

Letter from the President

Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe shares her plans for the future of ENBIS with the membership.

It is a great challenge to step into the shoes of all great, motivated and committed ENBIS presidents serving their terms before me. I intend to give my best to make sure that our network shall be further expanded and the ideas of ENBIS shall be promoted widely both in Europe and beyond. ENBIS should feel like home to every statistician and to anyone else who wants to create data-based knowledge and problem solutions.

We all know that the need for statistical thinking has never been greater. We are surrounded by massive data challenges that cry out for improved statistical methods and algorithms. We have a host of interdisciplinary challenges to pursue. No group is in a better position to deal with the challenges of the information age than we are. We should exploit the advantages stemming from our network and continuously bring statistical thinking to business and scientific projects. To achieve this aim, we should expand the activities of the ENBIS Academy. The umbrella of the ENBIS Academy should cover organization of courses and workshops, publishing of educational materials, certification of selected excellent educational programmes, etc. I would like to encourage all of you to become part of the ENBIS Academy as trainers, attendees, authors of educational materials and/or quality evaluators.

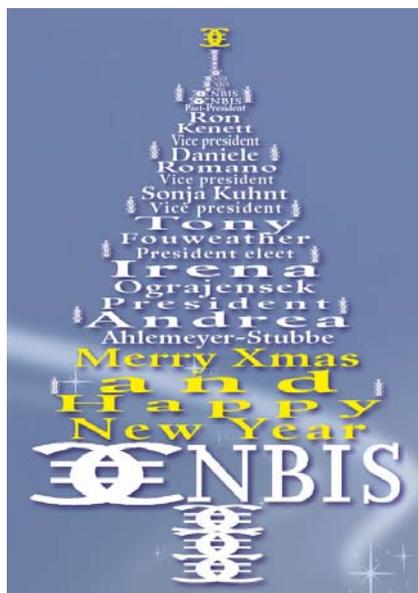
We are a successful network. However, internal and external networking should be continuously and vigorously performed in order to ensure that ENBIS remains relevant to its membership.

The internal networking is up to all of us. The Executive Committee with the help of ENBIS Webmasters Winfried Theis and John Logsdon will provide you with the facilities to achieve this by re-launching the more attractive and interactive ENBIS website in the early spring of 2008.

To further develop the external network, I intend to follow the line of the former presidents and stay in close contact with other societies, universities and companies in order to advertise and promote ENBIS and to win them as corporate members.

I am looking forward to an exciting year. I wish you a great holiday season and hope to see you at one of the upcoming ENBIS events.

Yours sincerely,
Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe



ENBIS Awards: Call for Nominations

ENBIS Awards Committee, chaired by Irena Ograjenšek (irena.ograjensek@ef.uni-lj.si) is still accepting nominations for the Box Medal recipient 2008 as well as the recipients of the Best Manager Award and the Young Statistician Award. The deadline for nominations is January 20th, 2008.

ENBIS-8 in Athens (Greece)

The eighth annual conference of ENBIS will be hosted by the Department of Statistics at the Athens University of Economics and Business (AUEB) from September 22nd to 24th, 2008.

The conference sessions along with the workshops will be held in the historic building of AUEB (see the photo below) located in downtown Athens and easily accessible by metro.



As always the conference will offer a great opportunity to people from industry and academia to communicate and learn from each other through interesting talks and workshops. However, visiting Athens for the conference will also provide the attendants and their accompanying persons with the opportunity to visit archeological sites, galleries, museums and of course to participate in (daily) trips to the nearby beaches and islands such as Santorini in the snapshot below.



The official call for papers along with all the relevant information accommodation and travel will be available at the ENBIS website (www.enbis.org) soon.

We're looking forward to seeing you in Athens!

2007/2008 Executive Committee

Meet the members of the new Executive Committee of ENBIS.

The 2007/2008 Executive Committee of ENBIS has the following members:

- **Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe**, President.



- **Ron S. Kenett**, Past President and Chair of the Nominations Committee.



- **Irena Ograjenšek**, President-Elect and Chair of the Awards Committee, also responsible for sponsor acquisition.



- **Tony Fouweather**, Vice President in charge of special interest groups, local networks and national representatives.

- **Daniele Romano**, Vice President in charge of communication.
- **Sonja Kuhnt**, Vice President in charge of administration and finance.

ENBIS-7 in Dortmund

The 2007 ENBIS conference was held in Dortmund, Germany from 24th to 26th September.

The event was a great opportunity to learn more about screening experiments, scoring methods and case-based reasoning amongst a wealth of other areas of applied statistics. The University of Dortmund did a splendid job hosting a well-organised and full programme of activities that were edifying for mind, body and spirit.

ENBIS conferences try to tread a careful path between full scale research, such as the presentation of "Designs for first-order interactions in choice experiments with binary attributes" and practical applications such as the presentations on "Taut String as an alternative to empirical distribution estimators for system loads in logistics" and "Bayesian network in customer satisfaction survey".

ENBIS also promotes posters as a particularly suitable way to illustrate new methods or case studies and there was a full poster event including 3 minute speed presentations for each poster. Wiley generously contributed prizes for the conference and these were awarded for the best presentation and the best poster.

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

Shirley Coleman for
RSS News and ENBIS News

ENBIS-7 Photo Gallery



Who is who ... ? Members of the new EXEC, Director of the ENBIS Permanent Office, ENBIS Treasurer, ENBIS Webmaster and two members of the LOC for Dortmund 2007.



This should be a smooth transition: Ron is officially handing the 'ENBIS broom' over to Andrea.



David Steinberg, Oystein Evandt, Chris McCollin, Shirley Coleman and Tony Greenfield are enjoying some great German food and drink after the event.

The Lloyd S. Nelson Award for ENBIS Members

The Lloyd S. Nelson Award annually recognizes the Journal of Quality Technology (JQT) article having the "greatest immediate impact to practitioners." The award was instituted in 2003 to commemorate the many contributions of Dr. Nelson to JQT and ASQ.

The Statistics Division of ASQ formed a committee chaired by Scott Kowalski and including Bill Meeker, Julia O'Neill, as well as Stefan Steiner, to review the articles published in 2006. The reviewers decided that for the year 2006, the Lloyd S. Nelson Award goes to Peter Goos (see the photo below), Ivan Langhans and Martina Vandebroek for the article *Practical Inference from Industrial Split Plot Designs*, which appeared in the April issue of JQT, pages 162-179.



In the article, the authors discuss split-plot experiments, which are very common in industry. They explain that the proper analysis of the experimental data uses a mixed model analysis involving generalized least-squares. They quantify the differences in conclusions reached from using generalized least squares and ordinary least squares. The authors provide the reader with guidance for analyzing split-plot experiments in practice including SAS code and the use of the method by Kenward and Roger for estimating the degrees of freedom.

Read the new ASQ
Statistics Division Newsletter:

<http://www.asqstatdiv.org/documents/newsletters/Fall07StatDiv.pdf>

Upcoming Events

- The University of Antwerp (Belgium) is hosting an **International conference on Design of Industrial Experiments** on January 14th and 15th, 2008. The list of speakers includes Blanton Godfrey, Peter Goos, Stuart Hunter, Bradley Jones, William Li, Dennis Lin, Doug Montgomery, Chris Nachtsheim, John Sall, David Steinberg and Kenny Ye. For more information check the web at <http://www.ua.ac.be/doc>.
- Statistical Institute at the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium) is hosting **AGROSTAT 2008** focused on statistical methods for the food industry from January 23rd to 25th, 2008 (<http://www.stat.ucl.ac.be/Agrostat2008/>).
- The ISI and IASC- sponsored **International Conference on Computational Statistics (COMPSTAT 2008)** will take place in Porto (Portugal) from 24th to 29th August, 2008 (see <http://www.fep.up.pt/compstat08> for more details).
- **The 6th Workshop on Statistical Methods for Post-Genomic Data** will take place from January 31st to February 1st 2008 in Rennes (France). It will focus on statistical methods dedicated to post-genomic data such as transcriptome, proteome, etc. For more information see <http://www.agrocampus-rennes.fr/math/SMPGD08/>.
- The **Quality&Productivity Research Conference** organized by the ASA's Quality and Productivity Section will take place in June 2008. For more information see <http://www.amstat-online.org/sections/qp/qpr/index.html>.
- **The 9th World Meeting of International Society for Bayesian Analysis** will take place from July 21st to 25th, 2008 in Hamilton Island (Australia). It will consist of 5 keynote speakers, 90 oral presentations and two poster evenings. For more information see <http://www.isba2008.sci.qut.edu.au/>.
- The conference on statistical methods for pharmaceutical research and early development (**Non-Clinical Statistics Conference Leuven 2008**) will take place from September 23rd to 25th, 2008 in Leuven (Belgium). For more information see <http://www.ncs2008.org/>.

A Note from the Editor

Contributors to this issue (in alphabetical order) are Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe, Stefano Barone, Shirley Coleman, Peter Goos, Stelios Psarakis, Winfried Theis and Panagiotis Tsiamyrtzis. I would like to thank them for their effort and yet again invite **you** to contribute to the future issues of our newsletter.

Looking forward to hearing from you,

Irena Ograjenšek
ENBIS News Editor

Remembering pro-ENBIS



A snapshot from the *pro-ENBIS* gala dinner in Ljubljana (Slovenia) on April 5th, 2004.

ENBIS News Publishing Info

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