



**Conference Announcement:**  
**IASE 2016 Roundtable – Berlin, Germany**  
***“Promoting understanding of statistics about society”***

Conference website: <http://iase-web.org/conference/roundtable16>

The International Association for Statistical Education (IASE) is pleased to announce its 2016 Roundtable Conference, **July 19-22, 2016** at the Max Planck Institute for Human Development (MPIB) in Berlin, Germany, before the 13th Int'l Congress of Mathematics Education (ICME13; July 24-31, 2016, Hamburg). The Roundtable is co-organized by IASE and MPIB and sponsored by the German Consortium in Statistics (DAGStat), the German Centre for Mathematics Teacher Education (DZLM), the European Commission's Erasmus+ program ProCivic-Stat, and other partners.

The four-day Roundtable will focus on a unique theme: **“Promoting understanding of statistics about society”**, aiming to advance current knowledge about ways to improve the understanding of data and statistics related to key social phenomena (such as trends in migration, employment, equality, demographic change, crime, poverty, access to services, energy, education, human rights, and others). Understanding of such issues is essential for civic engagement in modern societies, but involves *statistics that often are open, official, multivariate in nature, and/or dynamic*, which are usually not at the core of regular statistics instruction.

The conference goal is to contribute to the development of conceptual frameworks, teaching methods, technology solutions, and curricular materials (especially for learners at the tertiary/college and high-school/secondary levels) that can support and promote learning and understanding of statistics about such social phenomena. All submissions will be peer-refereed. One main outcome of the Roundtable will be a monograph containing a set of high-standard updated papers reflecting the discussions and work at the Roundtable; All papers and posters as well as teaching resources based on the Roundtable will be published in the IASE online Proceedings and future Resources webpage.

**Roles and Topics:** The Roundtable will be a working conferences with participation by invitation (only). It will bring 45-50 folks from around the world and the host country. It is possible to participate in the Roundtable in one of four invited roles: Paper presenter (long or short oral talk); Workshop or Demonstration lesson teacher; Poster; or Discussant/Workgroup leader. We seeks applications for these roles that fit the theme listed above, and that address at least one of the following five topics:

- 1 Key concepts, issues, barriers, and research findings related to understanding of statistics and data about social phenomena that can guide curriculum design and educational planning,
- 2 Reflective reports on teaching experiences and lesson plans (at the tertiary/college and high-school levels) using rich and authentic data or large datasets (e.g., from official agencies) that are relevant to understanding of social topics and civic phenomena as explained above,
- 3 Constructions and misuse of evidence and statistics about society in the public domain (e.g., in the media) that learners should be aware of, and effective ways to overcome them,
- 4 Engaging social data with technology: accessing and managing open data and big data in the classroom, and new data visualisation and other technology-based tools that can improve the understanding of data and statistics about social phenomena,
- 5 Other tools and processes that can support innovation in teaching/learning for understanding statistics about society, e.g., issues in assessment, professional development, etc.

**Program and participants:** The Roundtable will have a diverse program, with a mix of papers (i.e., oral talks), posters, workshops and project/lesson demonstrations, followed by extensive discussions and small group work, and rich social activities. We encourage submissions by colleagues from diverse backgrounds, including from researchers, graduate students, statisticians and educators in universities and other academic or R&D institutions, cognitive scientists, high-school teachers and trainers, professionals from official statistics agencies, public agencies, the media, and technology specialists.

**Submissions and Dates:** To be considered for an invitation, submit an application as follows:

- **For a Paper [oral] or a Workshop/Demonstration Lesson teacher:** Deadline: **1-Nov-2015**. Submit a *structured abstract (300 words) + brief description of background (50-90 words)*. Submitters will be notified by 7-Dec-2015 about provisional acceptance of their submission. A first draft of a paper (4 pages) for the refereeing process is due by 31-Jan-2016; Refereeing results and final acceptance of drafts will be sent to authors by 31-March-2016. Final versions for circulation to the Roundtable participants and to Discussants are due by 1-June-2016.
- **For a Poster:** Deadline: **10 Dec. 2015**. Submit a *structured abstract (300 words) + brief description of background (50-90 words)*. Submitters will be notified by 15-Jan-2016 about acceptance.
- **For a Discussant or Workgroup Leader:** Deadline: **10-Dec-2015**. Submit an extended *description of relevant background (200-300 words)*. Submitters will be notified by 15-Jan-2016 about acceptance.

See the website <http://iase-web.org/conference/roundtable16> for full \*Guidelines for Submission\* with more details on Key Dates, the various possible roles at the conference, ways to structure your abstract, the submission process, etc. See other parts of the website for more details about the conference theme, rationale, and topics. Please submit all needed materials via the website, starting Oct 1 2015.

The Roundtable is a working conference. All those who will be invited to participate will be assigned a specific role by the program committee, depending on the fit of their proposal with the Roundtable goals, program needs, and available space.

**Funding support:** The organizers will offer a limited number of grants to some participants from developing (i.e., less affluent) countries and to high-school teachers. These grants may cover some (but not all) expenses, i.e., funded participants will be expected to find some supplemental sources. Basic information about financial support appears on the conference website under "Registration". More details and related dates will appear on the website from Sept 20, 2015.

**More information:** Please visit our website <http://iase-web.org/conference/roundtable16> for more information about the conference theme, rationale and specific topics, as well as for information about the venue, fees, lodging, etc. Please take into account that at this stage we only have preliminary information on some of the technical issues and the website will be updated as conference plans evolve.

Questions about the scientific program and submissions can be sent to the Chair of the Int'l Program Committee: Joachim Engel: <engel@ph-ludwigsburg.de>. Questions about logistics and registration can be sent to Local Organizing Committee Chair: Laura Martignon <martignon@ph-ludwigsburg.de>.

Before you send questions, please first visit the conference website and examine the expanded information there as well as in the Guidelines for Submission. Note that after Sept 20, 2015 we hope to have more information on some topics.

We look forward to your submission!

-- Joachim Engel (Germany), Chair, International Program Committee (IPC)

-- Laura Martignon (Germany), Chair, Local Organizing Committee (LOC)

-- Andrej Blejec (Slovenia), President, IASE

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