INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR STATISTICAL EDUCATION

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
FIRST SCIENTIFIC MEETING

Edited by
Lina Brunelli and Giuseppe Cicchitelli

University of Perugia, 23-24 August 1993
PREFACE

This volume contains all the invited and contributed papers presented at the first scientific meeting of the International Association for Statistical Education (IASE), held in Perugia in August 23 and 24, 1993. The papers have been collected together under appropriate topic headings, regardless of the order in which they appeared in the scientific programme.

A report about a session devoted to Italian school teachers on "updating teaching methods", and the abstracts of the papers presented at the poster session are also included.

The scientific programme of the meeting was arranged by the IASE interim executive headed by Professor David Vere-Jones with the cooperation of the local organising committee headed by Professor Giuseppe Cicchitelli. The full membership of the two committees was:


Local organising committee: G. Cicchitelli (Chairman), L. Brunelli, G. Galimacci, R. Giaimo, M. G. Ottaviani, M. A. Pannone, S. Rigatti, Luchini.

We are indebted to Professor Vere-Jones, not only for his authoritative contribution to the arrangement of the programme, but also for his many kind suggestions in relation to the organisational aspects.

We are grateful to UNESCO, to the National Council for Research, to the University of Perugia and to other local Institutions for their financial support.

We express our gratitude to Kenneth Bryson, Anne Hawkins, David Moore, Brian Phillips, Mary Regier, Richard Scheaffer and David Vere-Jones for their invaluable help in editing the volume.

Perugia, May 1994

Lina Brunelli
Giuseppe Cicchitelli
INTRODUCTION

At its 48th session in Cairo in 1931, the International Statistical Institute approved the creation of a new section, or affiliated society, the International Association for Statistical Education (IASE). The new society held its first scientific meeting in Perugia, Italy, on August 23 and 24, 1993. More than 150 persons from 36 countries participated in the Perugia meeting.

The papers in this volume suggest the variety and importance of the issues facing statistical education as the IASE begins its existence. What is the place of technology in teaching? Readers will find here papers not only on computing and video, but on the rapidly growing area of electronic communication among teachers and between teachers and students. Data analysis is now an important strand in school curricula in many nations. A number of authors discuss statistics in the schools from various perspectives. Note in particular Peter Holmes's comparison of practices within the EEC, which is particularly appropriate for IASE, because it moves beyond the experiences of a single national system.

University education is not neglected, nor is the issue of training government statistical staff.

The IASE, like the ISI itself, is acutely aware of the special problems facing statistical education in developing countries and in the transition countries of eastern Europe. I am pleased that invited speakers from Slovenia, Uganda, and Zimbabwe were at Perugia, and I hope that readers will carefully ponder David Vere-Jones's eloquent essay on "The IASE and Problems of Statistical Education in Developing Countries". David Vere-Jones was the interim president of IASE while the society was in its formative stages. We owe him and the other members of the interim executive committee our gratitude for launching IASE. We are also indebted to Giuseppe Cicchitelli and the other members of the Perugia organizing committee for arranging and hosting such an excellent meeting, and for attracting financial support for the meeting at a time when IASE had few resources of its own.

The open forum on future directions for IASE that concluded the meeting allowed participants to suggest priorities for the new society. Among many ideas, I noted a repeated emphasis on finding
ways to allow people concerned with statistical education to more easily locate and communicate with each other. Membership in IASE is of course a way of announcing a commitment to statistics education; we hope to offer members innovative ways to reach each other electronically and otherwise.

The IASE aims to be an effective international voice for strengthening statistical education at every level. It is, I believe, the first society having this as its primary purpose. The Perugia meeting and the papers appearing in this volume are a step in that direction.

David S. Moore
President, IASE
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