



International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics

Newsletter of the

A Section of the International Statistical Institute (<http://isi.cbs.nl/>)

ISBIS News
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**Welcome to the second issue of
ISBIS News**

If not exactly bi-monthly, I am trying my best to regularly inform you about new developments in our society. This issue covers recent activities on conferences, elections, publications, etc. A new entry in the conference sections is for instance the announcement of the ISBIS-2010 symposium to be held in Croatia – you can immediately put in onto your travel agenda! We are also preparing the upcoming elections for the officers of our society, see the call for nominations below. Plus this issue features a new column: announcements of new books of ISBIS-members, where I invite you to promote your publication to your fellow members.

Also take another note at the call for proposals for invited sessions at the 2011 ISI Biennial session at the end of this newsletter!

The newsletter could certainly contain more than what it does now, particularly

- Member news
- Book reviews and alerts
- Software reviews
- Letters to the Editor.

For these points, however, I require your inputs. So whenever you have anything relevant to communicate, do not forget to drop me a note at

werner.mueller@jku.at

In the meantime I wish you well,

Werner G. Müller
ISBIS Newsletter editor

President's column

There's been a lot of activity in ISBIS since the last ISBIS News, with a lot more to come.

Firstly, our Regional Meeting in Hanoi in December went very well, with a wide variety of attendees. A detailed report is available on the ISBIS website.

Next, Vijay Nair chaired a small ad hoc committee comprising himself, Yves Grize and Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi to develop recommendations for updating the ISBIS Statutes. The original Statutes were developed some years ago from a basic template used by other groups seeking Section status, as indeed we were at that time. Now we are much better placed to know what sorts of structures we need to help us develop. This committee completed its work expeditiously, with some very good recommendations for change that were subsequently approved by the Society at large and have now been adopted. As a consequence, the forthcoming ISBIS elections will be held under the new Statutes. Each person elected will have interesting and defined responsibilities ... in other words, the opportunity to contribute uniquely to the growth of ISBIS. Many thanks to Vijay, Vincenzo and Yves for their fine contribution.

y-BIS, the Young Statisticians' group within ISBIS, is now under development. A small team of enthusiastic young statisticians is developing specifications for what they would like the group to do, and for products and services they want to have available, to support their progress in their professional lives. Under the new Statutes, y-BIS will have a representative on the Executive Committee, and y-BIS will have an important contribution to make in our biennial conferences – to both the scientific and on the social aspects.

Did you know? You can now renew your ISBIS membership electronically?

Use the form on
<http://isi.cbs.nl/intro-payment.htm>



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If you define yourself as a Young Statistician and would like to be involved in either the setting up of y-BIS or planning for ISBIS 2010, or both, please contact me!

Speaking of conferences, 2009 will be a busy year: we have major involvement in three Regional meetings, as well as a significant amount of the Invited Paper program at the ISI in Durban. You'll find more details below, and also on the ISBIS web site. We very much hope to see you at as many of these events as you can attend ... starting in Cagliari in Sardegna, at the end of May.

Ciao!

Nick Fisher,
ISBIS President

ISBIS elections

The nominating committee to select the slate of new officers for the period August 2009 -August 2011 has been formed. It is composed of

E. Epprecht (Brazil) , G. Michaelidis (USA) , W. Müller (Austria), Shu Yamada (Japan) and myself (Y.L. Grize, Switzerland) as Chair.

The positions to be filled are:
President-Elect

Vice President Scientific Program

Vice President Communications

Vice President Membership and Outreach

Vice President y-Bis members and half of the Council members

According to our statutes (www.isbis.org), the term for executive committee members is 2 years and for the council members 4 years.

As Chair of the Nominating Committee, I would like to invite

hereby all ISBIS members to nominate candidates for the open positions. You can certainly nominate yourself. If you are nominating someone else, please obtain that person's approval and send it together with your nomination. Because we are a little bit behind schedule due to the statutes modifications I am asking you make your nominations promptly.

Please send your nomination to me by email

yves-laurent.grize@baloise.ch
before March 20th! Thank you for your comprehension.

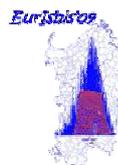
I hope that we will have a broad participation from our membership so as to achieve a good geographic diversity in the council and executive committee.

Thanks again in advance.

Best regards,
Yves-Laurent Grize,
Nominating Committee Chair

ISBIS Conferences

EURISBIS'09: May 30 - June 3, 2009, Cagliari, Italy



European Regional Meeting of the International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics with special emphasis on Quantitative Methods for Banking and Finance, Environment, Quality of Services for SMEs, Transport and Tourism. Please visit

EURISBIS'09 will provide a varied and stimulating scientific program of invited and contributed papers, and excellent opportunities for formal and informal exchanges.

The keynote speakers will be:
Bill Cleveland, Purdue University, USA

Alessandro Fassò, University of Bergamo, Italy

Authors will have the opportunity to submit extended versions of their papers for publication in the ISBIS Society's journal, Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry, in the Springer's journal Advances in Data Analysis and Classification (ADAC) and in the Italian Journal of Applied Statistics (Statistica Applicata). Deadline for paper submission: January 30, 2009.

57th ISI Session in Durban, South Africa (16-22 August 2009)



ISBIS has a significant share of the Scientific Program at the 57th Session of the International Statistical Institute in Durban, South Africa, 16-22 August, 2009.

www.statssa.gov.za/isi2009/

Stellenbosch Statistical Symposium: August 24-26, 2009, Stellenbosch, Republic of South Africa.



This is an ISBIS Satellite meeting to the ISI 57th Session in Durban, South Africa, 16-22 August 2009 organized by the University of Stellenbosch. More details to be posted soon on

www.sastat.org.za/sss2009

ISBIS Scientific Sponsorship for PLS'09



PLS'09 is the "6th International Conference on Partial Least Squares: Focus on Research, Management, Industry and Life Sciences", and will take place in Beijing, China, 4-7 September, 2009. Please visit

www.pls09.org



International Symposium on Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS-2010)

The next biennial ISBIS international conference will be held in Croatia in July 2010. Stefan Steiner from the University of Waterloo (Canada) will chair the scientific program committee:

shsteine@uwaterloo.ca

It will focus on important statistical issues relating to productivity improvement and decision-making at all levels of business and industry, including financial services and health services. There will be particular emphasis on industrial applications of Statistical Image Analysis, and on future directions for handling large and complex data sets.

The symposium will be held in the Croatia, during 6–9 July, 2010, preceded by a day of workshops.

ISBIS-2010 will provide a varied and stimulating scientific program of invited and contributed papers, and excellent opportunities for formal and informal exchanges. Authors will have the opportunity to submit extended versions of their papers for publication in a special edition of the Society's journal, *Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry*.

For further information, please visit

www.action-m.com/isbis2010

or send email to Milena Zeithamlova at milena@action-m.com.



Second Call for Proposals

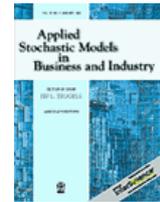
for invited ISBIS papers for the 58th Biennial Session of the ISI to be held in *Dublin, Ireland, August 20th-27th 2011*.

As usual a competitive procedure for determining the invited session has been started. Candidate proposals from the various sections will be discussed at the upcoming Durban meeting.

We therefore solicit receiving proposals for invited sessions to be held under the auspices of ISBIS (or perhaps jointly with another ISI-section).

If you feel your topic meets (at least some of) the guidelines given e.g. in ISBIS News 1(1), please do not hesitate and contact our member of the Program Coordinating Council Werner Müller (werner.mueller@jku.at) with your suggestions as soon and as detailed as possible, preferably by already providing names of presenters and discussants.

What's new in ASMBI?



The January/February issue of *Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry*, the official ISBIS journal, is now online and I remember ISBIS members they have granted free access.

I am very glad to report that we are starting our series of discussion papers with a paper by Nick Fisher (ISBIS President) and Vijay Nair on "Quality management and quality practice: Perspectives on their history and their future". As the authors state in the summary, "The purpose of this article and a companion article is to explore a number of topics in Statistics in Business and Industry. This article sketches the history of Quality Management, from its emergence in the late 19th and early 20th centuries through to the present day. Particular emphasis is placed on activities in Japan immediately following the end of the Second World War, and subsequent developments elsewhere in the world." The paper is followed by a very thoughtful discussion by Gerald J. Hahn and Necip Doganaksoy.

We are planning a series of discussion/review papers, written by well known statisticians, either on general topics or very specialised, "hot topics". The two Editors, Nalini Ravishanker and Dennis Lin, have contacted very important researchers and some papers are already under review. Others will come from ASMBI invited sessions which I am organising in ISBIS meetings. Suggestions about topics and authors are very welcome: just send me an e-mail to fabrizio@mi.imati.cnr.it.

The issue has also regular research papers:



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Newsletter of the

- Ruin theory for classical risk process that is perturbed by diffusion with risky investments

Xiang Lin

- An optimal investment and consumption model with stochastic returns

Xikui Wang, Yanqing Yi

- Optimal predictive densities and fractional moments

Emanuele Taufer, Sudip Bose, Aldo Tagliani

- The compound Poisson process perturbed by a diffusion with a threshold dividend strategy

Kam C. Yuen, Yuhua Lu, Rong Wu

The next issue, available soon at the ASMBI web page

www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/117943444/grouphome/home.html

will be devoted to the ENBIS-DEINDE workshop on "Computer Experiments versus Physical Experiments", held in Torino (Italy) in 2007.

We (Editorial Board, ISBIS and Wiley) are trying to increase the influence of ASMBI, but we need full support by ISBIS members, especially by sending us their best paper. I remind you that ASMBI is a journal with a history of papers characterised by a strong mathematical flavour and aimed to make an impact in a wide spectrum of applied fields. We are working in such direction, with an increasing interest in actual applications, always based on sound and innovative methodologies. Case studies are very welcome!

I hope you will enjoy reading the current issue of ASMBI and will provide us your support and feedback.

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

This is a reminder that you have access to Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry online through Wiley InterScience.

Go to the User Affiliation Page at www3.interscience.wiley.com/societies/isbis

Read and accept the Wiley InterScience Terms of use and click "Link to This Account".

Enter your Identification details as follows: Membership Number: none, Registration Key: MBR63358.

Enter the login name (your ISBIS e-mail address) and password which you have just created. Click on "submit"

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New books from ISBIS members



We are very pleased to announce the publication of our book

Ledolter, J. and Hogg, R. V.: Applied Statistics for Engineers and Physical Scientists, Third Edition, Prentice Hall, 2010 (published December 2008)
ISBN-13: 978-0-13-601798-1
ISBN-10: 0-13-601798-3

Information can be found on the web link

www.mypersonstore.com/book-store/product.asp?isbn=0136017983

The target audiences for our book are:

- Undergraduate students in engineering and the sciences desiring an introduction to probability and statistics.
- Graduate students in engineering and the sciences desiring an introduction to probability and statistics.
- Professional engineers, management consultants and business professionals involved in collecting and analyzing data.
- Quality professionals and quality consultants involved in training and implementation of Six Sigma and other quality programs.

We have made considerable changes to the previous edition and we hope you find our book useful.

With best wishes

Johannes Ledolter and Robert V. Hogg,
University of Iowa