IMS Sponsors Mini-Meetings

Iain Johnstone, IMS President, writes:

The IMS traditionally organizes research conferences of three days or longer. I would like here to advertise a new initiative to encourage also shorter events. IMS will now provide funds, publicity and perhaps expertise to help promote one or two day scientific meetings organized by IMS members. The idea is that these meetings are easy to organize, and focus on topics of current interest. They are "local+" in the sense that some, but perhaps only a few, out of town participants would typically be involved.

The IMS level of support is nominally US$1,500 for a one day meeting, and US$3,000 for two day meeting. Such funding might help attract two out of town speakers for one day, and perhaps four or so for a two day event. (Organizers might obtain other funding, of course, but these meetings should stay at 2 days or less). These should be open rather than closed meetings, but the lack of substantial financial support and the short and focused duration means that they will likely have an informal, workshop flavor and not become large and unwieldy.

To offset the local+ nature of the events, and to serve the broader community, there should be web publicity beforehand, and some web record of the event afterward. The event can be publicized in the IMS Bulletin, monthly e-Bulletin and elsewhere. The organizers themselves must be IMS members. The application process is informal: a one-to-two page application is sent to Elyse Gustafson, Executive Director erg@imstat.org and reviewed on receipt by the IMS Executive Committee.

Three IMS mini-meetings have already occurred or are in the works: Statistical Approaches to the Ocean Circulation Inverse Problem, November 13-14, 2001, Florida State, organizer Ian McKeague, stat.fsu.edu/ocean Imaging, Clustering and Classification, January 11-12, 2002, U of Florida, George Casella, www.stat.ufl.edu/symposium/2002/icc/ Statistical Analysis of Neuronal Data, May 3-4, 2002, Carnegie-Mellon, Rob Kass, www.psc.edu/biomed/sand.html (See advert on page 7)

Ian McKeague writes of the oceanography mini-meeting, "The meeting was a great success. There was an audience of about 35 for most of the talks and the discussion was lively. The four statistics and five oceanographer speakers did an excellent job in bridging the language barrier between the two fields, and in relating statistical approaches to the enormously complex problem of fitting ocean circulation models to data. The informal nature of the meeting helped to make it a most enjoyable experience for everyone. Speakers were given the freedom to take more time if needed, so the program tended to expand and finished an hour late on the first day—in retrospect longer breaks

News from IMS members

David Brillinger Wins 2002 Parzen Prize for Statistical Innovation

Texas A&M University Dept of Statistics will award the 2002 Emanuel and Carol Parzen Prize for Statistical Innovation to David R Brillinger, Professor of Statistics, University of California, Berkeley, for outstanding distinction and eminence in research on the theory of statistical time series analysis and data analysis, in applications of statistical methods in diverse fields, and in providing international leadership and continuing impact through his vision and effectiveness as an applied statistician. Professor Brillinger is an IMS Fellow and Past President. He is widely recognized as one of the world's leading authorities in the theory and practice of time series analysis. He has made numerous seminal contributions to time series methodology and theory including fundamental work on polyspectra, multivariate frequency domain techniques and multivariate point processes. His 1975 book *Time Series: Data Analysis and Theory* has been influential. His work in application areas includes important contributions to biology, economics, environmental studies, insurance, neurophysiology, physics and seismology. Prof. Brillinger will give a general lecture "Mutual Information: A Unifying Concept of Random Process Analysis."

Alan Zaslavsky Named Statistician of the Year

The Boston Chapter of the American Statistical Association (ASA) has named Alan Zaslavsky, PhD, as the Mosteller Statistician of the Year. Zaslavsky is Associate Professor of Statistics in the Department of Health Care Policy at Harvard Medical School. and is a Fellow of ASA. He has also participated on panels for the Committee on National Statistics on census methodology and poverty estimates for small geographic areas.

   The award is given annually to a distinguished statistician who has made exceptional contributions to the field of statistics and has shown outstanding service to the statistical community. Individuals from academia, industry, and government who have been actively associated with the Boston Chapter are considered for the award.

   "Boston is an important center for statistical research, and it's a great honor to be selected by my colleagues for an award named after Fred Mosteller, who has done so much to advance the practice of statistics," said Zaslavsky.

Friedrich Pukelsheim has been elected an Ordinary Member of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences, Muenchen.

More Mini-Meetings

between the talks would also have been advisable. Given the intensity, one and a half days seems the ideal length for these meetings."

   While the examples to date have been in the US, we certainly encourage mini-meetings throughout the world. New researchers should also consider running mini-meetings—they are not so large as to be pre-tenure distractions, but are good for building research momentum and contacts.

   We welcome your ideas! Some further details can be found on the IMS web site at www.stat.lsa.umich.edu/~samurphy/ims/minimeetinginfo.html

The Board on Mathematical Sciences Evolves

Peter Bickel has served as Chair of the Board on Mathematical Sciences and Applications of the National Research Council since 2000. He served as Chair of the Committee on Theoretical and Applied Statistics, a subcommittee of the Board from 1999-2000.

The Board on Mathematical Sciences of the National Research Council was founded in 1984 with a membership balanced between pure mathematicians, applied mathematicians and statisticians. Its establishment was, in part, a result of the landmark 1984 "David" report from the NRC that documented the inadequacy of federal funding for mathematical sciences research and argued strenuously for the level to double. The Board was intended to monitor the health of the mathematical sciences enterprise and work to improve it.

During the period 1986-2000, the Board produced 32 reports on areas of research and policy matters affecting the mathematical sciences and their applications, while its semi-autonomous committee CATS (Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics) similarly produced 12 reports on statistical sciences research, primarily relating to fields of application. Some of these reports have been quite influential. It is fair to say, however, that the main focus of the Board was on promoting the health of the mathematical sciences by inducing a change in the low federal funding levels for our fields, an effort that met with limited success.

During the lifetime of the Board, sci-ence and engineering, and indeed all human activity, has become more inter-disciplinary, as new sensing devices and telecommunication enable us to gather information of all kinds in huge quantities and transmit it easily, while computing power enables us to handle, store, manipulate and think about this data.

It has always been evident to our community that mathematics and statistics are central to the natural sciences and engineering, but this is now more so and becoming more apparent to the science and engineering communities as well. New data can suggest new mathematical structures, while old and new mathematics and statistics suggest new algorithms and methods of analysis.

Beyond the realm of science and engineering, mathematical ways of thought have always played a role in policy decisions through operations research, econometrics and a variety of other disciplines. Because we now have much more, and much more complex, quantitative information of different kinds, this is even more true today. The mathematical sciences have the opportunity and challenge of making their utility more widely known to policy makers.

In view of these developments, the main foci of what is now called the Board on Mathematical Sciences and their Applications have become:

- To bring to the attention of the mathematical sciences community the many fascinating intellectual opportunities for the application of mathematics and statistics in broad areas of science and engineering where more mathematical participation could make a big difference.

The Board on Mathematical Sciences

Continued from previous page

- To involve more mathematical scientists in the solution of important questions of public policy.

Both fit the strengths of the Board's parent organization, the National Research Council, the working arm of the National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and Institute of Medicine. All adhere to the charter given the NAS by Congress in 1963: "…the Academy shall, whenever called upon by any department of the Government, investigate, examine, experiment, and report upon any subject of science or art" (what we now call technology).

Over the past few years, the Board's membership has become very diverse, as can be seen in the box (right).

Recent and projected activities of the Board and CATS include:

- Annual colloquia for heads of mathematics and statistics departments, held every year since 1986;
- Workshop on Statistical Approaches for the Evaluation of Complex Computer Models, co-sponsored with NISS and Los Alamos National Laboratory, December 1999,

- Workshop on The Interface of Three Areas of Computer Science and the Mathematical Sciences, April 2000,
- Workshop on Dynamical Modeling of Complex Biomedical Systems, April 2001,
- Workshop on the role of the mathematical sciences in homeland defense, planned for April 26-27, 2002;
- Possible study to define the mathematical sciences research agenda needed to support the Department of Energy's Genomes to Life program, which will take steps to utilize data from the Human Genome Project;
- Study/ies providing input from the mathematical sciences community as to best practices for dealing with complex methods of financial mathematics; and also to improve the state of modeling and simulation as used by the Department of Defense

I invite you to read more about our activities, including electronic versions of some of our reports, at http://www4.nationalacademies.org/cpsma/bms.nsf/ and join with alacrity if asked to serve on a BMSA or CATS activity. Your friends on the Board will, I think, assure you that the work contributes to the health of the mathematical sciences— and the meetings are intellectually gratifying and actually fun.

Nominations for 2002 Jerome Sacks Award

Annual Award Honors Outstanding Cross-disciplinary Research

The NISS Board of Trustees established the Jerome Sacks Award for Cross-Disciplinary Research in 2000. Created in honor of Sacks' nine years (1991-2000) of service as the founding director of NISS, the annual prize of $1,000 recognizes sustained, high-quality cross-disciplinary research involving the statistical sciences.

The inaugural award was presented to Professor Elizabeth Thompson of the University of Washington at the NISS reception at JSM 2001 in Atlanta, for her "sustained, high-quality cross-disciplinary research bridging the statistical sciences and genetics."

The 2002 award selection committee solicits nominations of researchers whose work is cross-disciplinary, sustained and encompasses innovation in the statistical sciences. Preference will be given to work that, in the spirit of NISS, creates new research relationships bridging the statistical sciences and other disciplines. "Nonstandard" achievements, such as patents and software creation, will be considered.

Complete nominations include a current CV or biographical sketch for the nominee, a nomination letter and several supporting letters, and should be sent by April 30, 2002, to: Alicia Carriquiry, Chair, Sacks Award Committee Department of Statistics, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011, USA. If possible, please submit nominations electronically to alicia@iastate.edu.

For more information on NISS and the award, visit the NISS web site at www.niss.org.

International Workshop in Applied Probability

An International Workshop in Applied Probability, IWAP 2002, took place at the University of Simon Bolivar, Caracas, Venezuela, on January 14 – 17, 2002. This event was co-sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, Latin American Regional Committee of the Bernoulli Society, National Security Agency, Cyted foundation and the University of Simon Bolivar. The co-sponsors of IWAP 2002 generously provided financial support for its participants. IMS provided financial support for four young researchers, pictured below. All four recipients of the IMS travel award presented invited lectures at the workshop.

One of the objectives for this workshop was to survey recent advances in research in probability and its applications in diverse areas of science and technology. By bringing together leading researchers in probability who have a strong interest in applications, with outstanding junior applied probabilists, we had stimulating discussions and exchange of ideas among the participants that will provide guidance to the young participants as well as promote research in this exciting and active area of research. It will also strengthen the ties and encourage collaboration between researchers in applied probability in South America and the rest of the world.
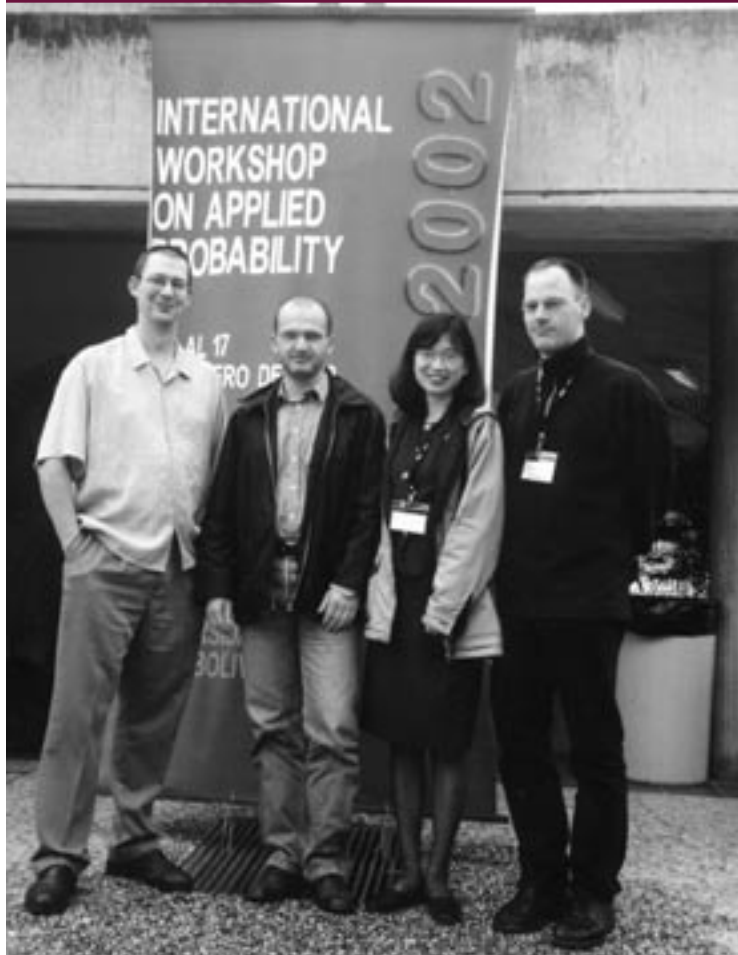
University of Simon Bolivar has been a great choice for holding the workshop. Its fine facilities to hold conferences and to house its participants in an institute-like environment, provided a stimulating environment for a scientific meeting. The local organizing committee, chaired by Henryk Gzyl, University of Simon Bolivar, has done a fine job in organizing the scientific sessions and social events. Seventy researchers from fifteen countries attended the workshop, in which eight plenary lectures and fifty-three invited lectures have been presented. The plenary lectures were delivered by Andrew Barbour, University of Zürich, Switzerland, Richard Davis, Colorado State University, USA, Pablo Ferrari, University of São Paulo, Brazil, James Fill, Johns Hopkins University, USA, Michiel Hazewinkel, CWI, Netherlands, Raúl Jiménez, University of Simon Bolivar, Venezuela, Tze Lai, Stanford University, USA, and Michael Waterman, University of Southern California, USA. Based on the presentations at IWAP 2002, it is planned to publish a volume of review articles and a special issue of the journal Methodology and Computing in Applied Probability.

The co-chairs for IWAP 2002 were: Ricardo Baeza-Yates, National University of Chile, Chile, Joseph Glaz, University of Connecticut, USA, Jürg Hüsler, University of Bern, Switzerland and José Luis Palacios, University of Simon Bolivar University, Venezuela. The members of the Scientific Committee and the organizers of the invited sessions played a major role in making IWAP 2002 a reality. Their hard work and dedication contributed significantly to the success of this workshop. Information about the workshop, its sessions and scientific committees is still available at http://iwap2002.eventos.usb.ve/

IMS travel award recipients, from left to right: Owen Jones, University of Southampton, UK, Michael Prähofer, TU München, Germany, Jie Chen, University of Massachusetts, Boston, USA and Carlo Marinelli, Columbia University, USA

Joseph Glaz, IMS Representative

IMS Meetings around the world

JSM2002

August 11-15, New York
Late Breaking Sessions at the Joint
Statistical Meetings: Announcement
and Call for Proposals

Nathaniel Schenker (National Center for Health Statistics, and JSM2002 Program Chair) writes: Because of the size and complexity of the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM), sessions for the JSM are typically planned well in advance. For example, the planning of invited sessions for JSM2002 began in March 2001, and the topics for practically all of these sessions were determined by August 2001. While such advanced planning ensures a smoothly running meeting, it can also result in the omission of important, newly emerging topics from the invited portion of the program.

One way for the JSM Program Chair to deal with this issue is to save one or two of his/her discretionary invited slots for the formation of sessions on newly emerging topics after the rest of the invited sessions have already been planned. For example, I saved one of my discretionary slots for JSM2002 until fall of 2001 and decided to use it for a session on terrorism, a topic that had not already been covered in the invited portion of the program because the invited session topics were in place before September 11th. I invited Nancy Spruill, Chair of the Committee on Statisticians in Defense

and National Security of the American Statistical Association (ASA), to organize the session, and she has put together a panel discussion entitled "What Can Statisticians Do to Contribute to the War on Terrorism?" Dr. Spruill plans for the topics of discussion to include weapon systems testing and operational feedback, bioterrorism (including the anthrax case), information integration and critical infrastructure protection, statistical models for the effects of weapons of mass destruction, and weighing risks in terrorism.

It is awkward, however, for the JSM Program Chair to save discretionary slots. There are only a few such slots, and there is high demand for them. Moreover, if an appropriate topic does not arise, the Program Chair can end up not using a slot. To remedy this difficulty, the partner societies (ASA; Institute of Mathematical Statistics; International Biometric Society, Eastern and Western North American Regions; and Statistical Society of Canada) have approved the creation of up to two special invited session slots, on an as-needed basis, for Late-Breaking Sessions at the JSM. These sessions are in addition to the standard invited sessions specified in the JSM contract. Competition for Late-Breaking Session slots will be open to any member or organization of a partner society.

A Late-Breaking Session is defined as a session that covers one or more technical, scientific, or policy-related topics that

have arisen in the one-year period prior to the JSM in which the session is intended to appear. Late-Breaking Session slots should not be used for memorial sessions. Moreover, an invited or contributed session that is already in the JSM program should not be submitted for consideration as a Late-Breaking Session. Selection of Late-Breaking Sessions from among the competing proposals will be carried out by the JSM Program Chair, subject to subsequent approval by the ASA Committee on Meetings. Proposals will be judged based on statistical and scientific quality, novelty and recentness of material, potential audience appeal, and completeness. Participation in a Late-Breaking Session will not count toward the limits on participation established for the JSM.

Proposals for Late-Breaking Sessions for JSM2002 should be submitted to me between March 15, 2002 and May 10, 2002. These dates were selected to avoid overlap with the planning of the rest of the program and to allow for selection of Late-Breaking Sessions and submission of complete information on them before the JSM program is printed. To facilitate quick transmission of proposals for judging and for printing in the program, please submit proposals via email to nschenker@cdc.gov.

A proposal for a Late-Breaking Session should contain the following information:
a. Session title.
b. Description of session, including

JSM (the Joint Statistical Meetings) is the largest gathering of statisticians held in North America. It is held jointly with the American Statistical Association, The International Biometric Society (ENAR and WNAR), the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and the Statistical Society of Canada. Attended by over 4000 people, activities of the meeting include oral presentations, panel sessions, poster presentations, continuing education courses, exhibit hall (with state-of-the-art statistical products and opportunities), a placement service, society and section business meetings, committee meetings, social activities, and networking opportunities. New York City is the host city for JSM 2002 and offers a wide range of possibilities for sharing time with friends and colleagues. For information, contact meetings@amstat.org or phone (703) 684-1221.

focus, content, timeliness, and appeal.

c. Format of session (e.g., chair and four panelists; or chair, three speakers, and discussant).

d. Session organizer, including affiliation, address, telephone and facsimile numbers, and e-mail address.
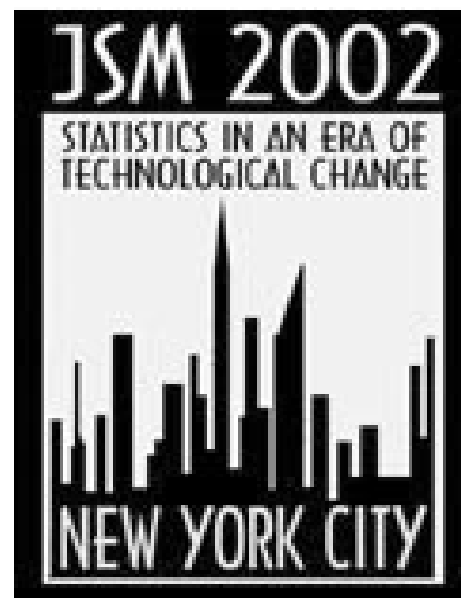
e. Session chair, including affiliation, address, telephone and facsimile numbers, and e-mail address.

f. List of invited speakers/panelists, including affiliation, address, telephone and facsimile numbers, and e-mail address for each participant, and title (if applicable) for each presentation.

g. Discussant (if any), including affiliation, address, telephone and facsimile numbers, and e-mail address.

While I am sure that the idea behind Late-Breaking Sessions has been around for a long time, I would like to acknowledge several people who helped to bring the idea to fruition for JSM2002. David Williamson (JSM 2000 Program Chair), in his wrap-up article on JSM 2000 in the November 2000 issue of Amstat News, recommended the creation of such sessions as a priority for future JSMs. Other past and future JSM Program Chairs, including Sallie Keller-McNulty (1997), David Scott (1998), Alicia Carriquiry (1999), Dick DeVeaux (2001), and John Eltinge (2003), provided valuable input on how to include such sessions in the JSM. The 2001 ASA Committee on Meetings, chaired by Bob Mason, and Joint Meetings Advisory Committee, chaired by Alicia Carriquiry, were very supportive of the idea of Late-Breaking Sessions; and the Committee on Meetings helped to develop the guidelines for their implementation, as did Elaine Powell, the ASA Meetings Manager. Finally, Miron Straf, the 2002 ASA President, encouraged me to include such sessions in JSM2002 and provided helpful sugges-

tions regarding the session on terrorism.

I hope that Late-Breaking Sessions are a success in JSM2002 and subsequent JSMs, and I look forward to receiving your proposals.

IMS Mini-Meeting

Workshop on Statistical Analysis of Neuronal Data, Pittsburgh PA, May 3-4, 2002

A fundamental question, arising repeatedly in neurophysiological investigations, is what physiological significance should be attached to particular neuron firing patterns. Many studies attempt to relate firing patterns of individual neurons in particular regions of the brain to characteristics of a stimulus or behavior, thereby inferring function. A major relatively new direction for the field involves the use of multielectrode recording, in which responses from dozens of neurons are recorded simultaneously. Important analysis issues include the precise temporal response of the neurons with respect to a stimulus, a behavior, or each other; neuronal variability, across ensembles and across trials; the additional information provided by multiple neurons; and the timing and dynamics of multiple neuronal responses.

In this workshop we are bringing together a small number of neurophysiologists, statisticians, and computer scientists who are interested in quantitative analysis of neuronal data. The chief goal is to identify specific, important problems in neuronal data analysis where neurophysiologists and statisticians/computer scientists can collaborate usefully. We plan to have several presentations, and plenty of time for informal discussion.

The workshop has space, and some residual funding, for additional participants. To indicate interest please go to the website www.psc.edu/biomed/SAND.html. Please address logistical questions to Nancy Blankenstein, blankens@psc.edu, and substantive questions to either of the co-organizers, Emery Brown, brown@srlb.mgh.harvard.edu, or Rob Kass, kass@stat.cmu.edu.

Confirmed Participants:
Emery Brown (Harvard)
Stu Geman (Brown)
Satish Iyengar (Pittsburgh)
Rob Kass (Carnegie Mellon)
Tai-Sing Lee (Carnegie Mellon)
Mike Lewicki (Carnegie Mellon)
John Miller (Montana State)

Partha Mitra (Lucent)
Carl Olson (Carnegie Mellon)
Andy Schwartz (Neurosciences Institute)
Jennie Si (Arizona State)
Dan Simons (Pittsburgh)
Valerie Ventura (Carnegie Mellon)
Jon Victor (Cornell)
Matt Wilson (MIT)

Co-sponsors:
• NIH Computational Neuroscience
• Institute of Mathematical Statistics,
• Pittsburgh Supercomputer Center
• Center for the Neural Basis of Cognition (Carnegie Mellon/University of Pittsburgh)
• Department of Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University

More IMS meetings

2002 Spring Research Conference

Statistics in Industry and Technology
May 20-22, 2002, Ann Arbor

The Ninth Annual Spring Research Conference will be held from May 20-22, 2002. There will be a pre-conference workshop on May 19 and a post-conference workshop on May 23. The Conference will be held at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor Campus. May is a beautiful time of year to visit Ann Arbor and local surroundings.
The SRC is the premier research conference for Statistics in Industry and Technology. The program for the 2002 conference will feature keynote address by Sir David Cox, plenary talks and invited sessions on key and emerging areas. Suggestions on topics and speakers are welcome. There will also be contributed paper sessions. Submissions from new researchers and graduate students are especially encouraged. There will be several student scholarships available, so please apply! The SRC is a joint venture of the IMS and the Section on Physical and Engineering Sciences of the American Statistical Association. The 2002 Conference is hosted and organized by the Department of Statistics and co-sponsored by the School of Business and College of Engineering, University of Michigan and the Ford Motor Company.
Invited Program: Derek Bingham, 1-734-763-9294, dbingham@umich.edu
Vijay Nair, 1-734-764-5294, statchair@umich.edu
Contributed Program: Huaiqing Wu, 1-515-294-8949, isuhwu@iastate.edu
Local Arrangements: Candy Ellis, 1-734-764-5294, candi@umich.edu

IMS/WNAR Regional meeting

June 23-26, 2002 Los Angeles, California

The IMS Western Regional Meeting and the WNAR Summer Meeting will be held at the University of California, Los Angeles, California, June 23-26, 2002. A workshop on molecular phylogeny will be held at the conference on June 23, 2002, and a Young Researchers' Luncheon will provide students and young investigators the opportunity to meet senior researchers.
IMS Program Chair: Michael Kosorok kosorok@biostat.wisc.edu, Statistics and Biostatistics & Medical Informatics, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53792, phone 608.263.6797, fax 608.265.5579. WNAR Program Chair: Weng Kee Wong wkwong@sunlab.ph.ucla.edu, Biostatistics, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1772, phone 310.206.9622, fax 310.267.2113. IMS Local Arrangements Chair: Gang Li gangli@sunlab.ph.ucla.edu, Biostatistics, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1772, phone 310.206.5865, fax 310.267.2113. WNAR Local Arrangements Chair: John Boscardin johnb@sunlab.ph.ucle.edu Biostatistics, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1772, phone 310.825.6402, fax 310.267.2113

The IMS contributed paper deadline is March 15, 2002. Speakers and titles should be sent to kosorok@biostat.wisc.edu and abstracts should be submitted through the abstract templates available at the web site: www.ph.ucla.edu/biostat/wnarims/welframe.ims.

Westwood Village in Los Angeles, California, home to the UCLA campus, is an ideal location for a summer conference. Within short walking distance of the conference headquarters are shops and restaurants for every budget and occasion, old-fashioned single screen movie theaters, museums, performing arts centers, botanical and sculpture gardens, and athletic and recreational facilities of every imaginable variety. The stunning beaches of Santa Monica and Malibu, the famous shopping districts of Rodeo Drive and Melrose Avenue, and the world-renowned Getty Museum are all less than 15 minutes by car. The weather should be perfect. In late June, the average high is 73º Fahrenheit, and the average low is 60º F, with no precipitation. Information (updated regularly) is also available at the web site: www.ph.ucla.edu/biostat/wnarims

IMS Annual Meeting

July 28-August 1 2002, Banff, Canada

The 277th meeting (65th Annual Meeting) of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics will be held in the Max Bell Building of The Banff Centre for Conferences (www.banffcentre.ca), Banff, Alberta, Canada from July 28 to August 2, 2002. Leo Breiman (University of California, Berkeley) will be the Wald lecturer, and Wing Hung Wong (Harvard University) will give the Neyman lecture. Special invited papers will be given by Maury Bramson (University of Minnesota), Steven Evans (University of California, Berkeley), Hans Künsch (ETH, Zurich), and Per Mykland (University of Chicago). The Research Section of the Royal Statistical Society is planning to host an RSS Ordinary Meeting, and the Statistical Society of Canada will organize two invited paper sessions.

The Program Chair for this meeting is Tom DiCiccio (Cornell University; tjd9@cornell.edu), and the Local Arrangements Chair is Subhash Lele (University of Alberta; slele@ualberta.ca).

This meeting will be joint with an International Probability Symposium; see the announcement below.

Please visit www.stat.cornell.edu/ news/IMSMeeting/frontpage.htm for more information, and an online hotel booking form (www.banffcentre.ca/ ims.asp)

The Fourth International Symposium on Probability and its Applications
July 31–August 2, 2002, Banff, Canada

The Fourth International Symposium on Probability and its Applications will be held at the Banff Center in Banff, Alberta, in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. The goal of the symposium is to present a broad view of recent developments in probability and important areas of application. The format of the Symposium will be similar to earlier symposia in this series with approximately 15 sessions of invited lectures. IMS Special Invited Papers in probability will also be presented as part of the Symposium. Papers may be contributed as part of the IMS meeting. Scheduling of IMS contributed papers in probability will be coordinated with the schedule for the Symposium. The deadline for abstracts is February 15, 2002. The editorial boards of the Annals of Probability and the Annals of Applied Probability are serving as the program committee for the Symposium. www.math.wisc.edu/~annprob/banff/ banff.htm

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REGISTRATION FORM
IMS Annual Meeting & 4th International Probability Symposium
July 28- August 2, 2002
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 2002

Last Name   First Name

Name on Badge   Organization/Employer

Mailing Address

Email   Phone

Membership (check all that apply)   ☐ IMS   ☐ SSC   ☐ RSS

Meeting Registration (check one)

	IMS/SSC/RSS Members	Students*	Non-Members**
☐ IMS Annual Meeting	$100	$40	$130
☐ Probability Symposium	$ 80	$32	$110
☐ Both Meetings	$125	$50	$155

*   Students, please submit proof of status (copy of student ID or signature from professor)
** Non-members: Join the IMS now and get our member meeting rates. To join, go to: www.imstat.org/ membership/memapp/app.html

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Payment: $ _____ to charge (fill in A) or enclosed (fill in B)

     A)   ☐ Mastercard or ☐ Visa number _____

                 Expires _____ Signature _____

     B)   ☐ Check enclosed
                 (made out to IMS in US funds, payable on a US bank)

Fax to 216-921-6703 or mail to:
IMS Annual Meeting Registration, PO Box 22718, Beachwood OH 44122, USA
Any questions call 216-295-2340

Meetings around the world:
Announcements and information

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS.
TRAVEL SUPPORT FOR U.S. PARTICIPANTS to attend the
TWENTY-EIGHTH CONFERENCE ON STOCHASTIC PROCESSES AND THEIR APPLICATIONS,
July 1-5, 2002, Melbourne, Australia

Funding is anticipated from the U.S. National Science Foundation for a grant to help defray the costs of junior researchers and members of under-represented groups from the United States participating in the 28th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications to be held in Melbourne, Australia, July 1-5, 2002. Junior researchers are those who received a Ph.D. in 1996 or later, or who are advanced graduate students working on Ph.D. dissertations.

Applications received by April 12, 2002, will receive full consideration.

The complete announcement is available at www.math.cmu.edu/users/shreve/. The conference website is www.spa28.ms.unimelb.edu.au/

16th Annual New England Statistics Symposium (NESS)
Saturday, April 27, 2002, Yale University

This year's annual NESS will be held on Saturday, April 27, 2002, from 9.00 am to 4.30 pm, and is hosted by the Division of Biostatistics in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at Yale University. The two keynote speakers for this symposium are Leon Gleser, Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Pittsburgh, and Bruce Levin, Professor and Chair, Department of Biostatistics, Columbia University. For more information on NESS, including a call for presentations, please visit www.info.med.yale.edu/eph/ness2002.html, or contact the symposium organizer, Daniel Zelterman, at daniel.zelterman@yale.edu or by phone at (203) 785-5574.

International Conference on Robust Statistics 2003 (ICORS2003)
July 14-18, 2003, University of Antwerp, Belgium

This conference aims to be a forum for new developments and applications of robust statistics. Of equal interest are interactions between robustness and other fields of statistics, and science in general.

Contributions to applied as well as theoretical statistics are welcomed, as are contributions introducing new problems related to or interacting with robust statistics. Leading scientists, experienced researchers and practitioners, as well as younger researchers will be given the opportunity to meet, exchange knowledge, and build scientific contacts.

The conference will also encourage social contacts and informal discussions between participants.
http://win-www.uia.ac.be/u/icors03.htm
statis@uia.ua.ac.be

STATISTICS IN INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS
January 2-4, 2003, Cochin, India

An international Conference on 'Statistics in Industry and Business' will be held in Cochin, India during January 2-4, 2003. The conference will provide a forum for presenting and exchanging ideas in Statistical Methods applicable to industry and business. It will also provide an opportunity for interaction between practitioners and academia. In addition it is intended that the exchange of experiences and ideas would foster international collaboration in research and other technology transfer activities.

The conference is sponsored by Cochin University of Science and Technology, Institute for Improvement in Quality and Productivity at the University of Waterloo, Canada and the 'Statistics in Business and Industry' Committee of the International Statistical Institute.

If you are interested in participating in the conference or getting more details please contact Bovas Abraham, babraham@uwaterloo.ca, Univ of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada, t: 519-888-4593, f 519-746-5524 (details will be soon in the web at www.iiqp.uwaterloo.ca or contact P.G.Sankaran, pgsankaran@cusat.ac.in, Cochin University, India.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CURRENT ADVANCES AND TRENDS IN NONPARAMETRIC STATISTICS
Second Announcement
Monday 15 to Friday 19 July, 2002, Knossos Royal Village, Hersonisos, Crete, Greece

The conference will highlight the major trends in several areas of nonparametric statistics. The program will include plenary talks, specially invited talks, invited talks and contributed talks on all areas of nonparametric statistics.

A primary objective of the conference is to promote collaborations among senior and junior researchers, as well as transnational and transcontinental collaborations. Three prizes for best presentations by students will be awarded.

Invited and contributed papers of the conference may be submitted to the conference organizers, M. Akritas and D. Politis, for possible publication in the Journal of Nonparametric Statistics. Papers can be submitted at any time until 15 December 2002.

The main conference themes are:
Algorithmic approaches to statistics
Bayesian methods in nonparametric statistics
Data mining
Dependent data: time series and spatial statistics
Functional data analysis
Goodness of Fit
Statistical computing, Graphics and Visualization
High-dimensional data
Nonparametric model building and inference
Nonparametric estimation under constraints
Nonparametrics in bioinformatics
Nonparametrics in finance
Nonparametrics in survival analysis
Resampling and subsampling methods
Wavelet methods

Further information can be found at the conference web site www.stat.psu.edu/~npconf/, or by contacting the organizers.

Michael Akritas, Dept. of Statistics, Penn State University, University Park, PA 16802, USA **t** +1 814 865-3631 **f** +1 814 863-7114 **e** mga@stat.psu.edu

Dimitris Politis, Dept. of Mathematics, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093-0112, USA **t** +1 858 534-5861 **f** +1 858 534-5273 **e** dpolitis@ucsd.edu

Call for Papers: First World Congress on Information Technology in Environmental Engineering, ITEE 2003
June 24 - 27, 2003, Technical University of Gdansk, Poland

Acquisition, storage and processing of environmental information are becoming vital to preserving the quality of human life. Potentially dangerous changes are happening in the atmosphere, oceans, animal habitats and places where hazardous materials are used, or have been discarded without adequate environmental protections. In recent years, information technology has become significant to all scientific groups and fields involved in environment engineering. Knowledge based systems which enable the study of environmental changes have been developed, are being extended to manage those environments. New paradigms for designing objects to enable easy disassembly and recovery of components contribute to reuse. Developments in exploiting alternative energy sources are reducing dependence on non-renewable resources. Surveillance techniques enable tracking of persons likely to threaten the lives of persons or their environment.

The ITEE 2003 conference will provide a forum for exchanging information among pollution engineers, knowledge engineers and scientists. Some of the objectives include discussion of projects for long-term storage of data, data update and validation, and the consistency of data. Research topics and funding opportunities discussed at the conference will be of interest to all researchers. Another objective is to discuss means of assessing the potential of individual teams in implementation and modelling of large-scale systems.

CONGRESS TOPICS
1. Tools and measurement techniques
· Water and air pollution measuring
· Continuous monitoring of gaseous and particulate pollutants using state-of-the-art monitoring equipment
· Monitoring of meteorological param-

eters, dust, wet and dry deposition
2. Formal methods and data processing techniques
· Pollution engineering and management
· Air quality management
· Environmental and water resource

engineering
· Process studies
· Chemistry of air pollution
· Urban and suburban transport emissions
· Data assimilation and sensitivity analysis

ITEE2003 Continued

- Data management
- Data access via the Internet
- Coupling of models and databases
- Updating of model calculation during run-time
- Data visualisation
- Data interchange formats and standards
- Geographic information systems
- Comparison of modelling with experiments
- Data analysis and observation
- Data processing and verification, including database management
- Data security - data mining
- Management and Distribution of Electrical Energy
- Power Distribution Systems
3. Modelling and simulation problems
- Modelling of atmospheric chemical kinetics (gas and aqueous phases)
- Chemical transformation modelling
- Aerosol modelling
- Mesoscale meteorology
- Urban scale meteorology
- Emission models
- Coupling with radiative effects
- Numerical simulation of transport
- Numerical simulation of atmospheric chemical kinetics
- Inverse modelling
- Ground water pollution modelling
- Water pollution modelling and prediction
- Urban pollution modelling
- Models for ground water (groundwater), surface water, storm water
- Risk and environmental modelling
- Soft modelling
4. Information systems
- System management
- Agent-based systems
- Planning for environmental engineering (EE)
- Intelligent systems for environmental engineering (EE)
- Artificial intelligence and expert systems for environmental engineering (EE)
- Architectures for building the systems
- Knowledge based integration
- Distributed computing environments
- WWW-based for EE systems
- Decision support systems - distributed systems
5. Practical applications and experiences
- Practical solutions
- Systematic guide-lines
- Case studies, pilot projects and experiments
- Applications in the cities
- Application in agriculture

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM:
Confirmed Plenary Speeches:
Stanislaw R. Massel: 'Measurements, Data Processing and Modelling in the Modern Marine Studies'

Jozef M. Pacyna: 'The DPSIR Framework as a Scientific Support for Policy Response and Management Options in the Coastal Zone'
Confirmed Keynote Speech:
A. Sydow: 'Simulation Software for Air pollution Management'
Confirmed Tutorials:
Peter G. Anderson: 'Genetic Algorithms'

Kurt Fedra: 'Urban Environmental Management: towards the City of Tomorrow'

CALL FOR INVITED SESSIONS
The organization of invited sessions is encouraged. Prospective organizers are requested to send a session proposal—consisting of 4-5 invited papers—to the general chair and respective area co-chair. Invited sessions should preferably start with the title and the purpose of the session and a tutorial paper. The registration fee of the session organizer will be waived, if at least 4 authors of invited papers register to the conference.

CALL FOR WORKSHOPS AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS
Several workshops/tutorials are planned for ITEE 2003. Each workshop will focus on a particular topic, and consist of several presentations and open discussions. The proposal for a workshop should include the title, topics covered, proposed speakers, targeted audiences, and estimated length (hours) of the workshop. The proposal should be submitted to the general chair and respective area co-chair by September 30, 2002, and the NAISO Planning department: planning@icsc.ab.ca

SUBMISSION OF PAPERS
Submission of papers can be done through our web site www.icsc-naiso.org/conferences/itee2003/indexsub.html

IMPORTANT DATES
Submission Deadline
September 30, 2002
Notification of Acceptance
December 31, 2002
Delivery of Manuscripts
February 28, 2003
Early bird-registration
February 28, 2003
Registration   March 31, 2003
Conference   June 24 - 27, 2003

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
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CONGRESS ORGANIZER
NAISO The Netherlands (Operating Division), P.O. Box 1091, 3360 BB Sliedrecht, The Netherlands **t** +31 184 496999 **f** +31 184 421065 **e** itee2003@ global-conf.org (Operating Division), planning@icsc.ab.ca (Planning Division), **w** www.icsc-naiso.org/conferences/ itee2003

Fourth International Conference on Statistical Data Analysis Based on the L1 Norm And Related Methods
August 4-9, 2002, Neuchâtel, Switzerland

Université de Neuchâtel

The conference which is jointly organized by the University of Illinois at Chicago, the Rutgers University and the University of Neuchâtel, will be held in Neuchâtel, Switzerland from August 4-9, 2002. The organizers are Gib Bassett, Regina Liu, Yehuda Vardi, and Yadolah Dodge. The year 2002 is the year of Swiss National Exhibition which will take place in Neuchâtel as well as three adjacent cities. There has never been anything like it before, a lake odyssey.

Statistical data analysis using the L1-norm criterion has been successfully applied for robust estimation, model fitting, financial statistics, multivariate methods, time series, environmental statistics, analysis of variance, hypotheses testing, cluster analysis and nonparametric methods. It has been studied in several contexts under a variety of names: minimum or least sums of absolute errors; least absolute deviations, or errors, or residuals; and L1-norm method (from minimizing the L1-norm of the vector of deviations). Historically, the L1-norm method was studied by Boscovich (1757) and Laplace (1793) before the least squares work of Gauss-Legendre (1805). The conference has been held in 1987, 1992, and 1997. The objective of the 2002 conference just like the previous ones is to bring new developments together in order to simplify and enrich the theory, and discuss possibilities for new applications.

Program: The conference takes place over five days and will include invited talks and contributed papers. The opening lecture will be given by Professor Roger Koenker of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign on the Choquet Risk and Portfolio Optimization. The following paper sessions are scheduled:

Quantile Functions in Non Parametric Multivariate Analysis; Financial Statistics; Empirical Applications of Quantile Regression; L1 Procedures for Structural Breaks; Data Depth; Local (finite sample) Properties of L1; Frontier Functions and Robustness; Robust Inference; Quantile Estimation in Time Series; Multivariate Sign and Rank Methods; Time Series Analysis with Long Memories; Serially dependent data: autoregression quantiles, interdirections and autoregression depth; Smoothing; Statistical Problems in Information Technology; L1 Structure in Exploratory Data Analysis; Regression Models in Environmental Studies
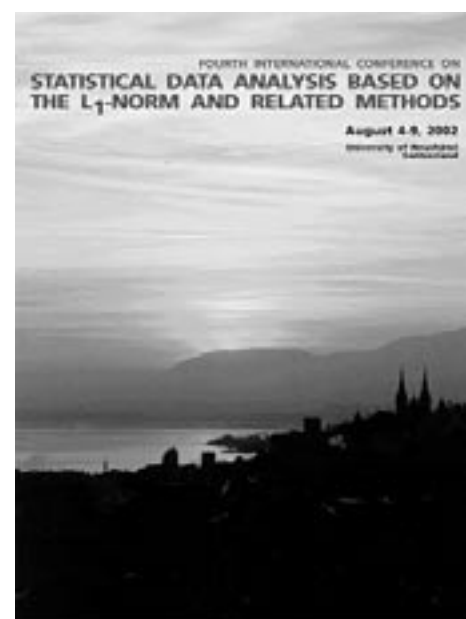
Invited speakers

C Adcock (UK), J Averous (F), J-P Barthélemy (F), G Bassett (USA), J Beran (D), F Brucker (F), A Buja (USA), A Christmann (D), C Croux (B), J David (Brazil), D Draghiescu (CH), F El Banti (B), W Farebrother (UK), B Fichet (F), R Gosh (CH), M Hallin (B), S Heiler (D), L Horvath (USA), M Huskova (CZ), D Jaruskova (CZ), U Jensen (D), R Jornsten (USA), Jureckovà (CZ), T-H Kim (UK), L Klebanov (CZ), K Knight (Canada), R Koenker (USA), P Kokic (D), G Kordas (USA), B Laine (B), R Liu (USA), X Milhaud (F), I Mizera (USA), H Nyquist (S), H Oja (Finland), E Ollila (Finland), D Paindaveine (B), S Portnoy (USA), Y Rinott (Israel), M Romanazzi (I), F Ruymgaart (USA), C Saldiva de André (Brazil), S Sardy (CH), W Seaver (USA), B Serfling (USA), L Simar (B), J Singer (Brazil), W Stute (D), D Tasche (CH), D Tyler (USA), S Van Aelst (B), Y Vardi (USA), A Yadine (Finland), V Yohai (ARG), R Zamar (Canada), C Zhang (USA), Y Zuo (USA).

Contributed papers

Those wishing to present papers at the conference are asked to submit electronically to L1.norm@unine.ch an abstract in English (limited to one typed page) no later than May 31, 2002. Notification of the acceptance of the abstracts will be given by June 15, 2002. Deadline for submission of the final version of contributed papers is June 30 2002. The final program will be circulated in May 2002. In addition to publication of the conference proceedings by Birkhauser publishing company, the journal Student (ISSN 1420-1011) will publish a Special Issue of the accepted contributed papers for the conference. For further information, registration, and abstract/paper submission details **w** www.unine.ch/statistics **e** L1.norm@unine.ch or yadolah.dodge@unine.ch **f** +41 32 718 13 81

Constance van Eeden's Conference: Mathematical Statistics 2002
May 24-25, 2002
Centre de recherches mathématiques
Montréal, Québec, Canada

A general invitation is extended to all friends and colleagues of Constance van Eeden, an IMS Fellow, to attend a conference celebrating her 75th birthday, as well as her long career as a distinguished researcher and student supervisor. The conference will be held at the Centre de recherches mathématiques of Université de Montréal from Friday morning May 24 to Saturday May 25 at noon, just before the Annual Meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada in Hamilton. It will feature invited talks by Roelof Helmers (CWI, Amsterdam), Chris A.J. Klaassen (University of Amsterdam), Denis Larocque (HEC), Louis-Paul Rivest (Université Laval), Bill Strawderman (Rutgers University), and Jim Zidek (UBC). There will be a banquet on Friday night. Registration for the Banquet will be necessary.

For up-to-date information concerning the conference and to register, please visit the web site www.crm.umontreal.ca/act/hors/van_eeden.html

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Past IMS Bulletin Editors

Leo Katz (1972-74)

Dorian Feldman (1975-80)

William C Guenther

(1981-86)

George P H Styan

(1987-92)

Susan R Wilson (1992-97)

Dipak K Dey (1998-2001)

Conference on Designs for Generalized Linear Models (GLMs).
Gaithersburg, MD, April 18-20, 2002

The conference will be held on the campus of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, Maryland, April 18-19, and at the Holiday Inn-Gaithersburg on April 20. The Statistical Engineering Division of NIST will act as a host. The Organizing Committee consists of André I Khuri from the University of Florida, and A Ivelisse Avilés, from NIST.

The goals of the conference are to provide a forum for interaction among people working on diverse areas of designs for GLMs, and to provide a stimulus to young researchers and graduate students in the design area. More information about the conference is at www.stat.ufl.edu/conference/khuri-glm.html

The conference will be limited to 75 participants. Online registration is available at www.nist.gov/conferences. Funding is expected from NSF for travel grants for graduate students and/or post-doctoral fellows/Junior faculty. Student applicants must be nominated by a professor and should send a letter of interest to André Khuri (ufakhuri@stat.ufl.edu) with a copy to Ivelisse Aviles (aviles@nist.gov). The letter should include educational and career goals and explain the interest in the conference with estimated travel expenses. Junior scientists need only send the letter of interest and the reason for wanting to attend the conference. The deadline is March 8 2002.

Frontiers of Statistical Research:
A Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Department of Statistics at Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas
October 11-12, 2002

The Department of Statistics will host a conference featuring linear models and their generalizations, bioinformatics and statistical genetics, time series, and smoothing. The aim of this conference is to bring together both established and young researchers so they may interact in formal and informal settings. For more information, visit the conference web site http://stat.tamu.edu/40thanniversary/ or contact Thomas Wehrly, phone 979-845-3151, fax: 979-845-3144, twehrly@stat.tamu.edu

Henry Oliver Lancaster, AO 1913–2001

Emeritus Professor Henry Oliver Lancaster passed away on December 2, 2001, aged 88. He played a prominent role in the development of mathematical statistics in Australia through his contribution to learned societies and journals, through his teaching and research and through his influence on the generation of scholars who followed him.

Oliver Lancaster was born in Sydney, Australia, on February 1st, 1913. He studied medicine, and began his professional life as a pathologist. During the Second World War he served in the Middle East and Papua New Guinea, where his observations on the incidence of tropical diseases led him to study mathematics and statistics. At the end of the war his interest in medicine and statistics led him to join the School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine in Sydney.

Over time, mathematical statistics became Lancaster's primary research area and in 1959 he was appointed to the foundation Chair in Mathematical Statistics at the University of Sydney. He held this position until his retirement in 1978.

Statisticians in Australia owe him much for his efforts in helping to establish the profession: he was one of the founders of what was to become the Statistical Society of Australia, serving at different times as its Secretary and President; he was the founding editor of the Australian Journal of Statistics. Professor Lancaster was also a member of the first Council of the Australian Mathematical Society and later served as its Secretary and then as its President.

On the research side, Oliver Lancaster's output is distinguished by its breadth and depth. He published in four areas: vital statistics, mathematical statistics, medical and statistical history and bibliography.

Lancaster's early years as a pathologist inspired his work in mathematical statistics. Counting red blood cells led to tests of goodness-of-fit and the analysis of contingency tables. His first publication was a decomposition of the chi-squared distribution for contingency tables, showing how the individual degrees of freedom can be used to test particular contrasts. From this followed his seminal paper on the structure of bivariate distributions (published in the Annals of Mathematical Statistics in 1958). This work was codified in his book: The chi-squared distribution, published in 1969.

Those who knew Oliver will remember how—in the days before electronic databases—he personally classified all published statistical papers in a card system. From this came the publication of his Bibliography of Statistical Bibliographies (1968), followed by twenty one addenda through till 1989.

The value of Oliver Lancaster's research was recognised by a Fellowship of the Australian Academy of Science in 1961 and the award of the Academy's T R Lyle Medal for mathematics and physics in the same year; Life Membership of the Statistical Society of Australia in 1972 and its E J G Pitman Medal in 1980; Honorary Fellowship of the American Statistical Association in 1974 and of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics in 1975; Honorary Fellowship of the Royal Statistical Society in 1975 and Honorary Life Membership of the Australian Mathematical Society in 1981.

Oliver influenced the next generation of scholars through his teaching and mentoring. He had high expectations of his students and they rose to the challenge. Among those whom he influenced are Bob Griffiths, M.A. Hamdan, Chris Heyde, Eugene Seneta and myself.

Oliver Lancaster leaves a legacy which will not be forgotten: the societies and journals he helped found remain vigorous and healthy, modern researchers continue to use his publications, and, most importantly, there are many of us who remember him with affection and gratitude.

Geoff Eagleson
February 13, 2002

Harold Ruben: 1923-2001

Harold Ruben was born on April 3, 1923, in Rawa, Poland and died in London on November 30, 2001. He was 78.

Harold's family moved to England when he was quite young, and he studied at Imperial College London as an undergraduate (BSc mathematics, 1943) and graduate (PhD in mathematical statistics, 1950, supervised by George A Barnard). After three years at the Agricultural Research Council, in 1953 Harold became Senior Lecturer at the University of Manchester and four years later moved to America as a visiting professor in the Department of Mathematical Statistics at Columbia University in New York City.

In 1960 Harold returned to England as head of the Department of Statistics at the University of Sheffield. Three years later he was back in America as Professor in the Department of Statistics at the University of Minnesota. Lecture notes for courses Harold taught here were used for many years as the 'text' for the core course on Mathematical Statistics at McGill. During this period he was visiting professor at Stanford four times, and was a visiting consultant at Boeing Research Laboratories in Seattle.

In 1966 Harold became Head of the Department of Statistics at Birkbeck College London; in 1969, Harold moved to Montreal as Professor in the Department of Mathematics at McGill University, where he stayed until his retirement in 1988. Harold then returned to England, living most recently in Epping, near London. Harold was married and his wife Jean survives him; there were no children.

Harold's courses were meticulously organized, conducted with spirited zeal, and his lectures were rich in historical perspective. His students recall his tireless enthusiasm, even if he had taught the same material dozens of times. The examples he gave were always interesting, with those based on RAF bombing raids during Word War II particularly memorable.

Harold was a Fellow of IMS and published over 50 research papers, all in mathematical statistics and related topics. His papers span the 50-year period 1952-2002, starting with a statistical appendix to a paper in experimental biology by Rothschild and Swann, with whom he worked at the Agricultural Research Council. His major contributions to mathematical statistics, however, are in multivariate statistical analysis with strong connections to geometric probability and statistical physics. Of particular note are papers on the "Probability content of regions under spherical normal distributions", a series on "Studentisation of two-stage sample means from normal populations", and another on Mills's ratio (the reciprocal of the hazard rate or failure rate) used in approximating the tail of a distribution. Harold's last publication, on "A simple conservative and robust solution of the Behrens–Fisher problem" will be published posthumously in 2002.

Harold Ruben's language was eloquent and expressive and his papers are all very well-written; his scholarship was admirable. This is particularly evident in his book reviews. In one, Harold observed that "... one cannot but be impressed by the author's achievement—a veritable *tour de force*—in encompassing, with erudition and in a spirit of scientific catholocity but yet succinctly and in compact form, a mass of general results with a wealth of diverse applications in so narrow a space." But he did not withhold criticism: in another book review he wrote, "I fear that after struggling with this book the earnest but uninitiated reader will, like the Persian poet-philosopher, come out by the same door as in he went."

Harold Ruben firmly believed that statistics and mathematics were two completely different disciplines, driven by different motivations. He regarded mathematics merely as a tool; for years he advocated that statisticians should reside in a different department from the mathematicians.

His students and friends cherish warm memories of Harold the man: his unconscious casual dress, the chalk dust rendering his spectacles almost opaque during class, the soft chuckle of his laughter, that he always drank afternoon tea with lemon and from a glass, and how he enjoyed smoking cigars. He had a very sharp mind as well as a sense of humour. Honest, kind, open, and outspoken, he was also a very private person. He had broad intellectual interests and held strong views on many subjects. Harold was impatient with the practicalities of administration. He represented the learned class of well-read academics who care about science, about literature, about politics, and about world affairs. He was, in short, a true scientist.

George Styan
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Letters to the Editor

Letters on any issue of interest to IMS members are welcome. Email your letters to the Editor at bulletin@imstat.org. The Editor's decision about whether to publish letters is final. Letters are submitted on the understanding that they may be edited before publication.

Statistics journals: Larry Wasserman proposes a radical overhaul of the refereeing process

Dear Editor:

Like many statisticians, I am tired of our slow, outdated refereeing system. I would like to propose a radical new system.

My opinions are partly shaped by the fact that I work with physicists. Review times in physics are measured in days or perhaps weeks. When I tell my physics colleagues that it can be months or years in our field, they are stunned. Also, I would like to note that many articles in physics and other fields are very short. The paper on the discovery of the double helix by Watson and Crick was one page. In our field, we have a tendency to write long papers and take a long time to referee them. With slow refereeing, the irrelevance of our field becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy.

I propose that The Annals of Statistics start using the following refereeing process.

1 Referees are given two weeks to referee a paper. They are first contacted by the AE via email with a request to (a) refuse to referee or (b) agree to referee within two weeks. The request would come with an explanation that this is the new policy and a reminder that their own submissions will be treated the same way.

2 If two weeks pass and no report is received, the editor (not the AE) sends daily emails asking for a report. If three weeks pass, a new referee is found.

3 Submissions, referee reports, etc should all be done electronically. No paper. (Ideally, the journal should also be electronic but that's a different debate.)

4 The journal should encourage short papers. Papers over some limit (say 15 double spaced pages) would be on a three week plan instead of the above two week plan. There could be a published schedule of page number vs referee time.

5 Exceptions will obviously have to be made but should be made sparingly.

6 Referees would be encouraged to check the paper for novelty and importance rather than obsessing about details. And they should be reminded that they should not be nasty or picky. Neyman said, "…it is my experience that whenever a generally decent fellow is asked to act as an anonymous referee, he is apt to acquire hateful qualities: presumptuousness, quarrelsomeness, and bossiness."

7 There should be no revisions. The decision is accept or reject. (Very small changes would be allowed but these would be minor.)

8 Uncooperative referees will have their own submissions placed in purgatory: the paper will be held for some time before going to a referee. The holding time will be a function of how uncooperative the author has been as a referee. This rewards good referees.

There will be many objections to my proposed plan. Some will say that change must be gradual. I think the opposite. Jumping into a completely new radical system is the only way to do it.

I would also like to add that in my experience, the quality of referee reports is not positively correlated with the quality of the approach.

Some will worry that the quality of the journal will decrease. I believe this worry is unfounded. The marketplace of ideas will cause attention to focus selectively on the best papers. More importantly, I think that the quality of research in our field is already diminished by the frustration and lack of encouragement authors feel when faced with a slow and hostile refereeing process.

I would also like to add that I hope we will soon adopt completely free, electronic journals. I encourage people to look at http://xxx.lanl.gov/ and http://publish.aps.org/ as a model for what we could aim for in our field.

Sincerely,

Larry Wasserman
Dept of Statistics
Carnegie Mellon

If you want to respond to Larry's proposal, please write a letter for a future issue.

Herbie Lee writes in praise of the New Researchers' Conference

Dear Editor:

I just wanted to follow up after meeting you at the New Researchers' Conference and the Joint Statistical Meetings in Atlanta, and I figure better late than never! I had mentioned to you how great I thought the NRC was, and you had asked me for more details, so here is my email, finally. [*Ed: We apologize too, because this was sent in September!*]

I attended both the NRC meetings in Baltimore (1999) and Atlanta (2001).I have found both extremely helpful professionally. As a young researcher, it is often difficult to get to meet other people, and the NRC provides an ideal environment to meet other young researchers and to get a jump-start on professional networking. At a large meeting such as JSM, it can be difficult to meet new people, as the meeting is so large that many people just end up interacting with people they already know. By meeting people at NRC first, one can then meet their colleagues at JSM, and it greatly facilitates professional interaction at such a large meeting, which is usually difficult and intimidating for those of us just starting out.

I would like to commend the organizers of both of the NRCs I attended for their hard work, as both meetings went very smoothly. Tory Chen, Xiaoming Huo, and Paul Kvam at Georgia Tech have done a particularly outstanding job of organization. Even the group photo, done in the afternoon Georgia heat, was efficient.

While perhaps not all of my colleagues will agree, I thought the 10-minute talk format of the Baltimore meetings was ideal. If one puts some effort into structuring a talk for this time limit, ten minutes is sufficient time to address all of the main concepts of one's research. When listening to so many talks over several days, there is no need for everyone to go into details. The key to an NRC talk is to give the audience a good idea of the main topics and concepts in one's research. Individual discussions can occur later and details can be discussed then, which allows people to learn most about the research they most care about. It might be helpful for the organizers to further stress this strategy ahead of the conference, when attendees are preparing their talks.

Poster sessions are a viable alternative to talks, particularly for those who can take advantage of the alternative format, for example, people with a significant mathematical content so that observers can process the information at their own speeds rather than having it all go by too quickly during a talk. However, for most people, talks are still preferred, and I would suggest that the organizers strive to fit as many talks as possible in. A talk allows the presenter to address everyone at once, so that the same conversation is not repeated 30 times during the poster session. Also, I found that as a poster presenter, I spent the entire session discussing my poster with other attendees (which was quite productive), but that didn't leave me with any time to see the other posters in the session, so I missed out on the work of my fellow posterers. Finally, as a new researcher, it is helpful for many of us to practice giving research talks to moderately large audiences, and the opportunity to speak at an NRC can be a very valuable experience.

While I would likely no longer qualify as a "new researcher", I do hope that the IMS continues to support the NRC conference series, as it is an invaluable opportunity for those of us at the beginning of our careers in statistics. Thank you for all of your support for this conference.

Herbie Lee
Institute of Statistics and Decision Sciences
Duke University

In Memoriam Daniel Pearl, journalist, 1963-2002

Dear Editor: I had the privilege to meet Daniel Pearl, who has been brutally murdered in Pakistan, when he was stationed in London some years ago. He was a delightful and gentle soul, and his death diminishes us all. Many of you will know, or know of, his father, Judea Pearl. What he and the rest of Danny's family are going through can scarcely be imagined.

A charitable foundation in Danny's name is being created. Donations can be sent to: Pearl Family Foundation, c/o Wall Street Journal, PO Box 300, Princeton, NJ 08543, USA

Yours Sincerely,

Philip Dawid
Department of Statistical Science,
University College London

PROFILE: NISS, the National Institute of Statistical Sciences, North Carolina, USA

NISS exists to enlarge the future of statistics, by building new bridges to disciplinary science and strengthening existing ones. As Jon Kettenring, Chair of our Board of Trustees, put it, "NISS is part of the infrastructure of the statistical sciences."

We pursue this mission by means of cross-disciplinary research projects, professional development opportunities — especially our postdoc programs, and an active Affiliates Program whose membership comprises nearly 50 corporations, government agencies, national laboratories and university departments. The Affiliates Program, one of two extremely exciting recent developments at NISS (the other is SAMSI, described below), not only feeds our other activities but also serves critical networking needs of the Affiliates as well as conduct workshops and newly instituted Technology Days presenting the results of NISS research.

Bridge-building cross-disciplinary research is our raison d'être. Current projects include:

Digital Government: developing theory, methods and software tools to Federal statistical agencies to disseminate information while preserving the confidentiality of their data, a problem that has assumed new dimensions and urgency in light of the September 11 attacks.

Data Quality: a pervasive issue in industry and government that has yet to engage university researchers, a disconnect we intend to remove.

Computer Model Evaluation: a set of NSF and industry funded projects led by James Berger and Jerome Sacks (founding Director of NISS) of Duke University.

Other recent activities include transportation, gene microarrays and Web data.

More than forty outstanding young statistical and other scientists have been NISS postdocs. There are currently six postdocs, including two in the new Federal Agency Affiliates postdoc program. Every one of these individuals has benefited immensely from the NISS experience, and conversely, each has had profound influence on the course of NISS research.

On July 1, 2002, the newly formed Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI) will begin full operation. A partnership of Duke, North Carolina State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and NISS, SAMSI will conduct 2-3 programs per year that help forge a new synthesis of the statistical sciences with the applied mathematical sciences and disciplinary science to confront the very hardest and most important data- and model-driven scientific challenges.

SAMSI will be located in the NISS building, giving the two Institutes a highly synergistic relationship. Scientifically, NISS will remain focused on high-impact cross-disciplinary projects, many involving our Affiliates. As happens now, NISS will be perfectly positioned to identify needs for new theory and methodology that span multiple affiliates' interests and scientific contexts. Some of these will become programs at SAMSI, which will define the central problems and catalyze the research to address them. As this research is performed, NISS will transfer the new technologies to applied settings in which they will have immediate impact.

Why should IMS members care? The IMS is one of ten parent organizations of NISS, whose support has been vital in helping us get where we are now. More important, NISS—especially together with SAMSI—now serves strongly the community that created and nurtured us. There are unique opportunities at 19 Alexander Drive for statistical scientists at all levels: graduate students, postdoctorals and established researchers. Please join us.

Alan Karr, the Director of NISS, is Professor of Statistics and Biostatistics at the University of North Carolina. He is also a Fellow of IMS.

NISS

National Institute of Statistical Sciences
PO Box 14006, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709–4006
Tel: 919.685.9300   FAX: 919.685.9310
www.niss.org

The National Institute of Statistical Sciences
Seeks an Associate Director

The National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) seeks an energetic, talented statistical scientist to serve as Associate Director, and to play a central role in pursuit of the NISS mission to identify, foster and catalyze high-impact cross-disciplinary research involving the statistical sciences. The Associate Director will help shape the future of NISS in all respects — science, professional development and service to the statistical sciences and other scientific communities.

The position presents two unique opportunities. The first is to play a major role in making the NISS Affiliates Program (see www.niss.org/affiliates/affiliatesmain.html) a jewel among NISS activities. This role includes proposing, securing funding for, implementing and leading affiliate–stimulated research. The second is close interaction with the newly formed Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI) (see www.samsi.info). However, the position can be structured flexibly, to match particular strengths and interests.

Necessary background and skills include strong capabilities for organization and communication, breadth in the statistical sciences, and the capability to transform data-driven problems to research proposals and programs. A Ph.D. or Sc.D. in the statistical or mathematical sciences is required. We encourage all qualified applicants and, to complement current NISS research activities, are particularly interested in individuals with knowledge of and experience in the biosciences, bioinformatics, health or medicine.

The Associate Directorship can be filled on either a permanent or term (at least two years) basis. Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. An accompanying faculty appointment at one of the Research Triangle universities can be arranged if desired and appropriate.

Applications consisting of a CV, letter of interest and names of three references should be sent electronically if possible to adsearch@niss.org, and otherwise as hard copy to

Associate Director Search Committee
National Institute of Statistical Sciences
PO Box 14006
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709–4006

Nominations and inquiries are welcome as well, and may be directed to adsearch@niss.org.

Review of candidates will commence at once and continue until the position is filled, with the goal of having the new Associate Director in place by September, 2002.

NISS is an AA/EOE Employer

Employment Opportunities around the world

CANADA

McMASTER UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS & STATISTICS
1280 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8S 4K1
Telephone: (905) 525-9140   Fax: (905) 522-0935
e-Mail: MATH@MCMAIL.MCMASTER.CA

SHARCNET POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

Applications are invited for a SHARCNET Postdoctoral Fellowship at McMaster University. This position is supported by SHARCNET, a consortium of seven Ontario universities and colleges established to promote world class computational research in critical areas of science, engineering and business, and comprising clusters of parallel processing supercomputers designed for high-performance computing. McMaster's superb computational facility consists of a 112 cpu Compaq alpha cluster (part of a combined 500 alpha cluster) capable of performing 121 billion arithmetic operations per second, as well as an excellent desk-top computing environment.

The fellowship provides a unique opportunity for a talented recent Ph.D. recipient in applied statistics or numerical analysis to spend up to two years engaged in guided research working on large-scale industrial problems in the nuclear industry, with a limited amount of teaching. The successful candidate will work under the supervision of Dr. Fred Hoppe, SHARCNET award holder, collaborating with Dr. Paul Sermer and other scientists at Ontario Power Generation. Interest in developing and applying statistical, mathematical, and computational tools in the solution of hard and practical data analytic problems is essential as important components of this research include modelling key parameters related to reactor operations and performance, and developing statistical techniques for model validation, including large-scale simulation.

Background in one or more of the following areas is necessary: multivariate analysis, applied regression, computational methods. Working knowledge of Matlab and Fortran/C required and acquaintance with SAS or Splus would be an asset.

This fellowship is open to candidates of any nationality and selection will be based upon the candidate's area of interest and research potential.

McMaster University is committed to Employment Equity and encourages applications from all qualified candidates, including aboriginal peoples, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities and women.

The SHARCNET Fellowship is tenable for a period of two years beginning July 1, 2002 at a salary of $45,000 per year. Funds may also be available for travel and other research expenses.

Applicants should send a CV, including statement of research interests and copies of any relevant publications, and arrange for letters of recommendation from three referees to be sent to:

SHARCNET Postdoctoral Fellowship
attn: Prof. F. M. Hoppe
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
McMaster University
1280 Main St. W.
Hamilton, ON L8S 4K1
Canada
Email: hoppe@mcmaster.ca
FAX: (905) 522-0935
Phone: (905) 525-9140 ext. 24688
Posted: February 11, 2002, Closing Date: Until position filled.
We appreciate all replies to this advertisement, but only those applicants selected for our short list will be contacted.

PUERTO RICO

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science
University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus, San Juan, Puerto Rico

We announce the opening of two tenure track positions, beginning on August 2002. The candidates should have a Ph.D. in the Mathematical Sciences, and should be willing to teach and supervise thesis at undergraduate and graduate levels. Conversational knowledge of Spanish is a plus.

One position requires a strong commitment for teaching and continuing and directing research in the areas of Statistics, Probability and its applications and/or Actuarial Science.

The second position requires specific interest in the improvement of teaching at the introductory levels and research in any area of the mathematical sciences. At least, one of the recommendation letters for this position should address teaching.

Salary will depend on qualifications, according to the scale of the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus. Please send a curriculum vitae, a letter describing the interest and projects of the candidate and three letters of recommendation, by mail to the address below. It would be useful to have copy of the academic transcripts and diplomas. The evaluation of candidates will start on March 1st, 2002, until the positions are filled. Visiting positions are also available.

UPR is an equal opportunity employer.

University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras

Department: Mathematics and Computer Science

Contact Person: Luis Raúl Pericchi, Chairman

Address: PO Box 23355, San Juan, PR 00931-3355

E-mail: pericchi@goliath.cnnet.clu.edu Fax: 787-281-0651

SWEDEN

FULL PROFESSOR IN BIOSTATISTICS
Göteburg (Gothenburg)

The Gothenburg (Göteborg) Department of Mathematical Statistics is one of Europe's largest. It is a joint department of Göteborg University and Chalmers University of Technology. Along with it work

• The Gothenburg Stochastic Centre, which is a major research program financed by the Wallenberg Foundation,

• the Chalmers and SWEGENE research initiatives in bioinformatics, and

• the recently created Fraunhofer-Chalmers Centre for Industrial Mathematics, which is a joint German-Swedish undertaking with a profile towards industrial statistics (in particular pharmaceutical and mechanical industry, and telecommunications)

The department comprises 24 full time faculty, and 24 PhD students. Interests range from probability theory and foundations of statistics to statistics and probability in science, medicine and technol-ogy. At this point we are building new activities in bioinformatics. Contacts with other departments e.g. in biology and medicine are strong. For an impression of who we are and what we do, check with www.math.chalmers.se/stat/.

We are now searching for a Professor in Biostatistics, to succeed Sture Holm, who has retired. The Chair is jointly financed by the Göteborg University Schools of Science and Medicine and the AstraZeneca company. The professor will thus not only be responsible for basic research but is also expected to work closely with Medicine, Biology, and Pharmacy, and of course also with other parts of our own department. A lecturer in biostatistics will also be hired.

There is a male dominance among our faculty, and we particularly welcome female applicants for the chair.

Inquiries can be made to Peter Jagers jagers@math.chalmers.se. An application should be addressed to the Rector (Vice-Chancellor) of Göteborg University, or could more conveniently be sent to

Professor Peter Jagers
Mathematical Statistics
Chalmers University of Technology
SE-412 96 Göteborg, Sweden.

The application should contain your curriculum vitae, a list of publications, 15 publications of your choice, a summary of your research and teaching achievements and plans, as well as documents that describe your pedagogical qualifications, all in four copies. Salary will be negotiated on an individual basis.

It is good if we have your application before the end of April; the formal decisions about the position, including a closing date when applications must have reached the Rector's Office, have not yet been taken. Any application that has been sent to the above address will be treated but applications can also be sent directly to the Rector, once the position is formally open.

University of California, Riverside
Riverside, California

The Department of Statistics, University of California, Riverside invites applications for a 9-month tenure-track faculty position (Open Level) available July 1, 2002. The successful candidate will be the Director of the newly established campus-wide Statistical Consulting Collaboratory to provide UCR faculty and graduate students with an environment for collaboration in research and instruction emphasizing statistical/quantitative approaches to applied problems. In addition, the candidate will facilitate the development of extramurally supported activities. The Director will be supported by a manager of statistical consulting, several graduate students, and will be supported in data archiving/access services by the campus Computing and Communications unit. Candidate is expected to have a nationally/internationally recognized research program in Statistics or Applied Statistics. The successful candidate will contribute to teaching courses in Statistics and statistical consulting. A Ph.D. in Statistics, Biostatistics, or related quantitative area with statistical consulting credentials and proven ability to conduct innovative research are required. Evaluation of applications will begin May 1, 2002, but the position will remain open until filled. Please send CV, statement of teaching and research plans, and the names of five referees to:

Dr. Robert J. Beaver
Chair, Search Committee
Department of Statistics
University of California
Riverside, CA 92521-0138

Department information: http://cnas.ucr.edu/~stat/homepage.htm
The University of California is an Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer.

UMBC Bioinformatics Research Center: Two Positions Available

The emerging Bioinformatics Research Center of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, invites applications for two positions in the Center: **Research Scientist** and **Assistant Professor**. The University has committed a multi-year plan for faculty and staff lines as well as for resources to the Center, beginning with the recent hiring of a director and business director.

The Center seeks applicants from several disciplinary backgrounds (biological, statistical, mathematical, computational sciences) with strong research experience and collaborative interests. Preferred areas of concentration are molecular evolution and functional genomics.

The Research Scientist position is a non-tenure track, multi-year appointment, involving research and service.

The Assistant Professor position is a tenure-track position, involving research, teaching, and service, that will include a faculty appointment in an appropriate affiliated academic department.

Review of applications will begin in February 2002 and continue until the positions are filled. Candidates are urged to apply without delay.

To apply, send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, statement of research interests and have at least three letters of recommendation sent to the Search Committee, Bioinformatics Research Center, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, UMBC, Baltimore, MD 21250. Clearly identify the position for which you are applying.

UMBC is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer.

Selected Proceedings of the Symposium on Inference for Stochastic Processes

IMS LECTURE NOTES –
MONOGRAPH SERIES:
VOLUME 37

I. V. Basawa, C. C. Heyde and R. L. Taylor, Editors

Selected proceedings of a symposium held in May 2000 at the University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia. The symposium was co-sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and was a satellite meeting of the Fifth World Congress of the Bernoulli Society. This volume contains twenty papers by eminent scholars in addition to an overview article by the editors. The papers are divided into eight sections: 1. Introduction, 2. Stochastic Models: General, 3. Time Series, 4. Population Genetics, 5. Semiparametric Inference, 6. Estimating Functions, 7. Spatial Models, 8. Perfect Simulation. The contributors to this volume include: C. C. Heyde, O. E. Barndorff-Nielsen, W. P. McCormick, B.L. S. Prakasa Rao, G. G. Roussas, R. L. Taylor, M. Hallin, R. j. Bhansali, D. B. H. Cline, S. Datta, R. M. Huggins, P. E. Greenwood, W. Wefelmeyer, T. M. Durairajan, I. V. Basawa, K. Benhenni, L. Seymour, E. Vedel Jensen, I. W. McKeague and M. M_ller.
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statistica neerlandica
Edited by Philip Hans Franses

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Statistica Neerlandica publishes research and expository material about new developments in probability, statistics and operations research, and their applications in medical, agricultural, econometric, physical or social sciences and industry, commerce and government. The emphasis is on clarity, accessibility for the general reader, and applicability. In particular, *Statistica Neerlandica* shows how, for certain practical problems, statistics or operations research can play a valuable role in decision making.

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Some Highlights for 2002 :

Issue 56:1 – **Annual Statistica Neerlandica Invited Lecture :** What are the Advantages of MCMC Based Inference in Latent Variables Models?

Dr Richard Paap of the *Rotterdam Institute of Business Economic Studies* with discussants *Professor Siem Jan Koopman* of the *Free University of Amsterdam* and *Professor Rob Eisinga* of the *University of Nijmegen* .

Issue 56:2 – Special Issue '**Dedicated to Frits Ruymgaard on his 60th Birthday'** – 10 articles written by experts from the fields in which Ruymgaard has published.

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USA: WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Worcester Polytechnic Institute Mathematical Sciences Department

The WPI Mathematical Sciences Department anticipates tenure-track faculty positions in 2002. Candidates at all academic ranks will be considered. An earned Ph.D. or equivalent degree is required. Applications are especially encouraged in the areas of biostatistics, computational statistics, experimental design, Bayesian methods, and time series analysis.

For information about the department, see http://www.wpi.edu/+math.

Send a detailed CV, one-page statement of teaching and research objectives, and names of four references with mail/email addresses and telephone/fax numbers to

Statistics Search Committee, Mathematical Sciences Department, WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609-2280, USA. AA/EOE/ADA

USA: TROY, NEW YORK

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY

Immediate tenure-track position available for Asst/Assoc Professor. in the Department of Decision Sciences and Engineering Systems, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY in computational statistics/data mining and related areas. Applicants should have strong research and teaching interests in Statistics and related areas. Send resume and 3 letters of recommendation to Professor Daniel Berg, DSES Department, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, 110 8th Street, Troy, NY 12180. Email: bergd@rpi.edu. Rensselaer is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Women and minorities are strongly encouraged to apply.

USA: EUGENE, OREGON

University of Oregon - Department of Mathematics

Applications are invited for one Visiting Professor position in statistics beginning in September 2002, ending in June 2004. Qualifications are a Ph.D. in the mathematical sciences or statistics and evidence of ability to teach statistics courses. This is a two-year visiting position, open to all ranks, with competitive salary and good fringe benefits. Send complete resume and at least three letters of recommendation to Statistics Hiring Committee, Department of Mathematics, 1222 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-1222. Consideration of applications will begin February 15, 2002. Final deadline for applications is May 1, 2002. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. An EO/AA/ADA institution committed to diversity.

USA: ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA

NSF's Directorate for Mathematical and Physical Sciences (MPS) seeks candidates for Director of its Division of Mathematical Sciences. The Division supports research and education in mathematics and closely related areas. Information about the Division's activities may be found at http://www.nsf.gov/mps/divisions/dms/start.htm.

Appointment to this Senior Executive Service position may be on a career basis, or on a 2-to-3 year limited term basis, with a salary range of $125,972 to $138,200. Alternatively, the incumbent may be assigned under Intergovernmental Personnel Act provisions. Announcement S20020068 with position requirements and application procedures, is located on the NSF Home Page at http://www.nsf.gov/home/chart/work.htm#hrm. Applicants may also obtain the announcements by contacting the Executive Personnel and Development Branch on 703-292-8755 (Hearing impaired individuals may call TDD 703-292-8044). Applications must be received by 15 May 2002.

NSF is an equal opportunity employer committed to employing a
highly qualified staff reflecting the diversity of our nation.

International Calendar of Statistical Events

IMS meetings are highlighted in maroon **with the** ⬜ **logo and new or updated entries have the** ✦NEW✦ **symbol. For further information please use the contacts listed. t means telephone, f fax, e email and w website. Please send additions and corrections to Tati Howell at bulletin@imstat.org**

2002

March

4-8: Havana, Cuba. 5th International Conference on Operations Research. Prof Dr J Guddat, Institut fur Mathematik, Humboldt Universitat-Berlin, Unter den Linden 6, D-10099, Berlin, Germany **f** (49-30) 2834463 **e** guddat@ mathematik.hu-berlin.de

⬜ **15-21:** Arlington, Virginia. IMS/ ENAR Meeting (No. 275). Jiayang Sun, Department of Statistics, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH **e** jiayang@ sun.cwru.edu **t** 216-368-0630 **f** 216-368-0252 **w** sun.cwru.edu/ims

April

6: Storrs, Connecticut. University of Connecticut, Department of Statistics: A Day of Celebration and Dedication. Tracey Burke, Department of Statistics U-4120, 215 Glenbrook Road, University of Connecticut, Storrs 06269-4120 **t** (860) 486-3413, **e** statadm2@uconnvm.uconn.edu

11-13: Arlington, Virginia. Second SIAM International Conference on Data Mining. **w** www.siam.org/meetings/sdm02

17-20: Montreal, Canada. Interface '02: 34th Symposium on the Interface of Computing Science and Statistics. **w** www.galaxy.gmu.edu/interface/ 2002.html

18-20: Gaithersburg, Maryland. Design for Generalized Linear Models (GLMs). Ivelisse Avilés **e** aviles@nist.gov, or André Khuri, Department of Statistics, 103 Griffin-Floyd Hall, PO Box 118545, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL **t** 32611-8545 **e** ufakhuri@stat.ufl.edu **w** www.stat.ufl.edu/conference/ khuri-glm.html

✦NEW✦ **27:** Yale University, New Haven, CT. 16th Annual New England Statistics Symposium (NESS) **e** daniel.zelterman@ yale.edu **t** (203)785-5574 **w** www.info. med.yale.edu/eph/ness2002.html

28-May 3: Ascona, Switzerland. Workshop on Nonparametric Smoothing in Complex Statistical Models. **w** www.unizh.ch/ biostat/Smoothing2002/

May

1-4: Berlin, Germany. NL 2002: Networked Learning in a Global Environment: Challenges and Solutions for Virtual Education. Prof Dr Hermann Maurer, Chief Scientist of KNOW, Head of IICM and HMS, Graz University of Technology, Austria **e** hmaurer@iicm.edu

⬜ **3-4:** Pittsburg, PA. IMS Mini-meeting: Workshop on Statistical Analysis of Neuronal Data. Organizers: Emery Brown **e** brown@srlb.mgh.harvard.edu and Rob Kass **e** kass@stat.cmu.edu **w** www.psc.edu/biomed/sand.html

9-11: Berkeley, California. Statistical Challenges for Meta-Analysis of Medical and Health-Policy Data. **w** zeta.msri.org/ calendar/workshops/WorkshopInfo/ 198/show_workshop

13-17: Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. 34th Journées de Statistique. Institute of Statistics, Université Catholique de Louvain, 20 Voie du Roman Pays, B-1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium **t** +32 10 47 43 54 **f** +32 1 47 30 32 **w** www.stat.ucl.ac.be/ jsbl2002

16-18: Pensacola, Florida. Imprecise and Indeterminate Probabilities in Artificial Intelligence - FLAIRS 2002. Conference **w** www.flairs.com; Imprecise and indeterminate probabilities special track **w** www.coginst.uwf.edu/users/cmteng/ flairs_iip.html

⬜ **20-22:** Ann Arbor, Michigan. Spring Research Conference on Statistics in Industry and Technology. Derek Bingham, Department of Statistics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI 48109-1285 **e** dbingham@umich.edu

20-22: Toronto, Canada. SIAM Conference on Optimization. **w** www.siam.org/ meetings/op02/

21-23: Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. Workshop on 'Statistical Modelling and Inference for Complex Data Structures'. Rainer von Sachs, Institute of Statistics, Catholic University of Louvain, Voie du Roman Pays 20, 1348 Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium **e** rvs@stat.ucl.ac.be **w** www.stat.ucl.ac.be/workshop2002

✦NEW✦ **24-25:** Montréal, Québec, Canada. Constance van Eeden's Conference: Mathematical Statistics 2002. Information and registration at www.crm.umontreal.ca/act/hors/ van_eeden.html

June

⬜ **2-4:** Cleveland, Ohio. Workshop on Developments and Challenges in Mixture Models, Bump Hunting and Measurement Error Models. **w** sun.cwru.edu/mix

✦NEW✦ **2-5:** Natchez, Mississippi. 2002 Summer Research Conference in Statistics, jointly sponsored by the Southern Regional Council on Statistics (SRCOS) and the ASA. **w** www.msstate.edu/dept/Math/src.

2-6: Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain. 7th Valencia International Meeting on Bayesian Statistics. Prof Dr José M Bernardo, Universidad de Valencia, Dept Estadistica, Fac Matematicas, 46100-Burjassot, Valencia, Spain **t** +34.96.364.3560 (direct) or +34.96.386.4362 (office)

f +34.96.364. 3560 (direct) or +34.96.386.4735 (office) **e** valencia7@uv.es **w** www.uv.es/valencia7

5-7: Athens, Greece. Fifth International Conference on Lattice Path Combinatorics and Discrete Distributions. Prof Ch A Charalambides, Dept of Mathematics, University of Athens, Panepistemiopolis, GR-15784 Athens, Greece, **e** ccharal@math.uoa.gr

5-9: Honolulu, Hawaii. Hawaii International Conference on Statistics. 2440 Campus Road #517, Honolulu HI, 96822, USA **t** (808) 223-1748 **f** (808) 947-2420 **e** stats@hawaii.edu

9-13: Stockholm, Sweden. NORDSTAT 2002: 19th Nordic Conference on Mathematical Statistics **w** www.math. kth.se/nordstat

12-15: Crete, Greece. Bachelier Finance Society: 2nd World Congress. Thaleia Zariphopoulou, Chair of the Scientific Committee **e** zariphop@math.utexas.edu

17-21: Barcelona Conference on Stochastic Inequalities and their Applications. Campus of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Centre de Recerca Matemática **w** www.crm.es/stochineq

18-22: Genoa, Italy. 2002 Conference of The International Environmetrics Society -TIES. Dipartimento di Scienze Statistiche "P. Fortunati", Via delle Belle Arti 41, 40126 Bologna, Italy. Daniela Cocchi **e** cocchi@stat.unibo.it **t** +39 051 2098234 **f** +39 051 232153

18-25: Centro Majorana, Erice, Italy. Conference/School on 'Stochastic Methods in Decision and Game Theory, with Applications'. Marco Scarsini **e** scarsini@sci.unich.it **w** www.sci.unich.it/~scarsini/research/meetingErice.html

23-26: Los Angeles, California. IMS/WNAR Regional meeting, including workshop on molecular phylogeny on June 23 & Young Researchers' Luncheon

w www.ph.ucla.edu/biostat/wnarims

23-26: Washington, DC. The International Conference on Dependable Systems and Networks. Jaynarayan H Lala, **e** jlala@darpa.mil

NEW **23-28:** Mexico City, Antiguo Colegio de San Ildefonso. Seventh Symposium of Probability and Stochastic Processes. **w** www.probabilidad.org.mx

23-29: Vilnius, Lithuania. The 8th International Vilnius Conference on Probability Theory and Mathematical Statistics. A Plikusas, Institute of Mathematics and Informatics Akademijos 4, 2600 Vilnius, Lithuania. **t** +370-2-729209 **f** +370-2-729209 **e** conf@ktl.mii.lt

24-27: Cavtat/Dubrovnik, Croatia. 24th International Conference, Information Technology Interfaces ITI 2002- Collaboration and Interaction in Knowledge-Based Environments. Conference Secretariat - ITI 2002 SRCE - University Computing Centre, University of Zagreb, J Marohnica bb, HR-10000 Zagreb, Croatia **t** +385 1 616 55 99 or +385 1 616 55 97 **f** +385 1 616 55 91 **e** iti@srce.hr **w** iti.srce.hr

24-28: Sandbjerg Slot, Denmark. Third International Conference on High Dimensional Probability. J Hoffmann-Jørgensen, Institute of Mathematical Sciences, University of Aarhus, Ny Munkegade, DK-800 Aarhus, Denmark **t** +45 8942 3438 **f** +45 8613 1769 **e** hoff@imf.au.dk

July

1-5: Melbourne, Australia. 28th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications, under the auspices of the Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability. Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne **e** spa@ms.unimelb.edu.au **w** www.spa28.ms.unimelb.edu.au Travel support available for US participants: **w** www.math.cmu.edu/users/shreve

7-10: Academia Sinica, Taiwan, R.O.C. The 2002 Taipei International Statistical Symposium and Bernoulli Society EAPR Conference. **w** www.stat.sinica.edu.tw/2002symp

7-11: Canberra, Australia. 16th Australian Statistical Conference. **w** www.statsoc.org.au/asc16.html **e** asc16@con-sol.com

7-12: Durban, South Africa. International Conference on Teaching Statistics ICOTS-6, International Convention Centre in Durban. IPC Chair: Maria-Gabriella Ottaviani (Italy) **e** mariagabriella.ottaviani@uniroma1.it **t** +39-6-49910561 **f** +39-6-4959241 **w** www.beeri.org.il/icots6/

15-19: Crete, Greece. Current Advances and Trends in Nonparametric Statistics: Bernoulli/IMS/ Nonparametrics Section of ASA. **w** www.stat.psu.edu/~npconf/

July 28-August 1: Banff, Canada. IMS Annual Meeting. [Registration form on page 9] Online hotel booking form at www.banffcentre.ca/ims.asp Conference information at www.stat.cornell.edu/news/imsmeeting/frontpage.htm

July 31 - August 2: Banff, Canada. The Fourth International Symposium on Probability and its Applications. **w** www.math.wisc.edu/~annprob/banff/banff.htm

August

4-7 Bethesda, Maryland. Third International Conference on Multiple Comparison Procedures (MCP2002). Ajit Tamhane **e** ajit@iems.northwestern.edu or Peter Westfall **e** westfall@ba.ttu.edu **w** www.ba.ttu.edu/isqs/westfall/mcp2002.htm

NEW **4-9:** Neuchâtel, Switzerland. Fourth International Conference on Statistical Data Analysis Based on the L1 Norm and Related Methods **e** L1.norm@unine.ch or yadolah. dodge@unine.ch **w** www.unine.ch/statistics

International Calendar continued

IMS meetings are highlighted in maroon **with the** [logo] **logo and new or updated entries have the** [NEW] **symbol. For further information please use the contacts listed. t means telephone, f fax, e email and w website. Please send additions and corrections to Tati Howell at bulletin@imstat.org**

August 2002 cont'd

[logo] 11-15: New York, NY. Joint Statistical Meetings (ASA/IMS/ENAR/WNAR) **w** www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2002/

15-17 Singapore. Symposium on Stochastics and Applications (SSA). The Organizing Committee, SSA 2002, c/o Department of Mathematics, National University of Singapore, 2 Science Drive 2, Singapore 117543, Republic of Singapore **f** 65-779 5452 **e** ssa@math.nus.edu.sg **w** www.math.nus.edu.sg/ssa

17-23: Ammarnäs, Sweden. Baltic-Nordic Conference on Survey Sampling. **w** www.matstat.umu.se/banocoss **e** banocoss@matstat.umu.se

19-23: Prague, Czech Republic. 24th European Meeting of Statisticians, organized jointly with the 14th Prague Conference on Information Theory, Statistical Decision Functions and Random Processes. Martin Janzura, Institute of Information Theory and Automation, POB 18, 182 08 Praha 8, Czech Republic **t** 420-2-6605 2572 **f** 420-2-688 4903 **e** janzura@utia.cas.cz **w** siprint.utia.cas.cz/2494#94ems/

[NEW] 29-31: Lyngby, Denmark. EIWMS-2002: The Eleventh International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics in Celebration of George P. H. Styan's 65th Birthday. **w** www.imm.dtu.dk/matrix02/

30-September 2: Venice, Italy. Fifth International Conference on Forensic Statistics, ICFS5. Julia Mortera **e** icfs5@eco.uniroma3.it **w** icfs5.eco.uniroma3.it

September

13-14: Ames, Iowa. Topics in Linear Algebra (and Its Applications in Statistics). Huaiqing Wu, Department of Statistics, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011; **t** (515) 294-8949 **f** (515)-294-4040 **e** isuhwu@iastate.edu **w** www.math.iastate.edu/lhogben/TLA/homepage.html

[NEW] 18-20: Chamonix, France. 2nd Euro-Japanese Workshop on Stochastic Modelling for Finance, Insurance, Production and Reliability **w** www.dma.utc.fr/Workshop/index.htm

23-24: Rimini, Italy. The European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics (ENBIS). Fabrizio Ruggeri, CNR IAMI, Via A.M. Ampere 56, I-20131 Milano, Italy **w** www.iami.mi.cnr.it/~fabrizio **t** +39 0270643206 **f** +39 0270643212 **e** fabrizio@iami.mi.cnr.it

24-27: Malaga, Spain. Third International ICSC Symposium on Engineering of Intelligent Systems. ICSC-NAISO (Operating Division), PO Box 1091, 3360 BB Sliedrecht, The Netherlands **t** +31-184-496999 **f** +31-184-421065 **e** eis2002@ITStransnational.com (Operating Division), planning@icsc.ab.ca (Planning Division)

October

[NEW] 11-12: Texas A&M University. Frontiers of Statistical Research: a Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Department of Statistics. Thomas Wehrly **t** 979-845-3151 **f** 979-845- 3144 **e** twehrly@stat.tamu.edu **w** stat.tamu.edu/40thanniversary

[NEW] 18-19: Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois. 24th Midwest Probability Colloquium. **e** Mark Pinsky: pinsky@math.nwu.edu **w** www.math.nwu.edu/mwp

21-23: Sydney, Australia. International Clinical Trials Symposium, hosted by the NHMRC Clinical Trials Centre, University of Sydney. **e** enquiry@ctc.usyd.edu.au **w** www.ctc.usyd.edu.au/4news/Symposium2002/ICTS_home.htm

31 - November 3: Schloss Hoehenried, Bernried, near Munich, Germany. EWSM (Euroworkshop on Statistical Modelling): Model Building and Evaluation. Goeran Kauermann, Department of Statistics, University of Glasgow, Mathematics Building, University Gardens, Glasgow G12 8QW, UK **e** goeran@stats.gla.ac.uk **w** www.stat.uni-muenchen.de/euroworkshop/2002.html

November

14-17: Charleston, South Carolina. International Conference on Questionnaire Development, Evaluation and Testing. Jennifer Rothget, U.S. Census Bureau, Center for Survey Methods Research/SRD/ FB #4, Rm. 3125, Washington, D.C. 20233 **t** (301) 457-4968 **e** jennifer.m.rothgeb@census.gov

December

[NEW] 9-13: Savannah, Georgia. 9th Annual Biopharmaceutical Applied Statistics Symposium: 12 tutorials, 4 short courses, on topics related to research, development & regulation of pharmaceuticals, with emphasis on biostatistics. **e** KEPeace@gasou.edu

17-21: Cochin, India. International Conference on Stochastic Modelling and IV International Workshop on Retrial Queues. Chairman: A Krishnamoorthy, Dept of Mathematics, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Cochin - 682022, India **e** ak@cusat.ac.in Co-Chairman: J R Artalejo, Dept of Statistics and

OR, Complutense University, Madrid, Spain, **e** jesus_artalejo@mat.ucm.es

22-23: Trivandrum, Kerala, India. Statistics in the 21st Century. Dr N Krishnan Namboodiri, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210, USA **t** 614-292-2308 **e** namboodiri.2@osu.edu or Dr P Sadasivan Nair, Population Centre, University of Kerala, Trivandrum, India **t** 418057 **e** psnair@vsnl.com

28-30: Chennai, Tamilnadu, India. Ranking and Selection, Multiple Comparisons, Reliability, and Their Applications. N Balakrishnan, McMaster University, **e** bala@mcmail.cis.mcmaster.ca N Kannan, University of Texas at San Antonio, **e** nkannan@utsa.edu H N Nagaraja, Ohio State University, **e** hnn@stat.ohio-state.edu

2003

January
NEW **2-4:** Cochin, India. Statistics in

Industry & Business. Contact Bovas Abraham, U of Waterloo, Canada **t** 519-888-4593 **f** 519-746-5524 **e** babraham@uwaterloo.ca **w** www.iiqp.uwaterloo.ca

June
NEW **9-12: (note new contact information)** KIMEP, Almaty, Kazakhstan. ASIM 2003, International Conference on Advances in Statistical Inferential Methods. (theory and applications) **w** www.kimep.kz/research/asim **e** voinov@kimep.kimep.kz

23-26: Dublin, Ireland. International Symposium on Forecasting, ISF2002. John Haslett, Department of Statistics, Trinity College, Dublin 2, Ireland **t** +353 1 6081114 **f** +353 1 6615046 **e** john.haslett@tcd.ie **w** www.isf2002.org

NEW **24-27:** Technical U of Gdansk, Poland. 1st World Congress on Information Technology in Environmental

Engineering (ITEE2003) **w** www.icsc-naiso.org/conferences/ itee2003

July
NEW **14-18:** University of Antwerp, Belgium. International Conference on Robust Statistics 2003 (ICORS2003) **e** statis@uia.ua.ac.be **w** win-www.uia.ac.be/u/icors03.htm

August
3-7: San Francisco, CA. Joint Statistical Meetings (ASA/IMS/ENAR/WNAR) INCLUDING IMS Annual Meeting

10-20: Berlin, Germany: International Statistical Institute, 54th Biennial Session [Includes meetings of the Bernoulli Society, The International Association for Statistical Computing, The International Association of Survey Statisticians, The International Association for Official Statistics and The International Association for Statistical Education]

The purpose of the Institute is to foster the development and dissemination of the theory and applications of statistics and probability

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In the next issue (May/ June 2002):

Profile of Eurandom, plus news from members around the world, meeting announcements and job opportunities. Send in your articles, feedback, letters, adverts…

Deadline for submissions: 1st May

(See panel on page 2 for Bulletin contact details and format instructions)