



Bernoulli News

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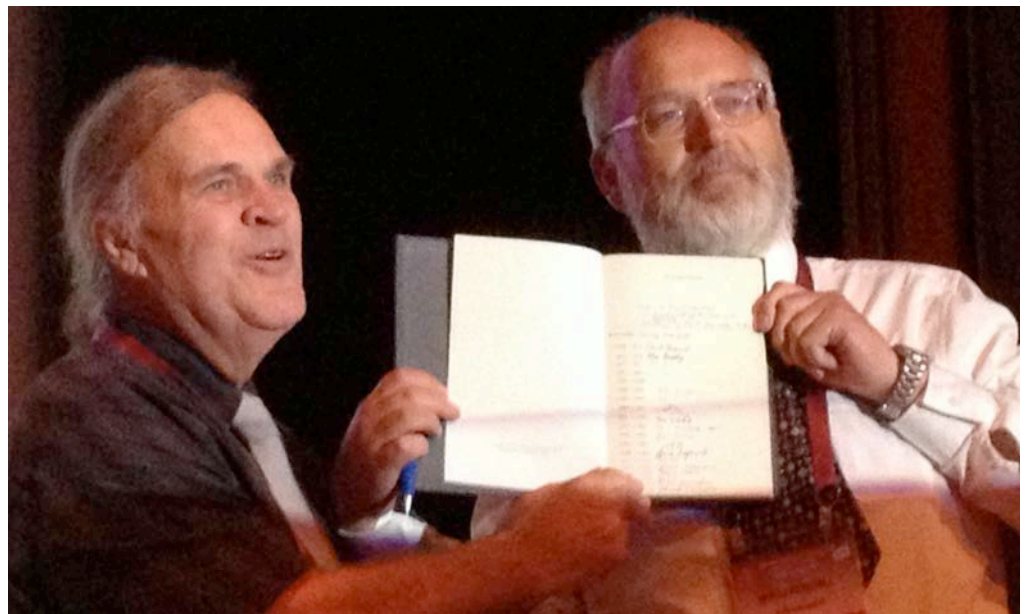
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A VIEW FROM THE PRESIDENT



Ed Waymire hands the Bernoulli Book over to Wilfrid Kendall during the General Assembly of the Bernoulli Society at the ISI World Congress in Hong Kong

As I mentioned in my closing remarks to the Bernoulli Society General Assembly at the Hong Kong ISI World Statistical Congress, I was surprised how moving I found it to be presented with "the Bernoulli Book", *Die Familie Bernoulli*, owned by the Bernoulli Society and handed down from President to President. I had of course special family reasons, as the reader may detect from close inspection of the picture here of one of the front pages, which holds signatures of all previous Bernoulli Presidents, with the single exception of Betty Scott, who passed away before her retrospective signature could be obtained. But additionally I felt very conscious of the glorious list of statistical and probabilistic giants here represented, and humbled by the thought that it is now my turn to carry the responsibility.

I owe a particular debt to the legacy of my immediate two predecessors Victor Peres-Abreu and Ed Waymire, who have worked tirelessly to promote Bernoulli Society and to ensure it fulfills its mission, "the advancement of the sciences of probability (including stochastic processes) and mathematical statistics and of their applications to all those aspects of human endeavour, which are directed toward the increase of natural knowledge and the welfare of mankind". We owe both of them much thanks. I am very grateful that both of them will remain close in society, if not geographical, terms: Ed, of course, is available to supply advice and counsel as Past-President and Victor is now elevated to ISI Vice President. (There exists an informative photograph of Victor during the Hong Kong ISI WSC, arrayed in what one can only describe as the imperial finery of an ISI Vice-President.) I look forward to working with them and also with President-Elect Sara van de Geer, the Executive Committee, the Council, and the Chairs and members of the various Bernoulli Standing Committees.

.... Continued on page 1

Deadline for the next issue: 31 March, 2014
Send contributions to: victor.panaretos@epfl.ch

A View from the President (continued from front cover)



From left to right: Past President Ed Waymire, President Wilfrid Kendall, and President Elect Sara van der Geer at the ISI World Congress in Hong Kong.

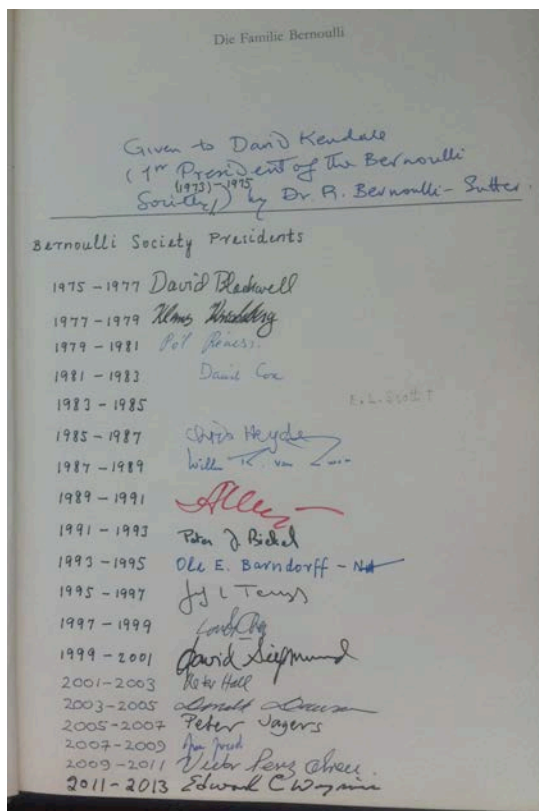
Continuing on that note, I warmly thank the retiring Council members for their wise advice over their term of office, and welcome the newly incoming Council members, namely Alicia Carriquiry, Jana Jureckova, Pedro Mendez, Byeong Park, B. L. S. Prakasa Rao and Michael Sorensen.

When I served as Bernoulli Scientific Secretary around 15 years ago, Council deliberations were confined to meetings once a year or so. Nowadays email allows the Council to be much more involved in significant Bernoulli decisions. In this and many other ways, the Bernoulli Society has become substantially more complicated in recent years, and much more so than at its inception 40 years ago, with successful journals providing resources to support prize-lectures, with a major quadrennial world congress series held joint with the IMS, with frequent conferences in the celebrated SPA and EMS series now seeing really excellent attendance, and with vigorous activity on a world-scale as evidenced by the excellent take-up of the International Year of Statistics (if your institution has yet to produce an IYoS 2013 activity, then you still have time to fit one in before the year ends! In order not to be left out, you should register the activity with Bernoulli using the application form available at www.bs2013.org). All this activity and more has to depend on hard work and conscientious organization by Bernoulli Society members across the world and that is something which we can both celebrate and rejoice over. (Indeed, I want to draw particular attention to the proposal for the new Ethel Newbold prize in Statistics, carefully devised by a committee chaired by Nancy Reid, and approved at General Assembly in Hong Kong.)

Amongst all this activity, there arise constant challenges from a changing world. Scientific publishing is much

debated and is changing in unpredictable ways; because the Bernoulli Society is involved in scientific publishing we have a stake in this game and also have a chance to take real positions in the debate. The internal boundaries of science itself are proving to be fluid and fertile areas of growth (for a topical example, consider the real challenges that lie beneath the hype of "Big Data") – subject specialists such as we mathematical statisticians and probabilists need to be alert and ready to take advantage of this lest we miss our chance. There is an increasing realization in science that acceptance of diversity is not only a moral issue but also a rich opportunity that should be explored, by ensuring that we give fair opportunity regardless of gender, by promoting regional groups within the Bernoulli umbrella, and by taking the opportunity to encourage scientific growth across the world whether through mentoring or facilitating participation at scientific meetings or other forms of capacity building. And there is the challenge of communicating the importance of society membership to our younger colleagues, who very reasonably require to be persuaded that the annual Bernoulli Society membership dues are a good long-term buy.

I believe the fundamental case to be made is that there are huge long-term benefits that arise from what can be described in a word as Association. Whether by being associated to a group that owns the means of scientific production, namely a scientific journal, or by grasping the opportunities of international networking provided by involvement in Bernoulli standing committees or conference organization; or by forming regional groups which allow the collective community of mathematical statisticians and probabilists to engage with your local community, there are real personal benefits and objective improvements in opportunity to be gained by such involvement.



Bernoulli Society has made a good start *via* free membership for PhD students; a brain-storming session at the second Bernoulli Council at Hong Kong produced several valuable ideas for taking further steps to make the benefits of such association tangible and I look forward to these being put into effect.

In closing, I return to "the Bernoulli Book". You will have noticed that there is no more room for further signatures on the page in the picture. This had already been foreseen earlier on: in www.bernoulli-society.org/index.php/history a redoubtable past Bernoulli President observes "There are plenty of blank pages ... to allow numerous presidential signatures". So it goes: looking to the past, we are reminded that the future lies ready to be written.

Wilfrid S. Kendall

Warwick, United Kingdom

President of the Bernoulli Society

News from the Bernoulli Society

Special Events in Conjunction with the International Year of Statistics 2013

Adam Jakubowski, Chairman of the Bernoulli Society Committee on the International Year of Statistics 2013 reports on the various activities as the special celebratory year nears its end.

Special Issue of the journal *Stochastic Processes and their Applications* (SPA), containing 20 original research articles and an editorial has been published in 2013. The guest editors were Rainer Dahlhaus, Jean Jacod, Per Mykland and Nakahiro Yoshida. The issue provides an overview of recent and future development of statistics for stochastic processes, often written by young researchers. It is available for free downloading under the link

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/03044149/123/7>

A Special Issue of the *Bernoulli Journal* (BJ), commemorating the 300th anniversary of the publication of *Ars Conjectandi* by Jacob Bernoulli has been published in 2013 and edited by Richard Davis and Thomas Mikosch. It consists of an editorial and 18 invited papers to provide a glimpse at future directions in probability and statistics from new application areas, to the development of new models, to the emerging interfaces between statistics and probability with other sciences as well as essays on the future of probability and mathematical statistics. This issue was published in

addition to the four numbers of the annual volume and has a universal electronic open access. See <http://projecteuclid.org/DPubS?service=UI&version=1.0&verb=Display&page=toc&handle=euclid.bj/1377612842>.

The 2013 July (3) issue of the *Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society* was prepared in collaboration with the Bernoulli Society and contains a special invited article by Professor Manfred Denker entitled "Tercentennial Anniversary of Bernoulli's Law of Large Numbers" (*Bull. Amer. Math. Soc.* 50 (2013), 373-390). This article provides an interesting and informative historic perspective on some contemporary advances in probability and statistics that can be traced back to the publication of Jacob Bernoulli's "*Ars Conjectandi*". A brief commentary by Bernoulli Society President, Edward Waymire (*Bull. Amer. Math. Soc.* 50 (2013), 469-472), is also included in this issue intended to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the publication of "*Ars Conjectandi*". See

<http://www.ams.org/journals/bull/2013-50-03/>

During the 59th World Statistics Congress held in Hong Kong Invited Paper Session 008 entitled "History I: Jacob Bernoulli's *Ars Conjectandi* and the emergence of probability" was one of the highlights of the Congress' first day, August 26th, 2013, and was broadcasted live on the Internet. The session was

sponsored by the Bernoulli Society and organized by Adam Jakubowski, the Chairman of the BS Committee for the Special Year 2013. The session itself was chaired by Ed Waymire, the President of the Bernoulli Society. The distinguished speakers were:

- Edith Dudley Sylla, recalling the history in the talk “Jacob Bernoulli and the founding of mathematical probability”,
- Krzysztof Burdzy, who delivered a provocative talk “Statistics and philosophy of probability -- Six degrees of separation”,
- Christian P. Robert, who presented “An overview of Monte Carlo methods, from importance sampling to MCMC and ABC”

Invited Discussant Nicolas Bingham could not come to Hong Kong due to health problems. Therefore, the session organizer, Adam Jakubowski from the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun, Poland, decided to take over the task of the discussant.

Professor Edith Dudley Sylla is a historian of science, currently Professor Emeritus of the North Carolina State University in Raleigh, USA. She translated *Ars Conjectandi*, adding an introduction and

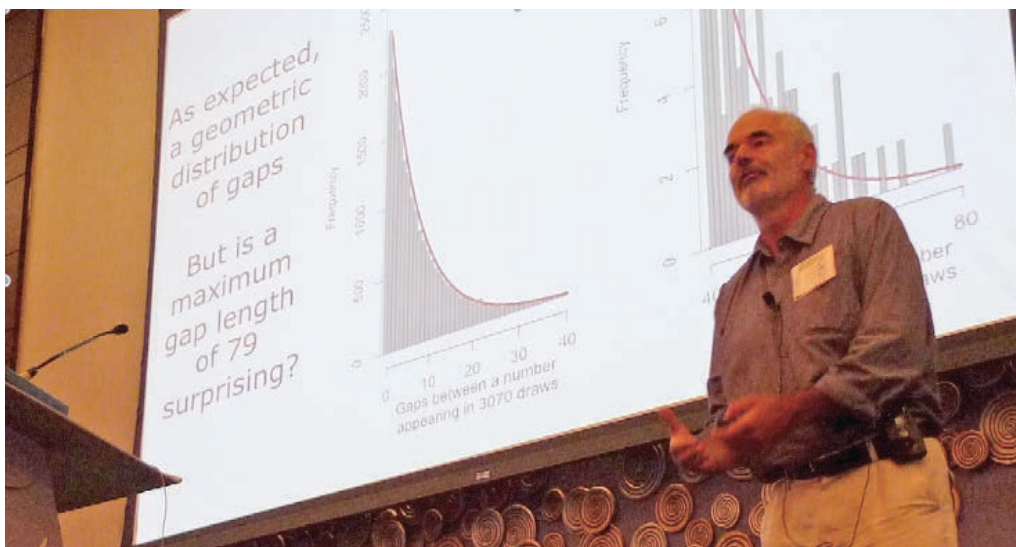
notes and published a book entitled “Jacob Bernoulli. The Art of Conjecturing together with Letter to a Friend on Sets in Court Tennis”, The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore 2006.

Professor Krzysztof Burdzy is an active researcher in Probability Theory, currently the Editor of *The Annals of Probability*. He is a Professor of Mathematics at the University of Washington in Seattle, USA. Recently, he has published “The Search for Certainty. On the Clash of Sciences and Philosophy of Probability”, World Scientific Publishing, Singapore 2009.

Professor Christian P. Robert is an active statistician and probabilist, currently Professor of Mathematics in CEREMADE, Université Paris-Dauphine, France, and Warwick University, UK. He is an author (or co-author) of 9 books, including “The Bayesian Choice”, Springer 1994, 2001, and “Monte Carlo Statistical Methods”, Springer 1999, 2004 (with G. Casella).

Adam Jakubowski
Torun

David Spiegelhalter Delivers Public Lecture at JSM in Montréal



To commemorate the 300th anniversary of the publication of Jacob’s Bernoulli’s seminal work *Ars Conjectandi*, the *Bernoulli Society*, the *Institute of Mathematical Statistics* (IMS) and the *Statistical Society of Canada* (SSC) presented a public lecture as part of the *Joint Statistical Meetings* (JSM) in Montréal on August 7, 2013. Entitled “From gambling to global catastrophe: metaphors and images for communicating numerical risks”, the lecture was presented by David Spiegelhalter, Winton Professor for the Public Understanding of Risk, University of Cambridge. In his lecture, he addressed a number of topics, from statistical

illiteracy as illustrated in the media, to the interpretation of hazard ratios in a medical context, to a metaphor for expressing risks through the enumeration of possible futures. With his great talent and good humour, David delighted an audience of several hundreds. While there were many participants from JSM, a good number of people from the general public also attended, including many people teaching statistics at the CEGEP level (in the province of Québec, Canada, students attend CEGEP for 2 years between high school and the 3 years of a Bachelor degree at the university level). Since Montréal is a bilingual city, the SSC translated the lecture in French (thanks go to Jean-François Plante for

the outstanding translation and adaptation) and showed it on a second screen. A journalist from Radio-Canada interviewed David to complete a report on statistics as part of JSM and the International Year of Statistics for a radio science program in French. So, from many

different points of view, this public lecture was a great success. (Picture courtesy of the IMS).

*Christian Léger, SSC Past-President
Montréal*

News from the European Regional Committee: who can beat EMS 2013? Any takers?



Meeting of the ERC in Budapest, July 2013. Clockwise: Sandor Baran, Laszlo Markus, Richard Samworth, Ernst Wit (ERC Chair), Hannes Leeb, Niels Hansen (ERC Programme Coordinator), Wilfrid Kendall (BS President), Maarten Jansen, Markos Koutras

As new chair of the European Regional Committee, I can look back on a very successful European Meeting (EMS) of Statisticians in July in Budapest. As ERC, we are responsible for organizing the EMS and it has been gratifying to see such a large crowd of statisticians flocking to the Hungarian capital this summer. Congratulations to Laszlo Markus and Michael Sorensen, the local and program chairs, respectively, for their outstanding work. This obviously raises the question whether we can beat this event in the future. We are pleased to announce that Amsterdam is going to try in July 2015. Mark your calendars. But nominations for the meeting thereafter are still open. We would like to invite anyone with an interest to be the local host to email the ERC Programme Coordinator, Niels Hansen (niels.r.hansen@math.ku.dk), before 15 November 2013.

In Budapest, we held an ERC meeting (see picture), where over a delicious Hungarian lunch we discussed the current events in Statistics and Probability in Europe, which we invite everyone to read about in the

minutes on the ERC website (<http://www.bernoulli-society.org/>). We are particularly pleased to announce that we are relaunching the SemStat short course series for advanced PhD students. Furthermore, as ERC we want to play a more active role as European forum for national statistics and probability societies – if possible by a simultaneous increase of female participation in the ERC.

In fact, if I have to choose three topics that I would like to achieve in my 2-year term as ERC Chair, they would be the following: the new SemStat series, ERC as a European platform for Statistics and Probability and to obtain a more gender-balanced ERC.

I am up for the challenge. Let's see.

*Ernst Wit
Groningen*

New Chair of C(PS)² Appointed

Harry Pavlopoulos has now stepped down as chair of the Committee for Probability and Statistics in the Physical Sciences (C(PS)²), and the Bernoulli Council has approved Ilya Zaliapin (wolfweb.unr.edu/~zal/) as the new chair of C(PS)² for the term 2013-2015.

On this occasion, Bernoulli Society President Wilfrid Kendall remarked, “I give Harry the warmest possible thanks for his service to Bernoulli in the role of C(PS)² chair, and look forward with enthusiasm to Ilya's tenure of this post”.

The mission of C(PS)² (www.aueb.gr/bs-cpsps/) is to foster interdisciplinary communication of statistical and probabilistic methods and their applications in the realm of Physical Sciences at large (e.g. Geophysics, Biophysics, Astrophysics, etc.). The main venue for accomplishing this mission is by involvement/participation/initiative in the organization of workshops, conferences or special sessions within major international conferences of mathematical/statistical/physical interest.

C(PS)² has been a standing committee of the Bernoulli Society since the formation of Bernoulli, and Harry is the tenth, and Ilya the eleventh, in a distinguished line of chairs of this committee

Nakahiro Yosida
Tokyo

Awards and Prizes

Ethel Newbold Prize in Statistics

The Bernoulli Council recently approved the establishment of a prize for a body of work that represents excellence in research in statistics, the "Ethel Newbold Prize in Statistics" -- to be awarded every 2 years, beginning in 2015. Ethel Newbold was an English statistician, and the first woman to be awarded the Guy Medal in Silver by the Royal Statistical Society. The name recognizes the historically important role of women in statistics, enhancing the Bernoulli Society's goals toward gender diversity. The prize itself is for excellence in statistics without reference to the gender of the recipient.

A call for nominations will be circulated in the fall preceding the award year. Selection criteria include:

1. Excellence in research in mathematical statistics or
2. Excellence in research that links developments in a substantive field to new advances in statistics and
3. An overall diversity condition that nominations include candidates from both genders in any years in which the award is to be made.

A prize committee consisting of three statisticians over a 3-year term will be appointed by the President with approval of the Executive Committee of the Bernoulli Society to receive nominations and propose the recipient for final approval of the award by the EC and Council.

A detailed biography of Ethel Newbold may be found in her obituary,

Greenwood, M. (1933). Ethel May Newbold. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, **96**, No. 2 (1933), 354 – 357. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/2341811>

Submitted on behalf of the Ad Hoc Committee (Julia Brettschneider, Lynne Billard, Richard Davis, Nanny Wermuth, Nancy Reid (Chair).

Nancy Reid
Toronto

David's Musings: Using resources wisely, and the breadth of the mathematical sciences

Whenever I am partly responsible for allocating other people's money (via grants, etc.), I first wonder whether the applicants are using their existing resources wisely. In the bigger picture, "we" -- academics in general, and statisticians and mathematicians in particular -- usually feel we do not have enough resources, and so we ask others (the government via taxes, or students via tuition) for more money. But to what extent are we using existing resources wisely?

One much-discussed aspect is the cost of journals. I don't have anything novel to contribute to that discussion, beyond repeating the obvious that this particular aspect is entirely under our control.

Outrageously expensive journals continue to exist, merely because academic authors continue to submit papers to them.

What prompted today's musings is a different aspect. I recently received a message from a Dean at one of the top U.S. private universities, saying they were putting a certain individual up for tenure, and seeking my advice regarding whom they should ask to write letters. This is the kind of task I'm happy to do, and I soon received by email a list of 26 names. My reaction was to start pruning the list -- A, B and C will know similar parts of his work but B has the broadest perspective, so use her - in order to reduce it to the 12 who might be most

useful. But in a subsequent phone call, it transpired that they wanted more names, not fewer: "it's our policy" to get such a large number of letters. My remonstrations -- that one gets negligibly more information from 26 letters than from 12, so asking 26 people represents a massive waste of our resources of time and energy -- were ineffectual against the bureaucratic "it's our policy" response. Can we please have a non-proliferation treaty for letters of recommendation?

Changing topics, the relationship between statistics and the mathematical sciences is a big question on which readers surely have their own opinions, so let me just throw out three observations. *The Mathematical Sciences in 2025* is a recent U.S. 200-page panel report on the "current state of the mathematical sciences and the changes needed for the discipline to ... maximize its contribution ... in 2025". Perhaps its central theme is encapsulated in the sentences "The committee members -- like many others who have examined the mathematical sciences -- believe that it is critical to consider the mathematical sciences as a unified whole. Distinctions between "core" and "applied" mathematics increasingly appear artificial; in particular, it is difficult today to find an area of mathematics that does not have relevance to applications." The report outlines 14 topics "as illustrations of the health and vitality of the mathematical sciences". Of these 14 topics, only 3 are traditional pure mathematics. Another 3 are somewhat related to statistics (New Frontiers in Statistical Inference; Uncertainty Quantification; The Mathematical Sciences and Social Networks) and the other 8 relate to computation and to various sciences. A subsequent part of the report is titled "Two Major Drivers of Expansion: Computation and Big Data".

Such reports inevitably contain elements of salesmanship -- the authors are seeking to obtain more resources for the mathematical sciences by emphasizing its modern applications -- but to me the report paints a splendid picture of the desired future as a "broad picture" of mathematical sciences, and incidentally provides an appropriate recognition of Statistics within the broad picture. But my final two observations, below, illustrate two of the numerous difficulties in getting to this desired future.

In late 2011, there emerged a proposal to change the name of the (U.S.) NSF Division of Mathematical Sciences to a name which explicitly mentions Statistics. A sense of the resulting controversy can be gained by searching "DMS name change" on the AMS and IMS

web sites; perhaps unsurprisingly, the proposed change had almost unanimous opposition from mathematicians but strong support from statisticians. Now the name change proposal (eventually not implemented) is a trivial distraction to a more serious issue. Currently, DMS is split into 11 Disciplinary Research Programs which mostly follow the traditional fields studied within mathematics departments; this is in stark contrast to the 2025 report whose authors believe (as I do, although solid data is hard to find) that about half of current "mathematical sciences" research is done outside Mathematics departments. My point is that, judging from the AMS site remarks, mathematics-department mathematicians seem to be taking a backward-looking view. They are seeking to remain a majority within a narrowly-delimited "mathematical sciences" discipline, rather than embracing the likely and desirable transformation to a broadly-delimited discipline, for fear of becoming a minority therein.

My final observation comes from colleague Bin Yu, but first some background. In my academic youth, the word "probability" was so often part of the phrase "probability and statistics" that it was taken for granted that the major application of mathematical probability was to mathematical statistics. With that in mind, I once wrote that I was interested in the applications of probability to everything except Statistics. In writing that, I was not intending to disrespect Statistics, merely taking for granted that many other people were thinking about the applications to Statistics, so I chose to focus on different topics. 30 years later, things have changed drastically; Probability and Statistics are both much larger fields, and both have more active links with other disciplines. But they are pulling apart. For instance, as Bin observed, 30 years ago many probabilists would attend the IMS annual meeting, but now probabilists and statisticians rarely attend the same meetings. In general, finding the balance between maintaining existing communities and encouraging interdisciplinary activity remains a challenging problem. More specifically, Bin reminds us that contemporary Statistics continues to provide many new problems which mathematical probabilists may be equipped to tackle.

David Aldous

Berkeley

Editor's note: This is the eighth installment of a regular opinion column.

Past Conferences, Meetings and Workshops

The 59th ISI World Statistics Congress, 25 – 30 August 2013, Hong Kong, S.A.R. China

This summary presents the highlights of the WSC in Hong Kong. A more detailed report can be found on the ISI website at:

<http://www.isi-web.org/images/WSC/2013/Report%20of%20the%2059th%20ISI%20World%20Statistics%20Congress.pdf>.

Participation:

A total of 2,509 participants from 114 countries attended the Congress.

Opening Ceremony: The opening ceremony took place during the afternoon on Sunday, 25th August 2013. The ceremony was held in the Grand Hall of the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC), a magnificent venue which was our home for almost a week.



Dragons at the Opening Ceremony of the ISI WSC 2013

Scientific Programme: The technical programme consisted of over 1,400 papers that were presented in 243 sessions. There were 105 Invited Paper Sessions, 90 Special Topics Sessions, and 49 Contributed Paper Sessions, covering leading-edge research and practice, emerging topics of broad interest, expository and overview talks and panel discussions. The Scientific Programme Committee and the Local Programme Committee, chaired respectively by Professor Xuming He (USA) and by Professor Kai Ng (Hong Kong), did a wonderful job in organizing a program that was very rich and diverse in content.

Youth Theme Day: The special theme day for the Hong Kong WSC was 'Youth'. Professors Delia North (South Africa) and Byeong Park (Korea) led the organization of the theme-day session on the Scientific Programme Committee.

International Year of Statistics 2013: Dr. Ron Wasserstein, Executive Director of ASA and Coordinator of the Statistics 2013 Steering Committee,

gave a special presentation on the International Year on Tuesday afternoon.

Karl Pearson Lecture: The inaugural Karl Pearson Prize was awarded to Professors Peter McCullagh and (the late) John Nelder for their monograph "Generalized Linear Models (1983)." Peter McCullagh gave the Karl Pearson lecture on Tuesday afternoon.

President's Invited Lecture: Dr. Kaushik Basu, Senior Vice-President and Chief Economist at World Bank, was the President's Invited Lecturer at the Hong Kong WSC. He gave a very informative lecture on World Bank's goals of eliminating extreme poverty and sharing prosperity and the role of statistics and data in these activities.

Exhibition Hall: There were 30 exhibitors who presented an overview of products and services during the conference. The group included well-known statistical societies, academic institutions, vendors of

commonly adopted statistics software as well as sizable publishers of statistics journals and books.

Awards Ceremony: Numerous awards by the ISI and Associations were presented. All awards and names are winners can be found in the online awards brochure (<http://www.isi-web.org/images/WSC/2013/Awards%20Brochure%2013.pdf>).

ISI General Assembly: The General Assembly (GA), held on Thursday afternoon, was attended by 161 ISI members. A separate report of the GA is published on the web. (<http://www.isi-web.org/images/news/General%20Assembly%20Report.pdf>). Of particular note was the proposal by the Moroccan government to host the 61st ISI WSC in 2017 in Marrakech. The GA was pleased to accept this proposal.

Closing Ceremony: This ceremony occurred after the final session on Friday, 30th of August, and was very well attended with several hundred participants. President Jae C Lee thanked Ms Lily Ou-Yang and the Hong Kong team for their excellent organization of the Congress. This was also the occasion when Jae C. Lee handed over the presidency (and symbolically the ISI flag) to the incoming President Vijay Nair.

Gala Dinner: This event, on Friday evening, was the 'Grand Finale'. The Congress participants enjoyed an unforgettable evening in the Grand Hall of the HKCEC. There were many impressive performances including a Chinese opera performed by young children. It was a fitting end to a wonderful conference and a memorable visit to Hong Kong.

*Ada van Krimpen
The Hague*

German-Polish Joint Conference on Probability and Mathematical Statistics, 6-9 June 2013, Nicolaus Copernicus University, Torún, Poland



Following over 3 years of preparation, the first *German-Polish Joint Conference on Probability and Mathematical Statistics* (GPPS 2013) was held from 6 to 9 June 2013 in Torún, Poland. The meeting was organized by the Stochastics section of the German Mathematical Society and the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science of the Nicolaus Copernicus University, Torun.

Members of the Scientific Programme Committee of GPPS 2013 were Professors Nicole Bäuerle (Karlsruhe), Herold Dehling (Bochum, Chair), Adam Jakubowski (Torun, Chair of Local Organizing Committee), Achim Klenke (Mainz), Rafal Latała (Warsaw), Teresa Ledwina (Wrocław), Wojciech Niemiro (Torun), and Markus Reiss (Berlin). Twenty invited paper sessions were formed, with a focus on topics with a strong tradition in both countries. All sessions were chaired by a team of two renowned experts, one from Poland and one from Germany.

The scientific programme of GPPS 2013 was impressive. Plenary lectures were delivered by Professors Rama Cont (London), Sara van de Geer

(Zürich), Frank den Hollander (Leiden), Dominique Picard and Gerard Kerkycharian (Paris). 80 invited talks were given in the following sessions (names of organizers in brackets): Lévy and Related Jump Processes (Krzysztof Bogdan, René Schilling); Random Recursive Structures (Ewa Damek, Gerold Alsmeyer); Mathematical Finance (Lukasz Stettner, Peter Imkeller); Free Probability (Jacek Wesolowski, Roland Speicher); Applied Mathematical Finance (Jacek Jakubowski, Thorsten Schmidt); Statistics of Financial Data (Rafal Weron, Wolfgang Härdle); Ergodic Theory and Dynamical Systems (Mariusz Lemanczyk, Manfred Denker); Applied Probability (Ryszard Szekli, Günter Last); Stochastic Processes in Life Sciences (Ryszard Rudnicki, Anton Wakolbinger); Stochastic PDEs (Szymon Peszat, Michael Röckner); Change-Point Tests (Teresa Ledwina, Roland Fried); Models for Ordered Data (Tomasz Rychlik, Udo Kamps); Markov Chains and Monte Carlo Methods (Krzysztof Latuszynski, Andreas Eberle); Stochastic Inequalities (Krzysztof Oleszkiewicz, Lutz Mattner); Statistics and Econometrics (Jan Mielniczuk, Wolfgang Schmid); Stochastic Models in Insurance (Zbigniew Palmowski, Hans-Peter Schmidli);

Signal Analysis (Mirosław Pawlak, Ulrich Stadtmüller); Stochastic Analysis (Leszek Ślominski, Jeannette Wörner); Extremes and Heavy Tailed Phenomena (Adam Jakubowski, Claudia Klüppelberg); Spatial Stochastic Modeling (Rafał Kulik, Volker Schmidt).

In his opening speech, Herold Dehling referred to the dark times of German-Polish history, by saying *"I would like to thank our Polish colleagues for hosting this joint conference in Poland. Your country has a most impressive tradition in Mathematics. Among the founders of the areas of Probability Theory and Mathematical Statistics, and its foundations in Analysis, were great minds from Poland, such as Banach, Kac, Marcinkiewicz, Neyman, Orlicz, Rajchman, Schauder, Steinhaus, Ulam and Zygmund, to name just a few. Mentioning these names, I am also painfully reminded of the fact that my country did horrible things to the Polish people in the 20th century. To our Polish colleagues, I am deeply grateful that despite this history you have welcomed us to this joint meeting."*

Both scientifically as well as socially, GPPS 2013 was a great success. In total, 200 talks were delivered in five parallel sessions from Thursday to Sunday morning. During a special *Posters, Cheese and Wine* reception on

the first evening of the conference, 15 posters were presented. The conference was attended by 273 researchers, mostly from Poland and Germany, but also 50 colleagues from abroad participated in the meeting.

All participants agreed that GPPS 2013 was exceptionally well organized. The team of local organizers, headed by Adam Jakubowski and Joanna Karloswka-Pik, had put a lot of effort into the preparations of the conference, with a visible love for many details. Special highlights were the *Posters, Cheese and Wine* reception on Thursday evening, the conference dinner on Friday night, and a concert by renowned pianist Paweł Wakarecy on Saturday night.

There was wide agreement among the participants that there should be a continuation of GPPS 2013 in the not too distant future. Presently, plans are under way for a second meeting in Germany in the spring of 2017.

Herold Dehling

Bochum

Adam Jakubowski

Torún

Workshop in Honour of Olav Kallenberg, 24-28 June 2013, Institut Mittag-Leffler, Sweden



From June 24-28, 2013, nearly 30 probabilists met at the Institut Mittag-Leffler of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences to honour the scientific work of Professor Olav Kallenberg. The workshop was centered on themes which are important in Olav's scientific work. There were talks on exchangeability, symmetries and invariance principles (David Aldous, Ilya Molchanov, Giovanni Peccati), on random measures, point processes and random sets (Alexander Holroyd, Martin Jacobsen, Günter Last, Hermann Thorisson, Martina Zähle) and on superprocesses and random trees (Don Dawson, Steven N. Evans, Andreas Greven, Olle Häggström, Peter

Jagers, Jean-Francois Le Gall, Tatyana Turova).

Further talks were given by Priscilla Greenwood (on dynamics of gamma bursts in local field potentials), Lars Holst (on probabilistic proofs of Euler identities), John Kingman (on Markov processes without time invariance), Takis Konstantopoulos (on iterated Brownian motion), and Fima Klebaner (on fake Brownian motion).

Klaus Krickeberg provided an interesting and very personal insight into his more than 35 years of working in the field of health statistics in Vietnam. Torgny

Lindvall gave a talk on the highly influential scientific work of Wolfgang Doeblin.

Olav Kallenberg himself presented a lecture on "Some failures, problems and conjectures from a lifetime in probability". He formulated six open problems which have been the driving force behind much of his mathematical work. These are extension problems for symmetric arrays, representation of exchangeable random sheets, approximations in fractal random measures, tree structures in superprocesses and multiple point process integrals, and stationary line and flat processes.

Transparencies with Olav's problems as well as the

transparencies of some of the other talks can be found at:

http://www.math.uni-frankfurt.de/~ismi/Kallenberg_symposium/

The organizers (Peter Jagers, Günter Last, Torgny Lindvall, Hermann Thorisson, Anton Wakolbinger) are very grateful to the Mittag-Leffler institute for having made this exciting and very memorable event possible.

*Günter Last
Karlsruhe*

17th Brazilian School of Probability, August 4 - 10 2013, Mambucaba, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



With the scientific sponsorship of the Bernoulli Society, and joining the celebration of 2013 as the International Year of Statistics, the XVII Brazilian School of Probability (XVII EBP) took place in Mambucaba, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, at Hotel do Bosque, in the period of August 4--10, 2013. It was organized by IMPA and the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro.

The school gathered an international audience (around 155 participants), constituted by specialists, young researchers and graduate students in the field. The meeting has successfully achieved its already traditional double goal: school and workshop. Featuring the mini-courses *Renormalisation Theory and Stochastic PDEs*, by Martin Hairer (University of Warwick), and *Stochastic Interacting Particles and Statistical Mechanics*, by Errico Presutti (Gran Sasso Science Institute, L'Aquila). Invited speakers and contributors presented recent results in probability and rigorous statistical mechanics. Besides the mini-courses and plenary lectures, interesting sessions of short talks and posters induced a very active and enriching interaction between the participants. In this combination, graduate students, young pos-docs and specialists have been

exposed to material presented in a systematic way, as well as to new advances of the research in the field. The school received financial support of the European Science Foundation, and of several local agencies: CAPES, CNPq, FAPERJ, FAPESP, besides the important contribution received from the organizing institutions and from the grants and institutions of the participants (invited and contributors).

Full information about the school can be found at:

http://www.impa.br/opencms/pt/eventos/store/evento_1304

The organizing committee was comprised of: Sandro Gallo (UFRJ); Leandro Pimentel (UFRJ); Vladas Sidoravicius (IMPA); Glauco Valle (UFRJ); Maria E. Vares- chair (UFRJ).

*Maria E. Vares
Rio de Janeiro*

The 2nd ISI Young Statisticians Satellite Meeting, 22-23 August 2013, University of Hong Kong, S.A.R. China

The 59th ISI World Statistics Congress was held in Hong Kong, in August 2013. The Congress was preceded by a very successful satellite meeting, the second International Meeting of Young Statisticians (YSI 2013), intended for early career statisticians. The aim was to promote the active participation of early career statisticians in the epi-centre of the ISI World Congress. The meeting was organized by the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, the University of Hong Kong. Over 60 delegates were in attendance, from over 20 different countries.

Oral presentations were given by nine invited lecturers (Sir Don Fraser, Peter Hall, John Haslett, Rich Leadbeater, Hedibert Lopes, Geoff McLachlan, Susan Murphy, Byeong Park, Stephen Stigler) and poster presentations were made by the attending delegates. The presenters, talks and posters represented both genders and a wide range of nationalities, and statistical areas. All the invited presentations provoked stimulating discussions from the audience. A special focus of the meeting was on Wakimoto Memorial Students Session. The six awardees of The Wakimoto Memorial Fund, selected by the Scientific Committee of YSI2013, were Kun Chen (The Chinese University of Hong Kong), Shu-Yu Chen (Feng Chia University), Ali Dastbaravarde (Ferdowsi University of Mashhad), Sharon Lee (University of Queensland), Liubov Markovich (Russian Academy of Sciences), and Mahdi Teimouri (Amirkabir University of Technology); each of these students gave a 20-minute talk. Their topics

were representative of the spectrum of statistical areas represented at the meeting -- from time series analysis, to analysis of clinical trial, and dependence modelling. Besides, the three winners of the 2013 Jan Tinbergen Award also presented their papers during the meeting.

Several poster sessions ran throughout the meeting, which provided excellent opportunities for delegates to mix and share their thoughts and work in a friendly and supportive environment. Moreover, the poster sessions offered delegates the opportunity to meet and chat with the esteemed invited speakers.

The meeting was kindly supported by the Hong Kong Statistical Society, the Irish Statistical Association and the International Statistical Institute. Without their support, the meeting would not have materialized.

Photos of the meeting can be downloaded from:

<http://lx2.saas.hku.hk/Conference/ysi2013/album/index.html>.

Wai Keung LI

(Chair of the Local Organizing Committee)

Ka Chun CHEUNG

(Chair of the Scientific Program Committee)

18th European Young Statisticians Meeting, 26-31 August 2013, Osijek, Croatia



The 18th European Young Statisticians Meeting was held at the Department of Mathematics, J.J. Strossmayer

University of Osijek, Croatia, 26--30 August 2013.

This is the first time that we had the opportunity to organize the EYSM in Croatia. All conference materials and other information could be found on the conference website:

<http://www.mathos.unios.hr/eysm18/>.

The International Organizing Committee has done a great job by selecting the high-level young scientists and on behalf of the Local Organizing Committee we would like to thank them on their efforts. The scientific program included 45 talks given by invited young researchers from 25 European countries and 5 keynote lectures given by eminent scientists from the field of statistics and probability: Bojan Basrak (University of Zagreb, Croatia), Nikolai N. Leonenko (Cardiff University, UK), Jürgen Pilz (Alpen-Adria Universität Klagenfurt, Austria), Johan Segers (Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium) and Michael Sørensen (University of Copenhagen, Denmark).

Furthermore, to encourage socializing and establishing new collaborations between participants, we organized several social events with intent to present the Croatian culture, natural beauty and gastronomy -- guided city tour of Osijek, excursion in the nature park "Kopački rit" and conference dinner.

We thank all the participants for providing an excellent scientific program and a lot of fun during the social events. We would like to thank to the Bernoulli Society and all the other sponsors that helped in organizing the 18th EYSM.

It is our pleasure to announce that the 19th European Young Statisticians Meeting will take place in Prague, the capital of Czech Republic.

*Nenad Šuvak
on behalf of the Local Organizing
Committee*

Forthcoming Conferences, Meetings and Workshops

11th German Probability and Statistics Days, March 4-7 2014, University of Ulm, Germany



Continuing the successful series of conferences held every 2 years (most recent conference 2012 in Mainz), the Probability and Statistics Group of the DMV and Ulm University <http://www.uni-ulm.de> organize the 11th German Probability and Statistics Days ("Ulmer Stochastik-Tage") from Tuesday, March 4th to Friday, March 7th, 2014, in Ulm.

In the tradition of the previous conferences, it provides an international forum for the presentation and discussion of new results in all areas of probability and statistics.

Plenary lectures will be given by

- Jianqing Fan (Princeton)
- Geoffrey Grimmett (Cambridge)
- Jean-François Le Gall (Paris)
- Alexandre Tsybakov (Paris)

Furthermore, there are 16 scientific sections each with one invited speaker. All talks are in English. Additionally, there is a German language section on Probability and Statistics at Schools.

The submission of abstracts for contributed talks is starting June 1st, 2013, and ends November 30th, 2013. Early bird registration expires January 15th, 2014.

Participants from academia, business, administration and industry are welcome.

For further information, please have a look at <http://www.gpsd-ulm2014.de/>.

*Robert Stelzer
Ulm*

Conference on Modelling, Analysis and Simulation in Econometrics, March 6-8 2014, University of Ulm, Germany

Commemorating the end of the successful DFG-funded research training group “Modelling, Analysis and Simulation in Econometrics” <http://www.uni-ulm.de/en/einrichtungen/research-training-group-1100.html> a conference is organized at Ulm University from Thursday, March 6th to Saturday March 8th, 2014.

The conference is a satellite meeting to the 11th German Probability and Statistics Days held at Ulm University from Tuesday, March 4th to Friday, March 7th, 2014.

A plenary talk by Christoph Schwab (ETH Zurich) is organised jointly with the 11th German Probability and Statistics Days. Furthermore, there are invited talks by

- Daniel Bauer (Georgia State University, Atlanta)
- Peter Brockwell (Colorado State University, Fort Collins)
- Ansgar Jüngel (TU Wien)

- Andreas Kyprianou (University of Bath)
- Peter Tankov (Université Paris-Diderot)

and talks by former and current members of the research training group.

On Saturday morning, a public panel discussion (in German) on „Ist die Wirtschaftsmathematik Schuld an der Finanzkrise oder kann sie in Zukunft helfen, Finanzkrisen zu verhindern?“ is going to be held in the city centre of Ulm.

Participants from academia, business, as administration and industry are welcome.

For further information, please have a look at <http://graduiertenkolleg.gpsd-ulm2014.de/>.

*Robert Stelzer
Ulm*

Australian Statistical Conference in Conjunction with the IMS Annual Meeting, 7-10 July 2014, Australian Technology Park, Sydney

On behalf of the Statistical Society of Australia and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, the organizing committee invites you to register in the joint Australian Statistical Conference/IMS Annual meeting, to be held 7 –10 July 2014 at the Australian Technology Park in Sydney, Australia. The Conference will provide opportunities for presentations on a wide range of topics and recognizes the role that statistics plays in all aspects of modern life. Topics of interest include but are not limited to: spatial statistics, Bayesian statistics, computational and asymptotic statistics, sample surveys, methodology for official statistics, stochastic/statistical modelling, biostatistics, multivariate statistics, probability, mathematical statistics, econometrics and financial statistics.

Keynote speakers:

- James Brown, University of Southampton
- Adrian Baddeley, University of Western Australia
- Sheila Bird, Cambridge University
- Rob Tibshirani, Stanford University

IMS Keynote Speakers:

- Thomas G. Kurtz, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Peter Donnelly, University of Oxford

- Terry Lyons, University of Oxford
- Nina Gantert, Technische Universität München
- Martin Hairer, University of Warwick
- Timo Seppalainen, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Matthew Stephens, University of Chicago
- Harrison Zhou, Yale University

You are invited to submit an abstract for consideration for a contributed oral or poster presentation. While there is no restriction on the topic or number of contributed presentations, the number of oral presentations is by nature limited.

Important dates:

Abstract Submission Deadline: 30 October 2013

Author Notification: 30 November 2013

Early Bird Deadline: 28 February 2014

Please visit the website for further updates: www.asc-ims2014.com

29th International Workshop on Statistical Modeling (IWSM), 14-18 July 2014, Göttingen, Germany

The 29th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling will be hosted by the Centre for Statistics of the Georg-August-Universität Göttingen (Germany).

IWSM is the major activity of the Statistical Modelling Society, founded with the purpose of promoting and encouraging statistical modelling in its widest sense, involving both academic and professional statisticians and data analysts. Since its first edition, the spirit of the workshop has always been to focus on problems motivated by real life data and on solutions that make novel contributions to the subject.

As in previous years, the workshop will bring together a wide variety of international researchers, coming from all over the world and featuring different levels of experience, to encourage discussion and interchange between junior and senior scientists.

Göttingen, situated in the middle of Germany, is well-known for its university and a rich and stimulating scientific environment in general. It has been the home of famous researchers like Carl Friedrich Gauß and over 40 Nobel Prize winners in the past and still attracts a multifaceted research community nowadays, creating an open-minded atmosphere that makes Göttingen an ideal stage for the 29th IWSM. The conference venues are located in the historic city centre, which is famous for its medieval churches and characteristic half-timbered houses.

Confirmed invited speakers are

- Antoine de Falguerolles (Université de Toulouse, France)

37th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications (SPA), 28 July – 1 August 2014, Buenos Aires, Argentina

The 37th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications will take place at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, from July 28 to August 1, 2014.

The list of plenary speakers is confirmed, and is comprised of: Anton Bovier, Ivan Corwin, Laszlo Erdős, Antonio Galves, Christophe Garban, Martin Hairer (Lévy Lecture), Milton Jara, Gady Kozma, Eyal Lubetzky, Sylvie Méléard, David Nualart (IMS Medallion Lecture), Felix Otto, Tomohiro Sasamoto, Scott Sheffield, Fabio Toninelli, Balint Tóth, and a Doebelin Prize Lecture to be announced.

Besides plenary talks, the meeting will have a large number of shorter talks conducted in parallel sessions on different topics. We anticipate around 40 sessions. A list of Invited Sessions can be found at the event webpage. You are welcome to propose a Contributed

- Alejandro Jara (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile)
- Sophia Rabe-Hesketh (University of California, Berkeley, USA)
- Gerhard Tutz (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, Germany)
- Simon Wood (University of Bath, UK)

A short course on model-based boosting (including hands-on tutorials for the R add-on package mboost) preceding the workshop will be delivered on July 13, 2014, by Matthias Schmid, Andreas Mayr and Benjamin Hofner (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany).

As in previous years, a Best Student Paper, Best Student Presentation and Best Student Poster will be awarded.

The deadline for the submission of abstracts is January 31, 2014. Registration will be open at the beginning of December 2013.

More information will soon be available under www.uni-goettingen.de/iwsm2014

*Julia Meskauskas
Göttingen*

Session on a topic of your choice – please visit the webpage for guidelines.

Please note that the deadline for proposing a Contributed Session is October 30, 2013.

More information can be found at <http://mate.dm.uba.ar/~probab/spa2014/>

The Organizing Committee consists of: Inés Armendáriz, Pablo A. Ferrari, Pablo Groisman, Matthieu Jonckheere, Nora Muler, Leonardo T. Rolla

Contact: spa.conference.2014@gmail.com

*Leonardo T. Rolla
Rio de Janeiro*

New Executive Members in the Bernoulli Society

President: Wilfrid S. Kendall



Wilfrid Kendall studied in Oxford from 1975 through to 1978, gaining successively a BA, and MSc, and a DPhil. These degrees in Art, Science and Philosophy present a misleading impression of polymathy; in fact, all represent studies in mathematics, with an increasing tendency toward probability and its applications, especially in stochastic geometry. His recent Warwick DSc (2013) bears this out. His academic employment began with a lectureship in Statistics at Hull (1978-84), followed by a move to Strathclyde (in Glasgow, Scotland, 1984-88), with promotion to senior lecturer in 1987. This appeared to be establishing a pattern of a slow drift northward; however, the next transition brought him to the metric barycentre of England, with a move to Warwick as lecturer, and then progressively reader and professor. It is a matter of some surprise to him that he has spent nearly a quarter of a century in Warwick; it doesn't seem anything like that long a time. Since then, he has served the scientific community in various ways, notably as founding Coordinating Editor

for the Stochastic Geometry and Statistical Applications section of *Advances in Applied Probability* (1993-99), Scientific Secretary of the Bernoulli Society (1996-2000), Chief Editor of *Electronic Communications in Probability* and Chair of the Warwick Statistics Department (both 1999-2002), Scientific Programme Chair for the Sixth Bernoulli/IMS World Congress in Barcelona (2004), and co-Director of the UK Academy of PhD Training in Statistics (APTS, 2007 to date, an initiative for training first-year PhD students on a national scale in both the UK and Ireland). He was elected a member of the ISI in 1999 and Fellow of the IMS in 2000. He has published around 120 scientific outputs of various kinds in probability and its applications, especially to stochastic geometry. Current research interests include: gaining a better understanding of probabilistic coupling, finding out more about how Poisson lines can be used to provide idealized models for transportation networks, collaborating with engineers on the mathematics and statistics of Additive Layer Manufacturing (equals "3-D printing" when asked at cocktail parties what we do), and applying stochastic geometry to recent datasets from Anglo-Saxon archaeology.



Sara van de Geer is full professor at the Seminar for Statistics, ETH Zürich. She obtained her PhD degree in Mathematics in 1987 from the University of Leiden. Her research interests are non- and semi-parametric statistics, statistical learning, empirical processes and high-dimensional statistics. She authored the monograph *Empirical Processes in M-Estimation*, Cambridge University Press (2000) and with Peter Bühlmann co-authored the monograph *Statistics for High-Dimensional Data*, Springer (2011).

Since 2007, she is member of the Swiss National Science Foundation Research Council. She is past co-editor of the journal *Bernoulli*, past member of the European Regional Committee of the Bernoulli Society and is currently Bernoulli Society executive co-editor of *Statistical Surveys*. She is associate editor of the *Scandinavian Journal of Statistics*, *Probability Theory and Related Fields* and *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*.

She was elected IMS Fellow, ISI member, correspondent of the Dutch Royal Academy of Sciences and member of Leopoldina, Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher.

Council Member: Alicia Carriquiry

Alicia Carriquiry is distinguished professor of statistics and director of graduate education at Iowa State University. Carriquiry is a native of Uruguay. She received a PhD in statistics and animal genetics from Iowa State University in 1989 and has been on the faculty at ISU since 1990. Carriquiry is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute, a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. She was recently named a National Associate of the National Research Council. She has been Associate Editor of *Statistical Science*, of *Bayesian Analysis* and of the *Annals of Applied Statistics*, and has served in the Executive Committees of the IMS, ISBA and ASA, in the Council of the ISI and in the Board of Trustees of NISS. Carriquiry's research is in measurement error models and in applications of statistics in human nutrition, bioinformatics, and traffic safety. She has published about 80 peer-reviewed articles in journals in statistics, economics, nutrition, bioinformatics, mathematics, animal genetics and several other areas.

Council Member: Jana Jurečková

Jana Jurečková is a Professor of Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic, where she obtained her PhD in 1968. She is a co-author of four books, mostly oriented to robust and nonparametric methods; her interests are wide, from pure probability and distribution theory over statistical inference to the theory of extreme values. She has been working as Associate Editor of the *Annals of Statistics*, *JASA*, *Sankhya*, *Sequential Analysis*, *Nonparametric Statistics*, among others. She has co-workers all around the world; also organized several conferences with interesting programs and speakers.



Pedro Méndez Hernández is a Professor in the Mathematics Department at the Universidad de Costa Rica. He received his PhD from Purdue University in 2001, after a post-doctoral fellowship at University of Utah, he moved to Universidad de Costa Rica in 2004, where he has been Head of the Mathematics Department since 2009. His research interests are Probability and its applications to Spectral Theory and Potential Theory of the Laplacian, fractional Laplacian and other pseudo differential operators associated to Lévy processes.

Council Member: Byeong U. Park

Byeong U. Park is a Professor of Seoul National University. He holds BSc and MSc degrees from Seoul National University and PhD from University of California at Berkeley. He has been serving as Editor-in-Chief for the *Journal of the Korean Statistical Society*, and as an Associate Editor for *Annals of Statistics*, *Journal of Nonparametric Statistics* and *Annals of Institute of Statistical Mathematics*. He chaired the Local Organizing Committee for the inaugural Institute of Mathematical Statistics Asia Pacific Rim Meeting (IMS-APRM), co-chaired the Scientific Program Committee for the second IMS-APRM, and is now chairing the committee for the third IMS-APRM. He is a Fellow of American Statistical Association and of Institute of Mathematical Statistics. He is also a Fellow of Korean Academy of Science and Technology. He has conducted his leadership research in nonparametric smoothing, semiparametric inference, high-dimensional models, boundary/frontier estimation, and asymptotic analysis in general, for nearly 25 years.

Council Member: B.L.S. Prakasa Rao



B.L.S. Prakasa Rao is Ramanujan Chair Professor at the C.R. Rao Advanced Institute of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science at the University of Hyderabad. He received his BA (Hons) in Mathematics from the University of Andhra in 1960, his MStat from the Indian Statistical Institute in 1962, and his PhD from Michigan State University in 1966. He has held faculty and research positions at numerous institutions, including UC Berkeley, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the Indian Institute of Technology, the University of Montreal, the Indian Statistical Institute, UC Davis, Purdue University, the University of Wisconsin at Madison and the University of Iowa. He is serving as Editor-in-Chief of *Sankhya* (Series A and Series B), and as a member of the editorial boards of several journals, including the *Calcutta Statistical Association Bulletin*, the *Electronic Journal for the History of Probability and*

Statistics, *Statistical Inference for Stochastic Processes*, to name a few. He is an Elected Member of the International Statistical Institute, a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and an Elected Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy. His research interests include both probability (limit theorems, characterizations and stochastic inequalities) and statistics (inference for stochastic processes, nonparametric, asymptotic theory of inference).

Council Member: Michael Sørensen



Michael Sørensen is professor of mathematical statistics at the Department of Mathematical Sciences, University of Copenhagen. He studied in Aarhus and Cambridge, was assistant and associate professor in Aarhus, and has been visiting professor in Berlin, Chicago and Osaka. He has served or is serving as associate editor of *ALEA*, *Annals of the Institute of Statistical Mathematics*, *Brazilian Journal of Probability and Statistics*, *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*, *Scandinavian Journal of Statistics*, *Statistical Inference for Stochastic Processes*, and *Stochastic Processes and their Applications*. Sørensen was the scientific coordinator of the EU research training network "Statistical Methods for Dynamical Stochastic Models" (2000-2004). He chaired the organizing committee of the 21st European Meeting of Statisticians (1995), the European Regional Committee in 2000-2002, and the

Publications Committee of the Bernoulli Society in 2008-2012. Presently, he chairs the scientific programme committee of the 29th European Meeting of Statisticians. Sørensen is an elected member of the ISI, a fellow of the IMS and an elected member of the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters. He has published around 100 scientific papers. Presently, his main research interests are statistical inference for discrete time samples from continuous time processes and stochastic models and inference problems in the physics of windblown sand, biology and finance.

Bernoulli Society Members Elected to ISI Executive Offices

In its General Assembly, which took place during the World Statistics Congress in Hong Kong, the International Statistical Institute, Parent Organization of the Bernoulli Society, has installed Bernoulli Society Past-President Victor Perez-Abreu as one of its Vice-Presidents, as well as Xuming He (Bernoulli Society Member) and Byeong U. Park (Bernoulli Society Executive Council Member) as members of the ISI Council. Congratulations!

ISI Vice-President: Victor Perez-Abreu



Victor Pérez-Abreu is a researcher in the Probability and Statistics Department at the Research Center for Mathematics, CIMAT, in Guanajuato, Mexico. He received a Bachelor's degree in Physics and Mathematics from the National Polytechnic Institute in Mexico City and his Master's degree in mathematics at the same school. He also has a PhD in Mathematical Statistics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He joined CIMAT in 1986 where he was appointed as the General Director from 1997 to 2003 and Chair of its Probability and Statistics Department during several periods. While at CIMAT, he has organized more than 25 national and international meetings in probability, statistics and their applications at the research and the educational levels. He is Past President of the Bernoulli Society, and a member of several committees of BS, IMS and ISI, President of the Latin-American Chapter of BS and local organizing committee Chair of the 2000 World

Congress in Mathematical Statistics and Probability in Guanajuato. His research interests include multiple Wiener-Itô integrals and chaos expansions, stochastic processes on infinite dimensional spaces, goodness of fit tests and environmental statistics. More recently, his interests have been in Lévy processes and infinitely divisible aspects of random matrices and distributions on cones as well as infinite divisibility in classical and free probability and their connections to other branches of mathematics.

ISI Council Member: Xuming He



Xuming He (PhD 1989) is Harry C. Carver Professor of Statistics at the University of Michigan. He served as faculty at the National University of Singapore and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign prior to his appointment at Michigan. His research spans a wide range of areas of semiparametric and nonparametric statistics, including theory and methodology of robust statistics, quantile regression, and data depth. He has been actively involved in interdisciplinary work, including bioinformatics, dysphagia research, educational testing, and climate research. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, ASA, and IMS, and ISI. He served as Program Director of Statistics at the National Science Foundation (USA) from 2003 to 2005, and holds honorary appointments at the University of Hong Kong and at Fudan University. He is a mentor to many graduate students and junior researchers, and is an active member of our profession.


He is past President of the International Chinese Statistical Association, and currently serves as Co-Editor of JASA (Theory & Methods), Chair of the Scientific Program Committee of the 2013 ISI World Statistics Congress, and Chair of the ASA Committee on Meetings.

ISI Council Member: Byeong U. Park



Please see the biographical sketch provided in page 16 of the current issue.

Calendar of Events




This calendar lists all meetings which have been announced in this and previous issues of Bernoulli News together with forthcoming meetings organized under the auspices of the Bernoulli society or one of its

Regional Committees (marked by ). A more comprehensive calendar of events is available on the ISI Website <http://isi.cbs.nl/calendar.html>

March 2014

-  March, 4th – 7th, 2014, *11th German Probability and Statistics Days*, Ulm, Germany
-  March, 6th – 8th, 2014, *Conference on Modelling, Analysis and Simulation in Economathematics*, Ulm, Germany

July 2014

-  July, 7th – 10th, 2014, *Australian Statistical Conference in Conjunction with the IMS Annual Meeting*, Sydney, Australia
-  July, 14th – 18th, 2014, *29th International Workshop on Statistical Modeling (IWSM)*, Göttingen, Germany
-  July, 28th – August 1st, 2014, *37th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications (SPA)*, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Who is Who in the Bernoulli Society

Executive Committee 2013-2015

<i>President</i>	Wilfrid Kendall (UK)	w.s.kendall@warwick.ac.uk
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<i>President Elect</i>	Sara van de Geer (Switzerland)	geer@stat.math.ethz.ch
<i>Executive Secretary</i>	Ada van Krimpen (Netherlands)	an.vankrimpen@cbs.nl
<i>Membership Secretary</i>	Mark Podolskij (Germany)	m.podolskij@uni-heidelberg.de
<i>Scientific Secretary</i>	Nakahiro Yoshida (Japan)	nakahiro@ms.u-tokyo.ac.jp
<i>Treasurer</i>	Lynne Billard (USA)	lynneb@uga.edu

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Martin Barlow (Canada)	barlow@math.ubc.ca

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Michael Sorensen (Denmark)	michael@math.ku.dk

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<i>Conferences on Stochastic Processes Probability and Statistics in the Physical Sciences</i>	Jean Bertoin (Zurich, Switzerland)	jean.bertoin@math.uzh.ch
<i>Publications Committee</i>	Ilya Zaliapin (USA)	zal@unr.edu
<i>Committee on the Special Year 2013</i>	Maria Eulalia Vares (Brazil)	eulalia@cbpf.br
	Adam Jakubowski (Poland)	adjakubo@mat.umk.pl

Regional Committee Chairs

<i>European</i>	Ernst Wit (Netherlands)	e.c.wit@rug.nl
<i>East-Asian and Pacific</i>	(in process of being re-formed)	
<i>Latin America</i>	Carenne Ludeña (Venezuela)	carenne.ludena@ciens.ucv.ve

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<i>Stochastic Processes and Their Applications</i>	Takashi Kumagai (Japan)	kumagai@kurims.kyoto-u.ac.jp
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Web Editors

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