

Swiss Statistical Society (SSS) - Section Education and Research (SSS-ER)

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

The committee of SSS-ER was elected at the General Assembly of SSS-ER of 17 October 2013. The members of the committee are: Lutz Dümbgen (University of Bern), Barbara Hellriegel (University of Zürich), Andreas Ruckstuhl (ZHAW), Sylvain Sardy (University Geneva), Pascale Voirin (HES-SO/Fribourg), Victor Panaretos (EPFL) and Beat Hulliger (FHNW). Beat Hulliger was elected 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. In addition consultations by e-mail were held. In addition two joint sessions with all committees of SSS were attended by several members of the SSS-ER committee. 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.

An issue was the research funding for statistical projects by SNF and CTI. While there was a general unease about where statistics and particularly applied statistics proposals should be placed in the SNF landscape no consensus could be reached on the strategy to pursue. To gain more information about the size of the problem questions on research funding were introduced in the forthcoming member survey of SSS.

The overview over the statistics courses at Swiss universities was updated and enhanced by Nicolai Meinshausen (ETHZ). It is now on the website of the SSS (www.stat.ch).

The Swiss Statistics Seminars organised jointly by the University of Bern and SSS-ER were held on three occasions: Spring 2014 (April 11) with Donald Richards (Penn State Univ.), Antonietta Mira (Univ. of Lugano), Rajen SHAH (Univ. of Cambridge), Fall 2014 (November 7) with David Tyler (Rutgers Univ.), Sonia Petrone (Bocconi Univ. Milan), Francis Bach (ENS Paris) and Spring 2015 (April 24) with Wilfrid Kendall (Univer. Warwick), Julie Josse (Agrocampus Ouest, Rennes), Holger Dette (Ruhr-Univ. Bochum). Great thanks go to the main organiser of the Statistics Seminar, Lutz Dümbgen (Univ. Bern).

A workshop "Statistik an den FH" was held on 12.9.2014 in Olten with Corinne Hager (HEFR), Jasmin Wandel (BFH), Beat Fischer (FHNW) and Franz Kronthaler (HTW Chur). Many thanks go to the main organizer Andreas Ruckstuhl (ZHAW).

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Sylvain Sardy organised a highly interesting course on "Nonparametric models for electricity load forecasting" which was held in Neuchâtel on 23 January 2015. The speakers were Yannig Goude, Vincent Lefieux et Eric Matzner-Lober. The good attendance showed that this type of advanced courses is welcome in the community of statisticians.

Last but not least the Jury of the Lambert Award under the presidency of Yves-Laurent Grize (Bâloise) with the members Eva Cantoni (Univ. Geneva), Matti Langel (OCSTAT, Genève), Victor Panaretos (EPFL), Beat Hulliger (FHNW) organised the Lambert Award and got a good selection of highly valuable candidates. The winner will be presented at the Swiss Statistics Meeting of 2015.

Warm thanks go to the members of the committee for their work and dedication!

Beat Hulliger, President of SSS-ER, 26 June 2015