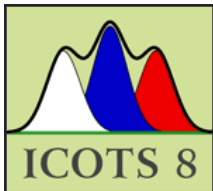

International Association for Statistics Education



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ICOTS 8
Data and Context in Statistics Education:
Towards an Evidence-Based Society
Ljubljana, Slovenia, 11-16 July 2010
Planning for ICOTS 8 to be held in historic Ljubljana, Slovenia, 11-16

July 2010, is at an advanced stage. The second circular was released in November and can be found on the Conference website, icots8.org. The website contains registration, accommodation and tour details along with a link to the Convention Centre in Ljubljana where registration and accommodation requests are being processed. You are reminded that the cut off date for early bird registration is 31 March 2010.

A full programme of 250 invited papers and 140 contributed papers is developed. The plenary addresses will be presented by Hans Rosling (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden), Gerd Gigerenzer (Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin), Cliff Konold (University of Massachusetts), Jessica Utts (University of California) and Anuska Ferligoj (University of Ljubljana). A new feature is a plenary session of debates on

topical and controversial statistical issues organised by Chris Wild with the title "The great debates of ICOTS 8".

Poster presentations can be submitted to the poster coordinators Mojca Bavdaz (mojca.bavdaz@ef.uni-lj.si) and Alesa Lotric Dolinar (alesa.lotric.dolinar@ef.uni-lj.si) up to the date of 15 February 2010. Guidelines for the preparation of posters are on the website.

The referee process is now complete and the Conference Proceedings are being prepared with all papers included. Authors are reminded that they should follow the guidelines for preparation of manuscripts.

A draft timetable will be released during February 2010. At the time of writing this article, it appears there will be seven parallel sessions at the Conference. On the Monday, many sessions timetabled will be in areas of interest to the ISBIS community. Note the special rate for ISBIS delegates to attend on the Sunday afternoon and Monday. Our ISBIS friends are welcome to come to the Conference opening and first day of papers.

Please keep checking the website, icots8.org, over the next few months for Conference announcements.

John Harraway

International Statistical Literacy Project

Let's improve statistical literacy together



Reija Helenius

Dear Members and its Sections,

For the next four years, I am leading the ISLP (International Statistical Literacy Project) together with Dr. Pedro Campos and Dr. Sharleen Forbes. Pedro, Sharleen and I strongly believe in cooperation. We hope that you will also contribute to the ISLP and advance our common goal to improve statistical literacy

worldwide.

At the moment, the International Statistical Literacy Project is seeking country representatives to promote and implement project activities. Please read the announcement included

further in this *ISI Newsletter* and be active! You can also follow our project from our web page:

www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/islp/.

Please feel welcome to cooperate with us!

*Best wishes,
Reija Helenius
ISLP Director*

New ISLP Team for 2009-2013:

Reija Helenius is the new Director of the ISLP. She comes from Finland, where she works as Head of Development in the Information Services Unit of Statistics Finland. She is an ISI elected member and an IASE member. In her current job, her main task is to develop user-friendly services for users of statistics. Statistical training and national statistical offices' cooperative activities with educational institutions are

especially close to her heart. For the next four years, she will lead the ISLP together with Dr. Pedro Campos and Dr. Sharleen Forbes. An ISLP Advisory Board will assist them with their work. A common aim is to improve statistical literacy worldwide.



Pedro Campos, a Deputy Director of the ISLP, comes from Portugal where he is working as an Assistant Professor at the University of Porto and teaches statistics and information systems. He is also working in the Department of Methodology and Information Systems in Statistics Portugal (INE).

He is an IASE member and a member of the Research Unit LIAAD-INESC (Laboratory of Artificial Intelligence and Decision Support). Pedro was one of the pioneers in organising a pilot ISLP statistical literacy competition for the first time in Portugal in 2007.



Sharleen Forbes, a Deputy Director of the ISLP, is a New Zealander who has worked at Statistics New Zealand since 1994. Currently, she is a General Manager in the Statistics Education & Research Unit there. She also holds an adjunct professorship in official statistics at the School of Government, Victoria University, Wellington. Sharleen has a long-standing interest in mathematics

education, in the measurement of gender and ethnic differences in mathematics in particular, and in the application of simple techniques to explain longitudinal data. Sharleen is an ISI elected member, IASE and IAOS member. She is

working very actively in different statistical associations and committees.

Call for country representatives

The International Statistical Literacy Project is seeking country representatives to promote and implement project activities. The mission of the ISLP is to support, create and participate in statistical literacy activities and promoting these around the world.

What do we expect from a country representative?

We are seeking a person or team who is willing to help advance statistical literacy in their country or region. An ISLP country representative might be an employee of a statistical office or of an educational institution or might be a member of a society. They may be an ISI and/or Section member, but the membership is not obligatory.

What are the main tasks of a country representative?

Willingness to:

- improve statistical literacy
- give suggestions and ideas of how to develop the ISLP
- advance and implement ISLP plans within own country/region
- provide informational material (e.g. on coming events, country's ISLP activities) to the ISLP team and the *ISLP Newsletter*.

How to apply to become a country representative?

If you are interested in becoming a country representative and working in this international cooperation project, please contact the ISLP Director, Reija Helenius, by e-mail (reija.helenius@stat.fi) by the 15th of February 2010. The ISLP team will handle the informal applications and inform about selections during February 2010.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Reija (reija.helenius@stat.fi).

Reija Helenius, ISLP Director