

Report of the IASS 2017-2019 Nominating Committee

Submitted to the IASS Executive, January 12, 2017.

This document is the report of the IASS 2017-2019 Nominating Committee to the IASS Executive. The composition of the Nominating Committee, chaired by Jairo Arrow, was approved by the IASS Executive in early December 2016. In it we describe the process that was followed to compile a slate of candidates to stand for election to the various offices of the Executive, namely President and his/her four Vice-Presidents. The committee comprised:

1. Jairo Arrow (Chair, Male, Africa)
2. Marcel de Toledo Vieira (Member, Male, Americas)
3. Dalisay Maligalig (Member, Female, Asia)
4. Imbi Traat (Member, Female, Europe)
5. Allyson Seyb (Member, Female, Oceania)
6. Jean Opsomer (Ex officio, Male, previous Chair of Nominating Committee)

Process - Nomination of candidates

The nominating process kicked off with a request by the Chair of the Nominating Committee to the ISI head office for an updated membership list. The Head Office staff response was prompt. This enabled the IASS President to select the committee members in a timely manner. The membership database was then shared by the committee to make informed nominations. The Chair created a Dropbox shared account, into which all relevant information was deposited. All the committee work was done by email. The committee worked enthusiastically to complete its work well ahead of the deadline set by the IASS Executive. The sex of each IASS member in the list was derived by the Chair and could contain some errors. But we hope that the errors are insignificant. Since the list is small the category was based on a manual inspection of two pieces of information: first name and title of the member.

IASS membership in 2016 stood at 415. Of these, 55% were also members of the ISI (48% elected; 7% regular).

The IASS membership covers all five regions of the globe. The detailed distribution by region and gender is shown below:

| Gender | Region | | | | | Total |
|--------|--------|----------|------|--------|---------|-------------|
| | Africa | Americas | Asia | Europe | Oceania | |
| Female | 13 | 33 | 11 | 62 | 4 | 123 |
| % | 22.0 | 25.8 | 22.9 | 39.0 | 19.1 | 29.6 |
| Male | 46 | 95 | 37 | 97 | 17 | 292 |
| % | 78.0 | 74.2 | 77.1 | 61.0 | 81.0 | 70.4 |
| Total | 59 | 128 | 48 | 159 | 21 | 415 |
| % | 14.2 | 30.8 | 11.6 | 38.3 | 5.1 | 100.0 |

Over the last one and half decades, there has only been one female IASS President, Susan Linacre (2009-2011). No individual from the African Region has occupied this position during that period.

The IASS mother body, the ISI, has not been any better either in the representation of women in leadership positions; it had its first female president in 2007-2009 (Denise Lievesley).

The 5-member IASS Nominating Committee 2017-2019 consisted of three females and two males, excluding a male ex-officio, who requested to be recused, when it emerged that he had been nominated for the IASS Executive. But before that happened he had already provided critical and substantial information to the Nominating Committee.

The Committee has short-listed a total of 10 candidates: Two for President-Elect and eight for the four positions of Vice Presidents. Three of these candidates are female, which incidentally coincides with women's share in the IASS membership. All the five regions of the IASS are represented in this final slate of candidates that has been submitted to the IASS President for consideration.

In the first iteration of the selection process, committee members submitted four names each. In the second iteration all the 20 nominees were ranked by each member in the order of preference. The candidates were approached to ascertain their readiness to stand for office. One candidate declined the nomination to the position of President, while two others declined to stand for a Vice President. One candidate did not respond to the letter informing him of the nomination. Two refusals were female. The two refusals were substituted with the next two on the shortlist of the ranking. In the final stage the top two candidates were nominated for President and the top 8 for the Vice Presidents. Reasons for turning down the nomination had to do with heavy workloads in areas of activity of the respective candidate.

Each nominee has submitted a short statement containing their background and professional area of interest. These statements form part of this report.

Final list of candidates

The Nominating Committee has agreed to submit to the IASS Executive the following list of candidates for election:

| First Name | Surname | Region | Position |
|------------|---------------------|----------|-----------|
| Monica | Pratesi | Europe | President |
| Denise | do Nascimento Silva | Americas | President |
| Ben | Kiregyera | Africa | V. P |
| Cynthia | Clark | Americas | V. P |
| Jean | Opsomer | Americas | V. P |
| Mukesh | | | |
| Kumar | Srivastava | Asia | V. P |
| Risto | Lehtonen | Europe | V. P |
| Anders | Holmberg | Europe | V. P |
| Martins | Liberts | Europe | V. P |
| David | Steel | Oceania | V. P |

Statements by the candidates

The statements submitted by the candidates now follow:

President-Elect for 2019

Denise Silva

Country represented: Brazil

Year of Birth: 1963

Present Position: Principal Researcher and Undergraduate Program Chair at the National School of Statistical Sciences from the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE).

Previous Professional Positions: Former director of the National School of Statistical Sciences (ENCE), Principal Methodologist at the Office for National Statistics (ONS-UK) and lecturer at the University of Southampton. Denise completed her PhD in Statistics at the University of Southampton and has an MSc and a BSc in Statistics. Her main areas of interest are official statistics, survey methods, statistical modelling for the social sciences, small area estimation and time series analysis. She has extensive experience in teaching both at graduate and undergraduate levels as well as professional development courses, and has been working as a survey statistician at IBGE for almost 30 years. She is an associate editor of the International Statistical Review and the Statistical Journal of the IAOS, is an elected member of the ISI, has served in the ISI Membership Elections Committee and acted as vice-president of IASI (the Inter-American Statistical Institute). Denise was IASS vice-president for the period 2011-2013 and is currently IASS scientific secretary. She is also a member of the American Statistical Association, the Royal Statistical Society, the Brazilian Association for Population Studies and has served as treasurer and council member for the Brazilian Statistical Association

Monica Pratesi

Country represented: Italy

Year of birth: 1962

Present position:

Full Professor of Statistics, University of Pisa, holder of the Jean Monnet Chair "Small Area Methods for Monitoring of Poverty and Living Conditions in EU" 2015-2017. She is the Director of the Tuscan Interuniversity Centre - Advanced Statistics for Equitable and Sustainable Development, entitled to Camilo Dagum.

Since 2016 she is Member of the Governing Board of Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat).

She is serving as Vice President of the IASS and as President of the Italian Statistical Society (SIS).

Professional positions:

She started the career as researcher in Statistics at the University of Florence (Italy), where she obtained the PhD in Applied Statistics in 1993. She achieved the position of Associate Professor in Statistics in 1997 and won the competition for Full Professorship in 2010. She organized many conferences in Survey Methods and Applied Statistics, both at national and international level, as SAE ISI satellite meeting in 2007 and ITACOSM in 2011. She has been working as researcher and coordinator of research in international projects and infrastructures in Europe, focusing on statistical methods to study poverty and social inclusion, small area estimation, Big data usage in well being studies (INGRID - Inclusive Growth Research Infrastructure Diffusion, EFRAME - European FRAMEwork for MEasuring progress, SAMPLE Small Area Methods for Poverty and Living Condition Estimates.

ISI elected member since 2011, from 2011 to 2013 she has been Member of IASS council.

Research interests: methods for survey sampling and analysis of survey data, small area estimation and design based population inference.

Selected Publications:

Pratesi M., (2016) (ed) *Analysis of Poverty Data by Small Area Estimation*, New York, Wiley

Pratesi M. (2015), "Spatial Disaggregation and Small Area Estimation Methods for Agricultural Surveys: Solutions and Perspectives", Technical Report in the Global Strategy Publications.

Marchetti, S., Giusti, C., Pratesi, M., Salvati, N., Giannotti, F., Pedreschi, D., Rinizivillo, S., Pappalardo, L., and Gabrielli, L. (2015). Small area model based estimation using big data sources. *Journal of Official Statistics*. <http://10.1515/JOS-2015-0017>

Fabrizi E., Salvati N., Pratesi M., Tzavidis N. (2014). Outlier robust model-assisted small area estimation. *Biometrical Journal*, 56, 157-175.

Vice – Presidents: 2017-2019

David G. Steel

Country represented: Australia

Year of birth: 1953

Present position: Director, National Institute for Applied Statistics Australia, University of Wollongong, Australia

Professional positions: IASS Programme chair for 2007 ISI; IASS Council Member (2015-2019); Elected Member of the ISI, 2013; Member, Methodological Advisory Committee, Australian Bureau of Statistics, 1996 –

Professional interests: Survey design and analysis, survey methodology, social statistics

Selected Publications:

Steel, D. G. and Clark, R. G. (2014). Potential gains from using cost information in a model-assisted framework. *Survey Methodology*, 40, 231-242.

Tranmer, M., Steel, D. and Browne, W. J. (2014). Multiple Membership Models for Social Network and Group Dependencies. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society (Series A)*, 177, 439-455.

Chambers, R. L. Steel, D. G., Wang S. and Welsh, A. H. (2012). *Maximum Likelihood Estimation for Sample Surveys*. Chapman and Hall, London, UK.

Chipperfield, J. O. and Steel, D. (2011). Efficiency of Split Questionnaire Surveys. *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*, 41, 1925-1932.

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Jean D. Opsomer

Country represented: USA

Year of birth: 1964

Present position: Professor and Chair, Department of Statistics, Colorado State University

Professional positions: American Statistical Association Caucus of Academic Representatives Chair, 2016-2017; Statistics Without Borders Vice-Chair, 2016-2018; IASS Council Member, 2013-2015; Institute of Mathematical Statistics Treasurer, 2010-2016. ISI Elected Member, 2006; American Statistical Association Fellow, 2006; Institute of Mathematical Statistics Fellow, 2012.

Professional interests: Survey statistics, environmental statistics, nonparametric methods.

Selected Publications:

Wu, J., M.C. Meyer and J.D. Opsomer (2017). "Survey estimation of domain means that respect natural orderings." *Canadian Journal of Statistics*, to appear.

Wang, Y., N. Ponce, P. Wang, J.D. Opsomer and H. Yu (2015). "Generating Health Estimates by Zip Code: A Semi-parametric Small Area Estimation Approach Using the California Health Interview Survey." *American Journal of Public Health*, 105: 2534-2540.

Breidt, F.J., and Opsomer, J.D. (2009). Nonparametric and Semiparametric Estimation in Complex Surveys. Ch. 27 in *Handbook of Statistics, Vol. 29B, Sample Surveys: Design, Methods and Applications*. Elsevier: Netherlands.

Opsomer, J.D., Claeskens, G., Ranalli, M.G., Kauermann, G., and Breidt, F.J. (2008). Nonparametric small area estimation using penalized spline regression, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, B*, 70, pp. 265-286.

Breidt, F.J. and J.D. Opsomer (2000), "Local polynomial regression estimation," *Annals of Statistics*, 28: 1026-1053.

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Cynthia Z.F. Clark

Country represented: USA

Year of birth: 1942

Present position: Retired since 2014.

Previous Positions: Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA, 2008- 2014; Executive Director for Methodology, U.K. Office for National Statistics, 2004-2007; Associate Director for Methodology and Standards, U.S. Census Bureau, 1996- 2004.

Professional Positions: Co-chair of ASA/AAPOR Task Force on Survey Climate, 2016 –present; Board Member, Council of Professional Associations for Federal Statistics, 2016 – present; Statistics Canada Methodology Advisory Committee, 2008-2014, 2016-present; Statistics Netherlands Methodology Advisory Committee, 2005-2014; Member, ISI Committee on Agricultural Statistics, 2014-present; Chair, ISI Committee on Women in Statistics, 2003-2011; IASS Board Member at Large, 1999-2005; President, Washington Statistical Society, 2000-2001; American Statistical Association Board Member, 1999-2003; Member IASS, IAOS.

Honors: Fellow, American Statistical Association, 1997; Elected member, International Statistical Institute, 1997; Fellow, Royal Statistical Society, 2005; Listed in Who's Who, 2008; Recipient, U.S. Presidential Meritorious Rank Award, 2011; Recipient, Distinguished Alumnae Award, Iowa State University, 2014.

Professional Interests: Survey methodology and quality; statistical program research management; research applications using merged data sets and/or administrative records; statistical modelling; workforce training and development; official statistics and international programs.

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Mārtiņš Liberts

Country represented: Latvia

Year of birth: 1981

Present positions:

- Deputy Head of Mathematical Support Division, Statistical Methodology and Quality Department, Central Statistical Bureau of Latvia;
- Assistant Professor in Faculty of Society and Science, Vidzeme University of Applied Sciences, Latvia;
- Lecturer in Faculty of Physics and Mathematics, University of Latvia.

Professional positions:

- Member of International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS) since 2007 (representative of Latvia since 2010);
- Member of Latvian Statistical Society since 2010 (webmaster since 2015);
- Member of Latvian Mathematical Society since 2010;
- Regular member of International Statistical Institute (ISI) since 2012;
- Member of International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS) since 2014;
- Member of Association of Latvian Young Scientists (ALYS) since 2014 (member of consultative board and webmaster since 2016).

Professional interests: survey methodology, statistical computing, Big data.

Recent Publications:

- J. Breidaks, M. Liberts, and S. Ivanova (2016) "Estimation of indicators on social exclusion and poverty and its linearization, variance estimation". R package version 0.8.0, CSB, Latvia
- J. Breidaks, M. Liberts, and J. Jukams (2016) "Survey Planning Tools". R package version 0.2.6, CSB, Latvia
- P. Hurtik, P. Hodakova, I. Perfilieva, M. Liberts, and J. Asmuss (2015) "Network attack detection and classification by the F-transform", IEEE International Conference on Fuzzy Systems (FUZZ-IEEE), Istanbul, 2015, pp. 1-6. doi:10.1109/FUZZ-IEEE.2015.7337991

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Name: Anders Holmberg

Country: Norway

YoB: 1967

Present position: Head of the Division for Methodology at Statistics Norway

Professional positions: Principal Statistician, Statistics New Zealand, (2014-2015); Statistical Advisor, National Institute of Statistics, Cambodia (2012-2013); Director of Methodology, Statistics Sweden (2008-2012); Elected member of ISI, 2003; Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society 2001; Board member of the Swedish Statistical Association (2007-2009); Associate Editor of Journal of Official Statistics (2015-).

Professional interests: How to turn survey theory into survey practice and how to make improvements of survey theory based on practical input. Survey sampling; Combining data Sources; Quality in Official Statistics; Nonsampling errors, Statistical education.

Selected Publications:

Holmberg A., (2015) Discussion on Coverage issues in Administrative Data, Journal of Official Statistics. Vol 31, No 3, pp 515-525.;

Eltinge J., Biemer P. and Holmberg A. (2013) A Potential Framework for Integration of Architecture and Methodology to Improve Statistical Production Systems. Journal of Official Statistics, Vol 29, No 1, pp. 125 – 145.

Holmberg A., (2012) Discussion on Assessing Quality on Administrative Data Statistica Neerlandica, Vol 66, No 1, pp 34-40.

Holmberg, A., Lorenc B. and Werner P. (2010) Contact Strategies to Improve Participation Via the Web in a Mixed-Mode Mail and Web Survey. Journal of Official Statistics Vol.26, No.3 pp 465-480.

Holmberg, A. and Laitila T., (2009) Quality tradeoffs when using register based data: Can they be observed? Proceedings of the 57:th session of the ISI, Durban 16-22 August 2009

Holmberg, A., (2004). Pre-printing effects in official statistics, an experimental study. Journal of Official Statistics Vol 20 No 2 341-355.

Holmberg, A., (2003). Using Auxiliary Information to Choose Between Alternative Sampling Designs in Surveys with Several Key Variables. Proceedings of Statistics Canada's XX International Methodology Symposium.

Holmberg, A. (2002). A multiparameter perspective on the choice of sampling design in surveys. Statistics in Transition vol. 5. no. (6): 969–994.

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Prof. Ben Kiregyera

Country represented: Uganda

Year of birth: 1947

Present position: Senior Statistical Consultant, African Development Bank

Professional positions: Council Member (1989-91) and Vice-President (1991-93), International Association for Survey Statisticians; Council Member, International Statistical Institute (1989-91); Vice-President, African Statistical Association (2005-2010); Associate Editor, International Statistical Review (1988-1991); Founder and Co-Chair of Editorial Board, The African Statistical Journal (since 2005); Founding Editor, African Statistical Newsletter (2007); Associate Editor, Journal of Official Statistics (1988-1990); 2nd Winner of the Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis International Award for lifetime achievement in statistics and promotion of best statistical practice in developing countries (2005);

Professional interests: Statistical organization and management; strategic planning for statistics; capacity building and training; agricultural statistics; survey sampling.

Selected Publications:

- 1) *Emerging Data Revolution in Africa: Strengthening Statistics, Policy and Decision-making Chain*, Sun Press,
- 2) *Statistics for managing for results: challenges, new initiatives and prospects for improving statistical systems in Africa*, African Statistical Journal, Vol. 5, November 2007,

- 3) *A Case and Some Actions for Improving Statistical Advocacy in Poor Developing Countries*, African Statistical Journal, Volume 1, 2005,
- 4) *Design of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics*, PARIS21, 2004.

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Mukesh K. Srivastava

Country represented: India

Year of Birth: 1957

Present Position: Senior Statistician, FAO of the UN, Bangkok

Professional Positions: Elected member of International Statistical Institute (ISI); Secretary, Asia-Pacific Commission on Agricultural Statistics; Observer, Governing Council of Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP); Life member of Indian Societies of Agricultural Statistics and Agricultural Economics; Life member of Indian Econometric Society; Former member of Indian Statistical Service, Government of India; Former Lecturer.

Professional Interests: Integrated Survey Framework for achieving cost-efficiency and enhanced scope for data analysis; Agricultural Censuses and Surveys; Crop Monitoring and Forecasting; Administrative data; Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics; Monitoring Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); Assessing and building capacity of official statistical systems.

Recent Publications: *Crop Monitoring for Food Security* (Edited; FAO and ADB, 2015); *World Programme for Census of Agriculture 2020* (Reviewed; FAO 2015); *Approaches and Methodologies for Measurement of Private Food Grains Stock* (upcoming; FAO);

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Risto Lehtonen

Country represented: Finland

Year of birth: 1948

Present position: Professor Emeritus (Statistics) at the University of Helsinki

Former positions: Professor of Statistics at the University of Helsinki, Professor of Statistics at the University of Jyväskylä, Director of Social Statistics at Statistics Finland, Director of Research at Statistics Finland, Research Professor at the Social Insurance Institution of Finland

Professional positions: IASS Council member 2013-2017, Former President of the Finnish Statistical Society; Elected member of the ISI; Member of the Steering Committee of the European Working Group on Small Area Estimation, Former Member of Zensuskommission of Statistisches Bundesamt (Germany); Member and former chair of the Steering Committee of the Baltic-Nordic-Ukrainian Network on Survey Statistics; Associate Editor and Guest Editor for international journals in statistics.

Professional interests: Survey statistics, small area estimation, design and analysis of complex surveys.

Selected Publications:

Lehtonen, R., and Särndal, C.-E. (2009). Research and development in official statistics and scientific co-operation with universities: a follow-up study. *Journal of Official Statistics*, Vol.25, 467–482.

Lehtonen, R., and Veijanen, A. (2009). Design-based methods of estimation for domains and small areas. Chapter 31 in Rao, C.R. and Pfeiffermann, D. (Eds.) *Handbook of Statistics Vol. 29B. Sample Surveys. Inference and Analysis*. Amsterdam: Elsevier, 219–249.

Goldstein, H., Lynn, P., Muniz-Terrera, G. & Hardy, R., O’Muircheartaigh, C., Skinner, C. and Lehtonen, R. (2015). Population sampling in longitudinal surveys debate. *Longitudinal and Life Course Studies*, 6, 447 – 475.

Härkönen, T., Karvanen, J., Tolonen, H., Lehtonen, R., Djerf, K., Juntunen, T. and Koskinen, S. (2016). Systematic handling of missing data in complex study designs - experiences from the Health 2000 and 2011 Surveys. *Journal of Applied Statistics*, 43, 2772-2790.

Lehtonen R. and Veijanen A. (2016). Model-assisted methods for small area estimation of poverty indicators. In: Pratesi, M. (Ed.) *Analysis of Poverty Data by Small Area Estimation*. Chichester: Wiley, 109–127.