://aiolos.um.savba.sk/~viktor/probastat.html

June 14–17: University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT. **ICSA 2006 Applied Statistics Symposium.** Prof Ming-Hui Chen, Department of Statistics, University of Connecticut, **e** mhchen@stat.uconn.edu **w** http://www.icsa.org

June 25–30: Vilnius, Lithuania. **9th International Vilnius Conference on Probability Theory and Mathematical Statistics.** Aleksandras Plikusas **e** conf@ktl.mii.lt **w** http://www.science.mii.lt/vilconf9/

Continued on **page 34**

International Calendar continued

June 26–29: Prague, Czech Republic. **S4G (Stereology, Spatial Statistics, Stochastic Geometry): 6th International Conference.** Viktor Benes **e** benesv@karlin.mff.cuni.cz or Radka Juzkova **e** radka.juzkova@svses.cz. **w** http://www.karlin.mff.cuni.cz/s4g/

June 26 - July 7: Ithaca, NY. **Probability Summer School.** Details to follow.

July 2006

July 2–7: Salvador (Bahia), Brazil. **ICOTS-7: Working Cooperatively in Statistics Education.** Contact Carmen Batanero **e** batanero@ugr.es **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

July 16-21: Montreal, Quebec, Canada. **XXIII International Biometric Conference (IBC2006). w** http://www.ibc2006.org

July 17–21, 2006: Paris, France. **Stochastic Processes and Applications XXXI.** IMS reps: E Perkins, J Pitman, P Protter, A Sznitman, S Tavare and E Waymire. **w** http://www.proba.jussieu.fr/pageperso/spao6/index.html

July 24–28: Toruń, Poland. **26th European Meeting of Statisticians. e** ems2006@umk.pl **w** http://www.ems2006.umk.pl

UPDATED July 30 - August 4: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. **IMS Annual Meeting and XEBP Brazilian School of Probability meeting.** At the Instituto Nacional de Matemática Pura e Aplicada (IMPA) in Rio de Janeiro. Program Chairs: Robert Adler and Steve Lalley (Probability); Sara van de Geer and Guenther Walther (Statistics); Local Chair: Maria Eulália Vares, CBPF **w** http://www.imstat.org/meetings/IMS2006/

August 2006

August 6–10: Washington, Seattle. **JSM2006. w** http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2006

August 21-25: Prague, Czech Republic. **Prague Stochastics 2006:** joint session of the 7th Prague Symposium on Asymptotic Statistics and the 15th Prague Conference on Information Theory, Statistical Decision Functions and Random Processes. Zuzana Prášková **e** praskova@karlin.mff.cuni.cz **w** http://www.utia.cas.cz/pragstoch06

August 28 – September 1: Rome, Italy. **COMPSTAT2006: 17th Conference of the International Association for Statistical Computing. w** http://w3.uniroma1.it/compstat2006 **e** compstat2006@uniroma1.it

April 2007

April 15–18: Miami, FL. **2007 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting.** IMS Program Chair TBA. **w** http://www.enar.org/meetings.htm

June 2007

June 9–13, 2007: St John's, Newfoundland. **35th Annual Meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada.** Local Arrangements Chair: Brajendra Sutradhar **e** bsutradh@math.mun.ca **t** (709) 737-8731 **f** (709) 737-8731

July 2007

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

July 2008

July 20–26: Singapore. **IMS Annual Meeting with Bernoulli World Congress.** Details to follow.

August 2008

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

August 2009

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

These meetings are also listed on the 'Meetings' page of the IMS website, at http://www.imstat.org/meetings

Membership and Subscription Information

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

Individual and Organizational Memberships: Each individual member receives the *IMS Bulletin* and may elect to receive one or more of the four scientific journals. Members pay annual dues of $75. An additional amount is added to the dues of members depending on the scientific journal selected as follows: *Statistical Science* ($15), *The Annals of Statistics* ($30), *The Annals of Probability* ($30), and *The Annals of Applied Probability* ($20). Of the total dues paid, $29 is allocated to the *Bulletin* and the remaining amount is allocated among the scientific journals received. Reduced membership dues are available to full-time students, new graduates, permanent residents of countries designated by the IMS Council, and retired members. Organizational memberships are available to institutions at $650 per year and to corporations at $850 per year. Organizational memberships include two multiple-readership copies of all IMS journals in addition to other benefits specified for each category (details available from the IMS Business Office).

Individual and General Subscriptions: Subscriptions are available on a calendar-year basis. Individual subscriptions are for the personal use of the subscriber and must be in the name of, paid directly by, and mailed to an individual. Individual subscriptions for 2005 are available to *The Annals of Applied Probability* ($105), *The Annals of Probability* ($110), *The Annals of Statistics* ($115), *IMS Bulletin* ($60), and *Statistical Science* ($100). General subscriptions are for libraries, institutions, and any multiple-readership use. General subscriptions for 2005 are available to *The Annals of Applied Probability* ($150), *The Annals of Probability* ($240), *The Annals of Statistics* ($240), *IMS Bulletin* ($60), and *Statistical Science* ($130). Airmail rates for delivery outside North America are $80 per title (excluding *IMS Bulletin*).

The *IMS Bulletin* publishes articles and news of interest to IMS members and to statisticians and probabilists in general, as well as details of IMS meetings and an international calendar of statistical events. Views and opinions in editorials and articles are not to be understood as official expressions of the Institute's policy unless so stated; publication does not necessarily imply endorsement in any way of the opinions expressed therein, and the *IMS Bulletin* and its publisher do not accept any responsibility for them. The *IMS Bulletin* is copyrighted and authors of individual articles may be asked to sign a copyright transfer to the IMS before publication.

The *IMS Bulletin* (ISSN 1544-1881) is published ten times per year in January/February, March, April, May, June, July, August/September, October, November and December by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, 3163 Somerset Dr, Cleveland, Ohio 44122, USA. Periodicals postage paid at Cleveland, Ohio, and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Institute of Mathematical Statistics, 9650 Rockville Pike, Suite L2407A, Bethesda, MD 20814-3998.

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Information for Advertisers

General information

The *IMS Bulletin* and webpages are the official news organs of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. The *IMS Bulletin*, established in 1972, is published 10 times per year. Circulation is 4,623 paper copies (January 2005); the *Bulletin* is also available free online in PDF format at www.imstat.org/bulletin; it is usually posted online about two weeks before mailout. Subscription to the *IMS Bulletin* costs $60. To subscribe, call (301) 634 7029 or email staff@imstat.org. The IMS website, www.imstat.org, established in 1996, receives over 30,000 visits per month (31,338 in January 2005). Public access is free.

Advertising rates and requirements

Ad rates include copy in *IMS Bulletin* and on IMS web page (same price for placing ad in one medium). Ads will be posted on the web site within 7-10 days of receipt. See below for *Bulletin* deadlines.

We accept two kinds of adverts: camera-ready and text. Camera-ready ads should be sent as grayscale PDF with all fonts embedded. Text ads can be sent as a Word or plain text attachment, or in the body of an email. If you want a logo or other graphic to be included with your text ad, please send it separately as a grayscale 300 dpi TIFF. Please ask if you need help with these formats.

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1/2 Page	7.5″ x 4″ (190 x 102 mm)	201-300	$225
2/3 Page	4.93″ x 8″ (125.2 x 203 mm)	301-450	$275
Full Page	7.5″ x 8″ (190 mm x 203 mm)	451-600	$325

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Deadlines and Mail Dates for *IMS Bulletin*

Issue	Deadline for Advertisement	Online by	Scheduled Mail Date
1: January/February	***December 1***	December 15	January 1
2: March	***February 1***	February 15	March 1
3: April	***March 1***	March 15	April 1
4: May	***April 1***	April 15	May 1
5: June	***May 1***	May 15	June 1
6: July	***June 1***	June 15	July 1
7: August/September	***July 1***	July 15	August 1
8: October	***September 1***	September 15	October 1
9: November	***October 1***	October 15	November 1
10: December	***November 1***	November 15	December 1

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in the next issue

October 2005

JSM and IMS Annual Meeting reports, as well as news of members around the world, meeting announcements and job opportunities.

Send in your articles, feedback, letters…

DEADLINE for submissions

September 1, 2005

Please see inside the back cover for subscription details and information for advertisers, including all our deadlines and requirements

The purpose of the Institute is to foster the development and dissemination of the theory and applications of statistics and probability

IMS: Organized September 12, 1935

JSM Seattle: August 6–10, 2006

JSM (the Joint Statistical Meetings) is the largest gathering of statisticians held in North America. It is held jointly with the American Statistical Association, the International Biometric Society (ENAR and WNAR), the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and the Statistical Society of Canada. Attended by over 5000 people, activities of the meeting include oral presentations, panel sessions, poster presentations, continuing education courses, exhibit hall, career placement service, society and section business meetings, committee meetings, social activities, and networking opportunities. Seattle is the host city for JSM 2006 and offers a wide range of possibilities for sharing time with friends and colleagues. For information, contact jsm@amstat.org or phone toll-free (800) 308-8943. Check out http://www.seeseattle.org for more information.