

Message from the President

The new president of ENBIS Ron S. Kenett gives farewell to 2006 and welcomes 2007 with all its promises and challenges.

Dear ENBIS members,

it is the end of 2006 and thus a good opportunity to reflect on where we are and what we have in front of us.

If we compare ENBIS to a growing child, I believe we have passed the teen age years, slowly becoming adolescents with lots of precedents and guidance for how we want to look in the future.

The key event marking the end of the year is the hand over of the duties of a Treasurer and Managing Director from one of the legendary founders of ENBIS, Ronald Does, to Antje Christensen. I asked Antje to assume this responsibility over six months ago and am very grateful to her that she accepted this crucial task at this crucial point in time. I would like to thank Ronald for all he has done for ENBIS, on my behalf and in the name of the whole membership, and would like to welcome Antje on everyone's behalf. I look forward to working with her in the remaining 9 months of my presidency.

I am very happy to report that the Executive Committee has been working on several exciting new initiatives. One very close to my heart is establishment of the ENBIS Academic Publications Panel to help ENBIS members who want to publish in academic journals with feedback and directions.

Similar to previous years, the 2007 will see several special issues of famous scientific journals such as *Quality Engineering*, *Applied Stochastic Models for Business and Industry*, as well as *Quality Technology and Quantitative Management* sponsored by ENBIS.

Allow me to also use this opportunity to thank our webmaster Dr. Winfried Theis yet again for the time and dedication he has put into migrating us to a new site which is actually a full content

management system platform that will allow us to further develop our web presence.

I am looking forward to 2007 with all its promises and challenges, wishing you all a very happy new year.

Yours truly,

Ron S. Kenett
President of ENBIS
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Upcoming Events

ENBIS-endorsed **Conference on Applied Statistics for Development in Africa** (lma.univ-pau.fr/meet/sada2007/) will take place from February 26th to March 2nd, 2007 in Cotonou (Benin).

The **ENBIS-DEINDE 2007 conference** on computer experiments versus physical experiments will take place in Torino (Italy), from 11th to 13th April 2007. Visit <http://web.econ.unito.it/deinde07> for more details.

ENBIS course on simulation, a joint effort with the Technical University of Denmark, will take place in Lyngby (Denmark) in May 2007. For more information visit www.matstat.umu.se/indstat/Simulering/index.htm.

ENBIS-organised **Workshop on Reliability** will take place in Glasgow (UK) in the afternoon of July 1st, 2007, prior to the MMR2007 (Mathematical Methods in Reliability) conference. For more information visit www.mmr.2007.org or the workshop page at www.enbis.org.

In August 2007, ENBIS (through its Past President Fabrizio Ruggeri) will organize an **ENBIS session at the 2007 ISBIS meeting** in the Azores (Portugal). See www.isbis2007.uac.pt for more details.

2007 Best Manager and Young Statistician Award

Deadline for submission of nominations is January 31st.

Apart from the George Box Medal for outstanding contributions to business and industrial statistics, two other awards will be given at the ENBIS-7 conference in Dortmund:

- **the Best Manager Award**, which recognises managers who made a significant contribution to the success of their companies by advancing the spread and the practice of statistics, and
- **the Young Statistician Award** for introducing innovative statistical methods and promoting the use of statistics in daily practice.

Nominations and the relevant documentation (see www.enbis.org for details) should be sent to Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe at ahlemeyer@ahlemeyer-stubbe.de no later than January 31st, 2007.

Anja Schleppe, Tony Greenfield, John Tyssedal and the Chair of the Award Committee, Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe will review the submissions and make the final decision. The recipients of the awards as well as the ENBIS membership will be notified of their choice before the Dortmund conference.

As you know, ENBIS-7 will take place from September 24th to 26th, 2007. It will offer the award recipients and the ENBIS membership another great platform for exchange of ideas.

For regular updates on the 7th ENBIS conference visit the ENBIS webpage:

www.enbis.org

2006/2007 Executive Committee

Meet the members of the new Executive Committee of ENBIS.

The 2006/2007 Executive Committee of ENBIS has the following members:

- **Ron S. Kenett**, President.



- **Fabrizio Ruggeri**, Past President and Chair of the Nominations Committee.
- **Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe**, President-Elect and Chair of the Awards Committees, also responsible for sponsor acquisition.



- **Stefano Barone**, Vice President in charge of special interest groups, local networks and national representatives.
- **Irena Ograjenšek**, Vice President in charge of publications and communication.



- **Birger Madsen**, Vice President in charge of administration and finance.



The members of Executive Committee have already formed several teams dealing with topics such as development of the publication strategy, search for additional funding sources, networking with other associations, activation of SIGs and national representatives, etc. They will report on their progress in the forthcoming issues of *ENBIS News*.

And just in case you were wondering: yes, Stefano and Fabrizio are camera-shy!

ENBIS-6 in Wrocław

Looking back feels good and makes us proud.

Over 140 statistical practitioners, academic statisticians, consultants, Six Sigma black belts, and other professionals who are involved with business and industrial statistics visited the Polish city of Wrocław in September 2006 to attend ENBIS-6.

Jeroen de Mast (Chair of the Conference Programme Committee) and Adam Jednorog (Chair of the Local Organizing Committee) did a superb job. Jeroen in putting together a diverse yet well balanced conference programme. And Adam in making sure conference participants had many formal and informal opportunities for networking and exchange of ideas.

Conference highlights were numerous. Some of them got captured in a digital form and can be found in the photo gallery in the next column.

ENBIS-6 Photo Gallery



Blanton Godfrey in his element.



Søren and Sue Ellen Bisgaard during a break at the workshop on statistical consulting.



Laura Ilzarbe and Ron S. Kenett drawing the winners of the Juran Quiz.

For more ENBIS-6 photos visit
www.enbis.org
(Events / Past Events)

ENBIS Legends: Tony Greenfield

Shirley Coleman provides us with insights into life and work of one of the most illustrious ENBIS members.

Tony Greenfield was President of ENBIS in the academic year 2002/03. He is probably widest known for his writing skills. He started the original monthly ENBIS newsletter and has been the honorary editor of the *ENBIS Magazine* in *Scientific Computing World* since it was set up in 2003. He was editor of the Royal Statistical Society's *RSS News* for many years and is the editor and co-author of *Research Methods for Postgraduates* published by Arnold.

Among important stations in his career are those of a technical journalist, Head of Process Computing and Statistics in British Steel's research laboratories, and Professor of Medical Computing and Statistics at Queen's University in Belfast. While in Belfast (his time there marked by the troubles in Northern Ireland) he rewrote the curriculum and spent many hours perfecting new teaching material. He also rewrote the guidelines for Ulster's research ethics committee and was joint author of the UK government's report into medical effects of the seat belt legislation. He resigned when the troubles became too much for him.

I first became aware of Tony at the 1982 RSS conference in York where he spoke up from the audience about the need for quality assurance in statistical software. I was impressed by his eloquence and humour that have in later years also added so much to ENBIS. The RSS Quality Improvement Committee which he chaired when I first joined has now evolved into a full RSS section.

Tony works with many different groups of people both within and outside ENBIS. He is a regular visitor to Barcelona (working with Xavier Tort-Martorell), has presented workshops in Tel Aviv and Budapest (with Ron S. Kenett), in Coimbra, San Sebastian and Ljubljana. He is a Visiting Professor at the Newcastle University. He contributes

his time and effort freely, which is probably why such an erudite and unusual man prides himself in living in the Derbyshire Peak District in an ancient cottage that would fit into my living room.

With Xavier, Tony has recently developed interactive software that demonstrates SPC and DoE using simulation of the manufacture of aluminium wheels and of oil filters. He contributed this software to partners of pro-ENBIS, the European 5th Framework Thematic Network, and presented workshops and demonstrations in Norway, UK, and other parts of Europe. He enjoyed company visits and, with Oystein Evandt, Tony and I had a brilliant visit to Hydro Aluminium Rolled Products in Holmestrand (Norway). Another visit to Corus (ex British Steel) in Teeside led to a photograph of Tony and me for the front page of *RSS News* (reproduced here).



Prominent figures in Tony's life – well known to ENBIS members - are his wife, Liz, and son Lance who always accompany him to ENBIS conferences. It is great fun to sit with them all. He has two daughters and another son.

The best description of Tony is that of a commentator, agent provocateur and general deep thinker. There should be more people like him, but I suspect he is a one-off.

Shirley Coleman

A Note from the Editor

As always, this issue of the quarterly ENBIS News is a joint venture of the members of various ENBIS bodies and dedicated individuals such as (in alphabetical order) Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe, Shirley Coleman, Ron S. Kenett, Fabrizio Ruggeri, Ingemar Sjöström, and Winfried Theis.

I would like to thank them for their contributions and invite other ENBIS members to take the pen to paper (not literally, of course, because we need electronic submissions) and let the ENBIS community know what has been going on in their professional environment. We're especially interested in funding initiatives similar to *pro-ENBIS*, activities of special interest groups (SIGs), as well as everything that transpires in the framework of our local networks.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Irena Ograjenšek
ENBIS News Editor

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Ideas for news items should be sent to the editor per e-mail, preferably as an MS Word document.