

President's Message – December 2017

I am writing to you from Kuala Lumpur where the ISI Director (Ada van Krimpen) and I have been meeting with the organising teams for ISI 2019 and participating in MyStats 2017, the 5th Malaysian Statistics Conference, jointly organised by the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), the Central Bank of Malaysia (BNM), and Malaysia Institute of Statistics (ISM), which was attended by approximately 500 participants. These are also the institutions, led by DOSM, which are organising ISI 2019, the 62nd ISI World Statistics Congress (WSC) to be held on 18-23 August 2019 in Kuala Lumpur.



Both the meetings and MyStats were characterized by enthusiasm and commitment to the success of ISI 2019. It is clear that holding the WSC means much to Malaysia, and the quality of the organization and preparation to date reflects this importance, as did the media attention.

In between meetings and conferencing, we enjoyed the stunning environs of the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC), the venue for ISI 2019, with the beautiful park of trees and lakes, the wonderful nightly displays of choreographed fountains, lights and music, the many restaurants and extensive shops, all overlooked by the amazing silver towers. The centre is full of smiling local families and tourists who all love the nightly displays and the current Christmas decorations, including the spectacular central display of two story house plus 32 Christmas trees, which reflect the Malaysian love of community celebrations of all festivals.

It is also an honour and a privilege in this message to announce to the whole ISI community the exciting news that ISI 2021, the 63rd ISI World Statistics Congress, will be held in The Hague, the Netherlands, organized by ISI itself. This new model for a WSC, built on the strong foundation of decades of experience with WSC's, brings both opportunities and challenges. Supporting partnerships are already being sought and developed, including ISI's longtime supporter, CBS – Statistics Netherlands.

ISI is proud to bring the WSC back to The Hague after 110 years and 50 WSC's – the 13th WSC was held in The Hague in 1911 – and to The Netherlands after 36 years (the 45th WSC was held in Amsterdam in 1985), and appreciates the in-kind and direct support of The Hague and the CBS to help ISI to do this.

ISI WSC 2021 will be held at the spacious and flexible World Forum, with easy and quick access to both the wonderful city centre with its charming laneways, restaurants, shops and history, and the popular Scheveningen beachside. Only 30 minutes from Amsterdam, and close to Delft and many other lovely centres, The Hague, <https://www.holland.com/global/tourism/destinations/the-hague.htm>, is an ideal conference venue. Check the [ISI website](#) for ongoing news as ISI works to combine the best of the long traditions of WSC's with initiatives and developments to build a memorable ISI WSC.

I also take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to ISI's work this year, and to send my very best wishes to the international statistical community and all ISI and Association members for the end of 2017, festive seasons and holidays of all shapes and sizes. Best wishes to all of you, your families, friends and colleagues.

Helen MacGillivray
ISI President