

PAST IASE CONFERENCES

1. SRTL-4 THE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH FORUM ON STATISTICAL REASONING, THINKING AND LITERACY Auckland, New Zealand, July 2-7, 2005

The fourth research forum in a series of international research forums on Statistical Reasoning, Thinking and Literacy (SRTL) took place in winter at The University of Auckland in New Zealand. This particular gathering of researchers has played an important role in advancing our understanding of the richness and depth of reasoning about distribution, a key focus of statistics education.

The forum was sponsored by the Key College Press (USA), The American Statistical Association (ASA) Section on Statistical Education, the Department of Statistics, The University of Auckland, the Department of Mathematics, The University of Auckland, and the New Zealand Statistical Association (NZSA).

The focus of SRTL-4 on reasoning about distribution emerged from the previous three SRTL conferences. Distribution is a key concept in statistics, and yet statisticians and educators may not be aware of how difficult it is for students to develop a deep understanding of this concept. When students are given tasks involving comparing distributions or making inferences, they often fail to utilize relevant information contained in the underlying distributions. Curricular materials often focus on construction and identification of distributions, but not on what these distributions mean to students and how they interpret them.

Twenty researchers in statistics education from six countries shared their work and discussed important issues in a stimulating and enriching environment. Sessions were held in an informal style, with a high level of interaction. With emphasis on reasoning about distribution, a wide range of research projects were presented spanning learners of all ages, as well as teachers. These demonstrated an interesting diversity in research methods, theoretical approaches and points of view. As a result of the success of this gathering, plans are already underway for the next gathering (SRTL-5) in 2007.

The programme began with an overview talk by Chris Wild entitled: "A statistician's view on the concept of distribution." Eight presentations of SRTL-4 were thematically grouped into five clusters. A cluster included one or two ninety-minute research presentations to the entire group, small group discussions, and a whole group reflection on the cluster. All presenters showed a small subset of video segments of their research. Optional time was devoted to viewing and discussing the research video-tapes from methodological and interpretive perspectives. In addition, three doctoral students presented their current research findings in a poster session and a software developer discussed potential research questions to the entire group. The programme ended with three discussants' reflecting on reasoning about distribution from research, curriculum, and technology viewpoints.

The research forum proved to be very productive in many ways. Several types of scientific publications will be produced including a CD-ROM of the proceedings edited by Katie Makar, papers in refereed journals, and a special issue of *Statistics Education Research Journal* (SERJ) on reasoning about distribution co-edited by Maxine Pfannkuch and Chris Reading. An additional product of the meeting was a new SRTL Website

hosted by the Department of Statistics, The University of Auckland that includes a variety of resources. These will all serve as a rich resource for statistics educators and researchers.

Maxine Pfannkuch, The University of Auckland, was the local SRTL-4 organiser ably assisted by Ross Parsonage, social programme, Chris Wild, finance, and Stephen Cope, computer technician and webmaster. Beyond the scientific programme, participants took part in a variety of social events and local excursions that helped to build a sense of community amongst the researchers and to enjoy the wild beauty of Auckland and its beaches, bush, and indigenous Maori and Pacifica cultures. A DVD of the scientific and social programme, edited by Pip Arnold, will be available for participants.

For further information please contact the SRTL Co-chairs Joan Garfield (jbg@umn.edu) and Dani Ben-Zvi (dbenzvi@univ.haifa.ac.il) or visit the SRTL-4 web page <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/srtl4/>.

OTHER PAST CONFERENCES

1. UNITED STATES CONFERENCE ON TEACHING STATISTICS, USCOTS Columbus, OH, USA, May 19-21, 2005

The first United States Conference on Teaching Statistics (USCOTS) was held on May 19-21, 2005 at the Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, hosted by CAUSE, the Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education. USCOTS was an active, hands-on working conference for teachers of Statistics at the undergraduate level, in any discipline or type of institution, including high school teachers of Advanced Placement Statistics. The theme of the 2005 USCOTS was “Building Connections for Undergraduate Statistics Teaching” and focused on ways that we can share teaching ideas, develop working relationships, and identify areas for future collaborations and projects at our own institutions. USCOTS focused on three major areas: curriculum, pedagogy, and research. Lots of good resources for each of these areas are provided on USCOTS web page <http://www.causeweb.org/uscots/census/>. For more information about USCOTS, please contact Deborah Rumsey, USCOTS program chair at rumsey@stat.ohio-state.edu. Website: www.causeweb.org/uscots/

2. PSYCHOLOGY OF MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, PME-29 Melbourne, Australia, July 10-15, 2005

The PME-29 conference was held on July 10-15, 2005 in Melbourne, Australia. More information from Helen Chick, h.chick@unimelb.edu.au.

Website: staff.edfac.unimelb.edu.au/~chick/PME29/

3. BEYOND THE FORMULA IX Rochester, NY, USA, August 4-5, 2005

For the ninth straight year, teachers of introductory statistics from high schools, two- and four-year colleges gathered in Monroe Community College’s Thomas R. Flynn Conference Center to learn about the latest developments in practicing their craft. The 125 participants from 18 states, Canada and Australia arrived for the August 4 and 5, 2005 conference. They heard talks, tried out new technology and discussed curriculum changes related to basic statistics, a course that continues to grow in popularity as both a requirement and elective at all levels. The conference was planned and hosted by members of MCC’s Mathematics Department. Abstracts of papers given by seven invited speakers are available from their web site. Next BTF conference will be organized in 2007. Website: www.monroecc.edu/go/beyondtheformula/

4. JOINT STATISTICAL MEETINGS, JSM 2005 Minneapolis, MN, USA, August 7-11, 2005

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 4000 people, activities of the meeting included oral presentations, panel sessions, poster presentations, continuing education courses, placement service, society and section business meetings.

The ASA Section on Statistical Education organized three invited sessions and several contributed sessions for this conference. Topics included Measurement Issues in

Statistical Education, Interdisciplinary Approaches to Statistics Education, Assessments of Students Learning and Attitudes in Introductory Statistics, Publishing in Statistics Education Journals: Views from the Editors, Using Japanese Lesson Study to Develop Research Based Lessons in Statistics, Nuts and Bolts of Classroom Assessment, Implementing the GAISE Guidelines in College Statistics Courses, Ideas and Examples for Teaching Concepts in Statistics Classrooms, Career Advice in Statistics Education, CAUSE Updates on Research, CAUSEweb, and USCOTS, and Using Technology and the Web When Teaching Statistics.

Web site: www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2005/

FORTHCOMING IASE CONFERENCES

1. ICOTS-7: WORKING COOPERATIVELY IN STATISTICS EDUCATION Salvador (Bahia), Brazil, July 2-7, 2006



The International Association for Statistical Education (IASE) and the International Statistical Institute (ISI) are organizing the Seventh International Conference on Teaching Statistics (ICOTS-7) which will be hosted by the Brazilian Statistical Association (ABE) in Salvador (Bahia), Brazil, July 2-7, 2006.

The major aim of ICOTS-7 is to provide the opportunity for people from around the world who are involved in statistics education to exchange ideas and experiences, to discuss the latest developments in teaching statistics and to expand their network of statistical educators. The conference theme emphasises the idea of *cooperation*, which is natural and beneficial for those involved in the different aspects of statistics education at all levels.

1.1. CALL FOR PAPERS

Statistics educators, statisticians, teachers and educators at large have been invited to contribute to the scientific programme. Types of contribution include *invited papers*, *contributed papers* and *posters*. No person may author more than one Invited Paper at the conference, although the same person can be co-author of more than one paper, provided each paper is presented by a different person.

Voluntary refereeing procedures have been implemented for ICOTS7. Details of how to prepare manuscripts, the refereeing process and final submission arrangements are available from the ICOTS7 website at www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7.

Invited Papers

Invited Paper Sessions have been organized within nine different Conference Topics 1 to 9. The list of Topic and Sessions themes, with email contact for Session Organisers is available at the ICOTS-7 website, under "Scientific Programme."

Contributed Papers

Contributed paper sessions are being arranged in a variety of areas. Those interested in submitting a contributed paper contact either Joachim Engel (Engel_Joachim@ph-ludwigsburg.de) or Alan McLean (alan.mclean@buseco.monash.edu.au).

Posters

Those interested in submitting a poster should contact Celi Lopes (celilopes@uol.com.br) before February 1, 2006.

Special Interest Group Meetings

These are meetings of Special Interest Groups of people who are interested in exchanging and discussing experiences and/or projects concerning a well-defined theme of common interest. Proposals to hold a SIG Meeting specifically oriented to reinforce Latin American statistics education cooperation in a particular theme are especially welcome. In this case the organisers may decide to hold the meeting in Portuguese and Spanish language. Individuals or groups may submit proposals to establish a Special Interest Group to Carmen Batanero at (batanero@ugr.es).

1.2. IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Deadlines for Submission of proposals

Contributed Papers: Refereed Nov. 1, 2005, Non-Refereed Jan. 1, 2006

Special Interest Groups, Special Sessions, Posters: Feb. 1, 2006

Closing date for Submission of papers (invited and contributed):

Final version: Nov. 1, 2005 (if to be refereed)

Final version: Jan. 1, 2006 (if not to be refereed)

1.3. PLENARY SESSIONS

Pedro Luis do Nascimento Silva (Brazil): *Statistical Education for Doing Statistics Professionally: Some Challenges and the Road Ahead*

Bryan Manly (New Zealand): *Cooperation and Conflict in Environmental Statistics*

Joan Garfield (USA): *Collaboration in Statistics Education Research: Stories, Reflections, and Lessons Learned*

Mike Shaughnessy (USA): *Students' Thinking about some Important Concepts in Statistics*

Chris Wild (New Zealand), Closing Speaker: *On collaboration, Competition and Making Connections*

Len Cook (UK), After Dinner Speaker: *Training Statisticians for Working in Public Affairs*

Panel Discussion: *The challenges for cooperation in statistics education*

Chair: Pedro Morettin (Brazil); Speakers include: Evelio Fabbroni (Panama), Jae C. Lee (Korea), Pilar Martín Guzmán (Spain) and Allan Rossman (USA).

1.4. TOPICS AND TOPIC CONVENORS

Topic 1. *Working cooperatively in statistics education*. Lisbeth Cordani, lisbeth@maua.br and Mike Shaughnessy, mike@math.pdx.edu

Topic 2. *Statistics Education at the School Level*. Dani Ben-Zvi, benzvi@univ.haifa.ac.il and Lionel Pereira, lpereira@nie.edu.sg

Topic 3. *Statistics Education at the Post Secondary Level*. Martha Aliaga, martha@amstat.org and Elisabeth Svensson, elisabeth.svensson@esi.oru.se

Topic 4. *Statistics Education/Training and the Workplace*. Pedro Silva, pedrosilva@ibge.gov.br and Pilar Martín, pilar.guzman@uam.es

Topic 5. *Statistics Education and the Wider Society*. Brian Phillips, BPhillips@groupwise.swin.edu.au and Phillips Boland, Philip.J.Boland@ucd.ie

Topic 6. *Research in Statistics Education*. Chris Reading, creading@une.edu.au and Maxine Pfannkuch, pfannkuc@scitec.auckland.ac.nz

Topic 7. *Technology in Statistics Education*. Andrej Blejec, andrej.blejec@nib.si and Cliff Konold, konold@srri.umass.edu

Topic 8. *Other Determinants and Developments in Statistics Education*. Theodore Chadjiadelis, chadji@polsci.auth.gr and Beverley Carlson, bcarlson@eclac.cl

Topic 9. *An International Perspective on Statistics Education*. Delia North, delian@icon.co.za and Ana Silvia Haedo, haedo@qb.fcen.uba.ar

Topic 10. *Contributed Papers*. Joachim Engel, Engel_Joachim@ph-ludwigsburg.de and Alan McLean, alan.mclean@buseco.monash.edu.au

Topic 11. *Posters*. Celi Espasandín López, celilopes@directnet.com.br

1.5. ORGANISERS

Local Organisers

Pedro Alberto Morettin, (Chair; pam@ime.usp.br), Lisbeth K. Cordani (lisbeth@maua.br), Clélia Maria C. Toloí (clelia@ime.usp.br), Wilton de Oliveira Bussab (bussab@fgv.sp.br), Pedro Silva (pedrosilva@ibge.gov.br).

IPC Executive

Carmen Batanero (Chair, batanero@ugr.es), Susan Starkings (Programme Chair; starkisa@lsbu.ac.uk), Allan Rossman and Beth Chance (Editors of Proceedings; arossman@calpoly.edu; bchance@calpoly.edu), John Harraway (Scientific Secretary; jharraway@maths.otago.ac.nz), Lisbeth Cordani (Local organisers representative; lisbeth@maua.br).

More information and the **Second announcement** is available from the ICOTS-7 web site at www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7 or from the ICOTS IPC Chair Carmen Batanero (batanero@ugr.es), the Programme Chair Susan Starkings (starkisa@lsbu.ac.uk) and the Scientific Secretary John Harraway (jharraway@maths.otago.ac.nz).



2. THE 2007 SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTE, ISI-56 Lisboa, Portugal, August 22 – 29, 2007

The 56th Session of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) will be held in Lisboa, Portugal. IASE is usually very active at ISI meetings (see SERJ 4(1) for the report of IASE activities at ISI-55 in Sydney) and will sponsor a list of Invited Paper Meetings (IPM).

2.1. IPMS SPONSORED BY THE IASE

IPM37 *Research on Reasoning about Distribution*

IPM38 *How Modern Technologies have Changed the Curriculum in Introductory Courses*

IPM39 *Preparing Teachers of Statistics*

IPM40 *Research on the Use of Simulation in Teaching Statistics and Probability*

IPM41 *Optimizing Internet-based Resources for Teaching Statistics* (co-sponsored by IASC)

IPM42 *Observational Studies, Confounding and Multivariate Thinking*

IPM43 *Teaching of Official Statistics* (co-sponsored by IAOS)

IPM44 *Teaching of Survey Statistics* (co-sponsored by IASS)

IPM45 *Studying Variability through Sports Phenomena* (co-sponsored by Sports Statistics)

IPM46 *Use of Symbolic Computing Systems in Teaching Statistics* (co-sponsored by IASC)

2.2. SPECIAL CONTRIBUTED PAPER MEETINGS (SCPMS)

The ISI-56 organizers would like to draw the attention of those who could not be included in the final IPM list, to the possibility of organizing Special Contributed Paper

Meetings (SCPMs). Proposals for SCPMs are welcome and the deadline is the 28th of February, 2006.

For these special sessions, the proponents should select a specific topic, preferably not yet contemplated in the IPMs list, together with five or six speakers. All participants will have to register and submit their papers, using the same procedures as for other Contributed Papers. The SCPM application form should be sent to the e-mail ivette.gomes@fc.ul. More information and the SCPM application form is available from the ISI-56 website.

2.3. IASE COMMITTEE

Allan J. Rossman (Chair, arossman@calpoly.edu), Gilberte Schuyten (Gilberte.Schuyten@UGent.be) and Chris Wild (c.wild@auckland.ac.nz).

More information can be found at ISI-56 web site: <http://www.isi2007.com.pt/>

OTHER FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

1. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE MATHEMATICS EDUCATION INTO THE 21ST CENTURY PROJECT: “REFORM, REVOLUTION AND PARADIGM SHIFTS IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION” Johor Bharu, Malaysia, November 25 – December 1, 2005

The conference will be organized in Johor Bharu, Malaysia, close to Singapore and in the heart of Tropical South East Asia. Mercifully this part of Malaysia was unaffected by the tragic earthquake and tidal wave at the end of 2004. The time and place were chosen to encourage teachers and mathematics educators from around the world to communicate with each other about the challenges of Reform, Revolution and Paradigm Shifts in Mathematics Education. The Malaysia Conference is organised by the Mathematics Education into the 21st Century Project - an international educational initiative whose coordinators are Dr. Alan Rogerson (Poland) and Professor Fayez Mina (Egypt). Since its inception in 1986, the Mathematics Education into the 21st Century Project has received support and funding from many educational bodies and institutions throughout the world. In 1992 UNESCO published our Project Handbook “Moving Into the 21st Century” as Volume 8 in the UNESCO series Studies In Mathematics Education.

The Mathematics Education into the 21st Century Project is dedicated to the improvement of mathematics education world-wide through the publication and dissemination of innovative ideas. Many prominent mathematics educators have supported and contributed to the project, including the late Hans Freudental, Andrejs Dunkels and Hilary Shuard, as well as Bruce Meserve and Marilyn Suydam, Alan Osborne and Margaret Kasten, Mogens Niss, Tibor Nemetz, Ubi D’Ambrosio, Brian Wilson, Tatsuro Miwa, Henry Pollack, Werner Blum, Roberto Baldino, Waclaw Zawadowski, and many others throughout the world. For further conference details email to Alan Rogerson, arogerson@vsg.edu.au.

Website: http://math.unipa.it/~grim/21_malasya_2005.doc

2. ASIAN TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE IN MATHEMATICS, ATCM2005 Cheong-Ju, South Korea, December 12-16, 2005

The 10th Annual conference of Asian Technology Council in Mathematics (ATCM) on the theme Enriching Technology in Enhancing Mathematics for All is hosted by Korea National University of Education in Cheong-Ju, South Korea. The aim of this conference is to provide a forum for educators, researchers, teachers and experts in exchanging information regarding enriching technology to enhance mathematics learning, teaching and research at all levels. English is the official language of the conference. The conference will cover a broad range of topics on the application and use of technology in Mathematics research and teaching. More information: Professor Hee-chan Lew, hclew@knue.ac.kr.

Website: <http://www.atcminc.com/mConferences/ATCM05/>