

## Newsletter August 2012

### A few words from the chair

The end of the summer is approaching quickly, which for many of us implies the start of a new academic year. A considerable number of statisticians were gathering in July at the IWSM in Prague, enjoying an interesting and lively week with professional exchange and other activities. If you missed this year's workshop then you can find a report on page 3 of this newsletter.

The plans for the coming years are already fixed. Next year the IWSM will be held in Palermo, Italy on July 8-12. More details can be found on the following page. After a visit to the South of Europe in 2013 the workshop will move to Göttingen, Germany in July 2014. Details will be announced in due time.

There is good news from our journal *Statistical Modelling*. The increase to six issues per year, which happened last year, helped to considerably reduce the time from acceptance to publication (online and in print) of papers, which is an important and encouraging improvement for authors. Currently the editors are expecting a total time until print (review inclusive) of approximately 9 months or less. More on the journal can be found on page 5 of this newsletter.

By the end of this year my time as Chair of the Statistical Modelling Society will come to an end. As you may know, the business of the Statistical Modelling Society is run by a few enthusiastic individuals who are entrusted with this responsibility by the members in elections, which are held every other year. The current team of executives is now in office for one and a half year already, so in the coming fall (November 2012) elections are due. A call for candidates will be sent out shortly, so if you want to contribute to the well-being of our society by running as candidate do not hesitate to contact us. We always appreciate support. Information on the elections and on the current team of executives is given on page 6 of this bulletin.

Let me close with a few personal words. Having been chair for almost four years now was a very enjoyable duty. Collaborating with my co-executives always was a pleasure and I am grateful for all their help. In my view the friendly and supportive spirit in Statistical Modelling Society is a distinctive feature, which I hope we can preserve in the future.

I wish you an interesting and productive time until July 2013, when I hope to see many of you in Palermo!



*Jutta Gampe  
(and Arnost Komarek,  
at the IWSM in Prague)*



The 28th **IWSM 2013** will be hosted by the

*Dipartimento di Scienze Statistiche e Matematiche ‘ S. Vianelli’  
Università di Palermo, Italy*

**8 – 12 July 2013**

The traditional short course preceding the workshop will be delivered on July 7th 2013 by John Fox (McMaster University Hamilton, Canada) with title **An Introduction to Structural Equation Modelling with the sem Package for R**.

As in previous years the workshop will bring together a wide variety of international researchers, from career-young to internationally renowned coming from different places in the world, to encourage discussion and interchange between junior and senior scientists.

Palermo is the most important city of Sicily, the biggest island in the Mediterranean sea. Its famous monuments, beaches and renowned gastronomy makes it a beautiful, stimulating and exciting place to host the 28<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Statistical Modelling.

Confirmed invited speakers are Ciprian Crainiceanu (Johns Hopkins University, USA), Torsten Horton (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, DEU), Hein Putter (Leiden University Medical Center, NLD), and Stefano M. Iacus (Università di Milano, ITA). The name of one additional invited speaker will be announced on the IWSM 2013 homepage shortly.

Like in previous years the *Best Student Paper*, *Best Student Presentation* and *Best Student Poster* will be awarded!

The deadline for submission of abstracts is **February 4, 2013**.

Registration will be open by the end of January 2013.

For more details see

<http://iws2013.unipa.it>

## IWSM 2012 - Prague, Czech Republic

The 27<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Statistical Modelling was jointly organised by the Dept. of Probability and Mathematical Statistics, Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of Charles University in Prague and the Faculty of Informatics and Statistics of University of Economics in Prague between 16<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of July 2012.

The Workshop was preceded by a one-day short course on “An Introduction to Joint Models for Longitudinal and Survival Data with Applications in R” given by Dimitris Rizopoulos (*Assistant Professor Department of Biostatistics Erasmus University Medical Center Rotterdam, the Netherlands*). The Workshop proper was attended by around 180 people from more than 23 countries over 6 continents.



Five special invited speakers gave overview talks on the successes and challenges in statistical modelling in the current era.

The week started with [Bob O'Hara](#) (*Biodiversity and Climate Research Centre Senckenberg, Frankfurt am Main, Germany*) discussing ‘Bayesian variable selection and the use and abuse of priors’. This was followed by [Thomas Kneib](#) (*Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany*) taking us ‘beyond mean regression’ and [M. Luz Calle](#) (*Universitat de Vic, Spain*) presenting some statistical challenges in modelling disease risk from multiple genotypes. [Michal Kulich](#) (*Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic*) described ‘estimating cross-sectional incidence from biological markers’ with [Paul Eilers](#) (*Erasmus University Medical Center Rotterdam, the Netherlands*) concluding the week by drawing our attention to ‘Composite link, the neglected model’.

Over the four and half day period there were a total of 57 oral presentations given in morning and afternoon plenary sessions. The Workshop also included a lunchtime poster session featuring 66 posters as well as an afternoon excursion to Karlštejn castle and its surroundings.

As per tradition the Workshop provided a venue for young researchers to present their work. Aimee Gott (Lancaster University) won the best student paper award, and best student presentation awards were going to Ekaterina Ogurtsova (MPIDR Germany), Chelaffe Ensoy (U Hasselt, Belgium), and Eleni Rosalina Andrinopoulou (Erasmus MC, The Netherlands). The best poster award went to Gunther Schauburger, LMU Munich, Germany.

# Reinhold Hatzinger

1953 – 2012



During the IWSM in Prague we were deeply shocked by the tragic news that Reinhold Hatzinger passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on July 17, 2012.

Reinhold was one of the founding fathers of the workshop on statistical modelling. Together with a few other enthusiastic young statisticians he put his energy into organizing a first meeting that was held in Innsbruck in 1985. At that time it would have been difficult to anticipate that this meeting would be the beginning of a series of meanwhile twenty-seven International Workshops on Statistical Modelling, but the spirit and enthusiasm that Reinhold and his co-organizers devoted to the early meetings were crucial for the success of the IWSM.

Everybody who ever met Reinhold will remember him as a very special character. He was extremely passionate about the things he did, no matter whether it was statistical modelling or whether it was playing music, and he always put full energy in his projects. His attitude was open-minded and liberal, committed and never indifferent. Among the many things he pursued, he was eager to train young statisticians and to pass on knowledge. Giving young researchers the opportunity to present their work in a friendly and encouraging environment has been a principle since the very beginning of the workshop. Preserving this tradition is probably a most appropriate way to commemorate Reinhold and his contribution to our profession for which we are most grateful.

*J. Gampe*

## Statistical Modelling – Journal News

*Statistical Modelling* recently finished its first full year of growth to six issues per year. As editors, one of our main goals has always been to get accepted papers into print, and we are making efforts to further reduce times from acceptance to online and print publication. Currently the journal is running efficiently, with approximately a 9 month turn-around to print. We continue to define our niche as the home for high-quality, important, and original articles related to statistical modelling, and this has been reflected in our on-line access and world-wide exposure through institutional subscriptions, and of course our society and individual subscriptions.

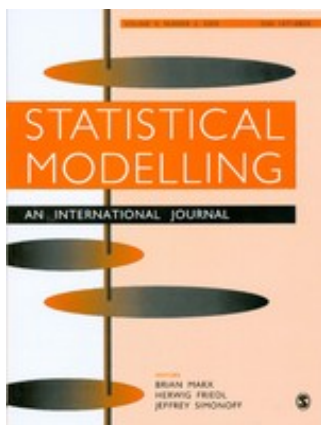
As most years, this one also came with some change. We welcome our most recent associate editors on our team: Roula Tsonaka, Jelle Goeman, and Sonia Jain, who bring our journal a new range of statistical expertise to our board. We also will have an associate editor depart (during December 2012), and we give Lily (Ronghui) Xu an early thanks for the many years of her dedicated service to our journal.

The editors of *Statistical Modelling* would like to also take this opportunity to congratulate Aimee Gott of University of Lancaster on her first place student competition award for her paper *Detecting Aliasing in Locally Stationary Textured Images*, presented at the International Workshop on Statistical Modelling in Prague during July 2012.

Again, this is your journal, and we encourage your constructive input and support. See [www.statmod.org](http://www.statmod.org) for online data, code, and e-appendices associated with most of our published articles.

Below you will find the table of contents from our most recent issue.

*Brian Marx  
Herwig Friedl  
Jeff Simonoff*



Konstantinos Fokianos and Roland Fried  
*Interventions in log-linear Poisson autoregression*

Yu Ryan Yue and Hyokyoung Grace Hong  
*Bayesian Tobit quantile regression model for medical expenditure panel survey data*

Heinz Holling, Walailuck Böhning, and Dankmar Böhning  
*Meta-analysis of diagnostic studies based upon SROC-curves: a mixed model approach using the Lehmann family*

Piotr Kokoszka and Xi Zhang  
*Functional prediction of intraday cumulative returns*

## Membership

Membership of the Statistical Modelling Society covers the calendar year and membership for the current year will end on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012. To renew your membership for 2013:

- Either you can fill out the registration form at [www.statmod.org](http://www.statmod.org) from **December 2012**.
- Or you register as a full participant in the International Workshop on Statistical Modelling 2013.

Regular Members will receive one copy of all issues of the volume of *Statistical Modelling: An International Journal*, which is published during the respective calendar year. Electronic access to this volume is also provided. Those who became members through participation in IWSM 2012 will shortly receive all issues of the journal published so far for 2012 and these will be followed by the remaining issues over the next few months.

The Statistical Modelling Society also offers Student Memberships with and without the journal.

## The Statistical Modelling Society – Executives & Elections

The activities of the Statistical Modelling Society are coordinated and decisions for the Society are made by the Executive Committee (EC). Additionally, the Society has Working Groups (WG) that help with particular activities of the Society.

The term of offices for the current EC started on January 1, 2011 and will end on December 31, 2012. The next election for EC members will be in November 2012.

There will be a call for candidates emailed to all members in September 2012 and from this the list of candidates will be compiled and distributed in October 2012. Each member is allowed to vote for a maximum of four candidates.

The **Executive Committee** currently (until Dec 31, 2012) consists of

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Jutta Gampe (Germany)  | Chair ( <a href="mailto:chair@statmod.org">chair@statmod.org</a> )             |
| Brian Marx (USA)       | Past Chair   |
| Claire Miller (UK)     | Secretary ( <a href="mailto:secretary@statmod.org">secretary@statmod.org</a> ) |
| Ardo van den Hout (UK) | Treasurer ( <a href="mailto:treasurer@statmod.org">treasurer@statmod.org</a> ) |
| Jim Booth (USA)        |  |
| Pedro Puig (Spain)     |  |
| Jochen Einbeck (UK)    |  |
| John Newell (Ireland)  | Representative WG for Communications   |
| Jeff Simonoff (USA)    | Representative WG on the Journal   |
| Carmen Armero (Spain)  | Representative WG for the Workshop   |

If you want to contact all EC members please email: [committee@statmod.org](mailto:committee@statmod.org).

Members of the **Working Groups** currently are:

Journal: Jeff Simonoff (USA), Brian Marx (USA), Herwig Friedl (Austria), John Hinde (Ireland)

Workshop: Arnost Komarek (Czech Republic), Carmen Armero (Spain), Vito Muggeo (Italy)

Communications: John Newell (Ireland), Kenan Matawie (Australia), Enrico Colosimo (Brazil), Lola Ugarte (Spain), Gilg Seeber (Austria)



## Funding Opportunities

### Short Courses and Workshops

Members of the Statistical Modelling Society who are interested in organising a Focused Workshop or a Short Course and plan to seek support by the Society should send an inquiry to [secretary@statmod.org](mailto:secretary@statmod.org). Guidelines for applications are available on the website at [www.statmod.org](http://www.statmod.org).

Recently the SMS supported the following events:

- 2nd International BIO-SI Workshop in Rennes (2011) - to fund an invited speaker.
- Short course "ANALYTICAL METHODS FOR COMPETING EVENTS" (2011) Servei d'Estadística Aplicada-UAB – 800

### Student Travel Grants

The [Statistical Modelling Society](#) provide up to **two** travel grants to support students who have no other means of financial support to attend the IWSM. These travel grants include

- the student registration fee for the IWSM including a one-year subscription to the journal [Statistical Modelling](#),
- participation in the IWSM [social events](#) (excursion and conference dinner),
- reimbursement of travel and accommodation costs (based upon presenting receipts) up to 800 €.

Selection is based on a submitted abstract for an oral presentation at the IWSM. Full details will be available on the IWSM 2013 webpage.