A. Announcements

1. Call for ICSA Award Nominations

Pao-Lu Hsu Award

The Pao-Lu Hsu Prize is presented every three years by the International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA), usually at an ICSA conference, to an individual under age 50, who makes influential and fundamental contributions to any field of statistics and probability, and exemplifies Hsu's deep involvement in developing statistics and probability research with significant impact on education.

Professor Hsu, born in 1910, was a pioneer and founder of the newly formed discipline of statistics and probability in China. He was best known for his rigorous research with depth and breadth, and for his profound impact on younger generations. He became the first professor of statistics and probability, Peking University, in 1940. In 1948, he was elected to the very first class of Academicians of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. He published about 40 articles; see "Pao-Lu Hsu Memorial Collection" published by Peking University Press for more details.

Eligibility: The prize is open to all nationalities, member or non-member of ICSA. Priorities are given to the candidates whose work contributes greatly to the research and education of Chinese statisticians. The award recipient will speak at an ICSA International Conference. The award includes $3000 (US dollars) in cash prize.

Nomination Process: Send the following materials to Award Committee Chair, Professor Mei-Cheng Wang, via email to mcwang@jhu.edu with the subject entitled "PL Hsu Award Nomination". Items below can be sent as pdf, ps or plain text attachments.

(A) Nomination letter which include the following information: nominator's name, mail/email address and phone number; nominee's name, date of birth, title, institutional affiliation, and contact information; a summary of the supportive evidences that are the basis for the nomination. The length of the nomination letter should not exceed 3 pages.

(B) Nominee's current CV.

(C) Three letters of recommendation.

Deadline: The deadline for nomination is May 1, 2018.

Additional Information: The ICSA Award Committee will review and evaluate nominations.

Distinguished Achievement Award

The ICSA Distinguished Achievement Award is presented to individual(s) "In recognition of the distinguished achievement in statistical research and unselfish support of the association", as noted at the ICSA website: http://www.icsa.org/icsa/awards/distinguished-achievement-award.

Eligibility: Nominees must be ICSA members with good standing, being a member of ICSA for at least the past three consecutive years. Members of the Award Committee and the Executive Committee are not eligible to receive the award during the term of service.

Nomination Process: Nominator is responsible for preparing a complete package for the nominee that should at minimum contain the following 1) nominee’s most recent curriculum vitae; 2) cover letter from the nominator summarizing the nominee’s achievement in statistical research and unselfish support of the association. Besides items 1) and 2), additional nomination material such as recommendation letters is encouraged but not required. Send the nomination materials to Award Committee Chair, Professor Mei-Cheng Wang, via email to mcwang@jhu.edu with the subject entitled "Distinguished Achievement Award Nomination". Nomination items can be sent as pdf, ps or plain text attachments.

Deadline: The deadline for nomination is May 1, 2018.

Additional Information: The ICSA Award Committee will review and evaluate nominations.
2. Call for Nominations of Candidates for 2018 ICSA Officers

The ICSA 2018 Nomination Committee is seeking nominations of candidates for the 2019 officers. The positions include ICSA President-Elect, ICSA Biometrics Section Chair and ICSA Board of Directors. We need to nominate two candidates from either academia or non-academia to run for the President-Elect position, two candidates to run for the Biometrics Section Chair position, and at least 5 candidates to run for the Board positions. According to the ICSA Bylaws, President-Elect should be from "non-academia", "academia" and "no restriction" on a three-year rotational basis - one year from "non-academia", followed by "academia", and the third year open. For 2019, there will be no restriction for the candidates. For the Board of Directors, we hope the candidates can be balanced with respect to gender, region, professional interests, and area of employment (academia, industry/business, or government).

Candidates for all positions need to be active ICSA members, and need to have strong interests in serving the ICSA. The President-Elect serves a three-year term - 2019 as President-Elect, 2020 as President, and 2021 as Past President. The Biometrics Section Chair serves a one-year term for 2019 and sits in the 2019 Board. The Board of Directors serve a three-year term from Jan. 2019 to Dec. 2021, and need to participate in two ICSA Board meetings each year - one in June during the Applied Statistics Symposium, and the other in August during the JSM.

If you know of an active ICSA member who is appropriate for any of these positions, please contact Dr. Colin O. Wu (wuc@nhlbi.nih.gov) by April 15, 2018.

3. Short Courses at the 2018 ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium

The 2018 ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium will be held from Thursday, June 14 to Sunday, June 17, 2018, at Hyatt Regency New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA (see http://www.icsa.org/icsa_login/symposium2018/main.html). The conference features 7 half-day and 4 full-day short courses on Thursday, June 14:

Half-day: Statistical Topics in Health Economics and Outcomes Research: Patient-Reported Outcomes, Meta-Analysis, and Health Economics
Instructors: Dr. Joseph C. Cappelleri (Pfizer Inc); Prof. Thomas Mathew (University of Maryland Baltimore County)

Half-Day: Data Visualization: Elements, Grammar, and Evolution Length
Instructor: Dr. Xiaoyue Cheng (University of Nebraska at Omaha)

Half-Day: Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Precision Medicine Length Instructor: Dr. Haoda Fu (Eli Lilly & Company)

Half-Day: Futility Analyses in Confirmatory Clinical Trials – Methods and Procedures Instructors: Dr. Paul Gallo (Novartis); Dr. Satrajit Roychoudhury (Pfizer Inc)

Half-Day: Credit Scoring Models
Instructor: Dr. Tushar Waghmare (Genpact, NY); Dr. Neville O’Reilly (Rutgers University, NJ)

Half-Day: Applied Quantile Regression
Instructor: Dr. Yonggang Yao (SAS Institute Inc.)

Half-Day: Statistical Analysis with Noisy Data - Dealing with Measurement Error and Missing Values
Instructor: Dr. Grace Y. Yi (University of Waterloo)

Full-Day: Preparing Statisticians for Leadership: How to See the Big Picture and Have More Influence
Instructor: Dr. Fang Chen (SAS Institute Inc); Dr. Gary Sullivan
(American Statistical Association)

Full-Day: Preparing Statistician to be Successful Big Data Scientist
Instructors: Dr. Hui Lin (DowDuPont); Dr. Ming Li (Amazon)

Full-Day: Analyzing Longitudinal Clinical Trial Data
Instructors: Dr. Craig Mallinckrodt (Eli Lilly & Company); Dr. Ilya Lipkovich (IQVIA)

Full-Day: Biased Sampling, Over-Identified Parameter Problems and Beyond
Instructor: Dr. Jing Qin (National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease)


4. ICSA Establishes Peter Hall Lecture and Calls for Donation

Peter Hall passed away on January 9, 2016 at the age of 64. We are all very saddened by the loss of Peter, who was a great scholar, a mentor, and a friend to many of the ICSA members. With over 600 journal papers, Peter's scholarly achievements and tremendous productivity are well known. His exceptional intelligence was matched by his extensive service to the community and great personal warmth and generosity. Peter was a strong supporter of the ICSA and Chinese statisticians, especially new researchers. He served as the co-editor for Statistica Sinica from 2008 to 2011. Many ICSA members had the good fortune to have known Peter, to have benefited from his wisdom, and to have collaborated with him. Peter was a constant source of inspiration and support. To honor Peter Hall's life and achievements and his contributions to the ICSA, we establish the Peter Hall Lecture and call for donation to the Peter Hall Lecture Fund (http://www.icsa.org/icsa_login/icsa_php/guest_donation.php).

The Peter Hall Lecture will be delivered at the ICSA International Conference every three years. The lecturer will be selected by the ICSA Special Lecture Committee and the ICSA will cover the cost of travel and a plaque for the lecturer. The first lecture will be delivered at the 11th ICSA International Conference in December, 2019.

5. ICSA 2019 Applied Statistics Symposium

ICSA 2019 Applied Statistics Symposium will be held on June 9-12, 2019 at the Raleigh Convention Center in Raleigh, NC.

6. 2018 ICSA Co-Sponsored Conference: Advances in Finite Mixture and Other Non-regular Models

The conference will be held at Guangxi Normal University, Guilin, Guangxi, China, from Aug 12-16, 2018. Detailed information can be found at http://www.math.gxnu.edu.cn/conf2018/.

7. 2018 ICSA China Conference

2018 ICSA China Conference will be held on July 2-5, 2018 at Shangri-La Hotel, 9 Xiang Gang Zhou Lu, Qingdao, Shandong, China. Detailed information can be found at http://www.icsa.org/china/symposium/main.html.

8. ICSA 2018 Applied Statistics Symposium

The 2018 ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium will be held from Thursday June 14 to Sunday June 17, 2018 at Hyatt Regency New Brunswick, New Jersey, USA.

9. ICSA Springer Book Series in Statistics

The co-editors of ICSA Springer book series in statistics, Drs. Jiahua Chen and Din Chen, have reported that there are 10 books in the series now. If you plan to write books in the series, please contact Dr. Jiahua Chen (jhchen@stat.ubc.ca) or Dr. Din Chen (dinchen@email.unc.edu). Five books in the ICSA Springer book series were published in 2017:
1) "Monte-Carlo Simulation-Based Statistical Modeling" (edited by Chen, Ding-Geng, Chen, John Dean);
2) "Phase II Clinical Development of New Drugs" (edited by Ting, N., Chen, D.-G., Ho, S., Cappelleri, J.C.).
3) "Biased Sampling, Over-identified Parameter Problems and Beyond" (edited by Qin, Jing)
4) "Statistical Modeling for Degradation Data" (edited by Chen, D.-G., Lio, Y., Ng, H.K.T., Tsai, T.-R.)
5) "New Advances in Statistics and Data Science" (edited by Chen, D.-G., Jin, Z., Li, G., Li, Y., Liu, A., Zhao, Y.)

Thanks to all authors who contributed to these books.


The following 4 books were published in 2018:


B. Sponsored and Co-Sponsored Journals

1. Statistica Sinica

Forthcoming papers' information is available at http://www3.stat.sinica.edu.tw/statistica/. The new issue (Volume 28, Number 1, January 2018) is published.

ICSA members have access to these articles via the "membership only area" at http://www.icsa.org. If you have any problems with subscription, please contact the editorial office through ss@stat.sinica.edu.tw.

2. Statistics in Biosciences

The published new issue is Volume 9 Number 2, in December 2017

https://link.springer.com/journal/12561/9/2/page/1

Recently accepted articles can be found at the journal website

http://link.springer.com/journal/12561/onlineFirst/page/1

A link for submitting your article to SIBS online is below

http://www.editorialmanager.com/sibs/

3. Statistics and Its Interface

Statistics and Its Interface is an international statistical journal promoting the interface between statistics and other disciplines including, but not limited to, biomedical science, geosciences, computer sciences, engineering, and social and behavioral sciences. The journal publishes high-quality articles in broad areas of statistical science, emphasizing substantive problems, sound statistical models and methods, clear and efficient computational algorithms, and insightful discussions of the motivating problems. Visit SII's web page at
International Press and Tsinghua University Mathematical Science Center are pleased to announce open online access (free of charge) to the journal Statistics and Its Interface (SII) which includes five volumes.

C. Upcoming ICSA Meetings

Please find below a list of upcoming ICSA meetings. This list also appeared on the ICSA website. Meetings not included in our list are not authentic ICSA meetings. If you have any questions, please contact Gang Li, the ICSA Executive Director (gli@its.jnj.com).

1. ICSA 2019 Applied Statistics Symposium

ICSIA 2019 Applied Statistics Symposium will be held on June 9-12, 2019 at the Raleigh Convention Center in Raleigh, NC.

Professor Wenbin Lu at North Carolina State University (lu@stat.ncsu.edu) will be the Chair of the organization committee.

2. 2018 ICSA China Conference

2018 ICSA China Conference will be held on July 2-5, 2018 at Shangri-La Hotel, 9 Xiang Gang Zhou Lu, Qingdao, Shandong, China. This conference is co-sponsored by the Ocean University of China. For more information, please contact Professor Gang Li of UCLA atvli@ucla.edu. Detailed information can be found at http://www.icsa.org/china/symposium/main.html.

3. 2018 ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium

The 2018 ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium will be held from Thursday June 14 to Sunday June 17, 2018 at Hyatt Regency New Brunswick, New Brunswick New Jersey. You are cordially invited to the symposium! The conference website is http://www.icsa.org/icsa_login/symposium2018/main.html. For registration, please click here.

Call for Invited Session Proposals

We welcome your session proposals. The invited session proposals will be reviewed and selected by the program committee. An invited session will be 100 minutes with four speakers or three speakers and one discussant. A proposal should include: 1) Session title; 2) Organizer(s) (with affiliation and email contact information); 3) Session chair (with affiliation and email contact information); 4) a list of speakers or discussant (with affiliation and email contact information and tentative talk titles). There is one-talk policy, but one can serve as a discussant in another invited session while speaking in an invited or contributed session.

It is required to confirm all speakers and discussants availability before submitting a proposal. The submission deadline is January 1, 2018.

Call for Course Proposals

There will be six short course slots in the symposium. We welcome your submission of short course proposals. Please include in your proposal a brief description of the course with title, course plan, target audience and estimated audience size, plus a short biography of the instructor(s). The short course proposals will be reviewed and selected by the program committee. The submission deadline is January 1, 2018.

Call for Student Paper Award Applications

We welcome students to submit their original research article for the competition for a Student Paper Award. Up to eight student award winners will be selected. Each winner will receive a plaque or certificate, an award for travel and registration reimbursement up to $1,000 or a cash award of $550, whichever is bigger, as well as a free registration for a short course. The deadline for application is March 1, 2018.

Call for Sponsorship:

Corporate support has always been and will continue to be a critical factor to the success of the Symposium and ICSA. The 2018 ICSA Applied Statistics Symposium is seeking for sponsorship to support student awards, reimburse the keynote speakers and other symposium costs. Sponsors at both Gold and General levels will be recognized through our publications and onsite signage and reach a broad domestic and international audience.
through the symposium. At the Gold level, sponsors will also be given the opportunities to set up an exhibition booth and a placement service at the symposium. Your corporate sponsorship will demonstrate not only your leadership in the industry but also the corporation's recognition of statisticians' significant contribution in the business. Any level of contributions will be appreciated.

D. Upcoming Co-Sponsored Meetings

Please find below a list of upcoming ICSA co-sponsored meetings. This list also appeared on the ICSA website. Meetings not included in our list are not authentic co-sponsored meetings. If you have any questions, please contact Gang Li, the ICSA Executive Director (gli@its.jnj.com).

1. BASS (Biopharmaceutical Applied Statistics Symposium) XXV
BASS provides 2.5 days of 1-hour tutorials (including Q&A) on topics in applied biopharmaceutical statistics, with a contributed poster session, followed by short courses, generally 2 course of 2 days length on topics in applied statistics. This format allows speakers to develop a subject in some depth. The moderate size of the symposium (50-70 attendees) and informal structure allows for the attendees to interact effectively with the speakers. BASS attendees are provided a flash drive with all of the presentations.

For more information, please visit www.bassconference.org.

2. Online Training Program
Online training serves as a viable alternative to traditional continuing education options, e.g., to short courses offered at biostatistical conferences. Over the past year, the ASA Biopharmaceutical Section has been working on creating an online training program aimed at clinical trial statisticians and set up a pilot program which includes half-day and full-day courses on key topics in biopharmaceutical statistics:

- Analysis of Longitudinal and Incomplete Data
- Multiplicity Issues in Clinical Trials
- Analysis of Surrogate Endpoints in Clinical Trials

The section has received much positive feedback from industry and academic statisticians. Clinical trial statisticians who took advantage of the online training program emphasized that this program is convenient, inexpensive and quite flexible.

A similar online training program has been set up for ICSA members. As a member of the ICSA, you will receive a 50% discount when you sign up for any course included in the program. The online training courses are based on professionally recorded videos using a format similar to that used in YouTube videos. The videos can be accessed 24/7 on a computer or even on a smart phone. The cost of online training is quite low compared to traditional training, and it can be further reduced by using a group-training format. Up to 25 people can view an online training course with a single registration, which lowers the cost of online training to about $20-25 per person for full-day courses and $10-15 per person for half-day courses.

For more information about the online training program and to sign up for the individual online courses, please visit this web page:
http://sprmm.com/icsa/

The 2018 Joint Research Conference on Statistics in Quality, Industry, and Technology is a joint meeting of the 25th Spring Research Conference on Statistics in Industry and Technology and the 35th Quality and Productivity Research Conference. The conference will be held from Monday, June 11, 2018 to Thursday, June 14, 2018 in Santa Fe, NM. For more information, please visit the website www.icsa.org/icsa/events/2018-joint-research-conference-statistics-quality-industry-and-technolog.

4. Advances in Finite Mixture and Other Non-regular Models
August 12 - 16, 2018 at Guangxi Normal University, Guilin, Guangxi, China
For more information, please visit the website http://www.math.gxnu.edu.cn/conf2018/.

5. Georgia State University will be hosting a conference entitled "The 6th Workshop on Biostatistics and Bioinformatics"
May 4 - 6, 2018 at Atlanta, GA
For more information, please visit the website: https://math.gsu.edu/yichuan/2018Workshop/
Graduate students are welcome to submit the title/abstract to the student poster session.

Saturday, June 16, 2018 to Monday, June 18, 2018
Zhongbei Campus (3663 North Zhongshan Road), East China Normal University, Shanghai, China. Please see the conference website https://www.sae2018.com/ for details.

E. JOB LISTINGS

1. Job Vacancy at National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
The Department of Applied Mathematics at National Sun Yat-sen University invites applications to fill a full-time faculty position (subject to the approval by the University) beginning August 1, 2018. Recent PhDs with exceptional potential at the rank of assistant professor and/or internationally well-established senior candidates at the rank of associate or full professor will be considered. A successful candidate must have a doctorate in mathematics or statistics, and should have strong research record and excellence in teaching. All areas of mathematics, applied mathematics, scientific computing and statistics will be considered. Interested applicants should send, by March 15, 2018, a cover letter of application, curriculum vitae, transcripts, research summary, and reprints to
Chairperson
Department of Applied Mathematics, National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung 804, Taiwan, R.O.C.
Email: head@math.nsysu.edu.tw
Tel : +886-7-5252000 ext. 3800, 3834; Fax: +886-7-5253809
Website: http://www.math.nsysu.edu.tw
Applicants should also arrange at least three letters of recommendation which should be sent directly to the above address. The instruction language is Mandarin and the ability of teaching in Mandarin is therefore required.

2. Academia Sinica Institute of Statistical Science Regular Research Positions
The Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica, is seeking candidates for tenure-track/tenured research positions at the level of assistant, associate or full research fellow available in 2018. Candidates should have a Ph.D. degree in statistics or related areas. Application materials must include (1) a curriculum vita, (2) three letters of recommendation, and (3) representative publications and/or technical reports. Additional supporting materials such as transcripts for new Ph.D. degree recipients may also be included. Electronic submissions are encouraged. Applications should be submitted to
Dr. Yi-Hau Chen
Chair of the Search Committee
Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica
128 Sec. 2 Academia Road, Taipei 11529, Taiwan, R.O.C.
Fax: +886-2-27831523
E-mail: recruit2017@stat.sinica.edu.tw
Application materials should be received by December 28, 2017 for consideration, but early submissions are encouraged.