
International Association for Statistical Education



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IASE Website <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase>

A Word from the Editors

During the ISI-55 Session, the IASE Executive appointed us, Andrej Blejec and Larry Weldon, as Editors of the IASE section of the *ISI Newsletter*. First of all, we would like to thank the past section Editor Susan Starkings for her excellent editing in the past few years. It may take two of us to maintain that standard! We decided to jointly edit this section (and the IASE Matters inset of Teaching Statistics as well) and hope to keep the section interesting and informative for IASE members and other readers interested in statistics education.

The present issue is devoted mostly to IASE activities during the ISI-55 Session in Sydney. Special attention is given to the talk given by the new IASE President Gilberte Schuyten during the IASE General Assembly. You will find news about ICOTS-7 preparations and reports of the meetings held in Sydney. We would like to draw your attention to the list of papers in the Publications section of the IASE website, where the papers presented during the ISI-55 and Satellite Meetings can be found in their entirety. Direct links to the papers can also be found in the electronic version of this *Newsletter*.

The quality of this *Newsletter* depends mostly on the information you can provide to the Editors. Send us information about the activities in your country, news about members, announcements of forthcoming events, reports of past conferences, and anything that might be of interest to the IASE members.

Andrej Blejec and Larry Weldon
Editors of the IASE Section

Communication from the President of the IASE

Presented at the IASE General Assembly
During the ISI-55th Session
Gilberte Schuyten, Gilberte.schuyten@ugent.be

As this is my first message as IASE President, I wish to thank all those IASE Executive Committee members from the past and all the people who have been working on the advancement and improvement of statistics education through IASE.

I wish to thank Chris Wild for all he has done over the past two years as President. Thanks to him, the IASE web page (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase>) has become an important source of information about statistics education. As

Past President, he will continue doing this so that the IASE web page will become THE primary source worldwide.

It was amazing to hear from a speaker during the Contributed Papers Meeting on statistics education at the ISI Biennial Session in Sydney (Australia), and that this person became interested in submitting a paper for the Session by surfing the Internet and hitting the IASE web page and the ISLP (International Statistical Literacy Project) web pages (<http://course1.winona.edu/cblumberg/islplist.htm>).

I also wish to thank the four Outgoing Executive Committee members Carmen Batanero, Carol Blumberg, Lisbeth Cordani and Susan Starkings and I welcome our continuing collaboration which includes Carmen's, Susan's and Lisbeth's role in ICOTS-7 (<http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7>) next year in Brazil and Carol's role in the ISLP.

I am happy to start my term as President with a smoothly running organisation with devoted and enthusiastic people who share the same objectives: the improvement of statistics education worldwide and the recognition in the academic world of research in statistics education as a research discipline in its own right.

These last years have been very exciting times for statistics educators. More students than ever before are taking statistics courses at the post-secondary level. Graduates in statistics have no problem obtaining jobs. Training of researchers in statistics has made considerable progress in the last 10 years; statistics knowledge of graduates in science, business/commerce/economics, psychology, sociology and education has improved. More emphasis is being placed on statistics education at the primary and secondary levels.

It seems that we are moving in the right direction and all is going fine, except the statistical literacy of the modal Helene and John. In our information driven society, the level of statistical literacy needed for a sound critical attitude towards public information is increasing. Statistics literacy starts in the classroom at all levels. In too many cases, statistics education at primary and secondary schools is a rather dry application of mathematical techniques, despite the improvements to the curricula these last years. More statistics has to be included in initial training courses for mathematics teachers. This seems to me to be of the highest priority to break the vicious circle of teachers and students who know only statistics as a part of mathematics. Over the next years, I would like to see the IASE

become a valuable partner in the discussion around these matters.

As the IASE, we also want to expand our statistics education community to all parts of the world. Please inform us about people interested in statistics education so that we can combine our efforts.

I encourage all members to take an active part in the Association and to recommend to their colleagues to join IASE (membership form available at

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/members.php>).

I look forward to working with you to make the next two years productive for the IASE and statistics education. I would appreciate any comments or advice that our members may wish to offer.

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 organising 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.

Planning is now well advanced as a result of meetings in São Paulo during the first five months of 2005, visits to the conference facilities in Salvador by Lisbeth Cordani and John Harraway, and discussions in the IASE Executive Committee during the ISI Session and at the IASE General Assembly in Sydney. The ICOTS-7 website at <http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7> is being continuously updated. It contains summaries of Topics and Sessions, abstracts for all the invited papers, contact addresses for invited speakers, session organisers, topic convenors and organising committees and much more about the Conference organisation.

The website also has information about the charm of Salvador, Bahia, and pictures of the guest rooms and conference facilities at the Othon Hotel, where the Conference will be held. Conference participants are encouraged to stay at the Othon Hotel. It is comfortable, well located by the ocean and reasonably priced with attractive rates for our hire of the conference facilities if a minimum number of guest rooms are filled. Please, therefore, consider the Othon. It is good.

Bahia's capital of Salvador sits on a spit of land sticking south south-west into the Atlantic Ocean), and the topography is mainly hill and valley. Salvador sits on a vast bay, which at 1,100 square kilometres, 70 kilometres from north to south, and 60 kilometres from east to west (at its widest point), is the largest in Brazil.

A Bahia de Todos os Santos (the Bay of All Saints) is fed by the Paraguaçu river (among numerous smaller sources), which opens into the smaller Bay of Iguape, which in turn gives way to the principal bay. Although it sits well within the tropics at southern latitude of thirteen degrees, it receives a refreshing sea-breeze which seldom falters until the wee hours of the morning when things have generally cooled off anyway. The settlement was founded in 1549 by Thomé de Souza and quickly became the main Brazilian sea port and first capital of Portuguese Brazil until 1763. The city still contains many

colonial buildings, including the first cathedral in Brazil, over 350 churches and the nation's oldest medical college, but it has become more famous due to the strong influence of African culture on the city. Salvador is characterised by intense cultural and artistic activity with cheerful, hospitable and proud people. The city has several universities, including the Universidade Federal da Bahia, Universidade do Estado da Bahia, and Universidade Católica do Salvador. The majority of the population of the city are of African ancestry. The rich mixture of beliefs, traditions and races has led to the development of a vast culture that is manifest in its popular music, dance, art and cuisine. It is the centre of Yoruba Candomblé and the martial dance art of capoeira.



Salvador (Bahia), Brazil

Salvador is famous for its traditions, including processions, coming-of-age celebrations and its carnival. Its historical precinct has been the cultural centre of the arts since 1985. It is a place of famous artists and writers, who have gained international reputation. You can learn more about Salvador and Bahia, its history, attractions and people from <http://www.bahia-online.net/>.

Call for Papers

Statistics educators, statisticians, teachers and educators-at-large are invited to contribute to the Scientific Programme. Types of contributions include *Invited Papers* (now mainly complete), *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 will be implemented for ICOTS-7. Details of how to prepare manuscripts, the refereeing process and final submission arrangements are on the website.

Invited Papers

Invited Paper Sessions are organised within 9 different Conference Topics. The list of Sessions themes, with e-mail contact information for Session Organisers, is available on the ICOTS-7 website at <http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7>, under "Scientific Programme".

Contributed Papers

Contributed Paper Sessions will be arranged in a variety of areas. Those interested in submitting a contributed paper should contact either Joachim Engel (Engel_Joachim@ph-ludwigsburg.de) or Alan MacLean (alan.mclean@buseco.monash.edu.au) before September 1, 2005.

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 the Portuguese and Spanish languages.

Normally, an SIG Meeting will be held in the evenings and will be allotted up to two 1½ hour time slots. Please note that the number of SIG Meetings is limited, so they are offered on a "first come first served" basis. The following SIG Meetings have been recently organised:

SIG1: Training Mathematics Teachers to Teach Statistics in Spanish and Portuguese Speaking Countries. Organisers: Margarida Cesar (Portugal), macesar@fc.ul.pt and Teresita Terán (Argentina), teresitateran@hotmail.com (Portuguese and Spanish).

SIG2: Young Latin American Researchers in Statistics Education. Organisers: Cileda Coutinho (Brazil), cileda@pucsp.br and Blanca Ruiz (Mexico), bruiz@itesm.mx (Portuguese and Spanish).

SIG3: International Research Forum on Statistical Reasoning, Thinking and Literacy. Organisers: Dani Ben-Zvi (Israel), dbenzvi@univ.haifa.ac.il and Joan B. Garfield (USA), jbg@umn.edu (English).

SIG4: Curricular Development in Statistics Education in Latin America. Organisers: Olga Leticia Escudero (México), olga@sep.gob.mx and Clayde Regina Mendes (Brazil) clayde@uol.com.br (Portuguese and Spanish).

Individuals or groups may submit proposals to establish a Special Interest Group to Carmen Batanero (batanero@ugr.es). Only clearly non-commercial SIGs will be accepted in the Scientific Programme. The IPC is in charge of reviewing and accepting SIG proposals.

Organisers

Local Organisers

Pedro Alberto Morettin, (Chair), Lisbeth K. Cordani, Clélia Maria C. Toloi, Wilton de Oliveira Bussab and Pedro Silva.

IPC Executive

Carmen Batanero (Chair), Susan Starkings (Programme Chair), Allan Rossman and Beth Chance (Editors of Proceedings), John Harraway (Scientific Secretary) and Lisbeth Cordani (Local Organisers Representative).

More information is available from the ICOTS-7 website at <http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7> or from the ICOTS IPC Chair Carmen Batanero (batanero@ugr.es), the Programme Chair Susan Starkings (starkisa@jsbu.ac.uk) and the Scientific Secretary John Harraway (jharraway@maths.otago.ac.nz).

Contributed by John Harraway

Report on IASE Activities at ISI 55, Sydney, 5-12 April 2005

The conference facilities at the Sydney Convention Centre were superb and close to all of the main attractions of Sydney. Though ostensibly late autumn, Sydney turned on beautiful warm sunny weather for us and Sydney Harbour and its

environs were gorgeous. Many IASE attendees at ISI 55 had already met and established friendships at our very stimulating IASE satellite conference on the previous two days. The main IASE activities at ISI 55 were our sessions and the IASE General Assembly. The IASE sessions were of high quality, mainly well attended, and stimulated some very interesting discussions. The panel discussion "Statistics for life: what matters most and why?" – which involved three generations of the ISI presidency and two other very provocative speakers – achieved its purposes of drawing in ISI attendees who do not normally attend education sessions, and giving us all a broader awareness of issues that are important in goal setting for statistics education.

The papers from the IASE invited sessions at ISI 55 are available from the Publications page of the IASE website, see <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications.php>. The contributed papers and discussions will not be available for several months. We have preprinted the invited programme below. If a talk looks interesting, it might be a good idea to download the paper now before you forget.

At the IASE General Assembly, formal reporting of the 2003-2005 activities of the Association was kept brief as the Report had been posted on the IASE site and members notified well in advance of Sydney. (The IASE Report is included in the "Final Report of the ISI Executive Committee to the General Assembly 2003-2005" available at <http://www.cbs.nl/isi/05session/05report.htm>).

At the Assembly, John Harraway showed a stunning DVD movie about Salvador, Bahia, and the Orthon Hotel conference facilities that we will have for ICOTS-7 next year in Brazil. For an indication of what we saw, but with annotated still pictures rather than movies, visit these two links:

<http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7/pages/salvadorpics.php>

<http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7/pages/othon.php>

With a conference site like this, we are in for a real treat at ICOTS-7! In general discussion, members contributed many suggestions about how IASE could improve the effectiveness of our National Correspondents system and theme suggestions for the IASE satellite conference to be held in advance of ISI 56 in Portugal in August 2007, and the IASE Round Table to be held close to ICME-11 in Mexico in 2008. Other discussions included possible structures for young statistics educators.

The turnout at the IASE General Assembly was not large. This was in part due to the 7:30 a.m. start. Something that only became clear after talking to people later, however, was that many IASE members did not actually realise that they could go to the IASE General Assembly. Not only is it a meeting for all members of the Association, it has a central role in the governance of the Association. It is, as our statutes say, "the highest authority of the Association." This is something we will have to communicate better in the lead up to ISI 56. The end of the IASE General Assembly was also the official point in time at which the 2003-2005 Executive Committee passed the baton to the 2005-2007 Executive Committee and Gilberte Schuyten became our new President.

Papers from IASE Invited Sessions at ISI-55 IPM 45: Reasoning about variation

- From acknowledging to modelling: Tertiary students' consideration of variations, Jackie Reid, Chris Reading (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Reid-Reading.pdf>)

- Some aspects of reasoning about variability, Bernard Harris (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Harris.pdf>)
- Statistical thinking from a practitioner's perspective, Alope Phatak, Geoff Robinson (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Phatak-Robinson.pdf>)

IPM 46: The use of simulation in statistics education

- Modern introductory statistics using simulation and data analysis, Larry Weldon (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Weldon.pdf>)
- Using Excel to generate empirical sampling distributions, Rodney Carr, Scott Salzman (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Carr-Salzman.pdf>)
- Statistical simulations in the web, Juha Puranen (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Puranen.pdf>)

IPM 47: Teaching statistics online

- Learning statistics teaching in higher education using online and distance methods, Neville Davies, Vic Barnett (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Davies-Barnett.pdf>)
- Preparing secondary teachers to teach statistics: A distance education model, Roxy Peck, Robert Gould (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Peck-Gould.pdf>)
- E-learning for statistics education at Korea national open university, Tae Rim Lee (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Lee.pdf>)

IPM 48: Statistics for life: what are the statistical ideas or skills that matter most and why?

- Panel participant, Nick Fisher (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Fisher.pdf>)
- Panel participant, Denise Lievesley (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Lievesley.pdf>)
- Panel participant (Statistical Literacy for Life), Milo Schield (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Schild.pdf>)
- Panel participant, Stephen Stigler
- Panel participant, Niels Keiding (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Keiding.pdf>)

IPM 49: Research in statistical education

- An assessment of computer-based learning methodology in teaching in an introductory statistics hybrid course, Paul Fields, Patti Collins (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Fields-Collins.pdf>)
- Potential uses of longitudinal analyses to investigate statistics education outcomes, Sharleen Forbes, Teimuraz Beridze (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Forbes.pdf>)
- Teaching confidence intervals: Problems and potential solutions, Geoff Cumming, Fiona Fidler (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Fidler-Cumming.pdf>)
- Student opinions and expectations vs. reality of grading: Use of cluster profiling in statistics education, Mojca Bavdaz Kveder, Irena Ograjšek (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Kveder-Ograjsek.pdf>)

IPM 50: Quality Assurance in Statistics Education

- Quality assurance in statistics education: From departmental self-evaluation to accreditation, Abbas Bazargan (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Bazargan.pdf>)
- The role of statistical education in developing graduate qualities, Brenton Dansie (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Dansie.pdf>)
- Criteria, standards and assessment in statistical education, Helen MacGillivray

(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/MacGillivray.pdf>)

IPM 51: Promotion of statistical literacy among students (IASE & IAOS)

- The role of official statistics agencies in the promotion of statistical literacy among students, Frederick W. H. Ho (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Ho.pdf>)
- Co-operation with educational institutions: A strategic challenge for statistical agencies, Reija Helenius (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Helenius.pdf>)
- Policies and tools to make OECD statistics more visible and accessible, Enrico Giovannini, Russell Penlington, Lars Thygesen (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Giovanini-Penlington-Thygesen.pdf>)

IPM 52: Using history of statistics to enhance the teaching of statistics (IASE & Christiaan Huygens Com. on the History of Statistics)

- Probability and statistics ideas in the classroom - lessons from history, David Bellhouse (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Bellhouse.pdf>)
- Taking the fear out of data analysis: Case for history lessons in statistics courses, Irena Ograjšek (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Ograjsek.pdf>)
- Teaching probability via its history: Reflections on a case study, David Vere-Jones (http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Vere_Jones.pdf)

IPM 81: Ethical Standards in statistics education (IASE & ISI Committee on Professional Ethics)

- Making a difference, not faking a difference - learning and using what's good and fair in biostatistics, David Goddard (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Goddard.pdf>)
- The client-consultant relationship in medical research: The role of a professional statistician in the research team, Nora Donaldson, Mary Gray (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Donaldson-Gray.pdf>)
- Official statistics and statistical ethics: Selected issues, William Seltzer (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Seltzer.pdf>)

IPM 82: Bayesian statistics (Bernoulli & IASE)

- An integrated mathematical statistics primer: Objective Bayesian construction, frequentist evaluation, Jose Bernardo (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Bernardo.pdf>)
- Bayesian model selection: Review and discussion, Kerrie Mengersen, Clair Alston, Sama Low Choy, Petra Kuhnert, Ross McVinish (http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Alston-Kuhnert-Low_Cho-McVinish-Mengersen.pdf)
- Bayesian point null hypothesis testing via the posterior likelihood ratio, Richard Boys, Murray Aitkin, Tom Chadwick (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Boys-Chadwick-Aitkin.pdf>)

IPM 83: Challenges in the teaching of survey sampling (IASS & IASE)

- Balancing statistical theory, sampling concepts, and practicality in the teaching of survey sampling, Colm O'Muircheartaigh (http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/O_Muircheartaigh.pdf)
- Teaching environment for survey sampling based on a textbook and its web extension, Risto Lehtonen (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Lehtonen.pdf>)
- Teaching sampling in a government statistical agency: The Canadian experience, Jack Gambino, Hew Gough

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/13/Gambino-Gough.pdf>

Contributed by Chris Wild
Past President and IASE Programme Chair for ISI 55

Report on IASE/ISI Satellite Meeting in Sydney, 4-5 April 2005

The IASE/ISI Satellite Meetings are always very friendly affairs and the one in Sydney, April 4-5, 2005, was no exception. Leigh Wood kindly agreed to arrange for space at the University of Technology, Sydney when our tentative arrangement at the Sydney Conference Centre did not work out. The venue turned out to fit our group of sixty participants perfectly, and the facilities and refreshments were first class.

Twenty-four papers were presented over two days, with some time for discussion and socialising - although some people commented that they would have liked more time for discussion. The cruise to Manly and dinner at the Phoenix restaurant was well attended - good food, good company, and the very clever song sung by Peter Martin went over very well, especially with the Australians!

The theme of the Conference was "**Statistics Education and the Communication of Statistics**". The papers that were submitted covered various approaches to the problem, roughly classified as:

- Writing Reports of Statistical Studies
- The Role of Graphics in Communication of Statistics
- Outreach to Public and Schools
- Understanding the Language of Statistics

The Conference opened with a Keynote Address by Stephen Fienberg: "To tell the truth: What we know about lie detection". Stephen reported his experience with a US National Research Council Committee that worked hard to communicate to politicians the uncertainty resulting from administration of a polygraph test. Policies concerning its use for increased security actions depended on a careful understanding of the false positive and false negative rates. This example with such important national implications showed Conference participants in a dramatic way the importance of statistical communication in public life, and not only for scientific or social research.

Papers presented by Lipson and Kokonis, MacGillivray, Peck, Francis, Forster, and Prvan addressed the ways in which students could be taught to write better reports of statistical studies. Papers presented by Cumming and Fidler, Cunningham, Green, Henderson, Martin and Weldon focussed on the importance of using graphics to convey statistical results: some techniques were to communicate results to scientific researchers, and others were directed to the public-at-large. The "Outreach" category included statistics communication problems in the media, by Smith; in high schools, by McGuinness and Hooper, Gattuso, and Holmes-Smith; and in tertiary institutions, by Cunliffe, Milito, Davies and Connor. The last section of papers looked at some details of language: The presentations by Petocz and Reid, Gordon, Niglas, and Schield discussed the various ways in which students misunderstand or misuse the jargon of statistics.

The overall message in these talks was that communication of statistics is a topic that is more important to students than our course outlines usually suggest. We need to raise the profile of communication issues in our statistics courses. We need to

help students distinguish between the technical meaning and everyday meaning of the statistical jargon we all use.

The Conference site is at

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/conferences.php?show=iase2005> and the papers can be found at

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications.php?show=14>. Also, some CDs of the Proceedings are available for A\$20 from Brian Phillips (bphillips@swin.edu.au).

The Chief Organisers of the Conference were Brian Phillips and Kay Lipson. The Proceedings Editors were Brian Phillips and Larry Weldon, and the Conference CD was produced by Larry Weldon.

The next Satellite Meeting could possibly be in Lisbon, where the next ISI Session is scheduled. If you have an idea for a theme or a suggestion about the format, please send it to Gilberte Schuyten, at Gilberte.Schuyten@UGent.be.

Contributed by Brian Phillips and Larry Weldon

Papers from IASE/ISI Satellite Meeting: Statistics Education and the Communication of Statistics

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications>

Session I - Keynote Speaker

- To tell the truth: What we know about lie detection, Stephen Fienberg

(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/fienberg.pdf>)

Session II - Writing Reports of Statistical Studies

- The implications introducing report writing into an introductory statistics subject, Kay Lipson, Sue Kokonis (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/lipson.pdf>)
- Helping students find their statistical voices, Helen MacGillivray (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/macgillivray.pdf>)
- There's more to statistics than computation: Teaching students how to communicate statistical results, Roxy Peck (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/peck.pdf>)
- An approach to report writing in statistics courses, Glenda Francis (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/francis.pdf>)

- Teaching students to write about statistics, Mike Forster, David P. Smith, Christopher J. Wild (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/forster.pdf>)

- Enabling students to communicate statistical findings, Tania Prvan, Judith Ascione (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/prvan.pdf>)

Session III - Role of Graphics in Communication of Statistics

- Interval estimates for statistical communication: Problems and possible solutions, Geoff Cumming, Fiona Fidler (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/cumming.pdf>)
- Using Amos graphics to enhance the understanding and communication of multiple regression, Everarda Cunningham, Wei C. Wang (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/cunningham.pdf>)
- Graphart, Hilary Green (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/green.pdf>)
- Visualising data with dynamic graphics in Excel, Harold Henderson (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/henderson.pdf>)
- Enhancing effective communication of statistical analysis to non-statistical audiences, Peter Martin (<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/martin.pdf>)

- From data to graphs to words, but where are the models?, K. Larry Weldon

(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/weldon.pdf>)

Session IV - Outreach to Public and Schools

- Statistics and the media, Wayne Smith
(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/smith.pdf>)
- The role of national statistics institutions in the use and understanding of official statistics in the compulsory education sector, Gareth McGuinness, Lesley Hooper
(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/mcguinness.pdf>)
- Data analysis or how high school students "read" statistics, Sylvain Vermette, Linda Gattuso, Marc Bourdeau
(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/vermette.pdf>)
- Communicating student performance data to school teachers, Philip Holmes-Smith
(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/holmes.pdf>)
- Pilot study into the use and usefulness of instant messaging within an educational context, Rachel Cunliffe
(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/cunliffe.pdf>)
- Distance learning: New frontiers for solving old problems, Gianfranco Galmacci, Anna Maria Milito
(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/galmacci.pdf>)
- Helping students to communicate statistics better, Neville Davies, Doreen Connor
(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/davies.pdf>)

Session V - Understanding the Language of Statistics

- Servicing students communicating ideas about statistics, Peter Petocz, Anna Reid
(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/petocz.pdf>)
- How important are communication skills for "good" statistics students? - An international perspective, Sue Gordon
(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/gordon.pdf>)
- University-level data analysis courses with the emphasis on understanding and communication of statistics - a ten years action research project, Katrin Niglas, Kairi Osula
(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/niglas.pdf>)
- Statistical prevarication: Telling half truths using statistics, Milo Schield
(<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications/14/schild.pdf>)

Update on the International Statistical Literacy Project

A very productive Open Meeting of the International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP) Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, 6 April, during the ISI Biennial Session in Sydney. This Meeting was attended by members of the Advisory Committee, as well as several page coordinators and others who were interested in the Project. At this Meeting, many suggestions were received for improving the web pages (see <http://course1.winona.edu/cblumberg/islplist.htm>) supported by the Project. These suggestions have been implemented, including a new web page on curriculum guidelines. Future directions for the ISLP were also discussed.

Every few months, the ISLP sends out an e-mail to people who have expressed an interest in receiving updates on the Project - approximately four times a year. If you were previously on the list and have not received an e-mail, it means that we do not have an updated e-mail address for you. Those wishing to update their e-mail addresses, or to be added to the list of people to receive updates, should contact Carol Joyce Blumberg at cblumberg@winona.edu or Department of Mathematics & Statistics, Winona State University, Winona, MN 55987-5838, USA, or Fax: +1-507-4575376.

Also, please contact Carol Blumberg if you have any suggestions for the ISLP, including items to add to the website or if you would like to become involved in the ISLP. In particular, several of the page coordinators are looking for co-coordinators to help them with their work on the web pages.

Contributed by Carol Joyce Blumberg
ISLP Coordinator

Statistics Education Research Journal (SERJ)

The editorial board of the *Statistics Education Research Journal* (SERJ) is pleased to announce the publication of the May 2005 issue of the *Statistics Education Research Journal* (Vol. 4, No. 1). The issue has two regular papers and a Special section on research on reasoning about variation, which follows-up on the Special Issue 3(2) devoted to this topic in November 2004, which had 5 papers on that topic.

Important changes in the SERJ Statement of Goals and Policy were announced in editorial to SERJ 3(2). The Statement pays more attention to research on not only learning in formal contexts, but also to learning, and using statistical and probabilistic knowledge, in informal or functional contexts. The editorial to the latest issue contains the call for more research on a range of topics that are not addressed much by researchers:

... The intended audience is those engaged or interested in research on any aspect of statistics education (including in related fields, such as mathematics education, science education, psychology, measurement, management), or those wanting to use the results of such research to inform educational practice and understanding of statistics in diverse contexts. Research may examine, for example, cognitive, motivational, attitudinal, curricular, teaching-related, technology-based, organizational, institutional, or societal factors and processes that are related to the development and understanding of stochastic knowledge. In addition, research may focus on how people use or apply statistical and probabilistic information and ideas, broadly viewed. ...

As a part of the outreach efforts, SERJ Editors held a session during the ISI Session in Sydney regarding how to publish in SERJ and typical problems that authors run into. SERJ Editors plan to hold a similar session at ICOTS, as well as other sessions for young researchers.

The complete issue, as well as older issues, can be downloaded from the SERJ web page at: <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/serj> as a single PDF file or individual papers can be retrieved separately. Access to issues of SERJ is free.

Inquiries and submissions should be sent to the Co-Editor Flavia R. Jolliffe (UK) at: F.Jolliffe@kent.ac.uk. Guidelines for authors and referees, a template for authors, and a copyright form, as well as prior and current issues of the journal, can be downloaded from the SERJ web page: <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/serj>.

Contributed by Iddo Gal and Andrej Blejec
Note on Project ARTIST

The ARTIST website is an NSF-funded project developed by the team of Joan Garfield, Bob delMas, and Ann Ooms (from the University of Minnesota) and Beth Chance (California Polytechnic State University). The ARTIST website provides a collection of resources designed to help teachers of a first

course in statistics assess students' statistical literacy, reasoning and thinking. The website includes references to resources on developing and conducting assessment, links to online materials, and downloadable PDF files of assessment examples; an Assessment Builder that provides access to a database of over 1,100 items, including multiple choice and open response items, that can be used to generate and download assessments in an editable file format; online assessments that cover 11 topic areas of introductory statistics that can be used for course review; and a Comprehensive Assessment of Outcomes in Statistics (CAOS) that can be used as a research instrument. The ARTIST website can be

accessed at <http://data.gen.umn.edu/artist/>.

Contributed by Bob delMas

Website for Up and Coming Conferences

If you have a conference that is of interest to statistical education, you can add it to the conference list on the IASE website or contact Andrej Blejec, e-mail: andrej.blejec@nib.si, who will add it for you.

The IASE main page for communicating about conferences is <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/conferences.php>.

So have a look to see what is up and coming