

### **Committee Report on Asia Pacific Rim Meeting:**

The first IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meeting (IMS-APRM) has been successfully held in Seoul from June 28 – July 1. The scientific program committee was co-chaired by Feifang Hu and Runze Li, and local organizing committee was chaired by Byeong U. Park. This conference was co-sponsored by IMS, Korea Statistical Society, International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA), International India Statistical Association (IISA) and Japan Statistical Society. There were about 400 abstracts received for the first IMS-APRM, and about 600 people registered for this meeting. There are 2 plenary talks, 45 invited talk session and a number of topic-contributed talk sessions, contributed talk sessions and poster presented in the conference.

The IMS-China, a subsidiary of Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS), is governed by the rules and regulations of the IMS. This report summarizes activities of the IMS-China since 06/11/2008.

#### 1) Memberships

As of July 1, 2009, the IMS-China has 212 members.

#### 2) Meetings

The IMS-China was officially formed during the first IMS-China conference on statistics and probability, which took place in Zhejiang University, HangZhou, China, from June 11 to June 13, 2008. There were about 300 participants, with nearly 50% members of the IMS from oversea. The conference was very successful in that it serves as a platform for interactions IMS members, especially with their counterparts in china. Moreover, 5 founding officers of the IMS-China were appointed during a meeting of members of the IMS-China, which constitutes the IMS-China executive committee. Details concerning the IMS-China can be found in the IMS-bulletin in the June/July issue of 2008.

On the basis of the success of the first international conference on probability and statistics sponsored by the IMS-China, the second IMS-China meeting took place in Weihai, China, from July 3-July 6, 2009. This time, more oversea IMS members participated. This promotes interactions between members of IMS-China and IMS to further integrate the IMS-China into IMS. Roughly 200 participants from many countries showed up and gave presentations. Due to a concern of the Flu, the number of participants is capped, which is unlike the HangZhou meeting.

#### 3) IMS-China guideline

Members of the IMS-China executive committee met in Beijing, October, 26, 2008, in addition to the representative of the IMS and the present IMS president, to finalize the IMS-China guideline. During the meeting, the procedure of election of future IMS-China officers is finalized, which is consistent with the election procedure of the IMS.

#### 4) Election

According to the IMS-China guideline and the procedure of election, election of IMS-China officers for 2010-2012 is underway, with the ballot to be sent out to members of the IMS-China soon. The result of election will be available early next year.

5) Financial statement

Year 2008

1) Start-up fund: YMB47744.20 (IMS remittance)

2) The HangZhou meeting: YMB16315 (Surplus, denotation 課外費用 expenses)

3) IMS-China Expenditure: (-)YMB793 (reception expenses)

Balance as of July 1, 2009: YMB 63266.20



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## For posting

1 message

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**don ylvisaker <ndy@stat.ucla.edu>**  
To: Elyse Gustafson <erg@imstat.org>

**Thu, Jun 18, 2009 at 11:08 AM**

Report of the Memorials Committee

This has been the second year of committee activity after a period of several years with none. The Committee has consisted of Cindy Christiansen, Geoffrey Grimmett, John Hartigan, Paul Embrechts, and Don Ylvisaker.

Five proposals put before the Council have been approved:

that an issue of the Annals of Probability be dedicated to J. L. Doob;  
that an issue of the Annals of Probability be dedicated to Ted Harris;  
that an issue of the Annals of Applied Statistics be dedicated to Leo Breiman;  
that an issue of the Annals of Probability be dedicated to Oded Schramm;  
that an issue of Statistical Science be dedicated to David Freedman.

The Doob issue is soon out, with articles by Marc Yor and Ron Gettoor. The other projects are in various stages of preparation.

The Committee worked to effect a Sam Karlin Memorial Session at the 2009 JSM. Complications intruded, a rescheduling is intended. There will be a David Freedman Memorial Session at the JSM, this apart from any action of the present committee.

There is now the sense that we are current. Comments and suggestions for committee consideration are always welcome.

Don Ylvisaker  
Chair

--On 31. Mai 2009 13:22:56 -0700 Terry Speed <[terry@stat.berkeley.edu](mailto:terry@stat.berkeley.edu)> wrote:

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Terry Speed  
Department of Statistics and Program in Biostatistics,  
367 Evans Hall, #3860,  
University of California, Tel: 510 642-0613 (direct)  
BERKELEY, CA 94720-3860, 510 642-2781 (message)  
USA. Fax: 510 642-7892  
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Report of Ad Hoc Committee on new awards (3rd revised draft)  
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#### 1. Background.

In September 2008 we were set up to examine whether the IMS should have any new awards, and if so, to make appropriate recommendations.

(Note of clarification. In what follows the term "award" is to be regarded as including "prize", and "medal". The Institute's named lectures are not regarded as awards in this sense.)

#### 2. Process.

The committee had several rounds of email exchanges in the period Sept 08 to May 09, leading to the recommendation below.

#### 3. Outcome.

The committee did not feel that there is a good case for instituting new awards, and hence will not be making any such recommendations.

The principal reason for this outcome was the view that on the one hand, if one named lecture was upgraded to an award + lecture, this would single that lecture out to the detriment of all the others. The IMS may wish to do so, but the committee did not feel there was a case for doing so in any particular case, and even less for doing so for all named lectures.

A second, reason, only slightly less important, is that converting one or more named lectures into an award will significantly increase the workload of the committee charged with making the selection. The process could hardly be less searching than for people nominated for fellowship, most likely substantially more so. Again, this committee did not feel that there was sufficient justification for going down this route.

A further, perhaps lesser reason for our decision, was the shared wish to avoid exaggerating the significance the achievements of our colleagues. By and large, IMS members are a modest, low-key group of people, who gather together for professional and personal interaction. We undoubtedly have our stars, for whom awards would be widely supported. However, decisions on the awards to individuals many times every year seem to us unlikely

to gain the wide acceptance and respect they should, and the process risks engendering cynicism, and devaluing awards to our truly outstanding members.

However, the committee identified a gap in set of named lectures used by the Institute to honor its members, namely the absence of a rotating series of lectures named after outstanding probabilist members of the IMS, which are the probability counterparts of the Rietz, Neyman and LeCam lectures. It noted that the decision has already been made to honor JL Doob by setting up a Doob lecture to be given at the quadrennial World Congresses in Probability and Statistics, commencing with the World Congress in 2012. The Doob lecturer would be chosen jointly by the IMS and the Bernoulli Society.

#### 4. Recommendation

That the IMS set up a quadrennial Feller lecture, to be given at Annual Meetings on even numbered years not associated with the Bernoulli World Congress. More precisely, if the World Congress meetings are in years 2012, 2016, 2020...., then the Feller Lecture would be in the years 2010 (if not too soon), 2014, 2018,....

Report on the IMS New Researchers Conference 2009  
Organizing Chair: Tracy L Bergemann PhD, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics,  
University of Minnesota

The IMS New Researchers Conference will be held this year from July 27th to July 31st at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, MD. There will also be a single day of the conference held on the campuses of the NIH, hosted by the Biostatistics Branch of the DCEG, on July 30th. Fifty participants will deliver 15 minute talks on their research endeavors. We have also invited three guest speakers, the Tweedie Awardee Jiashun Jin, the chair of Biostatistics at Johns Hopkins Karen Bandeen-Roche, and the IMS president Nanny Wermuth. The journals the Annals of Statistics and Biometrics will be represented by Bernard Silverman and Thomas Louis respectively.

The full meeting program is available at <http://www.biostat.umn.edu/~tracyb/nrc.html>. This meeting will be supported by three grants, from the NSF, NSA, and NIH for a total of \$44,500. The projected budget is expected to fall within this budget. All participants will stay at Charles Commons on the Hopkins campus and catering is arranged by Johns Hopkins Conference Hosting. We expect to be able to compensate participants for a portion of their travel, at \$300 each. Invited speakers will stay at the nearby Doubletree Hotel, a two block walk from campus and less than half of a mile from the meeting site.

## **PUBLICATION COMMITTEE REPORT – 2009.**

It has been a quiet year. This may mean that since nothing seemed to be broke, there was nothing to fix, or it might mean that the Publication Committee could do with a fresh, more pro-active, chair for next year. Personally, I would be happy with such a move. :)

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

### **1: IMS journal citation styles.**

There was a lively discussion on consolidating the citations style for all IMS journals to the name+year (Harvard style) with the probabilists and statisticians generally aligned up on different sides of the argument. (Against and for, respectively.) The final recommendation was that this style should be adopted immediately, but not applied retroactively for papers which have already been typeset or for papers for which authors have already submitted a final version.

### **2: Posting of accepted papers on arXiv.**

A call from the IMS Executive Committee to review the policy on posting of the final version of journal articles to arXiv led very quickly – with probabilists and statisticians for once agreeing with one another – to the recommendation that we should continue having our journal papers posted on arXiv, on the basis that free online access is the wave of the present, not even the future.

The Committee also considered the issue of whether or not arXiv posting is related to the worrying phenomenon of declining institutional subscriptions to IMS journals. While it as felt that this was unlikely, it recommended that IMS collect information from similar organisations (AMS, ASA, Bernoulli, etc) to investigate how widespread and potentially serious a phenomenon this is.

Robert Adler  
Haifa, June 30, 2009



**Executive Secretary.** This committee recommended the appointment of Marten Wegkamp, of Florida State University, and this was approved by Council and announced in the IMS Bulletin in March.

**Program Secretary.** The committee recommended the appointment of Guenther Walter, of Stanford University, for a three year term beginning July 1. Guenther has already been serving as Program Secretary for one year, as a replacement for the previous Program Secretary, and the committee was very pleased that he agreed to continue.

**Managing Editor, Statistics and Probability.** Michael Phelan of the University of California, Irvine, has agreed to a second term as managing editor.

Submitted on behalf of the committee,

Nancy Reid (Chair)

Julia Norton

Yazhen Wang



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## annual report AOAS 2009

1 message

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**Bradley Efron <brad@stat.stanford.edu>**

**Tue, Jun 16, 2009 at 12:04 AM**

To: erg@imstat.org

### ANNUAL REPORT, ANNALS OF APPLIED STATISTICS 2009

2008 was the first complete publication year for the Annals of Applied Statistics. Four issues came out as planned, totaling about 1600 pages. We received 274 submissions and had an acceptance rate of about 30%. In starting the journal we hoped to give authors a first response in 3 months or less, and that goal has been generally well met. At present there are only 3 papers that have been "out" more than 5 months. Submissions continue to come in from all over the world, at a steady rate of about 23/month. Our website continues to draw considerable interest, having attracted its 200,000th visitor earlier this year.

The December 2008 issue contained a special section on atmospheric sciences. This was followed in the March 2009 issue by a special section on astronomy and statistics. We feel that these sections have raised the profile of AOAS in the relevant physical science communities. Planned for the December 2009 issue is a special section on the modeling of network data, as announced on our web site:

#### MODELING OF NETWORK DATA

The Annals of Applied Statistics is planning a special section in 2009 with papers on the modeling of network data. Applications can be in any area of science including social networks, the study of the Internet and various forms of electronic communications, protein-protein interactions and other biological network phenomena.

We have received about 15 submitted papers, which are currently being reviewed, covering all the areas mentioned above.

At the end of this year, Michael Newton, our Editor for biology, medicine, and genetics, will complete his three-year term (actually, 3.5 years given our initial start-up time.) The IMS is in his debt for getting the crucial "biostat" section off to an excellent start. He will be succeeded by Karen Kafadar, currently serving as Editor for General Topics. The other editors, Michael Stein, Stephen Fienberg, and Bradley Efron, have agreed to extend their terms.

We continue to be grateful to Elyse Gustafson, Geri Mattson, and the VTEX crew, for the first-rate technical support we have gotten spoiled receiving.

6/23/2009

Gmail - annual report AOAS 2009

Bradley Efron, Stephen Fienberg, Karen Kafadar,  
Michael Newton, and Michael Stein

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## Report

1 message

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**Annals of Probability** <aop@math.umn.edu>  
To: Elyse Gustafson <erg@imstat.org>

Thu, Jul 16, 2009 at 10:48 AM

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In the period January 1 2009-July 15 2009 the AoP received 129 submissions. 5 were withdrawn (4 due to an error in submission, where submission to other IMS journals was intended. One was withdrawn due to a mathematical error discovered by the author).

Of the submissions, 43 were rejected, 8 accepted, 1 accepted pending revision, 2 rejected with resubmission, and 58 are still undergoing refereeing. The accepted articles include articles in memory of J. L. Doob, assembled by G. Grimmett and D. Ylvisaker. It seems too early for me to give significance to these statistics.

Delay from acceptance to publication seems to hold at about 12 months. For 2010, the proposed page budget is similar to 2009. If delay increases, a request for increase in the page budget will be made for the 2011 year.

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The Annals of Statistics, 2009 Annual Report  
Susan Murphy and Bernard Silverman, Editors

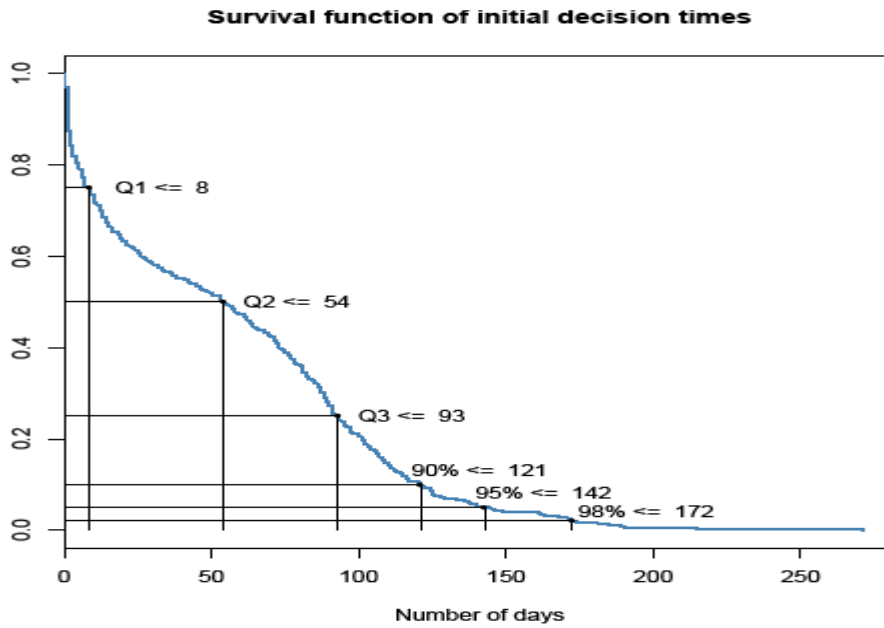
**SUBMISSIONS:** We received 490 submissions in 2008 remaining high relative to the historical norm (in comparison to 319, 362, 323, 343, 397 and 479 in 2002 – 2007, respectively). Our editorial policy continues to emphasize that The Annals of Statistics aims at publishing research papers of highest quality reflecting the many facets of contemporary statistics, including all mathematical, methodological, computational and interdisciplinary work.

**ACCEPTANCE RATE:** During 2008, we made 74 acceptance, 316 rejection, 22 requests for revision (major/minor) and 62 rejections with encouragement to resubmit. The acceptance rate among these 490 papers is about 15% percent. This is compared with 23% for the manuscripts submitted during 2007. The historical acceptance rate for the Annals has been about 25 percent.

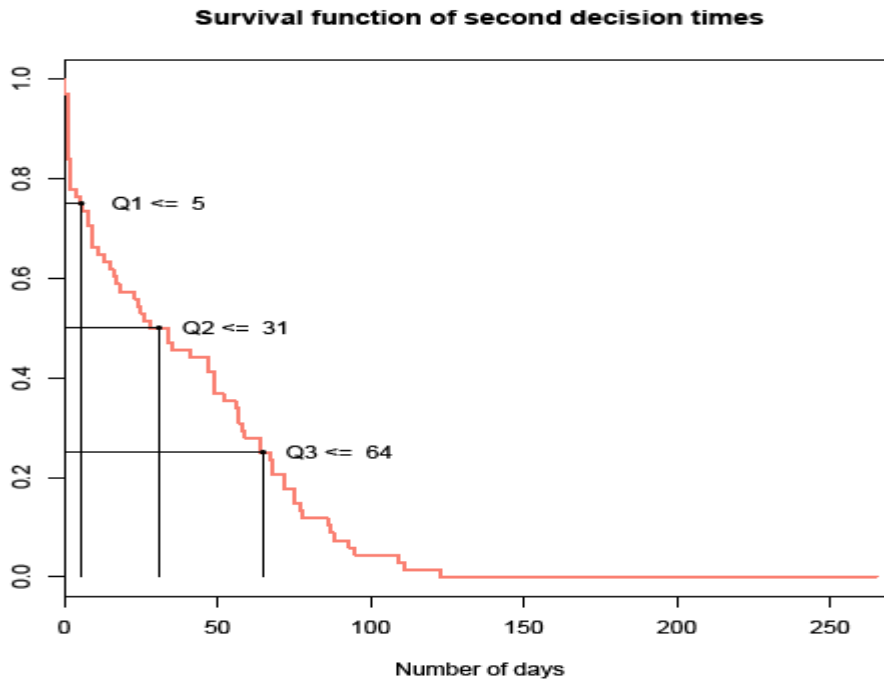
**BACKLOG:** During 2006, we printed 3050 pages. In 2009 we expect to use an allotment of 4400 pages. There is a current backlog of about 3 issues. Because the IMS council approved the publication of double issues in October 2009 and December 2009, manuscripts accepted now should appear around February 2010.

**PAGE REQUEST:** We request an allotment of 4000 pages for 2010. This should result in a backlog of approximately 1 issue.

**REVIEW TIMES:** The quartiles of the distribution of the initial decision times for manuscripts submitted in 2008 are 8 days, 54 days and 92 days. They are about the same as the quartiles of 7 days, 43 days and 88 days from 2007. Unfortunately we continue to have a few manuscripts that take an excessively long time to review; for example, it took us more than 172 days to provide an initial decision on 10 manuscripts. The details of the review times are summarized in the graph below, which provides an estimated survival curve of initial decision times for submissions in 2008.



There were 68 revised manuscripts: the quartiles of the distribution of the second decision times for these manuscripts are 5, 31 days and 64 days as compared to 2 days, 12 days and 71 days in 2007. See below.



## ***IMS Bulletin: Report to Council 2009***

The *IMS Bulletin* continued this year with columns from Terry Speed and Rick Durrett, and with occasional articles from other contributors. News about IMS activities and IMS members remained the major focus. We have had a few Letters to the Editor, though this continues to be an occasional, rather than a regular, feature. The number of obituaries increased in memory of past IMS members who have made significant contributions to our profession. We had to tighten our selection criteria due to higher demand. We introduced a new “Members’ Discoveries” section, as a way to highlight selected papers published in IMS journals, or interesting discoveries by our members. We would like IMS journal editors to suggest publications that can be featured in this section.

We plan to feature more interviews in the coming year. Next year IMS will be marking the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding, and we will be focusing on the institute’s history, and feature conversations with some of our long-time members.

The *Bulletin*’s online home is located at <http://bulletin.imstat.org>. Printed copies (circulation just under 5,000) continue to be mailed around the first of the month of issue, with the PDF version uploaded around the 15th of the previous month (i.e. about two weeks earlier than the shipping date). The time it takes for the printed copies to reach members varies, and we have no control over that. The PDF version of the *Bulletin* (available from the website above) is still popular, receiving around 5,000 downloads per month.

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

*Xuming He & Tati Howell*  
*July 2009*

Management Committee  
for  
*Current Index to Statistics*  
Interim Report, July, 2009

**Members**

Jie Chen (ASA), James Gentle (Chair), Jim Pitman (IMS), Eric Suess (ASA), Hadley Wickham (IMS)

**Background**

*Current Index to Statistics (CIS)*, which began in 1974 as a joint venture of the American Statistical Association (ASA) and the Institute for Mathematical Statistics (IMS), but an agreement was reached in 2007 that upon three annual payments to ASA, IMS would assume full financial ownership (and financial management). For the year 2007, *CIS* generated \$29,181 net for each society. In 2008 all revenue and expenses were handled by IMS, and the amounts for 2008 have not been reported. The policy of IMS is for the funds to be comingled with general IMS operating revenues. It is presumed that IMS paid ASA the agreed upon fee for the year 2008. The Management Committee was not involved in the ownership restructuring.

The charge of the *CIS* Management Committee from the owners of *CIS* (that is, IMS) is:

"c) The Management Committee's charge is to review and recommend changes to editorial policies and procedures for the *CIS*, select editors, and approve the appointment of Associate Editors. Actions of the Management Committee are subject to review by the several governing boards of the partner societies. "

**Editors**

The operational aspects of *CIS* are handled by  
Abstracting Editor: George Styan  
Associate Editors: Alan Zaslavsky and Pantelis Vlachos  
Database Editor: Stefano Iacus

The Abstracting Editor is responsible for editorial choices about what gets indexed. The operations of the Abstracting Editor currently run about \$30,000 per year.

The Associate Editors are responsible for administrative details such as subscriptions and keeping the server and web site up.

The Database Editor is responsible for handling the database: making sure new data gets into it, and making sure users can retrieve data from it.

**Developments**

The major development for *CIS* during 2008 was a new search interface, developed by Hadley Wickham. It was demonstrated in a special session at JSM 2008 in Denver.



### **Meeting of the Management Committee**

The Management Committee met at JSM 2008 in Denver. All members were present. Associate Editor Alan Zaslavsky was also present for part of the meeting.

The editors are performing their duties well, and so the only relevant item in the committee's charge is "to review and recommend changes to editorial policies and procedures for the *CIS*".

This was the first meeting in which the Committee had no information about the financial status of *CIS*, so the usual agenda item concerning finances was not discussed, other than in passing as the committee considered various ideas for enhancing *CIS*. Although the database continues to be the "best" for the field of statistics, other bibliographic sources (such as Google Scholar) are becoming more competitive.

Because it is curated, *CIS* is more authoritative, both in accuracy and relevance of the bibliographic data. The committee briefly discussed expansion of the database by contributions of data from the statistical community at large. Such contributions would be only minimally edited centrally. Another possibility mentioned was to have some number of Contributing Editors or even multiple Abstracting Editors, but there no concrete proposals were put forth. Incidentally, the committee took as an action item to confirm that the Abstracting Editor, George Styan, is willing to continue in that role, with an indeterminate term. This was confirmed following the meeting (in September).

More important and more substantive future work on *CIS* is the continued enhancement of the interface to the database. The current interface is still in the alpha phase. Future work includes a number of new features, whose development will depend primarily on the interest and energy of volunteers, but will require some level of funding for programming support at the very least.

Features that have been discussed are linkages with other databases and processing of bibliographic data, such as identifying coauthors and forming coauthor graphs. Other features that would require input from other sources include author name disambiguation and citation data.

Hadley Wickham will present a proposal at JSM 2009 in Washington to lead a modest effort to continue the enhancement of the interface.

## Editor's Annual Report on the IMS Collections Series, 2008-09

Four volumes have been published in the IMS Collections series during the 2008-09 year. Of these, Volumes 1, 2, and 3 were handled by the previous series editor, Anthony Davison, and volume 4 was handled by the present editor. The volumes are in honor of Pranab K. Sen, David A. Freedman, Jayanta K. Ghosh, and Thomas G. Kurtz, respectively.

Applications were made to the series editor during this year to publish a volume to celebrate the 65th birthday of Jon Wellner, and separately, the 70th birthday of Lawrence D. Brown. The applications have been approved and volume editors have been appointed. The volumes have been allotted 580 and 400 pages, respectively (although presumably they are somewhat flexible).

A volume to honor the memory of Dr. Andrei Yakovlev has been just approved. This volume has been tentatively allotted 400 pages.

Another volume in the nature of a conference proceeding to celebrate the retirement of Thomas Hettmansperger is supposed to be submitted. The conference was held sometime ago. But the submission has not been made. The editors called about two months ago and assured the series editor that the volume is progressing.

Anirban DasGupta  
Editor, IMS Collections Series  
June 19, 2009

## Editor's Annual Report on the LNMS, 2008-09

We have one actual publication in the series during this year. It is a special volume in honor of Priscilla Greenwood, edited by Nick Bingham and Igor Estigneev.

Research monographs in preparation by Domenico Marinucci and Byeong Park (separately) made limited additional advances during this year. However, both continue to show an interest in submitting their monographs before 2010.

Thanks to the efforts of Susan Murphy, an extremely nice monograph on measure theoretic probability by Ross Leadbetter at the beginning Ph.D. level has completed the review process and should be available next year.

We have also completed the review process of the proceedings of the 3rd Lehmann symposium. The galleys should be available to the authors at any time, and the volume should be available in early Fall.

Anirban DasGupta

Editor, Lecture Notes and Monographs Series

June 19, 2009

## Report of the Managing Editor

### Probability and Statistics

Michael Phelan

The page counts for 2008 turned out as follows: 2932 printed pages for *Annals of Probability*, 2581 for *Annals of Applied Probability*, 2917 for *Annals of Statistics*, 1431 for *Annals of Applied Statistics*, 565 for *Statistical Science*.

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

#### *The Annals of Probability*

Volume 36	2008 Printed Pages	Volume 37	2009 Printed Pages
No. 1	396	No. 1	402
No. 2	409	No. 2	411
No. 3	402	No. 3	421
No. 4	402	-	-
No. 5	888	-	-
No. 6	<u>435</u>	-	<u>-</u>
TOTAL	2932	TOTAL	1235

*The Annals of Applied Probability*

Volume 18	2008 Printed Pages	Volume 19	2009 Printed Pages
No. 1	359	No. 1	476
No. 2	465	No. 2	386
No. 3	453	No. 3	410
No. 4	390	No. 4	390
No. 5	401	-	-
No. 6	<u>513</u>	-	-
TOTAL	2581	TOTAL	1272

*The Annals of Statistics*

Volume 36	2008 Printed Pages	Volume 37	2009 Printed Pages
No. 1	487	No. 1	568
No. 2	542	No. 2	510
No. 3	478	No. 3	512
No. 4	515	No. 4	492
No. 5	526	No. 5	513
No. 6	<u>369</u>	-	-
TOTAL	2917	TOTAL	2022

*The Annals of Applied Statistics*

Volume 2	2008 Printed Pages	Volume 3	2009 Printed Pages
No. 1	285	No. 1	489
No. 2	342	No. 2	389
No. 3	366	No. 3	-
No. 4	<u>438</u>	No. 4	-
TOTAL	1431	TOTAL	878

*Statistical Science*

Volume 23	2008 Printed Pages	Volume 24	2009 Printed Pages
No. 1	150	-	-
No. 2	135	-	-
No. 3	152	-	-
No. 4	<u>128</u>	-	<u>-</u>
TOTAL	565	TOTAL	-

Annual Report - *Statistical Science*  
David Madigan, Executive Editor  
June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009

From June 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009, 94 manuscripts were submitted. As of June 30, 2009, 44 manuscripts were at various stages of review or revision for *Statistical Science*. Of the total 94 manuscripts submitted during this period, 49 were rejected, 29 are still in various stages of review or revision, and 16 have been accepted.

Month	Received	Rejected	Under review or revision	Accepted
June 08	6	2	3	1
Jul 08	6	4	0	2
Aug 08	10	7	0	3
Sept 08	6	4	2	0
Oct 08	5	2	1	2
Nov 08	6	3	2	1
Dec 08	11	5	2	4
Jan 09	8	6	1	1
Feb 09	7	5	2	0
Mar 09	15	4	9	2
Apr 09	7	2	5	0
May 09	7	5	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>16</b>

This is my second year as Executive Editor of *Statistical Science* on January 1, 2008. Ed George did an outstanding job as my predecessor and passed along a healthy backlog of accepted and in-review high quality papers. Ed has stayed on as an Editor and was extraordinarily helpful during the transition. Ed is still handling two special issues/sections that are at an advanced stage of preparation: “A Half Century of Minimax Shrinkage Estimation” (Guest Editor - Bill Strawderman), and “Thirty Years of the EM Algorithm” (Guest Editors – Xiao Li Meng and David Van Dyke).

I anticipate that the total manuscript pages for 2009 will be around 600. Roughly the same number of manuscript pages should be planned for 2010. For 2009 and 2010 we will have special issues on “Bayesian methods that frequentists should know” (Guest Editors Partha Lahiri and Eric Slud), “Genome wide association studies” (Guest Editor Gang Zheng), and “Adaptive clinical trials” (Guest Editor Ken Cheung).

I am very grateful to both Mattson Publishing Services and VTEX, who continue to be very responsive to the needs of the journal. I am very grateful to each of the members of the editorial board: Yali Amit, Rong Chen, Richard Davis, Constantine Frangakis, Ed George, Diane Lambert, Peter Mueller, Nancy Reid, Thomas Richardson, Glenn Shafer, and Marty Wells. I receive invaluable editorial support from Elyse Gustafson, Patrick Kelly, and Geri Mattson.

## **Program Secretary's Annual Report for 2008–2009**

IMS sponsored the following meetings:

### **IMS Annual Meeting / 7th Bernoulli World Congress**

Singapore, July 14–19, 2008

Program Chair: Ruth Williams

IMS Local Chair: Louis Chen

### **Eleventh Meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability**

Denver, CO, July 29 – August 2, 2008

IMS Chair: Ryan Elmore

### **Joint Statistical Meetings**

Denver, CO, August 3–7, 2008

IMS Program Chair: Russell Lenth

IMS Contributed Papers Chair: Eric Kolaczyk

### **2009 ENAR/IMS Spring Meetings**

San Antonio, TX, March 15–18, 2009

IMS Chair: Tianxi Cai

### **2009 WNAR/IMS Meeting**

Portland, OR, June 14–17, 2009

IMS chair: Hayyan Huang

### **IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meetings**

Seoul, Korea, June 28–July 1, 2009

IMS Chairs: Feifang Hu and Runze Li

Local Chair: Byeong Park

### **The 2nd IMS-China Conference in Statistics and Probability**

Weihai, China, July 3–6, 2009

IMS Chairs: Tony Cai and Jiashun Jin

### **Twelfth Meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability**

Baltimore, MD, July 28–31, 2009

IMS Chair: Tracy Bergemann

### **IMS Annual Meeting / Joint Statistical Meetings**

Washington, DC, August 2–6, 2009

IMS Program Chairs: Michael Koroso and Xiaotong Shen

IMS Contributed Papers Chair: Ji Zhu

IMS co-sponsored the following meetings:



**Malliavin Calculus and its Applications**

Kent State University, OH, August 7–12, 2008

**Conference for Women in Probability**

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, October 5–7, 2008

IMS Chairs: Lea Popovic, Amber Puha, Rick Durrett

**Fall Conference on Statistics in Biology**

Iowa State University, Ames, IA, October 13–15, 2008

**ISNI 2008: International Seminar on Nonparametric Inference**

Vigo, Spain, November 5–7, 2008

**International Workshop on Flexible Modelling: Smoothing and Robustness**

Leuven, Belgium, November 12–14, 2008

**Symposium on New Directions in Asymptotic Statistics**

Georgia, Athens, May 15–16, 2009

**Innovation and Inventiveness in Statistics Methodologies**

New Haven, CT, May 15–17, 2009

**2009 Spring Research Conference on Statistics in Industry and Technology**

Vancouver, Canada, May 27–29, 2009

**The 75th Anniversary of the Statistical Laboratory Conference**

Ames, IA, June 3–5, 2009

**International Conference on Robust Statistics**

Parma, Italy, June 14–19, 2009

**Statistical Methods for the Analysis of Network Data in Practice**

Dublin, Ireland, June 15–17, 2009

**2009 ICSA Applied Statistical Symposium** San Francisco, CA, June  
21-24, 2009  
IMS Chair: Jiming Jiang

**7th Workshop on Bayesian Nonparametrics**  
Nocalieri, Italy, June 21-25, 2009

**Recent Advances in Small Area Statistics**  
Cologne, Germany, June 22-23, 2009  
IMS Chair: Partha Lahiri

**5th Cornell Probability Summer School**  
Ithaca, NY, July 6-17, 2009

**International Conference on Experimental Designs**  
Guangzhou, China, July 17-19, 2009  
IMS Chair: Jianqing Fan

**International Symposium in Statistics on GLLMM**  
St. John's, Canada, July 20-22, 2009

**33rd Conference on Stochastic Processes and Their Applications**  
Berlin, Germany, July 27-31, 2009

# Annual Report

## Electronic Journal of Statistics

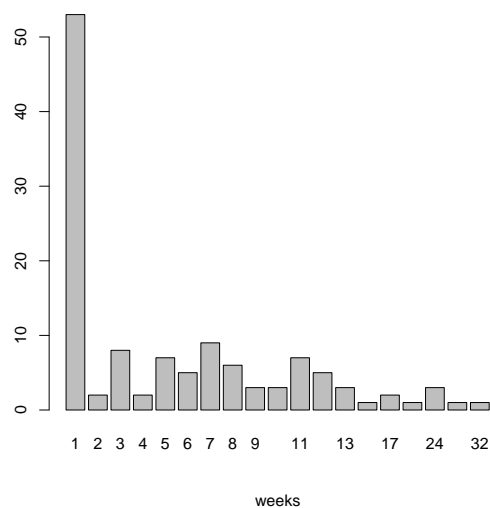
Larry Wasserman  
June 23 2009

EJS has published 68 articles (1,683 pages) this year. median time to first review is still low (3 weeks) and acceptance rate has dropped from .40 to .29. Details are below.

This is my last year as editor. I understand that the IMS council is currently searching for a new editor. I urge the IMS to upgrade the web system that is used for this journal.

Period	Articles published	pages	median time until first review	acceptance rate
2007	26	676	NA	NA
1 2008 - 5 2008	13	331	2 weeks	.40
6 2008 - 5 2009	68	1683	3 weeks	.29

Here is a barplot of time until first review:



## **Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics (JCGS) Management Committee Report**

**July 3, 2009**

### **2009 JCGS Management Committee Members**

J. Lynn Palmer (Chair), William Eddy, Susan Holmes, Chris Volinsky, David van Dyk

### **2009 JCGS Editor Search Committee Members**

J. Lynn Palmer (Chair), William Eddy, Susan Holmes, David Marchette, Jeff Solka, Chris Volinsky, David van Dyk

### **Report**

Our main task this past year was to identify a new editor for the *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics (JCGS)* to serve 2010-2012 to replace our outgoing editor, David van Dyk, who served 2007-2009 (there will be about a 6-month overlap at the end of 2009).

Our editor search committee considered the names of seven candidates for the position of Editor of JCGS. We then narrowed that list to our top three candidates and contacted those three candidates. Our criteria for editor included someone who is detailed oriented, organized, able to complete work in a timely fashion, a good research profile, high standards, and a passion for computational and graphical statistics.

Our Editor Search Committee unanimously recommended Richard Levine be appointed as the next Editor of the *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics* and he has accepted.

Richard Levine has been an effective associate editor for JCGS since 1998. He is very familiar with the JCGS editorial process and the direction of the journal. Rich's expertise is in the theory and application of Monte Carlo statistical methods with applications primarily in the area of Bayesian analysis including hierarchical Bayesian modeling and Bayesian (survival) trees. Professionally, he is expected to be promoted to Full Professor this year from San Diego State University. Attached is a copy of his CV.

Submitted by J. Lynn Palmer, 2009 Chair of the JCGS Management Committee

# Probability Surveys

## 2009 Report

I took over the editorship on 1 January 2009. Volume 5 (2008) contained 8 papers totalling 483 pages. Notable submissions since have been sparse, and my main activity so far has been to increase the flow rate by advertising the journal as widely as possible without compromising standards. I have written to many individuals, with a decent response rate, and have placed publicity in the IMS Newsletter.

There are three promising papers currently under review. Seven submissions have been rejected so far in 2009 as unsuitable for the journal, the principal crime being an incorrect balance of survey material. Rejection can often be done quite quickly, following consultation with an Associate Editor.

Geoffrey Grimmett  
22 June 2009

**IMS Executive Editor's report**  
**Statistics Surveys**  
**June 2009, Jon A. Wellner**

Volume 1 (2007) contained two papers (55 pages total): one by Elizabeth Thompson on Statistical Genetics, and another on wavelet methods by Anestis Antoniadis. Volume 2 (2008) contained six papers (169 pages total). In Volume 3 (2009) we have published two papers so far (46 pages). There are some interesting papers coming soon. These include one on random forests by David Siroky; and distributional properties of means of random probability measures by Antonio Lijoi and Igor Pruenster. We are especially excited about an upcoming invited paper on causal inference by Professor Judea Pearl. We have been in contact with Gerard Letac about the possibility of publishing a revision of his monograph on exponential families (in serial form), but have not yet received any written material.

As with Probability Surveys, acceptance percentages are not comparable to those of other IMS journals for a variety of reasons. *Statistics Surveys* received: 11 submissions in 2007, 9 of which were declined; 8 submissions in 2008, 2 of which were declined; and (so far) 4 submissions in 2009, 2 of which have been declined. Thus our overall acceptance rate to date is  $10/23 = 43\%$ . The overall quality of the papers accepted seems to be reasonably high. We continue to work toward more high - quality submissions, and welcome inquiries about possible survey and review papers.

I have been working with Wendy Martinez to organize support of *Statistics Surveys* by other societies. We have succeeded in this by enlisting both the American Statistical Association and the Statistical Society of Canada as co-sponsors, in addition to the IMS and the Bernoulli Society. The current Executive Editors representing the four sponsoring societies are: Susan Holmes (ASA), Elja Arjas (Bernoulli Society), Jon Wellner (IMS), and Richard Lockhart (SSC).

For more information, see the IMS Bulletin Article: Volume 38, Issue 4 (May 2009).

**Confidential for the IMS Council and Executive Committee:** I began my 3-year term as Executive Editor in February 2007 and would like to hand over to a new IMS Executive Editor in January or February 2010. I therefore request that the Executive Committee work to identify and appoint a replacement in the coming months.