



ICOTS 8

The 8th International Conference on Teaching Statistics

“Data and context in statistics education: towards an evidence-based society”

Ljubljana, Slovenia, 11 – 16 July 2010

website: icots8.org

FIRST NOTICE

ICOTS8 is organized by:



International Association for Statistics Education
www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase



Statistical Society of Slovenia
www.stat-d.si



ICOTS is held every four years. Its main purpose is to give statistics educators and professionals around the world the opportunity to exchange information, ideas and experiences, to present recent innovation and research in the field of statistics education, and to expand their range of collaborators.

The 2010 Conference will be held in the city of Ljubljana, Slovenia, in conjunction with the Statistical Society of Slovenia (SSS).

Due to its compact size, the capital city of Ljubljana is a walking and environmentally-friendly city. It has one of the best-preserved Baroque quarters in Europe that blends harmoniously with the younger Art Nouveau buildings. Bridges abound, and it is blessed with the talent of Joze Plecnik who created the cosmopolitan image of the city with his eclectic architecture.

Easily accessible from abroad and conveniently located in the centre of the country, Ljubljana is also an ideal departure point to discover all the amazingly diverse features of Slovenia. The unique Karst region, the Adriatic coast, the Alps and lakes region, the hilly wine-growing areas, the 15 natural spas and several historic towns are all within a two-hour drive.



Data and context in statistics education: towards an evidence-based society

Data and context

Statistics extracts insight and meaning about real contexts using data. Context and data are equally important in the modelling of real processes. It is imperative that data and contexts pervade statistical teaching to help society understand the value of the statistical sciences, and to facilitate meaningful learning at all levels of the statistics learning process.

Evidence-based practice in society

Statisticians are essential contributors in research teams in many disciplines. Interaction between statistics educators, statisticians and researchers in these specializations contributes to rich data resources of value in motivating statistical learning.

- Trends in medicine are governed by data and evidence-based medicine is taught in all medical schools.
- The biological sciences provide information for resolving environmental and ecological problems.
- The six-sigma revolution and statistical quality control improve industrial processes resulting in evidence-based decision making in industry.
- National statistics offices contribute to evidence-based decision making in government.

Evidence-based practice in statistics education

How do we use context when teaching about variability, probability, inference and modelling? How do we interpret data from surveys? Are conclusions valid and reliable? Are we explaining risk appropriately? Only with the answers to these intriguing questions are we able to make informed decisions as we strive to reach an evidence-based society.

Evidence-based practice: an international perspective

Teaching and learning ideas are developed through international, national and local collaboration, and at workshops and conferences where innovations are shared. The impact of new ideas is assessed and adopted by others in their own teaching. Previous ICOTS in South Africa and Brazil have been major contributors in the developing world.

Topics and Topic Convenors

- **1 : Data and context in statistics education: towards an evidence-based society**
Irena Ogriješek (Slovenia) irena.ogriješek@ef.uni-lj.si
Brian Phillips (Australia) bphillips@swin.edu.au
- **2 : Statistics education at the school level**
Doreen Connor (UK) doreen.connor@ntu.ac.uk
Michael Shaughnessy (USA) mikesh@pdx.edu
- **3 : Learning to teach statistics**
Joachim Engel (Germany) engel@ph-ludwigsburg.de
Katie Makar (Australia) k.makar@uq.edu.au
- **4 : Statistics education at the post secondary level**
Elisabeth Svensson (Sweden) elisabeth.svensson@oru.se
Larry Weldon (Canada) weldon@sfu.ca
- **5 : Assessment in statistics education**
Beth Chance (USA) bchance@calpoly.edu
Iddo Gal (Israel) iddo@research.haifa.ac.il
- **6 : Statistics education, training and the workplace**
Gabriella Belli (USA) gbelli@vt.edu
Peter Petocz (Australia) Peter.Petocz@mq.edu.au
- **7 : Statistics education and the wider society**
Richard Gadsden (UK) R.J.Gadsden@lboro.ac.uk
Oded Meyer (USA) meyer@stat.cmu.edu
- **8 : Research in statistics education**
Arthur Bakker (The Netherlands) A.Bakker@fi.uu.nl
Tim Burgess (New Zealand) t.a.burgess@massey.ac.nz
- **9 : Technology in statistics education**
Paul Darius (Belgium) paul.darius@biw.kuleuven.be
Deborah Nolan (USA) nolan@stat.berkeley.edu
- **10 : An international perspective on statistics education**
Delia North (South Africa) northd@ukzn.ac.za
Enriqueta Reston (Philippines) edreston@yahoo.com
- **Contributed papers**
Flavia Jolliffe (UK) F.Jolliffe@kent.ac.uk
John D McKenzie, Jr. (USA) mckenzie@babson.edu
Gilberte Schuyten (Belgium) gilberte.schuyten@ugent.be
- **Posters**
Mojca Bavdaz (Slovenia) mojca.bavdaz@ef.uni-lj.si
Alesa Lotric Dolina (Slovenia) alesa.lotric.dolar@ef.uni-lj.si
James Nicholson (UK) j.r.nicholson@durham.ac.uk

Each topic is divided into sessions. Details of sessions and their organizers are on the website (icots8.org). The programme of invited papers within the sessions will be decided by 30 November 2008. Expressions of interest can be sent to the appropriate organizer.

International Programme Committee Executive

- John Harraway (New Zealand) IPC Chair
jharraway@maths.otago.ac.nz
- Roxy Peck (United States) Programme Chair
rpeck@calpoly.edu
- Helen MacGillivray (Australia) Scientific Coordinator
h.macgillivray@qut.edu.au
- Chris Reading (Australia) Editor of Proceedings
creading@une.edu.au
- John Shanks (New Zealand) Information Manager
jshanks@maths.otago.ac.nz
- Andrej Blejec (Slovenia) Local representative
andrej.blejec@nib.si

Local Organising Committee

- Andrej Blejec (University of Ljubljana) Chair
andrej.blejec@nib.si
- Irena Krizman (Statistical Office of Slovenia)
irena.krizman@gov.si
- Katja Rostohar (Agricultural Institute of Slovenia)
rostohar@gmail.com
- Irena Vipavc-Brvar (University of Ljubljana)
irena.vipavc@fdv.uni-lj.si

Venue

Ljubljana Cultural and Congress Centre at Cankarjev Dom, a first-class conference venue providing many halls and meeting rooms and excellent facilities.

