



International Society for Clinical Biostatistics

NEWS

Number 29

June 2000

Editor: David W. Warne

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Editorial

The next ISCB Meeting in Trento promises to be a very fine event. Already as I write at the end of May, the full programme is prepared, as you can see in the centre pages of this News. Many thanks to the Organisers, especially Maria Grazia Valsecchi.

A recent development I've been involved in is the setting up of email lists for ISCB as a whole and the various subcommittees and conference local organising and scientific programme committees.

This hasn't been easy, for 2 main reasons: we don't know all the members' email addresses, so as of the end of December, we could only contact about 700 of the 800 members. Since then, another 100 email addresses no longer work! Well, you may think 600/800 isn't bad, but we would like to include almost everyone in the email list. When books arrive for review just after publication of the News, or an interesting conference or course is available, we'd like to inform you.

So, if you'd not heard from iscb@egroups.com recently, please send me and the ISCB office an email with your correct email address.

Thanks to the other contributors to this News: Anna Bartkowiak, Maria Grazia Valsecchi, Carla Rossi, John Whitehead, Michael Schemper, Simon Thompson, Harbadjan Chadha-Boreham, Ewa Kavalec, Simon Day, Marc Buyse/Emmanuel Lesaffre, Jorgen Seldrup and Nancy Geller.

In 2000-2001, it is expected that the News will come out as usual in December and June, and the deadlines for contributions are early October and early May.

Between Newsletters, you can check the ISCB home page for updated information.

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ISCB Membership

Please note that if you joined ISCB by attending the Heidelberg meeting, this will be the last News you will receive unless you renew your subscription.

		end	end	Dec	Dec	Dec	Dec	Dec	Dec	Dec	Jun	Dec	May
		89	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	98	99	99	00
	Total	261	596	715	698	725	702	685	729	480	818	469	
	# Countries	23	32	32	31	33	34	37	37	33	41	35	
#	Country												
1	UK	50	90	176	120	144	121	128	169	90	135	78	
2	Germany	30	67	75	84	71	78	72	70	51	186	57	
3	USA	18	45	40	39	41	40	79	66	49	76	41	
4	France	30	52	62	50	73	67	52	52	26	49	31	
5	Hungary	1	21	17	18	19	25	27	29	29	29	30	
6	Poland		11	11	24	24	30	21	19	25	26	30	
7	Denmark	4	58	38	31	30	32	26	35	25	38	21	
8	Sweden	23	51	53	54	58	64	51	45	29	38	24	
9	Belgium	13	22	27	30	30	32	35	29	19	25	22	
10	Netherlands	14	30	38	33	36	29	31	39	23	35	21	
11	Italy	16	33	37	32	32	33	26	33	20	26	15	
12	Switzerland	14	25	22	80	33	29	24	25	14	23	13	
13	Australia	6	9	11	6	9	8	11	9	9	10	10	
14	Austria	4	9	11	13	11	16	13	11	8	15	10	
15	Japan	2	6	7	5	7	4	10	13	8	20	10	
16	Spain	10	12	18	12	46	23	14	16	7	12	8	
17	Canada	6	12	14	14	11	13	15	14	8	9	7	
18	Norway	13	18	25	22	12	18	10	10	10	11	7	
19	Finland	2	7	7	9	9	9	7	5	5	10	5	
20	Singapore							3	6	3	4	4	
21	Hong Kong		1	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	
22	Israel	1	3	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	3	
23	Cuba								2	2	2	2	
24	Ireland	1	2	3	4	3	4	4	2	2	3	2	
25	Portugal	1	3	5	2	2	2	2	5	2	5	2	
26	Russia					1	3	3	3	2	2	2	
27	South Africa		1	4	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	
28	Thailand		1	1		1	1	2	1		1	2	
29	Greece		1	1	1				1		1	1	
30	Malaysia					2	1	2	2	1	1	1	
31	Mexico						1	1	1	1	1	1	
32	New Zealand		1		1		2	1	2		2	1	
33	Pakistan								1	1	1	1	
34	Slovenia		1	2	3	2	1	1	3	1	2	1	
35	Taiwan											1	
36	India		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
37	Croatia										1		
38	Romania						2				4		
39	Philippines									1	1		
40	Czech. Rep.			1	1	1	1	1	1		2		
41	Turkey		1	1							1		
42	Ukraine										1		
43	Brazil					2							
44	China		1	1	1	1	1	1					
45	Colombia							1	1				
46	Indonesia						1						
47	Iran						1	1					
48	Kenya		1	1									
49	Kuwait	1											
50	Oman	1											
51	South Korea					3		1					
52	Zimbabwe				1								

Update on ISCB Activities from the President

From Nancy L. Geller

I hope by now most of you have registered for the Trento meeting. The organisers have put up a very fine web page which has all of the information about the meeting, including the programme, which looks quite exciting, hotel information, including those hotels which are fully booked, and the social events, always fun. You can reach the Trento web page from the ISCB homepage (www.iscb-homepage.org).

I am pleased that a lot has been going on in ISCB this year. Plans for future meetings are well underway. Juni Palmgren (as LOC) and Simon Thompson (as Programme Committee Chair) are preparing for next year's meeting in Stockholm. Harbajan Chadha-Boreham (as LOC) informs us that Stephen Senn will serve as the Programme Chair for the 2002 meeting in Dijon. Simon Day and Diana Elbourne have been in touch with the Metropole Hotel in London for a joint 2003 meeting with the Society for Clinical Trials. We expect that the 2004 meeting will be in Leiden (Netherlands) and the ExCom is anticipating a proposal from Hans van Houwelingen and Siem Heisterkamp as LOCs. I am pleased that the planning of meetings is well enough along that we can plan one future meeting each year.

One of the nice things about the subcommittee structure of ISCB is that things are accomplished without goading by the Officers or the ExCom! Here are some of the subcommittee highlights for the first half of 2000. Under the sponsorship of the Education Subcommittee and joint with the Subcommittee on National Groups, a short course in the Czech Republic is planned following the Trento meeting. There will be two speakers, Professor Norman Breslow (University of Washington) and Dr. Martin Gulliford (Guy's and St Thomas's Hospital, London). Both the Student Scholarship and the National Groups Subcommittee picked winners for their awards in a timely manner. These are announced elsewhere in this News.

The Subcommittee on Communications has instituted e-communication for our subcommittees and the general membership using a free service called "egroups". David Warne has used this very successfully to announce books to be reviewed for the News (the reviewer gets to keep the book) and to remind members to pay their dues. A number of messages have given information about courses

and meetings which we have been asked to publicise. We have added a disclaimer indicating that ISCB does not support these, unless otherwise stated. Egroups has adverts on its messages but does not give out the email addresses of those who subscribe. Although the adverts are a slight annoyance, overall the new egroups have worked out well. If you are not on the ISCB egroup, to subscribe, please send a blank message to: iscb-subscribe@egroups.com (and to unsubscribe, send a blank message to: iscb-unsubscribe@egroups.com).

Lastly, I want to inform you that in 2000, ISCB will need to elect a Vice-President i.e. "President-Elect", and nominees to fill 7 ExCom positions. The Secretary and Treasurer can be re-elected and so can Siem Heisterkamp and Emmanuel Lesaffre on the ExCom. There are thus 5 ExCom positions for which we will need new nominees. Because there are so many positions to fill, I have started to put together a Nominations Committee. According to the constitution, this committee must be approved by the ExCom and consists of three members, no more than one from the ExCom. My progress thus far is that I have got someone to agree to chair this committee. I will not announce this now, because the ExCom must approve and has not yet been asked to do so.

A nomination requires a seconder and the agreement of the nominee. All 3 must give their signatures. The constitution says that nominations must "usually" be received by the end of August, but since this year, our meeting is the first week of September, we can move this forward to one week following the end of the meeting. The constitution also requires the ExCom to appoint an Election officer and two members to serve on the ballot committee, responsible for overseeing the postal ballot, which will occur in the autumn. Because the nominations committee is not officially in place, you may email or write to me if you wish to initiate a nomination early. As soon as the nominations committee is formed and approved, we will announce it on the ISCB egroup and on the ISCB home page.

I wish you all a pleasant and productive summer and look forward to seeing you in Trento in September.



ISCB Subcommittees

Please contact the chairmen of these subcommittees for further information.

Title	Terms of Reference	Members
Fraud	1. To promote the role of appropriate biostatistical contributions in the assessment of misconduct. 2. To develop statistical tools for assessment of data fabrication and falsification.	Chair: Prof. Emmanuel Lesaffre (B), Secretary: Dr Jane L. Hutton (UK), Members: Dr Marc Buyse (B), Dr Lutz Edler (D), Prof. Stephan Evans (UK), Dr Nancy Geller (USA), Prof. Stephen L. George (USA), Prof. Gordon Murray (UK), Dr Jonas Ranstam (S), Dr Bruno Scherrer (F) Supported by: Dr Harbajan Chadha-Boreham (F), Prof. Theodore Colton (USA), Dr Peter Lachenbruch (USA).
Statistics in Regulatory Affairs	The subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs will review, comment upon and seek to influence the development of regulatory requirements, guidelines and other documents concerning the scientific aspects of data generation, collection, management, analysis, and reporting. In general, the subcommittee will seek out and handle all regulatory issues in the name of the Society with the approval of the President or in his absence, the Vice-President.	Chair: Dr Jørgen Seldrup (SGP), Secretary: Prof. Stephen Senn (UK), Members: Prof. Helmut Schäfer (D), Dr Karsten Schmidt (DK). http://www.ucl.ac.uk/~ucaksjs/Guidance.html
Education	To organise one or two day courses on contemporary methods in clinical biostatistics which will involve one or several members as lecturers which will be presented in locations represented by the Society. Guidelines and plans of previous courses are available.	Chair: Prof. Mike Campbell (UK), Members: Dr Nancy Geller (USA), Prof. Michael Schemper (A), Dr Albert Cobos (E), Carol Redmond (USA), Shai Linn (ISR)
Student Conference Awards	Student conference awards are available for registered postgraduate students to attend the annual meeting and present a paper. The Subcommittee shall receive submissions, judge them, and administer the awards. The rules are announced in a timely issue of the Newsletter.	Chair: Prof. John Whitehead (UK), Secretary: Dr Bjarne Nielsen (DK), Members: Dr Marc Buyse (B), Dr Bruno Cesana (I)
Communications	1. To consider the future of the Newsletter, including ways to support the Editor, procedures for transition of editorship. 2. To maintain the ISCB homepage on the World Wide Web and facilitate placement of annual meeting information on the homepage. 3. To consider other communications with members, such as through email or the World Wide Web.	Chair: Dr David Warne (CH), Secretary: Dr Bjarne Nielsen (DK), Members: Dr Nancy Geller (USA), Dr Elisabeth Svensson (S) Prof. Ted Colton (USA)
National Groups and other countries with exchange control restrictions or barriers	1. To help those who are interested in forming a National Group through the approval process. 2. To review the arrangements with the current National Groups, specifically regarding financial matters. 3. To set rules and standards for funding of ISCB members of National Groups and others from countries with exchange control restrictions or barriers to receive waivers from the annual meeting registration fee and other financial assistance.	Chair: Prof. Michael Schemper (A), Members: Prof. John Whitehead (UK), Dr Jorgen Seldrup (SGP), Dr Siem Heisterkamp (NL), Dr Julia Singer (H)
Operations	1. To review operations under the constitution and make recommendations (if necessary) for clarifications and amendments. 2. To collate, prepare or initiate preparation of the society's operating procedures.	Chair: Dr Karsten Schmidt (DK), Members: Mr Simon Day (UK), Dr Tony Johnson (UK), Dr Nancy Geller (USA)



The **Serono** Group is a leading multinational company engaged in research, development and marketing of products in the biotechnology field. With Executive Headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland), Serono ranks among the world's leading biopharmaceutical companies

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Responsible for:

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- ☎ Providing statistical expertise and support, in compliance with GCP, to clinical development activities

Requirements:

- ☎ MSc or PhD in Statistics
- ☎ Extensive experience as a statistician in clinical research
- ☎ People management experience
- ☎ Excellent command of English (written and spoken)
- ☎ Strong organisational, communication and people management skills

BIostatISTIcIANS

Responsible for:

- ☎ bringing statistical expertise and input for clinical studies
- ☎ for analysing results
- ☎ supporting R&D on various statistical issues

Requirements:

- ☎ MSc or PhD in Statistics
- ☎ SAS expertise
- ☎ excellent command of English
- ☎ ideally, experience in statistical issues for clinical studies
- ☎ strong organisational, communication and interpersonal skills

CLINICAL DATA MANAGEMENT MANAGER

Responsible for:

- ☎ Managing a staff of approximately ten data managers
- ☎ Processing, coding and validation of clinical study data in compliance with GCP

Requirements:

- ☎ Degree or post graduate qualification in a mathematical or life sciences
- ☎ Experience in Clinical Data Management within the pharmaceutical industry or a CRO
- ☎ People management experience
- ☎ Excellent command of English (written and spoken)
- ☎ Strong organisational, communication and people management skills.

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- ☎ Development, validation and maintenance of statistical software for the management and reporting of clinical trial data

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Human Resources Department
Chemin des Mines 15bis
CH-1202 Geneva
Switzerland

Email: gabriella.genini-shrestha@serono.com

Web: www.serono.com

Classical Inference and the Linear Model. Sixth Edition (Vol. 2A of the series Kendall's Advanced Theory of Statistics)
By Alan Stuart, Keith Ord and Steven Arnold (Arnold, 1999)

Kendall's Advanced Theory of Statistics has a long history. The first volume entitled 'Distribution Theory' appeared for the first time in 1943; since then it has had 8 new editions or reprints, the last one in 1994. The second volume first appeared in 1946 as 'Classical Inference and Relationships', and between 1947 and 1991 has had 7 new editions or reprints.

Looking at the topics and presentations in subsequent editions one can see the enormous developments of the statistical methodology. The present volume 2A is a restructured and essentially revised version of the previous editions. To be in accordance with the earlier versions, the present Volume Two was subdivided into two parts: the first part, denoted as volume 2A, covers - generally speaking - classical inference methods and hypothesis testing, as carried out by the so called frequentist approach. The Bayesian methodology, which has grown and expanded so much in the last decade, has been deferred to a separate volume, denoted 2B and entitled: 'Bayesian Inference' (author: A. O'Hagan).

Other statistical topics, in particular multivariate methods, robust nonparametric methods, latent variable models and factor analysis, got their separate elaborations and were included - as separate books - into a new series entitled "Kendall's Library Of Statistics" (which at present contains 8 volumes).

Let us now return to the reviewed Volume 2A: it is a continuation of Volume 1 on distribution theory and starts with Chapter 17 entitled 'Estimation and Sufficiency'. Next we have: Estimation by maximum likelihood and other methods, Interval estimation, Tests of hypotheses (simple null hypotheses, composite hypotheses, likelihood ratio tests and test efficiency), Concepts of invariance and equivariance, Sequential methods, Tests of fit, and a special chapter entitled 'Comparative Statistical Inference' comparing various approaches to statistical inference, e.g. the classical frequentist, Bayesian, fiducial and some other approaches.

Subsequent chapters are devoted to statistical relationships: Linear regression and correlation, Partial and multiple correlation, The general linear model, Fixed effects analysis of variance, Other analysis of variance models. The last, 32-th chapter is on 'Analysis and diagnostics for the linear model'. Each chapter is followed by quite a long list of exercises. At the end of the volume we find an impressive bibliography (pages 811-859). The authors acknowledge in the Preface to the volume that - to make an updated presentation covering the newest investigations - they have dropped over one hundred older papers and added about three hundred new ones.

As was said, the authors of the reviewed volume have adopted for their exposition the frequentist paradigm, sometimes known as the classical approach, which has been the dominant school of statistical thought for most of the last century. However, the Bayesian viewpoint has grown in popularity since the 1950s, and the topic is not removed completely from the considerations in Volume 2A (let us point out that the principles of the Bayesian approach were published by Bayes in 1764; his paper was reprinted in *Biometrika* in 1958). Thus, for example, when considering confidence intervals, also formulae for the Bayesian confidence intervals are presented. Chapter 26 ('Comparative Statistical Inference') tries to explain the basics of the of the classical, the fiducial and the Bayesian

methodologies, their origins and their strengths and drawbacks. The chapter ends with a quotation from M.G. Kendall ('On the reconciliation of theories of probability', *Biometrika*, 1949, 36, p. 101), which remains valid till today:

'The frequentist seeks objectivity in defining his probabilities by reference to frequencies; but he has to use a primitive idea of randomness or equiprobability in order to calculate the probability in any given practical case. The non-frequentist begins by taking probabilities as a primitive idea but he has to assume that the values which his calculations give to a probability reflect, in some way, the behaviour of events... Neither party can avoid using the ideas of the other in order to set up and justify a comprehensive theory.'

The book is designed as a textbook in advanced theoretical statistics. It is written in a rigid and concise mathematical language. It presents rigorous theorems and properties of statistical paradigms with exact proofs. It can be considered as a kind of statistical encyclopaedia being of utmost value for a statistician engaged in the theory of statistical science. On the other hand, an applied statistician can also find many practical issues here. Several examples are given:

(i) In the chapter on confidence intervals, we find exact formulae for interval estimation of parameters for several concrete distributions; apart from confidence intervals for large samples we also find there simultaneous confidence intervals for several parameters at the same time, bootstrap confidence intervals, distribution-free confidence intervals for quantiles, and Bayesian intervals.

(ii) In the chapter on tests of fit and using the X^2 test, we find many practical recommendations for how to choose the categories for the X^2 test; we also find some indications for carrying out independence tests in two-way contingency tables: when we should condition on both sets of marginal totals, when we should use Fisher's exact test (many authors now favour the mid-p value), and when we should use Yates' continuity correction. It is said that when taking the mid-p value, the original statistics leads to a better approximation than the corrected version.

(iii) In the chapter on partial and multiple correlation, we find an illustration of the geometry of partial correlations and a section on path analysis and structural equations determining causal effects. It seems to me that this section is too schematic and it is difficult to understand the real principles of this topic.

(iv) In the chapters on analysis of variance, we find many detailed tables of decomposition of the total sum of squares into components arising from various sources specified in the experiment and a thorough discussion of the assumptions which must be satisfied when making inference using the linear model. We are also told how to proceed when some of the basic assumptions are not satisfied.

(v) In the chapter on analysis and diagnostics for the linear model, we find modern techniques for detecting influential observations and outliers, and for building robust regression models.

In the entire book we find detailed examples based on real data, some of historical value, with numerical illustrations of how to perform the analyses. Thus, the book is also of great value to the applied statistician. The technical side of the volume should also be praised: the pages look pleasing to the eye, being well designed and balanced with text and formulae.

ISCB National Group: Poland

From Ewa Kavalec

At the General Meeting of the Polish National Group of ISCB, on 21 January 2000, Ewa Kawalec, MSc, was elected as Representative and Prof. Leon Bobrowski was elected as Deputy Representative of the Polish National Group of ISCB.

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ISCB Membership Renewals and Subscriptions to Statistics in Medicine

From Simon Day

For many years ISCB members have benefited from a reduced personal subscription to Statistics in Medicine due to the generosity of the publisher, John Wiley. Those of you who have taken advantage of this will know that there is a delay in receiving the first issues each year whilst the paper-work is being processed. Back copies (issue one onwards) are all then delivered in bulk. The process is as follows:

- ☎ Wiley tells ISCB next year's subscription rate
- ☎ ISCB sends membership and subscription renewal letters with end-of-year newsletter
- ☎ Members send journal subscription fee to ISCB office
- ☎ ISCB office informs publisher who has paid
- ☎ Publisher begins sending issue of the journal
- ☎ (later in the year, Wiley invoices ISCB for subscriptions).

ISCB News is often not sent out until January; time is lost with the newsletter in the post to you and with your return of fees to the office; names of subscribers are sent in batches to Wiley about every 5-10 days; and back issues are not sent from the distribution centre until the next scheduled mailing of the journal.

At ISCB we will endeavour to get the newsletter out earlier—before Christmas. Wiley has offered to send three 'grace copies' of the journal (that means they will send the first three issues of 2001 to all those ISCB members who subscribed for 2000, even before the subscription has been renewed). We hope these two measures will help maintain the continuity of receipt of Statistics in Medicine. Finally, please be aware that subscriptions go via ISCB before getting to Wiley — so please send your subscription to the permanent office as soon as you receive the renewal notice.

We hope that these changes facilitate more prompt receipt of *Statistics in Medicine* next year.

From Michael Schemper

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL BIOSTATISTICS
WITH
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH
AND
CZECH STATISTICAL SOCIETY**



invite you to a 2 day course



Planning and statistical analysis of epidemiological studies

This will take place on 9th and 10th September 2000 in the educational centre of the West Bohemian University in Nečtiny (district Plzeň-north) and will directly precede the summer school ROBUST 2000 of the Union of Czech Mathematicians and Physicists. The course is organised by the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics (ISCB) with the help of the local organisers, the National Institute of Public Health, the Dep't of Biostatistics and Informatics and the Czech Statistical Society.

The speakers are professionals in epidemiology and statistics: Dr. Martin Gulliford (Department of Public Health Sciences, GKT School of Medicine, London) and Prof. Norman Breslow (Department of Biostatistics, University of Washington, Seattle). The course will be presented in English.

The objectives of the course are the basic principles in planning and analysis of comparative epidemiological studies and new methods of analysis of studies with stratified two-stage sampling of subjects (Breslow, Chatterjee: *App Stat* 48: 457-468, 1999 and Cain, Breslow: *Am J Epi* 128: 1198-1206, 1988). The course is suitable for physicians, epidemiologists and statisticians working and/or interested in epidemiological studies.

The course is financially sponsored by the ISCB, the fee of 700 Kč covers the accommodation and meals. For those interested in attending the course, an application form is attached. On receipt of a completed form, you will get the account number and identification (variable) code for transfer of the fee. However, the fee may also be paid on arrival at Nečtiny.

The course starts on Saturday at noon with lunch and will close late afternoon on Sunday. For those applying, a second announcement with detailed information about travel will be provided.

Address for further correspondence:

Marek Malý, Státní zdravotní ústav, Šrobárova 48, 100 42 Praha 10, Czech Republic.
tel: +420 (02) 6708 2329, fax: +420 (02) 6708 2121, email: marek.maly@szu.cz

**ISCB COURSE “Planning and statistical analysis of epidemiological studies”
9-10 September 2000 - Nečtiny
APPLICATION**

Name and title of the applicant: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Tel, fax: _____

Application fee will be paid by money transfer / on arrival (*please circle one*)

Date: _____ Signature: _____

ISCB Course in Epidemiology: Nečtiny 9-10 September 2000

Programme:

Saturday 9th September 2000

12:00 Lunch
13:00-13:10 Introductory remarks
Z Roth
13:10-14:30 Basic Concepts in Epidemiological Study Design
M Gulliford
[Short talk followed by exercise]
14:30-15:00 Break
15:00-16:30 Case-control and Cohort study designs
M Gulliford
[Short talk followed by exercise]
16:30-17:00 Break
17:00-18:45 Two-Stage Sampling Methods in Epidemiological Studies
N Breslow
19:00 Supper

Sunday 10th September 2000

09:00-10:30 Data analysis and interpretation in cohort studies
N Breslow/ M Gulliford
[short talk followed by exercise]
10:30-11:00 Break
11:00-12:30 Data analysis and interpretation in case-control studies
N Breslow / M Gulliford
[short talk followed by exercise]
12:30-14:00 Lunch
14:00-16:30 Exercise: Designing and Conducting a Study
N Breslow / M Gulliford
Concluding remarks

ISCB Subcommittee on Fraud

From Marc Buyse on behalf of Emmanuel Lesaffre

The subcommittee reports that the paper “Fraud in medical research - an international survey of biostatisticians” by Jonas Ranstam et al. has been submitted for publication. The paper reports the results of a cross-sectional survey set up to investigate the characteristics of fraud in medical research. This survey consisted of a questionnaire sent to the biostatisticians who were members of the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics between April and July 1998 in order to assess their personal experience with fraud in medical research.

Some members of the Subcommittee are active in exploring and developing new methods for the detection of fraudulent data. Anyone who is interested in cooperating on this matter is welcome. The subcommittee was unsuccessful in collecting realistic data sets containing fraudulent data. However, the subcommittee will continue to look for such data sets and hereby sends a request to all biostatisticians who have access to datasets containing fraudulent data to submit such data sets, under appropriate confidentiality agreements, to Emmanuel.Lesaffre@med.kuleuven.ac.be.

Lost and Found ?

If you have not received an email from ISCB-egroups, we do not have your correct e-address. Please send it to the ISCB office at iscb@post3.tele.dk. Thanks !

Our records have the following email addresses which unfortunately no longer work:

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ISCB21 Trento: Draft Programme

From the Trento Webpages, 31 May 2000:

TIMETABLE

Time / Day	Sunday 3 September	Monday 4 September	Tuesday 5 September	Wednesday 6 September	Thursday 7 September	Friday 8 September
08.00-08.30		Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration	Registration
08.30-09.00		<u>Course</u>	<u>Plenary 1</u>	<u>Plenary 3</u>	<u>Plenary 4</u>	<u>Mini Symposium</u>
09.00-10.30		Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
10.30-11.00				Presidential Keynote Lecture	<u>Contributed Papers 3</u>	<u>Mini Symposium</u>
11.00-12.00		<u>Course</u>	<u>Contributed Papers 1</u>	AGM		
12.00-13.00			Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
13.00-13.30						
13.30-14.30						
14.30-16.00	Registration	<u>Course</u>	<u>Plenary 2</u>	<u>Social Programme</u>	<u>Plenary 5</u>	
16.00-16.30		Break	Break		Break	
16.30-18.10		Course	<u>Contributed Papers 2</u>		<u>Contributed Papers 4</u>	
		19.00 Welcome Reception	20.00 Conference Dinner		18.30 Millennium Reception	
	"Aida" Verona					
08.30-13.00			Poster Session 1	Poster Session 3	Poster Session 4	
14.00-18.30			Poster Session 2		Poster Session 5	

ISCB Executive Committee Meeting: Monday 4 September, 15.00-18.00 (S. Chiara Centre, Trento)

A Special Occasion

Sunday 3 September 2000: evening.

The Opera "AIDA" by Giuseppe Verdi will be played at the Arena in Verona. This is the close of the Arena Opera Season. A limited number of seats have been reserved for ISCB participants. The tickets are available from the Conference Secretariat on the basis of first book, first served. There are two categories of prices: Lit. 110,000 (lateral seats) or Lit. 160,000 (front seats). Very early booking is recommended.

Pre-Conference Courses: Monday 4 September 2000

Course A

Design and Analysis of Studies with Incomplete Data

Marie Reilly (University College Cork, Ireland)

This course will introduce the Mean Score and Hot Deck Multiple Imputation methods for analysis of data where an important covariate is missing for a random (perhaps stratified) sample of subjects. The Mean Score method will then be used to derive designs where an expensive or hard-to-get covariate is deliberately missing for a large number of subjects, leading to two-stage studies which are "optimal" with respect to cost/precision considerations. Various examples will be presented.

Course B

Smoothing and Generalised Additive Models

Mikis Stasinopoulos (University of North London, UK)
Brian Francis (University of Lancaster, UK)

This course will address the practical problems of using smoothing techniques in statistical modelling. It will start with an introduction to different smoothing techniques and then will discuss the Additive and Generalised Additive Models. The theoretical justification of smoothing as the maximization of the Penalised Likelihood as well as the connection to random effect models will be discussed briefly. The algorithmic implementation of the model and the backfitting algorithm will be explained. Extensions of the Generalised Additive models will also be discussed. Numerous examples will be presented, showing how smoothing can be used to gain additional insight into data.

ISCB Executive Committee Meeting: Monday 4 September, 15.00-18.00 (S. Chiara Centre, Trento)

Welcome reception

Monday 4 September 2000: 19.00-20.00
(Price included in the registration fee)

PLENARY SESSION 1 – Tuesday 5 September 2000: 09.00-10.30: DE FINETTI'S WORK

Speaker: Carla Rossi (I)

Speaker: Adrian Smith (UK)

Discussant: Phil Dawid (UK)

Bruno De Finetti: the Mathematician, the Statistician, the Economist, the Forerunner.

De Finetti and the Impact of Bayesian Thinking on Clinical Biostatistics.

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS 1 – Tuesday 5 September 2000: 11.00-13.00

SURVIVAL ANALYSIS (Room: Auditorium)

11.00: A. Winnett, P. Sasieni
Use of the residual diagnostics after fitting a Cox model

11.20: R. Kay, L. Kinnerley, L. Struthers
On the use of the accelerated failure time model as an alternative to the proportional hazards model in the treatment of time to event data: a case study in influenza

11.40: C.M.A. Wintrebert, A.H. Zwinderman
Marginal survivor curve estimates in unbalanced longitudinal studies

12.00: R. Pflüger (Student Award Winner)
A rule-of-thumb for a variable bandwidth in hazard rate estimation

12.20: A. Nardi, M. Schemper
Assessing the shape of the hazard function in parametric models for survival data: log-odds and normal deviate residuals

12.40: P.J. Kelly, L.L-Y. Lim
Survival analysis for recurrent event data: a comparison of methods in correlation adjustment

LATENT VARIABLE MODELS/MULTISTATE MODELS (Room 2)

11.00: K. Fisher, E. Goetghebeur
Explaining casual and selective associations in the presence of noncompliance in clinical trials

11.20: L. Brøndsted, L.T. Skovgaard
Quantification of observer variation using structural equation models

11.40: P.R. Williamson, G.A. Lancaster, J.V. Craig, R.L. Smyth
Accuracy of temperature measurement methods in children: meta-analysis of method comparison studies

12.00: C. Bonetto, G. Cavrini, A. Giovagnoli
A statistical analysis of bacterial sensitivity and resistance to antibiotics under marginal modelling of multiple contingency tables with inequality constraints

12.20: M.A. Feudjo, C. Frost, M.G. Kenward
Modelling within patient evolution of peak expiratory flow in asthma clinical trials

12.40: H. Støwring, W. Vach
Parametric estimation of prevalence, incidence and treatment duration based on the waiting time distribution

METHODOLOGY (Room 3)

11.00: C.B. Hall, J. Ying, L. Kuo, M. Sliwinski, M. Katz, R. Lipton
Bayesian and profile likelihood methods for the estimation of different change points in multiple correlated outcomes, with application to cognitive aging

11.20: S. Wehberg, W. Sauerbrei, M. Schumacher
A comparison of non-parametric estimation methods in classification problems

11.40: B. Spiessens, E. Lesaffre, G. Verbeke (Student Award Winner)
A group sequential method for ordinal random-effects model

12.00: K. J. Scurrah, M.L. Hazelton, P.R. Burton
Model selection and diagnostics for generalized linear mixed models fitted using Gibbs sampling

12.20: R. McNamee
Two-stage sampling for estimation of sensitivity, specificity and positive predictive value: optimal designs

12.40: S.J. Senn
Meta-analysis or linear model? Impact of degrees of freedom and heteroscedasticity

PLENARY SESSION 2 – Tuesday 5 September 2000: 14.30-16.00: IMPACT OF MEASUREMENT ERROR & STAT. ADJUSTMENTS

Speaker: Victor Kipnis (USA) Evaluating Diet – Disease Associations in Nutritional Epidemiology: Implications of a new Dietary Measurement Error Model.
 Speaker: Rudolf Kaaks (F) Uses and Limitations of Biomarkers in the Validation and Calibration of Dietary Intake Measurements.
 Speaker: Piergiorgio Duca (I) Measurement Errors: What's the Evidence that Matters for an Evidence-Based Diagnosis?

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS 2 – Tuesday 5 September 2000: 16.30-18.30

SURVIVAL ANALYSIS (Room: Auditorium)

16.30: P. Royston, W. van Putten, W. Sauerbrei	Prognostic models in breast cancer: comparison between parametric and Cox models
16.50: E. Biganzoli, P. Boracchi, E. Marubini	Use of a partial logistic artificial neural network (PLANN) to analyse a large series of breast cancer cases
17.10: N. H. Augustin, W. Sauerbrei	Incorporating model selection uncertainty into prognostic factor indices
17.30: K. Van Steen, D. Curran, J.A. Kramer, G. Molenberghs, A. Van Vreckem, R. Sylvestre	Multicollinearity in prognostic factor analyses using the EORTC QLQ-C30: identification and impact on model selection
17.50: M. Schemper, G. Heinze	Coping with apparently infinite risk estimates in Cox regression
18.10: A.R. Brady, G. Ambler, P. Royston	Comparison of shrinkage estimators for improving prognostic models

IMPACT OF MEASUREMENT ERROR AND STATISTICAL ADJUSTMENTS (Room 2)

16.30: F.D.J. Dunstan, V.R. Cornelius	The effect of measurement error on estimation in spatial regression models
16.50: C. Frost, S.G. Thompson	Correcting for regression dilution bias: comparison of methods for a single predictor variable
17.10: P.K. Andersen, K. Liestøl	Adjustment for measurement errors and ageing in the Cox regression model with time-dependent covariates
17.30: E. Wreford Andersen	Inference on familial clustering of disease using routine register data
17.50: B.M. Melia, C.S. Moy, S.L. Zeger	Data analysis for longitudinal data with incomplete partially overlapping follow-up periods and possibly biased follow-up
18.10: K.L. Williams, A.B.J. Nix	Statistical methodology to adjust screening parameters used to evaluate patient specific risk for Down Syndrome when the biochemical assay procedure changes

DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF CLUSTER RANDOMISED TRIALS (Room 3)

16.30: M.K. Campbell, G.S. MacLennan, I.N. Steen, J.M. Grimshaw	Empirical estimates of intracluster correlation in cluster trials
16.50: J. Mollison, J. Simpson, M.K. Campbell, J.M. Grimshaw	Comparison of analytical methods for cluster randomised trials: an example from primary care
17.10: T.A. Dobbins, J.M. Simpson	Chi-square tests for the analysis of categorical data from a stratified cluster randomised trial
17.30: H.J.A. Schouten	Cluster randomization: design effect if cluster sizes are unequal
17.50: R.M. Turner, R.Z. Omar, S.G. Thompson	Using the intra-cluster correlation coefficient in Bayesian approaches for cluster randomised trials
18.10: J.A. Barber, S.G. Thompson	Regression analysis for cost data from randomised controlled trials

METHODOLOGY (Room: Video)

16.30: B. Vrijens, E. Goetghebeur	The impact of patient compliance in pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic studies
16.50: R. Bustami, E. Lesaffre, G. Molenberghs (Student Award Winner)	A goodness-of-fit test for the bivariate Dale model
17.10: N. Eshima, M. Tabata, S. Karukaya	An epidemic model for explaining HTLV-I type infection system
17.30: A. Biggeri, E. Dreassi, M. Marchi, M. Martuzzi, R. Bertollini	The contextual effect of material deprivation
17.50: E.Cobo, E. Martinez	The bootstrap assessment of confounding
18.10: E. Lesaffre, E. de Klerk	Calculating the power and sample size for a compliance study using a mixture model

Conference dinner

Tuesday 5 September 2000: 20.00. At Castel Tobling, on a lake near Trento. (Price: Lit. 100,000.)

PLENARY SESSION 3 – Wednesday 6 September 2000: 09.00-10.30: CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES IN GENETIC

EPIDEMIOLGY

Can we define and detect gene-gene, gene-environment and gene-treatment interactions?
Prospects for discovering site-specific cancer genes

Speaker: David Clayton (UK)
Speaker: Alice Whittemore (USA)
Discussant: Julian Peto (UK)

Presidential Keynote Lecture	<p>Wednesday 6 September 2000: 11.00-12.00 (Auditorium S. Chiara Centre) Speaker: Mitchell Gail (USA)</p>
Annual General Meeting	<p>Wednesday 6 September 2000: 12.00-13.30 (Auditorium S. Chiara Centre) Wednesday 6 September 2000: 14.30.</p>
Social programme	<p>Tour N. 1: TRENTO CITY TOUR. An English speaking guide will lead guests in a walking tour (of approximately 3 hours) among the main cultural, historical and architectural sites of Trento. Price per person: Lit. 25,000</p> <p>Tour N. 2: TREKKING ON MONTE BONDONE. From Trento, with a cable to the little village of Sardagna (571m). From there, through the woods of <u>Monte Bondone</u>, a one hour walk until the locality of Candriai (984m). It is possible to walk back to Trento or to take a coach until the city railway station. Price per person: Lit. 20,000</p> <p>Tour N. 3: BIKE TOUR. From Trento to S. Michele all'Adige (and back) on a comfortable and gentle plain cycle path of 30 Km. It includes a visit to the <u>Folk Museum</u> located in a 12th century Agostinian Monastery, and to the <u>Istituto Agrario S. Michele</u> (with wine tasting). Price per person: Lit. 35,000</p> <p>Tour N. 4: TOUR TO LAKE GARDA. By coach, to Riva del Garda (42 Km drive along the Lakes Valley). Visit the village, in particular the Rocca, a building of the 12th century, now site of the Civic Museum of Riva, and walk near the lake, in beautiful gardens. Price per person: Lit. 40,000</p>

PLENARY SESSION 4 – Thursday 7 September 2000: 09.00-10.30: COMBINED APPROACHES FOR REPEATED MEASURES AND EVENT-TIME DATA

Speaker: Joseph Hogan (USA)

Towards an Unified Approach to Analyzing Repeated Measures and Event Time Data in Longitudinal Clinical Trials

Speaker: Dianne M. Finkelstein (USA)
 Discussant: Robin Henderson (UK)

Analyzing Disease Progression Using Longitudinal and Failure Time Outcomes

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS 3 – Thursday 7 September 2000: 11.00-13.00	
SURVIVAL ANALYSIS (Room: Auditorium)	
11.00: A.S. Walker, A.G. Babiker	A frailty test for heterogeneity of treatment effect in meta-analysis
11.20: T. Burzykowski, M. Buyse (Student Award Winner)	Using the “expected” survival to explain differences between results of a meta-analysis and a randomized trial
11.40: W. Sauerbrei, P. Royston	Model building by transformation and selection of continuous covariates: stability investigations with the bootstrap
12.00: L. Hatteville, C. Mahé, C. Hill	A model able to predict long-term survival in breast cancer patients
12.20: P. Boracchi, E. Biganzoli, E. Marubini	Modelling cause-specific hazards with radial basis function artificial neural networks: an application to 2233 breast cancer patients
12.40: P.R. Burton, K.J. Scurrah, L.J. Palmer	Fitting genetic variance component models for phenotypes reflected in right censored ‘survival’ times using generalized linear mixed models and Gibbs sampling in BUGS
COMBINED APPROACHES FOR REPEATED MEASURES AND EVENT-TIME DATA (Room 2)	
11.00: B.E. Hansen, F.C. Bekkering, L. Wolters, J.T. Brouwer, S.W. Schalm, T. Stijnen	Nonlinear mixed modelling of viral kinetics in chronic hepatitis C and prediction of time to initial response
11.20: M.H.J. de Bruijne, A.H. Zwinderman, J.C. van Houwelingen	Predicting kidney graft failure conditional on irregularly observed time-dependent creatinine levels
11.40: M.M. Ali, A.G. Babiker, T. Marshall	Analysis of incomplete durations with application to contraceptive pill use in Egypt
12.00: L.J. Billingham, K.R. Abrams	Simultaneous modelling of longitudinal quality of life and survival data
12.20: G. Touloumi, A.G. Babiker, S.J. Pocock, J.H. Darbyshire	Impact of missing data due to drop-outs on estimators for rates of change in longitudinal studies
12.40: J.F. Dupuy, M. Mesbah	A joint model for repeated quality of life measures and event time data
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN GENETIC EPIDEMIOLOGY (Room 3)	
11.00: B. Lausen	Assessment of uncertainty inherent in genome wide mapping strategies
11.20: R. Pfeiffer, M.H. Gail, D. Pee	Inference for environmental effects based on family data taking into account ascertainment and random genetic effects
11.40: L. Baglietto, G.Parmigiani, E. Iversen	Effect of the information on the family history in determining the probability to be BRCA1 and BRCA2 mutation carrier
12.00: F. Macciardi, A. Morabito	Transmission/disequilibrium strategy in complex traits
12.20: A. Begun, A. Bruni, B. Desjardins, I. Iachine, A. Yashin	An experience of implementation of the multivariate frailty model to genealogical data
12.40: A. Di Castelnuovo, D. Mazzaro, L. Salmaso, F. Pesarin	Permutation tests for isotonic inference with applications in genetics

PLENARY SESSION 5 – Thursday 7 September 2000: 14.30-16.00: DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF CLUSTER RANDOMIZED TRIALS

Speaker: Els Goetghebeur (B)
 Speaker: Simon Thompson (UK)
 Speaker: Allan Donner (CDN)

Addressing Compliance in Cluster Randomised Trials with Survival Outcome
 Multilevel Models for the Analysis of Cluster Randomised Trials
 Issues in the Design and Analysis of Cluster Randomization Trials

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS 4 – Thursday 7 September 2000: 16.30-18.30	
SURVIVAL ANALYSIS (Room: Auditorium)	
16.30: J. Whitehead	Predicting the duration of sequential survival studies
16.50: T.C. Clayton, D. Wang, S.J. Pocock, I.R. White	Reporting of survival data analysis for clinical trials: a survey of current practice and pitfalls
17.10: H. Schäfer, H.H. Müller	Monitoring clinical trials: a general statistical method for design changes
17.30: S. Galimberti, P. Sasieni, M.G. Valsecchi	Non parametric procedures for the comparison of survival curves for matched data
17.50: J. Palmgren, P. Korhonen	Treatment effect modification under non-ignorable non-compliance; an application to the ATBC study
BAYESIAN SOLUTIONS IN CLINICAL RESEARCH (Room 2)	
16.30: J.M.A. Smits, H.C. van Houwelingen	Empirical Bayes methods for estimating centre specific heart transplant failure rates
16.50: J. Reeves, G. MacKenzie	A latent profile model for analysing longitudinal RCTs
17.10: H. Putter, S.H. Heisterkamp, J.M.A. Lange, F. de Wolf	A Bayesian approach to parameter estimation in HIV dynamical models
17.30: A. Perez, R.J. Dennis, J.F.A. Gil, M.A. Rondón, A. Lopez	Use of the multiple imputation technique to predict outcome in intensive care unit patients
17.50: A. Vail, J. Hornbuckle, J.G. Thornton	Prospective application of Bayesian monitoring and analysis in the growth restriction intervention trial
ANALYSIS OF MULTIPLE OUTCOMES (Room 3)	
16.30: C. Robertson	Meta analyses with multiple outcomes
16.50: R. Gueorguieva, A. Agresti	A correlated probit model for multivariate repeated measures of mixtures of binary and continuous responses
17.10: P. Bauer, W. Brannath, M. Posch	Identifying effective and safe treatments
17.30: A.H. Zwinderman	Twisting IRT models for evaluation of treatment related side-effects
17.50: G. MacKenzie, J. Reeves	Modelling bivariate longitudinal data with serial correlation

Millennium Reception

Thursday 7 September 2000: 18.30 (Auditorium S. Chiara Centre)
 Guest lecture given by **Edmund Gehan (USA)** and cocktail

Mini-Symposium: Friday 8 September 2000: 08.30-13.30:

Statistical Challenges in Paediatric Research

The symposium will present recent methodological developments in the field of paediatric research, with applications in different areas such as oncology, AIDS, social science. Problems related to design, analysis and conduction of studies will be discussed by various speakers.

Time	Chairs/Discussants
	Giuseppe Maserà (Paediatrics Clinic, University of Milano-Bicocca, Milano, Italy)
	Julian Peto (London School, London, UK)
	Maria Grazia Valsecchi (University of Verona, Verona, Italy)
8.30	Introduction
8.40	Ian Diamond (University of Southampton, Southampton, UK)
	Multilevel Models of the Factors Influencing Infant and Child Mortality in Developing Countries
9.30	Abdel Babiker (MRC, London, UK)
	Clinical Trials in HIV Infected Children: Issues in Design and Conduct
10.20	Richard Sposto (University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA)
	Risk Stratification in Paediatric Cancer
11.10	Break
11.30	Norman Breslow (University of Washington, Seattle, USA)
	Design and Analyses of Case-Control and Case-Cohort Studies: Applications to Prognosis of Wilms Tumour Patients
12.20	Jonathan Shuster (Paediatric Oncology Group, Gainesville, USA)
	Group Sequential Design of Case-Control Studies for Paediatric Acute Lymphoblastic Cell Bank
13.10	Closure of the Meeting
	Nancy Geller – President of ISCB

POSTER SESSION 1 – Tuesday 5 September 2000: 08.30-13.00	
1 G. Ambler, P. Royston, A.R. Brady	Prognostic modelling with few events and many predictors
2 M.A. Barcelò, M. Saez	A modified EM algorithm to fit frailty models
3 A. Benner, L. Edler, G. Hartung	Graphical tools for phase 1 studies
4 U. Berger, P. Gerein, V. Pashova, K. Ulm	Using fractional polynomials to investigate the time-variation of prognostic factors in cardiological study
5 L. Bobrowski, M. Kretowska	Search for survival patterns through neuronal designing
6 P. Broet, Y. De Rycke, B. Asselain, T. Moreau	Two-sample statistics for comparison of survival times with long-term survivors
7 D. De Angelis, J. Myles, K. Porter	Parametric models for the distribution of AIDS incubation before widespread use of highly-active antiretroviral therapy
8 P. De Lorenzo, D. Silvestri, M.G. Valsecchi	Accounting for centre effects in multi-centre trials with survival data
9 P. Flandre, C. Paillisse	Handling missing covariates in survival data analysis
10 M. Gorkiewicz, E. Kawalec	Exploratory analysis of non-Cox proportional hazard by nearest neighbours sampling and transformation of local hazard estimates
11 J. Hüsing, S. Herget-Rosenthal, A. Stang, A. Kribben, D. Kohl	Acute renal failure after bone marrow transplantation: an application of time-to-event models with time varying covariates
12 E. Kawalec, M. Gorkiewicz	Three stage procedure for evaluation the individual strategies of exposure with respect to survival
13 W. Kupsc, E. Kawalec	Estimation of the profile of competing risk and risk factors of major causes of death in long period follow-up in two populations of polish men
14 Y. Le Strat, J.C. Thalabard	Analysis of time-dependent effects of time-varying covariates using the Aalen's additive hazard model in a longitudinal study
15 G. MacKenzie	A survival approach to the analysis of longitudinal data
16 U. Mansmann, J. Roehmel	On the construction of non-parametric confidence intervals for difference or ratio of quantiles from two survival functions
17 R.Z. Omar, P. Royston, P. Basset, K.M. Taylor	Formulation and validation of risk models
18 G. Parrinello, A. Girelli	Development of health risk appraisal function to estimate the risk of incipient diabetic nephropathy in patients with non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus
19 B.C. Tai, V. Gebski, I. White, D. Machin	Handling of "Multiple" first failures in competing risks analysis
20 G. Vacchiano, R. Capobianco, R. Torino	Bone marrow transplants and survival analysis
21 A.S. Walker, A.G. Babiker	Impact of knowledge of the time of infection on the evaluation of secular trends in survival
22 D. Wang	Prediction of coronary heart disease using a Bayesian model averaging approach
23 R. Xu	Estimating regression effects under non-proportional hazards
24 R. Xu, F. Vaida	Likelihood ratio test in Cox models with random effects

POSTER SESSION 2 – Tuesday 5 September 2000: 14.00-18.30	
1 C. Bamias, I.R. White, S. Pocock, J. Warner	Accounting for rescue medication in randomised clinical trials: a discussion on a methods, applications and results
2 S. Baruzzo, G. Callendo, P. Guastaroba, L. Bonucci, F. Marchetta, L. Bassein	A system monitor surgery-related 30-day mortality after heart surgery on adults in 5 accredited hospitals of the Emilia-Romagna Region
3 R. D'Amico, J.J. Deeks, C. Sakarovitch, D.G. Altman	How big are the biases associated with non-randomised designs used in evaluations of healthcare interventions? An empirical investigation
4 L.M. Dong, B. Hawkins, M.J. Marsh	Potential for misclassification of change in visual acuity when more than one test distance is possible during measurement
5 M.J.C. Eijkemans, J.D.F. Habbema, E.R. te Velde	A complicated case of confounding analysed with univariate recursive regression graphs
6 A. Farrin, I. Russel	The U.K. back pain, exercise, active management and manipulation (UK Beam) trial: differential recruitment within a cluster randomised trial in primary care
7 A. Giovagnoli, L. Martino	Optimal designs for nutritional studies with measurement errors under a mixed model with a covariate
8 M. Grassi, M. Paglione, G. Bilino, C. Rezzani	Comparison of latent trait model, multiple correspondence analysis and measurement theory in clinical questionnaire development
9 G. Kundt	Comparative evaluation of balancing properties of randomization rules
10 G.A. Lancaster, M. Green	Deprivation, ill-health and the ecological fallacy: a latent variable approach
11 G. MacLennan, L. Shirran, J.M. Grimshaw, R. Thomas, G. Mowatt, C. Fraser, M. Campbell	Unit of analysis errors in systematic reviews of provider behaviour change interventions
12 C. Marinacci, P. Schifano, P. Borgia, C.A. Perucci	Application of random effect ordinal regression model for outcome evaluation of two randomized controlled trials
13 E. Martinez, E.Cobo	The confounding role of the missing data mechanism
14 P. Martus	Measuring agreement on intrinsically different scales
15 M. Nurminen, M. Hytonen E. Sala	Modelling the reproducibility of acoustic rhinometry
16 W.J. Post, A. Stiggelbout	How to measure the attitude of women with breast cancer towards tradeoffs between quality and quantity of life?
17 C. Roberts, G. Dunn	The comparison of methods of measurement using latent class and latent variable models
18 D. Rosillon, C. Gengler	Non-parametric rank test for comparing parallel groups with cluster randomisation
19 B. Sebastien	A chi-square test for binary data adjusted on a baseline covariate for randomized clinical trials: a maximum entropy approach
20 V. Sypsa, G. Touloumi, A. Karafoulidou, A. Hatzakis	Comparison of smoothing techniques for CD4 data in a Markov model with states defined by CD4 counts: an example on the estimation of the HIV incubation time distribution
21 P. Vargha	Regression to the mean: what is behind it
22 S.D. Walter	The effect of measurement error on the number needed to treat (NNT) index
23 I. White, C. Frost, S. Tokunaga	Using replicates to correct for the effects of measurement error in binary and continuous predictor variables in regression models
24 M.E. Zanolin, F. Tosi, P. Moghetti	Assessing pathogenesis of metabolic impairments in hyperandrogenic women through principal components analysis

POSTER SESSION 3 – Wednesday 6 September 2000: 08.30-13.00	
1 S. Accordini, R. De Marco	Item non-response in the second stage of the European Community Respiratory Health Survey
2 A. Alcais, L. Abel	Maximum likelihood binomial method for model-free linkage analysis of complex traits in sibships
3 C. Aurti, L. Ravà, A. Maccallini, D. Mazzeo, V. Di Ciommo, M. Orzalesi	Hospital infections in a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU)
4 A. Bianco, D. Kelmansky, H. Lejarraga, E. Martínez	Effect of environmental variables on psychomotor development in Argentine children aged 0-5 years
5 K.E. Biebler, B. Jaeger	Sample size considerations on population methods in genetic epidemiology
6 J.F. Bithell	The statistical challenge of radiation epidemiology in paediatric research
7 S.R. Bonellie, G.M. Raab, D. Currie	Investigating the causes of cerebral palsy, allowing for lost information from non-surviving infants
8 S.A. Coatu (Scientist Award Winner)	Contingency tables with incomplete data
9 C. Di Serio	Statistical strategies in approaching complex genetic diseases: an application to a hypertension case-control study
10 H. Heinzl, L. Edler	Toxicokinetic models to describe human life long exposure
11 S.H. Heisterkamp, H.N. Caron	The number of new tags in SAGE (serial analysis of genetic expression) – Data relative to sample size
12 A. Jazbec, D. Simic, N. Corovic, M. Pavlovic (Scientist Award Winner)	Relation between fish and alcohol consumption and cardiovascular disease mortality
13 A. Jenker, F. Diomedè, R. Boldrini, L. De Sto, L. Ravà, V. Di Ciommo, C. Bosman, A. Donfrancesco	A 19-years experience in a single paediatric hospital: a survival analysis among children affected by renal tumours
14 P. Jurkowski, M. Cwiklinska-Jurkowska (Scientist Award Winner)	Early children asthma diagnosis with the use of discriminant analysis
15 C. Klersy, M. Aicò, R. Clementi, C. Danesino	Genetic mapping of genes predisposing to familial hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (FHL) using linkage analysis
16 S. Murad, C. Frost, M.G. Kenward	Analysis of truncated repeated measurements data
17 T. Nyári, I. Cseh, M. Woodward, J. Szöllösi, J. Deák (Scientist Award Winner)	Screening for human papillomavirus infection in asymptomatic women in Hungary
18 F. Pelleray, M.B.L. Rocchi, F. Solimano	Discrete models for the fragile-X syndrome
19 A. Perez, R.J. Dennis, J.F.A. Gil (Scientist Award Winner)	Development of a clinical prediction model for hospital mortality of intensive care patients in Colombia
20 B. Prochazka (Scientist Award Winner)	Statistical approaches used for routine presentation of results in the Czech surveillance system of infectious diseases EpiDat
21 A. Russo, P. Radice, L. Varesco, P. Sala, A. Decarli, L. Bertario	Extended genotype-phenotype correlation in familial adenomatous polyposis: a multiple approach to identify a specific APC mutation
22 K. Stanis-Wallis, J. Martyniak, J. Hartwich, M. Kwasiak, M. Schlegel-Zawadzka, A. Dembinska-Kiec (Scientist Award Winner)	Assessment of two predictive models for determining the occurrence of coronary artery disease (CAD)
23 E. Svensson, L. Berntson	The concordance between the parent and child concerning assessment of the child's perceived pain
24 E. Svensson, C. Lindström, A.L. Härd, A. Hellström	Statistical approach to select, from a comprehensive skill performance test, discriminating items of practical use in a clinical paediatric setting
25 C. Verzilli, J.R. Carpenter	Monte-Carlo EM for informative dropout models: experience with an asthma clinical trial

INSTRUCTIONS FOR POSTER EXHIBIT	
Session	There are 5 poster sessions which last half a day each during the meeting: + morning session: 8.30-13.00 + afternoon session: 14.00-18.30 You find at which session your poster is assigned in the Scientific Program.
Size	The size of your poster should not exceed 100 (width) x 110 (height) cm. Please remember that the text on your poster should be readable from some distance such that you should use oversize types not smaller than 22-24 point letters, and preferably larger.
Attachment	The posters can be attached to the panels by tape and other material that will be available at the registration desk. Remember you have to attach your poster yourself, to the preassigned panel: your panel will have the same number that your poster has in the Scientific Program.
Appointment	You are free to choose any time period you want to make appointments with persons who wish to discuss your poster with you. Please announce on your panel the time periods when you will be present at the poster site for discussion.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PLEARY AND CONTRIBUTED PAPER SPEAKERS	
Transparencies	In each lecture room there is an overhead projector. We strongly advise to produce transparencies using oversize types, not smaller than 24 point letters. Please remember to use contrast colours (black, dark blue, red) and not bright colours (yellow, light green...).
Slides	Please remember that transparencies' applied area must not exceed 160x200 mm. In each lecture room there is a slide projector. All slides must be 5x5 cm. frame format, preferably in plastic. Slides film must be 24x36 mm, and the text on the slides should be made large enough to be readable. Speakers are asked to hand over their slides to the technical assistant as soon as possible, not later than one hour before their session. The slides should be arranged in the way you want to show them, and marked with your name and the number of the session.
Conduct of the session	Chairperson and speakers will meet 10 minutes before each session. The chairperson of your session may want to meet the speakers earlier. In such case you will be informed. The general procedure of sessions will be: + The chairperson opens the session and introduces the first speaker + After each speaker the chairperson may allow short questions and discussion, but always closing it down when the assigned 20 minutes per paper are spent + If there is time available, when the speakers have presented their papers, the chairperson may invite speakers to join him/her at the desk to conduct a general discussion between the authors and contributors from the room. The Chairperson is free to modify the general procedure mentioned. Your Chairperson will inform you if any changes are made. It is advised to have a one-paragraph presentation of yourself available for the Chairperson and that you take seat in the first row of the room.

POSTER SESSION 4 – Thursday 7 September 2000: 08.30-13.00	
1 D.R. Altmann, S. Pocock, M. Abdalla, T. Clayton	The use of tables and figures in the reporting of clinical trials: a survey of current practice and pitfalls
2 A. Bacchieri, F. Cenci, C. Costantini, S. Tommasini	Multivariate analysis of correlated variables through a clinical trial
3 A. Bacchieri, F. Cenci, C. Costantini, S. Tommasini	Non parametric alternatives to ANOVA and ANCOVA in the analysis of clinical trials
4 M. Bradburn, J. Deeks, R. Localio, J. Berlin	Much ado about nothing: an evaluation of statistical methods for meta-analysis with rare events
5 A. Burton	Analysing multiple non-parametric quality of life outcomes
6 M.J. Campbell, R. Lall, S.J. Walters	Analysis of studies with quality of life as an outcome using ordinal regression
7 V.R. Cornelius, F.D.J. Dunstan	A study to evaluate the power of cluster detection algorithms in a variety of realistic geographical setting
8 R.L. Goodall, D.T. Dunn, A.G. Babikier, D.M. Gibb	Estimating the vertical transmission rate of hepatitis C infection
9 M. Hellmich	Monitoring clinical trials with multiple arms
10 L. Hiller, S.J. Bache	Management of multiple outcomes: physiotherapy trial example
11 L. Hiller, L. Billingham, L. Wood	Analysing experimental data using multi-level modelling
12 R. Jonsson	Random regression with spikes in the y-distribution for analysing sick-listed returning to work
13 C. Klersy, D. De Amici, F. Ramaioli, L. Brustia, P.L. Politi	The Hawthorne effect can be elicited in a controlled clinical trial
15 H. Okut	Analysis of correlated binary data by using generalized estimation equation
16 Y. Palesch, W. Zaho, R. Knapp, J. Vaughan, R. Hebert, C. Kellner	Revisiting the last-observation-carried-forward method for missing data in psychiatry clinical trials
17 M. Panella, D. Kozel, D. Sarasino, S. Marchisio, M. Binotti, M.L. De Marchi, L. Palin, A. Panella, P. Donato, G. Ceffa, G. Pelosi	A statistical model to analyse patient outcomes referred to anaesthesia in gynaecologic surgery
18 M. Panella, S. Marchisio, M. Binotti, M.L. De Marchi, D. Kozel, D. Sarasino, M. Pino, P. Aluffi, L. Palin, A. Panella	Assessment of the hearing recovery in patients with idiopathic sudden deafness: a statistical prognostic model
19 A.F. Pap	Detecting fraudulent data in clinical trials: a case study
20 M. Petzold	A comparative study of some approaches for constructing tolerance limits
21 C. Robertson	Trends in regional variation in mortality rates
22 M.B.L. Rocchi, C. Perlini	Maximization of mean vector length: a circular statistics tool for the detection of unknown period in clinical event time series
23 J.A. Simpson, R. Price, F. ter Kuile, P. Teja-Isavatham, F. Nosten, T. Chongsuphajaisiddhi, S. Looareesuwan, L. Aarons, N.J. White	Population pharmacokinetics of mefloquine in patients with acute falciparum malaria
24 D. Steffen, D. Ihracky, L. Gierl	Antibiotic resistance-statistics and gis for visualization and early warning
26 F. Vandenhende, P. Lambert	The analysis of repeated categorical data using bivariate copulas

POSTER SESSION 5 – Thursday 7 September 2000: 14.00-18.30	
1 K.R. Abrams, D.D. Moffitt, A.J. Sutton	Bayesian approaches to sub-group analyses
2 K.R. Abrams, B. Sanso	Interactive reporting of Bayesian analyses using the world wide web
3 A. Bartkowiak	Assessing class membership using mixtures and voronoi tessellation
4 G. Bisoffi, M.A. Mazzi, G. Dunn	Evaluating screening questionnaires using receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves from two-phase (double) samples
5 J.B. Carlin	Bayesian meta-analysis using a bivariate normal model with application to diagnostic test evaluation
6 Y. Chi	Multiple comparisons of several treatments with a control for right-censored survival data
7 V. Coviello, Assennato, M. Baccini, A. Biggeri	Occupational exposure to asbestos and mortality: a cohort mortality study in Italy
8 L. Edler, H. Heinzl, C. Portier	Evidence of risk from human dose-response modelling using average body burden
9 P. Fina, G. Visona	Number needed to treat (NNT): a measure that should be handled with care
10 M.R.A. Gatto, F. Malucelli, G. Corinaldesi, L. Checchi, P.L. Bisbini	Growth factors and carrier systems: mitogenic effect and biocompatibility in vitro
11 G. Greiner, G. Kundt, L. Gierl	Spatial autocorrelation statistics: an application
12 G. Heinze, M. Schemper	Coping with apparently infinite risk estimates in logistic regression
13 U. Kher, B. Binkowitz, J. Zhang	A Bayesian ranking and selection approach to designing randomized phase II trials in oncology
14 K. Kim	Independent increment structure in group sequential tests and information-based design and monitoring
15 P.C. Lambert, K.R. Abrams, D.R. Jones, A.W.F. Halligan	Analysis of ambulatory blood pressure monitor data using a hierarchical model incorporating restricted cubic splines and heterogeneous within-subject variances
16 Y. Lu	Evaluating Prospective Information from a Cross-sectional Correlation with an Established Marker
17 L. Lusa, M. Baccini, M. Farella	Multilevel analysis and model checking: an electromyographic study of the human jaw muscles
18 B.J.A. Mertens	Review and evaluation of modern calibration methods for classification studies
19 F. Quehenberger, P. Wolf	An adaptive two-stage design for the measurement of the preventive effect of sunscreens against immune suppression due to sunlight
20 P.T. Seed	Estimating the proportion of patients with readings above a fixed safety value Improving on the binomial distribution
21 P.T. Seed	The impact of inappropriate analysis on power and sample size: dichotomising diagnostic tests versus ANCOVA and risk-ratios versus proportional hazards
22 D. Simic, M. Pavlovic, A. Jazbec, J. Hrsak, K. Segar, V. Vadic	Air pollution and the emergency room admissions for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in Zagreb, Croatia
23 D. Sinha	Bayesian methods for joint modelling of longitudinal and survival data with applications to cancer vaccine studies
24 C. Sonesson, M. Frisen	Surveillance in medicine optimality of the EWMA method
25 A. Stroux, J.B. Jonas, M. Korth, A. Juenemann, F. Horn, P. Martus	An alpha spending function approach to the economic diagnosis of glaucoma
26 G. Verlato, M. Muggeo	Role of the capture-recapture method in the epidemiology of the type 2 diabetes mellitus

From Maria Grazia Valsecchi (LOC)

Statistical Challenges in Paediatric Research

**Friday 8 September 2000 (08.30-13.00)
Room 2, Centro Servizi Culturali S. Chiara - TRENTO**

Chairs/Discussants: Giuseppe Masera (University of Milano-Bicocca, Milano, I)
Julian Peto (London School, London, UK)
Stefan Suci (EORTC, Brussels, B)
Maria Grazia Valsecchi (University of Verona, Verona, I)

Speakers

Multilevel Models of the Factors Influencing Infant and Child Mortality in Developing Countries
Ian Diamond (University of Southampton, Southampton, UK)

Clinical Trials in HIV Infected Children: Issues in Design and Conduct
Abdel Babiker (MRC, London, UK)

Risk Stratification in Paediatric Cancer
Richard Spoto (University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA)

Design and Analyses of Case-Control and Case-Cohort Studies: Applications to Prognosis of Wilms Tumour Patients.
Norman Breslow (University of Washington, Seattle, USA)

Group Sequential Design of Case-Control Studies for Paediatric Acute Lymphoblastic Cell Bank
Jonathan Shuster (Paediatric Oncology Group, Gainesville, USA)

Registration fee for attending only the mini-symposium: 100,000 Lira
(or included in the registration fee for the ISCB meeting: 4-8 September 2000)

For information: **Centro Servizi Culturali S. Chiara/St. Chiara Centre**
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Email: cscsctn@tin.it Web: www.gelso.unitn.it/~iscb2000

ISCB21 Trento: "Bruno de Finetti"

Abstract from Carla Rossi, Rome, Italy (LOC)

BRUNO DE FINETTI: THE MATHEMATICIAN, THE STATISTICIAN, THE ECONOMIST, THE FORERUNNER

Bruno de Finetti is possibly the best known Italian applied mathematician who lived in the 20th century. But was he really just a mathematician? Looking for citations, I have found him mentioned in journals, magazines and also in some newspapers, even recently, as a "statistician", as an "economist", as the "founder" of the subjective theory of probability and several other descriptions. Thus, who was Bruno de Finetti ?

First of all, he was a very impressive and complex figure. There was something harmonious in him and in his dealing with people, either with his students, as I was at the beginning, or with his colleagues, as I became later.

It is always possible to find original and pioneering contributions in his papers to the various fields he was interested in, where he always put his mathematical "forma mentis" and skills at the service of the applications, often extending standard theories and models in order to achieve better results. Many papers are also devoted to educational issues in mathematics in general and in probability and statistics in particular. He really thought that

mathematics and, in particular, those topics related to uncertainty, should enter in everyday life as a useful support to everyone's decision making. He always envisioned mathematics as a basic tool both for better understanding and describing complex phenomena and for helping decision makers in choosing coherent and feasible actions.

His many important contributions to the theory of probability and to mathematical statistics are well known all over the world. Thus, I prefer to deal with minor, but still pioneering aspects of his work related both to theory and to applications of mathematical tools and to his work in the field of education and training of teachers. In particular, I will deal with his first papers in population genetics, with his "minor" contributions to statistics and with his fundamental approach to mathematical education which greatly influenced my entire professional life.

To summarise, I will try to present my favourite picture of my "Maestro".

ISCB21 Student Conference Awards 2000

From John Whitehead

The following 4 students are being funded by the Society to attend ISCB Trento. We had 11 entries and the standard was high. Those who did not win should not be discouraged, as the scoring was very close.

<p>Tomasz Burzykowski Biostatistics. Center for Statistics, Universitaire Campus, Building D, B-3590 Diepenbeek, Belgium Tel: +32 11 26 82 81 Fax: +32 11 26 82 99 email: tomasz.burzykowski@luc.ac.be</p> <p>Using the “expected” survival to explain differences between results of a meta-analysis and a randomised trial</p>	<p>Rami Bustami Biostatistical Centre, School of Public Health U.Z. Sint Rafaël, Kapucijnenvoer 35, B-3000 Leuven, Belgium Tel: +32 16 33 68 87 Fax: +32 16 33 69 00 email: Rami.Bustami@med.kuleuven.ac.be</p> <p>A goodness-of-fit test for the bivariate Dale model</p>
<p>Rafael Pflüger Dept Medical Informatics, Biometry and Epidemiology, University Erlangen-Nuremberg, Waldstr 6, 91054 Erlangen, Germany Tel: + 49 9131 8525738, Fax: + 49 9131 8525740 email: Rafael.Pflueger@rzmail.uni-erlangen.de</p> <p>A rule-of-thumb for a variable bandwidth in hazard rate estimation</p>	<p>Bart Spiessens Biostatistical Centre, School of Public Health U.Z. Sint Rafaël, Kapucijnenvoer 35, B-3000 Leuven, Belgium Tel: +32 16 33 68 86 Fax: +32 16 33 70 15 email: Bart.Spiessens@med.kuleuven.ac.be</p> <p>A group sequential method for ordinal random-effect models</p>

ISCB21 Scientist Conference Awards 2000

From Michael Schemper

The following 7 scientists are being funded by the Society to attend ISCB Trento.

<p><u>Silvia Alexandra Coatu</u> Centre for Mathematical Statistics 'Gheorghe Mihoc', Casa Academiei Romane Calea 13 Septembrie, 13, RO76100 Bucuresti, Romania Contingency tables with incomplete data</p>	<p><u>Adriana Pérez</u> Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics Unit, School of Medicine, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Santa Fe de Bogotá, Colombia Development of a clinical prediction model for hospital mortality of intensive care patients in Colombia</p>
<p><u>Anamarija Jazbec</u> Institute for Medical Research and Occupational Health, Ksaverska c.2, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia Relation between fish and alcohol consumption and cardiovascular disease mortality</p>	<p><u>Bohumir Prochazka</u> National Institute of Public Health, Dept Biostatistics and Informatics, Srobarova 48, 100 42 Prague 10, Czech Republic Statistical approaches used for routine presentation of results in the Czech surveillance system of infectious diseases EpiDat</p>
<p><u>Piotr Jurkowski</u> Dept of Pathophysiology, University School of Medical Sciences- Bydgoszcz, ul. Sklodowskiej-Curie 9, 85-094 Bydgoszcz, Poland Early children asthma diagnosis with the use of discriminant analysis</p>	<p><u>Krystyna Stanisz-Wallis</u> Dept of Biostatistics and Medical Informatics, Collegium Medicum Jagiellonian University, 17 Kopernika str., 31-501 Krakow, Poland Assessment of two predictive models for determining the occurrence of coronary artery disease (CAD)</p>
<p><u>Tibor Nyári</u> Department of Medical Informatics, University of Szeged, Hungary Screening for human papillomavirus infection in asymptomatic women in Hungary</p>	

ISCB21 AGM of the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics 1999

From Maria Grazia Valsecchi

The Annual General Meeting of the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics will be held in the Auditorium S. Chiara Centre at the conference site in Trento from 12:00 to 13:30 on Wednesday 6 September 2000.

Agenda:

1. President's Report
2. Treasurer's Report
3. Subcommittee Reports and motions for continuation of subcommittees
4. Report from the Nominating Committee
5. Future meetings
6. Other business

All participants of the Trento meeting are welcome to attend. Please plan to attend !

Call for Nominations for Positions on the ExCom

From Nancy Geller

ISCB will need to elect a Vice-President i.e. "President-Elect", and nominees to fill 7 ExCom positions. The Secretary and Treasurer can be re-elected and so can Siem Heisterkamp and Emmanuel Lesaffre on the ExCom. There are thus 5 ExCom positions for which we will need new nominees. A nominations committee will be in place shortly and will be announced on the ISCB homepage. For further information, please contact Nancy Geller.

Information on Submitting Articles

Articles sent via email or on diskette (Word, HTML or text) on almost any topic are most welcome. This is an informal newsletter for you the readers, so please join in and make ISCB News a magazine that's even more interesting and fun to read.

Advertising Rates

The prices are:		Additionally, we will include loose flyers with the distribution of the newsletter at an initial handling cost of £ 150. However, if the addition of the flyers increases the postal charges, the advertiser will also be charged the difference in distribution costs. For further information, please contact the Editor.	
Full	A4 page:	£ 200	
Half	A4 page:	£ 150	
Quarter	A4 page:	£ 100	
Publishing dates (and deadlines)	2000:	(early October)	December
	2001	(early May)	June.

ISCB Aims

The Society is organised and shall be operated for educational and scientific purposes with the following Aims:

- + to stimulate research on the biostatistical principles and methodology used in clinical research;
- + to increase the relevance of statistical theory to clinical medicine;
- + to promote high and harmonised standards of statistical practice;
- + to work with other societies and organisations in the advancement of biostatistics;
- + to promote better understanding of the use and interpretation of biostatistics by the general public, and by national and international organisations and agencies within the public and commercial sectors with an interest in, and/or responsibilities for, public health; and
- + to provide a common forum for clinicians and statisticians through meetings, seminars and publications.

ISCB22 Stockholm: 19-23 August 2001

From Simon Thompson

The ISCB Conference will be held in Stockholm, Sweden in 2001. An exciting and stimulating meeting is currently being planned, so please put the dates in your diary now!

The conference will be held at the Stockholm City Conference Centre - "Folkets Hus" - located in the heart of Stockholm. Further information is available on www.ISCB.stockholm2001.org which will be updated with the latest information.

The local organising committee (chair, Juni Palmgren) is already busy making the preparations for the meeting. The scientific programme committee is also hard at work selecting topics the courses and for the meeting. The members of this committee are:

Simon Thompson, UK (chair)
Juni Palmgren, Sweden
Hans Van Houwelingen, Netherlands
Niels Keiding, Denmark
Peter Diggle, UK
Therese Stukel, US
Niels Becker, Australia
Olivier Guilbaud, Sweden
Els Goetghebeur, Belgium
Larry Gould, US

We look forward to seeing you in Stockholm.

ISCB23 Dijon: 9-13 September 2002

From Harbajan Chadha-Boreham

The 23rd ISCB conference will be held in Dijon in the year 2002 in a modern Convention Centre located near the city centre.

Dijon is a historical city in the Burgundy region of France, situated centrally in Europe. It is characterised by elegant gothic, renaissance and art nouveau architecture, several beautiful old churches, the ancient Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy and the Palace of Justice. A walk through the narrow medieval streets of Dijon is marked by colourful tiled rooftops typical of Burgundy.

There are eight museums in Dijon including Archaeology, Natural History, Fine Art, Sacred Art, Museum of Burgundy Life and Museum of Mustard. There are several theatres and a much admired newly built Concert Auditorium, several parks and a Botanic Garden.

The countryside surrounding Dijon is very varied, with vineyards in the warmer south and cereal fields and forests in the cooler north. The Burgundy Canal passes the outskirts of Dijon and within easy reach is the picturesque valley of the River Ouche. The source of the River Seine, the celebrated symbol of Paris, originates near Dijon. Amongst the variegated richness of cultivated and wild areas in the region, visitors will find numerous ancient Abbeys and Castles.

With possibilities of so much for you to see and do, the Local Organisation Committee is arranging to make your visit to Dijon and Burgundy a wonderful and memorable experience.

More information on the Local and Scientific organisation will be available at the Trento ISCB conference and in future ISCB Newsletters.

Books and Software for Review

Author(s)	Title	Publisher (year)	Reviewer
Peter Armitage (ed)	Encyclopedia of Biostatistics: Vol. 4: Med-Pre	John Wiley (1998)	Aurelio Tobias
Donald C Monkhouse & CT Rhodes (Eds.)	Drug Products for Clinical Trials	Marcel Dekker (1998)	Koos Lubsen
S Ghosh (ed)	Asymptotics, Nonparametrics and Time Series	Marcel Dekker (1999)	Roman Görtelmeyer
Chi-Lun Cheng & John W Van Ness	Statistical Regression with Measurement Error (Kendall's Library of Statistics 6)	Arnold (1999)	Victor Moreno
A Lawson, A Biggeri, D Böhning, E Lesaffre, JF Viel, R Bertollini (eds.)	Disease mapping and risk assessment for public health	John Wiley (1999)	Roger Marshall
Adrian Bowman & John McColl (eds)	Statistics and Problem Solving: Computer-based case studies from the STEPS project	Arnold (1999)	Chris Robertson
Michael J Campbell & David Machin	Medical Statistics: A Commonsense Approach (3 rd ed.)	John Wiley (1999)	Maciej Gorkiewicz
GM Clarke & D Cooke	A Basic Course in Statistics (4 th ed.)	Arnold (1997)	Gwen Allardice
JK Lindsey	Models for Repeated Measurements (2 nd ed.)	Oxford (1999)	Victor Moreno
JM Bernardo, JO Berger, AP Dawid & AFM Smith	Bayesian Statistics 6	Oxford (1999)	Ulrich Mansmann
Brian D Hahn	Essential MATLAB for Scientists and Engineers	Arnold (1997)	Anna Bartkowiak
Helio S Migon & Dani Gamerman	Statistical inference: An Integrated Approach	Arnold (1999)	Rodolfo Stusser
Daniel Zelterman	Models for Discrete Data	Oxford (1999)	Tiberiu Postelnicu
Edward L Korn & Barry I Graubard	Analysis of Health Surveys	John Wiley (1999)	Dario Gregori
BLS Prakasa Rao	Statistical Inference for Diffusion Type Processes	Arnold (1999)	Christina Ring
David J Bartholomew & Martin Knott	Latent Variable Models & Factor Analysis	Arnold (1999)	Faans Steyn
Graham Dunn	Statistics in Psychiatry	Arnold (2000)	Irene Stratton
M Elizabeth Halloran & Seymour Geisser (eds.)	Statistics in Genetics	Springer (1999)	Berthold Lausen
MM Shoukri & CA Pause	Statistical Methods for Health Sciences (2 nd ed)	CRC (1999)	Jana Zvarova
Alistair C Wardlaw	Practical Statistics for Experimental Biologists (2 nd ed)	John Wiley (2000)	
Sung H Park & G Geoffrey Vining	Statistical Process Monitoring and Optimization	Marcel-Dekker (2000)	
Michael R Hamrell (ed)	The Clinical Audit in Pharmaceutical Development	Marcel-Dekker (2000)	
Helen Brown & Robin Prescott	Applied Mixed Models in Medicine	John Wiley (1999)	
Shein-Chung Chow & Jen-Pei Liu (1)	Design and Analysis of Bioavailability and Bioequivalence Studies	Marcel-Dekker (2000)	
Shein-Chung Chow & Jen-Pei Liu (2)	Design and Analysis of Bioavailability and Bioequivalence Studies	Marcel-Dekker (2000)	
James E. De Muth	Basic Statistics and Pharmaceutical Statistical Applications	Marcel Dekker (1999)	
CF Jeff Wu & Michael Hamada	Experiments: Planning, Analysis, and Parameter Design Optimization	John Wiley (2000)	
Peter M Fayers and David Machin	Quality of Life: Assessment, Analysis and Interpretation	John Wiley (2000)	
Michael Healy	Matrices for Statistics	Oxford (2000)	
John Haigh	Taking Chances: Winning with Probability	Oxford (2000)	
Sheskin	Handbook of Parametric and Nonparametric Statistical Procedures	CRC (2000)	
Bonate	Analysis of Pretest-Posttest Designs	CRC (2000)	
Rabe-Hesketh & Everitt	A handbook of Statistical Analyses Using Stata	CRC (2000)	

Arnold:	http://www.arnoldpublishers.com
Chapman & Hall:	http://www.crcpress.com/www/chaphall.htm#ms
John Wiley:	http://catalog.wiley.com/index.cgi?
Marcel Dekker:	http://www.dekker.com/catalog/catalog_top.htm
Oxford:	http://www4.oup.co.uk/
Springer:	http://www.springer.de/statistic/books/newbooks.html

Important note to potential reviewers:

We regularly receive books from publishers for review in the Newsletter. We are most grateful for these 'donations', the reviews of which we regard as a service to you, our members. Regretfully, some individuals, despite repeated reminders, neither return a review, nor the book to ISCB... When requesting a book, please remember that you're making a commitment to the Society to do a little work in return for keeping the book.

Please do a little work in return for keeping the book and your name will be published in the News!

For the format and length, please see recent issues of ISCB News. You can send the review in a variety of formats but plain text email, html or Word are preferred. I may edit the reviews for clarity (English grammar and spelling, punctuation etc.).

ISCB Email Lists

From David W. Warne (chair of the Communications Subcommittee)

In the last News, December 1999, I wrote "We are also in the process of setting up an emailing list, both for informing members of books for review and future events, and for discussing topics of interest to ISCB members. I do hope many of you will take part in this new venture".

Since then, I've added all the members whose email addresses were available at the end of 1999 to the list. Initially I did this by invitation, asking people to send an email to join, and over 200 said "Yes". However, I believed it may have been possible that people didn't realise they had to respond in order to join, so I tried "Plan B" and joined everyone in the membership directory: this represented a sizeable 700 out of the 800 members. Only a few people have asked to be subscribed or have unsubscribed themselves. Notably, some people who attended ISCB Heidelberg didn't realise this meant they had become ISCB members.

I was very concerned about security when I started 6 months ago, and I wanted to avoid ISCB members getting any junk email. So the lists were set up as follows:

- 1) Only ISCB members can join. People who don't renew will be removed.
- 2) Messages are moderated to avoid messages accidentally being sent to the list.
- 3) Nobody else has access to the email list. The egroups service is paid for by small email advertisements that appear at the bottom of messages. These could be removed by paying a monthly fee, but it's been decided to live with the adverts for now.

My main problem with administrating the email list is one I was "warned" about! Lutz Edler told me that it's quite common for messages to "bounce" i.e. be returned to sender when someone's email address has changed (e.g. company merger) or has been deleted (they moved jobs). So far this has happened to 100 of the 700 members! Occasionally, this may be due to an intermittent computer problem, so I try once more to get a reply from the email address, or ask a colleague with a similar email address if that person is still there. Nevertheless, this is time-consuming and often fruitless. So, please keep the ISCB Office up to date with your email and address changes! All it takes is an email to the Office.

So what has been sent to the members on the elist? A few announcements of courses and conferences, and recently the Books for Review which hadn't been requested after the last News was published, as well as some new ones. This has been a great success with the 20 or so books attracting potential reviewers from around the globe. Book reviewers who haven't renewed their ISCB subscription are sent a reminder and if no positive response is given, they won't be considered eligible to receive a book.

In the last few days, a subscription renewal reminder was sent to all members and quite a few members sent me emails asking for confirmation that their payment had been received. This is something I can't do! But all such requests were forwarded to the ISCB Office and promptly dealt with. So if you're not sure about this, please do contact the Office!

How do you join the ISCB egroup? Simply send an email to:

iscb-subscribe@egroups.com

Please note that I monitor the requests to join and I compare them with the membership list so that only members may join. In this way, a private list is maintained: nobody outside the list has access to any information.

To Unsubscribe, send a message to:

iscb-unsubscribe@eGroups.com

At the end of July 2000, I will check with the ISCB Office and non-renewers will be reminded one last time to renew their subscription, and if nothing is heard, they will be removed from the egroup.

To send a message to ISCB, send it to:

iscb@eGroups.com

Please note that currently I monitor the email sent to the list so that the iscb membership does not receive completely irrelevant messages. As time goes by, we will build up an idea of what the list can be used for.

As well as the ISCB egroup, I've also set up email lists for various subcommittees and conference local organising and scientific programme committees. Within these groups, people can communicate within the groups. Again, messages can be sent to the group, but these won't be sent to the group unless it's requested it's open to such external messages.

The complete list is:

ISCB, ExCom and Subcommittees:

iscb	
iscb-excom	iscb-comms
iscb-education	iscb-fraud
iscb-national-groups	iscb-op-procs
iscb-reg-aff	iscb-stud-conf-awrd

Programme Committees:

iscb-trento-loc, iscb-trento-spc
iscb-stockholm-loc, iscb-stockholm-spc
iscb-dijon-loc, iscb-dijon-spc, iscb-dijon-contact
iscb-london-loc, iscb-london-spc

This allows members of each group to communicate easily with the entire group. Messages sent to a group by a non-member will be sent to the chair of the group for appropriate disposition....

If you have any comments about ISCB egroups, please contact me.

From Jorgen Seldrup

I used to send you letters from places where ISCB had meetings, but this is different - at least there has not been a meeting in Singapore, yet!

Some of you may know that back in February I took up a job (on loan from Quintiles) at the Ministry of Health in Singapore as Director of the Clinical Trials and Epidemiology Research Unit (CTERU) - and thereby added significantly to the ISCB membership in South East Asia!

The CTERU comprises epidemiologists, biostatisticians, systematic reviews researchers, a trials section of coordinators + IT and administrative support. We run CLINTRIAL as our DBMS using a telephone randomisation system for our randomised trials...

Many things are happening out here. Singapore is keen to become the hub for clinical research in the region and I am convinced it will succeed. Some pharmaceutical companies have now moved R&D out here, having set up merely marketing and sales offices a few years back. We have just set up a central ethics committee for multicentre trials to enable fast set up for new trials. I am getting involved with the Centre for Drug Evaluation (our Regulators). It is a good job to be in. You are really close to where things are decided and it looks as if I may also succeed in influencing some of what is going on. When Singapore decides something, you can be sure it will happen. Of course this is a new world to me in many ways. I remind myself that I am doing things a bit back to front. Many people stay for relatively short periods in their first jobs and, if anything, then move from academia to industry. I stayed 20 years in my first job and after 30 years moved from industry into academia. But it is good fun. It keeps you sane.

Life around me is one big contrast. You have government housing blocks next to chic private estates, jewellery shops (everywhere) next to Chinese bric-a-brac the barber's shop in the same run-down little building where I saw him 3-4 years ago when I was first out here on a short visit. I live just behind the down town skyscrapers in the heart of Chinatown and the street I live in - not called Club Street for nothing - is still full of 'old' Chinese clubs, dozens of them, where the old folks in particular hang out. I now know what my sons - they live in London and Hamburg - mean when they visited me in Alsace and thought it was so quiet there. I am glad though, that I choose such a central location. I can walk to work in 25 minutes - and I do. Everything is to hand, buses, underground, taxis, etc (I do not have a car - for a start, they are four times the cost in France, not to

mention a 'permit'; no, not a driving permit, but an 'owner' permit, which cost the same as a Fiat Punto in France). Public transport is very reliable and cheap and if you are really laden with shopping you can always take a taxi without having to see your bank manager first. I thought the French ate out a lot. Not anymore! Here there are restaurants everywhere from posh ones to simple food halls or hawker stalls (my chopstick handling is improving). Victoria Concert Hall is just across the river from here; went there a few Saturdays ago to hear Mozart's obo concerto and Mahler's 5th symphony - the one with the haunting fourth movement adopted in Visconti's "Death in Venice".

The heat. I must tell you about the heat. This weekend we had 33 at midnight and it does not vary a lot; day temperatures don't vary much either. It is however, not so much the heat itself, but the humidity, which tires you out. What is of course really fantastic is that the condominium where I live has its own swimming pool, so feeling too hot? Well, take a dip. In the flat of course, and for that matter almost everywhere there is air conditioning. It is still strange thought that when you walk into a building it is cool and when you walk out it is hot.

Markets. The 'wet' market - basically fish - and some are alive until you buy them; fortunately I haven't seen what happens just before they give it to you. Birds, even on the 11th floor - top floor, where I live. They often sit on the ledge outside the window - and they sing in a 'foreign' way; it sounds so tropical. Oh, I almost forgot, I have also seen a couple of chameleons; not exactly the Komodo dragon, but nevertheless. Snakes; no snakes yet, even though they told me that they had them up at the Danish church when I was there one weekend. I did however see a snake charmer one Sunday afternoon; a wonderful old Indian fellow, entertaining the Japanese tourists.

I am growing a mango tree on the balcony - it is only 5cm at the moment and in a pot. It is being grown from a mango stone from a mango I ate. Talking of mangos; the fruit here has to be seen (tasted!) to be believed. I have a lovely helping each morning and often again at dinnertime - you should see the watermelons we get for a couple of dollars (about one GBP). Fruit I have never seen or tasted before. I think, the mangos are the best though but guavas are not to be dismissed.

Venligst - Kind Regards - A Bientôt

Jorgen

How to Contact the ISCB Executive Committee

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President: Dr Nancy L. Geller (USA)	National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute, Office of Biostatistics Research, 2 Rockledge Centre, Room 8210, 6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892-7938, USA	+1 301 435 0434	+1 301 480 1862	Ng@ helix.nih.gov
Vice-President: Mr Simon J. Day (UK)	LEO Pharmaceuticals, Longwick Road, Princes Risborough, Bucks. HP27 9RR, England-UK	+44 1844 276215	+44 1844 346088	Simon.day@ leo-pharma.com
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ISCB: Changes of Address or Email

Please inform the Permanent Office that looks after the membership and mailing list databases. Also, if your **email address changes**, please inform the Office and the News Editor so that your address is changed in the ISCB group.

ISCB Membership Information

The **International Society for Clinical Biostatistics (ISCB)** was founded in 1978 to stimulate research into the principles and methodology used in the design and analysis of clinical research and to increase the relevance of statistical theory to the real world of clinical medicine.

The ISCB organises an annual scientific meeting which members and non-members are able to attend. The main objective of the annual scientific meetings is to create an opportunity for the exchange of knowledge, experience and ideas among clinicians, statisticians and members of other disciplines, such as epidemiologists, clinical chemists and clinical pharmacologists, working or interested in, the field of clinical biostatistics.

The scientific meetings cover a broad spectrum of biostatistical interests and regularly include sessions on the design and analysis of clinical trials, epidemiology and statistical methodology, as well as from time to time considering more specialist issues such as, for example, education of biometricians and biometrics users, pharmacokinetics, medical databases and pharmaco-epidemiology. Each meeting includes a mini-symposium devoted to a particular medical or statistical field.

Previous meetings in recent years have been held in Budapest (1996), Boston (1997), Dundee (1998), and Heidelberg (1999). A selection of talks at the meetings, for which papers are submitted for review and which are eventually accepted, are published in *Statistics in Medicine*. The ISCB benefits from a special journal concession from John Wiley & Sons Limited, the publishers of *Statistics in Medicine*, so that members are able to subscribe to the journal at a preferential rate.

The ISCB also organises courses to cover particular statistical topics. These are run to precede or follow on from the annual scientific meeting and are given by the foremost researchers in the field. Recent courses have included Analysis of Ordered Categorical Data, Cross-over Trials in Clinical Research, Analysis of Repeated Measures, Survival Analysis, Extending the Cox Model, and Statistical Methods for Genetic Epidemiology.



The current composition of the **Executive Committee (ExCom)** is as follows:

Officers:

President, Dr Nancy Geller (USA),
Vice-President, Mr Simon Day (UK),
Secretary, Prof. Maria Grazia Valsecchi (I),
Treasurer, Prof. John Whitehead (UK), and

Members:

Newsletter Editor, Dr David Warne (CH),
Webmaster: Dr Bjarne Nielsen (DK), and
Prof. Mike Campbell (UK), Dr Bruno Cesana (I), Prof. Ted Colton (USA), Dr Siem Heisterkamp (NL), Dr Emmanuel Lesaffre (B), Prof. Michael Schemper (A), Dr Jørgen Seldrup (SGP) and Prof. Norbert Victor (D).

The annual general meeting of the ISCB is organised to coincide with the scientific meeting. Membership of the Society is drawn from more than 40 countries worldwide and the number of members is nearly 800.



The ISCB also has special **Subcommittees** dealing with particular aspects of biostatistics. These are listed on p.4 along with their Terms of Reference.



The Society publishes a **Newsletter** 2 or 3 times a year. The ISCB News editor is Dr David Warne, Chemin Frank-Thomas 40, CH-1208 Geneva, Switzerland. Items for inclusion in the Newsletter should be sent to him (if possible on a 3.5' disk, Word, HTML or text, or email) to:

100557.2260@compuserve.com

Membership of the Society is open to all with an interest in biostatistics. The current annual (to 31 December 2000) Ordinary membership fee is £15. The Full-time Student Membership fee is £7.50. Members can also choose to receive *Statistics in Medicine* at a reduced cost (see above), and benefit from the reduced conference fee, at least £15 less than for non-members.

Applications for membership should be sent to:

ISCB Permanent Office, PO Box 25,
DK-3480 Fredensborg, DENMARK

Tel: +45 48 484 100,

Fax: +45 48 484 200,

email: iscb@post3.tele.dk

Office@iscb-homepage.org

WWW: <http://WWW.ISCB-HOMEPAGE.ORG>

Have you visited the ISCB Homepage recently ? <http://www.iscb-homepage.org>

Please check often for updated information between issues of the ISCB News!

Membership Subscription

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL BIostatISTICS 2000 Membership Subscription

Surname _____ Initials/Name _____ Occupation (please tick):
Title (Prof./Dr/etc.) _____ Post held _____ Statistician
Business address _____ Medical Doctor
_____ Both
Post code and country _____ Neither
Phone No. and Fax No. _____ email: _____ www: _____

SUBSCRIPTION: £ 15.00 Ordinary membership of ISCB (to 31 December 2000).
(please tick one only) £ 7.50 Full-time Student Membership of ISCB (to 31 Dec. 2000).
 £ 210.00 Ordinary Membership of ISCB (to 31 December 2000) +
subscription to Statistics in Medicine 2000.
(including access to SiM website where the journal contents, abstracts
and references can be searched)

PAYMENT IS MADE BY:

Credit card authorisation: VISA or Master Card

Name on credit card: _____ Expiry date _____ Signature _____

Card number to debit: - - -

The following cheques, made payable to the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics are acceptable:

A certified cheque drawn on a bank in Denmark or London /
Bestätigten Bankcheck auf dänisches oder London Geldinstitut /
Chèque de banque certifié sur une banque danoise ou Londres.

A Sterling Eurocheque, or any cheque drawn in Sterling & payable on a named Danish or London bank.

Note: Non-Sterling cheques, bank cheques not drawn on a Danish bank or a London bank,
and cheques not made payable to ISCB will be returned to sender.

Cheque / Money Order No.: (if known) _____ Date sent _____

Bank transfer

Please transfer direct to:
Unibank A/S
DK-1786 Copenhagen V, Denmark
S.W.I.F.T address: UNIB DK KK
Telex Nr.: 27543 unib dk
for the credit of account
2266 0392 562 109
Bank code Account No.

Bitte überweisen Sie direkt an:
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DK-1786 Kopenhagen V, Dänemark
S.W.I.F.T.-Kode: UNIB DK KK
Telex Nr.: 27543 unib dk
Zugunsten des Kontos
2266 0392 562 109
Bankleitzahl Konto Nr.

Veillez effectuer le virement directement à:
Unibank A/S
DK-1786 Copenhague V, Danemark
S.W.I.F.T.: UNIB DK KK
Télex: 27543 unib dk
au crédit du compte indiqué
2266 0392 562 109
Code bancaire Numéro de compte

Please return this form to:

ISCB Permanent Office

P.O. Box 25

DK-3480 Fredensborg

Denmark

Tel: +45 48 48 41 00, Fax: +45 48 48 42 00



Calendar

21-25 August 2000

Utrecht, NETHERLANDS

Compstat 2000 organised jointly by Statistics Netherlands and Utrecht University

Info: Professor Peter van der Heijden, Department of Methodology and Statistics,
Faculty of Social Sciences, Utrecht University, PO Box 3508 TC, Utrecht, Netherlands.
Fax: +31 30 2535797, email: compstat@fbu.uu.nl,
www: <http://neon.vb.cbs.nl/rsm/compstat>

4-8 September 2000

Trento, ITALY

ISCB21

Info: Centro Servizi Culturali Santa Chiara, Via S. Croce 67, I-38100 Trento, ITALY

Tel: +39 0461 986488, Fax: +39 0461 231044,
email: iscb2000@gelso.unitn.it or cscsctn@tin.it

<http://www.gelso.unitn.it/~iscb2000/>

11-15 September 2000

Reading, ENGLAND-UK

RSS 2000 Conference

Info: Dave Collett

email: d.collett@reading.ac.uk

19-23 August 2001

Stockholm, SWEDEN

ISCB22

Info: Clinical Data Care, Warfvinges Väg 16, S-11251 Stockholm, SWEDEN

Tel: +46 8 618 2280, Fax: +46 8 618 2281,
email: theresa.westerstrom@ISCB.stockholm2001.org

9-13 September 2002

Dijon, FRANCE

ISCB23

Info: Harbajan Chadha-Boreham

email: h.chadha-boreham@fournier.fr

20-24 July 2003

London, ENGLAND

ISCB24 joint with Society for Clinical Trials

Info: Diana Elbourne

email: diana.elbourne@lshtm.ac.uk

