



Summer 2003

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STATISTICS EDUCATION RESEARCH JOURNAL

<http://fehps.une.edu.au/serj>

Towards the end of 2002 the Executive Committee and Council of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) approved the request of the editorial board of the Statistics Education Research Journal (SERJ) that it should be a joint publication of the ISI and the International Association for Statistical Education (IASE). The IASE executive has decided that access to SERJ should continue to be free to all until the journal is well known. Current and past issues and information about SERJ, including its aims, and guidelines for referees and contributing authors, are available at the SERJ web-site <http://fehps.une.edu.au/serj>.

The founding editorial board consisted of Carmen Batanero and Flavia Jolliffe (joint editors) and associate editors Annie Morin, M. Gabriella Ottaviani, Christine Reading and Chris Wild. The board was expanded in the Autumn of 2002 and there are now an additional four associate editors – Iddo Gal, Joan Garfield, David Green, and Dick Scheaffer.

The first issue of the Statistics Education Research Journal (SERJ) published in May 2002 was not very different from the Statistics Education Research Newsletter (SERN), partly because it included material that had already been prepared for SERN. SERJ continues to retain some of the features of SERN such as bibliographies, summaries of publications, and information about past and forthcoming conferences, always with an emphasis on statistics education research, but in addition now includes papers that have been refereed by a member of the editorial board and by external referees. In the second issue of SERJ volume 1, which was published in December 2002, the refereed papers were

- Beth Chance and Joan Garfield - New approaches to gathering data on student learning for research in statistics education
- Maxine Pfannkuch and Amanda Rubick - An exploration of students' statistical thinking with given data
- Maria Meletiou-Mavrotheris and Carl Lee - Teaching students the stochastic nature of statistical concepts in an introductory statistics course
- Nigel Smeeton - Undergraduate courses in dental statistics in Britain and Ireland

The editors are receiving a steady flow of submission of papers and several papers are currently either with referees or are under revision. The first issue of volume 2 is due to be published in May 2003. Access to issues of SERJ is currently free, so please do visit the site and see what is on offer.

International Association for Statistical Education

A section of the International Statistical Institute, 428 Prinses Beatrixlaan, PO Box 950, 2270 AZ Voorburg, The Netherlands [Tel: +31 70-3375737, Fax: +31 70-3860025, E-mail: isi@cs.vu.nl]

IASE web page: <http://www.cbs.nl/isi/iase.html>

IASE ACTIVITIES

IASE Activities at the 54th Session of the ISI, Berlin, Germany, August 13-20, 2003,
<http://www.isi-2003.de/>

*Chair, Gilberte Schuyten,
gilberte.schuyten@rug.ac.be*

IASE has organised a wide and varied list of topics for Invited Paper Meetings, both those organised by the IASE alone and in conjunction with other ISI Sections and Committees and guest societies. The deadline for registration and submission of a Contributed Paper has been extended to April 14th, 2003.

For further information see: <http://www.isi-2003.de/>

IASE Satellite Conference on Statistics Education and the Internet, Berlin, Germany, August 11-12, 2003,
<http://www.ph-ludwigsburg.de/iase/>

Chair, Larry Weldon, weldon@sfu.ca

This conference immediately precedes the 54th ISI session in Berlin and will be held at the Max-Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin.

The aim is to discuss the implications of the Internet for teaching and learning statistics: web based teaching, learning, materials and resources. The meeting is intended to be of interest to a wide cross section of society including teachers, educational administrators, and researchers in statistical education.

There will be a number of invited speakers, as well as the opportunity for others to give contributed poster presentations. The presentations are planned to include discussions of the main effects and challenges that the Internet is posing to statistics education.

An electronic proceedings and a limited number of printed copies of the set of papers presented will be produced after the conference. The proceedings include the invited talks as well as the contributed posters. Contributors are encouraged to add a short (one-page) summary to their poster.

In addition to research reports, there will also be non-technical presentations, suitable for teachers who would like to learn how to make better use of Internet resources in their everyday work in the classroom. Possible topics include:

- Overview of Internet resources for statistics education
- Use of Internet in statistics classes and in assessment
- Training teachers to teach statistics with Internet resources
- Research on how students learn or about what they learn in teaching environments based on the web

- Challenges for statistics education at the Internet age
- Adding socialization and verbalization to online statistics education

Guidelines and information see

<http://www.ph-ludwigsburg.de/iase/>.

IASE Round Table Curricular Development in Statistics Education, Lund, Sweden, 2004

Chair, Gail Burrill, burrill@msu.edu

Since 1968 a number of Round Table Conferences have been organized on topics in statistics education. These conferences were initially organized by the Education Committee of the International Statistical Institute and since 1988 by IASE. The themes of the Round Table 2004 are

- Role of research in shaping curriculum
- Integrated curricula
- Impact of technology on the statistics and probability curriculum
- Innovative Practices
- Statistics and Probability and their relation to Quantitative Literacy

Within each of the headings, we would look for presentations that span statistics and probability curriculum throughout K-16 schooling. Papers will be selected on the basis of their contribution to the thinking of the field and to ensure representation from diverse communities across the world – both developing and developed countries.

More information will be given in the next issue.

IASE Activities at the 55th Session of the ISI, Sydney, Australia, April 5-12, 2005

Chair, Chris Wild, c.wild@auckland.ac.nz

Proposals for Education Session are welcome. If you would like to run one please contact Chris Wild at c.wild@auckland.ac.nz

ICOTS-7 Brazil, August 2006

ICOTS-7 will be held in August 2006 in Brazil. Pedro Alberto Morettin will chair the local organising committee and the International Program Committee Executive will consist of Carmen Batanero (Chair), Allan Rossman and Beth Chance (Editors of Proceedings), John Harraway (Scientific Secretary), Susan Starkings (Programme Chair) and Lisbeth Cordani (local representative at the IPC). IASE is now in the process of appointing the Topic Convenors and creating a website for the conference. Those of you interested in organising a session at this important statistical education conference should contact Carmen Batanero batanero@ugr.es for further information.

IASE SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

The Third International Research Forum on Statistical Reasoning, Thinking, and Literacy (SRTL-3), University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA, July 2003.

The growing interest in research on the interrelated and often poorly defined topics of Statistical Reasoning, Statistical Thinking, and Statistical Literacy, has led to emergence of a series of international research forums focusing on these themes. The first research forum was held in 1999 in Israel, the second was held in Australia in 2001.

One unique feature of these research forums is the use of videos of classroom work or interviews with students, as a way to present, discuss and argue about research related to these topics. In addition, the small size of the forums allows for plenty of time for interaction and discussion. One outcome of the first two forums is a book on "The Challenge of Developing Statistical Literacy, Reasoning, and Thinking", edited by Dani Ben-Zvi and Joan Garfield, that will be published by Kluwer in 2003.

The topic of the third forum will be **Reasoning about Variability**. Few of the questions we wish to investigate are: Why is variability important? When and how do children begin to develop the preliminary idea of variability? How does reasoning about variability develop? What are instructional tasks and technological tools that promote the understanding of variability? What are the common misconceptions regarding variability? What are ways to assess understanding of variability? This gathering offers an opportunity for a small, interdisciplinary group of researchers from around the world to meet for a few days to share their work, discuss important issues, and initiate collaborative projects. One outcome of the third forum will be the publication of a proceedings book summarizing the work presented, discussions conducted, and issues emerging from this gathering. Bill Mickelson (University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA) and Chris Reading (University of New England, Australia) are organizing and coordinating SRTL-3.

The research forums were initiated by and are co-chaired by Joan Garfield (University of Minnesota, USA) and Dani Ben-Zvi (University of Haifa, Israel). Various academic institutions and statistics education associations, including the International Association for Statistical Education (IASE), support the SRTL research forums.

The SRTL-3 Forum Website: <http://tc.unl.edu/srtl>

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

International Conference on Creativity in Mathematics Education and the Education of Gifted Students, Rousse, Bulgaria, August 3 – 9, 2003

The main aim of the conference is to formulate the problem and globally define the direction of the development of creative mathematics education of gifted students. The basic issues to be discussed are (i) how to stimulate mathematical creativity in students and their teachers; (ii) what areas, methods and problems in mathematics are appropriate for stimulating the creative activity of students and (iii) who the gifted students are and how can they be identified. For further information see the websites <http://www.cmeegs3.rousse.bg> or <http://www.ami.ru.acad.bg/conference2003> or email conf_orgcom@ami.ru.acad.bg

The Mathematics Education into the 21st Century Project, Brno, Czech Republic, September 19-25, 2003.

The Mathematics Education into the 21st Century Project has just completed its fifth successful international conference in Sicily, following conferences in Egypt, Jordan, Poland and Australia. The Chairman of the Local Organising Committee is Professor Ivan Meznik of the Technical University of Brno. The title of the conference is "The Decidable and the Undecidable in Mathematics Education", a tribute to Kurt Godel who was born and educated in Brno.

Papers are invited on all innovative aspects of mathematics education including Statistics Education, Gender & Equity, Ethnomathematics, Rich Learning Tasks, Problem Solving, Applications, Research on Teaching and Learning, Technology in the classroom, Computer Graphics and Teacher Education. For further conference details please contact Alan Rogerson arogerson@vsg.edu.au

Espace Mathématique Francophone, Tozeur, Tunisia, December 19-23, 2003

This international colloquium is organised jointly by the Tunisian Commission for the Teaching of Mathematics, the Tunisian Association of Mathematical Sciences, and with the co-operation of the French Commission for the Teaching of Mathematics. It will give the international community of French speaking specialists the opportunity to address the main problems concerning the teaching of Mathematics in our societies, mainly at the elementary and high school levels, as well as in teacher training

There will be a variety of activities: conferences, group sessions, workshops, etc., based on the following ten topics:

1. The teaching of Mathematics within many cultures
2. Mathematics for everyone: making Mathematics user-friendly
3. History of Mathematics and epistemology
4. The recent evolution of curricula
5. Inter-level transitions: elementary to high school, high school to college
6. Inservice and preservice teachers training
7. Teaching tools
8. Teaching of Probability and Statistics
9. In service Teaching
10. Mathematics and other subjects

Propositions should be sent before April 15, 2003.

For more information see:

<http://www.mathinfo.u-picardie.fr/EMF2003>

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Inter-American Meetings on Teaching of Statistics, Caseros, Argentina, October 28-November 1, 2002.

The Jornadas Interamericanas de Enseñanza de la Estadística-JIEE are jointly organized by IASI and the Universidad Nacional de Tres de Febrero of Argentina. These Meetings counted with the auspices of the IASE and of the ISI

The Meetings were held jointly with the Fifth Latin American Congress of Statistical Societies organized by the Argentine Society of Statistics, the Argentine Group of Biometry, the Chilean Society of Statistics, and the Uruguayan Society of Mathematics and Statistics.

Some 500 persons, from Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Honduras, Italy, Spain, Panama, United States, and Uruguay, participated in these events. The program for the JIEE included 9 conferences, 4 round tables, 6 short courses, 30 orally presented contributed papers, and 10 posters.

The symposium attracted over 500 participants from many Latin-American countries, the United States, Spain and Italy. This large number of participants together with the high level of many presentations under the form of keynote speeches, invited lectures, round tables and invited papers, made of this statistical conference a major success and, thus, reflected the great interest of our statistical community on the topic. For more information, please contact Lic. Roberto Muiños, Assistant Technical Secretary of IASI: rmuin@indec.mecon.gov.ar.

IASE WEBSITES

The new home of the IASE ICOTS-6 IPC Website

The ICOTS 6 website is now up and running again. Its new home is at the University of Haifa.

The new website address is

<http://icots6.haifa.ac.il/icots6.html>

The IASE International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP) website

The website of the ISLP contains lists of resources relating to statistical literacy. Its introductory homepage is <http://course1.winona.edu/cblumberg/islphome.htm>. The direct link to the listing of resource pages is <http://course1.winona.edu/cblumberg/islplist.htm>

INTERESTING WEBSITES

Chance Website

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~chance>

This site contains materials to help teach a Chance course. Chance is a quantitative literacy course developed cooperatively by the Chance Team: J. Laurie Snell and Peter Doyle of Dartmouth College, Joan Garfield of the University of Minnesota, Tom Moore of Grinnell College, Bill Peterson of Middlebury College, and Ngambal Shah of Spelman College. The team is assisted by grants from NECUSE and the National Science Foundation's Undergraduate Curriculum Development Program. The goal of Chance is to make students more informed, critical readers of current news stories that use probability and statistics.

Chance News is a monthly newsletter that provides abstracts of articles from current newspapers and journals, and suggests discussion questions for class use. It also includes links to related resources at other web sites. The Current Chance News and previous issues are archived on this site as well as ways to search previous issues. To receive the newsletter by e-mail send a request to Laurie Snell: jlsnell@Dartmouth.EDU

The website offers: a collection of video lectures, syllabi of previous Chance courses, articles that have been written about the Chance course and teaching aids where you find the Teacher's Guide and other materials useful for teaching a Chance course.

Links to other servers having materials useful for teaching a probability or statistics course are also given.