

News from the World of Statistics



THE WORLD OF
STATISTICS

May 25, 2016

Costa Rica Student Group Hosts Academic Symposium



The Student Association in the School of Statistics at the University of Costa Rica conducted its Academic Symposium on Wednesday, March 9, 2016, in San Jose. The well-attended event included many senior students presenting diverse projects and studies that were derived from work they developed during their undergraduate degree program. The annual event seeks to share and discuss statistics applications carried out by students in their third and fourth year of the Bachelor's Degree

program and, at the same time, serve as an illustrative example for the students in beginning levels of the program.

Istanbul to Host Conference on Business Analytics, Supply Chain and Logistics



The *European Journal of Pure and Applied Mathematics* and the *Journal of Algebraic Statistics* are organizing the [First European & American Conference on Business Analytics, Supply Chain and Logistics](#) on October 6-9, 2016, at the Swissôtel The Bosphorus in Istanbul. The conference aims

to create a medium for the exchange of knowledge in these core business areas and establish an international cooperative relationship between scientists in Europe, the United States and throughout the world. Researchers in business, logistics, economics, engineering, mathematics, statistics, biology, health, military and sports sciences (and all other related fields using analytics) can contribute to the conference, which will include invited and contributed talks and poster presentations. The ASA, along with other prominent membership organizations,

universities and businesses, is co-sponsoring the conference. The event's organizers have issued a call for special session proposals, which are due June 30, 2016.

New IAOS Website Now Live



The IAOS has launched a [new website](#), making it easier for IAOS members and others interested in the world of official statistics to navigate. Information on association activities – in particular the Young Statistician Prize, Statistical Journal of the IAOS (SJIAOS), and conferences is easier and faster to locate. Members can also take a glance at the association's strategy and track its progress.

Anyone interested in global statistics is encouraged to visit the site today and check back often as new features will continually be added.

Findings Issued on Sexual, Reproductive Health and Rights of Young People



The Population Council, in collaboration with Link-Up Bangladesh and Marie Stopes Bangladesh, released findings from a project aimed at improving the [sexual and reproductive health and rights](#) for young people, at a seminar on April 28, 2016 in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Mohammad Wahid Hossain, Directorate General of Family Planning (DGFP) was the chief guest, and Ella de Voogd was a special guest. Fahmida Sultana, Deputy Director, MNCH Service,

DGFP, chaired the sessions. Falicity Morgan, of the International HIV/AIDS Alliance (IHAA) in the United Kingdom and Ubaidur Rob, Country Director at the Population Council also spoke at the event.

Additionally, youth advocates shared their experiences and challenges faced while working with the project and for their communities.

The Link-Up program was designed to provide information and health services to young at-risk people between the ages of 10-24. Link-Up was a three year project supported by the Netherlands Government through the IHAA that was implemented in five countries (Bangladesh, Myanmar, Uganda, Ethiopia and Burundi).

Fifth International Conference on Establishment Surveys Heads to Geneva



For the first time, the [Fifth International Conference on Establishment Surveys](#) is being held in Europe, specifically at the International Conference Center in Geneva, Switzerland, on June 20-23, 2016. This conference offers rich content for benchmarking of national progress against the most recent international advances and features day-long short courses, introductory overview lectures, and parallel scientific sessions.

ICSA to Host Conferences on Applied and Modern Statistics



The International Chinese Statistical Association's (ICSA) [25th Annual Applied Statistics Symposium](#) takes place June 12-15, 2016, in Atlanta, Georgia. The theme of this conference is the "Challenge of Big Data and Applications of Statistics," and the event will feature keynote lectures, short courses, invited sessions, contributed sessions and networking opportunities. Keynote speakers include Bin Yu, Chancellor's Professor at the University of California, Berkeley; David Madigan, Executive Vice

President and Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University; and Paul Albert, Senior Investigator of DESPR's Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Branch at the U.S. National Institutes of Health. Michael Eriksen, Regents' Professor and Founding Dean of the School of Public Health at Georgia State University, will serve as the banquet speaker.

Additionally, ICSA's [10th International Conference](#) is scheduled for December 19-22, 2016, at Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China. This conference promotes the global growth of modern statistics in the 21st century and aims to bring statisticians from across the world to Shanghai, which is the financial, trade, information and shipping center of China, in an effort to share cutting-edge research and discuss emerging issues. Keynote presenters include James Berger of Duke University; Tony Cai of the University of Pennsylvania; Kai-Tai Fang of Beijing Normal University – Hong Kong Baptist University United International College (UIC); Zhi-Ming Ma of the Academy of Math and Systems Science, CAS; Marc Suchard of both the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health and David Geffen School of Medicine; Lee-Jen Wei of Harvard University; and C. F. Jeff Wu of the Georgia Institute of Technology. A special session will honor recipients of the Pao-Lu Hsu award.

Statisticians Educate Health Workers in Pakistan to Compile Data on Measles



Dr. Abu Zar Taizai, District Surveillance Coordinator of the Department of Health in Nowshera, Pakistan, provided an orientation to Polio staff on the collection of clean data of suspected Measles cases. In addition to Polio, health workers there will now collect data about all vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) on a weekly basis. As a result, district health officials will now be able to demonstrate the association of various variables that make children vulnerable to the

development of disease.

Astrostatistics as New Statistical Discipline – A Historical Perspective

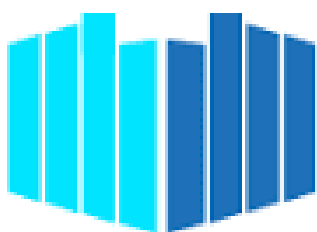
Spanning the days of Greek philosophers using statistics to calculate positions of celestial objects to the 1800s when astronomers turned to calculus as opposed to statistics when analyzing astronomical data to the 1980s and '90s when personal computing technology made performing complex statistical procedures faster, Joseph Hilbe, President of the International Astrostatistics Association, has compiled a historical overview of the [relationship between astronomers and statistics](#).

Bangladesh to Host International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biostatistics



The [International Conference on Bioinformatics and Biostatistics for Agriculture, Health and Environment](#) will take place January 20-23, 2017 at the University of Rajshahi in Bangladesh. The event features pre- and post-conference workshops and presentations from top academic researchers and government scientists across Japan, India, the United States, Kuwait, China and Bangladesh. The paper submission deadline is September 30.

Conference on Indicators for Territorial Policies to Take Place in Portugal



In partnership with Statistics Portugal and the OECD, the Standing Committee of Regional and Urban Statistics (SCORUS) is holding its [2016 conference on indicators for territorial policy](#), June 29-July 1, 2016, in Lisbon, Portugal. The conference will address the development and progress of regional and urban statistics under the scope of cross-cutting issues that have been put forward in European and global agendas. The territorial dimension has been

set out as essential for the implementation of EU regional policy, aligned with Europe 2020 strategy.

Abstracts are being sought around the following themes:

- Interplay between regional and territorial policies and statistical indicators.
- Space transformation, land use and value.
- Measuring inclusive growth and living conditions at regional level.
- Delimitation of relevant territorial units: size, function and comparability.
- Integrating statistical and geospatial information to produce new territorial indicators.
- The potential for territorial information of open data and big data.

U.S. Justice Statistics Data Featured in American Jails Magazine



The [May/June issue of American Jails magazine](#) features data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice. Included are health profiles of jail inmates that address medical conditions, mental health problems, disabilities, and mortality. Some key data include:

- Half of local jail inmates reported having a chronic medical condition and 14% reported having an infectious disease
- More than a third of jail inmates who had mental health problems had used drugs at the time of their offense, compared to a fifth of

inmates without mental health problems.

- Though inmate death is rare, a total of 967 jail inmates died while in the custody of local jails in 2013.

Croatia Hosts First International Statistical Conference



In May, the Croatian Statistical Association organized the first [International Statistical Conference \(ISCCRO'16\)](#) around the theme of “New Challenges of Official and Applied Statistics in the European Union.” Conference organizers included Marko Krištof, Director General of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics; Ksenija Dumičić, President of the Croatian Statistical Association; and Nataša Erjavec and Mirjana Pejić Bach of the University of Zagreb. In all, 55 papers with 120 authors from 11 countries were represented. The conference included 12 parallel sessions ranging on topics from official statistics, mentorship and professional growth, advances in statistical methods/methodology, biometrics, econometrics and social statistics applications.

Statistics Canada Celebrates 350 Years of the First Census in North America



This year marks 350 years since Canada began compiling national statistics, and it welcomes back a long-form questionnaire! Less than one month into the process of conducting the [census](#), more than 6 million questionnaires have already been completed – mostly online. Historically, Canada’s census of 1666 was only 163 pages long and noted the names, ages and occupations of French inhabitants from Quebec, Montreal and Trois-Rivieres. It was also the first time that a census effort was undertaken in North America! Back then, 3,215 people lived in New France (2,034 men and 1,181 women). Now, the census will be distributed to more than 15 million dwellings.

Reminder - Nominations Open for International Prize in Statistics



The music and entertainment industries have one, as do professions spanning the areas of international security, medicine, physics and economics - to name a few. Now, the field of statistics has an award of its own - the biennial [International Prize in Statistics](#) – recognizing a significant achievement by an individual or team in the field of statistics.

While the impact statistics has on our daily life is a lasting one, the nomination period won't be. Submissions must be received by August 15, 2016, so don't delay in applying or nominating a worthy candidate. The winner will be announced this October, and the award will be presented at the ISI World Statistics Congress in July 2017.

Statistics Centre Abu Dhabi to Host IAOS 2016 Conference on Official Statistics



Registration is currently open for "[The Spirit of Official Statistics: Partnership and Continuous Innovation](#)," a joint conference organized by The Statistics Centre-Abu Dhabi (SCAD) and the International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS). Scheduled for December 6-8, 2016, at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC) in the United Arab Emirates, the conference centers around four main sections, including strengthening the value of official statistics in the rapidly expanding information society; developing

partnerships in action for results; rising to challenges; and applying fundamental principles in practice.

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Post an event on the [Activities Calendar](#).

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