

# Newsletter July 2020

## From the chair

Dear colleague,

In keeping with tradition, here is the annual Statistical Modelling Society Newsletter. This is an unusual letter, of course: as it is the first (and hopefully the last) Newsletter without a conference. As you know, the COVID-19 pandemic emergency has forced cancellation of the 2020 IWSM conference. That's a pity, and I think all of us miss the conference very much. But I hope everyone is safe and healthy!

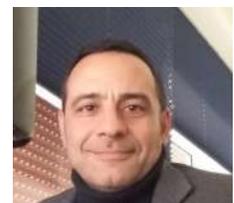
However, as this year no conference will be held, there is no registration fee. As you probably know, part of the registration fees go to SAGE to publish our journal Statistical Modelling and to our Society for administrative costs, as well to support events of the Society and, as you know, student travels costs to participate at IWSM. While there is no obligation for you, I would appreciate it if you would consider a voluntary subscription to our Society. The regular subscription is €15, while €75 includes the journal subscription. Please follow the link "Membership|Join and Renew" on the SMS website or go directly to <http://statmod.org/join.htm>. Please stay with us even though IWSM was not held this year! Your contribution will be much appreciated. Thanks in advance for your effort.

If you look around on the SMS webpages, you will find a small new section about the honorary membership (<http://statmod.org/honorary.htm>). The names and pictures of the scholars awarded last year in Guimaraes have been posted. I would like to thank Jochen Einbeck for building this page.

Finally, I remind you the forthcoming IWSM conferences will take place in Bilbao (Spain in 2021) and Natal (Brazil in 2022). Once again, I would like to thank the organizers for their patience and willingness to continue to host the workshop. On the SMS webpage, you will find the details and the link to the workshop webpages.

Finally, I want to thank Brian Marx, and Dae-Jin Lee with Maria Xose Rodriguez-Alvarez and for their reports in the next pages about our journal and the next IWSM, and Gillian Heller who assembled this file.

I am really looking forward to seeing you at the next workshop in July 2021 in Bilbao.

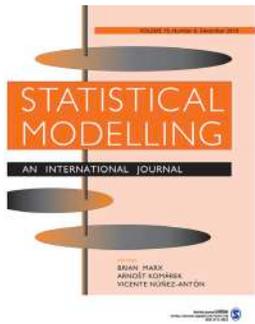


Vito Muggeo

# News from the Journal

First off, the editors hope that this reaches everyone well and safe during this unusual Covid-19 year. As many of you know from years past, the registration at the International Workshop on Statistical Modelling included both the annual subscription to our journal, *Statistical Modelling*, as well as your Statistical Modelling Society membership. Unfortunately due to the global pandemic, the Bilbao workshop has terminated registration- and thus this has indirectly affected your renewals. We need our members' support, as a relatively small society. With this, the editors invite you to act individually, under these extraordinary circumstances, to renew your membership for the current year, which will also provide you with the journal. You can subscribe at the society's website: [www.statmod.org/join.htm](http://www.statmod.org/join.htm), where you can also find a variety of modelling information. We want to ensure uninterrupted delivery of our journal to your home!

Additionally, the editors would like to share some recent news related to *Statistical Modelling*. We are now finishing the journal's second decade in print and approaching its 21st volume! This year our metrics have improved, with our 5-year Impact Factor at 1.735 and our one-year Impact Factor at 1.419, which places us in the top 38% (47th of 124) among Statistics and Probability journals. Our Cite Score is also quite strong at 1.48, putting us in the top tercile or at 60/206 (Statistics and Probability). Downloads for journal articles remain high too: up 19% from last year (which were already up 35% from the year prior). Online First is running smoothly and generally



brings accepted papers online within 6 weeks after acceptance (while allowing color figures). Like past years, our goal and mantra is to make *Statistical Modelling* the primary research resource, as well as an attractive outlet for statistical modelers to submit their own quality manuscripts (within the journal's aims and scope found at [www.statmod.org/smij](http://www.statmod.org/smij)). In return, the editors ensure to do their best toward a timely and professional review for authors.

To catch up with our queue of accepted regular submission, this 2020 year does not slot any special or discussion issues, as we had in recent years. However, in the spirit of this signature feature, we do have two special issues on the horizon: (1) Bayesian Inference for Joint Models in Survival Analysis with guest editors Carmen Armero and Virgilio Gómez-Rubio, and (2) Special issue in Honour of Murray Aitkin's 80th Birthday with guest editors John Hinde and Brian Francis. For now, we have placed these two issues in the opening positions for the years 2021 and 2022, respectively. As always, *Statistical Modelling* is open to new ideas for future special issues related to discussions, workshops, or tutorials; so do let us know if you have any ideas for us.

Keep in mind that this is your journal, so along with reading it, the editors encourage you to promote its worldwide image and visibility. Further, we value any of your constructive input. As an additional service to authors, note that SAGE also offers an open access option (for a fee) through its Sage Choice program. See [www.statmod.org](http://www.statmod.org) for online data, code, and e-appendices associated with most of our published articles (with a newly completed search functionality), as well as a variety of general information regarding the Statistical Modelling Society. A genuine thank you goes out to Jochen Einbeck, Daniel Bonetti, and Thomai Tsiftsi for their outstanding volunteer efforts with the web.

We look forward to yet another great decade of modelling.



Brian Marx



Arnošt Komárek



Vicente Núñez-Antón

# IWSM2021

The 36th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling  
Bilbao, Spain 18-23 July, 2021



After the sad cancellation of the 2020 edition of the International Workshop on Statistical Modelling due to the SARS-COV-2 pandemic, the Statistical Modelling Society Executive Committee and the IWSM2020 organizers have decided to organize the IWSM 2021 “again” in Bilbao, Basque Country (Spain) from 18 to 23 July 2021. The conference will take place at the Bizkaia Aretoa, in the city centre of Bilbao, Spain. Bilbao is a city in northern Spain, the largest city in the province of Biscay and in the Basque Country as a whole. Bilbao is the new modern face of the Basque Country. The city has been able to successfully mix traditional Basque culture with a new vision for the future. It is an absolute must for design and culture lovers. We also love that Bilbao is surrounded by green hills and is within close proximity to the coast. The local organizing committee is chaired by Dae-Jin Lee and the scientific committee by María Xosé Rodríguez. Confirmed keynote speakers are:

María Durbán (University Carlos III of Madrid, Spain)  
Montserrat Fuentes (Provost, Professor of Statistics,  
Actuarial Science and Biostatistics. University of Iowa, USA)  
Yudi Pawitan (Karolinska Institutet, Sweden)  
Virginie Rondeau (Inserm Bordeaux, France)  
Stijn Vansteelandt Ghent University, Belgium)



The short course will be given by Virgilio Gómez-Rubio (Universidad Castilla la Mancha, Spain) on July 18. As always, there will be awards for best student presentation, paper and poster. Registration and abstract submission will be open in December 2020 and the abstract submission deadline in February 2021. More information is available at [wp.bcamath.org/iwsm2021](http://wp.bcamath.org/iwsm2021).



María Xosé (Coté)  
Rodríguez-Alvarez



Dae-Jin Lee

[Photo credits, clockwise from top: Neil Martin, Niclas Dehmel, Neil Martin, Sebastian Staines]

