

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006

Dr. Diego Kuonen, President of the SSS-BI

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the Annual Report of the section «Business and Industry» (SSS-BI) of the Swiss Statistical Society (SSS) for the past year.

A more detailed summary of the section's activities during the last year will be given at this year's general assembly, which will be held on November 16, 2006, in the context of the «Swiss Statistics Meeting 2006» in Lugano; please find further information at www.statoo.ch/gss06/. You are all kindly invited to celebrate our third anniversary with us in Lugano. We are looking forward to see you in Lugano.

Let me start by reminding you the goals of the SSS-BI, which according to the bylaws, are:

- representing the interests of statisticians working in business and industry;
- providing a platform for the coordination and the development of statistical training programs with applications in business and industry;
- organising conferences in coordination with the other activities of the SSS and its other sections, e.g. the organisation of specific sessions within the annual «Swiss Statistics Meeting»;
- promoting the contact among statisticians working in business and industry on the national as well as on the international level;
- promoting the contact with other organisations with similar objectives.

You will find the complete bylaws in French and German on the section's homepage at www.stat.ch/sssbil/, where you will also find promotion material for the SSS-BI in English, French, German and since this year also in Italian. Feel free to use the SSS-BI presentations and/or the SSS-BI flyers to pass the word about the SSS-BI to your friends and colleagues. Thanks in advance for your help.

The committee of the SSS-BI has had again a very productive year. During the past year the committee met several times, exchanged a huge amount of emails, and tried to do his best to fulfil the section's ambitious goals.

With regards to the above goals additional efforts can be summarised as follows:

- The SSS-BI was and is heavily involved in the construction of the scientific programme and the organisation of the «Swiss Statistics Meeting».
- The SSS-BI is actively promoting the contact with the «Basel Biometric Society» (BBS) and with other organisations with similar objectives. For example, with the «International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics» (ISBIS), where Dr. Yves-Laurent Grize, committee member of the SSS-BI, is currently executive council member. Moreover, he will also represent the SSS-BI within the international advisory board of the ISBIS 2007 conference, which will be held on the island of Azores in August 2007. Furthermore, the SSS-BI is actively promoting the contact with the «International Society for Clinical Biostatistics» (ISCB), whose annual meeting was held in Geneva in August 2006. As such, I represented the SSS-BI as a member of its scientific programme committee. During the last year we also started the discussion on collaborating with the «European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics2 (ENBIS). As such, the SSS-BI committee plans to meet during the next year with the ENBIS board.

Our main activity, however, was and is the recruitment of new members for the SSS-BI. Note that at current, if you are a SSS member the membership is free of charge. So, if you are a SSS member and if you want to join us, please send an email to sssbi@statoo.com. If you are not a SSS

member you can fill in the SSS application form at www.stat.ch by indicating that you would like to join our section.

For the next year we will continue to try to do our best to continue fulfilling the SSS-BI's ambitious goals. In addition, we continue our engagement in setting up a working group entitled «Public awareness». Its objective is to discuss ways on how to make efforts to increase public awareness of statistics through promoting better knowledge on statistical methodologies, proper use of statistical data as well as better understanding of the scope, definition and uses of statistics among the general public. As a first initiative a meeting with people interested was held already in May 2005. Unfortunately, despite the importance of increasing the public awareness of statistics, there were not so many people present as expected. During the last year we tried at several occasions to find motivated people to help us in setting up such a working group. However, all people agreed that this is a very important topic, but nobody was interested to participate actively so far. However, as we find it too important for the future of our profession, we will not cease making an effort. Saying this, I would like to start within this annual report a new call for participation within this working group. If you are interested, please do not hesitate contacting one of the committee members.

Looking back it was and is a great pleasure for me to preside and to work together with a motivated committee of volunteers. Many thanks to all of my colleagues from the committee for the nice moments, the fruitful and interesting discussions and for sharing the same vision about the SSS-BI. Lastly I want to thank all the members of the SSS for their interest and support especially those members who contribute actively to encouraging interest for the SSS-BI.

In case you have any remarks and/or questions concerning the SSS-BI, or if you would like to participate actively within the SSS-BI, please do not hesitate contacting one of the committee members. You will find further information at www.stat.ch/sssbil. Thanks in advance for helping to pass the word about the SSS-BI to your friends and colleagues.

Lausanne, September 2006

Generalversammlung / Assemblée générale 2006

An die Mitglieder der SSS-BI
Aux membres de la SSS-BI

Einladung zur GV vom 16. November 2006
Invitation à l'AG du 16 novembre 2006

Lugano, Palazzo dei Congressi
(Piazza Indipendenza 4 – Raum / Salle «B1»)
13.30–14.10

Traktanden / Ordre du jour

1. Eröffnung der GV / Ouverture de l'AG
2. Protokoll der Generalversammlung vom 10. November 2005
Procès-verbal de l'assemblée générale du 10 novembre 2005
(siehe / voir «News» auf / sous www.stat.ch/sssbil)
3. Jahresbericht 2005-2006 / Rapport annuel 2005-2006
(siehe vorliegendes Bulletin / voir le présent bulletin)
4. Tätigkeitsprogramm 2006-2007 / Programme d'activité 2006-2007
5. Finanzlage / Budget 2006-2007 der SSS-BI
Etat des finances / Budget 2006-2007 de la SSS-BI
6. Wahlen / Elections
7. Verschiedenes / Divers

Freundliche Grüsse. Der Präsident
Meilleures salutations. Le Président

Dr. Diego Kuonen