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Benchmarking Exercise

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Table of Content

Overall Evaluation	3
1. European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics (ENBIS).....	4
2. British Computer Society (BCS)	5
3. BAE Systems	6
4. International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA)	7
5. The George Group	8
6. International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS)	12
7. Asociación Española para la Calidad (AEC)	15
8. Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes (SDV).....	17
9. European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD)	18
10. societa italiana di statistica, Italian statistical society (SIS)	19
11. International Association for Statistical Education (IASE).....	20
12. Gesellschaft für Klassifikation (German Classification Society)	23
13. Royal Flemish Society of Engineers (KVIV)	24
14. Royal Statistical Society (RSS)	25

Overall Evaluation of 13 Societies

Name	Vision and Mission	Audience	Areas of Activity	Areas of Excellence	Overall Score
BCS	4	2	4	3	13
BAE	1	2	3	3	9
ISBA	3	2	4	3	12
George Group	4	1	2	3	10
ISBIS	3	3	2	3	11
AEC	3	3	4	3	13
SDV	3	2	2	4	11
EASD	3	3	4	4	14
SIS	3	3	3	3	12
IASE	4	2	4	4	14
GFKI	3	3	3	3	12
KVIV	3	2	4	3	12
RSS	3	4	4	3	14
Total	40	32	43	42	157

The table highlights main characteristics of the benchmarked organizations and rates them on a 1-5 scale from the ENBIS perspective: 1 – worse, 3 – same, 5 – much better

The scores are subjective but the totals in the last row show the general feeling of the benchmarking. There are 13 societies so a total score of 39 would imply that the societies are benchmarked as the same as ENBIS. Overall the ENBIS audience is better because it is generally more all-embracing than the other societies. The Visions and missions are roughly similar. The areas of activity and excellence are slightly better in the other societies.

The highest scoring societies are the EASD because it is such an all-encompassing society, the IASE because of its success as a leader in the field and the RSS because of its stability and consistency.

1. European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics (ENBIS)

Website: www.enbis.org

At inception, the following Mission and Vision were established:

Mission:

The mission of ENBIS was agreed to be to:

- Foster and facilitate the application and understanding of statistical methods to the benefit of European business and industry,
- Provide a forum for the dynamic exchange of ideas and facilitate networking among statistical practitioners (a statistical practitioner is any person using statistical methods whether formally trained or not),
- Nurture interactions and professional development of statistical practitioners regionally and internationally.

Vision:

ENBIS has adopted the subsequent points as its vision.

- To promote the widespread use of sound science driven, applied statistical methods in European business and industry,
- That membership consists primarily of statistical practitioners from business and industry,
- To emphasize multidisciplinary problem solving involving statistics,
- To facilitate the rapid transfer of statistical methods and related technologies to and from business and industry,
- To link academic teaching and research in statistics with industrial and business practice,
- To facilitate and sponsor continuing professional development,
- To keep its membership up to date in the field of statistics and related technologies,
- To seek collaborative agreements with related organizations.

ENBIS is a web based society:

1. Membership interactions and administration via the internet
2. Services, news and newsletter available on the web

2. British Computer Society (BCS)

Website: www.bcs.org

Vision: Our vision is to see the IT profession recognized as being a profession of the highest integrity and competence.

Mission: BCS will lead the development and implementation of standards for the IT profession through innovative and valued products and services and by being the respected voice informing and influencing individuals, organizations and society as a whole.

BCS will lead the change in the standing of the IT profession by creating an understanding of what is required to implement successful IT projects and programmes, and to advise, inform and persuade industry and government on what is required to produce successful IT enabled projects.

Typical member characteristics:

IT developers and managers of graduate standing

Description of activity:

BCS enables individuals, organizations and society to realise the potential of and maximise the benefits from IT by:

Setting and maintaining the highest professional standards for IT professionals including

- accrediting individual professional competence and integrity through the award of BCS [professional qualifications](#) and those of the Engineering Council and of the Science Council; and by inspection and [accreditation](#) of university courses and company training schemes
- defining standards for professional conduct through the BCS [Code of Conduct](#) and [Code of Good Practice](#)
- Initiating and informing debate on IT strategic issues with Government, Industry, and Academia
- Advising the UK Government and its agencies on IT-related matters regarding proposed legislation
- Representing the profession on issues of importance and liaising with other professional bodies, including other engineering institutions and overseas societies
- Examining and initiating debate on topical IT issues, most recently through the BCS programme of [Thought Leadership debates](#)
- Supporting individuals in their [career development](#)
- Providing opportunities for networking through the activities of the [Branch](#) and [Group](#) networks and the [Forums](#)

Areas of excellence:

Computer Systems Development and practice; advances in computing

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this society:

Use of 'recommendations' as a way to generate new members
Network of specialist groups and branches / use of workshops

3. BAE Systems

Website: none

Vision: none

Mission: none

Typical member characteristics: QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Description of activity:

Application of statistical methods in a manufacturing and supplier environment.

Areas of excellence:

Application of SPC, Measurement Systems Analysis, classification of Critical to Quality characteristics

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this society: Practical application of statistical theory.

4. International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA)

Website: www.bayesian.org

Vision: This world organization seeks to benefit international society by the advancement of Bayesian statistics, science and analysis in the natural, biological and social sciences, engineering, industry, medicine, law, government and education, and by the development and interface of inferential and decision making procedures in all areas.

Mission: The International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA) was founded in 1992 to promote the development and application of Bayesian analysis useful in the solution of theoretical and applied problems in science, industry and government. By sponsoring and organizing meetings and other activities ISBA provides a focal point for those interested in Bayesian analysis and its applications.

Typical member characteristics: Academy (more or less 500 paying 25 US\$ per year)

Description of activity:

- A worldwide conference (with approx. 300 participants) every 4 years (and sponsoring another one held every 4 years, but alternate, with approx. 500 participants).
- Joint conference with IMS every other year (at least in 2003 and 2005).
- Endorsement of specialized workshops (e.g. Bayesian inference in Stochastic Processes, Bayesian Nonparametrics) and regional meetings.
- Courses before conferences
- Bulletin every 3 months (with annotated bibliography, historical notes, review papers, report on Ph.D. dissertations, etc.) only to members (PDF)
- Bayesian Analysis (ba.stat.cmu.edu), since 2005 a high quality electronic journal, free
- Many prizes, alone or with other funds or the Bayesian Session of ASA: Lindley (best contributed paper at ISBA meetings, every 2 years), Mitchell (best applied paper in journal, every 2 years?), De Groot (best book, every 2 year) and Savage (best Ph.D. Dissertations, 1 in Theory and 1 Applied, every year)
- Local chapters and (never implemented) thematic chapters
- Abstract archive (but it is almost dead)
- President/elect/past for 1 year elected out of 2 candidates (with possible nominations by members), 12 board members (4 each year out of 8 for 3 years), Treasurer (elected out of 2 for 3 years), Secretary (elected out of 2 for 3 years)
- Nominations committee chaired by Past president
- Proceedings of conferences (but not always)
- discussion list (bayes-news)

Areas of excellence:

Responsible for most of the Bayesian activity around, including now also papers in Bayesian Analysis (although, luckily, most papers go to regular journals)

One of the best Bulletin around (but I should not say it since I created it ...)

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this society:

We share many aspects about organization and awards.

We have a lot of fun at ISBA meeting and it is always a pleasure meeting old friends.

Bayesian statistics has a longer tradition of gatherings wrt us and being academicians helps in attending conferences wrt people in companies

5. The George Group

Website: <http://www.georgegroup.com/>

Values:

Client Delight - Because the success of our business rests entirely with the success of our client relationships, our organization is designed around our client relationships. As a result of our client-centered approach and the results we deliver, virtually 100% of our clients are willing to serve as references.

Thought leadership - We bring new, innovative solutions to our clients to help them create strategic insight, improve operational performance and deliver sustained value. Our thought leadership is embodied in a number of successful books, including [Fast Innovation](#), [Conquering Complexity in Your Business](#), and [Lean Six Sigma for Service](#).

Value Creation - We follow the teachings of Warren Buffet on the concept of value creation and guide all client work to maximize the "intrinsic value" of the firm. We are unique in that we work with our clients across the spectrum from generating strategic insight, to leading hands-on implementation, to creating deep client capability. Our client index has tripled in value while the S&P 500 has declined.

Power of Human Capital - We believe in helping our individual consultants grow to their individual potential. This allows us to attract the best and brightest. In addition, with every client relationship we create sustainable human capital in the client organization. For example, with our Lean Six Sigma approach, all of our clients internalize the approach, eliminating the need for external consulting support in 18-24 months.

Description of activity:

Conquering Complexity - Executive Insight

The continuous rise in customer power, coupled with rapid technology advances, has driven an explosion of offerings in the marketplace: more products and services appearing faster and faster. Based on our recent survey of over 400 businesses, the average company's number of offerings has grown by 50% in the last five years. These factors, combined with the inability to understand the "true profitability" of services and products has left many businesses with over-inflated portfolios destroying shareholder value. In fact, in most companies over 50% of Invested Capital is deployed in areas that are destroying shareholder value.

The advantage of conquering complexity is clear. Market leaders Toyota, Wal-Mart, Southwest Airlines, Capital One, and Dell have all conquered complexity. Each understands their customer needs deeply, strips out unnecessary complexity to provide an offering that is exactly what the customer is willing to pay for OR has taken advantage of an opportunity to deliver extreme levels of variety to the market cost effectively.

To address business complexity, you must follow three key rules:

Rule #1 - Eliminate complexity that customers will not pay for

Rule #2 - Increase the complexity (variety) that customers will pay for

Rule #3 - Minimize the costs of the complexity you offer

Business leaders have told us, "I know complexity is a problem, but we don't know how much it is costing us or how to bring it under control." Complexity cannot be conquered through guesswork. To make any progress implementing the three rules above you need the analysis to be able to definitively determine:

Where is complexity (or, conversely, the lack of variety) eroding Economic Profit?

How will addressing the issue provide competitive advantage?

What is it worth financially to address the problem? (This is a critical question and typically the most challenging to answer definitively.)

How will you translate from the strategic questions to rapid execution?

Because the stakes are high and the issues are not always clear, your ability to gain the value from these three rules will be dependent on the analysis that answers these key questions.

Our unique approach is the only true method that provides a quantitative understanding of what complexity is costing your organization and rapidly drive execution that gets results:

Our complexity diagnostic brings together the critical elements of strategy, shareholder value, voice of customer, deep process knowledge and a patented analytical method to provide a completely unique, fresh point of view on the problem.

We leverage the most experienced team members with diverse backgrounds in strategy and operations to help you get from a strategic understanding into execution of solutions very quickly.

We are not just specialists in solving business complexity issues, but also bring powerful new solutions to drive Fast Innovation and in building world-class Lean Six Sigma operations capability.

Areas of excellence:

Lean Six Sigma - Executive Insight

Delivering products and services with speed, customer satisfaction and lower cost through operations excellence is essential to achieve and sustain superior shareholder returns in businesses and governmental enterprises. Operating excellence is becoming an even bigger priority in service segments like banking, insurance, retail, and government because so much of their costs are tied into operations. In fact, our analysis reveals that 30-80% of the costs in a service business are pure waste. Eliminating this waste can not only reduce costs, but more importantly allows a business to become faster and much more responsive to its customers, driving revenue growth.

Companies as diverse as Xerox, Caterpillar, Eli Lilly, Alcan, Best Buy, Washington Mutual, GEICO and BMW have worked with George Group to develop a Lean Six Sigma capability. Why? Because it helps them...

Execute: Lean Six Sigma creates a powerful linkage from strategic priorities to operational improvements and facilitates the transformation of a business.

Create value: Lean Six Sigma drives real, tangible value creation: Since 2000, our client index has tripled in value while the S&P 500 has declined.

Build customer loyalty: Lean Six Sigma generates line-of-sight targeting of customer needs, driving improvement in the areas that matter most to your customers.

Achieve sustainable management capability: Lean Six Sigma is an approach that is highly sustainable, woven into the fabric of the business with capability created from the executive suite to frontline employees.

What is different about our approach?

We are the market and thought leader in applying Lean Six Sigma to service organizations. We were the first to combine Lean and Six Sigma, and the first to completely apply this approach to service businesses

Our deep Value Based Management knowledge provides us with a clear framework to connect from the CEO's highest value creation priorities to Lean Six Sigma project selection, definition, and execution. No other firm provides this combination.

Our global reach is unmatched. We have established a reputation for excellence in complex, global engagements providing services in 54 countries and a methodology available in 13 languages.

We strategically connect Lean Six Sigma to our other cutting edge practices including Conquering Complexity and Fast Innovation to bring our clients a tailored solution that addresses the challenge of delivering sustained superior organic growth and profitability.

Other areas of activity:

Fast Innovation - Executive Insight

Studies by Clayton Christensen, of Harvard Business School, and many others demonstrate that fewer than 10% of companies can generate enough growth to sustain above-average shareholder returns for even a decade. At the same time, a study by the Economist Intelligence Unit reports that nearly all (87%) senior executives believe innovation is critical to their company's future.

So what's not working? The Economist Survey cites the following major roadblocks that prevent innovation from contributing to sufficient growth:

60% of executives saw time and cost overruns as a principle obstacle to delivering growth through innovation

53% cited competing development priorities as a principle obstacle

52% said upfront market research was poor and 44% cited a failure to gain sufficient or relevant end customer input

Only the comprehensive methodology described in Fast Innovation can plan and deliver customer valued differentiation, at a speed and cost that will deliver sustained growth and disrupt the market.

Our unique advantages:

We understand the true causes of slow innovation. Slow innovation is caused by the inherent variation in key innovation tasks. We have developed specific tools to address this variation and reduce lead time 50-80%.

Our practice includes a market-leading suite of strategic and execution-oriented solutions and best practices including:

Strategic market analysis to ensure you focus innovation energy on the highest value profit pools,

Ethnography to get beyond the "voice" but to the "heart of the customer"

Concept development to ensure that differentiated ideas enter the pipe,

Religion of reuse to speed development and lower cost,

Open innovation models to capture the intellect of the planet,

Design for Lean Six Sigma to rapidly turn concepts into high quality offerings, reducing development costs and gaining critical time to market advantage.

These solutions combine to create critical differentiation, disruptive time to market and superior innovation ROI.

Our approach to helping clients with Fast Innovation is three-fold:

We create unique strategic insight...we engage with our clients as a small highly experienced team that will together create insights on the opportunities for growth, from developing an innovation strategy to developing specific new product/service/business model concepts

We deliver...Our consultants are highly experienced experts. We are able to work with our clients from developing strategic insight to developing new concepts to executing the strategy.

We create capability...To deliver the ultimate goal of sustained growth, your company must build capability to successfully deliver Fast Innovation, rather than rely on consultants over the long term.

To learn more about our approach to Fast Innovation read an excerpt of the new book.

We are not just specialists in Innovation, but also bring deep expertise in solving the complexity of your offering and in building world-class operations capability with Lean Six Sigma.

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this company:

Focused knowledge training and consulting company leveraging methodological capabilities in lean sigma, innovation and complexity management. Can be used as benchmark for the ENBIS academy.

6. International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS)

Website: <http://www.stats.wits.ac.za/isbis/>

Mission:

Name and Language: The name of the Society shall be the *International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS)*, hereinafter called the Society. The Society shall be a section of the *International Statistical Institute*, hereinafter called the ISI, in accordance with Article 8a of the ISI Statutes and paragraph 205 of the ISI By-laws. The working language of the Society shall be English.

Objectives: The objectives of the Society shall be to promote the advancement and exchange of knowledge in business and industrial statistics, to build international co-operation and association among statisticians working in business and industry, to foster co-operation at an international level between statistical activities in universities and individuals working in business and industry, to increase public awareness of the importance of statistics in business and industry, and to encourage links between statisticians in developing and developed countries.

Vision: In order to realize its objectives, the Society may

- Recommend and help to arrange programmes of relevant meetings during the ISI-sessions;
- Organize meetings, seminars, conferences, workshops, lectures and related activities independently or in collaboration with other organizations;
- Collaborate with international, national, regional and other organizations and institutions having objectives consistent with those of the Society, including other ISI sections;
- Support or sponsor the publication of periodicals, pamphlets, books, information circulars, newsletters, etc. in any form independently or in co-operation with other organizations;
- Undertake or participate in co-operative activities, make business transactions and take all other necessary action for the advancement of the objectives of the Society

Typical member characteristics:

ISBIS membership is open to all individuals and organisations with a professional interest in any aspect of business, financial and industrial statistics, including:

- Research, teaching, training and consulting;
- Involvement in the use of statistics in areas such as quality improvement, software development, financial statistics, business and management, etc.
- A special sort of Affiliate Membership is available to people from developing countries who are presently living and working in a developing country.

The membership of the Society shall be of {four} (4) types:

(i) *Individual members* (without any restriction on number);

(ii) *Institutional members* (without any restriction on number) which may be educational or scientific institutions, business or industrial enterprises, government and non-profit institutions and other groups whose objectives are compatible with those of the Society, upon approval of the Executive Committee. Institutional members shall be liable to pay annual membership dues determined on a case by case basis by the Executive Committee. The voting rights of delegates of the institutional members shall be decided upon a case by case by the Executive Committee;

(iii) *Student members* (without any restriction on number) interested in the objectives of the Society, certified by a member of the academic staff of the university at which the student is currently enrolled, upon approval of the Executive Committee and without voting rights. Student members shall be eligible to pay reduced annual membership dues as determined by the Executive Committee;

(iv) *Honorary members*. Individual members whose contributions to the ISBIS merit special honour may be elected an honorary member for life. An honorary member has the same rights and privileges as an individual member and will be exempt from paying their ISBIS membership dues. Honorary members will be selected and approved by a two-thirds majority of the Council and by a unanimous decision of the Executive Committee. The total number of honorary members shall not exceed 2% of the total number of all ordinary members at the time of their nomination.

Members of the ISI may become individual members of the Society by applying to the Executive Director and paying the prescribed dues. Payment of the section dues by the members of the Institute shall be in accordance with the by-laws of the ISI.

Individuals, who are not members of the ISI, and institutions that are interested in the objectives of the Society may become members by applying to the Executive Director and paying the prescribed dues.

Members may end their membership of the Society by sending a request to this effect to the Permanent Office of ISI and shall be expected to pay their respective dues for the year in which their membership ends. Members of the Society who are liable to pay dues shall be considered to have resigned from membership if they have not paid dues payable during the preceding calendar year in accordance with the by-laws of the ISI.

All annual membership dues payable in accordance with the above articles shall be sent to and kept by the ISI Office.

Description of activity: Seminars, Conferences, Publications

The Council may arrange seminars, conferences etc. and other programmes on its own responsibility, or in collaboration with other organizations, at the time of the General Assembly of the Society or at other times and places.

At least three (3) months notice of such meetings shall normally be sent to all members of the Society.

The Council may publish, as and when necessary, reports, pamphlets, books and other publications for the promotion of the objectives of the Society.

Areas of excellence:

ISBIS is a new international society and one of the newest Sections of the International Statistical Institute (ISI). It was founded in April 2005 during the 55th session of the ISI held in Sydney, Australia.

ISBIS will facilitate the advancement and exchange of knowledge in business, financial and industrial statistics. ISBIS does this by promoting research and applications, and best practice; by enabling technology transfer; and by fostering communication amongst its members. ISBIS seeks to promote the value of statistics to business and industry and to support enabling activities, particularly in lesser-developed countries.

The objectives of the ISBIS are:

To promote the advancement and exchange of knowledge in business, financial and industrial statistics;

- To build international collaboration among statisticians and users of statistics working in business, finance and industry;
- To exchange ideas and information at an international level through conferences, workshops and publications;
- To encourage links between statisticians from developing and developed countries;
- To develop and promote relationships among national and regional professional societies or groups involved in activities related to business, financial and industrial statistics.

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this society:

More global than ENBIS. Strong connection with universities.

7. Asociación Española para la Calidad (AEC)

Website: www.aec.es

Vision:

Facilitar el intercambio de ideas y conocimientos entre profesionales, empresas y organizaciones españolas e impulsar la mejora continua en sintonía con organizaciones de Calidad de la Unión Europea e Hispanoamérica, siendo la organización que lidere el proceso de formación en Calidad de todos los profesionales españoles y la promoción de la excelencia en la gestión de Calidad en empresas y organismos españoles, especialmente en las PYME

Facilitate the Exchange of ideas and knowledge among Spanish professionals, companies and organizations and impulse continuous improvement in agreement with other European and Latin-American organizations. All this being the organization leading the quality training for Spanish quality professionals and the promotion of excellence in Spanish organizations, especially sme companies.

Mission:

- *Elevar el nivel de competitividad empresarial promocionando la Política de Calidad Española.*
 - *Apoyar a sus miembros en la consecución de la excelencia profesional y organizativa a través del desarrollo de sus actividades, encaminadas a lograr la satisfacción de sus necesidades y expectativas.*
 - *Facilitar y desarrollar el intercambio de información, iniciativas y experiencia en relación con las mejores prácticas y métodos de la calidad y el medio ambiente*
-
- Elevate the competitiveness of Spanish companies through the promotion of quality policies
 - Help our members to acquire professional excellence through the development of their activities aimed at the satisfaction of their needs and expectations
 - Promote and facilitate the exchange of information, initiatives and experiences related with “best practices” and methods of quality and environmental management

Typical member characteristics:

There are two type of members: companies and individuals. We pay a fee, but is small. The company fee is related to its size.

Description of activity:

Training at many levels and through many channels (including e-learning)

Groups of interests

Congresses and meetings

Quality Information center

Areas of excellence:

Training

Relations with Spanish administrations

Working groups

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this society:

The working groups are very active and members attend their meetings. They have become a real interchange forum.

The information Center (I'm sure it is expensive and they got outside money to create it, but it works very well and they have many enquirers.

8. Studienstiftung des Deutschen Volkes (SDV)

Website:

www.studienstiftung.de

Vision/Mission:

"Promote the development of young people for science, business, public administration, and arts. Through the programme, scientific absorption, dialogue across fields of research and application, openness to the world, and international experiences are conveyed."

Typical member characteristics:

- students: highly gifted, chosen through a system of nomination and personal assessment
- teachers: former students supported by the organisation
- (formally, both groups do not consist of members)

Description of activity:

- "financial support": provide grants for studies in Germany, studies abroad, courses, and conference participation
- "intellectual support": summer schools, networks

Areas of excellence:

- setting and maintaining high standards
- enrolling the support of the alumni

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this society:

- motivation of volunteers – they "pay back their debts", but also find the work a highly rewarding experience
- maintaining volunteer spirit – eg, summer school teachers get only covered their expenses, but do not get paid

9. European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD)

Website:

www.easd.org

Vision/Mission:

“The aims of the Association are to encourage and support research in the field of diabetes, the rapid diffusion of acquired knowledge and to facilitate its application.”

Typical member characteristics:

“The Association is based on individual membership and embraces scientists, physicians, laboratory workers, nurses and students from all over the world who are interested in diabetes and related subjects.”

Description of activity:

- Annual meeting with up to 12,000 participants, many of whom are not members
- Recognition of outstanding medical or scientific contribution to diabetes research through
 - o Honorary Membership
 - o Three prizes awarded annually and linked to a lecture at the meeting
- Two annual training courses (one scientific, one clinical) to attract new talent to diabetes research; nomination for participation by members of the association
- Yearly Workshop in Oxford, United Kingdom where 20 seniors and fellows come together from all over the world
- Sponsorship of workshops and courses for clinicians and educators
- 15 study groups
- Journal: Diabetologia

Areas of excellence:

- Annual meeting are THE marketplace for the community – everybody meets in connection with them
- Adopted positions have broad impact in the community
- High esteem of the association results in high quality publications and state-of-the-art conference presentations

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this society:

- Scales – aims are comparable to ENBIS, but EASD is much larger (5,500 members)
- How to handle influence from commercial players in the community

10. *societa italiana di statistica, Italian statistical society (SIS)*

Website: w3.uniroma.it/sis

AIM

SIS is a national society set up in 1939 with the aim to promote the development of the statistical sciences and their applications in economics, social science, medicine and related disciplines, demography, technology, production and many other research fields.

MEMBERSHIP

It is mainly an academic society as 90% of its members are almost all the Italian academic statisticians. The remaining 10% are societies or national groups like the national institute for demography, the bank of Italy and some town halls and government ministries, with which it is meant to collaborate according to its statute.

METHODS

Meetings: It organises and supports conferences, namely the national Italian statistical conference every four years and every two years a smaller national conference on a specific topic, seminars and a school comprising few short courses at different times, members can offer to give one such course and the SIS supports the organisations and informs its members.

Publications: It publishes monthly a statistical information sheet, every three months a Bulletin, and in English the Journal of the Italian Statistical Society which collects research papers (Impact factor=). It supports a publication dedicated to teaching (Induzioni), together with other publications mainly for the layman like "Statistical Methods & Applications", "Statistica & Società".

Collaborations: SIS has collaboration of some sort with International Statistical Institute ([ISI](#)), International Federation of the Classification Societies ([IFCS](#)) and supports the European Courses in Advanced Statistics ([ECAS](#)) program. It is part of the national Italian committee to coordinate the Italian scientific societies (COASSI).

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this society:

From the Italian statistical society ENBIS could take the idea of a school e.g. a set of courses organised by its members. Ideally ENBIS could organise them in an organic program maybe starting from the workshops organised at the various ENBIS conferences.

11. International Association for Statistical Education (IASE)

WEBSITE:

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/>

VISION / MISSION

IASE, the International Association for Statistical Education, seeks to promote, support and improve statistical education at all levels everywhere around the world. It is the international umbrella organization for statistics education. It fosters international cooperation, and stimulates discussion and research. It disseminates ideas, strategies, research findings, materials and information using publications, international conferences, and increasingly, the website. IASE is the education section of the *International Statistical Institute* (ISI), but may also be joined independently by those who wish participate in IASE's activities, or simply to support the work on improving statistics education and extending its outreach.

TYPICAL MEMBER CHARACTERISTICS:

IASE has approximately 500 members, 20% of whom belong to ISI and 80% who do not. The membership is largely made up of teachers, lecturers and professors of statistics, applied and government statisticians and education researchers.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY:

- **IASE Conferences:**
see <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/conferences.php>

ICOTS: The ICOTS conferences, held by IASE every 4 years, are the most important events on the international statistics education calendar. ICOTS stands for International Conference on the Teaching of Statistics. The next such conference, ICOTS 8, is to be held in Slovenia in 2010.

ISI Congresses: These are the main conferences of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) and occur every 2 years. IASE organizes about 10 statistics education sessions at each ISI congress. The next, ISI 56, is to be held in Lisbon, Portugal, in August 2007.

IASE Satellite Conferences: These are themed conferences held in close proximity to the ISI congresses. The most recent, *Statistics Education and the Communication of Statistics*, was held in Sydney (Australia) in April 2005. The next, *On Assessing Student Learning in Statistics*, will be held in August 2007 in Portugal just prior to ISI 56.

IASE Round Tables: These are small workshop conferences which bring together a select international group of experts to address a particular theme and to make recommendations from which institutions and individuals engaged in statistical education and training (in developed and developing countries) may benefit. The most recent Round Table, held in Sweden in 2004, addressed *Curricular Development in Statistics Education*. The next will address *Statistics Education in School Mathematics: Challenges for Teaching and Teacher Education*. It is part of the joint ICMI/IASE Study on this topic and is to be held in 2008 in Monterrey, Mexico. IASE Round Tables are held in close proximity to the 4-yearly ICME conferences (ICME-11 will take place in 2008).

International Congresses in Mathematical Education (ICME): IASE also organizes a suite of statistics education sessions at each ICME conference.

International Research Forum on Statistical Reasoning, Thinking and Literacy, SRTL: The SRTL series of biennial forums bring together researchers working in the fields of statistical reasoning, thinking and literacy. While not run by IASE itself, the SRTL series is organized and run by long-term mainstays of IASE with IASE support. The next, SRTL 5, is to be held in Warwick (UK) in August 2007.

Also, IASE periodically provides support, advice and people to assist with other conferences around the world which are addressing or including statistics education themes.

- **IASE Publications:**

see <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/publications.php>

SERJ, the *Statistics Education Research Journal*, is IASE's peer-reviewed e-journal, co-published with the ISI. SERJ aims to advance research-based knowledge that can help to improve the teaching, learning, and understanding of statistics or probability at all educational levels and in diverse contexts. Note: The *SERJ archives* on the IASE webpage also contain links to earlier newsletters: the *Statistical Education Research Newsletter* (2000-2001) and the *Newsletter of the International Study Group for Research on Learning Probability and Statistics* (1987-1999).

IASE Review is an annual review of IASE activities.

ISI Newsletter is the newsletter of ISI which includes an IASE section.

IASE Matters is a four-page insert in each issue of the journal *Teaching Statistics*.

Hipotesis Alternativa is a newsletter in Spanish edited by Audy Salcedo, the IASE National Correspondent in Venezuela, that contains Spanish translations of portions of the IASE component of the *ISI Newsletter* and of the *IASE Review*. It is not an official publication of the IASE, but is listed here since it draws heavily on IASE publications and makes their contents available to speakers of Spanish.

- **Member benefits:**

Members benefit from reduced registration fees at IASE conferences and the main ISI conferences. They receive the *ISI Newsletter* and the *IASE Review*. They may subscribe at a reduced rate to statistical journals, for example the ISI flagship journal, the *International Statistical Review*, *Short Book Reviews*, *Teaching Statistics* (with includes the regular insert *IASE Matters*) and may purchase other IASE and ISI publications at a discounted price.

AREAS OF EXCELLENCE:

- Networking – an excellent mix of ICOTS and ISI sessions, satellite conferences and round tables enables members from all over the world to meet on a regular basis.
- Web-based *Statistics Education Research Journal* is becoming the leading scientific journal in the field of statistical education.
- Freely available conference proceedings: there are over 700 papers available from conferences such as *ICOTS*, *ISI Congresses*, *IASE Satellite Conferences* and *IASE Round Table Conferences*, as well as IASE sponsored or organized sessions at other conferences such as ICME and JSM.
- *The International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP)* provides rich information, resources, and links to downloadable materials for those interested in developing statistical literacy of learners and citizens at all educational levels, from from Primary/Elementary to college and Adult Learners, as well as materials for journalists and official statistical agencies. Available at the IASE webpage.
- *Dissertations in Statistics Education*: IASE is beginning to build what is intended to become a comprehensive archive of doctoral dissertations in Statistics Education.

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this society:

- A web-based peer-reviewed scientific journal in the field of business and industrial statistics.
- Free availability of ENBIS conference proceedings (at least those from previous conferences).
- Database of dissertations in the field of business and industrial statistics.
- Internal organization and statutes:
see <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/about.php?show=statutes>
- Publicly accessible list of members with contact info, short CV and photo:
see http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/members/profile_view_all.php?id=0_4_1_a
- Photo gallery documenting past events:
see <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/members/photos/>

12. Gesellschaft für Klassifikation (German Classification Society)

Website: www.gfkl.de

Vision: Promotion of Methods of Data Analysis and Classification in Theory and Praxis over a wide variety of Sciences

Mission: Promotion of all activities concerned with sorting, classifying and analyzing of data and of all persons and entities who are developing methods for classification and data analysis or are applying them in praxis.

Typical member characteristics: Academics, many mathematicians but also some archeologists and other people from social science

Description of activity: Major conference in Spring with many young participants because of easy access, low conference fee and the chance for a properly reviewed publication in long-term established conference proceedings published by Springer

Smaller conference in the middle of the year by Working Groups

Interest (Working) Groups on several Topics with their own Meetings

Areas of excellence: Classification, Bringing together very different people especially very varied areas of application

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this society:

ENBIS could learn how to attract more young people. (The introduction of the student fee was a good start!) Make the interest groups even more visible in the conferences to get more people to be active within the SIG.

13. Royal Flemish Society of Engineers (KVIV)

website: <http://www.kviv.be/EngFr/>

vision/mission:

The KVIV was founded in 1928 and represents more than 10.200 engineering members. The KVIV's main objectives are to:

- Improve the professional interests of university trained engineers
- Improve the contacts between the university trained engineers
- Improve the contacts between the faculties who train engineers
- Improve the technical knowledge of the Flemish people as a whole

The KVIV also aims to stimulate its members' consciousness about their social responsibility during the exercise of their professional activity. With its newly conceived "KVIV Ethical Code", the KVIV wishes to testify to its awareness of the role and responsibility of engineers in our society.

typical member characteristics: only engineers are allowed to become member (yearly membership fee depends on age, between 44 and 100 euro)

description of activities:

KVIV provide several services, a.o.:

- job service
(also creates regular reports on the situation of the job market for engineers)
- organizes courses and seminars for their members
- the regional branches organize also activities but these are more cultural or leisure type activities to get to know each other better
- an e-mail forward address (if you send a mail to firstname.lastname@member.kviv.be it is forwarded to your mailbox, is useful for people that change jobs regularly)

KVIV publishes:

- a journal (monthly)
- a book with the list of members and the list of firms where these members are employed (yearly)
- an electronic newsletter (monthly)

KVIV awards the best engineering student papers (to get students involved in KVIV)

areas of excellence:

- networking through regional and national activities

what can enbils learn/copy from this society:

- networking is done mainly on a regional scale through cultural/sports/.. activities
- courses and seminar are organized on a larger scale
- make students aware of the existence/usefulness/... of the organization

14. Royal Statistical Society (RSS)

Website: www.rss.org.uk

Vision: To nurture the study and application of statistics, to promote its value to wider society, and to serve the interests of those involved in both these tasks.

Mission:

To nurture the discipline of statistics by publishing a Journal, organising meetings, setting and maintaining professional standards, accrediting university courses and operating examinations.

To promote the discipline of statistics by disseminating and encouraging statistical knowledge and good practice with both producers and consumers of statistics, and in society at large.

To provide effective and efficient services to our members which will support their professional and academic interests and their endeavours to advance the other objectives of the Society.

Typical member characteristics:

The Society has an international membership, and is active in a wide range of areas both directly and indirectly pertaining to the study and application of statistics. Founded in 1834, it is both a learned and a professional society, with some 6500 members based in the United Kingdom and overseas. Over 1700 of our members are professionally qualified as CStat.

Description of activity:

RSS enables individuals, organizations and society to realise the potential of and maximise the benefits from statistics by:

- Setting and maintaining the highest professional standards for statisticians including
- accrediting individual professional competence and integrity through the award of Cstat and GradStat; accrediting university courses, at both undergraduate (including courses of MMath type) and MSc level.
 - defining standards for professional conduct through the RSS Code of Conduct
 - Initiating and informing debate on statistical issues with Government, Industry, and Academia
 - Advising the UK Government and its agencies on statistics-related matters regarding proposed legislation
 - Representing the profession on issues of importance and liaising with other professional bodies, including other mathematical institutions and overseas societies
 - Examining and initiating debate on topical issues
 - Supporting individuals in their continuing professional development
 - Awarding medals and honours
 - Providing opportunities for networking through meetings and conferences

Areas of excellence:

A variety of statistical and related fields.

What can ENBIS learn/copy from this society:

Well established methods and guidelines developed over the RSS's long history especially in the award of medals and prizes and in outreach to the wider community.