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ISBIS News

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ISBIS News — The Newsletter of the International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics

An Association of the International Statistical Institute

President's Message



Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi

Dear members of the ISBIS community,

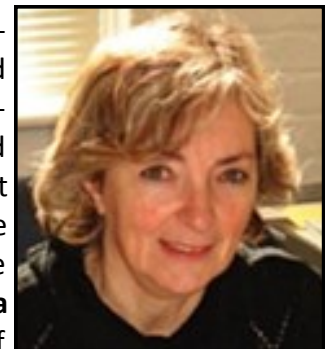
It is my privilege and pleasure to address this message to you in coincidence with the Christmas holidays while getting ready for the 2015 New Year. It is my hope that 2015 is personally exciting and professionally productive for all of us!

Following a year that has been rich in interesting activities, ISBIS now aims to develop a pragmatic and operational strategic plan up by the summer of 2015, of course coherent with the strategy of the International Statistical Institute (ISI). This plan shall contribute to the implementation of our global strategy while also focusing on developing more ad-hoc activities to achieve the specific mission of

ISBIS and thus meet the interests and the expectations of our current and potential members.

The highest strategic priority for ISBIS in 2015 will be to attract more members, while retaining all the current ones. In this respect, several medium-term objectives have been established and several short-term actions have been undertaken. Below, I list the most relevant challenges and actions and I encourage you to participate in them. Your valuable contributions and enthusiasm are very welcome and highly appreciated.

The ISBIS biennial international symposia, that have demonstrated to be very successful so far, need to be developed further and become the hallmark meeting place for the international academic and professional communities, made of both developers and users, interested in Business and Industrial Statistics. The next symposium (ISBIS 2016) will take place in **Barcelona, Spain** in the first week of July 2016 (additional information will come in the Spring issue of ISBIS News) . Our deepest gratitude goes to **María Pilar Muñoz**, member of the ISBIS Council, who will be the chief organizer of this event.



María Pilar Muñoz

Alongside our own international symposia, ISBIS will continue to endorse conferences and other events whose themes are compatible with the ISBIS mission, and will also pursue collaboration with other Associations either within the ISI family or in the broader international scientific community. Such endorsements and collaborations imply a "real" presence and visibility of ISBIS at these conferences through: having ISBIS members on the scientific program committees; putting the ISBIS logo on the conferences' websites and materials; organizing ISBIS sessions in the scientific programs; distributing ISBIS leaflets to the conferences' delegates; and sharing the lists of participants for the after-conference



follow up. The latest ISBIS endorsement was for the **National Conference on Excellence in Quality, Statistical Quality Control and Customer Satisfaction** at the **University Campus “Luigi Einaudi”, Turin University, Italy, 18-19 September 2014**. More endorsements have been approved for conferences in 2015. The list will soon be available on line at isbis.org.

ISBIS and ENBIS (European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics) will strengthen our collaboration by having ENBIS@ISBIS and ISBIS@ENBIS scientific sessions at their respective symposia and also by planning the organization in Europe of joint ENBIS-ISBIS events (from courses to workshops and joint spring conferences) on specialized topics of common interest to members of both groups. The two communities indeed have a significant overlap of academic/professional objectives while being shaped by interesting complementary features. In the short term, ISBIS will organize a session at ENBIS 2015 in Prague and will host an ENBIS session at ISBIS 2016 in Barcelona.

The group of young members within ISBIS (y-BIS) aims to build up, in close collaboration with ISI, a junior researcher-mentoring program that pairs a senior mentor with a y-BIS mentee.

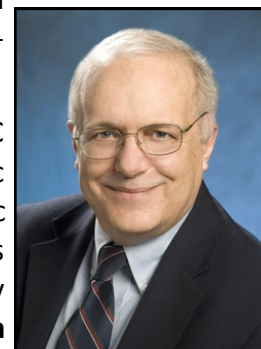
As to our publication policy and the development of the *ASMBI* journal, beyond contributing to special issues and discussion papers, ISBIS members are strongly encouraged to submit more and more frequently and spontaneously their good papers with innovative methodologies and sound applications.

The quarterly publication of ISBIS News has indeed become a regular and successful activity of ISBIS that is highly appreciated by our members. Many sincere thanks go to **Román Viveros-Aguilera** and the Editorial Team for their professional work. While pursuing this activity, the editorial policy of ISBIS News is going to evolve by including the publication of interviews and profiles of ISBIS members, without forgetting a more extended presentation of ISBIS-related events and people. In the medium-term we will also further enrich the content of ISBIS News by publishing scientific discussions and consulting advice from members on topics related to business and industrial statistics.

We envision ISBIS News become an efficient ISBIS communication tool towards a much larger audience than just ISBIS members, thus including other scientific communities and professionals that are not yet ISBIS members but that are potentially interested in products, services and networking resources provided by ISBIS.

In order to strengthen the interactions between the ISI and ISBIS, in 2015 we will set up a committee to identify and nominate deserving ISBIS members for ISI elected membership.

In 2015 there will be the ISI World Statistics Congress in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (ISI WSC 2015, 26-31 July 2015). ISBIS will significantly participate in the ISI WSC 2015 scientific program with 14 invited paper sessions, including ISBIS-specific sessions, other sessions in collaboration with sister Associations within ISI, the *ASMBI* invited session and the novelty of the very prestigious **William S. Gosset ISBIS Lecture** delivered by **William (Bill) Meeker** - Iowa State University- on: “Reliability in the 21st Century”.



Bill Meeker



Emmanuel Yashchin

In connection with ISI WSC 2015, ISBIS is also planning to organize a satellite meeting in **Campinas (Sao Paulo)** on **Quality Control and Improvement**, including a short course on **Multivariate Process Control** offered by **Emmanuel Yashchin** from IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, NY, who is a leading expert in this area. With tentative

dates 22-24 July 2015, more details will be available soon at isbis.org as well as in the next issue of *ISBIS News*.

In the very short term, I am pleased to confirm that two ISBIS co-sponsored capacity building international workshops will soon take place in India: a workshop on **Reliability and Time Series Methodology Relevant to Business and Industry in Cochin on January 5-7** and a workshop on **Statistical Methods for Business and Industry Applications in Chennai on January 8-9**. Both workshops are organized in collaboration with local universities and institutes and supported by the International Indian Statistical Association. More information is available elsewhere in this issue.

ISBIS plans to expand such activities to other places in order to enhance the mission of statistical capacity building, adopted by both ISI and ISBIS, with focus on specific regions of the world.

Finally, we are currently working on making some web material available exclusively to ISBIS members on the ISBIS website in the Members-Only section. This material will be selected from the high quality publicly available offerings on the web or produced on focused topics by the ISBIS community. More specifics will be available in the next issue of *ISBIS News* in the spring of 2015.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (vinzi@essec.edu) to provide your inspiring suggestions and comments on any of the items mentioned above as they will help us move forward in a timely and effective manner. We need you to develop ISBIS further!

I take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones all the best for the upcoming holiday season and for the 2015 New Year!

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi, ISBIS President

The *ASMBI* Report



Fabrizio Ruggeri

In my latest column I announced that the discussion paper on Start-up demonstration tests: Models, Methods and Applications, with Some Unifications by **Balakrishnan, Koutras** and **Milienos** was going to be published. Now I can invite all of you to read this relevant paper and the four stimulating discussions. I use this opportunity to remind everyone that this paper along with all the papers published in *ASMBI*, are freely available to all ISBIS members in good standing, one of the advantages of being a member!

That paper was in the third issue this year but now we are going to publish the sixth one pretty soon. It will be a special issue, prepared by *ASMBI* Editor **Emmanuel Yashchin**, devoted to papers from the **30th Quality and Productivity Research Conference (QPRC)** held at the **GE Global Research** headquarters in **Niskayuna, NY, USA, June 5-7, 2013**. We will have a discussion paper by **Weaver** and **Meeker** on Methods for Planning Repeated

Measures Accelerated Degradation Tests, along with the following papers:

- Modeling and Analyzing Semiconductor Yield with Generalized Linear Mixed Models, by **Krueger** and **Montgomery**
- SPC Methods for Non-stationary Correlated Count Data with Application to Network Surveillance, by **Fu** and **Jeske**

- Efficient Performance Evaluation of the Generalized Shiryayev--Roberts Detection Procedure in a Multi-Cyclic Setup, by **Polunchenko, Sokolov and Du**
- Efficient Performance Evaluation of the Generalized Shiryayev--Roberts Detection Procedure in a Multi-Cyclic Setup, by **Polunchenko, Sokolov and Du**
- Identification of Topology Changes in Power Grids using Phasor Measurements, by **Vander Wiel, Bent, Casleton and Lawrence**

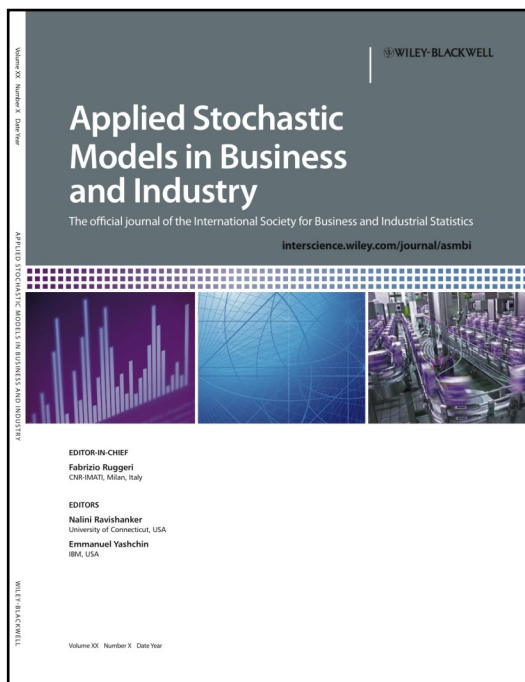
The first issue in 2015 will contain 6 papers by distinguished statisticians (with discussion by other distinguished ones!) on the Future of Statistical Modelling in Business and Industry, prepared by **Ron Kenett** and **Galit Shmueli**. I am not disclosing the titles of the works and invite you to discover by yourselves in January/early February at the *ASMBI* webpage

[http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/\(ISSN\)1526-4025](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1526-4025)

Another special issue is ready to be published: it is the one with papers from the **Mathematical Methods in Reliability Conference** held in 2013 in **Stellenbosch, South Africa**, prepared by **Maxim Finkelstein** as Guest Editor.

I conclude with the list of papers published in the latest two issues, inviting, as usual to submit your best papers to your journal, *ASMBI* of course!

- Optimal design of multi-server Markovian queues with polynomial waiting and service costs
- Preservation of reliability classes under the formation of coherent systems
- Estimating retail demand with Poisson mixtures and out-of-sample likelihood
- Comparing methods for design follow-up: revisiting a metal-cutting case study
- Recent issues on stochastic directional convexity, and new results on the analysis of systems for communication, information, time scales and maintenance
- A simulated annealing approach for reliability-based chance-constrained programming
- Pricing a stochastic car value depreciation deal
- Optimum life testing plans in presence of hybrid censoring: A cost function approach
- Default risk analysis via a discrete-time cure rate model
- Goal achieving probabilities of cone-constrained mean-variance portfolios
- Detecting and interpreting clusters of economic activity in rural areas using scan statistic and LISA under a unified framework
- Diagnosing and modeling extra-binomial variation for time-dependent counts
- The persistence of abnormal return on assets: an exploratory analysis of the performance of firms by country and sector



- Unsupervised anomaly detection within non-numerical sequence data by average index difference, with application to masquerade detection

Fabrizio Ruggeri, ASMBI Editor-in-Chief (fabrizio@mi.imati.cn)

January 2015 ISBIS Workshops in India



Nalini Ravishanker

Two ISBIS co-sponsored capacity building workshops will be held in India in January 2015. The workshops will include sessions presented by experts in areas of statistical modeling that are relevant to business and industry, including reliability, time series, pattern recognition, R for data analysis, etc. The purpose of these workshops is to provide an opportunity for graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and teaching and research faculty, to benefit from learning from experts state-of-the art methodology and application in different areas of statistics. We expect that this would lead to enhanced classroom teaching in local institutions, enhanced undergraduate and graduate level research, enhanced workforce preparation, and perhaps some ongoing interactions between presenters and participants. We hope that some material from these workshops can be made available on our ISBIS website.

The International Workshop on Reliability and Time Series Methodology Relevant to Business and Industry: January 5-7, 2015, Cochin, India. Presented in collaboration with the Cochin Institute of Science and Technology (CUSAT) and with support from the International Indian Statistical Association (IISA). For details, please visit: http://www.cusat.ac.in/view_events.php?id=964

The International Workshop on Statistical Methods for Business and Industry Applications: January 8-9, 2015, Chennai, India. Presented in collaboration with the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), and with support from the International Indian Statistical Association (IISA) and the University of Madras. For details, please visit the following website and click on the link for the workshop: <http://www.isichennai.res.in/upconf.php>

Nalini Ravishanker, ISBIS Vice-President, Scientific Program

ISBIS at the ISI's Conference in Kuala Lumpur

An ISBIS session was organized at the recent ISI Regional Statistics Conference in **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**, held on **November 16-19, 2014**. ISBIS President, **Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi** (ESSEC, France) presented a joint paper with **Trinchera** and **Russolillo** on "Component-based Predictive Path Modeling by Means of Projections to Latent Structures: Model Assessment and Interpretation Features with Business-related Applications", whereas **Gentry White** (Queensland University of Technology) presented a paper on "A Bayesian Hierarchical Model for Negative Binomial Convolutions in Cluster Process Models for Terrorist Activity", jointly with **Ruggeri** and **Porter**. Finally, **Fabrizio Ruggeri** (CNR IMATI, Italy), organizer of the session, presented work "On Bayesian Estimation of Thermal Diffusivity in Materials", jointly with **Lanzarone**, **Pasquali** and **Mussi** (with some hints on his current work with researchers at KAUST, Saudi Arabia).

Fabrizio Ruggeri, Session Organizer



**Fifth International Workshop on Social Network Analysis (ARS'15):
Large Networks and Big Data: New Methodological Challenges**

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

April 29-30, 2015, Capri, Italy (<http://www.ars15.unisa.it/>)

Important Dates:

Title and short abstract submission: **January 31, 2015**

Notification of acceptance: **February 28, 2015**

Abstract final version: **March 31, 2015**

Scope: Following the four previous issues of the ARS workshop in **Salerno, Naples** and **Rome** (http://www.ars15.unisa.it/past_ars) we are pleased to invite you to submit a paper to the fifth ARS conference that will be held in **Anacapri (Capri island)** on **April 29-30, 2015**. ARS'15 aims to present the most relevant results and the most recent methodological developments in dealing with LARGE NETWORK and BIG DATA. The workshop also aims to deepen existing scientific cooperation among social network analysts, to establish new cooperation between researchers, and to provide a multi-disciplinary forum for exchange of ideas.

Papers of interest including (but not limited to) the following topics are solicited:

- Analysis of large-scale networks
- Structural large network properties
- Community detection and structure in large networks
- Visualization of large networks
- Methodological problems in large network studies
- Dynamics and evolution patterns of large networks
- Big data storage, processing and network analysis
- Social network data mining and analytics

Applications in several fields (telecommunications networks, collaboration networks, online social networks, healthcare, etc.) are also strongly encouraged. For ARS'15, in addition to the usual program of contributed talks, the Workshop will include a selection of keynote talks from prominent researchers. Building on successes in previous years, ARS'15 will also hold a two-day short course before the Workshop.

Instructions for authors: Detailed submission instructions will be posted on the Paper Submission page in due time. Authors are invited to submit short abstracts (max 500 words) after the registration using the abstract submission system: <http://www.ars15.unisa.it/submission>. All submitted short abstracts are subject to acceptance by the Scientific Program Committee members. Accepted papers will be presented at the work-



shop as full talks and possibly as poster presentations including a short introductory talk. In the abstract submission procedure please check off the appropriate box if you intend submit the paper a for full talk or for a poster session. At least one author must be registered and attend the conference.

Post-Proceedings: A selection of original papers will be published in a volume edited by an international publisher and/or in special issues of international journals.

Contact information: Website <http://www.ars15.unisa.it>, Email: ars15@unisa.it

Giancarlo RAGOZINI (giancarlo.ragozini@unina.it) and Maria Rosaria D'ESPOSITO (mdesposito@unisa.it)

22nd ASA/IMS Spring Research Conference (SRC 2015) on Statistics in Industry and Technology

The **22nd ASA/IMS Spring Research Conference (SRC 2015) on Statistics in Industry and Technology** will be hosted by **Procter & Gamble**, and held in **Cincinnati, Ohio**, at the Hyatt Regency, **May 20-22, 2015**. The theme of this year's conference is **Bridging Statistics Research and Application to Foster Innovation**.

The purpose of the SRC is to promote cross-disciplinary research in statistical methods in engineering, science and technology and to stimulate collaboration between researchers in these application areas and industrial practitioners. The setting will encourage the dissemination of current research as well as discussion of important new application and research directions. Keynote Speakers include Vijay Nair (University of Michigan) and **Sallie Keller** (Virginia Tech).

Topics for invited sessions include reliability, the design and analysis of experiments, computer experiments, big data, quality improvement and control, measurement systems, consumer research, statistical computing, as well as applications to consumer products, the Air Force, and industry and government more broadly. We encourage you to submit a contributed talk to the conference. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, those listed above as invited sessions. Any contributions related to the theme and purposes of the conference are encouraged. To present a contributed talk, please submit a title and abstract via the SRC 2015 website. You will need to provide your name, affiliation, title, abstract (no more than 250 words), and whether you would like to be considered for a student or early career scholarship (see below). The deadline for submission is **April 1, 2015**.

A number of \$600 scholarships will be available to selected student and early career (within 5 years of degree) presenters. Winners will be selected based on the connection of the paper's content to the purpose and theme of the conference. Awardees will need to pay for expenses up front, but will receive their scholarship in the form of a check after the conference.

For registration and all other information, please visit the SRC 2015 website. For any questions related to this call for papers, the contributed program, or the scholarships, please contact the Contributed Program Chair, **Byran Smucker**, at smuckerb@miamioh.edu.



IFCS 2015 (International Conference)

July 6-8, 2015

<http://ifcs.boku.ac.at/ifcs2015>

CALL FOR PAPERS

Organized by the Department of Statistics P. Fortunati, University of Bologna "Alma Mater Studiorum" (Italy), and the Classification and Data Analysis Group (ClADAG) of the Italian Statistical Society on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of IFCS (International Federation of Classification Society, founded in 1985).

Conference topics

Contributed papers from scholars and practitioners are invited on any of the topics below as well as on related issues:

Applications in Natural Sciences, Engineering, Medicine and Biology • Banking and Finance • Bioinformatics and Biostatistics • Biomedical Data Analysis and Imaging • Business and Industry • Classification, Discriminant Analysis, and Supervised Learning • Clustering and Unsupervised Learning • Complex Event Processing • Data Analysis in Archaeology • Databionics • Exploratory Data Mining • Formal Concept Analysis • Geospatial Planning • Graphics and Vision • Image Analysis and Computer Vision • Information Retrieval and Library Science • Knowledge Discovery • Linguistics and Musicology • Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition • Marketing and Management • Medical and Health Sciences • Psychology and Educational Sciences • Social Network Analysis • Statistical Data Analysis and Models • Swarm Systems • Symbolic Data Analysis • Text Mining, Web Mining, and Ontology Learning • Visualization

Awards will be given to selected papers. For further details visit:

<https://ifcs.boku.ac.at/conference/index.php/ifcs2015/index/pages/view/awards>

Important dates:

March 31, 2015: Deadline abstract submission

April 15, 2015: Notification of acceptance

May 15, 2015: Deadline standard registration

June 15, 2015: Deadline late registration on line

July 5, 2015: Preconference workshops

July 6-8, 2015: IFCS-2015 conference

We look forward to seeing you in Bologna in July 2015!

Francesco Palumbo (Chair Scientific Program Committee)

Angela Montanari (Chair Local Organizing Committee)

Maurizio Vichi (President of IFCS)



First Announcement CARME 2015 Napoli, Università “Federico II”

The **7th CARME (Correspondence Analysis and Related Methods) Conference** is scheduled to take place **20-23 September 2015**, in **Naples, Italy, University “Federico II”**. The objective of this conference is to spotlight the very latest research in correspondence analysis and related methods (CARME) of multidimensional visualization, as well as to discuss future developments. The Conference aims to bring together theoretical and applied researchers in all the areas where correspondence analysis and related methods are currently being used, notably sociology, psychology, education, ecology, archaeology, geology, linguistics, philosophy, genetics, biomedical research, health economics, marketing and management. Interdisciplinary contributions will be particularly welcome. More information is given on the CARME network website (<http://www.carme-n.org>) at the conference web page: <http://www.carme-n.org/carme2015/>.

Themes of the conference include all forms of correspondence analysis and related fields:

- Simple correspondence analysis
- Multiple correspondence analysis
- Joint correspondence analysis
- Multiway correspondence analysis
- Canonical correspondence analysis
- Nonsymmetrical correspondence analysis
- Dual scaling
- Optimal scaling
- Homogeneity analysis
- Geometric data analysis
- Multidimensional scaling of categorical data
- Visualization of categorical data
- Visualization of compositional data
- Correspondence analysis in the social sciences
- Correspondence analysis in ecology and the environmental sciences
- Correspondence analysis in the health sciences
- Correspondence analysis in management and marketing research
- Correspondence analysis in food and sensory research



Important Dates

May 31, 2015: Abstract submission

June 14, 2015: Notification of acceptance of conference papers

Scientific Committee

Simona Balbi, Università degli Studi di Napoli 'Federico II'

Jörg Blasius, University of Bonn

Michael Greenacre, Pompeu Fabra University, Barcelona

Local Committee

Simona Balbi (chair), Università degli Studi di Napoli 'Federico II'

Marco Gherghi, Università degli Studi di Napoli 'Federico II'

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Agnieszka Stawinoga, Università degli Studi di Napoli 'Federico II'

ISBIS Welcomes You!



www.isbis.org

Operating under the umbrella of the International Statistical Institute (ISI), ISBIS is an international society dedicated to the promotion of business and industrial statistics worldwide. ISBIS fosters applications, research, and best current practices in business and industrial statistics, facilitates technology transfer, and promotes communications among members and practitioners worldwide. It is particularly interested in fostering the careers of young researchers and professionals working

in business and industrial statistics, and related areas. If you are a member, please pass a copy of this issue of *ISBIS News* to anyone you know with potential interest in our society. If you are not an ISBIS member yet, please visit www.isbis.org/membership.html for detailed instructions on how to become a member.

ISBIS welcomes you!

PROFILES:

Rasheed Kola Ojikutu (PhD, C.Stat (London), P.Stat)

Nigeria



Professor **Rasheed Kola Ojikutu**, a Statistician by profession, holds a First Class Bachelor’s Degree and a Master’s Degree from the University of Madras, and a Ph.D. degree in Mortality Analysis. He joined the University of Lagos in 1983 and rose through the ranks to become the first Professor to be appointed in the Department of Actuarial Science and Insurance at the University of Lagos since its inception in 1973. He is currently the Dean of the Faculty of Business Administration of that university.

In 2012, he was appointed by the Federal Government of Nigeria as a Council member of the Federal University of Agriculture, Umudike, Abia State, Nigeria (now, Michael Okpara University of Agriculture).

Rasheed Kola Ojikutu

A Professionally accredited Statistician of the American Statistical Association in America and a professionally qualified Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society (England), Professor Ojikutu was elected as a member of the International Statistical Institute, The Netherlands, in 2003.

In furtherance of his career, Professor Ojikutu, was appointed by the Science Council of England as a Chartered Scientist in 2013.

Amongst his numerous professional achievements, Professor Ojikutu has received fellowship in the Institute of Operations Research of Nigeria and in the Association of Investment Advisers and Portfolio Managers of Nigeria. He is an active member of many international professional societies, including the Statistics and Probability African Society, the International Union for Scientific Study of Population (France), the International Society for Statistical Sciences (Pakistan), the International Association for Statistical Education, and the International Association for Statistical Computing.

Professor Ojikutu was a Board member of the Chinese-American Scholars Association, USA and also the Country Coordinator of the International Statistical Literacy Project in Finland. He was at various times, an Editorial and Advisory Board Member of many international journals. These include:

- *Scientific Journal International, USA*
- *International Journal of Academic Research, Azerbaijan*
- *Journal of World Research*
- *Nigerian Journal of Risk and Insurance*

A member of the Senate at University of Lagos, professor Ojikutu has held a variety of administrative positions, including Sub-Dean of the Faculty of Business Administration, Coordinator of the MBA Programme, Member of the Business Committee of the Senate, Member of the Board of Postgraduate Studies, Board Member of the Distance Learning Institute, all at the University of Lagos.

An accomplished researcher, Professor Ojikutu has several local and international academic papers, and textbooks to his credit. He is also a public commentator and opinion-moulder on many national issues. His articles of public interest have appeared in the three top national Nigerian newspapers: *The Guardian*, *The Punch* and *The Vanguard*.

NEWS AND OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Canada

ISBIS members **Yulia R. Gel** and **Stefan Steiner** were named **Fellows** of the **American Statistical Association (ASA)** in August this year. They are both faculty members in the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science at University of Waterloo. The designation of ASA Fellow has been a significant honor for nearly 100 years. Under ASA bylaws, the Committee on Fellows can elect up to one-third of one percent of the total membership as fellows each year.

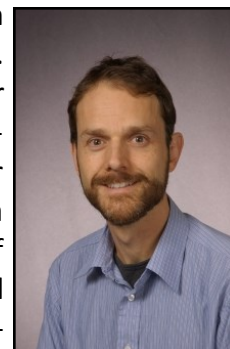


Yulia R. Gel

After completing her PhD studies in Mathematics at Saint-Petersburg State University, Russia, **Yulia Gel** held postdoctoral and visiting appointments in the University of Washington, George Washington University and University of California, Berkeley. Since 2004 she has been a faculty member in the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science at the University of Waterloo where she is presently an Associate Professor. Her research interests cover the areas of time series analysis, spatio-temporal modeling and nonparametrics. In time series, she has worked on a variety of problems, ranging from regularization and linearization techniques for real time (online) modeling and forecasting to nonparametric diagnostic procedures for temporally correlated processes and applied spatio-temporal modeling. She has applied the methods to substantive and diverse problems, including weather forecasting, environmental and ecological modeling, analysis of fMRI data, financial time series, and legal statistics. Gel's fellowship citation reads:

"For theoretical contributions to nonparametric aspects of spatiotemporal processes; for promoting the application of modern statistical methodologies in law, public policy, and the environmental sciences; and for championing the advancement of women and other under-represented groups in the mathematical and physical sciences."

Stefan Steiner, former ISBIS Council member and Scientific Program Chair for ISBIS 2010 in Portoroz, Slovenia, is currently Chair of the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science. He joined the Department in 1995. During the period 2004-2014, Steiner was the Director of the Business and Industrial Statistics Research Group (BISRG) at the University of Waterloo. From 2003-2004, he was the Director of BISRG's predecessor, namely the Institute for Improvement in Quality and Productivity. Steiner's research interests cover the broad area of business and industrial statistics, focusing on process improvement. The overall goal of his research is the development of innovative ways to use process data and statistical methods to drive process improvement and variation reduction. He has developed methods motivated by important areas of application, including monitoring of high dimensional data and of surgical outcomes (e.g. cardiac surgery), in the latter case incorporating risk-adjustment features to the methods to account for heterogeneity among the patients. He is well known for his extensive consulting work with numerous organizations, including General Motors Canada, Ford, Toyota, Chrysler, Nortel, Wescast, PetroCanada, Precision Plastics, Woodbridge Foam, Atlantis Aerospace, Eaton Yale, the U.S. Army, the State of Utah, and the Counties of Tooele, Utah, and Salt Lake. Steiner



Stefan Steiner

received fellowship in the American Society for Quality in 2013. His ASA fellowship citation reads:

“For substantial research contributions in process monitoring and measurement system assessment; for highly productive collaborative consulting in industry that has resulted in improved industrial and business processes; and for service to the ASA and the profession.”

Italy



In the 2014 election conducted by the International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA), former ISBA President **Professor Fabrizio Ruggeri** was appointed Chair-Elect for 2015-2016 (and Chair for 2017-2018) of **ISBA’s Industrial Statistics Section**. Professor Ruggeri is a prolific researcher, journal editor, author of books and monographs, and a frequent invited speaker at national, regional and international conferences. He is a very active member of ISBIS, currently serving as Editor-in-Chief of *Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry* (ISBIS research journal) and as an ex-officio member of the ISBIS Council. He is a Fellow of ISBA and ASA, and an ISI Elected member and Council member. For a more complete profile of Professor Ruggeri, check the 3rd 2014 issue of *ISBIS News* (page 13) available online at www.isbis.org.

Fabrizio Ruggeri

Taiwan

Professor **Galit Shmueli** has been appointed **Distinguished Professor** at the **National Tsing Hua University’s Institute of Service Science in Taiwan**. She currently serves as Council member for ISBIS. For the period 2011-2014, Professor Shmueli was SRITNE Chaired Professor of Data Analytics and Associate Professor of Statistics & Information Systems at the Indian School of Business. Her research focuses on statistical and data mining methods for modern data structures, with a particular interest on statistical strategy – issues related to how data analytics are used in scientific research. Her main field of application is information systems (in particular, electronic commerce). Her research has been published in the statistics, information systems, management, and marketing literature. She has authored over 80 journal articles, books, and book



*National Tsing Hua University President Hong
Hocheng and Galit Shmueli*

chapters, and is on the editorial boards of several journals, including *Annals of Applied Statistics*, *Decision Sciences Journal*, *JASA* and *The American Statistician Book Reviews*. After receiving her PhD in Statistics from the Israel Institute of Technology in 2000, Professor Shmueli was visiting faculty at Carnegie Mellon University’s Statistics Department, where she became involved in the early research in biosurveillance. Between 2002-2012 she was faculty at University of Maryland’s Smith School of Business, where she initiated with Wolfgang Jank a new research field on the interface of statistics and information systems called “statistical methods in

eCommerce”. This now highly active interdisciplinary field has generated important advancements in empirical eCommerce research. Professor Shmueli is passionate about teaching statistics and data mining and improving their application in the business environment. Her popular co-authored textbook *Data Mining for Business Intelligence* has been widely adopted in business schools worldwide.

OBITUARY:

Emanuel Pimentel Barbosa

(1951 – 2014)



Emanuel Pimentel
Barbosa*

It is with sadness that we inform the ISBIS community that Professor **Emanuel Pimentel Barbosa** passed away in Campinas, Brazil on 15 November 2014. He was 63.

Professor Pimentel Barbosa was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on October 27, 1951. He spent most of his professional career at University of Campinas (Unicamp), where he was an active member of the Department of Statistics within the Institute of Mathematics since 1996. He was fully dedicated to research, teaching and supervision of graduate students (Master’s and PhDs) in statistics.

After completing his Master’s studies, Professor Pimentel Barbosa earned a scholarship from the Brazilian state of Sao Paulo to undertake PhD studies abroad. He chose University of Warwick (UK). There he earned a PhD in Statistics under the direction of Professor Peter Jeff Harrison. His doctoral research was in the area of dynamic Bayesian models for time series analysis and forecasting. In subsequent years

he developed further this area, paying particular attention to forecasting. His paper “Short-term Forecasting of Industrial Electricity Consumption in Brazil” (with Regina Shadownik, *Journal of Forecasting* **18**(3), pp. 215-224, 1999) has received a lot of attention in the forecasting literature. His research interests then focused on statistical quality control methods and applications where he made methodological and applied contributions in recent years.

Professor Pimentel Barbosa had important contributions to the administrative activities of the Institute of Mathematics. He served as the Institute’s Coordinator of External Affairs for the period 2012-2014. He was very keen on making sure that theses written in other disciplines had the statistical support required for high quality statistical modeling and analysis of their data.

He was also very interested in the education of statistics majors at Unicamp. In particular, he was adamant that statistics courses be of comparable quality to those at international universities.

“We owe Emmanuel immensely for his efforts and dedication”, says Professor **Verónica González López** who was his Department colleague, collaborator and good friend at Unicamp. “Emmanuel gave his life to the university and to the endeavors of Unicamp’s Department of Statistics”, she added.



The International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics is very grateful for Professor Pimentel Barbosa's contributions and his generosity in his willingness to help organize activities and events in business and industrial statistics.

*Picture taken by **Márcia Branco** (IME-USP) at a talk Professor Pimentel Barbosa delivered at the 11th Latin American Congress of Statistical Societies held on 20-23 October 2014 in La Serena, Chile.

Editor's Notes

ISBIS News had an active and busy year. Including the current December issue in the count, we published four issues in 2014. The newsletter focused on the activities of the Society in the first place. But also gave coverage to events organized by sister organizations. Many of the leading organizers of such events are ISBIS members themselves. Very often the sister organizations sought ISBIS sponsorship of their events (see the President's Message). In addition, we also paid special attention to you, the ISBIS members, by publishing news items and reports/announcements of events organized by members in different parts of the world. These items not only enhanced the newsletter but they helped to get to know our members and what they do. I commend you for submitting many items to *ISBIS News* in 2014, and warmly invite you to do so in 2015!

In this issue we start a new column: **Profiles**. Planned to be a regular feature in the newsletter, the column profiles ISBIS members from different parts of the world. The aim is to provide another channel to learn about our members. I am very grateful to Professor **Rasheed Kola Ojikutu**, who is an ISBIS member from University of Lagos, Nigeria, for accepting to be our inaugural member profiled.

I am very grateful to colleagues in the Department of Statistics at University of Campinas, Brazil, for their help in preparing the obituary for Professor **Emanuel Pimentel Barbosa** whose untimely death occurred last month.

Thanks go to all who contributed to this and previous issues this year. Special thanks to *ISBIS News'* Associate Editors **David Steinberg** and **Yili Hong** for their help throughout the year, and to **Naveen Naidu Narizetty** for his continued helping hand with the ISBIS website.

Best wishes to all for happy and safe holidays.

Román Viveros-Aguilera, *ISBIS News* Editor

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