

Name of Committee: Women in Statistics

Name of Chairperson: Penelope Bidgood, Elected, IASE

Year of Appointment of the Chair: 2011

Details about Current Committee Members:

Grace Bediako, Elected, IAOS

Siobhan Carey,

Cynthia Clarke, Elected, IASS (former Chair) Martha Farrar, Elected, IASS (webmaster)

Sharleen Forbes, Elected, IASE, IAOS Tae Rim Lee, Elected, IASE Jennifer Parker, representative, Caucus for Women in Statistics Luay Shabaneh, Elected, IAOS Denise Silva, Elected, IASS Ene-Margit Tiit, not Elected, IASC Awa Thiongane, ex-officio, ISI Council member, liaison with ISI Years of appointment not known but all predate 2011

Activities in the Past 12 Months:

The ISI Committee on Women in Statistics (CWS) was formed to

- >Promote and strengthen the representation of women statisticians in the
- >ISI and its sections by nominating women to become members Help in
- >providing opportunities for women members to assume active and visible
- >roles in the ISI and other statistical associations Collect
- >information on women in the statistical professions in different
- >countries and to facilitate the flow of information among women
- >statisticians Stimulate interest in statistics among women and
- >encourage women in schools and colleges to study statistics Support
- >the compilation of statistics on women, with a view to generating
- >relevant studies concerning women's roles in the various activities in
- >their countries.

We are making progress in all of these areas; in particular the CWS has organised both technical and social meetings at the forthcoming World Statistics Congress (WSC) which address these objectives. In addition we have a website ([://www.nass.usda.gov/cws](http://www.nass.usda.gov/cws)) that facilitates connections between women within and across countries, and with similar organisations in mathematics and statistics.

The CWS is involved with three technical sessions at the WSC in Hong Kong.

Our Chair, Penny Bidgood, is organising IPS102 entitled "How can the statistics community help its younger members in the early stages of their careers?". In this session we have two talks from eminent women statisticians (Cynthia Clarke and Judy-Ann Chapman) followed by a discussion panel chaired by Helen MacGillivray. Ola Awad has organised STS069 "Youth in Arab Countries; facts and challenges." Papers in this session will cover social, economic and other sectors where youth in Arabic countries are involved and discuss the effects of the Arab Spring and consequent political changes, as they affect the youth of the countries. STS041 "Statistics as a career choice for women: great rewards, persistent challenges and making the change happen" has been organised by Amanda Golbeck and Yulia Gel in association with the Caucus for Women in Statistics.

Following a successful event in Dublin, the CWS will again host a networking reception, followed by round table discussions at the Immigration Officers Mess, close to the conference venue. This will provide an opportunity for women to meet and mix in an

informal way, and the discussions will be themed on the 5 objectives of the CWS We are grateful to IBM who are sponsoring this event.

Proposed Activities in the Future 12 Months:

Plans for Hong Kong are well under way, and we are currently seeking facilitators for the round table discussions. A summary of these and issues arising from them will be posted on our website. This proved very useful after Dublin when mentoring emerged as a common theme that then became the topic for IPS102.

The CWS plans to organise at least one IPS and one STS for the next WSC; initial discussion will start at meetings in Hong Kong.

Some Committee members and country representatives have expressed their wishes to stand down after Hong Kong, so we are actively seeking replacements, as well as to expand the number of country representatives.

A stronger network of country representatives will help to fulfil the 5 objectives of the CWS.

Issues for the Consideration of ISI EC - Council :

The CWS would like to thank the ISI Office for securing sponsorship for the networking event. The opportunity to attend such an event was very well received in Dublin and we hope to be as successful in Hong Kong.

Title, Initials, Name: Dr. Penelope Bidgood

Email: p.bidgood@btinternet.com