

Letter from the President

Dear IASS Members,

With the end of the hugely successful 2023 64th World Statistics Congress in Ottawa, the 2021-2023 IASS Executive Committee (EC) members' term came to an end, and a new team of 2023-2025 EC members began. I want to convey my heartfelt gratitude to the outgoing President, Monica Pratesi, and the previous EC Vice-presidents: Jairo Arrow, Maria Giovanna Ranalli, Andrea Silva and Nikos Tzavidis and to our Social Media Coordinator: Annamaria Bianchi. Through Monica's leadership, the IASS has continued to grow and thrive in today's environment where it remains challenging to demonstrate the importance of professional societies. I particularly want to thank Monica for her leadership and mentoring as I become your next President. I also want to thank the ISI Executive Council and Permanent Office for their continuing support and dedication in keeping the IASS activities and administration going.

Our most recent July 2023 issue of the IASS journal: The Survey Statistician, celebrated 50 years of the IASS. We are grateful for the many contributions to the issue by our members and in particular, to past IASS Presidents. I would also like to thank those who are committed to the publication of the twice-yearly The Survey Statistician. They are the Editors: Danuté Krapavickaitė and Eric Rancourt; and the Section Editors: Peter Wright - Country Reports, Ton de Waal - Ask the Experts, Maria Giovanna Ranalli - New and Emerging Methods, Alina Matei - Book and Software Review; and Production and Circulation: Maciej Beręsewicz.

Over the past two years, the IASS has had a number of significant achievements to celebrate. Firstly, our highly impactful monthly webinar series includes on average over 100 participants and we are very grateful to our members who volunteer their time for statistical capacity building by delivering profoundly relevant and innovative webinars. We also awarded two prestigious prizes: the 2022 Hukum Chandra Prize and the 2023 Cochran-Hansen Prize and are deeply grateful to those members participating in the selection committees involved with these awards. We also supported the following conferences: ITACOSM2023 June 7-9, 2023; Workshop Nigeria, Ogun State July 13, 2023; and BANOCOSS2023 August 21-25, 2023. Finally, we have significantly expanded the IASS presence on Social Media: LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook. It is now time to pass on the reins to the new IASS EC. I am honoured to be your incoming President and I look forward to working with the 2023-2025 EC Vice-presidents: Eric Rancourt, Jiraphan Suntornchost, Annamaria Bianchi, Andres Gutierrez and the President – Elect Partha Lahiri. Over the coming weeks, we will be allocating the various roles of the EC members and will announce those in our next newsletter.

Another significant achievement of the previous EC was to develop the 2022-2023 Strategy Document which was ratified by the IASS General Assembly in 2022. The new EC will continue to update the Strategy Document and to promote IASS activities as set-out in the strategic priorities (see: <http://isi-iass.org/home/wp-content/uploads/IASS-Strategy2022-2023.pdf>)

We will continue to support the key objectives of the strategic plan:

- (1) Undertake a recruitment drive by engaging with country representatives and expand our membership;
- (2) Engage our members to become even more involved with IASS both on the Country and Global levels;

- (3) Help our members to grow professionally, through the tools provided by IASS: The Survey Statistician journal <http://isi-iass.org/home/services/the-survey-statistician/>, Conferences and Workshops, Short Courses, Prizes and Publications, and our outstanding webinar series <http://isi-iass.org/home/webinars/> --- all disseminated through IASS's network and website: <http://isi-iass.org/home/>;
- (4) Continue to expand the IASS network with solutions and opportunities through IASS communication plan and social networks.

Over the next two years of the EC, we will continue with the following activities:

- Issue calls for the Hukum Chandra Prize 2024 and Cochran-Hansen Prize 2025
- Issue a call for conference support 2024
- Continue with our successful monthly Webinar series
- Update country representatives and keep in regular contact to promote IASS in different countries
- Undertake individual and institutional membership drives
- Continue with The Survey Statistician publication and new editorial roles
- Issue monthly newsletters in mass mailings and on the IASS website including book of the month
- Continue promoting and posting IASS via social media channels

Finally, the new EC will plan a bespoke IASS satellite conference prior to the 2025 65th WSC that will take place in the Hague July 13-17, 2025 and will include all areas of research related to survey statistics and survey methodology. The location will be announced. Please save the dates: July 9-11, 2025.

Please get in touch me at Natalie.shlomo@manchester.ac.uk If you have ideas, suggestions, comments, improvements, or criticisms, regarding IASS activities and strategic priorities.

With best wishes,

Natalie Shlomo
President IASS, 2023-2025

P.S. Don't miss the recent podcast of Stats and Stories titled --- Survey Statistics: Where is it Heading? By the IASS President, Natalie Shlomo, at this link: <https://statsandstories.net/methods/survey-statistics-where-is-it-heading>
[\[statsandstories.net\]](https://statsandstories.net)