

## Director's Message December 2013

December is the month for reviewing our accomplishments of 2013 and looking ahead to the new year.

The absolute highlight of this year was the ISI World Statistics Congress in Hong Kong in August. Many delegates mentioned that it was one of the best ISI Congresses to date and I think we all felt the positive vibes during this event. I would like to thank our colleagues at the HK Census and Statistics Department who worked tirelessly to make it such a huge success. The hospitality we encountered in Hong Kong was unsurpassed. It raised the bar for future events of the ISI and its Associations.

The celebration of the International Year of Statistics was another successful event of 2013. Together with five societies, we started to think about an international event that globally highlights statistics and we never expected/envisaged the support and coverage we received throughout this year. Now that we are almost at the end of 2013, we can look back on an enormous wealth of events and initiatives that took place all over the world. So much energy and enthusiasm is really a great gift. You can read more on how we are continuing in the new year with ['The World of Statistics'](#).

Each year has its ups and downs which includes recognising projects that did not fare as well as originally intended. We encountered problems with the launch of the 'My ISI' webshop, an online facility offering our members the possibility to update their membership details with an integrated online payment facility. The office has been working on this launch for over a year with an external company to develop and implement this system. In the end, the system still showed deficiencies and could not be launched in time for the 2014 membership renewals. Our members will therefore receive the invoices by e-mail as is the norm for the past several years. We will keep you updated about further developments regarding the webshop.

In 2014, we will concentrate on creating more value for our members - both institutional and individual. In the past year, the new category of Regular membership became available and we will continue our efforts to attract more young career people. We are now close to the end of the year and in many countries the holiday season is starting. High on my wish list is to get more members, both Elected and Regular members, but also institutions, involved in the ISI. Perhaps you can help make my wish come true by finding at least one new member?

Finally, I wish you and your family good health and prosperity in the New Year.

