

Narainna, veteran statistical geneticist, spoke on "Biometric Genomics" in his keynote address.

About 90 senior and young scientists (who came from the UK, the USA, and Nepal, from Punjab and New Delhi in the north to Karnataka and Tamilnadu in the South, from Gujrat and Maharashtra in the West to Assam in the East) gathered to share and discuss their most current findings.

There were eight invited talks by internationally established biometricians. About 40 papers were presented in 8 scientific sessions entitled "Epidemiology and Epidemic Models, AIDS Epidemiology, Multicentric Studies and Meta Analysis," "Indian Demographic Scenario and Fertility Models," "Spatio Temporal and Image Analysis," "Bioinformatics, Biodiversity DNA Coding and the Structure of Proteins," and "Modeling Biological Systems." The said conference was very much successful with 100% attendance from the beginning to the end.

It is hoped that the deliberations were fruitful and generated new ideas and academic contacts. There are plans to publish the proceedings of the conference and the course material of the conference workshop. Papers submitted for the proceedings will be reviewed by experts in the respective fields.

Member News:

Dr. S N Dwivedi, Additional Professor, Dept of Biostatistics, and Adjunct Faculty at the Clinical Epidemiology Unit, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi 110 029, India, was awarded the title "Fellow of the Indian Society for Medical Statistics (FSMS)" during the annual conference of the Indian Society for Medical Statistics held 28-30 November 2003 at Jodhpur, Rajasthan, India.

S.N.S Dwivedi

Japanese Region

The Japanese Region held, with the Biometric Society of Japan, the 2004 Biometric Symposium "The new frontiers of research and education of biometrics in Japan" on 26-27 May 2004 at Kurume University School of Medicine, Kurume, Fukuoka. The

tutorial seminar "Introduction to Bayesian Statistics using BUGS" was given on the first day by Dr. Kazuo Shigemasu (Univ. of Tokyo). The special session "Training talent of professional biostatistician" organized by Dr. Masaaki Matsuura (Japanese Foundation of Cancer Research) and Dr. Seiya Imoto (Univ. of Tokyo) gave the following three talks on the second day: "Examples of JUSE (Japanese Union of Scientists and Engineers) and University of Tokyo educational courses" by Dr. Yasuo Ohashi (Univ. of Tokyo); "Experience for two years at the Graduate School of Biomedical Statistics in Tokyo University of Science" by Dr. Chikuma Hamada (Tokyo University of Science); and "The present state of biostatistical education and professional training in the U.S.A." by Dr. Tatsuyuki Kakuma (Japanese Red Cross Kyushu International College of Nursing). Fourteen contributed papers were presented on the second day as well.

The Japanese Region and the Biometric Society of Japan are to cosponsor, with the Japanese Society of Applied Statistics and the Japan Statistical Society, the Joint Statistical Meeting held on 3-6 September 2004 at Fuji University, Hanamaki, Iwate.

Yoshisada Shibata

The Netherlands Region

Please see the conference announcement for the LCA Corsten IBS Honorary Life Member Award in the Announcements and News Section.

Poland National Group

On 5 February 2004, a scientific session was held in Poznan with 44 participants. This session with 6 lectures was followed by the election of the new Board and Scientific Council of the Polish Biometrical Society (PTB). The following officers were elected for the next 2004-2006 term:

- **President** – Stanislaw Mejza, University of Agriculture, Poznan
- **Vice president** – Andrzej Michalski, University of Agriculture, Wroclaw
- **Secretary** – Danuta Kachlicka, University of Agriculture, Poznan
- **Treasurer** – Jolanta Krzyszkowska, University of Agriculture, Poznan

Members: Zofia Hanusz, University of Agriculture, Lublin
Pawel Kobuz, University of Agriculture, Warsaw

Professor Emeritus Wiktor Oktaba was re-elected as President of Scientific Council. As members of the Scientific Council, the following were elected Professors: **Tadeusz Calinski, Iwona Mejza, Mirosława Wesolowska – Janczarek, Tadeusz Przybysz, Mirosław Krzysko, Wojciech Zielinski, Pawel Krajewski, Krystyna Katulska, Anna Bartkowiak, Wiesław Pilarczyk, and Maria Kozłowska.** Congratulations to everybody!

Forthcoming Biometrical Meeting in Poland:

I would like to remind readers that the University of Agriculture from Szczecin will organize the 34th International Biometrical Colloquium in Swinoujscie on 5-9 September 2004. The total cost of the meeting is estimated to be about 200 USD. The Polish Biometrics Society encourages all biometricians to come to Poland, to give a lecture, and to publish papers in the volume Biometrical Colloquium, where papers are written mainly in English. More details on this meeting can be obtained from the organizer via email: <kpacewicz@agro.ar.szczecin.pl>.

Zofia Hanusz

Spanish Region

The Spanish Region of the IBS has elected new members of its Regional Council for the period 2004-2007. The new members are: Juan Luis Chamorro Gascó (area of Psychology), Fernando López Santoveña (area of Agriculture), Carmen Cadarso Suárez (area of Medicine), and María Durbán Reguera (area of Biology). For the period, 2004-2007, José Luis González Andújar will be President, and M. Jesus Bayarri will be Vice-President. In addition, Alex Sánchez Plá and Amparo Oliver Germes were elected Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. Emilio Carbonell Guevara will be a member of the Regional Council for the next four years as an IBS Council member.

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It is with great sadness that we announce the death of Juan Ferrándiz Ferragud ("Gudo" as he liked to be called). He was a member of the Spanish Region of the IBS since 1986 and member of its Regional Council since 1999.

Juan was born in Valencia in 1950 and graduated in mathematics in 1981. He became Associate Professor in 1984 and Professor of Statistics in 2001 at University of Valencia. His professional excellence and generosity had an important impact on the University's academic life. He was the driving force for a new B.Sc. degree in Statistics and was elected Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics. Juan was an excellent lecturer, and his passion for education was as strong as his interest in research.

As a researcher, he had an international reputation in his area of work. He published numerous papers in leading statistical journals, and his contributions in different areas (Bayesian inference, image analysis, environmental and spatial statistics, epidemiology, etc.) reflected his enthusiasm and thirst for knowledge. At the time of his death, he was heading the Spanish group of the European Program EUROHEIS, whose work focuses

on the relationship between environmental agents and health. His interest in the applied side of Statistics led him to build several collaborations and set up several projects with public institutions and societies. He was one of those few researchers who could fill the gap between the theoretical and practical sides of Statistics.

Juan was a kind, generous, and fair man who was loved and respected by all who knew him. He will be sadly missed.

María Durbán

WNAR

The 2004 annual meeting of the Western North American Region (WNAR) of the International Biometric Society will be held 27-30 June at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA. The meeting will be held jointly with the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. Don Berry from the MD Anderson Cancer Research Center will deliver the Presidential Invited Address: "Why Bayes?" WNAR invited sessions will include: "Mortality Displacement: Inference from Air Pollution Time Series;" "Inference Using Computer Simulation Code;" "Genetics:

Phylogentic Inference;" "Homeland Security;" and "Statistical Learning and Data Mining." The WNAR/IMS joint invited sessions and the IMS invited sessions include: "Social Network Analysis;" "Applications of Multivariate Survival Analysis in Genetic Epidemiology;" "Functional Data Analysis;" "Interval Censored Data: Theory and Methods;" "Markov Chain Monte Carlo Methodology;" "Mixture Analysis: Theory and Applications;" and "Model Selection." This year's short course, "Spatial Modeling," will be presented by Brad Carlin. Current students and recent graduates are invited to participate in the WNAR Student Paper Competition. Electronic paper submissions can be made at <http://statistics.byu.edu/wnar_papers.php>. Students participating in the competition will receive a free membership in WNAR. Furthermore, qualified students residing in the region are eligible for free membership in WNAR. For additional information on this year's meeting and the free student membership offer, please go to the WNAR Web site <<http://www.wnar.org>>, and click on the link to the 2004 WNAR Annual Meeting.

David Yanez

Meetings

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24 – 29 July 25th European Meeting of Statisticians Oslo, Norway

Topics: methodological statistics, applied and computational statistics, probability theory, stochastic processes, and applied probability
Chair of scientific program committee: Aad van der Vaart (Free University of Amsterdam & Eurandom)
Chair of local organizing committee: Arnoldo Frigessi (Norwegian Computing Centre & University of Oslo)
Web site: <<http://www.ems2005.no/>>.

7 – 11 November Third Meeting of the Central American and Caribbean Region of the International Society of Biometrics Havana, Cuba

Theme: biostatistical applications in the biotechnological, biological, agricultural, animal production, and sustainable raising of livestock
Coordinator: PhD Verena Torres Cardenas, <vtorres@ica.co.cu>
Web site: <Biometria_evento2005@yahoo.es>.

2006

19 – 22 March ENAR Spring Meeting New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

2 – 7 July ICOTS 7 Salvador (Bahia), Brazil

Theme: Working co-operatively in statistics education
Contact: Carmen Batanero, <batanero@ugr.ed>
Web site: <<http://www.maths.otago.ac.nz/icots7>>.

11 – 16 July XXIIIrd International Biometric Conference Montreal, Québec, Canada