**President’s Message**

Dear members of the ISBIS community,

It is my greatest honor and a pleasure to address a message to you at the beginning of my term as ISBIS President in coincidence with Christmas holidays while getting ready for a New Year 2014 that will hopefully be exciting and productive for all of us!

At first, I want to express my appreciation and deepest gratitude to Vijay Nair, our outgoing President, and the members of the previous Executive Committee and Council for their engagement, their valuable contribution and all they have accomplished for ISBIS over the past couple of years. You can get an insight into what has been accomplished by looking at the list of events, conferences, news and reports available at isbis.org. Among others, it is worth mentioning the following accomplishments:

- An ever-growing program of international biennial meetings supplemented by regional and more specialized conferences.

- The further development of y-BIS, the special group of Young Business and Industrial Statisticians that promotes the careers of young researchers and professionals with many activities - in this respect, a special thank goes to Paulo Canas Rodriguez and the y-BIS Committee members for their unlimited engagement and highly successful outcomes.

- Our scientific outlet (the ASMBI journal by Wiley) whose Editors do a great job in soliciting and selecting articles of ever-increasing quality and interest to the ISBIS community whose members are invited to submit their best papers to this Journal – a special thank goes to Fabrizio Ruggeri and his team who manage the Journal with endless care and always strive for achieving ambitious goals in a highly competitive environment.

As to the current activities, the organization of ISBIS 2014 biennial international conference is progressing smoothly. ISBIS is organizing ISBIS 2014 jointly with the American Statistical Association’s Section on Statistical Learning and Data Mining (SLDM). ISBIS 2014 and SLDM meeting takes place on 9-11 June 2014 and is hosted at Durham Convention Center (North Carolina, USA) by the Department of Statistical Science at Duke University. David Banks (ISBIS President Elect) is the chief organizer for this conference. The theme of ISBIS 2014 and SLDM meeting is Data Mining and the use of Statistics in Business and Industry. Abstract submissions are due on the 1st of February 2014. For any further information please browse the conference website at stat.duke.edu/~banks/dcc/index.html.

ISBIS endorses the 8th International Conference on Partial Least Squares and Related Methods (PLS2014 - pls14.org) that takes place in Paris (France) on 26-28 May 2014 and is sponsored also by IASC (the International Association for Statistical Computing of ISI). This eighth edition will focus on methodological contributions in both PLS Regression, PLS Path Modeling and their related methods with applications in areas and disciplines related to Management, Social Sciences, Chemometrics, Sensory Analysis, Industry and Life Sciences including Genomics. The submission of abstracts closes by January 24th, 2014.
Looking at the future, we are currently discussing plans for our long-run strategic plan to be put in place over the next couple of years. This plan shall be finalized by spring 2014. I hope to report on this in the next issue of *ISBIS News*.

Among the several challenges that ISBIS faces, it is worth mentioning the need of providing additional benefits to our current members. This will not only make the individual participation of members in our Society more active and interesting but will also allow ISBIS become more attractive to potential members who have not yet joined our community. We definitely need to develop our membership further so as to become a much larger and influential Society, as this is in line with both our potential and ambitions. It is a matter of developing our activities in a wider range of geographical regions but also of getting known by a larger number of communities of scientists and professionals with whom we can share mutual interests and benefit from complementary knowledge, network and expertise.

With this perspective in mind, in 2014 our efforts will mainly, but not exclusively, focus on: developing and promoting new activities coherently with both our mission and the ISI statistical capacity building goals; designing an effective communication plan based on renewed content and tools with the objective of making ISBIS even more visible to academics and professionals worldwide and from different communities.

Please e-mail me at vinzi@essec.edu to provide your inspiring suggestions but also to share your current interests together with wishes for the future of ISBIS.

Since a couple of months, ISBIS has had a new Editor for *ISBIS News* supported by an editorial team in charge of both *ISBIS News* and ISBIS website. This new organization will also ensure the update of ISBIS website coherently with any news already appeared or to appear in the Newsletter in a timely manner and with a renewed conceptual thinking.

Here is the composition of our Editorial dream team:

- Román Viveros-Aguilera (ISBIS Council member)
  Editor of *ISBIS News* - rviveros@math.mcmaster.ca

- Yili Hong
  Editorial support to ISBIS News and contact for ISI monthly News - yilihong@vt.edu

- Naveen Naidu Narisetty
  ISBIS Webmaster - naveennn@umich.edu

While giving a very warm welcome to Román, Yili and Naveen on board of this challenging and interesting project to the service of ISBIS, I like to thank very sincerely and warmly Narayana Balakrishna (Bala) for the great job he has done in the past years on preparing several issues of *ISBIS News* in a very timely and efficient manner. ISBIS has greatly benefited from his competence and dedication and we are all very grateful to him. Bala is also assuring a very smooth transition from him to Román as they are co-editing this issue of *ISBIS News*.

I encourage each of you to submit news and items that might feed the content of both *ISBIS News* and ISBIS website so as to make them unique and become the ISBIS communication means that you always wanted! In this respect, please feel free to contact Román, Yili and Naveen at any time.

Finally, let me thank David Steinberg (ISBIS Vice-President Communications) who has accepted to serve ISBIS as our representative on the ISI Publications Committee, one of the most important ISI committees with the objective of assessing and coordinating publication activities of the ISI family on a continuing basis and advice the ISI governing bodies and community.

I take this opportunity to wish you and your beloved ones all the best for the upcoming holiday season and a healthy, joyful and successful New Year 2014 at both the personal and the professional level!
I look forward to collaborating with the members of the incoming ISBIS Executive Committee and Council (isbis.org/executive.html) as well as with you all for the benefit and the further development of ISBIS.

Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi, ISBIS President

The y-BIS Report

As this is my first column, I want to begin by thanking the ISBIS Nominations Committee and President Vincenzo Vinzi Esposito for the opportunity to serve as Vice President for y-BIS.

Paulo Cana Rodrigues, the previous y-BIS VP, had started some excellent initiatives, and I hope to build on them as well as start some new ones. Paulo and I are also co-chairs of the ISI Young Statisticians’ Committee, and we hope to use this platform to develop closer connections to young statisticians (YS) from other ISI Associations.

One of my focal points will be to build up the junior researcher mentoring program that pairs a senior mentor with a y-BIS mentee. The ISI has a virtual mentoring network, operating out of the University of Oslo, that is currently focused on PhD students from Africa. I understand that the ISI is investing resources to redesign the website and expand this program. ISBIS can be a partner, and we can work with students and young researchers interested in business and industry. If you are a senior member of ISBIS and are interested in serving as a mentor, please let me know at eblaber@ncsu.edu.

The second area is to increase the visibility of y-BIS (and ISBIS) at major statistical meetings including the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM), and the World Statistics Congress (WSC). The Young Researchers’ Satellite Conference will be folded into the World Statistics Congress for Rio 2015. We will work with Ali Shojaie, the YS representative on the Rio Scientific Program Committee, to make sure that y-BIS is well represented on the program in Rio. In addition, we are also looking into the possibility of organizing joint y-BIS sessions at the JSM.

Whether you are a y-BIS member or a senior member of ISBIS, if you have suggestions on activities that will promote the careers of young statisticians and make y-BIS more active, please e-mail me at eblaber@ncsu.edu.

Eric Laber, ISBIS Vice-President for y-BIS
As anticipated in my last column, Bovas Abraham, David Steinberg and Nalini Ravishanker, are working on a special issue devoted to George E. P. Box, to be published early next year (so keep an eye on the ASMBI webpage http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/(ISSN)1526-4025 and use your ISBIS credentials to login and get free access to the journal). You should expect very interesting papers and a very important (re-)discovery: the first paper published by Box!

The forthcoming issue (sixth and last of 2013) contains 3 discussion papers, with two discussions and a rejoinder each, on electricity load forecasting. Migon and Lares consider Bayesian multivariate dynamic regression models to model hourly electricity load, whereas Hosking, Natarajan, Ghosh, Subramanian and Zhang consider short-term forecasting of the daily load curve for residential electricity usage in the smart grid. Finally, Goeb, Lurz and Pievatolo consider exponential smoothing with covariates.

We published few months ago a special issue on statistics and microelectronics and we had many submissions for two special issues out of relevant conferences: QPRC 2013 (Quality and Productivity Research Conference) at General Electric in Naskayuna, USA, and MMR13 (Mathematical Methods in Reliability) held in Stellenbosch, South Africa. Emmanu-el Yashchin and Maxim Finkelstein are the editors in charge of those two issues, respectively.

Ron Kenett and Galit Shmueli are currently working on a special issue on future of stochastic modelling in business and industry.

I remind you that ISBIS 2014 is approaching and ASMBI is getting ready, as usual, with a call for a special issue out of the papers presented at the world meeting and its own session, with a paper to be discussed in public and later in the journal.

Some relevant discussion papers are planned for the near future:

- **Methods For Planning Accelerated Repeated Measures Degradation Tests**, by Brian Weaver and William Q. ("Bill") Meeker
- Start-up demonstration tests: Models, Methods and Applications, with Some Unifications, by Narayanaswamy Balakrishnan, Markos Koutras and Fotios Milienos
- Component-based Predictive and Exploratory Path Modeling and Multi-block Data Analysis, by Laura Trinchera and Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi
- Birnbaum-Saunders distribution in business and industry, by Narayanaswamy Balakrishnan and Debasis Kundu

Finally, I just want to give an example of what you miss if you do not have a look at the journal. These are the impressive titles (of impressive papers!) of the recently published issue of ASMBI:

- Statistical inference in massive data sets
- A semiparametric Bayesian generalized linear mixed model for the reliability of Kevlar fibres
- Statistical properties of the state obtained by solving a nonlinear multivariate inverse problem
- An asymptotic approach for a semi-Markovian inventory model of type (s, S)
- T-optimality and neural networks: a comparison of approaches for building experimental designs
- An application of the Morgenstern family with standard two-sided power and gamma marginal distributions to the Bayes premium in the collective risk model
As usual, let me conclude reminding you that http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/asmb is waiting for your best papers in business and industry!

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

Final Report on the y-BIS 2013:
Joint Meeting of Young Business and Industrial Statisticians,
Istanbul, Turkey, 19–21/September/2013

The y-BIS 2013: Joint Meeting of Young Business and Industrial Statisticians was held at the Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Istanbul, Turkey, between the 19th and the 21st of September, 2013. The conference was sponsored by the International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS) and by the European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics (ENBIS). Complete information about the conference and the organizing societies can be found in http://ybis13.msgsu.edu.tr/.

The purpose of y-BIS 2013 was to bring together young statisticians and professionals working in academia and in industry. The conference was intended to offer opportunities to meet each other, and to share scientific and professional experiences. This meeting covered many of the research areas in Business and Industrial Statistics.
This was the second conference organized by y-BIS, the young business and industrial statisticians of the ISBIS. The number of participants, including keynote speakers, invited and contributed speakers, local participants and students, was about 50, with Turkey being the most represented country with about half of the participants. However, the number of represented countries amounted to a total of 15! More than 35 papers were presented.

The scientific program included three keynote talks, two short courses and more than 30 invited and contributed talks. We would like to thank the keynote speakers and short course presenters for sharing their experiences and knowledge with us: Sastry Pantula (USA), Nigel Marriott (UK), Geoff Vining (USA), Jacqueline Asscher (Israel) and J. Andrew Howe (Turkey).

It is expected that some of the presented papers will be published after normal, but faster reviewing procedure, in a Special Issue of the journal *Quality and Reliability Engineering International*, associated with the conferences y-BIS 2013 and ENBIS-13.

A satisfaction survey was designed to find out how happy the participants were about many of the items along the conference, and how it could be improved for the next editions. We had a total of 25 respondents in total. The overall satisfaction with the scientific program scored 8.2 in 10 and 92% of the respondents met professional contacts during the y-BIS 2013.

The social program included three events which allowed participants to meet each other and to get a taste of the Turkish culture, weather, gastronomy, and hospitality. The welcome reception was held in a unique place between the two continents. Europe and Asia: on a boat tour on the Bosphorus, the Istanbul Strait, with dinner and traditional Turkish music. The conference dinner was held at the Arıkovanı Restaurant, part of the Istanbul Technical University, and included a band which played traditional and international music and a wonderful tango performance.

Those who remained until Saturday afternoon were rewarded with a full afternoon and evening excursion. Among the places visited there were: the Yerebatan Cistern, the Sultanahmet Camii (Blue Mosque), the Sapphire Terrace in the tallest building of Istanbul and Turkey. The day ended with a magnificent 4D movie about Istanbul and a dinner in the restaurant located at the top floor of the “Sapphire Terrace”. The overall satisfaction with the three parts of the social program scored an average of 9.56 in 10.

The best y-BIS 2013 paper award was given to Osman Dag from the Middle East Technical University for his paper “Estimating Box-Cox power transformation parameter via goodness of fit tests”. Besides the certificate, the awardee also received a monetary prize of 250 Euro.
The feedback from the participants in y-BIS 2013 was great (e.g. “Interesting talks, nice people, perfect organisation, beautiful city, and good weather”; “One had time to contact keynote speakers and nearly every participant during the conference”).

On behalf of ISBIS and ENBIS, I would like to express my gratitude to the co-chairs of the local organizing committee, Nihan Acar and Ozan Kocadağlı, the other members of the local team, and the students for a superb organization.

Further activities of y-BIS were recommended by the participants: 84% of the respondents will surely go or will try to attend the next y-BIS conference and 96% will recommend to colleagues to attend the next y-BIS conference.

We thank all the participants for contributing to the scientific program and for providing a lot of fun in the social events. We wish you all the best and are looking forward to meet all of you again soon.

On behalf of the International Scientific Program Committee of the y-BIS 2013,

Paulo Canas Rodrigues, Past ISBIS Vice-President for y-BIS

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**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**ISBA-George Box Research Workshop on Frontiers of Statistics**

The George Washington University, Washington DC

May 20th-22nd, 2014

The ISBA-George Box Research Workshop on Frontiers of Statistics is co-organized by the ISBA Section on Economics, Finance and Business, the Section on Industrial Statistics, and the Section on Objective Bayes.

The program will highlight currently topical and challenging research linked to many of the areas Box worked in. In part, this will recognize the contributions of George Box in Bayesian statistics and his legacy in terms of impact and connections with many other scientific research areas. Focus areas include:

- Dynamics and Control
- Design and Experimentation
- Time Series
- Forecasting
- Industrial, Commercial
- Other Applications
- Model Assessment and Criticism
- Objective Bayes and Bayes/frequentist Interfaces
- Others areas
The workshop will feature invited and contributed talks as well as contributed poster presentations. Some preliminary information about the workshop can be found at the web site:

http://business.gwu.edu/decisionsciences/i2sds/conferences.cfm.

People interested in presenting a contributed paper or poster are kindly invited to send an abstract by December 15th, 2013 to soyer@gwu.edu. A limited number of papers will be selected by the organizing committee as contributed talks, while all others will be presented at the evening poster session and workshop reception.

The workshop is endorsed by ISBA and co-sponsored by the Institute for Integrating Statistics in Decision Sciences of The George Washington University.

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ENBIS-14: Conference Announcement

ENBIS – the European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics – is a platform where statistical practitioners and academic statisticians from Europe and beyond meet, exchange ideas and design new projects. Individual membership of ENBIS is free.

Many ENBIS network activities are web-based, but some take place face-to-face. Spring meetings are always dedicated to a special topic (e.g. data mining, reliability, DOE, etc.), whereas the annual conference (which traditionally takes place every September) hosts presentations from a wide variety of sectors, ranging from manufacturing to service, from private to public sector. Conference contributions can consist of introductions and overviews (presenting an area of expertise to the uninitiated), reviews (presenting state of the art advances in scientific research), and best practice communications (sharing experiences of practitioners). People from industry and business are invited to present their problems and current solutions and pick the brains of other participants to find better solutions than their current ones.

The annual conference session topics include, but are not limited to, the special areas of interest that exist within ENBIS (formalized in the so-called Special Interest Groups). The list includes:

- Data mining and warehousing.
- Design of experiments.
- Measurement uncertainty.
- Process modelling and control.
- Reliability and safety.
- Statistics in the pharmaceutical industry.
- Statistical computing.
- Operational risk management.
- Statistics in practice.
- Stochastic modelling.
- Quality improvement and Six Sigma.

Additionally, the annual ENBIS conference also features distinguished keynote speakers (George Box, Blanton Godfrey, Stu Hunter and Doug Montgomery are just a few well-known names from a long list of recent speakers), invited and contributed sessions, workshops and panel discussions, as well as pre- and post-conference courses.

The 14th Annual Conference of ENBIS (ENBIS-14) will take place at the Johannes Kepler University in Linz (Austria) from September 21st to 25th, 2014. Mark the dates!

To register as a member of ENBIS, please visit www.enbis.org.

For up-to-date information on ENBIS-14 consult www.enbis.org or contact Marco P. Seabra dos Reis, University of Coimbra, Chair of the ENBIS-14 Programme Committee (marco@eq.uc.pt) and Helmut Waldl, Johannes Kepler University, Chair of the ENBIS-14 Organizing Committee (Helmut.Waldl@jku.at).

Officers for ISBIS Executive Committee and Council (2013-2014)

Executive Committee

President: Vincenzo Esposito Vinzi (France/Italy)

Vincenzo is Professor of Statistics and Chair of the Information Systems and Decision Sciences Department at the ESSEC Business School of Paris. He has extensive experience with ISBIS and has served as Vice President of Communications. He is also a member of the Council of ISI and Chair-Elect of the European Section of the IASC. He is associate editor of Computational Statistics and Data Analysis, Computational Statistics, Advances in Data Analysis and Classification, and Statistical Methods and Applications. Since 2001, he has been chairing a series of International Conferences on PLS and related methods and has co-edited several conference proceedings and special issues of international journals on PLS methods. Vincenzo’s research interests focus on methodological developments in multivariate statistics, including factorial methods for dimensionality reduction and classification, structural equation modeling, Partial Least Squares regression and path modeling for the study of causal networks between latent concepts and the analysis of multi-block data. He applies these methods to business and industry with a focus on the measurement of customer satisfaction and loyalty for private companies and public institutions, and the analysis of sensory data for food and cosmetic product development.
President-Elect: David Banks (USA)

David is Professor in the Department of Statistical Science at Duke University in USA. He does research in risk analysis, data mining, and network modeling, and is interested in statistical problems that arise in business analytics, especially computational advertising and recommender systems. He is a former editor of the *Journal of the American Statistical Association* (ASA) and past-chair of the ASA Risk Section and the ASA Section on Statistics in Defense and National Security. He has worked in the Center for Biologics Research at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Prior to his federal service, he worked at Carnegie Mellon University, the University of Cambridge, and the University of California at Berkeley.

Vice-President Scientific Program: Nalini Ravishanker (USA)

Nalini is Professor and Undergraduate Program Director in the Department of Statistics at University of Connecticut, USA. She is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association. Her research interests include time series modeling, time-to-events analysis, inference for stable processes, signal processing, and applications to differential geometry among others. Nalini has been Editor, Theory and Methods, *Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry*, since 2008; and Associate Editor of *The American Statistician* (since 2001) and *Journal of Forecasting* (since 1994). She has also served as Editorial Board Member for *International Journal of Statistics and Systems* (since 2005). She has published more than 60 research articles and a book.

Vice-President Communications: David M. Steinberg (Israel)

David received his Ph. D. degree in Statistics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1983. He was a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Wisconsin and at Stanford University before joining the faculty of Tel Aviv University in 1985. He has been a Full Professor since 2006. His research interests focus on experimental design, industrial statistics, and statistical applications in seismology. He received the Youden Award for best expository paper in *Technometrics* in 1984, for a paper with W.G. Hunter; and the 1999 Wilcoxon award for best practical application paper in *Technometrics* in 1997, for a paper with S. Bisgaard. This year he was awarded the George Box Medal by the European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics. A regular visitor to the Center for Quality and Productivity Improvement at the University of Wisconsin, David represented the State of Israel at the Seismic Screening Meetings held under the auspices of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Organization. From 2008-2010 he was Editor of *Technometrics*.

Vice-President Membership and Outreach: Martina Vanderbroek (Belgium)

Martina is Professor at the Faculty of Business and Economics at the KULeuven in Belgium where she is Head of the Department on Decision Sciences & Information Management. She is also affiliated with the Leuven Statistics Research Centre. Her research deals mainly with optimal design of experiments, including optimal split-plot and blocked designs. Currently she focuses on the design of discrete choice experiments, which are very popular in marketing and transportation, and on related segmentation issues. Martina is also a member of ENBIS and was president of bENBIS, the Belgian branch of this European Network. She is currently an Associate Editor of AS-MBI, the official journal of ISBIS.
Vice-President Y-BIS Members: Eric Laber (USA)

Eric holds a B.Sc. Mathematics degree from UCLA and M.A. and a Ph.D. degrees in Statistics from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI. He joined the Department of Statistics at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC, in 2011 as an Assistant Professor. Regarding research, he is interested in reinforcement learning, optimization, empirical processes and the bootstrap, and analysis of large and complex data sets. Using these tools, Eric is interested in developing methodology that can effectively use data to inform clinical decision making. Particular areas of application include the treatment of chronic depression, schizophrenia, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Eric was a SAMSI faculty fellow in the 2012-2013 program on data-driven decisions in healthcare. He was selected for the 2011 JASA Theory and Methods invited paper and served as Chair of the Young Researchers Advisory Committee for the *STAT Journal of Statistics* in 2012. But be aware of his tricks: Eric is a professional magician, with over 3000 shows so far!

ISBIS Council Members

Oliver Chinganya (Tunisia)

Oliver is the Division Manager for the Statistical Capacity Building Division, Statistics Department of the African Development Bank since April 2010. Before joining the Bank, he was with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Statistics Department as Regional Advisor (2002–2009), providing support to 21 Anglophone African countries participating in the General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) programme. Prior to joining the IMF, he was deputy director of the Zambia Central Statistical Office responsible for research and dissemination division. He also spent time at the World Bank working on the guidelines for Statistics Result Facility in the Development Economic Data Group.

Luis A. Escobar (USA/Colombia)

Luis is a Professor in the Department of Experimental Statistics at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA. His research interests include statistical analysis of reliability data, accelerated testing, survival analysis, and industrial statistics. His work has been recognized with several awards, including the LSU Rainmaker Award for nationally and internationally innovative research and creative scholarship (2008), the Jack Youden Prize (1999), the John Wiley & Sons Book Award for best selling performance of his book *Statistical Methods for Reliability Data* (1999), and the “Best General Engineering Book” award from the Professional Scholarly Publishing Division of the Association of American Publishers for his Wiley book (1998). His editorial service to the statistics profession is extensive and includes serving as Associate Editor for *Technometrics*, *Lifetime Data Analysis*, *Selected Tables of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics*, the *Institute of Industrial Engineers—Transactions on Quality and Reliability Engineering*, and *Revista Colombiana de Estadística*, among others. Luis served as Elected President of the Inter-American Statistical Institute (2010-2012) and is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association.
Roger Hoerl (USA)
Roger is Brate-Preschel Professor of Statistics at Union College in Schenectady, NY. He was Head of the Applied Statistics Laboratory at GE Global Research. He is an elected member of ISI and of the International Academy for Quality, and a Fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA) and of the American Society for Quality (ASQ). He is a recipient of the Shewhart Medal from ASQ and the Founders Award from ASA. In 2006 he received the Coolidge Fellowship from GE Global Research, honoring one scientist a year from among the four global GE Research and Development sites for lifetime technical achievement. He used his six-month Coolidge sabbatical to study the global HIV/AIDS pandemic, spending a month traveling through Africa in 2007. Roger has authored several books, including *Statistical Thinking: Improving Business Performance* jointly with Ron Snee.

Wai Keung Li (Hong Kong)
Wai Keung is Chair Professor in the Department of Statistics & Actuarial Science, University of Hong Kong. He was Head of the Department from 2006 to 2008. His fields of research interests include Time Series Analysis, Stochastic Analysis, Financial and Insurance Risk Management, Environmental Statistics. He has authored the book *Diagnostic Checks in Time Series*. He is an elected member of ISI, a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and of the Institute for Mathematical Statistics. He is also an Honorary Member of the Hong Kong Statistical Society. He has received the Outstanding Service Award from the International Chinese Statistical Association. He is currently an Associate Editor for *ASMBI*, the official journal of ISBIS.

M. Pilar Muñoz (Spain)
Pilar is an Associate Professor of Statistics in the Department of Statistics and Operations Research, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC). She holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science from the UPC (1988). Her research interests include time series analysis, computational statistics, statistical models in epidemiology, computer-assisted instruction for statistics, and applications in Energy Markets. She has been a consultant to the Regional Government Public Health Agencies of Catalonia, the Metropolitan Transports of Barcelona (TMB) and to the Regional Government Traffic Department of Catalonia. She has been Deputy Director of the Statistics and Operations Research Department (UPC) from 2005 to the present. Pilar has been an elected member of the International Statistical Institute (2004) and member of ISBIS since 2007.

Irena Ograjenšek (Slovenia)
Irena Ograjenšek is Associate Professor of Statistics at the University of Ljubljana's Faculty of Economics. She studied in the PhD programmes of the University of St. Gallen (Switzerland) and Emory University (USA). Her research work at the level of an organisation is dedicated to measurement of customer and employee satisfaction as well as service quality. At the level of industry/economy as a whole and region/country/group of countries she applies qualitative and survey methodology when researching issues related to competitiveness, economic growth and labour market. She is author and co-author of numerous scientific articles published at home and abroad. In the period 2011-2013 she is serving the professional statistical community as the Vice President of the International Association for Statistical Education (IASE) and Executive Committee Member of the European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics (ENBIS).
Galit Shmueli (India)

Galit is SRITNE Chaired Professor of Data Analytics and Associate Professor of Statistics & Information Systems at the Indian School of Business. Her research focuses on statistical and data mining methods for modern data structures, with a focus on statistical strategy – issues related to how data analytics are used in scientific research. Her main field of application is information systems (in particular, electronic commerce). Her research has been published in the statistics, information systems, management, and marketing literature. She has authored over 80 journal articles, books, and book chapters, and is on the editorial boards of several journals, including Annals of Applied Statistics, JASA and The American Statistician Reviews. After receiving her PhD in Statistics from the Israel Institute of Technology in 2000, Galit was visiting faculty at Carnegie Mellon University's Statistics Department, where she became involved in the early research in biosurveillance. In 2002, she joined University of Maryland's Smith School of Business, where she initiated with Dr. Jank a new research field on the interface of statistics and information systems called “statistical methods in eCommerce”. This now highly active interdisciplinary field has generated important advancements in empirical eCommerce research. In 2011, Galit left a tenured position to join the Indian School of Business. Galit is passionate about teaching statistics and data mining and improving their application in the business environment. Her popular co-authored textbook Data Mining for Business Intelligence has been widely adopted in business schools worldwide.

Román Viveros-Aguilera (Canada)

Román is Professor of Statistics in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at McMaster University in Canada. He received his MSc from the Center for Research and Advanced Studies in Mexico and his Ph.D. from the University of Waterloo. His interests include industrial statistics, reliability, and quality control methods. He has served as coordinator of our Graduate Program in Statistics for over three years. He has served the Statistical Society of Canada (SSC) in various capacities: member of the Board of Directors; editor of its newsletter Liaison; cofounder, secretary and President of the Society’s Business and Industrial Statistics Section; and more recently as President of SSC. He received the Pierre Robillard Award for outstanding Ph.D. thesis and the Distinguished Service Award, both from the Statistical Society of Canada, and the McMaster University Student Union Teaching Award.

Ex-Officio Council Members

Fabrizio Ruggeri (Italy): Editor inChief of ASMBI

Fabrizio is Research Director of the CNR-IMATI, Milan, Italy. His research interests include reliability, general statistical modeling with applications in industry, and Bayesian statistics. He is a former President of the European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics (ENBIS) and former Board member of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA). He edited two volumes on Bayesian Robustness and special issues of journals. He also served as the Editor (1999-2002) of the ISBA Bulletin and is currently Editor-in-Chief of Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry and an Editor of Bayesian Analysis. Fabrizio is Co-Director of the Applied Bayesian Statistics summer school (ABS) and Chair of the Scientific Committee of the Bayesian Inference in Stochastic Processes (BISP) series of workshops. He is a faculty in the Ph.D. programme in Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Pavia and the Master programme in Applied Mathematics for Industry at University of Milano Bicocca. He has been member of many committees, including Savage Award, De Groot Award and Box Medal. He is the author of over 100 research articles and four books.
Editor’s Notes

I thank President Vinzi for the opportunity to serve as Editor of ISBIS News. It will be a pleasure to work with you, the ISBIS members, on this endeavor. This first issue, however, was produced jointly with N. Balakrishna (Bala), the previous Editor. I am very grateful to Bala for training me in the ropes of producing the newsletter. The newsletter is in good shape thanks to Bala’s good work over the last 3 year. As a Society, we owe him a good deal of gratitude for his sustained efforts. I also thank Yili Hong for accepting to help with the newsletter.

The newsletter is a vehicle of communication among the Society members. Items of interest include reports from colleagues in leading roles and announcements of events such as conferences and workshops of potential interest to the members. But also more local action taken place on a regional, institution or personal level related to business and industrial statistics. Such happenings include, in particular, news about the members such as promotions, awards, new positions and publication of new books. Experiences involving interactions between members with specific businesses and companies are of special interest as they can serve as motivating examples to colleagues in other parts of the globe. I invite you to consider putting together a few words to share your news and experiences in ISBIS News with your Society fellow members.

More focused lines of information include interviews with members who have played key roles in the Society or have excelled in their work on business and industrial statistics. These include young and seasoned colleagues. To get to know our colleagues in different parts of the world, we intend to publish short profiles about who they are and what they do. In addition, we welcome short non-technical articles discussing ideas, trends or experiences around business and industrial statistics.

To keep a reasonable and steady schedule of publication, the plan is to set a deadline for submissions of about 2 weeks prior to the publication of the issue. We have 3 issues a year (February, June, October), so the respective deadlines will be January 15, May 15 and September 15. That will give us about 2 weeks to put the issue together and publish/distribute it at the beginning of the month. This issue, however, got a bit delayed, but we will try to get to the steady-state pace in the next issues.

The above lines of information are not new to ISBIS News. In fact, Bala has done a good deal of this work during his time as Editor. They are recast here to remind everyone of the newsletter’s focus and to strengthen the effort to continue making ISBIS News a vibrant means of communication among the ISBIS members.

A word of apology to the Executive and Council members for the short bios published in this issue. They were put together without their approval, mainly in the interest of time. I will get in touch with these colleagues for needed mending before the final posting of the newsletter goes to the webpage.

Please contact me (rviveros@math.mcmaster.ca) with any ideas, suggestions and submissions.

Román Viveros-Aguilera, Editor, ISBIS News