

Anniversary Conference in Antwerp (Belgium)

ENBIS-10 will be dedicated to memory of Søren Bisgaard, one of the founding fathers of ENBIS and recipient of the 2004 Box Medal.

The 10th annual conference of ENBIS will take place at the University of Antwerp from September 12th to 16th, 2010. The conference venue is located within the walking distance of the historical city centre and the Antwerp central railway station. Various hotels are in the immediate vicinity of the conference venue.



The conference aims to bring together all professionals who are involved in business and industrial statistics. It will give participants opportunities to meet each other and to share ideas and best practices.



This year we will have keynote speakers, invited and contributed sessions as well as workshops, panel discussions and short courses. Contributions can take the form of an oral presentation or a poster presentation (both will have bibliographic status as *presentation*).

To attract more attention to the posters, a poster storm session and a poster walk will be organized.

ENBIS invites presentations from a wide range of statistical applications: industry, manufacturing, administration, marketing, sales, risk management, logistics and service. Contributions can consist of review papers (presenting state of the art advances in scientific research), overview and introductory papers (presenting an area of expertise to the uninitiated), and best practice communications (sharing experiences of practitioners). People from industry and business are strongly encouraged to present their problems and current solutions. The session topics include but are not limited to the special areas of interest that exist within ENBIS in form of special interest groups (SIGs).

ENBIS also invites suggestions for longer (1 to 2 days) pre- and post-conference courses, workshops and seminars.

Important dates:

- An abstract (maximum 250 words) should be submitted before **April 30, 2010**.
- Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their submissions **no later than May 31, 2010**.
- Full papers to go onto the CD should be submitted before **August 24, 2010**.

Martina Vandebroek
Chair, Conference Programme Committee
(Martina.Vandebroek@econ.kuleuven.be)

Peter Goos
Chair, Local Organizing Committee
(peter.goos@ua.ac.be)

For continuous conference info updates
visit the ENBIS website:

www.enbis.org

2010 ENBIS Awards

Call for nominations is now open.

The 2009-2011 ENBIS Awards Committee members are:

- Xavier Tort (chair),
- Murat Caner,
- Anne De Frenne,
- Jeroen de Mast,
- Petra Perner.

Their task is to collect nominations and select ENBIS awards recipients in the calendar years 2010 and 2011.

The call for nominations for 2010 is now open. ENBIS is looking for qualified candidates to receive one of the following three awards:

- **The George Box Medal.** This award is named after George Box and awarded annually to an extraordinary statistician who, with his life work, contributed remarkably to the development and application of statistical methods in the European business and industry.
- **The Best Manager Award.** The purpose of the Best Manager Award is to recognize managers who made a significant contribution to the success of their companies by advancing the spread and practice of statistics.
- **The Young Statistician Award.** The purpose of the Young Statistician Award is to recognize the work of young people in introducing innovative statistical methods and promoting the use of statistics in daily practice.

Please e-mail your nominations to Xavier Tort (xavier.tort@upc.edu) **no later than January 31st, 2010**.

All three award recipients will address the conference participants at our Anniversary Conference in Antwerp.

Mark the date:

ENBIS-11 will take place in Coimbra (Portugal) from September 4th to 8th, 2011.

ENBIS Administration (2009-2011)

In the new administrative period Irena Ograjenšek (irena.ograjensek@ef.uni-lj.si) serves as President, Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe (a.ahlemeyer@antz21.de) as Past President and Xavier Tort (xavier.tort@upc.edu) as President-Elect.

The three Vice Presidents are Rainer Göb (goeb@mathematik.uni-wuerzburg.de), Murat Testik (mtestik@hacettepe.edu.tr) and Grazia Vicario (vicario@calvino.polito.it).

Alessandro Di Bucchianico remains Director of ENBIS Permanent Office and can be contacted at office@enbis.org.

Apart from her role as Past President Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe also accepted the tasks and responsibilities of an Interim Treasurer after Anja Schleppe (who did an excellent job in managing the ENBIS accounts) decided to step down for job-related reasons, and before Anne De Frenne can take over at the end of 2010. The Treasurer can be contacted at treasurer@enbis.org.

Winfried Theis continues as the ENBIS Webmaster (webmaster@enbis.org) but is actively looking for a replacement (supported by the Executive Committee and our Director in this endeavour).

At the beginning of 2010 Shirley Coleman (shirley.coleman@newcastle.ac.uk) will take over the editorship of *ENBIS News* from Irena Ograjenšek.

Similarly, in the new calendar year Ron Kenett (ron@kpa.co.il) will take on the management of the *ENBIS Academic Publications Panel* (now managed by Irena Ograjenšek).

Additional useful e-mail addresses:

exec@enbis.org
council@enbis.org

In Memoriam Søren Bisgaard

Our friend and colleague Søren Bisgaard died in Boston on December 14th, 2009 after a courageous year-long struggle against mesothelioma.

Søren Bisgaard, an Isenberg Professor of Management at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, was a leading expert on quality management and applied statistics with an international reputation. His work was recognized by many awards and honors. He was a Fellow of the American Society for Quality and the American Statistical Association and an Academician of the International Academy for Quality. He was granted the Ellis R. Ott Award (1990), the Wilcoxon Prize (1998), the Shewell Award (1981, 1987), the Brumbaugh Award (1987, 1995, 2008), the Shewhart Medal (2002), and the George Box Award (2004).



Søren began his studies in engineering, earning a B.S. in Production Engineering from the Copenhagen College of Engineering in 1975 and an M.S. in Industrial Engineering from the Technical University of Denmark in 1979. He went on to earn a Ph.D. in statistics from the University of Wisconsin in 1985. This broad background, together with an abiding love for the philosophy of science, was evident throughout his academic career.

From 1987-1998, Søren Bisgaard was Professor of Industrial Engineering and Director of the Center for Quality and Productivity at the University of Wisconsin. He then served as Professor, Institute for Technology Management and Director of the Department for Quality Management and Technology, at the University of St. Gallen in Switzerland (1999-2001). Since 2001, he maintained a strong relationship as a Professor of Industrial Statistics at the University of Amsterdam (full-time in 2001, part-time thereafter). In 2002 he was appointed as the Eugene M. Isenberg Professor of Technology Management at the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, a post he held until his death. He was the Isenberg School's interim dean in 2006-7.

Søren published numerous papers, books and book chapters on topics related to industrial statistics and quality engineering. His research work was always fueled by real problems, often those encountered while consulting. His training as an engineer was instrumental in leading him to important applied problems and in understanding their basic structure; his background as a statistician and a scientist led him to general solutions with wide application. His popular "Quality Quandaries" articles in *Quality Engineering* were a noteworthy vehicle for reaching a broad audience of industrial practitioners with ideas for constructive use of statistical ideas. He was interested in applying quality improvement techniques to a wide variety of public issues, as illustrated in his most recent book: *Solutions to the Healthcare Quality Crisis: Cases and Examples of Lean Six Sigma in Health Care* (2009).

Søren Bisgaard was a clear leader in the field of industrial statistics. He was in constant demand as a keynote speaker at international conferences and as a consultant to major corporations. He served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Quality Technology*, *Quality Engineering* and *Technometrics*, and was for many years on the management committee of *Technometrics*. He was frequently asked to serve on the selection boards for major awards in fields associated with quality improvement and applied statistics. He played a major role in establishing the European Network of Business and Industrial Statistics (ENBIS). This initiative dramatically advanced industrial statistics in Europe and symbolized his commitment to organizing and supporting the nexus between academics and statistical practitioners in industry and business.

Alongside his many professional accomplishments, Søren Bisgaard will be remembered for his generosity and his support of young colleagues, for his insight and erudition, his love of sailing (and, true to his Danish upbringing, he was an expert sailor), for his strong principles and high academic standards, and for his good spirits, personal charm and warm companionship.

David Steinberg

An online Condolence Book
is open at the ENBIS website:

www.enbis.org

2009 ENBIS Awards Recipients

Tony Greenfield, Ruth Lurie, and Bart De Ketelaere were honoured for their achievements at ENBIS-9 in Gothenburg.

The 2007-2009 ENBIS Awards Committee members were Irena Ograjenšek (chair), Peter Goos, Sonja Kuhnt, Birger Stjernholm Madsen, and Henry Wynn.

The 2009 Box Medal recipient is **Tony Greenfield**, an ENBIS legend, DOE practitioner, prolific writer, and the first Editor of *ENBIS News*.



The winner of the 2009 Best Manager Award is **Ruth Lurie**, Research and Insights Manager at Coca-cola Israel.



The winner of the 2009 Young Statistician Award is **Bart De Ketelaere**, holder of a permanent position as a research manager at the division of Mechatronics, Biostatistics and Sensors (MeBioS) at the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium.



All three award recipients addressed the conference participants in Gothenburg in three brilliant, though very different speeches.

In his acceptance speech, Tony challenged the audience: »Tell the world, **outside** your circle, of work **you** have done, and done **successfully** because you used **statistics**. Come back next year and tell us **your** stories.«

Ruth showed how, for the last three years, her company has been investing much effort in development of specific measurement and research solutions to provide answers to questions such as 'what causes an uplift in sales' or 'how does a certain activity influence a brand image'.

Bart's inspiring presentation focused on the logic of some of the industrial solutions in the area of statistical process control and online process optimization that were developed by him and the dedicated team of his fellow researchers.



A special issue of QREI with the best papers from the ENBIS-9 conference is edited by Rainer Göb and will be published in time for the ENBIS-10 conference in Antwerp.



ENBIS-9 in Gothenburg (Sweden)

The ninth annual conference of ENBIS took place at the Chalmers Conference Centre.

The ENBIS-9 Programme Committee was chaired by Kerstin Vännman and the Local Organizing Committee by Thomas Svensson who, with their dedicated teams, managed to put together a great programme, carefully balancing theory- and practice-oriented sessions, very instructive pre- and post-conference seminars, and charming social events for 167 participants from 29 countries.



For the first time in ENBIS history the ENBIS Challenge (sponsored by JMP/SAS) took place. It is to become a permanent fixture at our future annual events. The challenge was to use an exploratory data analysis (EDA) tool to answer questions regarding sales of laptop computers in London based on data on nearly 200,000 transactions.

Two awards, sponsored by Wiley, were the **Best Presentation Award** which went to **Heidi Arnouts** for her presentation of the paper entitled »A combinatorial construction method for strip-plot designs based on balanced incomplete block designs« (written by Heidi Arnout, Peter Goos, and Eric Schoen); and the **Best Poster Award** which went to **Ana Pereira, Marco S. Reis, Pedro M. Saraiva and José C. Marques** for poster entitled »Wine characterization through multivariate statistics«.

ENBIS-9 Photo Gallery

The outgoing President Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe during the opening ceremony.



Kerstin Vännman, Chair of the Conference Programme Committee, addresses the audience.



Thomas Svensson, LOC Chair, explains enjoyment is key.



Sonja Kuhnt and Alessandro Di Bucchianico making a good example.



Irena Ograjenšek and Tony Greefield during the Box Medal Award Ceremony.



Stu Hunter congratulates Bart De Ketelaere.



A Note from the Editor

As always, I would like to cordially invite you to join the list of the *ENBIS News* contributors, which, in this issue, includes Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe, Alistair Forbes, Peter Goos, Lance Mitchell, David Steinberg, Xavier Tort, Martina Vandebroek, and myself.

As this is my final issue in the capacity of the *ENBIS News* Editor, I would like to thank all those ENBIS members who actively participated in preparation of news items over the past four years. I would also like to thank Tony Greenfield, who was the first Editor of *ENBIS News*, for his initial guidance and inspiration. Fabrizio Ruggeri, Ron Kenett, Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe, and Winfried Theis deserve a special praise for their indefinite patience, humour, and moral support.

I am honoured and privileged to continue to serve ENBIS; in the period 2009-2011 as a President of our fast-growing society.

Warm Season's Greetings and all the best in the Anniversary Year of ENBIS,

Irena Ograjenšek

ENBIS News Editor (2006-2009)
President of ENBIS (2009-2011)

ENBIS News Publishing Info

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Editor from 2010 onwards: Shirley Coleman, Newcastle University, Industrial Statistics Research Unit (ISRU), United Kingdom (shirley.coleman@newcastle.ac.uk).

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

bENBIS December 09 Workshop

The Belgian branch of ENBIS, bENBIS, held its 12th local workshop entitled »Shainin: alternative or complement to Six Sigma« on December 11, 2009. Peter Goos moderated the event attended by 65 participants and sponsored by Minitab, Math X and the Belgian Statistical Society.

Upcoming ENBIS Spring Meeting

The abstract deadline for the **ENBIS 2010 Spring Meeting on Measurement Systems and Process Improvement (MSPI)** has been extended to **31st December 2009**. The meeting will be held at the National Physical Laboratory in London, on 19-20 April, 2010. For more details visit the ENBIS website or contact mspi@npl.co.uk. The workshop is organised jointly with the International Measurement Confederation (IMEKO) TC 21 - Mathematical Tools for Measurements www.imeko.org.