Bernoulli News

Contents

Editor

Victor M. Panaretos
Section of Mathematics,
EPFL, Switzerland

Contact

victor.panaretos@epfl.ch

A VIEW FROM THE PRESIDENT

When asked about my goals for the Bernoulli Society during my term as President, my first response was often, and only half-jokingly, "to not break it"! In fact, the support and advice provided by members of the executive committee, council, journal editors and the various standing committees has been so generous and valuable that a major foul-up would have been difficult in any case. In actuality, it is the mission of the Bernoulli Society that serves as our beacon, and it has been a remarkable experience to interact with colleagues from around the world with the common goal of carrying out the altruistic mission statement of this internationally diverse learned society.

My predecessor, past-president Victor Perez-Abreu, handed over a long list of projects and initiatives, both new and old that would require continued nurturing during my term. Several of these are now safely put to bed, while others will again be passed to my successor, president-elect Wilfrid Kendall, together with a constant stream of new ones. For example, the development of publication resources, selections of editors, and setting of journal subscription fees is an ongoing and highly nontrivial activity in this new age of information. The development and awarding of various special lectures and prizes that recognize some of the many outstanding contributions being made in statistics and probability will also continue. Similarly, the development and sponsorship of international conferences to facilitate the assembly of researchers in probability and statistics presents significant economic challenges that are partially tempered by collaborations with other learned societies. After all, these are some of the principle activities that explicitly support the overall mission of the Bernoulli Society. The Bernoulli Society especially benefits from its formal association/collaborations with the International Statistical Institute (ISI), Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS), and the European Mathematical Society (EMS), and many other less-formal collaborations with similar goals.

A more detailed survey of the numerous and diverse activities engaging the Bernoulli Society hinted above, especially in connection with the Special Year 2013, appeared in a previous rather lengthy VoP column in the v.19(1), 2012 issue of Bernoulli News. While there are indeed many exciting projects listed there, especially pertaining to the Special Year of Statistics 2013 now upon us, for this column permit me to share a perspective on some of the challenges going forward. Most of these can be viewed in terms of harnessing the rapid evolution of information age technologies to the benefit of the mission of the Bernoulli Society.

The future of publication is among the most obvious and difficult challenges of the new age. The Bernoulli Society co-sponsors five electronic journals in addition to Bernoulli News and EBriefs, with Bernoulli Journal and Stochastic Processes and their Applications as the flagship journals of the society. (Watch for very special issues of each of these journals for 2013.) The IMS serves as publisher for the former, and Elsevier publishes the latter. In addition to its dedicated Publication Committee, the Bernoulli Society also benefits from the appointment of special committees representing diverse geographical regions and technical specializations for the period of these negotiations. Short-term contracts have provided a reasonably effective instrument for securing mutually satisfactory agreements for publication in ways that safeguard reasonable pricing, long-term security and stability for posterity, access, and marketing. The international reputation and integrity of the Bernoulli Society is our primary currency in such negotiations.

A View from the President (continued from front cover)

The Bernoulli Society is committed to education pertaining to statistics and probability in its many varied forms. The increasing impact of web resources as an educational tool is clear, from wiki-pedias to moocs. Initial efforts to lend a sense of certifiable reliability to a web resource in probability and statistics, for example the StatProb resource, are challenged by economic forces impacting both commercial and academic interests. However, the future of education is evidently one that will incorporate an increasing reliance on electronic encyclopedic resources for routine technical queries as an essential part of the learning process. It is well within the mission of the Bernoulli Society to continue to find new ways in which to provide a recognized and reliable source of information freely available on the web with a designated "seal of approval." This is a solvable problem, but it will require the dedicated leadership of a suitably knowledgeable person(s) to steer the way forward.

Advancing a role of mentorship for PhD students in developing countries is a distinct but related initiative that is clearly aimed at advancing the global mission of the Bernoulli Society. Efforts are underway that take advantage of the world-wide-web for developing an effective implementation of a sustainable mentorship program. There are currently thirty students subscribed, mostly from Africa as an intended start, but the need for mentors continues, especially in areas of applications of statistics:

http://statmentoring.nr.no/statmentoring/index.php/Statistical_mentoring_for_Ph.D._students_in_the_developing_world

A separate but related issue is the development of funding mechanisms, such as short course fees and/or special membership donation funds, to offset often relatively insurmountable costs facing members from developing countries. Watch for new initiatives in which to contribute in this area in the near future. Each of these outreach efforts to expand knowledge to the benefit of the world will require continued nurturing by the Bernoulli Society through its executive committee, standing committees and its members.

Since the first time I read it in David Williams' book, *Weighing the Odds*, I continue to be struck by his, "admittedly mischievous," first sentence to the Preface: "Probability and statistics used to be married, then they separated, then they got divorced, now they hardly ever see each other." At the start of my term as president, a young statistician approached me with the request that I please work toward restoring the historically strong relationship between probability and statistics. That's a tall order, but we did look for ways to improve communication. An example was the organization of the two special sessions sponsored by the Bernoulli Society, with financial support of speakers provided by Elsevier, entitled *Research at the Interface of*

Probability and Mathematical Statistics I, II at the IMS Asian Pacific Rim Meeting, and co-chaired by distinguished scholars Peter Hall and S.R.S. Varadhan. One has only to reflect on a past traceable to the history's greatest mathematical innovations, from the bell curve to bootstrap, to recognize a clear common legacy that has driven progress in both probability and statistics. The Bernoulli Society must continue to build upon this monumental legacy for the benefit of future generations involved with information age research problems, educational resources and technologies.

Engagement of new PhD students/postdocs as members continues to present a challenge tied to the information age. The solidarity that is afforded such memberships and collaborations with other learned societies is evident in addressing the various social/political problems that arise pertaining to applications of probability and statistics in both academic and non-academic environments. This will only increase as the world shrinks, and it is a message that deserves to be taught. In addition, conferences, workshops, networking, publications, travel grant proposals and subsidies, newsletter information resources, awards and recognitions, and the list goes on, are all dependent upon membership enrollment by a continuous influx of new members from around the world.

As valuable as they are, large conferences are also expensive. Regional committees of the Bernoulli Society, such as the European Regional Committee (ERC), the Latin-American Regional Committee (SLAPEM), and the East-Asian and Pacific Regional Committee (EAPRC) can play a very important role in providing more accessible, scaled down assemblies of researchers in distinct parts of the world, but there is also an important place for larger, more diverse international assemblies of the Bernoulli Society membership. The latter are generally in the form of a Bernoulli World Congress and Stochastic Processes and their Applications (SPA) conferences, hosted in collaboration with IMS. Transportation can involve a substantial cost that is clearly difficult to mitigate, but provisions for lower cost alternatives for food and housing, offset by the potential use of new age technologies, continue to be worth pursuing, both at the individual member scale and through local organizing committees.

While there are many challenges for the future, the individual problems are solvable and the Bernoulli Society has nominated a select and diverse group of individuals to solve them as members of the Executive Committee, Council, Editorial Boards, and Standing Committees. They have my enthusiastic confidence and support and I look forward to their confirmation by the General Assembly this summer in Hong Kong.

Ed Waymire, Corvallis, USA
President of the Bernoulli Society

News from the Bernoulli Society

New President-Elect and Council Members

The Nominating Committee, chaired by the President-elect Wilfrid Kendall, completed the nomination by officially sending their report to Scientific Secretary in October of 2012.

Sara van de Geer (Switzerland) has accepted the nomination to be Bernoulli Society President (commencing August 2015) in succession to the next President Wilfrid Kendall.

There will be six vacancies on the Council, all arising from end of term of office in 2013. The following have accepted nomination to serve on Bernoulli Society Council 2013--2017:

- Michael Sorensen (Denmark)
- Jana Jureckova (Czech Republic)
- Alicia Carriquiry (USA)
- Pedro Mendez (Costa Rica)
- B. L. S. Prakasa Rao (India)
- Byeong Park (Korea)

The Scientific Secretary submitted the report of the Nominating Committee to the ordinary members of the Council. The Council approved the above nomination without adding candidates, and according to the Statutes Article 8.4, these candidates were declared elected without vote.

Nakahiro Yoshida
Scientific Secretary

Special Volume of Stochastic Processes and their Applications

The forthcoming special issue of the journal SPA on the occasion of the 2013 International Year of Statistics, edited by Rainer Dahlhaus, Jean Jacod, Per Mykland and Nakahiro Yoshida, can be downloaded soon free of charge from the SPA website

http://www.journals.elsevier.com/stochastic-processes-and-their-applications/

Takashi Kumagai,
Kyoto

News from the Publications Committee

It is a great pleasure to announce that Victor Panaretos, editor of *Bernoulli News*, will continue for another two-year editorial term (up to May 2015). Dario Spano, editor of the electronic bulletin *E-briefs*, has agreed to continue for a second term, with duration of one year (till October 2014).

As chair of the publications committee, I would like to express our gratitude to both of them for their dedication, and their excellent work ahead of the two newsletters of the Bernoulli Society. We sincerely thank them for keeping such vibrant, well-thought, interesting, and informative, regular means of communication to our community. Thanks a lot and best wishes to Victor Panaretos, and to Dario Spano!

Maria Eulalia Vares

Main Speakers at the 29th European Meeting of Statisticians

Jointly with the European Mathematical Society, the Bernoulli Society has started what is intended to become a tradition: the European Mathematical Society/Bernoulli Society lecture at the European Meetings of Statisticians. The idea is to present a topic from mathematics that is of central interest to probabilists and statisticians. Similarly, a European Mathematical Society/Bernoulli Society lecturer will speak about a topic from probability or statistics at a European Mathematical Society meeting.

The European Mathematical Society/Bernoulli Society lecturer at the 29th European Meeting of Statisticians in Budapest (July 20--25, 2013) is Emmanuel Candes (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emmanuel_Candes).

The other main speakers in Budapest are:

- Forum lecturer: Geoffrey Grimmett (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geoffrey_Grimmett)
- Opening lecturer: Sara van de Geer (http://stat.ethz.ch/~geer/)
- Closing lecturer: Yakov G. Sinai (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yakov_G._Sinai)

News on 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 first quarter of the International Year of Statistics 2013 reaches its end. As one can read in the March last issue of IYStat News (http://www.statistics2013.org/files/2013/03/March-25-2013.pdf), there are over 1,800 participating institutions from over 120 countries. These numbers much exceed expectations of the Steering Committee. On the other hand "the return information," i.e. both the submission of information on planned events and the reporting on past events, seems to be still a weak point of the whole activity. On the main page www.statistics2013.org two convenient tools are available. The tool http://www.statistics2013.org/iyos/submitactivity.cfm is for submission of information to be published as an entry in Statistics 2013 Activities Calendar. The other http://www.statistics2013.org/iyos/submitarticle.cfm is a tool for submissions of reports and photos to be published in IYStat News.
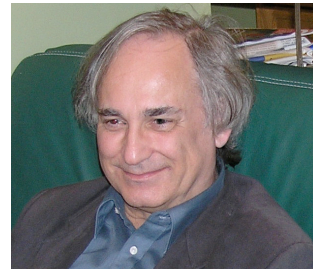
Recall that potential organizers of IYStat events, when acting on behalf of the Bernoulli Society are asked to apply for Bernoulli Society sponsorship. It is possible via the application form available on the page www.bs2013.org. We provide there the whole list of the Bernoulli Society sponsored events, with web references, when available.

***

President of the International Statistical Institute Jae C. Lee, President-Elect Vijay Nair and Director Ada van Krimpen had the honor to meet with United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon at United Nations Headquarters in New York on February 24. 2013. during the 44th UN Statistical Commission meeting. More on this event can be found in http://www.statistics2013.org/files/2013/02/February-25-2013.pdf

***

The 2013 July issue of the Bulletin of the American Mathematical Society, in collaboration with the Bernoulli Society, will contain a special invited article by Professor Manfred Denker entitled "Tercentennial Anniversery of Bernoulli's Law of Large Numbers." 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 is also included in this issue intended

to celebrate the 300th anniversary of the publication of "Ars Conjectandi."

Professor Manfred Denker is the author or coauthor of 5 books and more than a hundred of papers on probability theory, statistics and dynamical systems. He supervised or co-supervised almost 50 PhD students. Since middle 1970 he was a professor in Georg-August Universität in Göttingen (Germany). After 2008 he moved to Penn State University (USA).

Professor Manfred Denker in Toruń on September 28th, 2004

***

"Probability and Statistics Day at UCSD" has been organized at UC San Diego, La Jolla, California, USA, on April 5th, 2013. There was an all-star lineup of researchers that gave plenary talks (David Aldous, Fan Chung-Graham, Peter Hall, Iain Johnstone, Scott Sheffield). Terry Speed gave an open public lecture entitled "Epigenetics: new challenges for probability and statistics." See: http://www.math.ucsd.edu/ProbStatsDay/program.html

***

On May 8th, 2013, in the frame of Warwick Public Lectures in Mathematics and Statistics, Professor Valerie Isham (University College London), current President of the Royal Statistical Society, will speak on "Rainfall, hydrology and climate". See http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/statistics/news/wplms

***

"Ars Conjectandi Symposium" will take place in Freiburg (Germany) and Basel (Switzerland), from May 21 till 24, 2013. Thursday, May 23, is the "history day" in Basel with talks of Fritz Nagel, Martin Mattmüller and Ivo Schneider in the morning. and Chris Rogers and Jean Jacod in the afternoon. See http://arsconjectandi.uni-freiburg.de/index.html

***

"Probability and Statistics Days" is a series of events organized in Torun (Poland), from June 5th till June 14th, 2013.

- "Probability and Statistics Days" will start with an open public session "Probability and statistics for science and technology" on June 5th, 2013. The speakers will be: Bartek Błaszczyszyn, Jacek Jakubowski, Jacek Koronacki and Zbigniew Szkutnik. A conversation of Jerzy Zabczyk and Adam Jakubowski "Understanding probability. 300 years after publication of "Ars Conjectandi" by Jacob Bernoulli" will close the session. See: http://bs2013.pl/?q=node/111
- German-Polish Conference on Probability and Mathematical Statistics, June 6th – 9th, 2013. See: www.gpps.umk.pl
- VII Alexander Nagaev's Lecture on Limit Theorems of Probability Theory by Herold Dehling, June 9th, 2013.
- Tomasz Schreiber's Memorial Session, June 10th, 2013. See: www.tsms.umk.pl
- 17th Workshop On Stochastic Geometry, Stereology And Image Analysis, June 11th – 14th, 2013. See: http://www.sg2013.umk.pl/

***

29th European Meeting of Statisticians, to be held in Budapest (Hungary), from July 20th till 25th, 2013, will be very rich in events related to the International Year of Statistics 2013.

- ""Ars Conjectandi" open memorial lecture" will be given by Glenn Shafer.
- Thomas Bayes memorial lecture, sponsored by the International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA) will be delivered by Christian P. Robert.
- Bernoulli Society - European Mathematical Society Cooperation Lecture (jointly sponsored by both Societies) will give Emmanuel Candes.
- Istvan Berkes organizes St. Petersburg paradox 300th Anniversary memorial session, with participation of Anders Martin-Löf and Allan Gut.
- Panel discussion on the future of statistics will be moderated by Wilfrid Kendall. The panelists will be: Michael Jordan, Steffen Lauritzen and Henry Wynn.

***

During the 36th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications in Boulder, held in Colorado (USA), from July 29th till August 2nd, 2013, *The Bernoulli Society Open Lecture* will be given by Kenneth Golden. See: http://math.colorado.edu/spa2013/

***

A public lecture, co-sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, the Bernoulli Society and the Statistical Society of Canada will be delivered by David Spiegelhalter, Winton Professor for the Public Understanding of Risk, University of Cambridge. during the Joint Statistical Meeting 2013 held in Montréal, Canada, August 3--8, 2013. The lecture will take place in the Grand Salon of the Hyatt Regency hotel in Montreal, on Wednesday, August 7, 2013, 2--3.50pm. This is a Public Lecture to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the publication of Jacob Bernoulli's seminal work "Ars Conjectandi." The title of the lecture is "From gambling to global catastrophe: metaphors and images for communicating numerical risks". See: http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2013/

***

Persi Diaconis will deliver a public lecture on Ars Conjectandi during the Mathematical Congress of the Americas 2013, held in Guanajuato, Mexico, August 5--9, 2013. See: http://www.mca2013.org

***

Conference "Building Bridges: Probability, Statistics and Applications" will be organized in Braunschweig (Germany), form August 13th till 16th, 2013. This conference is organized on the occasion of the International Year of Statistics 2013 and will contain special events commemorating the 60th birthday of Claudia Klüppelberg. See

https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/stochastik/tagungen/building-bridges

***

During the 59th ISI World Statistics Congress in Hong Kong; August 24--30, 2013, an intriguing discussion will be organized in the frame of Invited Paper Session IPS008, "History I: Jacob Bernoulli's "Ars Conjectandi" as the emergence of probability." The session will hold on August 26th, from 13:00 till 15:15. The speakers are: Edith Sylla, Chris Burdzy, Christian P. Robert and Nick Bingham. The session is organized by Adam Jakubowski.

***

International Conference Ars Conjectandi 1713--2013, Basel, October 15--16, 2013, will focus on the history of the Ars Conjectandi, the impact on science and the development to date of the most important result in this book: the Law of Large Numbers. Among invited

speakers are David Aldous, Peter Bühlmann, Louis Chen, Hans Foellmer, Tilmann Gneiting, Hans-Ruedi Kuensch, Xiao-Li Meng, Fritz Nagel, Nancy Reid, Stephen Stigler, Edith Dudley Sylla, Grace Wahba. The Bernoulli Society is one of the organizations sponsoring the Basel Conference. See: http://www.statoo.ch/bernoulli13/

***

A committee chaired by Yevgeniy Kovchegov, Oregon State University, and Peter Otto, Wilamette University, and including seven universities within a one-hundred mile radius in Oregon are collaborating to sponsor a public lecture for the fall of 2013 in Portland, Oregon. The speaker is Tim Hesterberg, Google,

https://sites.google.com/a/timhesterberg.net/www/.

Specific dates are still under negotiation, but teachers, students, business professionals and members of local and state government will be invited to attend.

It is not too late for members to plan an event in their respective regions of the world!

***

It is not too late for members to plan an event in their respective regions of the world!

Adam Jakubowski,
Torún

Update on Response to L'Aquila Earthquake Convictions

Many members of the Bernoulli Society are aware of the convictions this past fall by the Italian courts of six scientific members of the National Commission for the Forecast and Prevention of Major Risks over the 2009 earthquake in L'Aquila. A number of concerned professional societies from around the world have issued public statements and have organized letters addressed to the Italian government.

The Bernoulli Society's Committee on Probability and Statistics in the Physical Sciences made a study of the news reports and documents available pertaining to this case. With that as background, a letter to the president of the Republic of Italy was drafted and co-signed by the presidents of the Bernoulli Society and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS).

That letter was endorsed in a separate letter by the president of the International Statistical Institute.

The letter requests: "utmost consideration to the greater good to humanity served by a judgment that will take both the inherent uncertainty of statistical forecasts and the danger of false alarms fully into account, as well as a judgment that will not jeopardize the willingness of other scientists to serve on such important committees in the future." Furthermore, in accordance with our professed mission, a pledge was made to assist the Italian government as deemed prudent in educational initiatives aimed at better informing its citizenry with regard to the scope and limitations of statistical forecasts.

Ed Waymire,
Corvallis

Awards and Prizes

SPA/Elsevier Travel Awards 2013 for the 36th Conference on Stochastic Processes and Their Applications

The 36th Conference on Stochastic Processes and Their Applications will be held at the University of Colorado, Boulder from July 29 to August 2, 2013.

The publishing company Elsevier and the journal Stochastic Processes and Their Applications
- An Official Journal of the Bernoulli Society - sponsor the conference with two Elsevier Travel Grants

worth 500 Euros each. The grants will be awarded to the following young researchers:

• Jian Song (University of Hong Kong)
• Alexandre Stauffer (Università Roma Tre)

Takashi Kumagai,
Kyoto

Announcement of the Itô Prize Winners 2013

The journal Stochastic Processes and Their Applications awards the 2013 Itô Prize to a paper published between 2011 and early 2013, recognizing a significant contribution to the advancement of the theory or applications of stochastic processes. The prize honors the memory and celebrates the legacy of Professor Kiyosi Itô and his vast and seminal contributions to probability theory. The prize consists of a monetary award of $5,000 and an invited lecture presenting the paper.

The 2013 winning article was selected by the Editorial Board of the journal:

Hirofumi Osada, Interacting Brownian motions in infinite dimensions with logarithmic interaction potentials II: Airy random point field, SPA, 123 (2013), 813-838.

The Editorial Board of SPA congratulates Hirofumi Osada. The Itô Prize Ceremony and the Itô Lecture are part of the Scientific Program of the 36th Conference on Stochastic Processes and Their Applications (July 29 to August 2, 2013, University of Colorado, Boulder, USA).

Takashi Kumagai,
Kyoto

SPA/Elsevier Travel Awards 2013 for the 7th International Conference on Lévy Processes: Theory and Applications

The 7th International Conference on Lévy Processes: Theory and Applications will be held at Wrocław, Poland, from 15 to 19 July 29, 2013.

The publishing company Elsevier and the journal Stochastic Processes and Their Applications - An Official Journal of the Bernoulli Society - sponsor the conference with two Elsevier Travel Grants worth 500 Euros each.

The grants will be awarded to the following young researchers:

• Victoria Knopova (Kiev, Taras Schevchenko University and Ukrainian Academy of Sciences)
• Nikola Sandrić (University of Zagreb)

Takashi Kumagai,
Kyoto

David's Musings: Cooper versus Greene, Peters versus Mercator, and Silver versus Big Data

The International Year of Statistics gives me an excuse to return to my favorite topic, popular expositions of science, with several little stories.

In an episode of *The Big Bang Theory*, the (fictional) physicist Sheldon Cooper attends a popular talk by the (real) physicist Brian Greene in order to hear and mock whatever everyday analogy Greene will give for the Uncertainty Principle. Sheldon is duly rewarded when he hears "it's like a Chinese restaurant, where you can order items from menu A or menu B but not from both." This is my favorite illustration of the danger of ignoring the second half of the well known advice *everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler*. Incidentally, there is no evidence to support the common attribution of this advice to Einstein.

When reading journalistic accounts of scientific

research, and in the small percentage of cases where I know the field, I often find that what is presented as "an exciting new idea from Professor X" is actually a well known (to experts) and less exciting old idea from Professors A, B and C. Let me give my favorite example from outside probability or statistics, discussed at length in Jerry Brotton's wonderful book *A History of the World in Twelve Maps*. Brotton's first map is Ptolemy's *Geography*, and his twelfth is *Google Earth*, but the story (readily found also on Wikipedia) concerns the eleventh. In 1973, a historian, Arno Peters, called a press conference to announce "a new map of the world" which used an equal-area projection, pointing out that the Mercator projection, familiar to us all since childhood classroom walls, exaggerates the areas of countries far from the equator. This created a media sensation, and the map was widely adopted over the next 20 years, often accompanied by ideological rhetoric such as *The European world concept, as the*

last expression of a subjective global view of primitive peoples, must give way to an objective global concept (Peters). Professional cartographers were infuriated, for many reasons. Peters' projection was in fact merely one of the large numbers of known projections whose mathematical properties have been derived, and whose conceptual advantages and disadvantages have been discussed, over the previous centuries. Some of Peters' claims about the good properties of his projection relative to others were mathematically incorrect. And the cartographers' own long campaign to replace Mercator, with its well-known disadvantages, by some arguably-better projection as the default map of the World had been notably unsuccessful, so they were irritated that an incompetent amateur had partially succeeded in doing so. Of course, nothing similar could happen in Probability or Statistics, could it? The saga ended quietly with a return to the *status quo ante*, in that the Gall-Peters projection (first described by Gall in 1855) is no longer so popular, but no other projection has supplanted Mercator.

Turning to Statistics, it is important for popularizers, whether academics or journalists, to remember that academic statisticians tend to think of Statistics in terms of methodology, whereas the public thinks in terms of concrete instances -- what sort of data do you have and what specific conclusions can you draw? -- without caring about how they are drawn. Let me illustrate this point in the context of *Big Data*, a phrase that readers have surely encountered with rapidly increasing frequency over the last year or two. A good illustration of how Big Data is presented to the public -- in this case to the business public -- is a 150-page McKinsey report from 2011, which I suspect has been subsequently used as a source for journalistic articles. The report mixes business-speak: *Big Data will help create new growth opportunities and entirely new categories of companies, such as those that aggregate and analyze industry data ... companies that sit in the middle of large information flows where data about products and services, buyers and suppliers, and consumer preferences and intent can be captured and analyzed ....* with somewhat more specific examples. As for methodology, the report merely gives an alphabetical list of 26 "techniques for analyzing big data" and attempts one-paragraph descriptions.

Now I am not criticizing the McKinsey report, which is appropriate for its intended audience. Turning to the academic sphere, although readers will be well aware of the current prominence of the phrase *Big Data*, older readers may not have realized the implication that existing Statistics textbooks and courses not focused on Big Data (i.e. almost everything we teach undergraduates) are now regarded as anachronistic by much of the literate public. Younger colleagues do realize this, and more than half the applicants for our Assistant Professor position this year mentioned Big Data in their research statements. But what they mean, typically, is the methodology of machine learning.

From a third angle, readers in the US will be familiar with Nate Silver's success in predicting the 2012 Presidential election, which resulted in headlines such as *Nate Silver's Sweep is a Huge Win for Big Data*. This came shortly after publication of his book *The Signal and the Noise: Why So Many Predictions Fail -- but Some Don't*. Silver's own technical expertise is in three of the thirteen topics of the book (baseball player performance, poker, election prediction from opinion polls). These are particularly amenable to the signal/noise paradigm -- with substantial data and only slowly changing ground rules. So, his message is to rely on data rather than the subjective opinions of yourself or media pundits. I enjoyed the book, as popular science, and (aside from misrepresenting Bayesianism vs. frequentism, as does almost every such book) it seems a well-written account of its particular topics, and it has made a good conversation topic in talking with academic statisticians. However, as others such as Kent Anderson have noted, journalists are confused when they place his work in the Big Data category. The quantity of data used isn't comparable to the quantity of data that Walmart or Google have. And his methodology is classical, in the sense of using careful human-devised models rather than the black box output of machine learning algorithms.

So, my point is that three very different views of Big Data are held by the business community, by academic statisticians and by inattentive readers of Nate Silver. Those with a penchant for nerd humor might also find a fourth view on my web page *Big Data: the substitute for Love*.

David Aldous,
Berkeley

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

Report on the young scientists' event on the weekend before the 8th World Congress in Probability and Statistics (9--14 July 2012)

Fifty-two students (master and PhD), postdoc or young researchers in statistics and probability participated in the Pre-World-Congress Meeting of Young Researchers in Statistics and Probability during a beautiful weekend in Istanbul on the modern campus of Koç University. During the weekend, the young participants followed lectures and met some of the key speakers and invited session organizers to the 8th World Congress, in addition to participating to other cultural, scientific and social activities. This allowed them to be more prepared for the lectures of the World Congress and to get in contacts with some of the main statisticians and probabilists of the moment. It was also an occasion to discuss together important issues, like the specific challenges students in the developing world are facing, the principles of freedom and responsibility of scientists, how did successful scientists take their life-course decisions. The meeting started on Friday 6.7. at 16.00 and ended in the evening of Sunday 8.7.

Programme
- We had 7 scientific lectures:
- Erhan Cinlar: Poisson Random Measures
- Jasmine Foo: Stochastic Dynamics of Cancer Evolution
- Roger Cooke: High Dimensional Dependence Modeling
- Alex Schmidt: An Introduction to Spatio-temporal Models
- Victor Perez-Abreu: Random Matrices, Basic Material and Applications
- Richard Davis: Identifying Structural Breaks and Outliers in Time
- Bin Yu: Spectral Clustering and High-dim Stochastic Block Model for Undirected and Directed Graphs

The lectures, lasting one hour, had elements of survey, before focusing on more specific aspects. All speakers carefully explained motivations, the key concepts and results. Even when the background of the student was very different from the one of the speaker, it was possible for everybody to follow well. There was good time and many occasions for direct contact between lecturers and students. In addition, we had two more general lectures:
- Eda Daloghu: A Short Presentation of the history of Turkey and Istanbul
- Gurol Irzik: Freedom and Autonomy of Science

Eda gave a brave tutorial, touching the central events of Turkish history, and showed a musical movie on Istanbul. The discussion also touched many controversial issues of contemporary politics. Gurol presented the fundamental principles of freedom of science, the challenges and the dangers. It was for many

a very inspirational lecture. Several panel discussions were also organized:
- Public interview of some of the invited speakers. Theme: your life, your choices and your science
- On being a student and young researcher in the developing countries
- What, where and how to publish: advices from the experts
- The scientific societies (BS, EMS, IMS) present themselves.

Each discussion was moderated and open for many questions from the audience. One evening, we had a very nice local excursion. We took a local bus from the campus down to Sariyer, the northernmost district of Istanbul and once a lively village on the Bosphorus. Accommodations for everybody was on campus, as well as the auditorium for all lectures.

Funding
Most young scientists from non-developing countries can only participate to scientific conferences outside their country, if their travel, registration fee and local costs are fully sponsored. Therefore, we obtained financial support from several sources, in total more than 30.000 Euro. We are very thankful to and acknowledge support from Koç University, the Benroulli Society, the European Mathematical Society, Statistics for Innovation, Elsevier, the International Mathematical Union, Biometrika, the International Statistical Institute and Google.

The ISI administers the financial support from the World Bank. All the sponsors were truly positive to the initiative and their support ranged from 1500 euro to 14000 euro. The World Bank has a specific procedure which has to be followed, but otherwise all other sponsors delegated to the organizing committee the practical implementation of the support. By carefully predicting the actual cost of every individual participant, we were able to support all local costs (for 9--12 days) and registration (to both the pre-congress event and the world congress) of 31 young scientists. In addition, for 22 of them, we paid all their travel. This is a large number for the world congresses. The participation of these young scientists also helped to make the World Congress a truly global event.

Applicants could apply via one of two channels: the World Bank scheme (in general with no limits on age, but we prepared a subset of junior candidates for the young-event) and directly through the pre-world congress web pages (for master students, PhD students. post-docs or junior researchers with at most 8 years from graduation). There were approximately 250 applicants. The selection was not easy, and was made by an ad hoc committee, that met in Istanbul for one full

day. CV and publications (or thesis plan) of each applicant was the most important element in the evaluation. Gender and geographical balance also played an important role: it was important to have many female participants and to spread the grants over many countries.

Participants

The 52 participants came from Argentina, South Africa, Brazil, China, Vietnam, India, Ethiopia, Morocco, Singapore, Ukraine, Russia, Poland, Egypt, Algeria, Iran, Turkey, in addition to USA, Norway, France, Switzerland, UK and Netherlands. 40% were women.

Practical issues

The success of an event like this depends on many aspects. In order to facilitate the organization of similar meetings, we summarize here some of the practical aspects we believe are very important for a successful planning and implementation.

- Lecturers should be prepared to address a very mixed audience, including master students, in both probability and statistics. Tutorials are best.
- In addition to science, dedicate time (lectures, discussions, etc.) to other important themes for the formation of a modern and aware scientist.

Key speakers and organizers should be present during the whole programme, actively involved in all discussions during the lectures, breaks, mingling time. Chairman and moderators should activate the participants. Invite students on the stage, to express opinions. Respect difficulties in English.

- Funding is necessary for each participant from the developing countries. Therefore, it is necessary to have sponsors. It can be easier to have many small sponsors (donating 1000--2000 euro) than larger ones. Obtain support from scientific societies first, and then use their good name to approach other sponsors. Start one year before the event, but we also obtained support in the last minute. Many emails and letters remain un-answered, but have to be sent in any case. You need time (2 weeks of full time work?) and patience.
- Advertising for the event should appear very visibly on the web of the main congress. Send it broadly by email to many contacts. Print announcement on paper and send it by regular mail to statistics departments of main universities in developing countries (ISI and statmentoring.nr.no have lists).
- Registration: participants should register both for the main congress and for the pre-congress event, in addition to applications for grants. The congress should have reduced fees for young participants (not only students) from developing countries until the whole selection procedure is over, and as long as possible, for example until 1 week before the congress

(because of visa delays). Registration fee to the world congress and accommodation for the whole period was covered by the grants.

- Simple and clear application procedures, with just one deadline, unified and valid for all sponsors. Do not ask for any reference letter or official document from local universities: they are difficult to obtain and unnecessary.
- In several countries, students do not have a bank account, no credit card and no cash to use in advance to later be reimbursed. We bought all plane tickets and sent electronic tickets by email. This requires stable communication with the student who got the award, as all details on travel have to be agreed upon (airports, time points, surnames, birthdates, passport details). Organize everything so that you pay all costs for the students directly (ticket, registration, accommodations) except for local domestic travel and visa. In this way, you will need to reimburse only a small amount (average 200 euro) and do this on-site in cash.
- Clear instructions on transfers from arrival airport to conference site (cheapest possible), details on accommodation. Remember that some students are traveling for their first time.
- Time line: - 2 years: advertising, webpage, funding. - 1.5 years: procedure for application and deadlines made public. - 12 months: 50% of sponsors obtained. - 12 months: open registration and application procedures. - 8 months: deadline for application and selection of winners. - 7 months: awards are communicated with detailed instructions; include right away an official letter of financial support and invitation, so that the student can immediately apply for a visa. Tickets are bought.
- There will be difficulties to obtain visa for some of the students. If you can write a preparatory letter to your embassies in the actual countries, with contact points to you (and copy to student), it might help.
- The amount of organizational work during the last 3--4 months is large, with multiple individual contacts. Estimate: 2 hours per day. During the pre-congress event, secretarial help is necessary, for reimbursements, collecting receipts and necessary signatures, practical help.
- Contact us if you need further advice!

I hope that the Pre-World Congress Meeting of Young Researchers in Statistics and Probability in 2012 is the first of a successful series of pre-meeting events dedicated to participants from the less developed world. The international community has the responsibility to make international events accessible to participants from all over the world.

Arnoldo Frigessi, Oslo

Past Conferences, Meetings and Workshops

Winter School on "Perspectives on Actuarial Risks in Talks of Young researchers" (PARTY) Ascona, Switzerland, January 27th--February 1st, 2013

The 2013 PARTY managed to bring together 47 young researchers from all over the world (Europe, Asia, North America and Africa) in a very friendly atmosphere, in which the future generation of PhDs in actuarial science could interact not only with their peers but also with a few well-known experts from the actuarial practice and academia. The event has been officially endorsed by the Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability.

The topic proposed was on general actuarial risks with emphasis on longevity risk and risk theory. Mixing presentations from risk theory and longevity risk, the workshop provided an impulse to develop cooperation between these two areas of research. The presence of the well-known professors Ermanno Pitacco and Annamaria Olivieri (Italy), Hansjoerg Albrecher and Enkelejd Hashorva (Switzerland), Stéphane Loisel (France) and Steve Haberman (UK) guaranteed the quality of discussions on the topics. The talk of Stéphane Loisel (University of Lyon 1, France) on solvency capital requirements and duality of modelling longevity versus non-life insurance, and the talk of Ermanno Pitacco (University of Trieste, Italy) on the newest life insurance products presented the existing bridges between longevity risk and risk theory.

During the week long school, the discussions touched a variety of aspects on mortality: trends, models and forecasts, longevity risk, natural hedging, longevity swaps/bonds, causes of death, cohort effects, annuity and annuitization, pension and life insurance products, as well as actuarial risk measures: value at risk, tail value at risk, or multivariate risk measures. The experts from practice, Daniel Ryan and Philippe Maeder (Swiss RE London and Zurich) introduced the latest needs in terms of risk modelling.

Furthermore, catastrophic risk, ruin probabilities in finite or infinite time, with continuous or discrete claim amounts, dividends with and without injection of capitals, optimal strategies for dividend payments, bankruptcy, reinsurance and investments, utility maximization were presented. More theoretical aspects of extreme value theory, Gaussian processes and fractional Brownian motion were explained along with discussions on competitive markets behaviour and robustness of pricing on competitive markets. Solvency capital requirements, Solvency II and Swiss Solvency Test, Enterprise Risk Management were frequently mentioned and a few case studies were well received by the audience (on Egyptian health insurance system, Egyptian life insurances and a Mexican Pension Plan).

The event would have not taken place without the financial support of the sponsors, to which the organizers and all the participants are very grateful. The generous funding provided by CSF, was matched by funds from the UK Institute and Faculty of Actuaries, the Swiss Association of Actuaries, the University of Lausanne and University of Liverpool. It allowed the organizers to use the Conference Center of ETH at Monte Verità, a setting not easy to match in quality and geographic position. It also allowed the organizers to reward the best presentations (registration fee remission) of the PhD students Katjia Schilling from University of Ulm (Germany) and Andres Villegas from City University (UK). The UK Institute and Faculty of Actuaries offered a best paper prize of £250 (with consideration of publication in the Annals of Actuarial Science) to papers submitted by the participants. The Institute's Prize Committee awarded Weihong Ni, PhD student from University of Liverpool (UK), the youngest author of the paper on " Weibull Bonus-Malus Systems." Given the success of this first edition, a second edition will be held in the UK, in 2015.

Corina Constantinescu and Severine Gaille,
Liverpool and Lausanne

Forthcoming Conferences, Meetings and Workshops

Second Workshop on Industry & Practices for Forecasting (WIPFOR), June 5--7, 2013, Paris, France

The Second Workshop on Industry & Practices for Forecasting will take place at EDF's Research and Development site in Clamart, about 30 minutes from Paris between June 5 and June 7, 2013.

The workshop is devoted to time series forecasting techniques using stochastic modeling and stochastic learning methods in a high dimensional context. This subject covers a wide panel of industries: energy, finance, transportation, networks, IT, meteorology, health research and environment. The purpose is to bring together academics and industry professionals to share different experiences and discuss future trends related to this area. Both theoretical and practical issues will be considered.

The workshop will consist of plenary sessions (40 min/talk) and regular sessions (20 min/talk); the allowed time includes questions and discussion. Each regular session will be dedicated to a specific topic.

The Program Committee invites the submission of abstracts related to the theory and practices on those topics. Those presenting papers in regular (track) sessions may co-author multiple papers, but may present only one paper.

The language for the oral presentation, as well as any written documents will be English.

For more information, including registration and fee information, please visit the workshop website at

http://conferences-osiris.org/wipfor

The program committee is comprised of Anestis Antoniadis (Chair, Grenoble), Sylvain Arlot (ENS), Xavier Brossat (EDF), Virginie Dordonnat (EDF), Laurent Ferrara (Banque de France), Badih Ghattas (Marseille), Irène Gijbels (Louvain), Yannig Goude (EDF), Nick Hengartner (LANL), Siem Jan Koopman (Amsterdam), Guy Nason (Bristol), Georges Oppenheim (Paris-Sud), Anne Philippe (Nantes), Jean-Michel Poggi (Paris-Sud), Gilles Stoltz (ENS) and Qiwei Yao (LSE).

The organizing committee is comprised of Yannick Jacquemart (Honorary Chair), Xavier Brossat and Virginie Dordonnat.

Anestis Antoniadis,
Grenoble

29th European Meeting of Statisticians, Eötvös Loránd University, July 20--25, 2013, Budapest, Hungary

The European Meeting of Statisticians is uniquely the broadest and most prestigious regular meeting of the profession in Europe, having long history and well established traditions. Two distinguishing feature of the current occasion are worth being emphasized, however. Beyond providing a natural forum for exchange of ideas for European statisticians and probabilists, particular organizational effort has been made to represent both traditional and newly emerging ties of the European professionals with the whole World. Hence, we expect colleagues from India, China, South-East Asia, the Middle-East, North- and Latin-America to participate in greater than usual number. It is also the ambition of the organizers to stimulate the inseminating tie between probability and statistics by a balanced representation of intertwined topics of both disciplines.

The framework of these specialties is provided by the

year 2013 itself as it brings a number of celebrating anniversaries, connected to our profession. The year 2013 marks the 300th anniversary of both the posthumous publication of Jacob Bernoulli's "Ars Conjectandi," and the St Petersburg Paradox. The 250th anniversary of the posthumous presentation to the Royal Society of Thomas Bayes' essay on the problem of "inverse probability" commences also in 2013. The Bernoulli Society sees EMS2013 as the perfect occasion to celebrate these events with due respect and consideration.

Organized discussion sessions may provide excellent occasions for talking over or debating on issues like free access to publications, assessment of the originality of scientific works, measurements of scientific accomplishments, and the access of the profession to the now changing European funding resources.

The special invited lectures will be given by

- Emmanuel Candès (Stanford), *Bernoulli Society – European Mathematical Society Cooperation Lecture*
- Sara van der Geer (ETH Zürich), *Opening Lecture*
- Geoffrey Grimmett (Cambridge), *Forum Lecture*
- Yacov Sinai (Princeton), *Closing Lecture*
- Glen Shafer (Rutgers), *"Ars Conjectandi" Memorial Lecture*
- Christian Robert (Paris-Dauphine), *Thomas Bayes Memorial Lecture*

Special invited lectures will also be given by Robert Adler (Technion), Lawrence Brown (UPenn), László Lovász (Eötvös), Terry Lyons (Oxford), Xiao-Li Meng (Harvard) and Terry Speed (Berkeley).

The meeting will feature over 30 Invited Paper Sessions and an additional 30 Contributed Paper Sessions. The conference will also feature special sessions on the 300th anniversary of the St. Petersburg Paradox, a panel discussion on the Future of Statistics, as well as a special memorial session for Sándor CSörgő.

More information can be found online at
http://ems2013.eu/site/index.php

For online registration, please visit:

http://ems2013.eu/site/index.php?page=en/Registration/Registration#LINK3

"Recent Trends in Stochastic Analysis," University of British Columbia, July 22--26, 2013, Vancouver, Canada

"Recent Trends in Stochastic Analysis" will take place at University of British Columbia (Vancouver) from July 22 to July 26, 2013. The conference celebrates the 60th birthdays of Martin Barlow and Ed Perkins.

The main topics include stochastic partial differential equations, measure valued processes, random walks in random media, Dirichlet forms and diffusions on fractals.

For further information, registration information and list of speakers, please see the conference website
http://www.pims.math.ca/scientific-event/130722-rtsac

Takashi Kumagai
Kyoto

36th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications, University of Colorado Boulder, July 29--August 2, 2013, Boulder, Colorado, USA

The 36th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications will be held on the University of Colorado Boulder campus between July 29 and August 2, 2013. The conference is organized under the auspices of the Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability and is co-sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics.

Plenary talks will be given by

- Gerard Ben Arous (Courant, New York University), *Lévy Lecture*
- Itai Benjamini (Weizmann Institute of Science), *Inaugural Schramm Lecture*
- Zhen-Qing Chen (University of Washington)
- Ron Doney (University of Manchester)
- Hugo Duminil-Copin (Université de Genéve)
- Pablo Ferrari (Universidad de Buenos Aires)
- Tadahisa Funaki (University of Tokyo)
- Ken Golden (University of Utah), *Bernoulli Society Open Lecture*

- Niels Jacob (Swansea University)
- Vadim Kaimanovich (University of Ottawa)
- Neil O'Connell (University of Warwick), *Doob Lecture*
- Hirofumi Osada (Kyushu University), *Itô Prize Lecture*
- Jeremy Quastel (University of Toronto)
- Kavita Ramanan (Brown University)
- Qi-Man Shao (Chinese University of Hong Kong)
- Amandine Veber (École Polytechnique)
- Bálint Virág (University of Toronto), *IMS Medallion Lecture*
- Ofer Zeitouni (University of Minnesota & Weizmann Institute of Science)

Further to the plenary lectures, the conference will feature 17 invited sessions and several contributed presentations. For more details please consult the conference website:

http://math.colorado.edu/spa2013/

International Conference "Ars Conjectandi 1713—2013," October 15--16, 2013, Basel, Switzerland

This conference will celebrate the 300th anniversary of the publication of Jakob (James) Bernoulli's book Ars Conjectandi (The Art of Making Conjectures) in 1713. This seminal book is known for its treatment of probability theory known at that time, developed by Jakob Bernoulli and in particular for its first discussion of the law of large numbers in a special case, the so-called Bernoulli sequences of random variables which form the base of the law of large numbers.

The conference will be held in the city where Jakob Bernoulli was born and where he was a Professor of Mathematics. It is organized by the Swiss Statistical Society (SSS) and co-sponsored by the Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS) and the International Statistical Institute (ISI).

This conference will consist of invited keynote presentations which will cover both historical aspects as well as surveys of topics of current interest in probability and statistics. They will be given by the following speakers:

- David Aldous, Berkeley
- Peter Buehlmann, Zürich

- Louis Chen, Singapore
- Hans Foellmer, Berlin
- Tilmann Gneiting, Heidelberg
- Hans-Ruedi Kuensch, Zürich
- Xiao-Li Meng, Cambridge Fritz Nagel, Basel
- Nancy Reid, Toronto
- Stephen Stigler, Chicago
- Edith Dudley Sylla, Raleigh
- Grace Wahba, Madison

The International Conference Ars Conjectandi 1713--2013 will be combined with the Swiss Statistics Meeting to be held on October 16--18, 2013, in Basel, Switzerland, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the SSS, the 15th anniversary of its section Official Statistics and the 10th anniversary of its sections Education and Research and Business and Industry.

The conference will take place at the Congress Center Basel (www.congress.ch), which is located right in the centre of Basel. For further information, please visit www.statoo.ch/bernoulli13/

Jürg Hüsler,
Bern

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`

June 2013

- ➢ June, 5th – 7th, 2013, *Second Workshop on Industry & Practices for Forecasting (WIPFOR)*, Paris, France

July 2013

- ➢ ☺ July, 20th – 25th, 2013, *29th European Meeting of Statisticians,* Budapest, Hungary
- ➢ ☺ July, 22nd – 26th, 2013, *Recent Trends in Stochastic Analysis,* Vancouver, Canada
- ➢ ☺ July, 29th – August 2nd, 2013, *36th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications,* Boulder, Colorado, USA

October 2013

- ➢ ☺ October, 15th – 16th, *Internal Conference "Ars Conjectandi 1713--2013*, Basel, Switzerland

Fall 2013

- ➢ ☺ Fall (specific dates to announce), Public Lecture. Speaker will be Tim Hesterberg, Google, Portland, Oregon, USA

Who is Who in the Bernoulli Society

Executive Committee 2011-2013

President	Edward Waymire (Corvallis, USA)	waymire@math.orst.edu
Past President	Victor Pérez-Abreu (Guanajuato, Mexico)	pabreu@cimat.mx
President Elect	Wilfrid Kendall (Warwick, UK)	w.s.kendall@warwick.ac.uk
Executive Secretary	Ada van Krimpen (ISI Office, Netherlands)	an.vankrimpen@cbs.nl
Membership Secretary	Mark Podolskij (Heidelberg, Germany)	m.podolskij@uni-heidelberg.de
Scientific Secretary	Nakahiro Yoshida (Tokyo, Japan)	nakahiro@ms.u-tokyo.ac.jp
Treasurer	Lynne Billard (Athens, USA)	lynneb@uga.edu

Council Member 2009-2013

2009-2013	Paolo Baldi (Rome, Italy)	baldi@mat.uniroma2.it
2009-2013	Probal Chaudhuri (Calcutta, India)	probal@isical.ac.in
2009-2013	Julia Breitschneider (Warwick, UK)	julia.brettschneider@warwick.ac.uk
2009-2013	Ricardo Fraiman (Buenos Aires, Argentina)	ricardo.fraiman@adinet.com.uy
2009-2013	Zenghu Li (Beijing, China)	lizh@bnu.edu.cn
2009-2013	Nancy Reid (Toronto, Canada)	reid@utstat.utoronto.ca

Council Member 2011-2015

2011-2015	Neville Weber (Australia)	neville.weber@sydney.edu.au
2011-2015	Arturo Kohatsu-Higa (Japan)	arturokohatsu@gmail.com
2011-2015	Mikhail Lifshits (Russia)	mikhail@lifshits.org
2011-2015	Alejandro Ramirez (Chile)	aramirez@mat.puc.cl
2011-2015	Alice Guionnet (France)	aguionne@ens-lyon.fr
2011-2015	Martin Barlow (Canada)	barlow@math.ubc.ca

Committee Chairs

Conferences on Stochastic Processes	Jean Bertoin (Zürich, Switzerland)	jean.bertoin@math.uzh.ch
Probability and Statistics in the Physical Sciences	Harry Pavlopoulos (Athens, Greece)	hgp@aueb.gr
Publications Committee	Maria Eulalia Vares (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)	eulalia@cbpf.br
Committee on the Special Year 2013	Adam Jakubowski (Torun, Poland)	adjakubo@mat.umk.pl

Regional Committee Chairs

European	Laszlo Markus (Györ, Hungary)	markus@cs.elte.hu
East-Asian and Pacific	Tim Brown (Canberra, Australia)	tim.brown@latrobe.edu.au
Latin America	Claudio Landim (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)	landim@impa.br

Editors

Bernoulli	Eric Moulines (Paris, France)	moulines@telecom-paristech.fr
Stochastic Processes and Their Applications	Takashi Kumagai (Kyoto, Japan)	kumagai@kurims.kyoto-u.ac.jp
International Statistical Review	Marc Hallin (Belgium), Vijay Nair (USA)	mhallin@ulb.ac.be,vnn@umich.edu
Bernoulli News	Victor Panaretos (Lausanne, Switzerland)	victor.panaretos@epfl.ch
Bernoulli E-Briefs	Dario Spano (UK)	D.Spano@warwick.ac.uk

Web Editors

Bernoulli Society	Björn Böttcher (Dresden, Germany)	bjoern.boettcher@tu-dresden.de
Bernoulli Journal / Bernoulli News	Hans Lucas (The Hague, Netherlands)	isiwebmaster@yahoo.com
SLAPEM	Claudio Landim (Brazil)	landim@impa.br

Becoming a Member of the Bernoulli Society

The Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability is a section of the International Statistical Institute. It is an autonomous society which seeks to develop and improve statistical and stochastic methods and their applications through the promotion of international activity and cooperation.

Membership Fees for 2013:

- Regular BS membership fee is EUR 76

  This includes access to the online versions of the *Bernoulli Journal* and *Stochastic Processes and Their Applications*. New BS members receive half price (only one reduction possible).

- Entrance fee for BS *extraordinary membership* is EUR 20.

- Joint IMS-BS membership fee is USD 161.

- Joint BS-IMS-ISI fee is EUR 154.

Subscription Rates for "Bernoulli" in 2013

- online for *BS members* is included in the membership fee.

- hardcopy for *BS members* is EUR 26 (reduced membership: EUR 14).

- online for *non-BS members* is EUR 35.

- hardcopy and online for *non-BS members* is EUR 61.

Specials

As an incentive to become a member, the Bernoulli Society offers:

- 50% fee reduction for the first year of membership of new members

- PhD students join for free

- 50% fee reduction for the first two years for postdocs

- 50% fee reduction for retired persons and couples from developed countries

- Members from developing countries (please refer to the list at http://www.isi-web.org/component/content/article/5-root/root/81-developing) receive a *70% fee reduction*.

All the above members receive the full membership benefits of a regular member. More details about the benefits of joining the Bernoulli Society as reduced registration fees for meetings can be found on

http://www.bernoulli-society.org/index.php/membership/membership-information

The Bernoulli Society has partnered with some societies to offer joint membership with reduction in dues by joining both organizations at the same time. Regular members who would also like to be members of the *Institute of Mathematical Statistics* (IMS) can apply for a joint BS-IMS membership. You will also receive full IMS membership benefits. If you are an *elected member of ISI,* you have the option to apply for a BS-IMS-ISI joint membership.

Permanent residents of developing countries can apply for membership with '*extraordinary*' status. There are no annual dues, but an entrance fee is charged to cover administrative costs of membership, but otherwise extraordinary members will enjoy the usual benefits of individual membership of the Bernoulli Society such as voting rights, eligibility to offices of the Bernoulli Society, lower registration fees at conferences of the Bernoulli Society, and reductions to journal subscriptions. However, members with extraordinary status will not receive the official publications of the Bernoulli Society free of charge, but may subscribe to them at special rates.

Online Application Forms

Bernoulli Society membership:

http://isi.cbs.nl/bern-form.asp

Joint IMS-BS membership: https://secure.imstat.org/secure/orders/IndMember.asp

Joint BS-IMS-ISI membership:

http://isi.cbs.nl/Bern_IMS_ISI-form.asp.

Contact Information

Applications for *reduced membership* fees or *extraordinary status* should be sent to:

Mark Podolskij (Membership Secretary)
Institut für Angewandte Mathematik
Universität Heidelberg
INF 294
D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany
Tel.: +49 6221 546276
 e-mail: m.podolskij@uni-heidelberg.de

Applications for *regular* or *retired memberships* should be sent to:

Margaret de Ruiter-Molloy (Membership Officer)
c/o ISI
P.O. Box 24070
2490 AB The Hague, The Netherlands
Tel.: +31 70 337 5726
Fax: +31 70 386 0025
e-mail: m.deruitermolloy@cbs.nl