Dear Colleagues,

We are soliciting proposals for Invited Paper Sessions and Special Topics Sessions for the 60th ISI World Statistics Congress (WSC) to be held in Rio de Janeiro from July 26 to 31, 2015.

Our goal is to ensure that the scientific program showcases how statistical sciences have been contributing, and can contribute, to the advancement of science, health and welfare, and society at large. The ISI WSCs traditionally cover a broad range of areas so that they appeal to the diverse interests of the ISI family and the international statistical community.

The program for the 2015 WSC will include recent developments in research and applications as well as state-of-the-art practices and expository presentations. We are also very interested in sessions dealing with timely topics such as big data, climate change, and professional ethics as well as topics of interest to participants from developing regions. Sessions that will appeal to a broad audience are especially welcome. The format can include regular presentations as well as panel discussions.

Please note the following important change in the timing of the technical sessions at the Rio WSC. Sessions will be of different lengths. The number of speakers can vary from 1-3 for 70-minute sessions, 3-4 for 100 minute sessions, to 4-5 for 120 minute session. Expository/overview presentations will be scheduled for the 70 minute morning sessions.

Proposals can be submitted by individual members of ISI family, ISI Committees and Special Interest Groups, and other individuals who are non-members. Proposals from organizations that are not affiliated with the ISI will not be considered.

**Invited Paper Sessions**

The Scientific Program Committee (SPC) for the 2015 WSC calls for proposals of Invited Paper Sessions. Each proposal should include a brief description and justification for your proposed session and a list of speakers and discussants who have agreed to participate.

Priorities will be given to ensure that:

- The programme is of high quality, with sessions that emphasize novel ideas, approaches and/or applications to problems of importance;
- The sessions have a balance of organizers/speakers/discussants from around the world;
- The contents are clearly of interest to ISI’s and its Association’s members;
- The congress has a diversity of participants with respect to age, gender and specialization.

Proposals submitted to ISI Associations will be initially reviewed by Association representatives, and then selected by the SPC on a competitive basis. You may submit a proposal to your ISI Association representative on the SPC. For a list of SPC members and their emails, please visit [http://www.isi-web.org/WSC/744](http://www.isi-web.org/WSC/744).
For proposals that are of broad interest, please fill in the Form for IPS Proposals and submit to the Chair of the SPC at SPC60WSC@gmail.com or fill in the online-version of this form which will become available on or before 30th October on the Rio WSC website: www.isi2015.ibge.gov.br. Questions about IPS proposals may be addressed to the SPC chair at the address fjsamaniego@ucdavis.edu. The selection criteria will take into account scientific quality, relevance and impact. To ensure full consideration, please submit your proposals by December 1, 2013.

Special Topic Sessions

The WSC will also have Special Topic Sessions (STS), that will be handled by the Local Programme Committee (LPC).
If you would like to know more about the STS, and/or are interested in arranging one, please contact the LPC chair at the address: nancy@ime.unicamp.br. The target date for STS proposals is May 16, 2014.

Competitive IPS Proposals that are not selected by the SPC, due to limitation of timeslots, may be considered by the LPC as STS proposals, provided this is agreeable to the organizers concerned.

Contributed Papers/Posters

Information about submitting Contributed Papers and Posters shall be published on the ISI and WSC 2015 websites in the course of 2014.

Further Information

The website www.isi2015.ibge.gov.br for has further information about the congress. The Key dates for the IPS, STS and CPS can be found here.

General questions about the scientific programme should be directed to Francisco J. Samaniego at fjsamaniego@ucdavis.edu. For questions about Special Topic Sessions, please contact Nancy Garcia at nancy@ime.unicamp.br.

For information about ISI and its Associations visit the ISI website

Francisco J. Samaniego
Chair of the Scientific Programme Committee

Nancy Lopes Garcia
Chair of the Local Programme Committee