

IASE NEWS

March 2023



The International Association for Statistical Education (IASE)

It is unbelievable that one months passed so quickly and I am writing another newsletter for you. It appears that after 50 years pass like months, months pass like days and days pass like hours. Somehow the time between 20 and 25 is very long and time between 50 and 55 is too shorts. Do you have the same feeling?

The 64th ISI World Statistics Congress (<https://www.isi2023.org/>) is getting closer and closer, if you have not registered yet to attend it, it is time to think about it now and act quickly, soon it will be too late.

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 hybrid, so you can engage with participants wherever you are in the world. The registrations are open now (see below update from Sotirios Damouras. We are looking forward to seeing many of you in IASE 2023 satellite.

Below you will also find reflections of my dear friend Andrej Blejec. I have met Andrej in 2010 during ICOTS 8 in Ljubljana (Slovenia) since then our paths crossed each other almost in each IASE event. We had heated discussions about teaching statistics and future of IASE and future of humankind. It is my pleasure to share his reflections in this newsletter.

I am attaching this monthly newsletter as a PDF document to this email. The weblinks should work in the pdf but not in this text message. If the attachment of the newsletter is missing, you can find it at <https://iase-web.org/News.php>.

Ayse Aysin Bombaci 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.

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 Sotirios Damouras, on behalf of the IASE 2023 Local Organizing Committee

We are excited to share the latest news on the IASE 2023 Satellite Conference.

Program: The presentation & poster proposal review process is now complete, and notifications have been sent out to all authors. We have a line-up of more than 40 presentations and 35 posters, spanning a range of topics at the forefront of the conference theme of Fostering Learning of Statistics and Data Science. We are also proud to announce three exciting keynote speakers: Chris Wild, Shingai Manjengwa, and Jürgen Symanzik, who will offer their insights on the theme, as well as a panel of educators sharing ways in which Learning Science informs their practice in Statistics and Data Science classes. You can find our keynote bios at the conference [Program page](#), which we will be updating regularly as the program takes shape.

Registration: Registration for the conference is now open! This is the first ever hybrid IASE Satellite conference, offering the option to attend either in-person or online. Please consult the conference [Registration page](#) for details on ticket types, associated fees, and policies before you register. To encourage participation of underrepresented groups, the conference offers affordable online tickets to students, teachers, retirees, and persons from developing countries, as well as potential registration support for the latter. Registration can be purchased through the conference's online platform at https://whova.com/portal/registration/iascs_202307/, using a variety of payment methods. We encourage you to register by April 30, to take advantage of the early bird fees.

Local Information: The in-person portion of the conference will be hosted by the Department of Statistical Sciences at the University of Toronto. The venue is conveniently located at the heart of the city, served by public transit and close to multiple attractions. For those requiring accommodation, the conference has blocked-off rooms at a nearby hotel and residence, at very competitive prices for that time of year. You can find more details and instructions on how to book at the conference [Local Info page](#). We strongly encourage you to make your reservation as soon as possible, in order to take advantage of the favourable prices and avoid the summer rush.

We hope that you will join us for the IASE 2023 Satellite Conference and make this a productive and inspiring event.

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

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. 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



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 March 2023, [Machine learning in secondary statistics education - challenges and possible ways to address them](#) by Rolf Biehler, Yannik Fleischer, from the Paderborn University, Germany. If you missed it, you can watch the video in IASE webinars page.

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. I might be able to tell you more soon about his exciting conference.



ISM-VI 2023 is the flagship event of the Malaysia Institute of Statistics (ISMy). This year the event is hosted by Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) with the theme, "Empowering Statistical Sciences and Analytics Through Research and Innovation". The conference aims to bring together academics from all over the world to assemble established and new research for the dissemination of updated knowledge on various statistical topics. The gathering provides a platform to facilitate constructive statistical discussions between the researchers and the practitioners of common interest in a stimulating environment, promote and develop a strong professional network between the statistical community in Malaysia and internationally.

See more at <https://ismvi.uitm.edu.my/>



Table Mountain Delta is the 14th Southern Hemisphere Delta Conference on the teaching and learning of undergraduate mathematics and statistics. The conference will be held from 26 November to 1 December 2023 at one of Africa’s most visited destinations, the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront, Cape Town, with the iconic Table Mountain as its backdrop. For further information about the conference, submissions, important dates and

registrations, see the website: <https://protect-au.mimecast.com/s/3k7qC6XQwzSW0MIVspZHao?domain=uctcmc.eventsair.com/>



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.

The Scientific Program Committee is pleased to invite authors to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations, to be delivered at the [2023 Australian Statistical Conference \(ASC\) and Australian Conference on Teaching Statistics \(OZCOTS\)](#), which will take place in Wollongong from the 10th to the 15th of December 2023.

Please click [here](#) to submit your abstract. You will be asked to create an account with Oxford Abstract. Just follow the prompts.

The abstract submission deadline is 24 April 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.

Competitions



The Stats+Stories podcast is in its 10th year and is about to have its 300th episode. They are hosting a contest where people are encouraged to explore the data set composed on the details (e.g. guests, episode length, description, and more) from previous 280+ episodes. Individuals, groups, classes can enter this contest.

See the stories at <https://statsandstories.net/datavizcontest>

In the latest episode of Stats+Stories, they put out a call for YOU the Stats + Stories audience to participate in our 300th episode. They have put out a data set containing various information on over 280 episodes of Stats+Stories recorded over the past decade, which they want you to use to create visualizations and tell a story with their data!

You can view the full document ([via Google Docs](#)) by clicking on the image to the right (on the contest page), as well as download the data as an Excel file or view the Key and Data as separate CSV files.

You can submit your entries by filling out the form below. Static displays, dynamic dashboards, and insightful analyses are all invited to enter (the more unique the better). All entries must be submitted by June 30th at 12:00 AM EST. The finalist will be selected and announced the day after and fan voting will take place until August 31st at 11:59 PM EST. The winner will be featured on the 300th episode of Stats+Stories and will receive a copy of John and Rosemary's new book "Statistics Behind the Headlines", as well as some Stats+Stories swag.

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.

Reflections of Andrej Blejec, IASE president (2015 – 2017)

By Andrej Blejec



My first in person encounter with ISI activities dates back to 1991. I was familiar with ISI from my childhood, since my father was an Elected member of ISI from 1967. Every two years a heavy package with conference proceedings arrived at our home. In 1991 I have decided to attend the WSC in Cairo, my first international conference. I was teaching statistics to biology students at University of Ljubljana (Slovenia) and worked as a researcher at what is now National Institute of Biology. In previous year, I have developed a program for demonstration of concepts of sampling distribution and confidence intervals using repetitive sampling and presenting it in high quality graphics available on Atari computers. I was eager to report about it in the education session. Year 1991

was a year when Yugoslavia collapsed and new countries, one of them my home country Slovenia, were established. The conference was taking place during the negotiations and periods of violence, so travel to Cairo and back was not easy.

My presentation was accepted with great interest, and I immediately felt welcome in a group of people that shared my passion for statistics teaching. The session chair was Kerstin Vännman who introduced me to David Vere-Jones and several other friendly people. They were very excited about establishing new ISI section, namely IASE, that stemmed out from the ISI Education Committee. I was thrilled to be present when my country and future professional family were born. I immediately applied for the membership in IASE.

In 1992 I was invited to attend ISI Round table Conference in Lennoxville (Canada) entitled »Introducing data analysis in the schools: Who should teach it and how?«. There I met some future leaders in the field, among them Anne Hawkings, Susan Starkings, Iddo Gal and Gail Burrill. I was proud to see, that my opinion matters. Times, when I sometimes felt like a lone statistician were gone. Everybody was talking about plans for the next ICOTS (International Conference on Teaching Statistics), to be organized in 1994 and I decided that it is a must to attend.

Another opportunity to meet my friends was WSC organized in Florence in 1993. I also attended the First Scientific meeting in nearby Perugia with the invited talk. Other invited presenters were Rolf Biehler and Cliff Konold. I remember late night discussions about our views, experiences and ideas about stats teaching and reasoning.

Of course, I met all this people at my first ICOTS-4 meeting in 1994. There I was about to present my next version of teaching software for demonstration of confidence intervals using simulations, resampling and sort of animated graphics. I got some ideas in the book "Statistics: a conceptual approach", authored by certain Larry Weldon, and I used a cartoon from his book, captioned "Sample reveals population", in my presentation. Incidentally, on the conference bus, I took a seat by a friendly looking guy, who introduced himself as Larry Weldon. We immediately became close friends, and I was using the cartoon from his book in many lectures. Years later a group of my students even printed that cartoon on T-shirts for us.



Now my path was established. There was a conference almost every year, WSC every odd year, ICOTS on every second even year. I have attended all of them (except the WSC in Seoul in 2001) and enjoyed the exchange of ideas about the stats teaching and other aspects of statistics development in different areas. The dearest to me are ICOTS meetings, they are really the flagship events for stats educators. At ICOTS-5 in Singapore (1998), I started to consider the possibility to organize ICOTS in Slovenia. Brian Phillips, an experienced organizer, gave me many useful advices.



In 2005 I was elected as one of the Vice presidents of IASE and served until 2009. During that period, I served as the editor of the IASE Matters in Teaching Statistics and IASE section of the ISI Newsletter (together with Larry Weldon). Working for IASE and enjoying our meetings was always great and I felt that I want to give something back to this nice community. I got my first organizing experiences in 2004, when I organized international conference on Applied Statistics in Slovenia, the first in the series of seventeen in the following years. In 2006 I was approached by the representative of a Congress center in my hometown Ljubljana, that they are interested to take over the organization of ICOTS and I felt that the time is ripe. My proposal

to organize ICOTS-8 in Ljubljana (Slovenia) was accepted and next four years I devoted to the organization of the event.

It was a pleasure to cooperate with John Harraway, who was a program chair. My part was local organization and arrangements. I am very proud and happy that ICOTS-8 (2010) in Ljubljana was a successful and enjoyable event. After scientific meetings, our small medieval city center was occupied by more than 500 statistics educators, meeting each other without appointment and just by chance along the riverbank. Next year, in 2011 I became an Elected member of ISI.

Few months before the WSC in Hong Kong (2013) Hellen MacGillivray, IASE past-president and chair of the Nomination committee, informed me that I was selected for the IASE President elect position which I accepted with pride and honor. The leaders at that time were Iddo Gal (president) and John Harraway (past president) and already in Hong Kong we tried to identify tasks for each of us. There were issues about SERJ, support to ISLP, increasing or at least keeping membership, next conferences and events. As a president I have inspected the venue and organization of ICOTS-10 in Kyoto, Japan and organized the IASE Satellite meeting in Rabat (2019). It was a pleasure to work with next two presidents, Gail Burrill and Joachim Engel.

Looking back, I can say that I am very lucky to be a part of such a nice community as IASE. My first step in 1991, deciding to present what I enjoy doing, proved to be a wonderful decision. What can you get from joining IASE? You will join people that strive to overcome what Eric Sowe from Australia exposed at ICOTS-5 in Singapore: 'We are teaching unwanted to unwilling'. We all try to present our bellowed statistics as useful and interesting and IASE is the right place to exchange the ideas about what, how and who should teach statistics to be wanted and have more willing students.