

# News from the World of Statistics



THE WORLD OF  
**STATISTICS**

July 15, 2016

## Three African Educational Institutions Receive ERCE Designation



The Department of Statistics at the University of Botswana, the Department of Probability and Statistics at the Universite Cadi Ayyad in Morocco, and the IMSP in Benin have received the [ERCE designation](#), a label of quality that shows an outstanding level of influence in research and education, being an attractor of students from other regions and countries. The designation is granted for a period of four years. The ERCE recognition is awarded by The European Mathematical Society Committee for Developing Countries.

## International Prize Selection Committee Announced



Organizers of the International Prize in Statistics have named members to the Selection Committee, which include:

- Xiao-Li Meng, Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University
- Sally Morton, Dean of the College of Science at Virginia Tech University
- Stephen Senn, Professor at the Luxembourg Institute of Health
- Bernard Silverman, Professor of Statistics at the University of Oxford
- Stephen Stigler, Professor in the Department of Statistics at the

University of Chicago

-Susan Wilson, Professor at the Australian National University

-Bin Yu, Professor in the Department of Statistics at the University of California, Berkeley.

The [International Prize in Statistics](#) recognizes a significant achievement by an individual or team in the field of statistics. The deadline for nominations is quickly approaching. Email the completed [nomination form](#) and related materials to [Nominations@statprize.org](mailto:Nominations@statprize.org) by no later

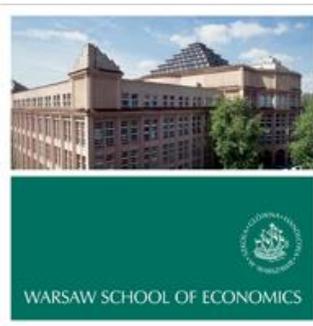
than August 15, 2016. The recipient(s) will be announced in October, and the award will be presented in July 2017, at the World Statistics Congress in Marrakech.

### Bio Groups Coordinate Joint European Conference for 2017



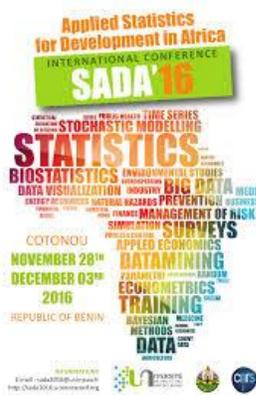
The Central European Network (CEN) of the International Biometric Society and the International Society of Biopharmaceutical Statistics are hosting [CEN-ISBS Vienna 2017](#) in Vienna from August 28, to September 1, 2017. A satellite symposium will be co-organized by the European Medicines Agency. Calls for topic-contributed sessions and abstract submissions will be issued soon.

### Workshop on Analytics, Data Science Set for October in Warsaw



The [Fourth International Workshop "Advanced Analytics and Data Science"](#) is a unique gathering of researchers and leaders from academia and industry to share experience and discuss the value of Big Data analysis in health care and research sectors. The event, which takes place on October 18, 2016, at the Warsaw School of Economics, provides an opportunity to check out how large-scale computing, advanced analytics, machine learning and other innovative technologies help to discover new treatment options, optimize the diagnosis, improve patient care, and accelerate drug development. The motto of the workshop is "Biostatistics - High-dimensional, Big Data & Analytics." Keynote speakers include Tomasz Burzykowski, professor of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics at Hasselt University and Vice-President of Research at the International Drug Development Institute (IDDI) in Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, and Jack Shostak, associate director of statistics at the Duke Clinical Research Institute in Durham, North Carolina, USA.

### Conference on Statistics in African Development to Take Place in November



The [International Conference on Applied Statistics for Development in Africa](#) (SADA'16) will take place November 28 to December 3, 2016, in Cotonou (Bénin).

The conference seeks to provide a framework for exchanging experiences and knowledge, promote scientific research in (and the application of) statistics and stochastic modelling, improve the transfer of knowledge and experience, and enhance pan-African networks for research. All topics of statistics and stochastic modelling can be addressed in contributed papers. Theoretical contributions, as well as applied ones, will also be considered.

## European Conference on the Quality in Official Statistics a Success



In June, the National Statistical Institute of Spain together with Eurostat hosted the [European Conference on the Quality in Official Statistics-Q2016](#), which was comprised of presentations and discussions of the progress and development of the quality in official statistics, and the exchange of methods and good practices among experts in national statistical offices, international organizations, researchers and academics. Courses covered areas including management, data visualization techniques, Big Data, multi-source statistics, and production process modernization.

Plenary sessions and parallel sessions focused on statistical production, innovative methodologies, and new skills development or statistics education - all integrated with quality management to implement Vision 2020 in the European Statistical System. Experiences presented by the participants from Africa, Central and North America, Asia and Europe, highlighted not only the progress, but also concerns and difficulties faced by the national statistical offices in the processes of implementation and development of the quality management systems.

## India Commemorates Professor Mahalanobis on National Statistics Day



Seminars, workshops and discussions on statistical methods and applied statistics took place at several university campuses across India on June 29, "National Statistics Day," commemorating the notable contributions of Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, best known for the Mahalanobis Distance Formula, a statistical measure, and for founding the Indian Statistical Institute. One such event was held at St. Thomas College in Kerala, where Sebastian George and Sunny Joseph spoke on the theme "Agriculture and Welfare of Farmers." Additionally, K.K Jose delivered a keynote address on the Indian statistical system and job opportunities, and K.M Kurian gave a talk on construction and uses of the Human Development Index (HDI). More than 100 students from statistics, biostatistics, mathematics and economics departments participated.

Post an event on the [Activities Calendar](#).

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