

MINUTES OF THE CREATION ASSEMBLY OF THE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (ER) SECTION OF THE SWISS STATISTICAL SOCIETY (SSS) BERN, 9 MAY 2003

SWISS STATISTICAL SOCIETY
www.stat.ch

SECTION OF EDUCATION & RESEARCH

17h40: Opening of the session

Riccardo Gatto presents the arguments for the creation of the section:

- The ER section is a natural counterpart to the Official Statistics section and the Business and Industry section.
- It gives an identity to academicians.
- It will organize conferences within the Swiss Statistics Meeting.
- It will play a role in the coordination of education in statistics between universities and institutions, in particular for the future Masters in Statistics.

The proposed committee members are: Theo Gasser (University of Zurich), Riccardo Gatto (University of Berne), Fabio Tojani (University of Southern Switzerland) and Maria-Pia Victoria-Feser (University of Geneva). Riccardo Gatto says that he genuinely feels the need for such a section and therefore is ready to take part in its organisation. Maria-Pia Victoria-Feser thinks that as an academician, it is important to coordinate the education in statistics that is a discipline usually scattered around within more traditional disciplines. She therefore agrees to participate in the activities of the section. The other two proposed members have agreed to participate, too.

The floor discussion is then opened. The following points are raised:

- What are the additional costs for the new members? None (until the General Assembly of the Section decides otherwise), but they must be member of the SSS.
- How will the information about the progress of the section on particular projects (e.g. coordination of masters) be disseminated? Maybe through the SSS bulletin, probably

though the creation of a web page and an email list.

- What are the expected involvements of the new members? From nil to the active participation of working groups for specific projects (e.g. organization of conferences). This will be done on a free basis.
- It is suggested that the organisation of the meetings should be done in close cooperation with the other sections
- It is also suggested that there might be meetings for each section separately.

18h00: Presentation of the bylaws and vote

After a few suggestions for minor modifications, the bylaws of the ER section (see below) are unanimously accepted (15 people vote).

Members of the committee: Riccardo Gatto is elected as the President, and Theo Gasser, Fabio Tojani, and Maria-Pia Victoria-Feser as members of the committee, unanimously.

The first (non committee) members are: Bernhard Brabec, Jean-Marie Helbling, Beat Hulliger, Hansruedi Künsch, Diego Kuonen, Christof Luchsinger, Stephan Morgenthaler, Adreas Ruckstuhl, Caterina Savi, Werner Stahel, Jan-Peter Trepp.

18h15: Closing of the session

The official creation of the Section will be decided by the general assembly of the SSS during the «Swiss Statistics Meeting» in Montreux on October 30, 2003.

THE BIRTH OF THE SECTION «BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY» (SSS-BI)

Dr. Diego Kuonen, President of the SSS-BI

SWISS STATISTICAL SOCIETY
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SECTION OF BUSINESS & INDUSTRY

Dear colleagues, I would like to thank those on behalf of the first committee of the section «Business and Industry» (SSS-BI) who joined us on May 9 at the section's constitutional assembly in Bern. Those who unfortunately were unable to come to Bern will find in what follows a brief summary of what was happening.

In all 17 people were present at the section's creation. The assembly started with the explanation of the reasons behind the creation of a new section – a point which was already raised in the last SSS Bulletin (44, 3-4). This was followed by the presentation and the discussion of the proposed goals of the SSS-BI.

In summary, the goals of the SSS-BI, according to the bylaws agreed upon, are:

- Representing the interests of statisticians working in business and industry.
- Providing a platform for the coordination and the development of statistical training programs with applications in business and industry.
- Organising conferences in coordination with the other activities of the «Swiss Statistical Society» (SSS) and its other sections, e.g. the organisation of specific sessions within the annual «Swiss Statistics Meeting».
- Promoting the contact among statisticians working in business and industry on the national as well as on the international level.
- Promoting the contact with other organisations with similar objectives.

The general basis of the bylaws agreed upon is «Kapitel 7: Sektionen» of the bylaws of the SSS, and the official creation of the Section will be decided by the general assembly of the SSS during the «Swiss Statistics Meeting» in Montreux on October 30, 2003. The bylaws agreed upon and the protocols of the constitutional assembly are available on the SSS-BI home page at www.stat.ch/sss/sec-bi/

To keep in touch with the section's developments, you can subscribe to the SSS-BI mailing list by sending an empty email to sssbi-subscribe@statoo.com. In response you will receive a confirmation message to which you must respond in order to be added to the SSS-BI mailing list. Additionally, SSS-BI updates will appear on the SSS-BI home page at www.stat.ch/sss/sec-bi/ and regularly within this bulletin.

Note that at current, if you are a SSS member the membership is free of charge. So, if you are a SSS member and if you want to join us, please send mail or email to the treasurer Dr. Bernhard Brabec. If you are not a SSS member you can fill in the SSS application form at the end of this bulletin by indicating that you would like to join the section «Business and Industry».

Thanks in advance for helping to pass the word about the SSS-BI to your friends and colleagues. If you have any suggestions or inquiries concerning the section «Business and Industry» (SSS-BI), please contact one of the committee members. The first committee of the SSS-BI appreciates your trust and will try to do his best to fulfil the section's ambitious goals.

That is all for now, except to wish you a great summer and I hope that I will see you all at the «Swiss Statistics Meeting» in Montreux on October 29-31, 2003, where there will be sessions dedicated to statistics in business and industry. Further information are available at www.statoo.ch/jss03/

The following people were elected as first committee members:

- **President:** Dr. Diego Kuonen, Statoo Consulting, PO Box 107, 1015 Lausanne, tel. +41(0)216935508, mobile +41(0)787095384, kuonen@statoo.com
- **Secretary:** Dr. René Locher, Institut für Datenanalyse und Prozessdesign, Zürcher Hochschule Winterthur, Technopark / Jägerstrasse 2, Postfach, 8400 Winterthur, tel. +41(0)522677810, rene.locher@zhwin.ch
- **Treasurer:** Dr. Bernhard Brabec, Senior Consultant, Insightful AG, Christoph Merian-Ring 11, 4153 Reinach, tel. +41(0)617179346, mobile +41(0)793296787, bernhard.brabec@insightful.com
- **Member:** Dr. Yves L. Grize, Basler Versicherungen, Aeschengraben 21, 4002 Basel, tel. +41(0)612857018, yves-laurent.grize@baloise.ch
- **Member:** Dr. Christof Luchsinger, Luchsinger Mathematics, Schaffhauserstrasse 362, 8050 Zuerich, mobile +41(0)763920320, jobs@math-jobs.com
- **Member:** Dr. François-Xavier de Rossi, KPT/CPT Assurances, Tellstrasse 18, Postfach, 3000 Bern 22 tel. +41(0)313309283, derossi.francois-xavier@kpt.ch