



World Statistics Congress

HONG KONG 2013

Daily News

59th ISI World Statistics Congress

25 Aug 2013 • Sunday



Welcome remarks from Local Organising Committee of the 59th ISI WSC

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to you to the 59th ISI World Statistics Congress (WSC).

It is indeed an honour for Hong Kong to play host to this prestigious international event. We have more than 2 500 delegates, researchers and practitioners from over 100 countries from around the world, joining us for the Congress. With the line-up of distinguished speakers and a rich Scientific Programme covering a diverse range of topics, I believe that the discussions during the Congress will be all the more innovative and inspiring.

The theme of this year's Congress is "Youth". Apart from dedicating 28 August 2013 as the "Youth Theme Day", we have also arranged a series of sessions throughout the Congress to address, from different statistical perspectives, various topics relating to "Youth".

Aside from the technical agenda, we will also be offering you a lighter side of the event. We have lined up a variety of activities under the Social Programme through which you can network with other delegates, and, above all, experience the glamour and rich vibrancy of Hong Kong.

I look forward to the many fruitful discussions and exchanges in the Congress. I also hope that you will find time to enjoy Hong Kong – our splendid skyline, scenic landscape and, of course, our shopping and culinary delights.

I wish you all a pleasant and memorable stay in Hong Kong.

Mrs Lily Ou-Yang

Commissioner for Census and Statistics
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China
Chairperson of the Local Organising Committee of the 59th WSC of the ISI



Welcome remarks from the ISI President

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all to the 59th World Statistics Congress (WSC) in Hong Kong. The ISI is the only international statistical society that provides an opportunity to meet and exchange ideas with fellow statisticians from more than one hundred countries

all over the world and in all fields of statistical sciences and their related areas. This biennial Congress serves the participants a wonderful platform to meet old friends as well as make new ones. The Scientific Programme contains top class presentations by prominent scholars, officials from national and international organisations and practitioners in industry as well. The WSC provides many social events in which the participants can network for professional collaborations and joint activities.

The ISI WSC in 2013 will be held under a special theme "Youth". There will be many theme-related sessions for young statisticians. The ISI recently changed the Statutes to introduce a new category of Regular Membership so that young and entry-level statisticians can join ISI easily. The ISI welcomes the young members particularly from developing countries. Our Committee for Young Statisticians is working to find ways to connect young statisticians from all ISI Associations and many national statistical societies in the world. It will all begin here at the WSC in Hong Kong.

2013 is a very special year for all of us in statistical profession. It is the International Year of Statistics (Statistics2013) celebrated by more than two thousand organisations all over the world. It is also the 300th Anniversary of *Ars Conjectandi*, the first book on probability by Jacob Bernoulli. And it is 250th Anniversary of Thomas Bayes for his famous essays. There will be interesting programmes related to these historical events.

I cannot list all the interesting and exciting activities that have been organised by the Local Organising Committee, the Scientific Programme Committee and the Local Programme Committee, but there is no doubt you will enjoy this WSC and Hong Kong which is one of the most attractive tourist destinations in the world.

Professor Jae Chang Lee

ISI President



P.2 The 59th ISI WSC



P.3 Opening Ceremony



P.6 ISI Bulletin Board



P.7 Local information



<http://www.isi2013.hk>

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The 59th ISI WSC - A unique experience in Asia's World City



Welcome to the 59th ISI WSC! And welcome to Hong Kong! We are glad that you will be on board with us for the coming six days, taking part in our specially-designed programmes on statistical theories, applications, developments and innovations, while also experiencing the vigour and beauty of this cosmopolitan city.

As a kick-off to the inspirations and activities awaiting ahead, you are cordially invited to join the Opening Ceremony this afternoon.

Mrs Lily Ou-Yang, in her capacity as Chairperson of the Local Organising Committee, and Professor Jae Chang Lee, ISI President, will welcome you in the ceremony. It is also our honour to have the presence of Professor K C Chan and Mr Ma Jiantang with us today. Professor Chan is the Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, a principal official of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Mr Ma is the Commissioner of the National Bureau of Statistics of China. They will deliver their congratulatory messages to the Congress.

The Opening Ceremony will also bring to you dynamic encounters of various Chinese cultural performances. You'll have the chance to experience the gems of Chinese culture – traditional Chinese lion dance and dragon dance, drum playing, Chinese music show, as well as kung fu flags performance.

The traditional lion dance and dragon dance are considered to be de rigueur in celebrations. The vibrant colours and vigourous actions of the dances, and the traditional Chinese drumming, will bring good luck to us. A musical performance in Chinese-styled melodies will follow.



The 59th ISI WSC - A unique experience in Asia's World City (cont'd)

The climax of the show will be the kung fu flags. Performers will engage the audience in a series of undulation, spinning and waving of flags in a rhythmic fashion, performed in the style of a dance and accompanied by strong-beat music. These energetic performances will keep our momentum for the coming six days of idea exchanges.

And what's more, do not miss the Welcome Reception at the Grand Foyer that follows the Opening Ceremony. Come and meet other delegates and enjoy a fantastic beginning of the Congress.



Opening Ceremony

Date : 16:00, 25 August 2013 (Sunday)
Venue : Grand Hall, Level 3, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
(Followed by Welcome Reception)

Exhibition at Hall 3G

The exhibition, located at Hall 3G, will run in parallel with the 59th ISI WSC. Attendants will be introduced to a variety of products and services related to the statistics profession. There are altogether 30 exhibitors participating, which include large statistics societies, academic institutions, vendors of commonly adopted statistics software as well as sizable publishers of statistics journals and books. You can meet the exhibitors to better understand their products and services, or interact with other participants to share experiences.

The Cyber Centre, Coffee & Tea Area and Networking Area are also located at Hall 3G. Whether you need to check your email, have a sip of coffee or get to know other delegates to exchange ideas, this is the one-stop place for you.

Meetings via the web

The 59th ISI WSC is the first attempt of the Congress to offer the innovative option of virtual participation for those who are unable to come to Hong Kong to attend the Congress for one reason or another. The new attempt marks a great progress in promoting the ISI WSC to the potential audiences worldwide.

Virtual Participants and members of the ISI / Associations can have access to real-time and archived (for 1 year) webcasts for the Opening Ceremony and 10 selected scientific sessions (IPS008, IPS016, IPS026, IPS036, IPS055, IPS070, IPS082, IPS092, IPS101 and IPS113) via the Internet. Moreover, they may also raise textual questions through the instant messaging panels.



A world-class venue for the 59th ISI WSC

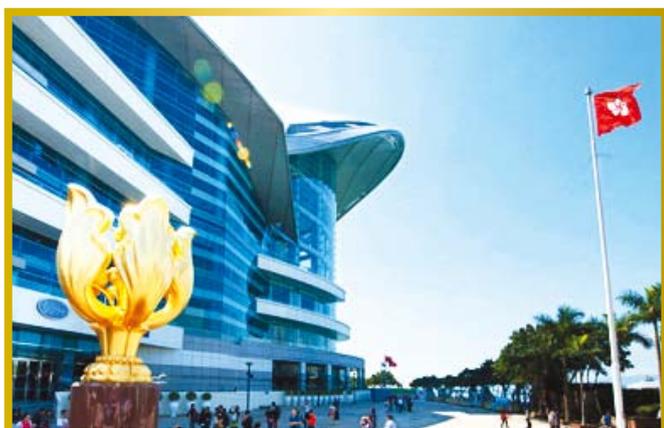
The Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC) is the venue for the 59th ISI WSC. It is one of the best exhibition and convention centres in the world, and has been voted the Best Convention and Exhibition Centre in Asia for the tenth time in an industry award.

Located in Wan Chai along Victoria Harbour, HKCEC enjoys both scenery and convenience. Subway transport is only minutes away from HKCEC. Metered taxis are on the doorstep. The airport can readily be reached by

road or express rail link. Abundant retail and banking facilities and over 3 700 hotel rooms are within easy reach.

WSC participants will have at hand the latest world-class facilities on offer at HKCEC. Wireless Internet access is available for free. There are seven restaurants serving a wide variety of international, regional and local cuisines. In addition, a Cyber Centre and Networking Area for WSC participants are established at Hall 3G. Please refer to the floor plans of HKCEC inside the *Information Bulletin No. 2* for further details. Apart from the world-class facilities, the Grand Foyer at the entrance to the Grand Hall provides a breathtaking panoramic view of Victoria Harbour, Hong Kong Island's central business district and Victoria Peak.

Adjacent to HKCEC is Golden Bauhinia Square, where the handover ceremony of Hong Kong took place in 1997. This waterfront area features a large golden sculpture of the bauhinia flower, the floral emblem of Hong Kong. Flag-raising ceremony takes place at the Golden Bauhinia Square every morning. It is a very popular photo-taking area for both local and international visitors.



Daily announcements

Today's events	Time and venue
ISI Joint EC Meeting	08:30 - 09:30 Room S224
Meeting with Associations' Presidents and Presidents-Elect	10:00 - 12:00 Room S224
Special Seminar on Professional Ethics in Statistical Practice	13:00 - 15:30 The Harbourview (Rooms 1-6, 2/F, 4 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong)
Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception	16:00 Grand Hall
Events scheduled for 26 August 2013 early morning	
ISBIS Outgoing and Incoming EC & Council Meeting	07:30 - 09:00 Room S421
ISI Nominations Committee Meeting 1	07:30 - 09:00 S221 Conference Room 1

Special Seminar on Professional Ethics in Statistical Practice

A special seminar on professional ethics in statistical practice intended for official statisticians will be held today in Rooms 1-6, 2/F, The Harbourview during 13:00-15:30. The session will focus on the practical issues associated with the compliance of ethical principles on data collection, data access, analysis and publication. It will start off with presentations by four experts in this field, highlighting the ISI Code of Professional Ethics and its relevance to the intended audience, followed by a forum on the role of national and international codes of practice. Prior registration is not required.

ISI membership

Become an ISI member before you leave Hong Kong! Just visit the ISI Office (Room S227) any time during the Congress and leave us your email address.

How the Scientific Programme was put together

The Scientific Programme for this 59th ISI WSC has been put together successfully, thanks to the efforts of the Scientific Programme Committee (SPC) chaired by Professor Xuming He, and the Local Programme Committee (LPC) chaired by Professor Kai-wang Ng.

Professor He tells the **Daily News** "It is indeed a complex task coordinating the Scientific Programme of this WSC from planning to scheduling. I had to spend more time than I initially budgeted for, but it has been a joy working with the SPC, the LPC, the local host, and the enthusiastic organisers of individual sessions. We are proud to present to you the Scientific Programme which includes over a hundred Invited Paper Sessions (IPS), totaling 350 papers on a very broad range of topics in statistics. Those sessions were selected from a larger number of proposals with a focus on quality and diversity."

Professor Ng adds "On top of the IPS, we have 90 Special Topic Sessions (STS) and some 40 Contributed Paper / Poster Sessions (CPS), amounting to over 1 000 papers! Organising these papers into one of the 19 parallel sessions at the Congress is a challenging task. With the all-out effort of the LPC and the close and conducive liaison with the SPC, we have successfully consolidated a time-table with a balance of topics and representations. The LPC appreciates very much those participants who helped by chairing the CPS."

Regarding the Theme of the 59th ISI WSC "Youth", Professors He and Ng say "We are very delighted to see the participation of so many young professionals. Our Scientific Programme has many presentations related to the Youth Theme. We envisage fruitful interactions among session participants of all ages from all over the world in the next few days. Enjoy!"



currently serves as Co-Editor of Journal of the American Statistical Association (JASA).

Professor Xuming He is currently the H. C. Carver Professor of Statistics of Department of Statistics, University of Michigan. He is a past Council member of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS), a past President of the International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA), and a newly elected ISI Council member. He is Programme Chair of the 2010 Joint Statistical Meetings, and

Professor Kai-wang Ng had been the Head of Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science in the University of Hong Kong for 4 times, and is now Patrick S C Poon Professor in Statistics and Actuarial Science, the first of endowed professorships in statistics in Hong Kong. He is the President of the Hong Kong Statistical Society in the 2012/13 and 2013/14 sessions, "just in good time for the International

Year of Statistics and the 59th WSC" as he said.



Heartfelt gratitude

The 59th ISI WSC commences today. This world class Congress hosts a range of rich statistical agenda and an assortment of social activities for delegates. All these are made possible thanks to the delicate plannings and arrangements of the highly-devoted Local Organising Committee, Scientific Programme Committee, Local Programme Committee, and the support by all sponsors and supporting organisation, without which the Congress cannot be accomplished.

The ISI WSC would like to express her sincere gratitude to all of them in making the Congress a successful event.



Meet the ISI Permanent Office staff in Hong Kong



From left to right
Front: Liliana Happel, Shabani Mehta, Margaret de Ruiter-Molloy
Back: Michael Leeuwe, Ada van Krimpen, Gerrit Stemerding

The ISI Permanent Office is responsible for supporting the ISI membership, the ISI Executive Committee and Council, the ISI Associations and the many ISI Committees and interest groups.

The ISI WSC here in Hong Kong will provide participants with an ideal opportunity to personally meet several staff members from the ISI Permanent Office attending the WSC. Take advantage of this opportunity to discuss ISI / Association matters with us, or to just say hello!

You will have a chance to meet the ISI Director Ada van Krimpen. Please take advantage of the Congress to have a chat with Ada about any ISI / Association matters of importance to you.

At the ISI booth at Hall 3G of HKCEC, ISI volunteer Gerrit Stemerding will be pleased to answer your questions about membership, as well as anything you might wish to know about ISI products and services. Kyungduk Lim and SangYoon Lee, students from Korea University, will be assisting Gerrit.

At the ISI office (Room S227) Margaret de Ruiter-Molloy will be available to answer all your questions on membership and accept membership dues payments.

Liliana Happel will be there to help channel any submissions to the **Daily News** of ISI WSC 2013 and help you make an appointment with any member of the ISI Executive Committee or ISI Permanent Office staff. For those involved in the International Statistical Review and Short Book Reviews it will be a good opportunity to meet Liliana in person.

Shabani Mehta will be the first contact point for the various ISI Committees and Associations and will be ready to assist you with your questions regarding Committee activities, as well as any other ISI and Association matters. Michael Leeuwe will be available to answer your questions on membership and dues payments as well as help with any ISI related inquiries that you might have.

We look forward to meeting the ISI / Association members attending the WSC and changing our previous "virtual" contacts into more personal acquaintances.

The ISI Permanent Office Team

ISI Nominations Committee

All participants are welcome to speak with any of the ISI Nominations Committee members should they wish to make suggestions for the posts of President, President-Elect, Vice-Presidents and Council members of the ISI to be considered for the next round of ISI Officers' Elections. The Nominations Committee is composed of the following individuals:

Jef L. Teugels (Chair, Belgium), Bovas Abraham (Canada), Enrique de Alba (Mexico), Misha Belkindas (USA / Lithuania), Cathy Chen (Taiwan), Daniela Cocchi (Italy), Ivette Gomes (Portugal), James Lepkowski (USA), Tertius de Wet (South Africa) and Chris Wild (New Zealand).

More organisations helping developing country participants attend ISI WSCs

The ISI organises financial support for participants from developing countries to ensure they are represented at its WSCs. For the ISI Hong Kong WSC, the ISI secured funding from more organisations than the previous WSCs and wishes to convey its appreciation to the funding organisations for providing this valuable support. The various funding opportunities came from the ISI World Bank Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building, ISI United States Department of Agriculture Fund, ISI Statistics South Africa Fund, ISI African Development Bank Fund and the Wakimoto Memorial Fund. Several of these funds also gave support for attendance at some of the Associations' Satellite Meetings and the Young Statisticians' Satellite Meeting that took place prior to the ISI WSC. ISI will continue funding opportunities for future WSCs and hopes more organisations will join to help developing country participants present their papers.

ISBIS: the best way to connect to leading business and industrial statisticians, both professionals and academics, worldwide

The International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics (ISBIS) is dedicated to the promotion of business and industrial statistics worldwide. Its scope of activities includes statistical theory and methods applicable to all aspects of business and industry. This is interpreted broadly and includes areas such as financial and health services among others.



ISBIS is one of several international statistical societies associated with the ISI. The society counts among its members world class leading statisticians directly engaged in applications in business and industry, therefore providing excellent networking opportunities.

ISBIS also seeks to inform organisational leaders about the value and importance of statistics in business and industry, particularly in developing countries.

Are you interested to learn more about ISBIS?

The ISBIS sessions at the 59th ISI WSC are IPS075 "The business of weather and agriculture", IPS034 "Applied stochastic models in Business and Industry journal session", IPS056 "Youthful science: Statistical learning in high dimensions" and IPS063 "Network modeling in biological, computer, public health, and social sciences".

You are also kindly invited to come on Tuesday, 27 August 2013, to the General Assembly meeting which is open to the public! We will tell you more about ISBIS activities, and how you can get involved. The next ISBIS biennial international conference will be held in Durham, NC, USA, as a joint conference with ASA section on statistical learning and data mining, on June 9-11, 2014: www.stat.duke.edu/~banks/dcc/.

Vijay N. Nair
ISBIS, Outgoing President

Local information

A famous spot in Hong Kong - The Peak

If there is only one thing you can do in Hong Kong, go to The Peak. Standing on the highest summit of Hong Kong Island, you can enjoy a breathtaking view of the spectacular cityscape!

Perching on The Peak at 396 meters above sea level, The Peak Tower attains a high reputation of its unique architecture form. On the top of the Tower there is a 360-degree viewing platform offering panoramic views of the stunning cityscape and the tranquility of greenery landscape. At night time, the view is even more impressive when the cityscape is decorated with glittering and colourful lights.

Inside the Tower, there is a dazzling array of restaurants, shops and entertainment venues, including the Madame Tussauds Hong Kong. Familiar faces in the Madame Tussauds include Bruce Lee, Barack Obama, Lady Gaga, Yao Ming, just to name a few.

Another wonderful experience will be taking the Peak Tram. You will have the city passed your window along the historic, funicular railway.

Please visit www.thepeak.com.hk for more information.



First time to Hong Kong?

Download the following apps to discover your own Hong Kong!



Discover Hong Kong Travel Pack (iPad, Android tablet)

Food, hiking, islands, walking routes, feng shui, tea, street markets, colonial architecture, clan history, practical travel information and all other topics covered in Hong Kong Tourism Board's collection of guidebooks are available in this app.



Discover Hong Kong Island Walks (iPad, iPhone, Android)

With this app, you will discover a very different Hong Kong – a place with sleepy temples, rustic villages, quirky festivals and rugged coastlines.



Discover Hong Kong City Walks (iPhone, Android)

Using Augmented Reality, this app guides you through four walks on which you'll encounter the city's vibrant living culture and enjoy the East-meet-West diversity.



Discover Hong Kong Local Delicacies (iPhone)

This app is a guide to Hong Kong's congee, rice and noodle restaurants as recommended by Asian gourmets and celebrities. Let your stomach experience the real Hong Kong!



Discover Hong Kong 720° (iPhone)

Immerse yourself in full panoramas of Hong Kong's top attractions with this sightseeing virtual tour-guide app.



My Culture (iPad, iPhone, Android)

Useful tool to keep up with the latest cultural events in Hong Kong. Brief programme details, video, photos and venue directory can be accessed here.

Weather forecast

 Sunny periods & showers 27 - 32°C	 Mainly fine 27 - 32°C	 Mainly fine 27 - 32°C	 Mainly fine & very hot 28 - 33°C	 Sunny periods 27 - 32°C	 Sunny periods & showers 27 - 31°C
August 25 Sunday	August 26 Monday	August 27 Tuesday	August 28 Wednesday	August 29 Thursday	August 30 Friday

Useful contact telephone numbers

Emergency services (police, fire, ambulance)	999
Hong Kong Tourism Board Visitor Hotline	(852) 2508 1234
Hong Kong Observatory (for weather information)	(852) 1878200
Hong Kong Immigration Department	(852) 2824 6111
Hong Kong International Airport	(852) 2181 8888
Hong Kong Hotels Association / Hotel Reservation Hotline	(852) 2383 8380 / (852) 2769 8822
Telephone directory enquiries	1081