

## President's Message December 2018

### End of year wishes and how WSC2019 will celebrate women in statistics

As another year nears its end, it is my pleasure to send my best wishes to everyone in the ISI family and the international statistical community. I also send my best and biggest thanks to everyone who has contributed in any and all ways to the great and diverse work of ISI and its Associations. My thanks to all those volunteers who serve their profession on the various and varied committees, organise conferences and handle the many ongoing practical tasks necessary for professional organisations to function successfully and serve their members. Special thanks to the Executive Committees, ISI Council and the Permanent Office (PO) for their support, dedication and collegiality.



So now we look to 2019 in which the statistical community and ISI have both opportunities and challenges. It is a WSC year and the plans and preparations for WSC 2019 are in fine shape, reflecting once again the commitment of the WSC 2019 organisers, how important a WSC is to statisticians in its region, and the WSC experience and expertise residing in the ISI and the ISI PO. With early bird registration opening on December 1st, I encourage the whole statistical community to continue to monitor the WSC 2019 website for ongoing news about what promises to be a splendid WSC.

Some particularly exciting news is how the WSC will include a celebration of women in statistics. The presidents of all five societies who will be jointly presenting the second International Prize in Statistics to Professor Brad Efron at the WSC, will be women, namely, Karen Kafadar (ASA), Louise Ryan (IBS), Susan Murphy (IMS), Deborah Ashby (RSS), and myself. Karen, Louise, Susan and Deborah will also give Special Invited Papers.

It is also a pleasure to announce that the Presidential Invited Keynote speaker will be Jessica Utts, Professor of Statistics at the University of California, Irvine, and internationally respected for many years for her outstanding professional leadership and exceptionally innovative work and leadership in statistical education. Watch the WSC website for titles, abstracts and bios of all these remarkable women and many other notable invited speakers.

It is also appropriate to mention the excellent work currently underway by the ISI Committee on Women in Statistics, chaired by Diana Stukel. With a new website soon to be launched and an overwhelming response to calls for country representatives and network members, the WSC 2019 women's networking breakfast, IPS, STS and discussion forums promise to be just some of the many highlights of a rich WSC program.

ISI is constantly looking for sponsorship to support all activities, and particularly to support young statisticians, women in statistics and statistics in less developed regions. Such sponsorship and funding support is one of the ongoing challenges and all ISI members are welcome to contribute ideas and suggestions in this space.

The many contexts and spheres in which ISI and the Associations have led, played significant roles and impacted, have been well-documented in ISI news and reports throughout the year. Let us all continue our professional collegiality and collaborative efforts to sustain and prosper the many roles ISI and its Associations play in our profession.

Thank you and best wishes for the various festive seasons and for welcoming 2019.

Helen MacGillivray  
ISI President