



Letter from the President

Dear colleagues

It is a pleasure and an honour to write to you as President of IASS and I am very motivated to contribute to IASS activities and its progress. I welcome our newly elected Executive Committee: Monica Pratesi (president-elect), and vice-presidents, Isabel Molina, James Chipperfield, Lucia Barroso and Nadia Lkhoulf.

I would like to extend my appreciation and sincere thanks to all candidates who agreed to stand for election and to the Nominating Committee: Daniella Cocchi (chair), Christine Bycroft, David Haziza, Jairo Arrow, Paul Smith and Veronica Beritich. Also, I would like to thank Peter Lynn as former IASS President and IASS VPs during 2017-2019, Anders Holmberg, Cynthia Clark, Jean Opsomer and Risto Lehtonen, who kindly agreed to keep their roles as IASS EC until the election process was completed.

In order to fulfil its mission and support survey statisticians, IASS has been actively contributing to conferences and workshops, and has once more awarded the Cochran-Hansen prize to a young statistician. James Chipperfield, our new Scientific Secretary, presents a summary in his report.

We are liaising with ISI and other ISI Associations to enhance collaboration and to participate in workgroups focussed on ISI financial sustainability and on activities related to data science, women in statistics and capacity building. We will keep you posted about these actions.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay my tribute to IASS member Prof. T.M.F. Smith who passed away recently. Fred, as he was known by many of us, made a remarkable contribution to survey sampling and survey methods as well to the statistical society in general. He influenced many lives in a wonderful and inspiring way. Certainly mine. As my PhD supervisor, he changed my life and taught me so much. Not only Statistics, for sure. His knowledge, generosity and friendship made me a better person, researcher and lecturer. I will never forget him.

Let me also highlight that TSS is only possible due to the valuable work of the editors and those responsible for its production and circulation, as well as a team of contributors. Please have a look at page 2 and join me in a big thank you to all. The same happens to our website, maintained by Olivier Dupriez. If you are willing to contribute to TSS or as IASS webmaster, do not hesitate to get in touch.

To secure IASS relevance in the information society environment and to further IASS success, we need to work together to promote IASS goals and to foster new developments in the area. As a community, I am sure we can do it. Each of us can contribute as an IASS ambassador. Please let the us know your views, suggestions and ideas.

As this is the January edition, I wish you all a year filled with peace, health and harmony plus, of course, many productive and interesting activities. Let's reaffirm our wishes for a better world and give our contribution as survey statisticians.

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