

International Year of Statistics Newsletter

Dec. 4, 2012

***Boston Globe* Article Mentions Statistics2013**

A recent *Boston Globe* article about the sudden prominence of statisticians in light of Nate Silver's stunning success at predicting the outcome of the U.S. presidential election notes that 2013 is the International Year of Statistics. [Click here](#) to read this article.

Participation Continues to Grow

We say this in every newsletter, because it is true! International Year of Statistics participation is reaching new heights every day, with 1,277 organizations from 103 countries now participating in the worldwide event (there were 93 new additions in the past two weeks alone). The latest country to be represented was Laos when the Lao Statistics Bureau recently joined Statistics2013. Go [here](#) to see the complete list of participating organizations.

Tell us about your organization's plans and activities for promoting and celebrating the International Year of Statistics. E-mail the information to Jeffrey@amstat.org and we'll post it to the Statistics2013 website and share your stories with other participating organizations through this twice-monthly newsletter.

Germany's TU Dortmund Marking 40th & Statistics2013

In an instance of happy coincidence, the International Year of Statistics celebration in 2013 also happens to be the 40th anniversary of the founding of Germany's only independent faculty of statistics at TU Dortmund University. A "Dortmund Day of Statistics" will be held Feb. 6 at the university and will focus on both events. Although designed for graduating students or graduating school classes and their teachers, anyone is welcome to join the Dortmund daytrip through national and international statistics, which will include games and information about studying statistics at Dortmund. More information is available [here](#).

Bulgarian Secondary School Students Learn Statistics

Senior students from "Elin Pelin", 19th Secondary School, visited the Bulgarian National Statistical Institute (NSI) Nov. 22.

The students met with key NSI experts and were acquainted with the process of collecting, producing and disseminating statistical information as well as the practical side of business surveys and other statistical surveys.

A presentation, titled *Research in Tabular Form—Analysing Statistical Information and the Ways of Its Graphical Presentation*, was presented by the head of the NSI statistics of income and households expenditure department. The presentation turned interactive when the students wanted to learn more about the practical aspects of analysis and graphic display of statistical information.

This special event is part of NSI's initiatives designed to increase statistical literacy among young people and encourage their interest in the upcoming International Year of Statistics. The future economists and entrepreneurs said the event awakened their interest in the practical application of statistical data as well as statistics as a science.

Ethiopian University Celebrates African Statistics Day

African Statistics Day (ASD) 2012 was celebrated Nov. 20 at Haramaya University in Dire Dawa, Ethiopia. Themed *Making Every Woman and Man Count: Engendering Statistics for Better Development Outcomes*, the event featured presentations of papers and discussions related to the theme and the activities of the university's Department of Statistics. The celebration was attended by invited university officials, deans and department heads, and students of the Department of Statistics.



Professor Chemedha Fininsa, the university's academic vice president, open the proceedings by singling out the role of statistics in research and development plans. Seifu Neda, the head of the Department of Statistics, talked about the ways the department is creating awareness about statistics using different means and media and how it is assisting other departments and the university's postgraduate researchers.

Papers were presented by Tariku Tessema and Tesfaye Abera. Tariku talked about the need to celebrate African Statistics Day, the role of statistics in different disciplines, and the importance of gender statistics.

Rwanda Statistics Bureau Also Celebrates ASD

African Statistics Day also was celebrated Nov. 16 in Kigali, Rwanda. Opening remarks were made by Yusuf Murangwa, the director general of the National Institute of Statistics Rwanda (NISR). He emphasized that statistics play an important role in planning and making decisions for national development.

The Rwanda representative of U.N. Women was the guest of honor. She congratulated NISR for its efforts to make available and disseminate statistics, an activity she considers a milestone for the development of the country.

To celebrate the day, NISR conducted an info-graphic competition for students of universities in the country. For the competition, students visualized data from the country's 4th Demographic and Health Survey (DHS 4) that is available on the NISR website. A total of 56 teams registered. The top three info-graphic presentations were selected and given awards sponsored by the U.N. Women while 15 were selected for exhibition.

The 300 leaders and representatives of various organizations, academic researchers, policymakers and representatives from government and private agencies who attended the Rwanda ASD conference called the event a success!

Iranian Students Participating in Special Statistics2013 Program

The Department of Statistics at Shahrood University of Technology in Shahrood, Iran is planning a special program to mark the International Year of Statistics. The program will promote scientific interaction and connection among postgraduate students. During the so-called Students' Scientific Interaction Scheme (SSIS) series, nine students each will deliver a 10-to-15 minute oral presentation on a statistical research subject they select.

With the help of slides, each postgraduate student will explain his or her topic, what he or she has learned, and what he or she will do next. Some of the topics the students will present are: "Shrinkage estimation in restricted models", "Bayesian wavelet shrinkage estimation", and "Limit theorems for negatively associated random variables". The goals of the program are to establish a starting point for the students to learn more about statistics and to improve each student's presentation skills, states Assistant Professor Mohammad Arashi.

National University of Uzbekistan Hosts Statistics Conference

In recognition of Statistics2013, the Department of Probability Theory and Mathematical Statistics of The National University of Uzbekistan held a conference Oct. 17 and 18 called "[Statistics and Its Applications](#)". This event strengthened the cooperation between scientists and specialists who conduct scientific research work in the study of statistics and the methods of its application in practice. It also helped continue the development of statistics and the learning of new and effective methods.

The conference featured discussions about the problems encountered in the processing of numerical information, the effectiveness of using statistical techniques in different fields, such as economics, biology, medicine, demography, insurance, humanities and exact sciences, and the publishing of 86 articles—including 27 by National University of Uzbekistan instructors; 15 articles by research staff of The Institute of Prognostication and Macroeconomics and the Uzbekistan government’s Institute of Social Research; five by instructors from leading Russian universities in Moscow, Nizhny Novgorod, and Krasnoyarsk; as well as by lecturers and staff of universities, insurance companies, and high schools throughout the country.

Participant feedback showed that the event was a success and lived up to its purpose. The university plans to conduct the conference annually.

NASS Promoting Statistics2013

The [National Agriculture Statistics Service](#) (NASS), a division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is the latest U.S. government statistical agency to post the International Year of Statistics logo on its website. The agency provides timely, accurate and useful statistics in service to U.S. agriculture. NASS joins the [Bureau of Economic Analysis](#), [National Center for Education Statistics](#), [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) and [National Center for Health Statistics](#) as U.S. government statistical agencies that are promoting Statistics2013 through their websites.

Thank you to the NASS leadership for helping to spread the word about the International Year of Statistics to the public, their internal audiences and the agency’s key stakeholders.

Taylor & Francis to Offer Monthly Statistics2013 Promotions

To celebrate the International Year of Statistics, Taylor & Francis will be offering free journal content and discounts on CRC Press/Chapman and Hall books throughout 2013. Each month will feature a different theme that will bring you chances to win books, get free access to selected articles, and watch interviews with influential authors of its statistics books and journals. You can stay updated on these promotions by “liking” the [Taylor & Francis Statistics Facebook page](#).

University of Lisbon Banner Touts Statistics2013

Students and visitors at the University of Lisbon know that 2013 is the International Year of Statistics thanks to an oversize banner hanging in a prominent location on the campus. The banner is part of the efforts of the Faculty of Sciences, which includes the Department of Statistics and Operations Research, to promote Statistics2013. Check out the banner:



Help Make Statistics2013 Website Global

The International Year of Statistics Steering Committee is seeking content contributions from participating organizations for the Statistics2013 public website. The subject areas and a brief explanation of each are:

1. *Statistic of the Day*—A series of four or five brief, informative statistical facts about your country; for example, its population, economy and education systems; the health of its citizens; and similar social, economic, government and other relevant topics.
2. *Around the World in Statistics*—A short 150 to 200 word article about how statistics makes life better for the people of your country.
3. *Statistician Job of the Week*—A short 150 to 250 word article written by one of your organization's members talking about his/her job as a statistician and how he/she is contributing to improving our global society.
4. *Statistics in Action*—A photo with a brief caption that shows how statistics improves the quality of life of your country's people.
5. *Careers Information*—The hyperlink to the statistics career information that is posted on your organization's website.
6. *Educational Resources*—The hyperlink to the primary and secondary school statistics education resources that are posted on your organization's website.

Your contributions will help make the International Year of Statistics website a worldwide representation of the reach and impact of statistics. The Statistics2013 public website will be launched soon, so send us your content or links as soon as possible.

To contribute, email the items to Jeffrey@amstat.org.

Statistics Cloud Image Available

We have posted the popular statistics cloud artwork (the graphic with the word “statistics” in various languages) online at www.statistics2013.org, where you can download and use it in your promotional materials.

You can use it on your website, on printed materials and banners to name a few ideas. Get creative and share your ideas with us at Jeffrey@amstat.org. We will pass them on to the more than 1,275 other participating organizations around the world.

To access and download the graphic go [here](#).

New Language-Specific Logos Available

The Statistics2013 logo is now available in [28 languages](#) and we can create new ones if you need one. To have a version of the Statistics2013 logo created in your country’s language, please e-mail the following information to Jeffrey@amstat.org:

1. The interpretation of “International Year of Statistics” in the appropriate font in this format: International Year of Statistics=“The interpreted phrase”
2. The interpretation of “Participating Organization” in the appropriate font in this format: Participating Organization=“The interpreted phrase”
3. A high-resolution PDF document or a .tif file of the interpretations of the “International Year of Statistics” and “Participating Organization”. (This file will be used to compare against the font to ensure it was transmitted properly. If it doesn’t compare accurately, we will use the image of the interpretations from the PDF or .tif in the logo instead. This step will ensure accuracy of your custom logo.)

Once your language-specific logo is created it will be posted to the Statistics2013 website [here](#) and we will send you an email to let you know the logo is available for download.

Share Your Logo with Us

If you already have created a version of the Statistics2013 logo in your country’s language, please e-mail a jpg file to Jeffrey@amstat.org and we’ll post it to the website so others can use it.

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