

Minutes of the

**General Assembly of the Section Education and Research (SSS-ER)  
of the Swiss Statistical Society**

24.08.2015, 17:00 – 17:40, at the *Swiss Statistics Meeting 2015* in Bern

**Participants:**

Stefan Sperlich, Uni Genève  
Anne Renaud, EHSM  
Michael Vock, Uni Bern  
Lutz Dümbgen, Uni Bern  
Setareh Ranjbar, Uni Genève  
Mattia Branca, Uni Genève

Mark Hannay, Uni Genève  
Laurent Donzé, Uni Fribourg  
Barbara Hellriegel, Uni Zürich  
Sylvain Sardy, Uni Genève  
Beat Hulliger, FHNW

Excused: Eva Cantoni, Andreas Ruckstuhl, Michael Beer, Pascale Voirin

Chair: Beat Hulliger

**1. Welcome**

President of SSS-ER Beat Hulliger welcomes the participants of the GA. The agenda is accepted.

**2. Minutes of the last general assembly**

The minutes of the GA of 17 October 2013 in Basel are accepted unanimously (available at <http://www.stat.ch/en/sections/education-and-research>).

**3. Biennial Report of Activities (1 July 2013- 30 June 2015)**

A short version of the report is available at

[http://www.stat.ch/images/resources/pdfs/er/biennial\\_report\\_2013-2015.pdf](http://www.stat.ch/images/resources/pdfs/er/biennial_report_2013-2015.pdf)

1) The **current committee** of SSS-ER was elected at the GA of 17 October 2013:

Lutz Dümbgen (Uni Bern), Barbara Hellriegel (Uni Zürich), Andreas Ruckstuhl (ZHAW), Sylvain Sardy (Uni Geneva), Pascale Voirin (HES-SO/Fribourg), Victor Panaretos (EPFL) and Beat Hulliger (FHNW) as president and delegate to the committee of SSS.

The SSS-ER committee met at the Seminars of SSS-ER and via Skype on several occasions. Further issues were covered by e-mail exchange. In addition two joint sessions with all committees of SSS were attended by several SSS-ER committee members. The SSS-ER committee was represented at all meetings of the SSS committee either by its president or by a member of the SSS-ER committee.

2) **SNF/CTI:** During 2014 and 2015 we had been discussing the funding situation for projects in statistics (theoretical and applied) and for interdisciplinary projects with a major contribution from statistics. It had not been clear in how far suggesting statistics as a separate discipline would actually improve the current situation - one of the reasons for the difficulty of assessment being the missing numbers on submitted and accepted grant proposals. At the GA we briefly resumed this discussion

on means to increase the financial support for research in statistics and its applications. Topics addressed were: promoting candidates for the SNF-Forschungsrat who come from a statistics background, increasing lobbying activities, e.g. informally meeting with appropriate representatives of the SNF and using the upcoming SSS member survey to find out more about (i) how many people had submitted research proposals to SNF, CTI, EU etc. in 2013 and 2014 and (ii) how everyone evaluates the funding situation for statistics (theoretical or applied).

3) A list of courses contributing to the **Statistics Education in Switzerland** has been compiled by Lukas Meier (ETH) and Nicolai Meinshausen (ETH):

#### **CAS / DAS Angebote in angewandter Statistik**

- ETH Zürich: <http://stat.ethz.ch/wbl/>
- Uni Bern: [www.imsv.unibe.ch/content/continuingeducation/casdasm/index\\_ger.html](http://www.imsv.unibe.ch/content/continuingeducation/casdasm/index_ger.html)
- ZHAW Winterthur: [www.engineering.zhaw.ch/nc/de/engineering/weiterbildung/programmdetails.html?i=T896362&gu=0](http://www.engineering.zhaw.ch/nc/de/engineering/weiterbildung/programmdetails.html?i=T896362&gu=0)
- Hochschule Luzern (Finanzmathematik & Statistik): <http://weiterbildung.hslu.ch/wirtschaft/finanzdienstleistungen/cas-finanzmathematik-und-statistik-k1969.html>

#### **CAS Data Science / Big Data etc.**

- ZHAW Winterthur: <http://www.weiterbildung.zhaw.ch/de/school-of-engineering/programm/das-data-science.html>
- BFH Bern: [https://www.ti.bfh.ch/en/weiterbildung/sws/cas\\_angebot/cas\\_bgd/](https://www.ti.bfh.ch/en/weiterbildung/sws/cas_angebot/cas_bgd/)
- Hochschule Luzern: [http://www.hslu.ch/wirtschaft/w-outside-navigation/iwi/w-iwi-weiterbildung/w-iwi-cas/w-iwi-cas-big-data-analytics.htm&utm\\_source=casaba&utm\\_medium=Link&utm\\_campaign=Shortcuts](http://www.hslu.ch/wirtschaft/w-outside-navigation/iwi/w-iwi-weiterbildung/w-iwi-cas/w-iwi-cas-big-data-analytics.htm&utm_source=casaba&utm_medium=Link&utm_campaign=Shortcuts)

#### **MSc Statistik / Biostatistik**

- ETH Zürich: <http://stat.ethz.ch/education/master>
- Uni Zürich (Biostatistik): <http://www.math.uzh.ch/biostat/>
- Uni Genf: <http://www.stat-center.unige.ch/master.html>
- Uni Neuchâtel: <http://www2.unine.ch/mscstat>

The list will be amended and updated and can be found at [www.stat.ch/de/statistik/aus-und-weiterbildung](http://www.stat.ch/de/statistik/aus-und-weiterbildung)

#### **4) Seminars and Workshops organized by SSS-ER and its members**

- The Swiss Statistics Seminars, which are organised jointly by the University of Bern and SSS-ER, took place on three occasions
  - Spring 11.4.2014 with Speakers Donald RICHARDS (Pennsylvania State University), Antonietta MIRA (Uni Lugano) and Rajen SHAH (Uni Cambridge)
  - Fall 7.11.2014 with Speakers David TYLER (Rutgers Uni), Sonia PETRONE (Bocconi Uni, Milano) and Francis BACH (ENS Paris)
  - Spring 24.4.2015 with Speakers Wilfrid KENDALL (University of Warwick), Julie JOSSE (Agrocampus Ouest, Rennes) and Holger DETTE (Ruhr University Bochum)

Main organiser: Lutz Dümbgen (Uni Bern).

- Workshop on “Nonparametric models for electricity load forecasting” at Uni Neuchâtel with the three lecturers Yannig Goude (Electricité de France), Vincent Lefieux (RTE/TSO) and Eric Matzner-Lober (Uni Rennes).

It had 15 participants, was very well received and brought together new people.

See: [www.unige.ch/math/folks/sardy/Papers/coursModels4electricityloadforecasting2014-15.pdf](http://www.unige.ch/math/folks/sardy/Papers/coursModels4electricityloadforecasting2014-15.pdf)

Main organizer: Sylvain Sardy (Uni Geneva)

- A workshop "Statistics at Universities of Applied Sciences" was held in Olten on 12.9.2014 with Corinne Hager (HEFR), Jasmin Wandel (BFH), Beat Fischer (FHNW) and Franz Kronthaler (HTW Chur) as speakers.

Main organizer: Andreas Ruckstuhl (ZHAW Winterthur)

- 5) **Lambert Award** will be awarded for the second time by the Jury of the Lambert Award which in 2015 consists of Yves-Laurent Grize (Bâloise Group, Chairperson), Eva Cantoni (Uni Geneva), Matti Langel (OCSTAT Geneva), Victor Panaretos (EPFL), Beat Hulliger (FHNW).

#### 4. Elections for SSS-ER committee

President, Delegate to SSS-Committee and SSS-ER committee have to be elected.

Laurent Donzé is proposed as candidate for Presidency and for Delegate to SSS-Committee

Seven members of the committee are willing to continue:

- Barbara Hellriegel, University of Zürich
- Beat Hulliger, Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz
- Nicolai Meinshausen, ETH Zürich
- Victor Panaretos, EPFL
- Andreas Ruckstuhl, Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften
- Silvain Sardy, Université de Genève
- Pascale Voirin, Ecole d'ingénieurs et d'architectes Fribourg

The SSS-ER committee was elected with acclamation.

The president was elected with 10 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention.

#### 5. Lambert Award

Election of the jury of the Lambert Award 2015, including the chair:

Eva Cantoni (Uni Geneva), Lutz Dümbgen (Uni Bern), Beat Hulliger (FHNW), Matti Langel (Office cantonal de la statistique Genève), and Michael Beer (swisselectric)

The Lambert Award committee and its chair were elected unanimously.

#### 6. Miscellaneous

- Beat Hulliger thanked
  - Lutz Dümbgen for having been member of the SSS-ER committee since 2004 and for having been the main organizer of the Swiss Statistics Seminars in Bern since 2005
  - Yves-Laurent Grize (member 2013, chair 2015) and Victor Panaretos (member 2013 & 2015) for supporting the Lambert Award as members of the jury
  - Stefan Sperlich and Lutz Dümbgen for representing the SSS-ER on the committee of the Swiss Statistics Meeting 2015
- The SSS member survey is making progress and is expected to be finished ca. end of 2015.  
Lead: Mauro Mauro Stanga (Ufficio di statistica, Bellinzona)
- The World Statistics Day will take place on the afternoon of 20.10.2015 in Olten and will be dedicated to development statistics - see: <https://worldstatisticsday.org/>  
Local organizers: Marcel Baumgartner (Nestlé) and Beat Hulliger (FHNW)