

Spring Issue of 2014 IAOS: Editorial

This is the first 2014 issue of the *Statistical Journal of the International Association of Official Statistics* (IAOS). Last year saw many changes, as the Journal achieved its first ever year with the four targeted issues. My thanks to all who made this possible! Certainly, this was a nice way for the IAOS to celebrate the *international Year of Statistics*, just ended.

In 2014, with greatly increased submissions the Journal may not only achieve four issues but come close to its 400 page limit. Last year the count was a little over 300 pages. Still quite respectable! But, obviously, there is lots of room to grow. So please send us your best work

The early issues this year, at least, will be drawn heavily from the IOAS Meetings in Hong Kong. The first paper here, submitted by Steve Penneck grew out of a panel session he led in Hong Kong. It is a wonderful compilation of what Official Statisticians are seeing as upcoming.

The Penneck panel is entitled *NEW CHALLENGES FACING OFFICIAL STATISTICS*. The four panelists are leaders in National Statistical Institutes (NSIs) or sister/brother organizations (Finland, Philippines, United Kingdom and Eurostat).

When you read the Penneck panel discussion you may see variations on your own challenges and opportunities. For example, one of the nine topics covered is framed by the question “*Does the population census have a future?*”

Population censuses, of course, were never all done the same way; but, historically, they have relied heavily on some form of direct person-to-person contact. With the use of address registers and administrative (e.g., tax) records of other sorts this is changing in many places.

Initially, this transformation happened in the Nordic Countries of Northern Europe (Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden). But it now has moved south in

Europe and elsewhere (e.g., Asia). The speed of the transformation seems to be growing. Where we will be in 20 years is anyone’s guess?

Keeping with the theme of changes in the conduct of censuses Éva Laczka from Hungary has brought us her Hong Kong Session entitled “*On the role of population and housing and agricultural censuses in the national statistical systems.*” The six authors at her session are all well introduced by her in this issue, so there is no need to delve more deeply here. Suffice it to say the session she organized gives depth to the question posed above in the Penneck Panel about the nature and future of Population (and Agricultural) Censuses.

The last submission introduces a new Official Statistics area for the Statistical Journal of the IAOS. We begin in this issue with a discussion of indigenous peoples using as a starting point the Australian paper, entitled *Measuring Indigenous Populations across Nations: Challenges for Methodological Alignment*.

The migration of Europeans over the last 500 or so years into the Americas, Australia, and New Zealand exposed health and other challenges among the indigenous peoples already living there, who had been previously isolated from the bulk of humanity residing in Africa, Asia, and Europe.

The Official Statisticians of each now Western country find themselves with usually small percentages of their populations that are still indigenous and limited budgets to serve them.

Now the indigenous often have complex problems, different from the dominant non-indigenous stock. In this setting it makes sense for Official Statisticians to cooperate on a regular basis and to share common approaches.

Because distances are large and funds are small the members of this community only meet regularly by Skype. An exception was a two day meeting last August, held in connection with the American Statisti-

cal Meetings in Montreal Canada. Pictured below are some of those attending from this community internationally.

The Australian authors Bradley Petry and Erica Potts of the paper, included here, mainly cover the history of the indigenous in Australia (aka Aborigines) but also make some comparisons with the indigenous peoples of North America (Aka American Indians). In the future there will be papers on the indigenous from other parts of the world. For example, a paper on the Mauri in New Zealand can be expected in the June issue.

Fritz Scheuren, Daniel Lee and Kim Willems, January 2014



CIHR – Indigenous Measurement Group (IGIHM) Linkage Workshop, held August 6–7, 2013 at 24 Purvis Hall, 1020 Pine Avenue W, McGill, Montreal, QC.

PRESENT:

Malcolm King	Simon Fraser University
Amanda Sheppard	The Hospital for Sick Children
Brenda Elias	University of Manitoba
Zhong-Cheng Luo	University of Montreal
Tracey Bushnik	Statistics Canada
Fritz Scheuren	University of Chicago (NORC)
Michael Kramer	McGill University
Michael Tjepkema	Statistics Canada
Tahu Kukutai	National Institute of Demographic and Economic Analysis, NZ
Per Axelsson	Umea University
Len Smith	Australian National University
Bjorn Jarins	Australian Bureau of Statistics
Sujata Joshi	Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board
Jenine Dankovchik	Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board
Nancy Bennett	Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board
Chantal Nelson	PHAC Maternal Infant Health Section
Seungmi Yang	McGill University
Kim Dunstan	Senior Demographer, Statistics NZ
Ngiare Brown	National Aboriginal Community Health Organisation (Australia)
Janet Smylie	Well Living House, Saint Michales Hospital, School of Public Health, University of Toronto
Lisa Jackson Pulver	SPHCM, University of New South Wales, Australia
Richard Madden	University of Sydney
John Waldon	UNSW-NZ
Rebecca Ritte	University of Melbourne
Michele Connolly	NORC Consultant on American Indians – US
Daniel Lee	NORC
Sam Notzon	NCHS/CDC
Fadwa Al Yaman	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Ian Ring	University of Wollengong
Kathy Langlois	Health Canada
Rene Dion	Health Canada
Heather Aldersey	Douglas Institute, McGill University