

## NEWS OF THE SECTION BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY (SSS-BI)

Dr. Diego Kuonen, President of the SSS-BI

Dear colleagues,

Hope that everything is fine.

This year's Swiss Statistics Meeting takes place on November 17-19, 2004, in Aarau, Switzerland; see the tentative programme (as of June 18) within this bulletin and find further and updated information at [www.statoo.ch/sst04/](http://www.statoo.ch/sst04/). The main topic of this conference is «Quality and Statistics».

However, as you can see, the programme is very widespread in order to satisfy the needs of almost all statisticians. In particular, with regard to statistics in business and industry there will be several very interesting presentations. And last but not least, this year's Swiss Statistics Meeting will host on November 18, 2004, the first official general assembly of the SSS-BI to which you are all kindly invited. Additional information will follow in due course.

Moreover, on the Section's homepage at [www.stat.ch/sssbil](http://www.stat.ch/sssbil) you will find further information about the SSS-BI and updated promotion material for the SSS-BI in English, French and German. Feel free to use the SSS-BI presentation and/or

the SSS-BI flyer to pass the word about the SSS-BI to your friends and colleagues. Thanks in advance for your help. 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 an email to the treasurer (Dr. Bernhard Brabec, [bernhard.brabec@insightful.com](mailto:bernhard.brabec@insightful.com)). If you are not a SSS member you can fill in the SSS application form at the end of this bulletin or at [www.stat.ch](http://www.stat.ch) by indicating that you would like to join our Section.

If you have any suggestions or inquiries concerning the Section SSS-BI, please contact one of the Committee members. You will find further information at [www.stat.ch/sssbil](http://www.stat.ch/sssbil).

I wish you on behalf of the entire SSS-BI Committee a nice summer and we are all looking forward to meet you in Aarau.

With best regards,

Dr. Diego Kuonen, President of the SSS-BI

## SPRING SEMINAR OF THE SECTION EDUCATION &amp; RESEARCH (SSS-ER)

Riccardo Gatto

The Spring Seminar of the Section Education & Research of the Swiss Statistical Society took place Friday May 14 2004 from 14:00 to 17:00 at the Institute of Exact Sciences of the University of Bern.

The first talk was given by Prof. J. Rice, from the University of California Berkley, who was visiting the ETHZ. His talk concerned applications of statistical methods to astronomy, and the title of the talk was: «Statistical Methods for Detecting Stellar Occultations by Kuiper Belt Objects: the Taiwanese-American Occultation Survey». This talk showed an application of statistical methods in an interesting problem involving large data sets and requiring real time results, while we could also learn some concepts of astronomy.

The second talk was given by Dr. Tim Hesterberg, from Insightful USA, who was visiting various institutions in Europe. This talk concerned the use of bootstrap in teaching basic statistics, and the title of the talk was «Bootstrap for Statistics Teaching and Practice». This talk showed some bootstrap computations with a new user friendly library in S-Plus. Whether bootstrap techniques can be conveniently taught in introductory courses remains however an open question. Dr. Tim Hesterberg gave also a second small talk whose title was: «Practical Issues in Resampling». After the talks a drink was offered to each the participant at the Restaurant Grosse Schanze.

The Section Education & Research thanks all the participants of this Spring Seminar for the interest that they showed during these talks.

Aarau, Switzerland

17. – 19. 11. 2004

Schweizer Statistiktage  
Journées suisses de la statistique  
Swiss Statistics Meeting  
Giornate svizzere della statistica

Qualität und Statistik  
Qualité et statistique  
Quality and statistics  
Qualità e statistica

PROVISORISCHES PROGRAMM  
PROGRAMME PROVISOIRE  
TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

Mercredi – Mittwoch – Wednesday 17.11.2004

11.00 **KORSTAT**  
Generalversammlung – Assemblée générale,  
Grossratsgebäude

12.00 Mittagessen – Repas – Lunch  
Restaurant Rathausgarten

Teil **öffentliche Statistik** zum Thema:  
«Qualität in der öffentlichen Statistik:  
Voraussetzungen und Rahmenbedingungen»,  
Grossratsgebäude

13.30 Begrüssung  
(W. Haug, BFS, Neuenburg, und F. Fasler,  
Statistisches Amt des Kantons Aargau, Aarau)

13.45 Beitrag von S. Longva  
(Director General Statistics Norway, Oslo)

14.30 Beitrag von E. Kutzenberger  
(Generaldirektor Statistik Austria, Wien)

15.15 Pause – Break, Grossratsgebäude

15.45 Beitrag von A. Bürgi-Schmelz  
(Direktorin BFS, Neuenburg)

16.15 Roundtable mit Vertretern der Bundesstatistik  
und der regionalen statistischen Ämter (W.  
Brachinger, P. Saurer, P. Schwendener oder  
G.A. Paravicini, A. Bürgi-Schmelz, P.A. Rumley  
(angefragt))

17.00 Ende – Fin – End

18.00 Apéro, Kunsthaus,  
Empfang durch die Stadt Aarau

20.00 Nachtessen, Hotel Aarauerhof

Donnerstag - Jeudi - Thursday 18.11.2004

8.00 Empfang – Accueil – Réception  
Grossratsgebäude

8.30 Begrüssung – Souhails de bienvenue –  
Welcome address, Grossratsgebäude

8.45 L. Lyberg (Statistics Sweden and Stockholm  
University, Sweden)  
«Quality in Statistical Organizations –  
Concepts and Methodological Issues»

9.20 T. Bendell  
(University of Leicester, United Kingdom)  
«Surviving Six Sigma – What Statisticians  
should do to not be left behind»

9.55 Pause – Break, Grossratsgebäude

10.25 Y.-L. Grize  
(The Baloise Insurance Group, Basel)  
«The Perception of Statistics: Statistical Think-  
ing and Quality»

11.00 Roundtable

11.45 Mittagessen – Repas – Lunch  
Restaurant Rathausgarten

13.30 **SSS-BI:** Generalversammlung – Assemblée  
générale, Verwaltungsgebäude Buchenhof

**SSS-O:** Generalversammlung – Assemblée  
générale, Verwaltungsgebäude Buchenhof

SWISS STATISTICAL SOCIETY

[www.stat.ch](http://www.stat.ch)