

President's Message – February 2017

Dear ISI members,

It is a pleasure to announce that the ISI Executive Committee has completed development of the **ISI Strategy for 2017-2021**. The document will soon be circulated for evaluation and comment, together with detailed instructions on how to send comments and suggestions.



It is a pleasure to confirm that we have signed a Memorandum of Understanding establishing the terms for our collaboration with the **International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA)**. This will enable both societies to work more closely on topics of common interest, while continuing the cooperation already in place: ISI organised an invited paper session during Decembers Conference of the ICSA which took place in Shanghai.

President-Elect Helen MacGillivray, Vice-President Irena Krizman and I participated in the first **United Nations World Data Forum**, which took place in Cape Town, South Africa, from 15-18 January 2017. A detailed report of ISI's contribution to this event is provided elsewhere in this newsletter. I would like to highlight the importance of the discussions that took place there for our community, and encourage you to visit the event's website, where most contributions have been posted – visit <http://undataforum.org/WorldDataForum/>

The ISI Director Ada Van Kringen and Associate Director Shabani Mehta will accompany me next week (21-22 February) in Marrakech, Morocco, for our last visit there before the ISI2017. We will meet the Local Organizing Committee to discuss the remaining aspects of the planning for the **61st ISI World Statistics Congress (ISI2017)**. Please keep an eye to the ISI2017 website for news on the opening of registration and other relevant information which will help you plan your attendance.

Vice-President Irena Krizman, ISI Director Ada Van Kringen and I will also attend the **48th Session of the United Nations Statistics Commission** from 6-10 March in New York. As usual, the ISI is hosting a side event entitled "**Are the current NSO business models still relevant?**" Details of the side event will be circulated to our members from National Statistics Offices and international statistics organizations. Look forward to seeing many of you there.

We have also reached the final stages of preparation for the **2nd ISI Regional Statistics Conference (RSC2017)** which will take place in the beautiful island of Bali, Indonesia, from 20-24 March 2017. Please visit the conference's website for details of the programme and registration. The Scientific Programme Committee completed assessment of the submitted abstracts, and is now busy evaluating the papers which entered the competition for the awards for best papers of the event.

Sincerely yours,

Pedro Silva
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