IASE NEWS

DECEMBER 2022

The International Association for Statistical Education (IASE)

I am pleased to share with you the monthly newsletter of our Association. It is rich with interesting information about coming conferences and events, publications, and a special section about the history of IASE. This section is this time written by John Harraway, Past President of IASE, who share with us his vivid personal experiences from various events and people. I draw your attention to the current call for nomination of officers for the IASE Executive Committee.

I am attaching this monthly newsletter as a PDF document to this email. If the attachment of the newsletter is missing, you can find it at https://iase-web.org/News.php.

I wish you all the happiest of holidays and a fantastic new year!

Dani Ben-Zvi, President Elect of IASE, dbenzvi@univ.haifa.ac.il

Call for nomination of officers for the IASE Executive Committee

By Ayse Aysin Bombaci Bilgin (A²B²), IASE President, ayse.bilgin@mq.edu.au

I am writing regarding the nomination of officers for the IASE Executive Committee for the period July 2023-July 2025. As a background, please see our Statutes (i.e., by-laws), which also govern the appointment of officers, at: http://iase-web.org/About.php?p=Statutes.

1. OFFICERS WE NEED

The slate for the 2023-2025 term must consist of a President-Elect and five Vice-Presidents. The current Vice-Presidents (2021-2023) are: Pip Arnold (New Zealand), Bruno de Sousa(Portugal), Rob Gould (United States), Sibel Kazak (Turkey) and James Kaleli Muyoska (Kenya). Pip, Bruno and Sibel are finishing their first term in July 2023 and are eligible for a second term and declared their availability for a second term in office. The others have finished the allotted four years as Vice Presidents. The Current President-Elect, Dani Ben-Zvi (Israel), will become President in July 2023, at which point the current President, Ayse Bilgin (Australia) will become Past-President, replacing Joachim Engel (Germany) who is currently in this role.

2. NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE AND CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

I am pleased to announce that the Executive Committee has appointed Joachim Engel, IASE's Past President, to Chair an independent five-person Nominations Committee that will carry out the task of nominating a President-Elect and Vice Presidents for the 2023-2025 term. The Committee will 1) consider names from all possible sources, i.e., nominations (people proposed by other IASE members), self-nominations, or ideas from the committee itself; and 2) make efforts to nominate persons with proven leadership skills and a range of backgrounds, representing as much as possible the diverse communities of research and practice in statistics education internationally. The elected officers will join continuing members of the Executive Committee to lead the IASE's efforts in a range of international activities and will also collaborate with other societies and organisations to promote the profession worldwide. Activities include, among others: participating in IASE conferences, improving benefits to members; promoting membership in IASE and ISI, supporting statisticians who are younger or from developing countries. In view of these responsibilities, the nominees must have the time, energy and dedication to participate in IASE's work. They should have a reasonably broad knowledge of the field, the challenges it faces, and a vision of how to promote statistics at the international level. It is important to consider diversity in terms of gender, geographical representation, experience, and areas of interest as you make your nominations.

We call upon IASE members who want to nominate others or to self-nominate themselves for the 2023-2025 term, to write no later than January 15, 2023 directly to the Committee Chair, Joachim Engel and only to him at: engel@ph-ludwigsburg.de. Please include brief supporting information or enough details that will enable the committee to understand the basis for the nomination or self nomination. In particular, what has the candidate contributed to the statistics education community and what they might contribute in the future? Please start such emails to Joachim with a Subject line: "IASE nominations - suggestions from [name]" to make sure they get due attention.

The Committee will keep full confidentiality regarding all emails it receives. The Committee will consider all proposals received by January 15, 2023, ask the nominees they are

considering to write a short statement responding to some questions about the potential of their involvement on the Executive Committee and then embark on its deliberations. Thank you for your support of IASE.

ISI Membership Elections

By Ayse Aysin Bombaci Bilgin, IASE President, ayse.bilgin@mq.edu.au

I strongly encourage all of the IASE members to become elected ISI members. The information needed to become an ISI elected member can be found at https://www.isi-web.org/membership/individual/elected. If you need help identifying people to nominate your ISI elected membership, you can find the names of ISI members at https://www.isi-web.org/about/members/individual. Please do not let one more year go, consider applying as soon as you can to become an elected ISI member to become a member of wider community.

Conferences and Events

[IASE 2023 Satellite Conference](#), 11-13 July 2023, Toronto, Canada

By Alison Gibbs, Chair of the IPC and Local Organising Committee, alison.gibbs@utoronto.ca

The theme of the conference is *"Fostering Learning of Statistics and Data Science"* We are organising this conference as a joint conference with IASC. https://iase2023satellite.github.io

Topic 1: Fostering Learning in the Current Data Landscape
The nature and complexity of today's data create important questions about what we teach, when we teach it, and, more importantly, how we teach it, in order to develop in our students the skills and values they need to effectively engage with data. This topic will explore data-centric, problem-based approaches to enhance learning in this context.

Topic 2: Cultivating Probabilistic Thinking for Data Analysis
Probability Theory is the principal framework for reasoning about uncertainty, variability, and risk, forming the bedrock of Statistics. Despite the successes of algorithmic methods, sound probabilistic thinking is essential to data analysis and problem solving. This topic will examine strategies to develop in our students the core probabilistic concepts and competencies necessary for analyzing data.

Topic 3: Enhancing Statistics and Data Science in Schools
Statistical and Data literacy are recognized as crucial, universal skills for our increasingly information-rich world, and there are global efforts underway to bring

Statistics and Data Science to schools. This topic will highlight important initiatives, exchange insights, and identify opportunities for future progress.

Topic 4: Promoting Inclusion in Statistics and Data Science Education
Most governments and international organizations view education as a public good, but in reality, there are still many financial, cultural, and social barriers to education. This topic will investigate the current state of access to Statistics and Data Science Education and bring forward strategies to promote inclusion.

Topic 5: Achieving Coding Competencies in Data Science Students
Programming skills are a core competency of a data scientist and many data science courses rely on a specific coding language. However, in developing coding competency in our students, several questions arise. This topic will consider question such as: Should mastering the coding language be the focal learning goal, and to which degree do we want to integrate developing coding competency with developing skills in understanding data? What is a good trade-off between using existing libraries and developing personal code? To what degree do students need to know numerical and statistical algorithms? What is an appropriate coding language to use for sustainable education goals?

Key dates

5 December 2022	Proposed poster/paper description submission starts
30 January 2023	Deadline to submit proposal for poster/paper
24 February 2023	Notification of paper/poster acceptance
1 March 2023	Paper submission opens
30 April 2023	Paper submissions close for refereed papers
31 May 2023	Paper submissions close non-refereed papers
30 June 2023	Final submission of revised refereed papers

IPC and Local Organising Committee Members

- Chair: Alison Gibbs, University of Toronto
- Deputy chairs:
    - Bethany White, University of Toronto
    - Sotirios Damouras, University of Toronto Scarborough
- Proceedings editor: Elinor Jones, UCL
- IASC representatives:
    - Rosaria Lombardo, Italy
    - Monday Adenomon, Nigeria
- Additional confirmed members:
    - Emily Somerset (graduate student), University of Toronto
    - Lehana Thabane, McMaster University
    - Krista Wilde, University of Saskatchewan

If you have enquiries please send an email to IASE2023.Satellite@gmail.com

64th ISI World Statistics Congress 2023 – Ottawa, Canada

By the WSC 2023 Team, International Statistical Institute

Join the ISI WSC 2023 to celebrate the world of statistics and statisticians – we have some great reasons why you must not miss this edition of ISI WSC!

Return to Face-to-Face Meeting – Celebrate the work of the statistics and data science community in our first face to face meeting in four years

Keynote Speakers - ISI is very proud to announce that the President's Invited Speaker for WSC 2023 will be Professor Robert Groves, Provost of Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.

Programme - Our full programme will be announced very soon – content with a packed agenda including invited sessions, contributed sessions, posters, short courses, tutorials and leading speakers you will not want to miss out on this meeting.

Networking – Collaborate and learn and enrich your thinking with colleagues from around the world.

Destination - Ottawa is the perfect city in which to celebrate this gathering of the statistical world, and our venue, the Shaw Centre, was recently awarded the title of the 'Best Convention Centre in the World'

Registrations are now open! https://www.isi2023.org/conferences/ottawa-2023/

IASE online workshops and webinars

By Pip Arnold, Webinar director of IASE, pip@karekareeducation.co.nz

We held recently two successful Webinars:

- Statistical and Data Literacy in Policy-Making (7 Dec 2022)
- Through a glass darkly - question and answer session (29 Nov 2022)

Videos of webinar and the presentations are available in the above links.

More nformation about future or past IASE webinars can be found at https://iase-web.org/Webinars.php.

ISI Online Courses

By the ISI Permanent Office (PO), https://www.isi-web.org/contact

The ISI is currently holding Online Courses, organized in cooperation with the ISI Associations. The programme covers various areas of statistics and data science; an overview of the upcoming courses can be found on the website.

We invite you to register for the course(s) of your choice in advance in order to secure your spot. Registrations can be made via ISI Online Courses 2022 | ISI (isi-web.org). We have kept the fees as low as possible and offer discounted rates for students and participants from developing countries.

One of these might be very interesting to IASE members: *Teaching and Communication Tools for Enabling Statistical Thinking*.

OZCOTS (Australian Conference on Teaching Statistics) 14-15 December 2023, Wollongong, Australia

By Ayse Aysin Bombaci Bilgin, OZCOTS Program Chair, ayse.bilgin@mq.edu.au

We invite you to participate in OZCOTS 2023, the 11th Australian Conference on Teaching Statistics. OZCOTS 2023 will run as a hybrid Conference on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th December, 2023 and will consider many challenges of teaching Statistics for future statisticians, statistical users and consumers under the theme of "Statistics as a Big Tent: Statistics and Data Science Education". OZCOTS 2023 is building on the success of the timing and format of earlier OZCOTS as a conjoint event with the Australian Statistical Conference (ASC), to be held as a hybrid Conference in Wollongong University, Australia and online, with an overlap on Thursday 14th December 2023.

See more at https://www.asc2023.org/ozcots

15th International Congress on Mathematical Education
7-14 July 2024 • ICC Sydney, Australia
Come and be counted

By Kim Beswick, Convenor ICME-15, k.beswick@unsw.edu.au

The 15th International Congress on Mathematics Education will be July 7-14, 2024 in Sydney Australia. Please visit https://icme15.com/home for information and https://icmsaust.eventsair.com/icme-15/expression-of-interest/Site/Register to register your expression of interest and subscribe to the ICME-15 newsletter.

Publications

SERJ (Statistics Education Research Journal) News

By Jennifer J. Kaplan, Editor of Regular Papers of SERJ, jkaplan@mtsu.edu

A new issue of SERJ (Volume 21, Number 3) was published on 1st December 2022. It is available at https://iase-web.org/ojs/SERJ/index. The current issue includes the following original papers:

1. *An Analysis of Teachers' Confidence in Teaching Mathematics and Statistics*, by Odette Umugiraneza, Sarah Bansilal, and Delia North
2. *Initial Attitudes Toward Statistics are Better in Traditional Compared to Online Courses, at Least Until COVID-19*, by Hiroki Matsuo, Aleise L. Nooner, and Amy R. Pearce
3. *Psychometric Evaluation of the Students' Attitudes Toward Statistics and Technology Scale (SASTSc)*, by Alyssa Counsell, Joseph Rovetti, and Erin Buchanan
4. *Student Performance in Curricula Centered on Simulation-Based Inference*, by Beth Chance, Nathan Tintle, Shea Reynolds, Ajay Patel, Katherine Chan, and Sean Leader
5. *Young Children's Use of Subjective Thinking in Response To Probabilistic Tasks*, by Mary Kingston, Aisling Twohill

You can read all the articles published in SERJ and the special issues at https://iase-web.org/ojs/SERJ/issue/archive.

Submit your article at https://iase-web.org/ojs/SERJ/about/submissions.

ICOTS-11 Proceedings

The ICOTS-11 proceedings were made live at https://iase-web.org/Conference_Proceedings.php?p=ICOTS_11_2022. Many thanks go to Sue (Susan) S. Peters (s.peters@louisville.edu) who was the Lead Editor of ICOTS-11 Proceedings. A team of volunteers, as well a long list of referees, who all deserve recognition, made these proceedings possible. Our sincerest thanks to you all.

A new book: Formacion del profesorado para enseñar estadística: retos y oportunidades

By Joachim Engel, Past President of IASE, engel@ph-ludwigsburg.de

Danilo Diaz-Levicoy and Audy Salcedo (Universidad Catolica de Maule in Chile) have edited a remarkable online book, entitled "Formacion del profesorado para enseñar estadística: retos y oportunidades" (Teacher Training to Teach Statistics: Challenges and Opportunities). After the special SERJ issue on stats ed in Latin America and ICOTS-11 in Rosario Argentina, this is another strong contribution to boost stats ed in South America. Many IASE members contributed a chapter to this book. see:

https://portal.ucm.cl//content/uploads/2020/04/Formacion_del_profesorado_para_ensenar_estadistica_retos_y_oportunidades.pdf

IASE history

IASE history

By Ayse Aysin Bombaci Bilgin, IASE President, ayse.bilgin@mq.edu.au

IASE would like to learn from its history through the reflections of the previous IASE Presidents where possible. In this Newsletter, we have memories of John Harraway who was the President of IASE between 2011-2013 (see below). I do not remember when I first met with John, it might have been during the ICOTS in Ljubljana. Last time I saw John was during ICOTS-11 in Rosario (see five presidents below – can you name them all 😊), he was as enthusiastic about statistics education as I first met him. Thank you for the shared memories John, I hope that we will create more memories.

My time with IASE as President (2011 – 2013)

By John Harraway, IASE Past President,
jharraway@maths.otago.ac.nz

I first became involved with the International Statistics Education area in 1990 as Treasurer of ICOTS-3 held at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand. I had for several years already been teaching courses in statistics in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Otago. ICOTS-3 was allocated to Dunedin, New Zealand, following a case made by Bryan Manly and Sharleen Forbes at ICOTS-2 in Victoria, Vancouver Island with David Vere-Jones becoming Chair of the Statistical Education Committee. ICOTS-3 had 564 registered participants from 47 countries, 268 papers presented, and 19 workshops. A proposal for an International Association for Statistical Education was formulated by an ad hoc committee of the ISI chaired by M H Regier from the Lebanon and seven other members including Joe Gani from Australia and David Vere-Jones from New Zealand. (ISI Newsletter, Volume 15, No.2 (44) July 1991.)

My further involvement with IASE came a few years later with encouragement by Helen MacGillivray and Chris Wild in 2005 to stand for a position as one of the IASE Vice Presidents. President elect followed in 2009 and President in 2011 to 2013.

In 2006 I was appointed Scientific Secretary for ICOTS-7 in Salvador, Brazil. It was convenient that I was a visitor, at that time, to the University of Sao Paulo, Piracicaba Campus, inland from Sao Paulo. I was a speaker at the Brazilian Regression Conference at Sao Pedro. I also had the pleasure of meeting the Brazilian Statisticians in Sao Paulo who were organising ICOTS-7, the Statisticians at the University in Salvador Bahia where the conference was being held, and, at the University of Santa Catarina in Southern Brazil, Dalton Andrade, with whom a paper on Item Response Theory was subsequently published.

ICOTS-8 in Slovenia which I chaired followed in 2010. After the WSC in Portugal before ICOTS-8, I visited Slovenia to meet with Andrej Blejec who was the local organiser. It was an excellent ICOTS in 2010. I was keen to build links with statistics in the medical area so I was pleased that local medical statisticians set up a conference theme in this area. I enjoyed meeting Hans Rosling. I was also keen to start building contacts with Russian Statisticians, and it was pleasing that a statistician from a University South of Moscow was able to attend ICOTS.

At this time John Shanks was appointed Webmaster for IASE replacing Chris Wild who had maintained the site for many years. After an international search John was appointed. John is a colleague of mine at the University of Otago so I withdrew from the deliberations about any appointment which was carried out by Iddo Gal and Helen MacGillivray. John has remained webmaster for IASE to the present day. He has maintained the websites for ICOTS conferences, IASE Satellite Conferences, Round Tables, IASE itself, the ISLP with the poster competition, details for Proceedings editors by maintaining a data base for the referring processes. Regrettably John's wife passed away recently and John is

now withdrawing from this work. A new webmaster will be difficult to find at a reasonable price with the skills that John demonstrated. The Whova App for the recent ICOTS in Argentina worked well but the cost of using Whova will need to be known and certainly it was a good conference administration site. The appointment of John Shanks was one of my greatest achievements. Many members of IASE thought I was the John filling this position but that was not true. I did have the pleasure of receiving ICOTS gifts of thanks to take to John at conferences but it was another John.

The ISLP has also been developed to a very high standard by Reija Helenius and Statistics Finland following on from the work of Carol Blumberg and Juana Sanchez. The Deputy Directors Steve MacFeely who replaced Sharleen Forbes who had retired and Pedro Campos have all provided invaluable support. At this time I had a spell as Chair of the ISLP Advisory Board during these changes.

As President I also had the desire to build collaboration with the International Association for Official Statistics. I felt they were doing excellent work developing methods for teaching in the workplace. I attended and spoke at IAOS conferences in Kyiv, Ukraine, Da Nang, Vietnam, and the Chinese Special Administrative Region of Macau before the WSC in Hong Kong.

Neville Davies from the Royal Statistics Society Education Unit and one of his web designers, Dominic Martignetti, were flown to Dunedin with Sharleen Forbes and three interactive Apps for training in Measuring Price Change, Comparing Populations, and EXCEL Graphing were developed. There have now been 54,531 visits to these Apps since November 2017. They are on the ISLP website.

The joint IAOS - IASE Satellite Conference prior to the WSC in Hong Kong was an impressive conference. The Macau Special Administrative Region of China provided free of charge a welcome dinner, a mid-conference dinner and a closing dinner with all lunches during the week for no cost. The venue in the major hotel was free for delegates, the conference proceedings were free and transport to other hotels where delegates were staying was free. About 100 people attended. Papers were refereed by Sharleen Forbes and Brian Phillips which was of huge value to me. Tae Rim Lee attended to some of the initial work, and Professor Simon So from the local University was our main coordinator along with the head of the Macau Statistics Office. I am sure there will never be an international conference like this again.

These are the highlights of my time as President. The two main achievements were locating an outstanding web designer, holding a joint conference with IAOS and interacting with the ISI executive by attending many meetings and upholding the name of the IASE.

When I look at the IASE Executive I see a large group of Officers for all positions who will carry the Association successfully into the future. I hope still to continue in a small way with the development of a set of motivational videos about current active studies with the use of the free statistical package R for analysis of lessons. Since inception in 2011 there have been 118.012 hits on these videos and last 6 months there have been visits from 24 countries with the United States (1419 hits) and China (394 hits) being the largest users.

My recent published research which also features in many of the videos involves analysing low iron levels in New Zealand infants; modelling the profiles of New Zealand women who would consume alcohol when pregnant; analysing trace element data in relation to food authentication with particular application to oysters, ginseng and honey using multivariate techniques; modelling changing attitudes to sustainability of students while at university using confirmatory factor analysis and linear mixed models to investigate a cohort of 300 students over four years at university in a range of university subjects; modelling dolphin habitat selection and dolphin - human interactions both around the New Zealand coast and along the Red Sea coast of Egypt, the purpose being to avoid disturbing the habitat of the dolphins with uncontrolled tourist activity.