

Treasurer's Report 2018

NOTE: Tables and Figures referred to in this report are attached.

Introduction

This report details membership and subscription data for the calendar year end 2017. The 2017 fiscal year-end audit report will be published separately in the Fall of 2018 after the auditors have completed the annual process.

In 2017, the total number of IMS paid members increased, but the total number of members decreased. This is because student members pay no dues and their numbers were down last year. Subscriptions by institutions also decreased this past year. The financial status of the Institute continues to be stable and strong, and actions are in place to ensure its long-term stability. Details of the events of the past year, membership and subscription data, sales data are given below.

Publications

The following is a list of all current IMS core, co-sponsored, supported and affiliated journals:

IMS Core Print/Electronic Publications

- Annals of Applied Probability
- Annals of Probability
- Annals of Statistics
- Annals of Applied Statistics
- Statistical Science
- Current Index to Statistics
- IMS Collections
- IMS Monographs
- IMS Textbooks
- IMS Bulletin

Co-Sponsored Print/Electronic Publications

- Electronic Communications in Probability
- Electronic Journal of Probability
- Electronic Journal of Statistics
- Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics
- NSF-CBMS Series in Probability and Statistics
- Probability Surveys
- Statistics Surveys

Supported Publications

- ALEA: Latin American Journal of Probability and Mathematical Statistics
- Annales de l'Institut Henri Poincaré
- Bayesian Analysis
- Bernoulli
- Bernoulli News

- Brazilian Journal of Probability and Statistics

Affiliated Publications

- Observational Studies
- Probability and Mathematical Statistics
- Stochastic Systems

Membership, Subscription and Sales Data

Membership Data

Total individual paid membership in the Institute as of December 31, 2017 increased 1.45% from December 31, 2016. Table 1 presents the membership data back to 2010. The IMS had a peak in paid membership of 3156 in 2008 and has been decreasing since then. This trend is similar to that of other professional societies. Nevertheless, this is clearly an area of concern, and the IMS Executive Committee continues to look for ways to address this issue.

Geographic Distribution of Members. The IMS membership is currently distributed as follows:

- 57% United States
- 18% Europe
- 15% Asia
- 4% Canada
- 3% Australia and New Zealand
- <2% South America, Mexico, and the Caribbean
- <1% Africa

Selection of Journals by Members: Print subscriptions by members continued to decrease in 2017, as expected because members are opting to reduce their use of print while enjoying free electronic access to all journals. Members are charged actual cost for print copies of journals, so there is no net loss or gain to the bottom line from changes in print subscriptions by members. Table 2 shows the current selection of print journals by members.

The IMS offers joint membership opportunities with the following societies:

- Applied Probability Society/INFORMS (APS/INFORMS)
- Bernoulli Society (BS)
- Indian Society for Probability and Statistics
- International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA)
- International Statistical Institute/Bernoulli Society (ISI/BS)
- International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA)
- New England Statistical Society (NESS)

Institutional Subscription Data

Table 3 presents comparative subscription data for institutions to each of our scientific journals for 2017 and previous years. Almost all journals experienced subscription decreases in 2017. Overall institutional subscriptions decreased by 3.55% (Note that CIS ceased selling subscriptions in 2016, so it is not included in the totals when figuring sales decrease). The decrease to IMS journals, specifically, was 3.98%. We are continuing to see increases in our bundled offerings which are

discounted on the whole. Approximately 60% of the institutional subscribers to IMS journals are in USA and Canada, with the remaining subscribers distributed throughout the world.

Book Sales Data

Tables 4-7 present sales data for all IMS book series. In 2010, the IMS published its first volumes in a cooperative arrangement with Cambridge University Press to publish two series, *IMS Monographs* and *IMS Textbooks*. Sales of these volumes are going very well. The *CBMS-NSF Regional Conference Series* published no new volumes in 2017. The *IMS Collections* series and the *IMS Lecture Notes-Monograph Series* have ceased publication.

Financial and Audit Report

The fiscal year ended December 31, 2017. The external audit of the IMS will be completed in August 2018. The full audit report will appear in the *IMS Bulletin* in the Fall.

Conclusion

The IMS Executive Committee has reviewed all data in this report. A long-term financial plan is already in place and the IMS continues to be strong and stable financially. The decreases in institutional subscriptions are being felt across the market and are not unexpected. The IMS leadership began planning for these decreases over 13 years ago and has ensured that IMS resources are shored up to protect the long-term stability and growth of the society.


Zhengjun Zhang
Treasurer

Membership and Subscriber Data Tables

TABLE 1: MEMBERSHIP, Calendar Year									
Membership Type	2010	2011	2012*	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% change
Regular	1970	1863	1792	1737	1616	1587	1565	1447	-7.54%
Life/Retired Life	477	495	498	501	516	528	541	563	4.07%
Reduced Country/Retired/IMS China	399	401	395	369	364	376	337	370	9.79%
New Graduate	149	113	112	110	87	58	113	213	88.50%
Student	1160	1116	1023	1036	1187	1236	1094	1022	-6.58%
Total	4155	3988	3820	3753	3770	3785	3650	3615	-0.96%
Total not including free members (students)	2995	2872	2797	2717	2583	2549	2556	2593	1.45%
*Note: 2012 member figures contain some estimates.									
* Organizational Membership was reconstructed in 2007 and libraries were no longer included. This change reclassified these previous "members" to institutional subscriptions									
TABLE 2: MEMBER SUBSCRIPTIONS, Calendar Year									
<i>Print subscriptions</i>									
Individual Members**	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% change
AAP	280	197	126	84	100	80	68	61	-10.29%
AOP	298	218	184	99	108	97	75	68	-9.33%
AOAS	714	480	379	232	171	141	107	91	-14.95%
AOS	763	555	447	265	284	262	220	208	-5.45%
STS	1,310	1,035	869	532	534	464	386	382	-1.04%
Total Member Print	3,365	2,485	2,005	1,212	1,197	1,044	856	810	-5.37%
<i>Electronic (free) access</i>									
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% change
Members setting up individual electronic access to IMS journals	1,761	1,435	1,572	1,294	1,234	1,226	1,183	1,144	-3.30%
TABLE 3: INSTITUTIONAL SUBSCRIPTIONS, Calendar Year									
<i>Paid Subscriptions</i>									
Institutions	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% change
AAP	684	645	666	632	600	591	580	558	-3.79%
AOP	967	901	887	839	795	779	769	735	-4.42%
AOAS	320	331	359	342	346	368	349	341	-2.29%
AOS	1,158	1,127	1,111	1008	985	948	962	929	-3.43%
STS	899	861	865	769	753	717	708	671	-5.23%
BULL	166	142	128	169	102	96	90	75	-16.67%
CIS	267	273	249	229	216	199	182	NA	NA
Supported Journal: Bernoulli	278	288	317	307	292	299	298	303	1.68%
Supported Journal: AIHP	286	297	312	324	297	305	304	300	-1.32%
Supported Journal: BJPS	76	101	107	119	124	135	135	134	-0.74%
Total Institutional Paid	5,101	4,966	5,001	4,738	4,510	4,437	4,377	4,046	-3.55%
Total IMS Journals Only	4,028	3,865	3,888	3,590	3,479	3,403	3,368	3,234	-3.98%
TABLE 4: Sales of IMS Monographs and IMS Textbooks									
Volume	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Total Sales
5 Volumes IMS Monographs	660	586	789	604	1046	543	4,115	4,214	12,557
9 Volumes IMS Textbooks	639	491	326	636	1093	1254	777	630	5,846
TOTAL	1,299	1,077	1,115	1,240	2,139	1,797	4,892	4,844	18,403


$$\frac{104}{342} = 30\%$$

Status of papers submitted between 2017-01- 01 -- 2017-12-31, on June 1, 2018:

	Number of submissions
Submitted	405
In review	61
Assigned to AEs (still in 1 st round)	24
Awaiting revision	17
Revised (in 2 nd or 3 rd round)	20
Accepted	44
Rejected	249
Rejected with resubmission	31
Withdrawn	20

Acceptance rate: too early to say. Expected around 25%.

Status of papers submitted between 2018-01- 01 -- 2018-05-31, on June 5, 2018:

	Number of submissions
Submitted	173
Not yet assigned to AE	2
In review	84
Assigned to AEs (still in 1 st round)	82
Awaiting revision	1
Revised (in 2 nd or 3 rd round)	1
Accepted	0
Rejected	80
Rejected with resubmission	3
Withdrawn	4

Acceptance rate: too early to say.

June 5, 2018

Bálint Tóth
(AAP editor 2016-2018)

ANNALS OF APPLIED STATISTICS ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017

Tilman Gneiting, Editor-In-Chief

May 25, 2018

2017 marked the eleventh full year of operation for the *Annals of Applied Statistics* (AOAS) and my second year as Editor-In-Chief. In September, Leonhard Held of the University of Zurich joined our Editorial Board, which is now composed as follows:

Tilman Gneiting Editor-In-Chief

Edoardo Airoldi Editor for Computational Biology and Machine Learning
 Beth Ann Griffin Editor for Social Sciences, Biostatistics and Policy
 Leonhard Held Editor for Epidemiology and Clinical Science
 Karen Kafadar Editor for Biology, Medicine, and Genomics
 Brendan Murphy Editor for Social Sciences and Government
 Nicoleta Serban Editor for Physical Science, Engineering, and the Environment

In 2017 we received 551 submissions, close to the previous record of 564 submissions in the year before. Despite the high numbers of submissions, our concerted efforts to reduce the time in the review process have been successful. Specifically, 51.5% of the 2017 submissions received a first editorial response within a week, 62.3% within a month, 81.7% within three months, and 96.9% within six months:

Table 1: Review Time to Initial Decision

Days to First Decision	≤ 7	8–30	31–90	91–180	≥ 181	Total
2014	163 35%	30 6%	102 22%	107 23%	60 13%	462
2015	196 39%	30 6%	95 19%	141 28%	35 7%	497
2016	236 42%	72 13%	106 19%	130 23%	20 4%	564
2017	284 52%	59 11%	107 19%	84 15%	17 3%	551

Our acceptance rate has stabilized at about 20%. Roughly half of the submissions are returned to the authors by the Editor-In-Chief. As a submission proceeds to peer review, the Area Editors oversee the manuscript review, aided by an outstanding board of Associate Editors. The yearly totals of submitted and accepted papers and impact factors since 2007 are as follows:

Table 2: AOAS Submissions and Impact Factor by Year

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
No. Submissions	286	274	352	418	468	472	494	462	497	564	551
No. Accepted	96 34%	98 36%	121 34%	109 26%	96 21%	90 19%	111 22%	102 22%	86 17%	117 21%	70 13%
No. Active						1 0%	1 0%	3 1%	7 1%	6 1%	42 8%
Impact Factor		2.45	2.57	1.75	1.58	2.24	1.68	1.46	1.43	1.58	
5 Yr. Imp. Factor		2.48	2.58	2.44	2.55	2.90	2.44	2.31	2.16	2.27	

In May 2018 AOAS sponsored an invited session at the annual Atlantic Causal Inference Conference (ACIC) that highlighted one of the 2017 papers. The session was very well received by the ACIC attendees.

We continue to be missing our past Editor-In-Chief and former IMS President Steve Fienberg, who passed away in December 2016. The June 2018 issue of AOAS will include a special section in commemoration of the research and professional life of Steve. It will comprise both invited and regular contributions, and both research and expository papers, and will cover the full range of Steve's professional interests. Further information is available at our website at <http://www.imstat.org/journals-and-publications/annals-of-applied-statistics/annals-of-applied-statistics-next-issues/>.

I remain grateful to Elyse Gustafson and Geri Mattson for their continuously outstanding support of our daily operations.

Report - Annals of Probability - submissions Jan 1, 2015 - Dec 31, 2017

Prepared by Maria Eulalia Vares (editor 2015-2017)

Year	Submissions	Acceptances	Rejections	Withdrawals	Review
2015	323	96	208	19	---
2016	313	70	221	7	15
2017	303	33	212	14	44

The acceptance rate was above 29% in 2015, should be around 27% in 2016 and at most 25% in 2018.

About the length of the papers: The table with 183 papers published or in proofs contains by mistake 5 papers from the previous term. But it was difficult to find them. So I leave as such. The second table with 21 papers refers to those not yet in proofs (manuscript format).

<30	35	<30	5
30-39	47	30-39	8
40-49	30	40-49	3
50-59	49	50-59	4
60-69	9	60-69	1
70-79	9		21
80-89	4		
	183		

I accepted 9 papers with supplementary material. This option started being encouraged (for very long papers) since August 2017.

The Annals of Statistics, 2017 Annual Report

Ed George and Tailen Hsing, Editors

SUBMISSIONS: We received 686 submissions in 2017. This rate is close to the historical high of 718 achieved in 2016. For comparisons, the number of submission in the years of 2007–2016 were, respectively, 479, 490, 505, 532, 502, 555, 607, 697, 694 and 718. Of the 686 submissions, 7 were withdrawn before or during review. In addition, we handled 164 requests for revision. Our editorial policy continues to emphasize that The Annals of Statistics aims at publishing research papers of highest quality, reflecting the many facets of contemporary statistics, including all mathematical, methodological, computational and interdisciplinary work. An overview of the data is given in Figure 1.

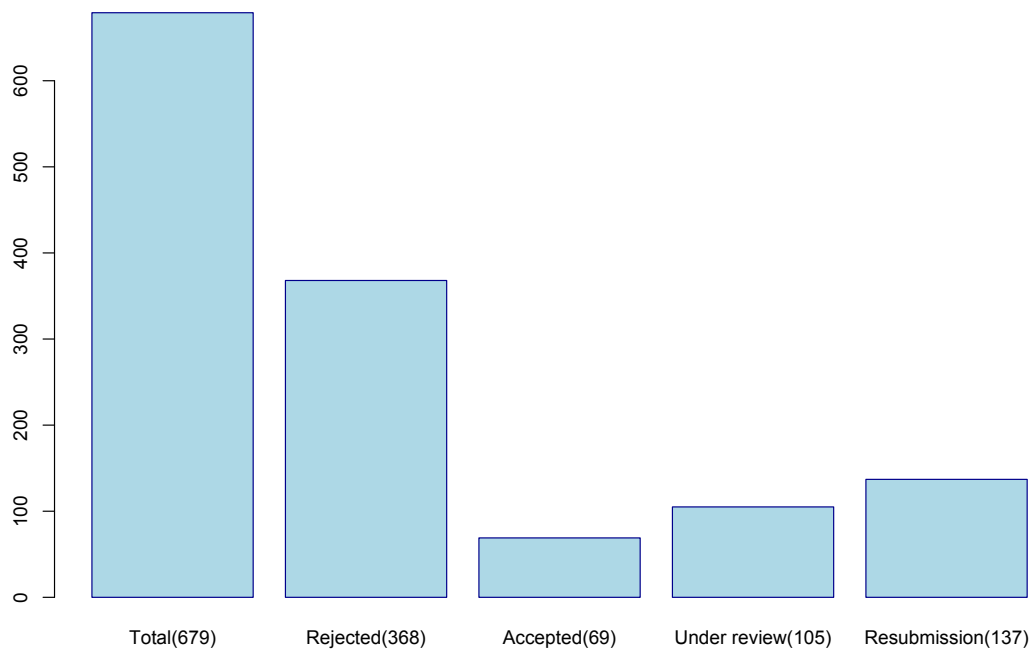


Figure 1: *Submissions in 2017*

ACCEPTANCE RATE: For papers submitted during 2017, up to now (June 2017) we have accepted 69, rejected 368, and rejected 137 with the possibility to resubmit. Currently, 105 submissions are still under review or revision. The acceptance rate is 10.16%, which is comparable to the acceptance rates in the past few years (10.82% in 2016, 13.12% in 2015, 10.33% in 2014, 11.70% in 2013) described in the AOS annual reports. Note that, since some papers are still under review, this is not the final acceptance rate among the manuscripts submitted in 2017.

BACKLOG AND PAGE REQUEST: During 2017, we printed 2763 pages (2779 pages in 2016, 2794 pages in 2015, 2585 pages in 2014, 3110 pages in 2013). Currently, we have a substantial backlog of papers to be published. We suspect it is caused by the spike in number of submissions in the past few years. As of now we have roughly 3600 pages in proofs, which

amounts to over 8 issues worth of papers if we stay at 450 pages an issue. Discussions with the Council on how to reduce the backlog expediently are now under way. Going forward, we would like to request an allotment of 3600 pages for 2019 while managing the backlog situation closely.

REVIEW TIMES: The quartiles of the distribution of the initial decision times for manuscripts submitted in 2017 are 8 days, 103 days and 178 days. The corresponding quartiles from 2016 were 9 days, 86 days and 175 days. The details of the review times are summarized in Figure 2, which provides an estimated survival curve of initial decision time for submissions in 2017. Figure 3 provided an estimated survival function of the second decision time for submission in 2017.

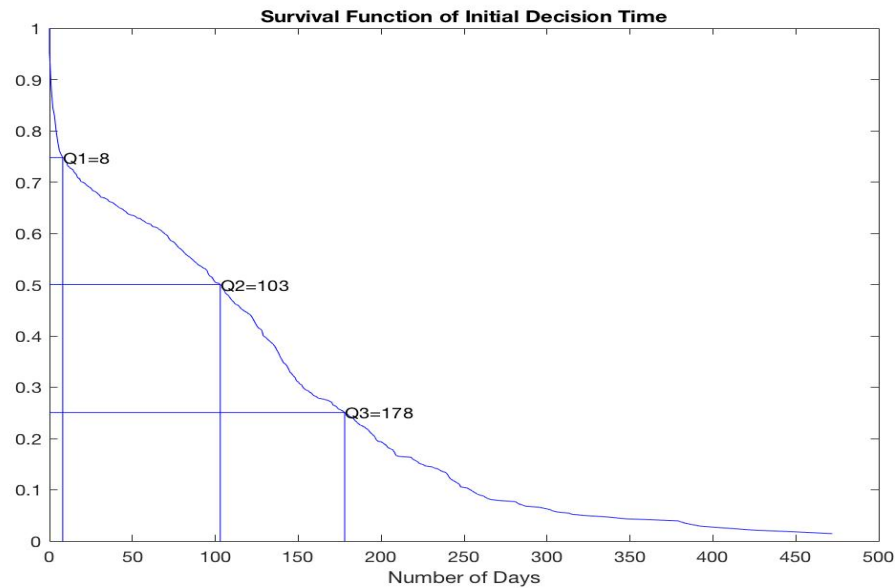


Figure 2: *Survival Function of Initial Decision Time*

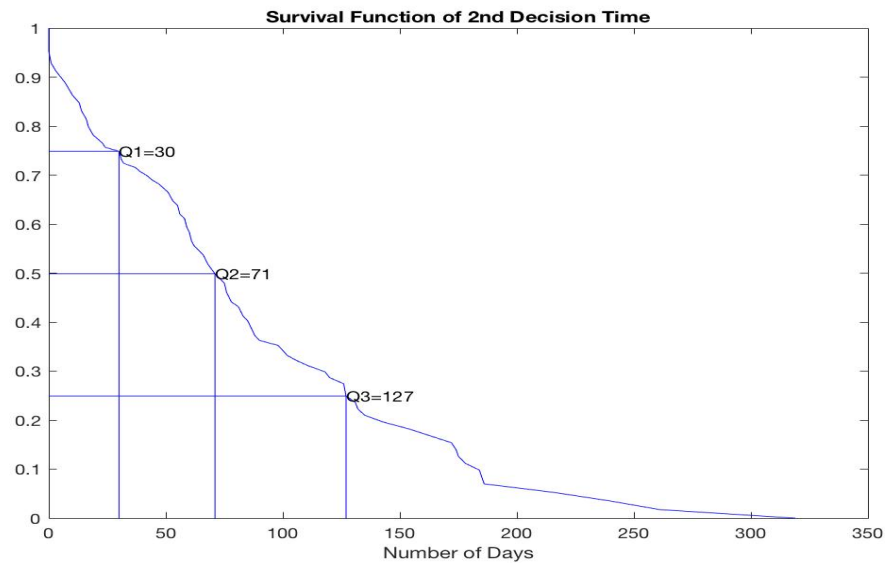


Figure 3: *Survival Function of 2nd Decision Time*

Annual Report - Statistical Science

Cun-Hui Zhang, Editor

June 28, 2018

As of June 28, 2018, 71 manuscripts were at various stages of review (49) or revision (22) for Statistical Science; Of these 6 have been back with authors for over three years and could probably be discounted. From June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018, 178 manuscripts were submitted; of these, 9 have been withdrawn. Of the remaining 169 submissions, 96 have been rejected, 51 are still in various stages of review or revision, and 22 have been accepted. The table provides this information broken down by month of submission. Compared with the previous year, it shows a somewhat lower rate of submission and about the same rate of acceptance.

	Received	Rejected	In review or revision	Accepted	Withdrawn
Jun-17	13	10	1	1	1
Jul-17	20	13	2	3	2
Aug-17	16	13		2	1
Sep-17	14	6	5	3	
Oct-17	15	8	3	2	2
Nov-17	14	7	2	2	3
Dec-17	18	9	9		
Jan-18	15	4	6	5	
Feb-18	16	8	4	4	
Mar-18	16	8	8		
Apr-18	14	8	6		
May-18	7	2	5		
	178	96	51	22	9

I anticipate that the total number of manuscript pages for 2018 will be about 640 as allotted. Roughly the same number of pages should be planned for 2019.

Statistical Science recently published a special section on "Inference for Infectious Disease Dynamics " with Guest Editors Theodore Kypraios and Vladimir Minin, and a special section on "Missing Data" with Guest Editors Julie Josse and Jerome Reiter. In addition, the following special issues are in various stages of preparation, "Nonparametric Inference under Shape Constraints" with Guest Editors Richard Samworth and Bodhisattva Sen, "Network Analysis and Applications" with Guest Editors Yihong Wu and Harrison Zhou, "Causal Inference" with Guest Editors Jason Roy and Dylan Small, and "Statistics and Science" with Guest Editor David Siegmund.

I am very grateful to each of the members of the editorial board: Peter Bühlmann, Jiahua Chen, Rong Chen, Rainer Dahlhaus, Robin Evans, Edward George, Peter Green, Steven Lalley, Ian McKeague, Peter Müller, Sonia Petrone, Nancy Ried, Richard Samworth, Bodhisattva Sen, Glenn

Shafer, David Siegmund, Dylan Small, Michael Stein, Eric Tchetgen Tchetgen, Alexandre Tsybakov, Jon Wakefield, Jon Wellner, Yihond Wu, Minge Xie, Bin Yu, Ming Yuan, Tong Zhang, and Harrison Zhou. I am very grateful to both Mattson Publishing Services and VTEX, who continue to be very responsive to the needs of the journal. I would also like to thank Elyse Gustafson, T.N. Sriram, Patrick Kelly, Geri Mattson, Kristina Mattson and Saulius Kurklys, from whom I receive invaluable editorial support. In particular, I would like to thank Kristina Mattson for her timely help whenever needed.

IMS Bulletin Report to Council 2018

The *IMS Bulletin*, published 8 times per year, is the news organ of the institute. Our aim is to bring IMS members (and other readers) news about IMS activities and members, and items of interest to statisticians and probabilists around the world.

Vlada Limic was appointed Editor of the Bulletin, starting in January 2017, but unfortunately has had to step down for health reasons. In May, Council approved moving the duties of Bulletin Editor to fall under the remit of the Managing Editor, T.N. Sriram. We do not anticipate any difficulties with this workflow. Tati Howell (London, UK) remains as Assistant Editor.

The Contributing Editors are: Anirban DasGupta, Yoram Gat, David Hand, Takis Konstantopoulos, Xiao-Li Meng, Regina Nuzzo, Dimitris Politis, Kavita Ramanan and Terry Speed. Some of them write regular columns, others contribute more occasionally. We are grateful to them all.

In the past year, we have published obituaries for: Alastair Scott, Joseph Hilbe, Ken-ichi Yoshihara, Walter Rosenkrantz, J.K. Ghosh, Ron Getoor, David Wallace, Jim Thompson, Jørgen Hoffmann-Jørgensen, Herbert Heyer, Larry Brown and Herman Rubin. You can find these on the Bulletin's website at <http://bulletin.imstat.org/category/obituary/>. Obituaries are in preparation for George Cave, Roger Farrell, Martin Orr and P.K. Bhattacharya. Thank you to those who pass on the news that an IMS member or fellow has died, so that we can arrange for an obituary to be written.

We are still publishing lists of recent papers, rotating around IMS core, co-sponsored and supported journals (including electronic journals).

Anirban DasGupta's Student Puzzle Corner continues, with a few students engaging, sometimes repeatedly.

Most IMS members receive hardcopy printed Bulletins in the mail (3615 members, plus 75 institutions). A minority (846, about 23%) opt for the electronic PDF/html version only; this is up from about 13% last year. The Bulletin's website, <http://bulletin.imstat.org>, is maintained by Tati, who uploads the news items and articles from the front section of each issue, just after the issue has gone to the printers (hence a couple of weeks before the print copies are mailed out). At the time of writing there are 742 articles posted (103 in the past year), which collectively have received 213 comments (we welcome more!). The site has been protected from almost 13,000 spam comments by Akismet (a WordPress plugin) in the past 12 months. Google Analytics reports about 22,000 "sessions" by 17,000 users in the past year, slightly lower than the previous year. The timing of peak visits to the website usually coincided with the monthly eBulletin emailed out to all members that contains a link to the latest issue. We also post on the IMS Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/IMSTATI>) when issues are released, and link to some news items directly. We have a Twitter account, @InstMathStat, where some news items are tweeted.

As ever, we invite all members, and particularly Council members, to be proactive in writing or soliciting articles. And if you have any comments, suggestions or feedback, please email bulletin@imstat.org — or leave a comment on our blog.

Tati Howell, June 2018

EJP report June 2018

Andreas E. Kyprianou

Editorial hand over

In 2018 I took over as Editor-in-Chief of EJP from Brian Rider. The transition involved replacement of some of the editorial board, following a more recent trend to keep the tenure of editors to approximately 3 years (in line with the Editor-in-Chief position).

An initial round of editorial replacements were agreed upon through several consultations (via Skype and email) between Brian Rider and Sandrine P      and myself. There was lack of clarity as to whether Sandrine would stay on as Editor-in-Chief for ECP until very close to the turn of the new year when it was announced that Giambattista Giacomini would take over. At that point, further consultation continued with Giambattista for the appointment of a few more editors.

The list of editors continuing in post from Brian and Sandrine's tenure consists of: *Omer Angel, Nathanael Berestycki, Antti Knowles, Claudio Landim, Gabor Pete, Peter Pfaffelhuber, Firas Rassoul-Agha, Victor Rivero.*

The list of editors stepping down from service from Brian and Sandrine's tenure consists of: *Luigi Addario-Berry, Noam Berger, Djalil Chafai, Julien Dubedat, Massimiliano Gubinelli, Vladimir Koltchinskii, Malwina Luczak, Annie Millet, Leonid Mytnik, Hirofumi Osada, Alejandro Ramirez, Peter Tankov, Josef Teichmann, Feng-Yu Wang.*

In replacing the above 14 editors, it was decided to expand the editorial board by 2. Moreover, noting that there were 3 women on the editorial board of EJP/ECP up until hand over (Sandrine P     , Annie Millet and Malwina Luczak), both of whom would step down, it was agreed that we should aim for gender parity on the replacements. The global pool of potential (senior) probabilists who might be willing to take on an editorial role cannot be said to hold gender parity. This leads to the dilemma of whether seeking gender parity on the replacements would constitute a classic case of 'gender burden' within the probability community. It was felt however that, world wide, there were sufficiently large numbers (as opposed to proportion) that the editorial

replacement task could be performed in a way that would not cause burden to a small number of women. Moreover, in the more junior layer of probabilists, who may be considered a little too early to take on a big editorial role, there was a clear trend for an increasing number of women. This suggests that making a good start in editorial gender balance can be improved upon in the future. The website <http://womeninprobability.org/> proved to be an invaluable source of information in this exercise.

The list of 16 new editorial appointees now consists of: *Benedicte Haas, Silke Rolles, Djalil Chafai, Vincent Beffara, Samy Tindel, Hubert Lacoïn, Guenter Last, Alessandra Faggionato, Masha Gordina, Patricia Goncalves, Rongfeng Sun, Beatrice Acciaio, Peter Friz, Xue-Mei Li, Paolo Dai Pra, Patrik Ferrari.*

Djalil Chafai had previously served as a managing editor and was happy to continue in the role of editor. The list of replacement editors includes 7 women and 9 men. This brings the total gender balance on the EJP/ECP editorial (including both Editors-in-Chief) to 19 Male and 7 Female. Hence the current editorial board has just over 25% female representation.

Immediately prior to joining the editorial board in January 2018, Patricia Goncalves went on maternity leave. I agreed with her that we will implement a gradual increment of workload by mutual consent, from a date that was penciled in to be around the date of this report. However this was also subject to confirmation and could be pushed back if necessary.

Numbers

The current state of play on 11th June 2018 appear as follows:

In review	112
Accepted	3
Rejected	75
Rejected with resubmission	2

As the two rejected with resubmission have indeed been resubmitted, then this puts the total number of papers received at 190. From Brian's 2017 report I noted that he saw 378, 365, 382 submissions in 2014, 2015 and 2016, respectively. This means that, mid way through 2018, current submissions

are approximately at the mid point of what would be expected assuming a constant rate of submission. (One might conjecture that the summer months will see an increased rate of submission and so 2018 could be on track for greater numbers.)

The acceptance of just 3 papers could be seen as a point of concern, however one should take into account the articles, which I am blind to, that are still being accepted from Brian's tenure. Moreover, of the 112 in review since 1st January 2018, we should begin see a cumulative wave of acceptances coming in the next few months.

Andreas E. Kyprianou
10th, June 2018

Annual Report

Electronic Journal of Statistics

Domenico Marinucci

June 1, 2018

This report covers the following periods:

- (i) January 1 - December 31, 2017
- (ii) January 1 – May 22, 2018

Period: Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2017

In 2017, 485 papers were submitted to EJS, with a slight growth with respect to the previous year 2016 (when we had 479 submissions), and a more significant growth with respect to 2015 and 2014 (when we had 406 and 401 submissions, respectively). Out of these, 282 papers were rejected, 34 rejected with encouragement to resubmit, for 73 and 50 major or minor revisions (respectively) were proposed, while 13 were accepted directly on the first round; for 33 papers a first decision has still to be reached. As a consequence, the rejection rate among papers for which a first decision was reached was equal to $(282+34)/(282+34+73+50+13)=316/452=70\%$, increasing from 67.2% in 2016.

Among these submissions, the statistics for the days to a first decision are as follows:

Average: 76,15; Q1: 4 ; Q2 (Median): 70; Q3 :124,

almost identical to those for 2016 (with a slight increase on the average and a slight decrease on the median).

Overall, 162 papers were published, including a special issue on “Statistical Machine Learning”, edited by Aarti Singh, Larry Wasserman and Jerry Zhu, which appeared in Autumn 2017 and included 13 articles.

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Period: Jan 1 - May 22, 2018

The reporting period this year is January 1 – May 22, during which 186 papers were submitted (193 papers were submitted in 2017 until May 28 and 182 up to May 20 in 2016). So far, 87 papers have been rejected, 2 rejected with possibility to resubmit, for 5 and 4, respectively, major and minor revisions were proposed and only 1 has been accepted on the first round; 87 papers are still waiting for a first decision. For comparison, in 2017 we had 98 rejected papers, 3 rejected with encouragement to resubmit, for 4 and 3 a major or minor revision were required, respectively, and 85 were still waiting for a first decision. The rejection rate among papers for which a decision has been reached is again very high $((87+2)/(87+2+5+4)=91\%)$, but this result is clearly biased, because rejections are much higher among papers for which a decision is reached quickly. In particular,

consistently with the previous years about 35/40% of all submissions have been rejected directly by the Editorial Board without being sent to referees.

Among all submissions, the statistics for the days to a first decision are as follows:

Average: 16.8; Q1: 2 ; Q2 (Median): 5; Q3 :16.5

As mentioned before, for obvious reasons these figures cannot be compared with the statistics for 2017 – whole year. For a more significant comparison among entire years, we report that out of 406 submissions in 2016, 126 were eventually accepted, while out of 485 submissions in 2016, 152 were finally accepted. In either case, the acceptance rate is around 31%, including articles that appeared on special issues (which have a lower rejection rate).

Finally, the number of published pages by calendar year since 2010 are (Remark: Starting in 2014, the annual volume was split in two issues):

Year	Number of Pages	Number of Articles
2010	1546	56
2011	2030	70
2012	2626	98
2013	3169	113
2014	3192	137
2015	3195	108
2016	4009	129
2017	5451	162
2018	1717	51

Current list of Associate Editors

There are currently 52 Associate Editors for EJS:

Felix Abramovitch, Ery Arias-Castro, Alexander Aue, Francis Bach, Fadoua Balabdoui, Moulinath Banerjee, Gilles Blanchard, Florentina Bunea, Francois Caron, Ismael Castillo, Ngai Hang Chan, Guang Cheng, Arnak Dalalyan, Herold Dehling, Petros Dellaportas, Mathias Drton, Nouredin El Karoui, Chao Gao, Subhashis Ghoshal, Irene Gijbels, James Hobert, Mark Hoffmann, Vladimir Koltchinskii, Rafal Kulik, Antonio Lijoi, Han Liu, Jean-Michel Loubes, Sayan Mukherjee Axel Munk, Boaz Nadler, Richard Nickl, Victor Panaretos, Debashis Paul, Giovanni Peccati, Dimitris Politis, Annie Qu, Philippe Rigollet, Alessandro Rinaldo, Mathieu Rosenbaum, Theofanis Sapatinas, Armin Schwartzman, Xiaotong Shen, Ling Shiqing, Alexandre Tsybakov, Ingrid van Keilegom, Harry van Zanten, Frederi Viens, Wei Biao Wu, Yingnian Wu, Minge Xie, Ming Yuan., Johanna Ziegel

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to Elyse Gustafson and Geri Mattson for their extremely valuable support.

Report on Probability Surveys

Ben Hambly - Editor-in-Chief since 1st January 2015

Probability Surveys has a valuable role to play for the probability community providing well written articles on topics that are in need of consolidation or summary at points in their development. Probability Surveys publishes surveys articles covering any aspects of probability theory, its applications and its interactions with related fields. Any survey format is welcome (short and long, without proofs or with some proofs) as long as the article conveys a substantial amount of information about an interesting subject in an accessible way and with respect for the existing knowledge and literature in the area.

Over the last 5 years the journal has published:

Volume 10 (2013) 3 Surveys and 93 pages

Volume 11 (2014) 9 Surveys and 440 pages

Volume 12 (2015) 4 Surveys and 103 pages

volume 13 (2016) 4 Surveys and 244 pages

Volume 14 (2017) 5 Surveys and 327 pages

There are currently 10 Surveys at various stages in the editorial process. The current acceptance rate for papers that are peer reviewed is around 50%.

In the past the journal has provided the probability community with useful overviews of a range of areas within the field. However there was been a decrease in the number of submissions in recent years. If the journal is to maintain its profile it is important that the submission rate increases. I would encourage any readers of this report to consider submitting a survey to Probability Surveys!

Relations with vtex are very cordial and effective.

Statistics Surveys, Annual Report to the Institute of Mathematical Statistics

June 8, 2018

Prepared by: Wendy L. Martinez, Coordinating Editor

Statistics Surveys is sponsored by the American Statistical Association, the Bernoulli Society, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and by the Statistical Society of Canada. The editorial board contains one representative of each of these four societies and a coordinating editor. The board consists of: David Banks (Institute of Mathematical Statistics), Sara van de Geer (Bernoulli Society), Ranjan Maitra (American Statistical Association), Richard A. Lockhart (Statistical Society of Canada), and Wendy L. Martinez (Coordinating Editor).

The American Statistical Association did not conduct an editor search to replace Ranjan Maitra, who has already served more than six years on the board. We are happy that Dr. Maitra has continued serving as an Editor.

We held a meeting of the Editorial Board at the JSM 2017, and we thank IMS for supporting this meeting. We discussed a couple of items at the meeting. One was the opportunity to sponsor an invited session at JSM 2018, and we came up with several speakers. We are happy to report that the invited session will take place on August 1, 2018 starting at 8:30.

The other topic we covered was a possible name change for the journal. After the JSM meeting, we submitted a request to change the name to *Statistics Reviews*, an excerpt of which is given below.

As editors of the journal, we have come to recognize two major issues with the current name. First, over 95% of the articles submitted to the journal are focused on original research in survey methodology. Authors do not realize that this is a journal publishing review articles and misunderstand the word *Surveys*. This gives us an overall acceptance rate of below 2% (which, while well below that of *Nature* or *Science*, is not sustainable).

This is a minor issue and not necessarily a disastrous problem. But secondly and more importantly, we have also come to realize that the misleading name of the journal has the potential to miss papers because the journal itself does not correctly come on the radar of most authors. There is some anecdotal evidence of this happening, but the full extent of this problem cannot be measured.

For instance, we have tried multiple campaigns to popularize the journal for its intended purpose, but to no avail. (Of course, we recognize that most people ignore such campaigns until they are ready to submit an article.) Indeed, our last campaign article describing the journal immediately prompted two submissions; both were survey methodology articles and not review articles, which are the sole focus of our journal.

This request was sent to the Bernoulli Society and the other sponsoring societies. The leadership of the Bernoulli Society felt the proposed name would cause confusion with the journal *International Statistical Review*. Other names were proposed, but they did not seem suitable for the journal. The name change has not been pursued further.

SUBMISSIONS During the period January 01, 2017 – May 31, 2018, twenty-three (23) manuscripts were submitted to the journal. This number is small when compared with other IMS journals, however this is to be expected given that the survey nature of viable papers requires such papers to be lengthier and to have been written by a smaller, select group of authors with substantial experience and strong credentials in their chosen subject areas. The editorial board has taken informal steps to increase the number of submissions, and there is a willingness amongst the board to encourage authors of potentially viable articles to revise and resubmit manuscripts. David Banks wrote an article soliciting articles for the journal, and it was published by the IMS Bulletin.

The current status of the manuscripts is as follows:

Accepted: 4

Rejected: 14

Papers in review: 6

Rejected with resubmission encouraged: 1

Total 25

THE BOARD OF ASSOCIATE EDITORS

The current editorial board (37) consists of: Martin Lindquist, Daniel Commenges, Enno Mammen, Guido Consonni, John Marden, Noel Cressie, Geoff McLachlan, Rainer Dahlhaus, Hannu Oja, Anirban DasGupta, Dominique Picard, Sujay Datta, Louis-Paul Rivest, Mathisca De Gunst, Qi-Man Shao, Jianqing Fan, Xiaotong Shen, Edward I. George, Simon Tavaré, Subhashis Ghosal, Stephen B. Vardeman, Nils L. Hjort, Grace Wahba, John D. Kalbfleisch, Yuhong Yang, Claudia Klüppelberg, Donglin Zeng, Vladimir I. Koltchinskii, Cun-Hui Zhang, Jerald F. Lawless, and Jun Zhu. The editors are very grateful for their continued assistance.

EJMS

The EJMS is working well. Geri Mattson and Elyse Gustafson are always quick to provide their advice and help when called upon.

Subject: FW: IMS-China 2017 etc

Date: Wednesday, 16 May 2018 at 10:26:07 China Standard Time

From: Yao,Q

To: erg@imstat.org

Dear Elyse,

Would the message below serve as a report from IMS-China? The only update is that the 2019 IMS-China conference will be held in Dailian, the preparation and organisation is under way now.

Kind regards,

Qiwei

On Fri, Aug 11, 2017 at 6:46 AM, Yao,Q <Q.Yao@lse.ac.uk> wrote:

Dear Jon and Elyse,

As you know, 2017 IMS-China International Conference on Statistics and Probability was held in Nanning in 28 June -- 2 July. There were about 500 participants from 19 countries. The scientific program consists of two plenary speakers, 6 special invited speakers, 84 invited sessions and 17 contribution sessions. Financially the registration fees did not quite cover the whole cost. The Chinese Science Academy in Beijing was kind enough to provide the gap fund. Further information on conference is (still) available at

<http://2017ims-china.gxun.edu.cn/info/1045/1067.htm>

In the evening of 1 July, the IMS-China Council met with the following agenda:

1. IMS-China membership
2. 2019 IMS-China Conference: initial planning
3. Election of a new IMS-China Council

I attach below a report on the Council meeting and some follow-up actions.

Please let me know if you need any further information.

Kind regards,

Qiwei

1. The current IMS-China membership is small: with merely 36 members who renewed their membership at the 2017 conference. (It was also noted that there are several permanent members residing in the mainland of China.) But the small membership is partially due to the rigid regulation on reimbursement in China now. It is felt that the enthusiasm for IMS-China and its core function is still high, reflected partially by the attendance of the conference as well.

It was decided in the council meeting that from 2019 onwards, the two-year IMS-China membership fees will be automatically included in the registration fees for the participants from the Mainland of China. This is in line with the practice of some other learnt societies in China and beyond. We are confident that this new measure will ensure that IMS-China will sustain a large membership which reflects proportionally to its activities.

2. The 2019 conference will be held in Yinchuan, with Dailian as a backup host city. The Scientific Committee will be chaired jointly by the IMS-China President then and Professor Chunming Zhang from Wisconsin Madison. Chunming has kindly agreed to serve. It is noted that Chunming will be the first female organiser for IMS-China conferences.

3. The current IMS-China Council has served its full term. It was decided that the election of a new council be held among the renewed members plus the permanent IMS members residing in the Mainland via email.

Newly elected IMS-China Council members:

Xiangzhong Fang (President)

Fuzhou Gong (President-elect)
Zenghu Li (Past President)
Yanxia Ren (Program Secretary)
Min Chen (Treasurer)
Yingqiu Li
Juan Li
Yuan Li
Huazhen Lin
Yonghua Mao
Niansheng Tang
Jian Tao
Xueqin Wang
Zhaojun Wang
Baoxue Zhang
Lixin Zhang
Dong Zhao
Yong Zhou
Guohua Zou