

ENBIS Wishes Everyone An Exciting Year 2011

Let us jointly make it count – below some important invitations.

ENBIS-11 Call for Papers

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

Participants are invited to submit an abstract (maximum 250 words) before **April 30, 2011**.

To submit your abstract go to www.enbis.org. Notifications of the acceptance of submissions will be sent out **no later than May 31, 2011**. The final submission date for all accepted contributions is **August 1st, 2011**.

For further questions do not hesitate to contact enbis11@enbis.org.

Kind regards,
Rainer Göb,
on behalf of the ENBIS-11
Programme Committee

Update on Corporate Members

ENBIS values its corporate members very highly. As a business and industrial network, ENBIS is well placed to offer the communication and exchange of ideas vital to successful corporations. Since our call for corporate members in the last Newsletter, we now have several new corporate members.

Corporate membership currently costs 500 EUR per year and there are many benefits in terms of visibility and prominence.

Visit www.enbis.org for more details.

ENBIS Newsletter

We will be publishing 4 Newsletters in 2011. Please send your comments and ideas to the editor Shirley Coleman (shirley.coleman@newcastle.ac.uk).

Professional and Social Network Groups of ENBIS

ENBIS, as a web-based society, is now actively serving its membership through the popular professional network LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com) and the social network Facebook (www.facebook.com).

To join, please search for “ENBIS” at the LinkedIn and the Facebook web sites.

ENBIS Facebook group is intended for sharing ENBIS related events, photos, discussions, as well as building a social network of ENBIS members.

The ENBIS LinkedIn group is intended for professional discussions related to industrial statistics and for sharing information related to scientific activities, job postings, as well as linking members with joint interest areas. By the end of the year 2010, this group has around 140 members with several active discussion topics.

Please also note that you can follow ENBIS on Twitter (www.twitter.com), all you need to do is be a follower of ENBIStweet

Database of ENBIS Papers

For the ENBIS conference in Dortmund in 2007, Chris McCollin prepared a database of all papers presented in ENBIS annual conferences up to Newcastle in 2005. The data base was updated by Chris and Rainer Göb for the 10th anniversary conference this year in Antwerp.

The database can be used to help our collaborative work in the following way:

- Check if there is anybody else doing work in a given specific area of research by searching for papers with a specific ‘Subject’.
- If the subject is found, identify if the paper is available under ‘Paper’ (X means available). If the subject is not found, look under a similar area, e.g. Modelling for DOE as some papers use more than one area.
- If the paper is available, go to the specific Conference disk. If the paper is not available, go to ‘Author’. Use the ‘all authors’ database to find co-authors under ‘Abstract’.
- Under ‘Author, find ‘E-mail’ for contact details.

Call for Papers for the 2011 ENBIS Special Issue of QREI

The 2011 ENBIS special issue of QREI is edited by Ron Kenett (ron@kpa.co.il) and will be published in time for the ENBIS-11 conference in Coimbra.

Submission deadline is **January, 15th, 2011**.

Member News

Fabrizio Ruggeri, Past President of ENBIS (2005-2006), has just been elected as the next president of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA) – see <http://www.bayesian.org/>.

Fabrizio was born on May 1, 1956 in Reggio nell'Emilia, Italy. He obtained a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy, in 1982 and a Master's degree in Statistics from Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1989. He gained his PhD from Duke University. Fabrizio has many statistical interests including Bayesian Analysis, Biostatistics, E-democracy, Queues, Reliability and Wavelets. His current research includes self-exciting processes and hidden Markov models for the detection of possible bug introduction during software testing, Bayesian modelling of virtual age in maintenance and hierarchical models in the multicenter analysis of the treatment time of myocardial infarction.

Fabrizio is in great demand and gave invited talks in Mexico, USA, Algeria, Spain, Italy and Austria in 2010.

Some of Fabrizio's other recent achievements are:

- Fellow of the ASA (2010).
- Editor in Chief of the Wiley Encyclopedia of Statistics in Quality and Reliability (2008).
- Editor in Chief of ASMBI (since 2007).

Congratulations Fabrizio!!!

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A book with the title »Introduction to General and Generalized Linear Models« by Henrik Madsen and Poul Thyregod, Past President of ENBIS (2003-2004) and recipient of the 2007 George Box Medal, was recently published in the Chapman & Hall / CRC Texts in Statistical Science Series. The book includes many examples with R.

ENBIS and ENBIS-Sponsored Events in 2011

There are many ENBIS and ENBIS-sponsored events between annual conferences; here some announcements.

2011 ENBIS Spring Meeting

The ENBIS 2011 Spring Meeting will be the 10th meeting of DEINDE (DEsign of INDustrial Experiments).

It will be held on 16-18th of March 2011 in Torino, Italy.

DEINDE was first introduced in the early nineties as a forum for researchers and practitioners alike to discuss topics related to industrial experimentation. This conference is to join common areas of interest of DEINDE and ENBIS organizations.

The conference intends to bring together both leading experts and researchers, thus creating a forum to cover recent progress and to stimulate exchanges among active researchers. It will also encourage informal contacts and discussions among participants.

This will be the 10th DEINDE and therefore an opportunity to celebrate Statistics activity in the beautiful surroundings of Torino.

Professors Grazia Vicario and Roberto Fontana are leading the organizing and scientific committees.

For submission deadlines and information on the location, program etc see: www://calvino.polito.it/enbis_deinde_2011.

Call for ENBIS Awards Nominations

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January 31 is the deadline to submit your nominations for the George Box Medal, the Best Manager Award and the Young Statistician Award.

Please email your nominations to Xavier Tort-Martorell (xavier.tort@upc.edu).

AMCTM 2011

The Conference on Advanced Mathematical and Computational Tools in Metrology and Testing will be held in June 20-22, 2011 in Goteborg (Sweden). You can download the Announcement from www.imeko-tc21.org (click on the left link »NEWS«) or from www.amctm.org (click on the bottom link »AMCTM2011«) or from www.sp.se/AMCTM2011.

A list of the IMEKO TC21 Special Interest Groups (SIG) and updated information about TC21 can be found on www.imeko-tc21.org (click on the left link »Information about TC21«).

The Royal Statistical Society has a programme of one and two-day continuing professional development courses for 2011, open to all

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The programme includes the following topics:

- Categorical Data Analysis.
- Multilevel Modeling.
- Presenting Data.
- Consultancy Skills.
- Inspirational Leadership.
- Introduction to Bayesian Methods.
- Flexible Regression Modelling.
- Statistical Issues in Drug Development.
- Questionnaire Design.
- Statistical Issues in Industry/Manufacturing.
- Introduction to modelling in R.

Visit www.rss.org.uk for more details.

Many Thanks to Our Outgoing Treasurer and Webmaster

Andrea Ahlemeyer-Stubbe and Winfried Theis have made a fantastic contribution to ENBIS.



Andrea first became involved at the ENBIS founding conference in Amsterdam(2000). Most recently she has carried out the very important roles of President 2007-9 and Treasurer 2009-10. Previously, she was co-chair of the work package in data mining and was a guiding force in our three-year thematic network EU funded pro-ENBIS project (<http://pro.enbis.org/about.html>).

Andrea who is a Graduate Statistician (a degree similar to masters from the University of Dortmund) has combined her ENBIS work with a demanding career, managing her own data mining company, ANTZZ1 as well as several academic positions. She has been an independent consultant and trainer working internationally since 1999 and has more than 15 years of professional experience in data mining and data warehousing. Her company is based in Germany and provides Business Intelligence, Database Marketing (DBM) and Customer Relationship Management (CRM) all tailored to customer-and project-specific requirements.

These are some of her current activities:

- Past President of ENBIS (since 2009).
- Vice President ECDM (European Center for Database Marketing) (since 1999).
- Co-Chair of ICDM (Industrial Conference on Data Mining) (since 2001).
- Lecturer at the University of Applied Sciences in Offenburg and Aalen for data mining, database marketing, market research and marketing (since 2001).
- Member of the National Examination Committee of the Chamber of Commerce for the new profession of certified IT consultants IHK (2003-2008).

In the past she held the following positions:

- President of ENBIS (2007-2009).
- Vice-President of ENBIS (2003-2004).
- Director of studies at the Academy in Frankfurt ECDM (2002-2004).
- Auditor of the German Direct Marketing Association (DDV) (2009-2011).
- Schmid group (Printus, plus office, Office Discount, techno), 1997-1999, Database Manager.
- Baur Versand, 1994-1997, Group Leader Marketing Database.
- Hospital Hagen, 1993-1994, freelancer for the mathematical validation of survival scoring.
- Institute of Journalism, University of Dortmund, 1989-1993, free associate for marketing research.

Andrea is a great example of the energy and enthusiasm in ENBIS. Professionally, her approach is solution-oriented always using the best methods to extract meaning, give sensible recommendations and move into positive action. Andrea applies this way of thinking in all her involvement in ENBIS. ENBIS gratefully acknowledges her many contributions and hopes she will remain an active member.

Shirley Coleman



Winfried Theis has been the ENBIS Webmaster since 2005 when he took over from Jeroen de Mast.

In 2005 Winfried Theis succeeded Jeroen de Mast as ENBIS webmaster. Jeroen established the first version of the ENBIS website with important basic features such as a password protected members only area, on-line forum features for the ENBIS Special Interest Groups, registration forms for conferences and last but not least, a credit card payment facility.

In order to serve the evolving needs of ENBIS, it was necessary to perform the major step of transforming the ENBIS website into a Content Management System as well as adding a database backbone. In other words, as ENBIS is a web-based society, its web site should become its administrative centre and the new ENBIS house style needed to be incorporated.

With never ending energy, Winfried almost single-handedly devoted himself to these tasks. Through his efforts, ENBIS now has a website which has very extensive facilities including for example the management of the membership database, mass mailing facilities, automatic news items and fully-fledged conference management (registration, abstract submission, conference CD production, payment etc.) and treasurer backbone systems (e.g. invoice generation).

Winfried not only was instrumental in building and testing these facilities together with our professional provider, but he was also very active as content editor of the ENBIS website. He has been an indispensable supporter of ENBIS annual conference organizers. He was an active volunteer at the ENBIS 2007 in Dortmund and was chair of Programme Committee for ENBIS 2008 in Athens. In addition, Winfried answered 1000s of emails around the ENBIS conferences 2005 to 2010.

As a result of the seemingly infinite amounts of time Winfried spent on the ENBIS website, he greatly reduced the time that other ENBIS officials have to spend on their tasks.

Winfried has been very helpful and supportive to me as the incoming webmaster. We have had many telephone conversations over the transition phase of changing ENBIS webmaster and Winfried has always been extremely helpful and patient when giving advice.

Winfried works full time in a very demanding job as statistician at Unilever. His ENBIS work has been carried out enthusiastically on top of his work commitments. On behalf of all ENBIS members, I would like to express my deep gratitude to Winfried for his major contribution to make ENBIS prosper. We wish him all the best in the next part of his active involvement with ENBIS.

Alessandro Di Bucchianico
Director of ENBIS Permanent Office and the new ENBIS Webmaster

Some statistical wise cracks

The wise man Confucius, who should not be confused with the Chinese philosopher and wise man Confucius (551 - 479 B.C.), has uttered many pertinent, and impertinent, statements on statisticians and the subject of statistics. Some examples, in non-random order, follow:

- Statisticians are always tossing coins but do not own many.
- Biostatisticians are always talking about power but they do not have any.
- Statisticians are more rigorous in interpreting data but physicians are more imaginative.
- A statistician can tell you how large your trial will be but you will not like the answer.
- Even if you have a significant relation with a statistician you may not find it relevant.
- Studying many subjects gives insight, but statistics brings significance.
- Do not worry about uniformly most powerful tests; they do not worry about you.
- Parallel trials meet at infinity but that is more patients than you can study.
- Do not give up hope, the statistician may be wrong.
- There is only one way to truth, but ANOVA often has many.
- How can deviation be standard?
- How to win friends and influence people? You took the wrong step by becoming a statistician!

It is however not only Confucius who has uttered more or less pertinent, and impertinent, statements on statisticians and statistics.

Here are some other examples:

- Statistics is a subject which most statisticians find difficult, but in which almost all physicians are experts.
- An introvert statistician looks at his/her feet when talking to you, whereas an extrovert statistician looks at your feet.
- Never show a bar-chart at an AA meeting.
- Three types of failure prevail in statistics, Type 1, Type 2 and Type 3. Type 1 is drawing false positive conclusions. Type 2 is drawing false negative conclusions. Type 3, which is the most common, consists in not remembering which of the first two is which.

If you would like some more of Confucius' profound considerations on statisticians and statistics, then click on the link <http://www.senns.demon.co.uk/Confucius.htm>.

Do however remember that the wisdom of moderation applies also to wise words, like to good food and other enjoyments. It will probably pay off to study the writings of Confucius in several goes.

By Oystein Evandt

A statistician, an accountant and a psychiatrist are on the train to Scotland. A brown cow is eating grass in a field alongside. The psychiatrist says "Oh look, all the cows in Scotland are brown!", the accountant says "Well, at least one cow in Scotland is brown!" but the statistician says "No, at least one side of a cow is brown!".

By Rowan

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All ENBIS members are invited to send their contributions and news items by e-mail, preferably as an MS Word document to shirley.coleman@newcastle.ac.uk.