

IASE NEWS

February 2023



The International Association for Statistical Education (IASE)

2023 seems to pass much faster than any other year, *is it because too many things are happening?* I do not know. I hope that you are safe and healthy. Although COVID-19 news is no longer filling the news bulletins, there seems to be many natural disasters in many places. Nevertheless, we are back to our classroom both physically in front of our students and online and even sometimes hybrid. The students are changing, their expectations are changing, their learning styles are changing, let us work towards meeting their expectations while we facilitate their learning and helping them to achieve their best in statistics.

In the previous newsletter in January, we shared a list of IASE related IPS sessions in the 64th ISI World Statistics Congress, if you missed it, you can find it in the newsletter on IASE [website](#). In this newsletter you will read about the IASE-related [Short Courses](#) the 64th ISI World Statistics Congress. If you are the author of an accepted CPS in 64th WSC, please complete a short survey at <https://forms.gle/ukc8fq2BMUNm1qKbA> so that I can include IASE-related CPSs in a future newsletter.

If you are unable to travel to Canada, you might not be able to engage with 64th WSC since it is only face-to-face but our own [IASE 2023 satellite](#) is going to be hybrid, so you can engage with participants wherever you are in the world. We are going to be using Whova again, which most of us are familiar with and we know how to share information and how to get in touch with other participants. You can also read an update from the editor, Elinor Jones below. I am very excited to know that this satellite will be the first hybrid IASE satellite. Let us work together to make it best so that we can replicate the experience in the future!

In this newsletter, I would like to bring to your attention that our new Editor in Chief for SERJ is Dr Susan Peters. You can read the reflections of the past editor-in-chief, Jennifer Kaplan and the past chair of the SERJ Advisory Board, Jane Watson below.

I am sure that you missed reading the IASE history through the reflections of the previous IASE Presidents. Hang on, we have one for you this month from Prof Helen MacGillivray. Helen is telling us, not just the time when she was the president of the IASE, but she is giving us a short trip to the past. If you have met Helen, you would know that she is a great colleague and a great mentor. She has been my light when I faced darkness, thank you Helen for being out there for who needs your light and guidance.

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>.

Ayşe Aysin Bombacı Bilgin (A²B²), IASE_President

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Association News

Election of officers for the IASE Executive Committee

By Ayse Aysin Bombaci Bilgin (A²B²), IASE President

The nomination committee for 2023-2025, chaired by the Past President Joachim Engel (Germany) consisted of John Bailer (US – Past ISI president), Andrej Blejec (Slovenia – Past IASE president), Marcos Magalhaes (Brazil), Delia North (South Africa – Past IASE Vice President). The ISI is helping us to organize the elections. Keep an eye on your emails so that you can use your vote to elect the officers for 2023-2025.

I would like to thank everyone who sent nominations to Joachim and I would like to thank Joachim and the nominations committee for their hard work on choosing the candidates from the nominated candidates.

ISI Membership Elections

By Ayse Aysin Bombaci Bilgin (A²B²), IASE President

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.



IASE 2023 Satellite Conference

Fostering Learning of Statistics and Data Science

Hybrid Conference

11-13 July 2023, Toronto, Canada



By Elinor Jones, Proceedings Editor, on behalf of the IASE 2023 local organizing committee

Preparations for July's [IASE 2023 satellite conference](#) in Toronto on *Fostering Learning of Statistics and Data Science* are in full swing, and it is heartening that we have over a hundred submissions in hand. With 81 presentations and 27 posters to choose from, the local organizing committee in Toronto have their hands full at the moment! Authors will be notified of the outcome by the end of February.

It is particularly good to see many countries represented in the submissions, and indeed submissions from every continent (well, with the exception of Antarctica!). As expected, Canada and the US top the list with 55 submissions between them, but Europe (20), the rest of the Americas (15), Africa (11), Oceania (5) and Asia (2) are in the mix too. It is promising to be a very international conference indeed.

The satellite conference will be hybrid and indications so far point to a roughly event split between online and in person presentations. Registration for the conference will open shortly, and we hope that many of you will be able to join us – whether that's in person or online – for what is promising to be a great conference.



Image Source: [Maksim Sokolov \(maxergon.com\)](#), [CC BY-SA 4.0](#), via Wikimedia Commons

If you have any inquiries, please email the conference organizers at 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 Short Courses at the 64th WSC

By Ayse Aysin Bombaci Bilgin (A²B²), IASE_President

There are 14 short courses listed on the 64th WSC website. I identified 3 of them to be organised by the IASE members (including me). The IASE themed short courses are:



Statistics for Empowerment and Social Engagement

Instructors: Pedro Campo, Joachim Engel, Peter Kovacs
July 15, 2023

Designing Interactive Classes for Teaching Consulting Skills

Instructor: Ayse Bilgin
July 14, 2023



Building a Skills Value Chain in Data Analytics – an example from South Africa

Instructors: Delia North, Temegen Zewotir
July 14, 2023 - July 15, 2023

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 \(isi-web.org\)](#) (although the web address has 2022, this website is for 2022-2023 courses). We have kept the fees as low as possible and offer discounted rates for students and participants from developing countries.

IASE online workshops and webinars

By Ayse Aysin Bombaci Bilgin (A²B²), IASE_President

Our last Webinar was in December 2022, [Statistical and Data Literacy in Policy-Making](#) (7 Dec 2022). Dr Pip Arnold has been working on scheduling new webinars for 2023. Keep an eye on your email and/or IASE Webinar page.

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

IASE 2024 Roundtable in July 2024

By Ayse Aysin Bombaci Bilgin (A²B²), IASE President

We are working towards identifying a place for IASE 2024 Roundtable in July 2024.



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

By Ayse Aysin Bombaci Bilgin (A²B²), IASE President, OZCOTS Program Chair

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

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>.

[The call for submissions to the 2024 Special Issue](#) of SERJ was made in January 2023. If you missed it, you can download the call from IASE News page.

New Editor in Chief – Dr Susan Peters

Dr. Peters took the reins of SERJ on 1 January 2023. *She is an associate professor and mathematics and statistics educator in the Department of Elementary, Middle, and Secondary Teacher Education at the University of Louisville in Louisville, Kentucky, United States. She served as Assistant Editor for the Journal for Research in Mathematics Education (2007-2009), Editor of the proceedings for the 11th International Conference on Teaching Statistics (2022), and Associate Editor for the Statistics Education Research Journal (2017-2022). Her main research interests lie in middle and high school teacher knowledge and education in mathematics and statistics. For more information, please visit <https://louisville.edu/education/faculty/peters/>*

Reflections of the SERJ Past-Editor

By Jennifer Kaplan

At the end of 2022, I completed my five-year term as Editor of SERJ. During those five years, over 350 new manuscripts were submitted of which nearly 50 will have been published by the end of March 2023. There are still 27 manuscripts in some stage of review and even after five years I am still excited to continue working with the authors of those manuscripts to disseminate their work. We had many changes at SERJ during the five years I served as Editor, some expected and some unexpected, but all of which have strengthened the journal and the field of statistics education. During my first year as Editor, an Advisory Board was created to provide advice to me as Editor since our annual submission rate tripled under the leadership of the previous Editor, Maxine Pfannkuch. I owe a great debt to the members of the Advisory Board, who were instrumental in making many of the other changes and were a source of support for me. In 2021, SERJ entered the modern age of publishing as we moved to an Online Journal System (OJS). At the same time, we began assigning DOIs to all SERJ manuscripts, doing this retroactively for all archived SERJ papers as we moved them into the OJS system. Neither of these tasks would have been possible without the work of Daniel Frischmeier, the current SERJ Editor for Special Issues, his students, Tim Overhues and Marie Haibach, and Noleine Fitzallen, the current Assistant Editor of SERJ, and Gail Burrell, a past IASE Executive President.

My own vision for SERJ when I signed on as Editor was to increase the use of theoretical framing in the papers we publish to create a strong cohesive foundation to ground the work in statistics education research. A common history across the STEM education research disciplines is the birth through a desire of the disciplinary instructors to do a better job in the classroom, followed by a period of trying new things and disseminating ideas, followed by a maturation of the field in which our findings can be connected both to theories and to the other research in our field. I think I have been successful in helping the statistics education research field move forward in a productive way. One unexpected pleasure of my work as the Editor, was the mentorship I was able to do, particularly for the more junior scholars in

our community. The Associate Editors and SERJ Reviewers take particular care to write reviews from a positivist perspective, noting the strengths of the papers and providing supportive feedback to help the authors address the weaknesses of their papers. I will miss that part of the work, but I look forward to continued interactions with the members of the community and will not miss knowing I will have two new papers to read every week. Many thanks to the IASE Executive Committee for entrusting this role to me. I have learned much about the various and varied interests of the statistics education research community members, and it has been a pleasure to serve our community as the Editor of SERJ.

Reflections on the SERJ Advisory Board's Beginnings

By Past-Chair of the SERJ Advisory Board, Jane Watson¹

From its beginning in 2002, SERJ has grown tremendously in fostering and showcasing research in statistics education. Today's citing organizations, such as Google Scholar, demonstrate the impact of researchers in the field with papers in the first decade accumulating over 2,000 citations. By 2017, it became clear that IASE should expand SERJ from its own website to a commercial publisher. Through negotiations with the ASA, it also became apparent that SERJ required an Advisory Board as a prerequisite for attracting a publisher. Hence in 2017 the IASE Executive, through President Gail Burrill, began to solicit members for such a Board. Although publishing was the initial goal, other issues to be considered by an Advisory Board included

- oversight of the partnership with ASA,
- providing input and guidance from the field as requested by the editors,
- considering and making recommendations as appropriate for enabling the editorial team to process articles in languages other than English,
- clarifying the roles of the regular editor and the special edition editor,
- suggesting possible Associate Editors for the Editor to consider, and to bring a recommendation to the IASE Executive committee for new Editors, and
- responding to issues as needed.

My previous experience with SERJ had been as an Author, a Reviewer, an Associate Editor, and more recently, along with Chris Franklin and Kim Love, as an Assistant Editor, preparing manuscripts for final publishing. Hence I accepted the offer to be a member of the Advisory Board. The Board in 2018 included the current Editor (Jennifer Kaplan), the previous Editor (Maxine Pfannkuch), the Special Issues Editor (Manfred Borovcnik), a representative of the ASA (because of the negotiations for publishing, Rebecca Nichols), a representative of the IASE Board (Bruno De Sousa), and three at-large experienced statistics education researchers (Rolf Biehler, Mike Shaughnessy, and Jane Watson). More recently the Assistant Editor (Noleine Fitzallen) replaced the ASA representative and the IASE President is an ex-officio member.

Over the first four years of its existence, the Advisory Board, after its first face-to-face meeting in Kyoto at ICOTS10, met on occasions via ZOOM and communicated via email in providing advice to the Editors and to the IASE Executive for decision-making. Some of the initiatives suggested and supported include the following. Periodically the Editor and I have provided updates for the IASE Newsletter.

As the number of submissions and amount of interest from special groups increased substantially, it was decided to increase from two issues per year to three, with one having a special focus. After putting out a call for topics, the Special Issues Editor considered proposals and put forward one topic to the Board for approval each year (for publishing in two years' time). Generally, these issues of SERJ have been somewhat longer than the usual issues.

With contributions from various members, a document was prepared to summarize *SERJ Editorial Roles* (July 28, 2019). To fill the two Editorial positions with SERJ, the Board, via

sub-committees, first vetted eight applicants for the changeover of Special Issues Editor, and later three applicants for the next general Editor. The selections, Daniel Frischemeier as Special Issue Editor and Susan Peters as Editor, were approved by the Board, and subsequently, the IASE Executive.

After a large effort by several members of the Board and Past President of IASE, Gail Burrill, the arrangements for publishing with a commercial publisher did not work out, despite the contribution of funding and support from the ASA, and it was decided, after trialling by Board Members and Associate Editors, to move the journal to the Open Journal System (OJS). Due to the complexities, and moderate financing required at times, the Associate Editor, Noleine Fitzallen, changed roles, took over the Assistant Editor role, and became a member of the Board. The continuing support of Gail Burrill was critical in managing the details of the complete transfer of all issues of SERJ to the OJS site and establishment of the DOIs for each paper, so critical for papers today. A team effort of the two Editors, Assistant Editor, and Tim Overhues was successful. Currently all SERJ papers are available with DOIs at <https://iase-web.org/ojs/SERJ>. Illustrating the concern for the presentation of papers on the OJS, the Board voted on four different type-set presentations of the titles and authors suggested by various sources. Hopefully the presentation is inviting for those searching the journal.

The IASE-Executive-nominated Board membership of three at-large experienced statistics education researchers has been designed in a manner (after the initial years) so that each two years one retires and is replaced by another experienced researcher. Over time, now six years, these researchers gain experience of the context for the first two years, Chair the Board for two years in the middle of their terms, and continue to advise for another two years. This is shown in the table below, with A = Mike Shaughnessy, B = Jane Watson, C = Rolf Biehler, and D = Iddo Gal. The IASE Executive selects the replacement members with suggestions from the Chair of the Board.

2018		2020		2022		2024		2026		2028		2030		2032	
A	→	A	→	D	→	D	→	D	→	G	→	G	→	G	...
B	→	B	→	B	→	E	→	E	→	E	→	H	→	H	...
C	→	C	→	C	→	C	→	F	→	F	→	F	→	I	...

From its place in the world of academic research, SERJ is a popular journal, with over 200 submissions since 1 January, 2020. The acceptance rate, approximately 15%, places it among the most demanding journals in the research fields of our authors.

¹ Many thanks to Gail Burrill for providing background and checking my memory!

Reflections of Helen MacGillivray, IASE Past-President (2009 - 2011)

By Helen MacGillivray



Thank you for this series which adds not only to the history of IASE but also provides valuable insight into the past 30 years. IASE's history is instructive and interesting, as is that of its forerunner, the ISI's (International Statistical Institute) Education Committee, [IASE — About: History \(iase-web.org\)](http://iase-web.org). As it is not possible to mention all the talented and dedicated colleagues I've met, interacted and/or worked with for more than 30 years, I start with thanks to all the wonderful people worldwide striving to improve the understanding, learning and application of statistical, data and probabilistic thinking for all. We bring individual expertise and experience, and sharing our stories enriches IASE.

The importance of ICOTS, both pre-IASE and since IASE was formed, cannot be emphasized enough. My first ICOTS was in 1990 in beautiful but very wet Dunedin, with ducks swimming over the lawns, David Moore bringing in the haggis, and much discussion about current and future developments. Similarly to others I met there, I had by then been teaching statistics at tertiary level for 18 years (having done my PhD part-time) and many of us had also been much involved with our national professional organisations. I had also worked in Australia's first (university) maths learning support role. What a joy it was to discover ICOTS, to share, learn and start worldwide connections! ICOTS3 was full of reports, developments and workshops (19!) from frontline teaching, with many emphasizing computing technology, simulation, and hands-on learning in whole problem contexts, including pioneering innovations using software that may now be superseded, but the pedagogies are as valuable as ever.

So much was happening in the 1990's for so many across universities, schools and professional organisations that it is difficult to summarise. In SSA (Statistical Society of Australia) we revised the constitution, established accreditation, started the Young Statisticians' Section and prize, combined the journal with New Zealand and published with Blackwell's (now Wiley). On the Australian Research Council, we assigned large grants for new universities, and chaired reviews of teaching and research centres. University work included new courses, double degrees, enquiry-oriented learning, and university and national teaching and outreach grants. Work with schools included enrichment programs for school students, professional development for teachers, working with many wonderful teachers on curricula, resources, assessment, evaluation.

Having not been able to attend ICOTS4, or indeed any overseas conferences, I was glad to be Convenor, Statistics Education and Professional Societies, for another wonderful ICOTS in 1998 in the hills of Singapore. I thoroughly endorse Brian Phillips' praise for David-Vere Jones' brilliantly insightful ICOTS5 keynote. For ICOTS6 in 2002, I was a member of the International Planning Committee, Convenor of Statistics Education and the Wider Society, and chair of its International Forum on Statistical Literacy, working with Jessica Utts, Pali Lehohla, Luigi Biggeri and Lisbeth Cordani. The organisers, especially Delia North, did a superb job, not only having to move it at short notice to Capetown, but also by including sessions and workshops for South African teachers and arranging splendid cultural experiences. Each ICOTS has its own educational character as well as cultural and local ambience, and ICOTS6 had a richly broad participation, with an atmosphere I describe by "we're all in this together and it's hard work".

Messages in Jane Watson's keynote, [Microsoft Word - 03 Watson e.doc \(iase-web.org\)](#), on what is research in statistics education, are as fresh and quotable as ever.

In 2001-2002 on a secondment, and 2002-2003 on a grant, I was fortunate to work at the Royal Statistical Society's Centre for Statistical Education (RSSCSE) and the UK's MSOR (Maths, Stats and OR) network, when the RSSCSE was developing their excellent innovation of Census at School which subsequently went global. In visiting and reporting on universities which had just received a teaching 5-star rating in statistics, advising on development of a course '*Teaching Statistics in Higher Education*', and organising resources, I interacted with many inspiring IASE people, including Nev Davies, Doreen Connor and statistical education pioneers Vic Barnett and Peter Holmes, who, amongst many achievements, were joint editors of ICOTS1 in 1982. Statistics and its teaching were featuring strongly in a variety of forums and contexts, such as engineering education conferences, and the burgeoning learning support centres. The maths and statistics tertiary learning support community is now international, well-established and encompasses research and training which would be of considerable interest to statistics educators.

The first international roundtable on statistics education was held in 1968. The 2004 IASE Roundtable on Curricular Developments in Statistics Education, in Sweden, included wonderful statistics educators who I have interacted and worked with ever since, including Jim Ridgway and Rob Gould. Being IASE's organiser for the Discussion Group on teaching non-specialists at the 2004 ICME, as well as extensive interaction with schools and teachers, showed how important it is for statistics education to have its own strong identity in the educational research community, and tribute is due to Carmen Batanero and all who have worked on SERJ. There was strong emphasis on teaching across disciplines at ICOTS7 in Brazil in 2006, for which I was Convenor, Statistics Education for the Engineering workplace, but I also remember increasing awareness that we must teach probabilistic thinking in real world contexts and entwined with statistical and data thinking, with discussions leading to my long-term work with Delia North.

Brian Phillips with Larry Weldon did a massive service to statistics education in starting, in 2001, IASE satellites to ISI World Statistics Conferences (WSC). Optional refereeing was also introduced from 2002 for ICOTS and IASE satellites, and part of IASE's deep thanks to John Shanks and his magic was his help in enabling this invaluable strategy. After participating in the 2005 and 2007 IASE satellites, I helped in 2009 in South Africa, and then, with Penny Bidgood and Aisling Leavy, organised the 2011 satellite in Malahide, Dublin. For the latter, an amusing by-product of organising the conference dinner from Australia, was that the restaurant owners in Malahide thought the A in IASE stood for Australia! For the 2009 Durban WSC and its IASE satellite, Denise Lievesley helped us obtain UNESCO funding for training workshops and symposium programs, organised by Delia North and her team, for South African regional coordinators and teachers on teaching statistics in the new South Africa school curriculum.

The IASE IPS (Invited Paper Sessions) in WSC's provide outstanding opportunities to bring statistics education and IASE to the whole statistical community, increasing with ISI's recent addition of Special IPS (SIPS) sessions for Associations' president and journal speakers. Each ISI Association has a representative on the WSC Program Committee for the IPS. Proposals must be fully prepared and then selected by the full WSC Committee, but the opportunities for joint IPS with other Associations are mutually beneficial. I was the IASE rep for WSC 2009 in Durban, stepped in for WSC 2011 when the IASE rep became ill, and helped Nel Verhoeven for WSC 2013. Some STS (Special Topic Sessions) are sometimes organised by Associations but not CPS (Contributed Paper Sessions), and only the Association SIPS, new since 2017, are identified as such. I do not know who put together the IASE at ISI Proceedings up to 2007 that are on the IASE website, but the great job they did can be seen by looking at the variation in tackling the significant challenge of the ISI WSC Proceedings.

Collaboration and joint events within and across the broad statistical tent are of core benefit for statistics education. As Brian Phillips mentioned, my Australian Senior Learning and Teaching Fellowship program included reviving Brian's 1998 OZCOTS initiative, to hold OZCOTS in 2008 as an overlapping satellite to the Australian Statistical Conference (ASC). This included adopting the IASE optional refereeing strategy, but informed by experiences in helping IASE editors with conflicting reviews. It was standing room only, and ASC has included it since. For IASE, collaborations within ISI and with the other ISI Associations are greatly valuable. The 2013 satellite was joint with IAOS (International Association of Official Statistics) and owes much of its success to the work of John Harraway and Sharleen Forbes. It is very pleasing to see the 2023 satellite joint with IASC (International Association for Statistical Computing). As incoming IASE president at WSC 2009 I found my meetings with ISI president, incoming ISI president and ISI Director mutually advantageous for IASE and ISI, and similarly for such meetings during my terms as ISI president-elect (2015-2017) and president (2017-2019). We were also fortunate to have the opportunity in 2018 to bring together Association presidents or representatives (Gail Burrill represented IASE as president) and the ISI EC for a week of conferences and meetings in Taiwan.

An example of invaluable collaboration with official statistics is ISLP since 2009. For WSC 2009, ISLP organised an international competition for school students based on exams, and within ISIBalo, brought students to a final to be held alongside WSC 2009. Following the 2009 ISI WSC, we re-organised the ISLP project with a governance model consisting of an ISLP Executive of Director and Deputy Directors, an Advisory Board with ISI, IASE and IAOS representation, and country coordinators appointed by the ISLP Executive, currently representing more than 80 countries. IASE and IAOS members provide significant leadership and support in all ISLP activities. Reija Helenius, with excellent support from Statistics Finland, has been an outstanding ISLP Director since 2010, along with Deputy Directors Sharleen Forbes, Pedro Campos, Steve MacFeely and Adriana D'Amelio. We decided that an international poster competition was more suitable to statistical literacy than examinations, and since 2010, the ISLP International Poster Competition has been held biennially. As members know, it quickly attracted more than 12,000 school students from more than 20 countries, and in 2018-2019, it expanded to include university students. The 2020-2021 competition involved 16,600 participants from about 30 countries. For WSC 2011 Steve MacFeely arranged that international finalists' posters were displayed and we have ensured this continued, with winners announced, at all ISI WSC's since. ISLP's work continues to feature strongly in ISI and also, in 2018-2021, in the UN's GIST (Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training).

Many IASE members, individually or collectively, who have worked hard to support developing country participation and early career statistical educators, know how challenging it can be to find funding for such endeavours. From 2010-2020, the ISI was successful in its annual applications for funds from the World Bank Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (WBTFCB) – the only organization to receive WBTFCB funds for international projects – and IASE successfully applied for a share of this WBTFCB funding for every conference in this period. Unfortunately, the World Bank closed this fund in 2020. For ICOTS in 2010, I established a strategy to optimise use of these funds in supporting developing country participation, and was able later, with Vijay Nair's support, to persuade ISI to use. For ICOTS8 in 2010, I was honoured to chair the judging panel, and present IASE's new prize for best ICOTS paper by an early career author; looking back at my files, I see many names now prominent in IASE.



Andrej Blejec, Helen MacGillivray and John Harraway during ICOTS 8 in 2010 in Ljubljana, Slovenia

For ICOTS8 in beautiful Ljubljana, Slovenia, I worked closely with John Harraway, John Shanks, Andrej Blejec, Roxy Peck and Chris Reading, aiming, as scientific coordinator, to maximise coverage, balance and structure. Because of family and ISI commitments, I knew I would not be able to attend ICOTS9 but was very happy to help the wonderful Katie Makar and Tim Dunne, and to do the program schedule including aiming for optimal grouping of contributed papers and integrated optimal scheduling with invited sessions – a fascinating exercise working with the magical John Shanks. After visiting Japan officially in 2014, it was a joy to return to Japan and ICOTS10, greeting many friends and colleagues and meeting new.

Since 2014 I have been honoured to be editor of *Teaching Statistics: an International Journal for Statistics and Data Science Teaching* (TS) - [Teaching Statistics - Wiley Online Library](#) - which came from the same wellspring as IASE – a responsibility indeed to the world of teaching statistical, data and probabilistic thinking. It was a delight to invite Jessica Utts as the WSC 2019 presidential speaker. Approximately half of IASE members are ISI members who choose IASE as their Association. Over the past 30 years, including in IASE and ISI positions, and now as TS editor, I have seen extensive, productive and exciting work in statistical education, but am also constantly reminded of the breadth and depth of ongoing challenges – there is so much work needed. I have always been passionate about bringing people together and finding commonalities for communication, sharing and developing in the very big tent of teaching and learning statistics, data and probability.