

# ISLP Newsletter



3(3) August 2011

in brief...

## ISLP Poster Competition in...

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Kids using data to change the world

Explica - we help you with statistics

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ISLP project is progressing on several fronts

ISLP Newsletter is the newsletter of the International Statistical Literacy Project of IASE - the International Association for Statistical Education.

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## A weekend with the champions of Finland's poster competition

by Minna Korhonen

Finland's international statistical literacy competition was judged at the end of March and the results published in mid April. The members of the jury were carefully selected from different organisations and worked independently from organisers of the national competition. The posters were judged according to the international ISLP criteria and all the finalists were given a written feedback on their posters.

With the help of various sponsors: Statistics Finland in cooperation with MAOL; the Finnish Association of Teachers of Mathematics Physics, Chemistry and Informatics and the Finnish Statistical Society, a weekend trip to Helsinki was organized for the winners.

The weekend started with a visit to the Finnish Aviation Museum close to the airport. The students and teachers attended a guided tour at the aircraft exhibition. The museum's collection has some 80 civil and military aircrafts and a multitude of other aviation-related exhibits.



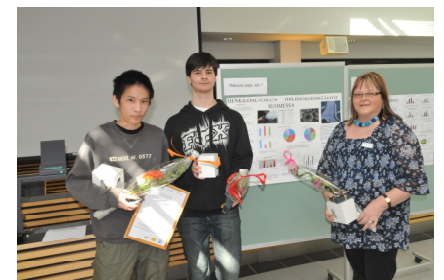
Winners of "1992 and younger" -category Iidaliina Uusitalo, Janne Mustaniemi and Leevi Leppäjärvi with their teacher Raimo Huhtala from Rovaniemi. (Photograph by Irene Hietala)



Mikko Chan, the winner (together with Miko Pusztai) of "1995 and younger" -category, operating the jet. (Photograph by Irene Hietala)

After the museum, the students and teachers had the opportunity to pilot a Douglas DC-9 training simulator, which is a full-size passenger jet. The simulator has served Finnish pilot training for almost 40 years, and is now open for public for a limited time.

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Winners of the "1995 and younger" -category Mikko Chan and Miko Pusztai with their teacher Irene Hietala standing in front of their winning poster at the awarding ceremony. (Photograph by Pasi Konttinen)

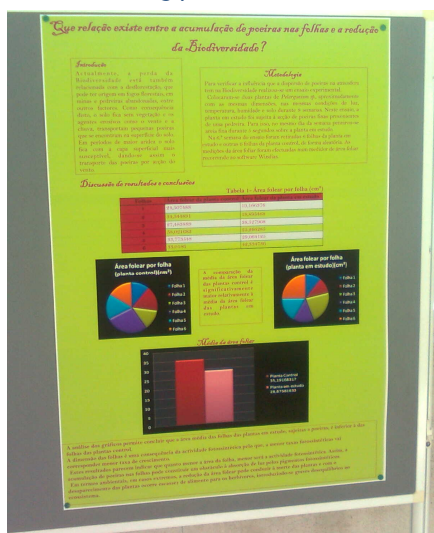


**Portugal**

**PORTUGAL: ISLP 2011 POSTER COMPETITION!**

by Maria M. nascimento

Many students were involved in the ISLP competition integrated in several Portuguese schools. At one northern school where students had some interesting posters, students and teachers voted on the three posters to be selected for the national competition. Some of the posters are shown in the following photos.



The Portuguese jury members for the national competition were: Arsélio Martins (Secondary School José Estevão, Aveiro), João A. Branco (UTL - Instituto Superior Técnico, Technical Superior Institute) José Alexandre Martins (IPG; Guarda Polytechnic Institute), Margarida Assunção (First Cycle School n. 5 of Vila Real), Maria M. Nascimento (UTAD, University of Trás os Montes and Alto Douro) and Pedro Campos (INE, Portuguese National Statistical Office and University of Porto). We want to thank their voluntary (and important) work!

The Portuguese winners of the ISLP Poster Competition 2010-2011:

- Group students born in 1992 and younger - The poster named: Experience "Irradiated Seeds Germination" - What is the effect of different radiations on plant growth? from the Secondary School of Portela (Portela, Lisbon).
- Group students born in 1995 and younger -

(continued from 1<sup>st</sup> page)

**A weekend with the champions of Finland's poster competition**

After the "flight", the students and their teachers visited Statistics Finland for a short welcome, introduction and the presentation of an imaginary Finnish village of 100 inhabitants viewed through statistics.



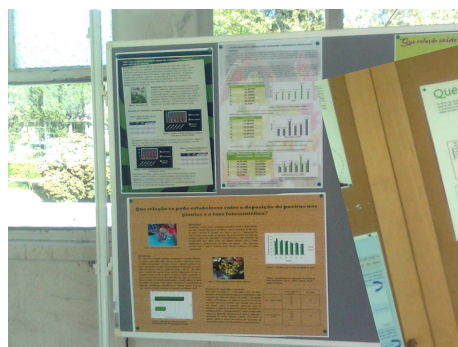
Iidalina Uusitalo, Raimo Huhtala, Leevi Leppäjärvi and Janne Mustaniemi after the awarding ceremony. (Photograph by Pasi Konttinen)

The award ceremony was held on 16th of April at the national event of MAOL. The day was completed with a dinner at an Italian restaurant.

The poster named: How the spread of dust in the atmosphere can contribute to reduce the growth of plants? from the Third Cycle and Secondary School of S. Pedro (Vila Real)

We are planning a celebration lunch in September with all the participants - jury members, students, and their teachers.

**Thank you all for answering to this international challenge!**



**Spain**

In Spain the participation in the ISLP competition has been very small. We thank María M. Vega Quirós, teacher at the EEPP de la Sagrada Familia de Écija (Spain) the participation of her students of grade 9.

Twenty-seven students of this school prepared their poster for the School Competition. The poster of Angela Salido Delgado and Sara María Solán Rubio was selected for the National Competition. We can see them in the photograph while doing their poster.





## The ISLP in Ukraine *by Anna Anisimova*

The final Award Ceremony of the national level of ISLP (International Statistical Literacy Project) 2010-2011 was first time in Ukraine on 26th of May in Donetsk National University on behalf of Head Department of Statistics in Donetsk region.

### Ukraine

To begin something always it is not easy. The organizational committee was cared about complexity of the process, a language barrier, anxiety whether interested persons will respond, whether will be sufficient their educational level. The online format considerably simplified the running of a competition. All interested persons from any places of Ukraine had a possibility to take part. Competitions has taken place with support of Central Head Department of Statistics in Donetsk region which promoted marketing of competition and has given prizes and gifts for winners.

Similar competition was spent the first time in Ukraine, therefore there were no national samples, reference points for competition. Materials of the previous competitions abroad were the one sample. We are very grateful to committee of ISLP and to all who carried out organizational and information support of competition.

The 11 teams (25 participants) have taken part in competition, but we are assured that the further development of competition and its promotion in Ukraine allows attracting the wider number of participants next year. Winners of a national stage are:

1. The team "New boundaries" (Chugrij Nataliya, Usenko Tatiana), presentation "Air pollution in Ukraine".
2. The team "Ahenval's\_joke" (Dmitrenko Nikita, Adjavenko Anna, Ryabenko Anna), "Statistical research of Internet shops".
3. The team Kio (Plaksina Kira, Matjushenko Olga), presentation "The consequences of eruption of a volcano of Ejjafjadlajokjudl in Iceland"

Also have received awards in nominations:

- "For knowledge of methodology of statistical calculations" - Stabias Sergey, Ivanova Valery, Zajarskaya Valery;
- "For the creative approach in statistical research" - Zavjalets Natalia, Shapovalova Natalia.

The educational level and analytical thinking considerably differed between participants that allows the estimating results of researches objectively. Themes of researches varied from a estimations of oil prices instability to research of youth audience tastes concerning social networks. The jury have especially noted the presentation, devoted the analysis of consequences of volcano eruption in Iceland on 14th of April, 2010 and changes in this connection in sphere of tourism, air service, export-import of the goods in Europe. Nevertheless the first place was won by the presentation devoted to a vital topic of environment pollution, which has been recommended to participation on the international level of competition.

So, a national level of competition are finished. Now the international competition are running, new problems and researches, dialogue and discussions with colleagues and an exchange of experience also begin. We are assured that new statistical researches will be the best, interesting and sated!



### Hungary

*By Peter Peter Kovacs*

The award of the Hungarian national round of the poster competition and the presentation of the ISLP project posters together with a press conference was held in Szeged on June 17. The national organizers were the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration at the University of Szeged, the Department of Statistical Education of Hungarian Statistical Associations and the Hungarian Central Statistical Office. The major sponsor of the round was SPSS Hungary Co.

In addition to the two age brackets of the competition we experimentally organized a third category for higher education students. In this category the posters were based on professional data collections and surveys. The higher education category winner team made a poster about the polluting effects of disposable diapers. The creative spirit of the team was captured in their diaper-shaped poster.

Overall 22 Hungarian teams with 51 participants entered the competition. Fifteen teams sent posters which are on show in a poster gallery on <http://www.eco.u-szeged.hu/statisztikaverseny>. As a sign of recognition all participants got a certificate, and digital cameras were awarded to the younger winners. The first prize in the higher education category was an SPSS course worth 1000 euros.



# ISLP Poster Competition in New Zealand



By Sashi Sharma

A hundred and seventy two school students have participated in the New Zealand leg of the International Statistical Literacy Project Poster Competition. Posters were prepared in teams of two or three students by students in schools across New Zealand. The goal of the International Statistical Literacy Competition is to increase awareness of statistics among students and teachers throughout the world, to promote statistical literacy resources and to bring teachers and students together with others interested in statistics education.

New Zealand students submitted posters on statistical investigations or experiments they had conducted. The goal of the competition was to improve students' ability to describe their environment using statistics as a tool for making sense of their daily life. The theme of the New Zealand Competition was "In my neighbourhood". Volunteers from the sponsor organisations judged the posters.

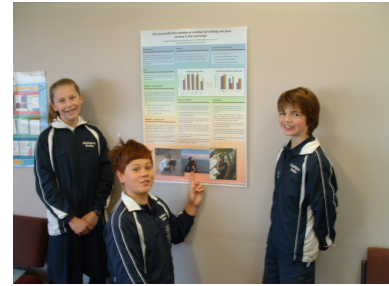
Two teams were judged joint winners of the competition. The winners are Megan Snell, Jack Boyd and Mitchell Sammut

of Cashmere Primary School with their poster "Can you predict the weather at midday by looking out your window in the morning?" and Asha Shashikumar, Swashna Lal and Sasha Amichand of Mission Heights Junior College with "Beep Beep Why the wait?". Both teams received certificates and \$600 prize money.



The judges were impressed with the scale of the projects with students collecting data over long periods of time and from across the community. Both entries showed a high level of statistical thinking and reasoning for their age.

The posters were presented with flair and clarity. Special awards were also made to Bridget Morshead, Lucy Waldin and Bianca Rogers-Mott of Roturua Lakes High School for innovative use of technology and to Sanara Swarnadhipathi and Neesha Kumar of Mission Heights Junior College for



presentation. The competition was organised in cooperation with the ISI and IASE (including the ISLP Executive and ISLP Advisory Board). The New Zealand organising committee would also like to acknowledge the support of significant sponsors including – New Zealand Statistical Association, the New Zealand Association of Mathematics Teachers, AgResearch, the University of Auckland – Department of Statistics and the University of Waikato. New Zealand's ISLP country coordinator, Sashi Sharma would particularly like to thank Harold Henderson and Vanessa Cave of AgResearch for their support.



## Mexico

## CCH: A High-School experience in Statistics

by Hugo Hernández Trevethan



After an almost inexistent participation in the Poster Competition in a country in which Statistics is maybe the most underrated science, at least I have some reflections to make up my day.

The participants whom are going to represent Mexico in the Second International Statistical Literacy Competition come from a school named Colegio de Ciencias y Humanidades, better known as CCH. It is a huge school, with five different campuses in Mexico City, and with an approximate of 12,000 students in each campus; yes, this is not a print error, 12,000 students in each campus, for a global of almost 60,000 CCH students.

The CCH is a high-school incorporated to the National University. So, the scholar programs at the CCH are intended to be the proper "introduction" to the major level of the National University. And which is the role of statistics at the CCH? The whole CCH scholar program is three years long; and the first two years have a mandatory structure for every student. But in the last year, students are allowed to pick their subjects according whit their interests, and the only condition is to fit some scheme. In the first two years, all of the students must study Mathematics, meaning Arithmetic, Geometry,

Algebra and Pre-Calculus themes every semester. In the last year, they can choose one or two out of three options in Mathematics: Cybernetics, Calculus and Statistics.

Since every major at the University has at least one semester in Statistics, this subject has become the most popular choice for the senior students at the CCH, in order to "be ready" for college... and because they naively feel Statistics should be easier than the other two options.

In this scenario the Statistics scholar program in the CCH is somehow unique. CCH was founded in 1971; the first program review was in 1996, and the second in 2003. And in every one of those three programs, Inference has been the ultimate goal in the Statistics course.

The newest tendencies in Statistics Education point to teach Inference, mostly in an informal level, leaving the formal Inference for college; at the CCH the formal level, even when basic, has been the main characteristic in the program for 40 years.

I'm not sure how impressive this could be; I don't know if some other high-school has Statistic as an isolated subject instead of being a part of the Math curriculum, neither if there is some high-school Statistics program covering Inference in a formal level. My guess is that there have to be just a few.

My experience proves me not just that is possible to have Inference as a part of a high-school curriculum, but also worthy. A few weeks ago, a team of four CCH senior students, whom has chosen Statistics, developed a research in Runs Test, offering a practical application to some surveys applied by the National University; they were able to go that far even when the program covers just Confidence Intervals and Test of Hypothesis for one mean and for one proportion under a Normal sampling distribution. Maybe it was just me, but I was impressed. Sadly, as I've said, in Mexico Statistics is maybe the most underrated science, so that research was underrated as well. Now I see that the Mexican representatives for the Second International Statistical Literacy Competition used some Inference in the poster.

I think this proves again that Inference is possible and worthy in high-school. Maybe this could be the way not just to stop Statistics to be an underrated science, but also the way to have, in the near future, a society with a higher level in Statistics Literacy.

And that's something to make up my day.



By Nadezhda Tsankova

## May 27 - The Day of the Faculty of Economics of The St. St. Cyril and Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo, in Hadji Nikoli Inn

(The "Hadji Nikoli Inn" won the Special award of the Jury of the "Building of the Year 2010" National Contest for investment in preserving the cultural heritage of Bulgaria and the Award of the Audience!)

The national committee organized a poster display and a national award ceremony. Posters were judged by the national organising committee. First year students at the Faculty of Economics, at the end of their introductory course in statistics for business and economics made 55 statistical posters alongside student participants in the ISLP Poster Competition 2010-2011 from the Old School of Economics – Veliko Turnovo, and participated at posters display and ceremony. Citizens of Veliko Turnovo had the opportunity to vote for the best poster. "Recycling of Bulgaria" won the most votes and became the poster of the citizens of Veliko Turnovo. The ISLP Country Coordinator, Nadezhda Tsankova, gave a cocktail party for participants in the competition, the national committee and their guests in the Wine bar and Summer Garden of the inn.

Before the ceremony, the authors of the nominated posters had consultations with Svetoslav Kosev, assistant-professor in graphical design and Nadezhda Tsankova, assistant-professor in statistics at The St. St. Cyril and Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo. Dragomir Dragnev and Greta Kancheva, students at the Old School of Economics, were consulted by Stephan Tsonev, an expert on environmental statistics at National Statistical Institute and had a meeting with Olga Gurova, an expert on recycling at Ecopack - Bulgaria.

The Hadji Nikoli Inn proposed social program for participants in the ceremony

- The Thracian Treasures of Rogozen, Mogilanska Mound and Borovo
- Exhibition of Yordan Rarushev & Krasimir Rusev
- Live Music – Tsvetomir Tsankov, jazz and pop singer; Rimen Halachev - piano

Attending Media:  
Cable TV Videosat, Cable Radioof Veliko Turnovo, Cable radio of Russe, Radio Focus, regional newspaper "Borba"-Veliko Turnovo, regional newspaper "Brjag"- Russe, press – center of National Statistical Institute

### Members of the committee:

- Borislav Borissov - President of the National Committee, Director of the Regional Statistical Office, Veliko Tarnovo
1. Associate Professor Dr. Pencho Pentchev, Head of Department of Business and Management at The St. St. Cyril and Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo, the governor of the province Veliko Turnovo
  2. Mihailka Grigorova, secretary of the Municipal Census Commission, an expert in the Regional Statistical Office - VelikoTarnovo
  3. Nadezhda Tsankova, assistant-professor in statistics, Department of Finance and Accounting at The St. St. Cyril and Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo, country coordinator of ISLP - Poster Competition
  5. Svetoslav Kosev, assistant-professor of graphic design, Faculty of Fine Arts at The St. St. Cyril and Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo
  6. Tihomira Atanasova, specialist in modern Bulgarian language, graphic designer, The St. St. Cyril and Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo

### The winners:

- Students born in 1995 and younger:
1. National Winner: Poster "Eat, Ate, Eaten"; students: Petranka Kirilova and Aleksandrina Pencheva; teacher Donka Simeonova, High School of Mathematics "Baba Tonka", Russe
  2. Second: Poster "The Sold Cars in EU"; students: Stanislava Georgieva, Denica Georgieva; teacher Donka Simeonova, High School of Mathematics "Baba Tonka", Russe
- Students born in 1992 and younger:
1. National Winner: Poster "Greenhouse effect"; students: Stefani Sherbanova, Milen Ivanov, Ivelin Penchev; teacher Boryana Kuyumdzhieva,



First row, seated from left to right: a teacher at High School of Mathematics "Baba Tonka", Russe with Petranka Kirilova and Aleksandrina Pencheva (born 1995), national winners; Tsvetanka Mancheva – a teacher at Old School of Economics, Veliko Turnovo with students and deputy director of the school. Second row: Dragomir Dragnev, author of the poster "Recycling in Bulgaria", second in the competition; Old School of Economics, Veliko Turnovo; National Winner: Milen Ivanov, Poster "Greenhouse effect", High School of Mathematics "Baba Tonka", Russe; Members of the committee - Mihailka Grigorova, secretary of the Municipal Census Commission, an expert in the Regional Statistical Office – VelikoTarnovo; Borislav Borissov - President of the National Committee, Director of the Regional Statistical Office, Veliko Tarnovo; Nadezhda Tsankova, assistant-professor in statistics, Department of Finance and Accounting at The St. St. Cyril and Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo, country coordinator of ISLP - Poster Competition; Irena Lazarova, participant from Old School of Economics, Associate Professor Dr. Pencho Pentchev, Head of Department of Business and Management at The St. St. Cyril and Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo, the governor of the province Veliko Turnovo; Tihomira Atanasova, specialist in modern Bulgarian language, graphic designer, The St. St. Cyril and Methodius University of Veliko Turnovo between participants from Old School of Economics.

- High School of Mathematics "Baba Tonka", Russe
2. Second: Poster "Recycling in Bulgaria"; students: Dragomir Dragnev, Greta Kancheva; teacher Tsvetanka Mancheva; Old School of Economics, Veliko Turnovo
  3. Third: Poster "The Air Surrounding"; students: Monika Mircheva, Miroslava Krasteva, Hristina Syarova; teacher Svetlana Kolcheva.

By Afshin Ashofteh

# SavadeAmari.com

A website that provides information about the statistical literacy for Persian people all around the world.



SavadeAmari.com is a web site designed to promote statistical literacy. The website is designed in two layers which are accessible for everyone free of charge. The first layer contains links to the main page, educational resources, statistical literacy and nomination in website. In this layer, users get familiar with the tem statistical literacy. The main goal of this layer is to motivate visitors to register in the website by showing the importance of the statistical literacy by the use of statistics in economic news, competitions, a poem, statistical jokes, and introducing some books about statistical literacy, news of statistical literacy, etc. The page "statistical literacy" contains a link to the second layer which is a Persian online Statistical literacy journal, a text to introduce statistical literacy and a poem about it. This poem mentions that if people are not aware statistical literacy, then the whole of their life will be Vulnerable somehow and the two last lines recommend youth to follow the statistical literacy for a better future life.

By D. Juleemun

Some of statistical literacy activities have been implemented recently in Mauritius. The Director of Statistics in Mauritius released the materials corresponding to the following activities on their website at <http://www.gov.mu/portal/site/cso>

- (i) Publication of an Advocacy document  
A document on advocacy for statistics, based on a PARIS21 template, has been prepared and emailed to all stakeholders.
- (ii) Participation in the African Statistics Day and World Statistics Day  
The office participated in the above events through:
  - a) the organization of workshops with the participation of other data producers, suppliers and users of statistics;
  - b) publication of a special commemorative cover on the occasion of the World Statistics day;
  - c) the publication of leaflets on the most common statistical indicators produced by the office; and
  - d) the organization of an essay competition on “Statistics at the Service of the Nation” opened to secondary and university students.
- (iii) Publication of a quarterly newsletter
- (iv) A user satisfaction survey is carried out to collect information on user’s expectations and getting feedback on the efficiency and effectiveness of our statistical information service.  
Under preparation are Statistical literacy documents directed to increase awareness and proper use of statistics. Improvement of website is planned to make it more user-friendly and interactive with the inclusion of a section on training in statistics and the interpretation of our statistical products;

## Canada

By Mary Townsend

### David Roy: ROY, David John.



David passed away suddenly at his home, on May 13, 2011, at the age of 64. He leaves behind his beloved wife, the love of his life, Sonia Roy (Berube), his beautiful son Nicholas, his brother Philippe and sister-in-law Mary Roy (McNamara), his stepchildren Alex and Melanie Mastronardi, and numerous cousins and relatives in both Canada and England. He was predeceased by his parents Robert John Harrison Roy and Phyllis Roy (Lewis). David touched many lives in his community of Chelsea, Quebec, and during the 30 some years he spent at Statistics Canada. No words can express our grief at losing David. Our lives were immeasurably enriched by him and all that he did.

### Statistics Canada released a new publication *Survey Methods and Practises.*

It is available free online at <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/bsolc/olc-cel/olc-cel?lang=eng&catno=12-587-X>

**This publication shows readers how to design and conduct a census or sample survey. It explains basic survey concepts and provides information on how to create efficient and high quality surveys. It is aimed at those involved in planning, conducting or managing a survey and at students of survey design courses.**

It contains the following information:

- how to plan and manage a survey;
- how to formulate the survey objectives and design a questionnaire;
- things to consider when determining a sample design (choosing between a sample or a census, defining the survey population, choosing a survey frame, identifying possible sources of survey error);
- choosing a method of collection (self-enumeration, personal interviews or telephone interviews; computer-assisted versus paper-based questionnaires);
- organizing and conducting data collection operations;
- determining the sample size, allocating the sample across strata and selecting the sample;
- methods of point estimation and variance estimation, and data analysis;
- the use of administrative data, particularly during the design and estimation phases
- how to process the data (which consists of all data handling activities between collection and estimation) and use quality control and quality assurance measures to minimize and control errors during various survey steps; and
- disclosure control and data dissemination.



# Kids using data to change the world

by Mary Townsend

This article is a condensed version taken from a longer article written by former Statistics Canada employee **Joel Yan** and teacher **Hina Kausar-Ahmad**, which will appear in *The Ontario Mathematics Gazette* newsletter published by the Ontario Association of Mathematics Educators.

Hina Kausar-Ahmad wants her students to “be the change they want to see in the world.” This Grade 4 and 5 teacher from Kleinburg Public School in York Region District School Board, north of Toronto, also aims to help her students grasp abstract mathematical concepts by applying them to real-world issues. Inspired by what she read on Statistics Canada’s **Learning resources** website, Hina challenged her students to research issues that were important to them, using statistical data, and to present their findings at a Social Justice Data Fair on February 28, 2011.



These students explain how they collected data for their gas consumption project.  
Photo: J. Yan.

For young students to manage such a large, complex task, Hina had to guide them through a structured process. First, the class read *If the World Were a Village* (Smith 2006) and then brainstormed topics such as world hunger, garbage, world population, literacy rates and energy consumption. Students then chose a topic that interested them, and worked in pairs through the steps of data collection, analysis and presentation, while receiving daily feedback on their progress from their teacher. Visitors to the Kleinburg Public School’s Social Justice Data Fair were impressed with the students’ explanation of their findings. For example, guests learned:

- how much sugar and caffeine is consumed by staff and students at the school (which was creatively displayed as a concrete bar graph made from sugar cubes);
- about world hunger, as depicted on a map comparing numbers of malnourished people and total population in each continent;
- what is the average amount families in different nations spend on food each week, varying from \$500 in Germany to

- \$1.23 in Chad;
- the number of Kleinburg Public School students wearing clothing made in factories that employ child labour;
- that the top four components of household garbage (mixed paper, food waste, newsprint and cardboard) can all be recycled or composted; and
- how much the total gas consumed by students who are driven to school costs (which was calculated using data from a survey of the school’s students, fuel efficiency for each type of vehicle (found on the Internet) and the distance from school to each home using Google maps).



Students sharing their results from the Tap Water Challenges with Joel Yan.  
Photo: H. Kausar-Ahmad.

As the students collected and deciphered their data, some began to question the data’s validity. One group of students conducted a Tap Water Challenge—they asked staff and students to choose their favourite among tap water and three popular brands of bottled water, both before and after a taste test. Throughout the process, the group considered questions relating to bias and skewed data. When the students realized they had included a bias by unconsciously serving the various waters at different temperatures, they subsequently re-tested after eliminating this bias. Students made some amazing discoveries about data reliability and validity in the ensuing class discussion. One student remarked, “As a consumer of data, I learned that sometimes the information is skewed and not accurate and that you have to be careful when reading data.”

Here are some quotes from the students’ presentations on the day of the Social Justice Data Fair:



These students compared international literacy rates for boys and girls.  
Photo: J. Yan.

- Tap Water Challenge: “Plastic bottles are filling up our landfills and killing our environment. The funny part is that most students said they preferred bottled water, but when we conducted the Tap Water Challenge the results showed that people prefer tap water.”
- Child Labour: “I am wearing the clothes that children are making in factories instead of going to school. They aren’t in school, they are working in factories. That makes me sad.”
- World Hunger: “There is hunger in North America, there may be kids in my community or school that don’t have enough to eat, and go to school hungry. Today, in order to help, I think we should have more food drives than just the one around Christmas time. There are children in the world that don’t have enough to eat, and have to work for their family, they can’t go to school.”

Visitors to the Social Justice Data Fair, which included parents, educators and school board officials, gave glowing feedback of the event and the students’ work.

**Garfield Gini-Newman**, Education Professor from Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, said: “This event was the culmination of a powerfully transformative learning experience. It was evident that the students’ understanding of their world, their place in it, and the ways they can contribute to improving the world had greatly been enhanced through their collection, interpretation and application of the data.”

Joel Yan, former StatCan employee, attended on behalf of Statistics Canada. According to Joel, “the level of statistical analysis was very high for Grade 4 and 5 students and both visual displays and oral presentations were exceptional.

And most importantly, several students discovered results that have potential to improve the quality of life in our world. Absolutely inspiring!”

Here at Statistics Canada, we will also have the chance to be inspired (this time by intermediate and high school students) later this spring. Watch for the **Statistics Canada Student Data Analysis Fair**, which will be held in the Jean Talon Lobby on June 1.

You’ll be amazed!

## Explica - we help you with statistics

The National Statistical Institute of Spain (INE) would like to share with you the new Statistical Literacy Portal that we have published recently. <http://www.ine.es/explica/explica.htm>

The objective of this initiative is to help people to become familiar with some basic concepts that are handled in the statistical work. Besides this we also wish to also raise awareness of the statistical activity undertaken by the INE. We've attempted to do this in a way so that everybody can understand it through simple activities, videos and applications. In developing this web site, our aim has been to increase statistical literacy among people and therefore promote the proper use of statistical information.



There is still a lot of work to be done, especially focused on students and teachers. For this reason, we are keen to receive ideas and suggestions.

## Think. Quarterly

For those of you who have not seen it already, here is the link to a new magazine "Think Quarterly" by Google. The first issue is all about data and statistical literacy and it is very interesting.

<http://thinkquarterly.co.uk/>

The Innovation Issue 

*We are, literally, more creative than ever.*

Think Quarterly/Q3/2011/Welcome



## ISLP project is progressing on several fronts

It is fantastic to note that so many activities have happened this year! Thank you all and let's continue in the same way.

### The ISLP Poster Competition was a success

Results of the ISLP Poster Competition 2010-2011 will be announced in ISI Dublin 2011 Congress. It is great that 4793 students participated in the competition from all over the world. This was the second International Statistical Literacy Competition organized by IASE/ISLP.

Posters were prepared in teams of two or three students. The competition was divided into two age categories: students born in 1995 and younger, and students born in 1992 and younger. The competition had three phases: school competition, national competition and international competition.

An expert jury consisting of the following persons evaluated the posters:

Martha Aliaga (USA), Chair  
Chris Wild (New Zealand)  
Iddo Gal (Israel)  
Metka Zaletel (Slovenia)  
Christine Reading (Australia)  
Enriqueta Reston (Philippines)

### The Best Cooperative Project Award will be announced in Dublin!

The Best Cooperative Award Competition showed that we have many best practices to share with each other. We received submissions from several countries: Australia, Bulgaria, Ethiopia, Finland, Iran and New Zealand. The members of the jury for this award are:

Pedro Campos (Portugal), Chair  
Adriana D'Amelio (Argentina)  
Larry Weldon (Canada)  
Tatevik Zohrabyan (Armenia)

### The call for the ISLP Strategy project is ongoing

The ISLP Executive has initiated the ISLP Strategy project. We would like to develop common models on how to improve statistical literacy in different areas. As an example we now have the International Statistical Literacy

Competition in the school sector. We are now gathering together persons who are interested in developing the ISLP Strategy in the following areas:

- schools
- universities
- media
- libraries
- decision makers
- citizens
- national statistical offices.

Join us to develop the ISLP model! If you are interested please contact to ISLP Director Reija Helenius ([reija.helenius@stat.fi](mailto:reija.helenius@stat.fi)) by the 15th September. After registrations are complete we will form strategy teams for different areas. Please inform us in which specific area you would be interested in being a team leader or a team member.

### The call for country coordinators continues

The call for International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP) country coordinators to promote and implement project activities continues. At present we have more than 80 country coordinators representing every continent but still many countries are missing. Please look at the list of country coordinators on

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

If your country is missing, consider if you could take a leadership role for the ISLP. If your country is already listed but you are interested in the ISLP, don't hesitate to give your contact information to the ISLP Director Reija Helenius (email: [reija.helenius@stat.fi](mailto:reija.helenius@stat.fi)).

### Note! Important meetings during ISI2011

- IASE Open Meeting on Tuesday 23rd of August.
- ISLP Country Coordinators' meeting and the ISLP Open Meeting on Wednesday 24th of August.
- ISI & Sections' Awards Ceremony on Thursday 25th of August.

Please look at more detailed schedules and meeting rooms in the conference programme.

Wishing to see many of you in Dublin!

*Reija, Sharleen and Pedro  
ISLP Executive*