The International Statistical Institute

Committee on Women in Statistics

Dr Penny Bidgood, Chair
The ISI Sections

- Bernoulli Society
- International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics
- The International Environmental Society
- International Associations for
  - Statistics Education
  - Statistical Computing
  - Survey Statisticians
  - Official Statistics
Increasing Women’s Participation in Statistics – does it matter?
Dennis Trewin

- Looking for potential members in the Sections
- Looking at senior women in national statistical associations
- Developing a country network of “women sympathetic” ISI members with the specific task of identifying potential women members
Barriers

- Not enough women in the “feeder” groups
- Keeping women in statistics
- Lack of understanding of the differences between the way a typical man and a typical woman works
- Many organisations do not have family friendly staffing policies
The 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
The CWS was formed to

- 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
The CWS was formed to

- 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.
ISI Elected Membership

- In 2007 286 (14.3%) of the 2000 elected members were female.

- By 2012 this has risen to 355 (17.7%) of 2005.

- In 2008 the ISI had its first (and to date only) woman President
Section membership

- Approximately 28% (830 of 3000) of the total membership are female

- 202 are in the Bernoulli Society
- Growing numbers in Official Statistics
- The greatest proportions are in Statistical Education and Statistical Computing
- Very few women (31) in Business and Industrial Statistics
Greatest representation in Europe and USA; 31 of the 56 in Africa from South Africa; 41 from S America from Argentina or Brazil; Very few from China
CWS Committee

Regional representation

- Europe, (Ireland)
- Africa, (Ghana)
- North and Central America, (USA)
- Oceania, (New Zealand)
- Far East, (S Korea)
- South America, (Brazil)
- Middle East (Palestine)

Webmaster, ISI Council member, Caucus for Women in Statistics representative
Country Representatives

Africa - Mauritius, S Africa, Uganda, Zambia
Asia - India, Japan, S Korea, Malaysia, Philippines
Europe - England, Finland, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Scotland, Sweden
Middle East - Palestine
N and Central America - Canada, USA,
Oceania - Australia, New Zealand
S America - Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Uruguay
World Statistics Congresses

- 2011
  - Women in the Labour Market – Facts and Challenges in the Arab Region
  - Women’s Role in Fighting Poverty and the Informal Economy

- 2009
  - Issues facing women in Leadership roles in Official Statistics
  - Violence against women: How indicators can influence policy development
IPS:  How can the statistics community help its younger members in the early stages of their careers?

Two STSs:

- One from the Arab region (Palestine, Egypt, Iraq, Morocco, Lebanon)
- Statistics as a career choice for women: great rewards, persistent challenges and making the change happen (with the Caucus for Women, USA)
Networking at WSC

- 2011 Networking event and 18 roundtable discussions according to area of interest – official stats, educational, environmental, data mining, survey stats...
- 2009 Women’s dinner
Increasing the participation of women in statistics does matter.
The profession would benefit from increased diversity.