



# **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

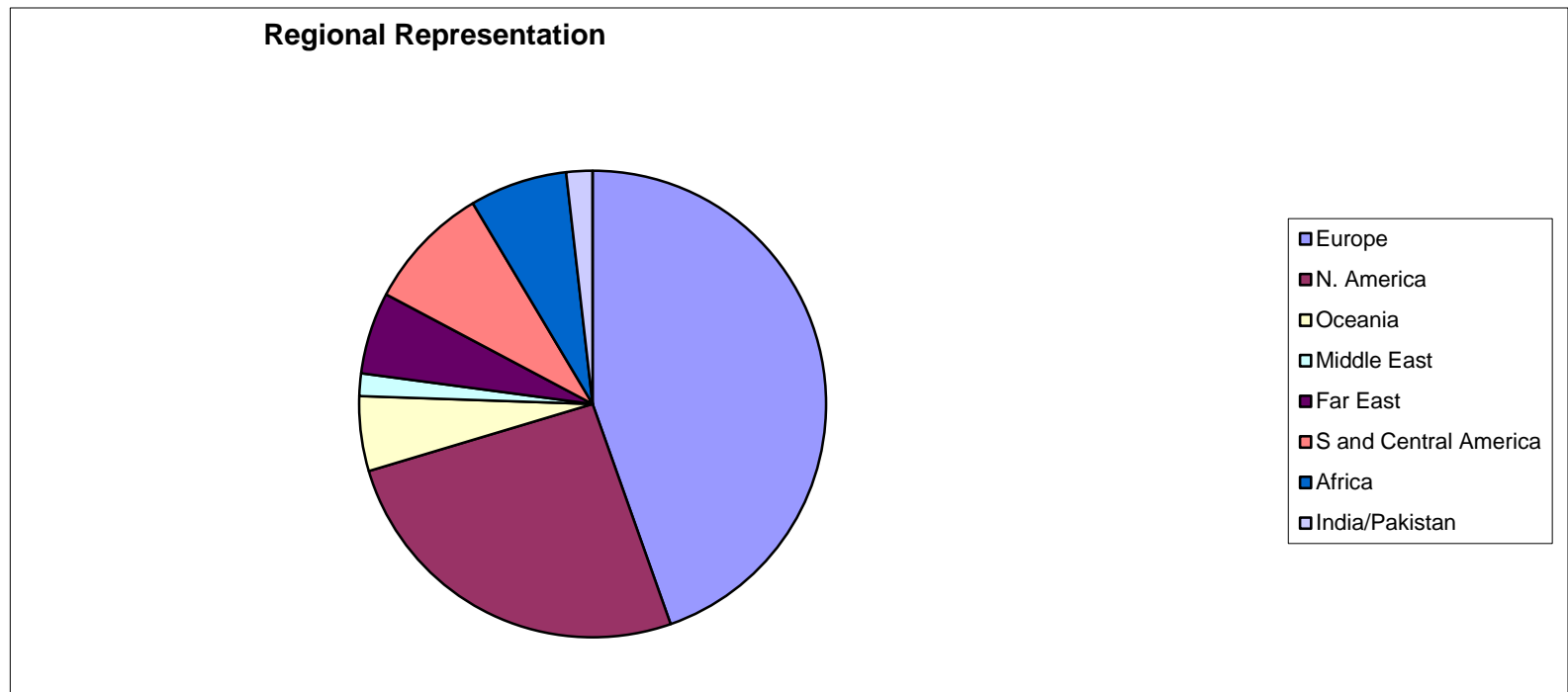
- In 2007 286 (14.3%) of the 2000 elected members were female.
- By 2012 this has risen to 355 (17.7%) of 2005.
- In 2008 the ISI had its first (and to date only) woman President



# 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

# WSC 2013

**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