Position Specification

Director

International Statistical Institute (ISI)
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1. **Organization**

1.1 **International Statistical Institute (ISI)**

The ISI is a professional society with individual and institutional members in over 120 countries. Its objective is to lead, support and promote the understanding, development and good practice of statistics worldwide.

Since 1853, the ISI has held prestigious biennial world congresses bringing together several thousand statisticians. In addition, numerous smaller meetings and conferences take place under the auspices of the ISI and its Associations. The ISI has an active programme of short courses, webinars and blogs. The publishing of several professional journals completes the ISI portfolio. Nowadays ISI’s main means of communication is through its website and social media.

The ISI has recently developed a new strategic plan for the coming four years. The strategic priorities are:

1. Encourage Statistical communications and networking
2. Increase the public voice of Statistics
3. Develop Statistical capability
4. Secure financial stability

The new Director needs to develop these priorities into annual work plans, and lead the development of strategic plans for future periods.

The ISI includes seven Associations, each focusing on a different area of statistics.

- **Bernoulli Society**
  The objectives of the Bernoulli Society are the advancement of the sciences of probability (including stochastic processes) and mathematical statistics and of their applications to all those aspects of human endeavour, which are directed towards the increase of natural knowledge and the welfare of mankind.

- **International Association for Official Statistics**
  The general aim of IAOS is to promote the understanding and advancement of official statistics and related subjects and to foster the development of effective and efficient official statistical...
services through international contacts among individuals and organizations, including users of official statistics as well as research institutes.

- **International Association for Statistical Computing**
  The objectives of the Association are to foster world-wide interest in effective statistical computing and to exchange technical knowledge through international contacts and meetings between statisticians, computing professionals, organizations, institutions, governments and the general public.

- **International Association for Statistical Education**
  The IASE seeks to promote, support and improve statistical education at all levels everywhere around the world. It is the international umbrella organization for statistics education.

- **International Association of Survey Statisticians**
  The International Association of Survey Statisticians aims to promote the study and development of the theory and practice of sample surveys and censuses. It also aims to increase the interest in surveys and censuses among statisticians, governments and the public in the different countries of the world.

- **International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics**
  ISBIS is an association dedicated to the promotion of business and industrial statistics worldwide. This is interpreted broadly and includes areas such as financial and health services among others.

- **The International Environmetrics Society (TIES)** is a non-profit organization aimed to foster the development and use of statistical and other quantitative methods in the environmental sciences, environmental engineering and environmental monitoring and protection.

These Associations, together with several Special Interest Groups, reflect the breadth of statistical and data science practice.

The new Director should be a dynamic person who can work with the President and EC to develop a vision for the profession of statistics and the role the ISI can play in supporting it. The new Director must be able to quickly get on top of the complexity of the role and the unique challenges the ISI faces as an international society.

The ideal candidate comes from an environment where management of multiple stakeholders in an international environment is critical. The candidate must bring experience furthering the interests of an
organization, promoting it in a complex multi-cultural environment and dealing with the public opinion. The candidate should, by preference, be based out of The Netherlands.

The incumbent, Ada van Krimpen, is planning to retire on July 1st 2022.

2. Role and responsibilities

2.1 Director

Reporting to the Executive Committee, whose members have a 2 year (President and President-Elect) or 4 year term (Vice-Presidents), the Director shall manage the Permanent Office (based in The Hague, The Netherlands) and serve as Secretary/Treasurer of the ISI. The candidate shall be responsible for all strategic, tactical and operational activities of the ISI and the Permanent Office. The candidate must bring experience furthering the interests of an organization, promoting it in a complex multi-cultural statistical environment and more widely responding to and shaping the public opinion. The Director shall work closely together with the President and the seven ISI Associations. The role is, by preference, based out of The Netherlands.

2.1.1 Responsibilities

Strategically

- work with the EC to support, promote and deliver the strategic vision, priorities and policies of the ISI;
- lead the organisation of the ISI World Statistics Congresses and contribute to the organization of Regional Statistical Conferences and workshops;
- generate funds and sponsorship for ISI current and future activities by expanding both income and membership base;
- work with international agencies (such as the UN), national statistical offices and non-governmental organisations to understand and help ISI support the international statistics agenda;
Director – International Statistical Institute (ISI)

- assist the EC in responding to international statistical developments and issues;
- promote the ISI in the worldwide statistical community, and beyond;

Support the functioning and administration of the ISI

- manage the Permanent Office staff of 10 individuals;
- prepare annual work plans, budgets, management information and the Annual Report;
- oversee all ISI operations including: events, finances, membership, website, and communications;
- ensure sound relationships with Statistics Netherlands, the host of the ISI Permanent Office;
- support the ISI Associations, and connect with the ISI Council, Committees and Special Interest Groups;
- develop sound and modern information tools for communication with the ISI membership at large, and the Associations;
- liaise and network with national statistical societies, and other professional organisations;
- advise and support the ISI President and the EC; and the Presidents and Executive Committees of the Associations.

This is a permanent role for 38 hours / week.

3. Profile of the ideal candidate

The ideal candidate is a dynamic person who can work with the President and Executive Committee to develop a vision for the profession of statistics and the role the ISI can play in supporting it. The new Director must be able to quickly get on top of the complexity of the role and the unique challenges the ISI faces as an international society. The candidate comes from an environment where management of multiple stakeholders in an international environment is critical. The candidate must bring experience furthering the interests of an organization, promoting it in a complex multi-cultural statistical environment and beyond.

3.1.1 Experiences and requirements:

- university degree, or equivalent
Director – International Statistical Institute (ISI)

- interest in, and understanding of, the role of professional societies, the role of statistics in society and the opportunities and challenges that the statistics profession faces;
- ability to work with the EC to influence the development and secure the delivery of the strategic objectives of the ISI;
- experience in organising international conferences or other large-scale events;
- innovative in exploring resources to support ISI’s current and future activities;
- experience of developing and delivering business plans, budgets and financial plans;
- organisational, staff management, team building, motivational and networking skills;
- team player, with experience of seeking advice from colleagues and the EC where needed;
- ambassadorial and advocacy skills with a proven ability to communicate effectively and sensitively to an multi-cultural community worldwide;
- experience of developing and sustaining international networks of volunteers and stakeholders;
- ability to meet tight deadlines and work under pressure;
- fluency in spoken and written English.

3.1.2 Skills and competencies:

- Outstanding communication and presentation skills and the ability to establish and develop strong relations with the Executive Committee, the Associations and external partners and stakeholders;
- experience of senior level accountability to an Executive Committee is highly desirable, preferably within a voluntary professional or not for profit organisation;
- demonstrated success in managing multiple projects and processes;
- commercial, financial, and IT skills;
- understanding the communication and technology needs of a highly diverse and dispersed international professional society;
- understanding of (or ability to develop an understanding of) the Dutch system of registration and regulation of not for profit organisations, legal requirements, etc;
- legally permitted to live and work in the Netherlands.

The candidate is a natural networker with a strong ability to operate in a changing, cultural diverse environment. The candidate enjoys the challenges of juggling the interests of a wide variety of institutes,
individuals and businesses who all have a vested interest in the use and enhancement of Statistics, whether it be from an academic or practical point of view.

This is a great opportunity for an ambitious individual to build and shape the future of this important organisation.
4. Contact

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