

The International ENVIRONMETRICS Society - TIES

Newsletter

Volume 20, No. 1, February 2014

Editor: Ayesha Ali

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1. A Message from the President,

Bronwyn Harch

(president@environmetrics.org)

*CSIRO Computational Informatics
Brisbane, Australia*

Dear TIES members

Greetings

G'day! I hope you have managed to have some time with family and friends over December/January! Our membership represents many countries over the globe and many traditions for our families and

friends to celebrate over this period. Of course a big part of our gatherings with family and friends often involves being in special places the community values for their environmental qualities (as well as across social, cultural and economic dimensions). Being with family and friends in these special places certainly makes the time together more memorable.

TIES Board of Directors “revamp” and recent discussions

Since our last newsletter - we have had a new TIES Board of Directors elected, whose terms will be from 1st September 2013 to 31st August 2015. One of our North America regional representatives – Tim Gregoire – stood down and the Board considered representatives from the region. We are very pleased that Bruno Sansó is able to join our TIES regional representatives.

Please join with me in congratulating and supporting these TIES members as they take on roles to represent and further the objectives of the Society. Their names and contact information are in Section 6.

The Executive Board and Full Board met in October and November 2013, respectively. We are using Skype to meet and aim to “meet” quarterly – and as needed when significant issues arise for discussion. With the high turnover in the Executive Board, in both meetings we spent time reflecting on our motivation for being on the Board and respective aspirations for TIES. It was great to hear the passion for the Society and everyone’s ideas for the future.

As in every year over our history since 1989, people will be the key to our success. I wish to pay tribute to those who have led TIES as members of the Board and to all our individual members who contribute strongly to the Society's objectives.

Mobilising our membership to enhance TIES impact

One important part of ensuring the success of any Society is engaging its membership in its current activities or assisting the Society expand its activities. Consequently, one of the first orders of business has no doubt had many of you approached to assist TIES by being on one of our Standing Committees (as stated in our By-Laws). These committees serve for the same period as the President (for 2 years).

- Program Committee, Election Committee, Publications Committee
- Membership Committee, Awards Committee, Liaison and Outreach Committee

Suggestions for each of the committees were discussed and actions assigned to various Executive Members for follow up and recommendation back to the Executive Board. Membership for these Committees have largely been arranged – although some final approaches are still occurring for a small number of Committees. If you are approached I strongly encourage you to consider being part of one of these committees – it is a great way to expand your network, create new research based collaborations and influence the Society's activities. The Committee and current membership can be found in the people section at www.environmetrics.org

Relationships – TIES and ISI

As our previous President, Don Stevens, has reported in the last several Newsletters, there has been a discussion on the nature of the ongoing relationship between TIES and ISI. The new Board is resolved to work through the two main issues with ISI – namely the long term sustainability of the relationship – including its financial viability. Discussions at the Executive Board and Full Board meetings focused on correspondence I have had with the ISI President (Vijay Nair) and one of the ISI Vice President's (Helen MacGillveray). Vijay, Helen and I formed a

recommendation for the TIES Board to commission a Task Force to progress a long standing relationship between ISI and TIES – including a sustainable financial future for TIES (and ISI). During the Executive and Full Board meetings, folks shared their personal views on the TIES and ISI relationship. There was acknowledgement that the relationship was strained currently and a timely engagement with ISI was required to progress towards a long-standing relationship – with a financial sustainability being a critical component for the discussion. Consequently, the recommendation to establish a Task Force was endorsed – ensuring input from the members survey were provided as input to the discussions (details on the membership survey are provided in Section 2 of the Newsletter).

Summarised details of the Task Force, its membership and its broad terms of reference are given below.

Task Force Objective: Amplifying the Impact of Environmetrics - A partnership of TIES and ISI

Background: The TIES Board is committed to progressing the following three pillars of a Strategic Plan for TIES – focused on three key roles – with a clear link to its Association status with ISI. The Board is also mindful that consideration must include retaining and building on our strengths (connections through conferences and regional meetings, inspiring environmetricians [young, mid and late career]) - and using those strengths to catalyse new opportunities to amplify the impact of environmetrics.

1. **Creating and maintaining connections** – connections amongst environmetricians; connections to stakeholders of environmetrics capability (collaborators in environmental endeavours).
2. **Developing capability** – capability for environmetricians (quantitative skill development relevant to environmental endeavours, progressing careers in environmetrics along the spectrum of application - method development).
3. **Being a trusted advisor** – catalysing and engaging in critical dialogues globally – providing trusted advice to government and industry on critical and emerging issues that need critical environmetrics insight.

Broad Terms of Reference: A taskforce of TIES and ISI be commissioned – to advise TIES and ISI on pros and cons of various options for a long term partnership – including sustainability of administration and financial matters.

Taskforce membership – Will engage a senior member of the Council and TIES members who have the "corporate memory" of the original TIES-ISI discussions

* Bronwyn Harch (TIES President and Chair of Taskforce) [Australia]

* ISI invited member – Helen MacGillivray (VP ISI) [Australia]

* Daniela Cocchi (previous TIES President and current active ISI elected member of ISI working groups/councils) [Italy]

* Larry Cox (TIES member and on ISI Council)

* Peter Guttorp (previous TIES President and current active ISI elected member; note I was Treasurer to Peter as TIES became an association of ISI) [USA]

* Sylvia Esterby (previous TIES President and outgoing Treasurer of TIES; very active TIES member with a wealth of corporate memory to utilise – noting link to Canadian corporate law for TIES) [Canada]

* Alexandra Schmidt (President Elect) [Brazil]

The Task Force will also consult with

* Jef Teugels (previous ISI President who negotiated with TIES re Association status; current role with ISI Statistical Capability Building)

* Abdel El-Shaarawi (TIES founder)

The Task Force is aiming to meet in early 2014 (using Skype) and I will keep TIES membership informed on progress and recommendations.

As highlighted at the TIES 2013 AGM in Alaska - I want to repeat my commitment to working through TIES issues with ISI. Like you I am keen to see the relationship be focused on long term benefits and a commitment to work through. I know this has been frustrating for many TIES. I am heartened by the level of support I have received from members to "progress discussions" and "work things through with ISI".

The Newsletter is full of activities that have occurred and activities that are planned (eg TIES2014 in Guangzhou in China during December). I would

love to hear members' thoughts on any aspects of TIES activities – particularly ways to amplify our impact and your reflections on the three pillars of our emerging strategy.

Until our paths next cross

Bronwyn

2. TIES News

2013 New TIES Board of Directors

There is a new Board of Directors with TIES officers voted in from the election of July 31, 2013. The representatives voted in assumed their respective positions September 1, 2013. Thank you to all nominees who participated in the election, to the Elections Committee and to all members who voted. See Section 7 for a listing of the current Board of Directors.

New North America Region Representative

As mentioned in the President's Message, Tim Gregoire, one of our TIES Regional Representatives for North America, notified the Board of his intention to step down from the Board - effective immediately. Following TIES bylaws, the Board considered potential candidates for the North American Representative, and Bruno Sansó, from the University of California at Santa Cruz, was elected by acclamation. We sincerely thank Tim for his commitment and involvement with TIES and wish him all the best with his new areas of focus. Please join us in welcoming Bruno to the TIES Board.

Awards

Guttorp receives IMS Medallion

Peter Guttorp was honoured by being an IMS Medallion Lecturer at the Joint Statistical Meeting in Montreal, in August 2013.

Peter has a long history with TIES and the journal *Environmetrics*, but his credits go far beyond this: Professor of Statistics, Quantitative Ecology & Resource Management, and Urban Design & Planning at the University of Washington, Professor

at the Norwegian Computing Center in Oslo, Norway, and Adjunct Professor of Statistics and Actuarial Science at Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, Canada. He is also an invited member of the ISI, and a fellow of the ASA.

Active research projects include climate modelling, extreme weather events, biological monitoring, and stochastic processes in general. This latter interest involves point processes in particular, and the history of statistics.

Peter's talk was entitled "Pointing in New Directions" and collates his research at large in a new and intriguing way. He provided an illuminating history on point processes, beginning with Michell's study of star patterns in 1767, in which a homogeneous Poisson process was described by the probability of observing two stars close together "upon the supposition that they had been scattered by mere chance." Several other uses for point processes have appeared in molecular kinetic theory of heat, hematology, agriculture, and precipitation modelling, to name a few.



David Brillinger presenting IMS medallion to Peter Guttorp, Montreal, 2013. *Institute of Mathematical Statistics* (<http://www.imstat.org>).

It was also noted that modern day applications have focussed on Markovian point process models and log-Gaussian doubly stochastic Poisson processes, mainly due to their flexibility. Despite their popularity, their use is not always grounded with a sound understanding of the scientific phenomenon being modelled.

Case in point, consider spatial models. While analytical methods often used assume dependence structures only rely on distances, the scale on which current day data is being collected warrant consideration of the dynamical dependencies inherent in processes. The non-stationary aspect of these data is evident.

Two compelling applications were presented. The first was a cluster process for modelling epidemics nerve fibers. The cluster centres are the fiber roots, while the cluster points are the nerve fiber ends. Characteristics of the cluster centres depend on location in the body. Further, clusters tend to have a self-avoiding mechanism whereby fibres within a cluster tend not to overlap. While only a two-dimensional projection of this three-dimensional process is needed to model fiber end locations, a more general model for cluster processes was outlined to adequately analyze these data.

The second data was on modelling the eye movements of experienced and novice art watchers. Current technology collects data in milli-seconds, and allows measurement of the time the eyes fixate on a spot on a painting as well as the time spent moving to another location to stare at. In a spatial-temporal model, the non-stationarity can be accommodated by time dependent, intensity-based new locations, and differences between novices and non-novices modeled by drawing from different distributions for the times spent fixated on a point, and times spent moving to a new point. Previous studies have shown that the patterns of duration times and locations are distinctly different between novices and non-novices.

TIES President Elected to the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE)

Dr Bronwyn Harch FTSE, Chief, Computational Informatics Research Division, CSIRO; and President of The International Environmetrics Society was elected to the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE). ATSE is an independent body of 800 eminent Australian engineers and scientists that aims to enhance Australia's prosperity through technological innovation. Bronwyn has had an outstanding career

in CSIRO where, after joining initially as a postdoctoral research statistician, she now heads its Computational Informatics division. She works in partnership with the organization's National Research Flagship program to address key national challenges across the information and decision-making value chain for government, industry and the innovation sectors. For more information on the ATSE please see <http://www.atse.org.au/> and congratulations to Bronwyn!

New Environmetrics Editor-In-Chief

Walter Piegorsch, who co-edited *Environmetrics* alongside Peter Guttorp, has become Editor-In-Chief. Although Peter is stepping down from his position, Walt has expressed his commitment to continue what he and Peter had started in streamlining operations, raising the profile of *Environmetrics*, and maintaining the high standards of the work published in the journal. *Environmetrics* will continue to be the official journal of TIES, and Wiley & Sons the publisher. To facilitate the close relations between TIES and *Environmetrics*, Walt has joined the Publications Committee and will contribute to the future Newsletters. Congratulations Walt!

Forthcoming papers in Environmetrics

For forthcoming articles to be published in the society journal *Environmetrics*, please visit the following link:

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/10.1002/%28ISSN%291099-095X/earlyview>

Also, be on the lookout for Special Issues. At the moment, a plan for a special silver anniversary issue at the end of 2014 is in the works to celebrate volume 25 of the journal.

Summary on TIES Survey, August 2013

Before voting in the new Board, members were asked to complete a survey on the TIES-ISI relationship, and to inform the Board on future directions that the members would like TIES to move towards. Although the response rate was low (just below 15%), there seemed to be a general feeling that TIES continue its negotiations with ISI and find a resolution to the financial problems TIES is facing, with withdrawal from ISI as a last resort. In the

President's Message, further details are provided on how the Board is trying to strengthen relations with TIES and reach a suitable arrangement.

On another note, there seemed to be a clear consensus that TIES should place more of a focus on being involved in worldwide environmental problems, effecting change at this level, and providing opportunities for our young researchers.

3. Environmetrics Conferences

3.1. Forthcoming Conferences

New Announcements

TIES Regional Meeting, Cairo, Egypt, 2104 CANCELLED

In the last newsletter it was announced that a TIES-METMA meeting would be held in Cairo, Egypt. However, due to recent conflicts in Egypt, the venue has changed and the meeting will be held in Torino, Italy.

METMA VII – GRASPA14: Torino, Italy, September 10-12, 2014



The joint meeting **METMA VII – GRASPA14** will be hosted by the Department of Economics and Statistics “Cognetti de Martiis” at the University of Torino (IT) from 10th to 12th September 2014, and brings together two communities with common research interests: the development and use of statistical methods in the environmental sciences. These aims are at the cornerstone of TIES, so it is only natural that the meeting will also be a **TIES** regional conference. **METMA VII** will be the Seventh International Workshop on Spatio-Temporal Modelling, while **GRASPA14** represents the 2014 meeting of the Research Group for Statistical Applications to Environmental Problems (www.graspa.org).

This meeting will have plenary, invited and contributed sessions. Note that there are no parallel sessions. An extensive poster session will be held as well. Conference topics include:

- development and application of spatial and spatio-temporal statistical methods in different fields related to environmental and health sciences,
- environmental quality, safety and sustainability including air and water quality, epidemiology, earth science and ecology,
- functional data analysis, spatial and spatio-temporal sampling and extreme values.

Important Deadlines:

- Extended abstract submission: April 30, 2014
- Registration (reduced fee): May 30, 2014
- Contribution acceptance: June 30, 2014

The abstract will be 4 pages max. The latex template with the required format will be available soon at the conference website.

Location: Campus Luigi Einaudi, University of Torino (IT). About the host department:

http://www.unito.it/unitoWAR/page/dipartimenti4/D031_en/D031_EN_about_department1

Crowned by the majestic Alps, Torino is packed with palaces and piazzas, great museums, cafés and restaurants. Torino also has an enviable food and wine tradition! See

www.turismotorino.org/torino/EN/home.

More information at <http://meetings.sis-statistica.org/index.php/graspametma14>

2014 combined IUFRO and Society of American Foresters and Canadian Institute of Forestry World Congress Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA, 8-11 October 2014

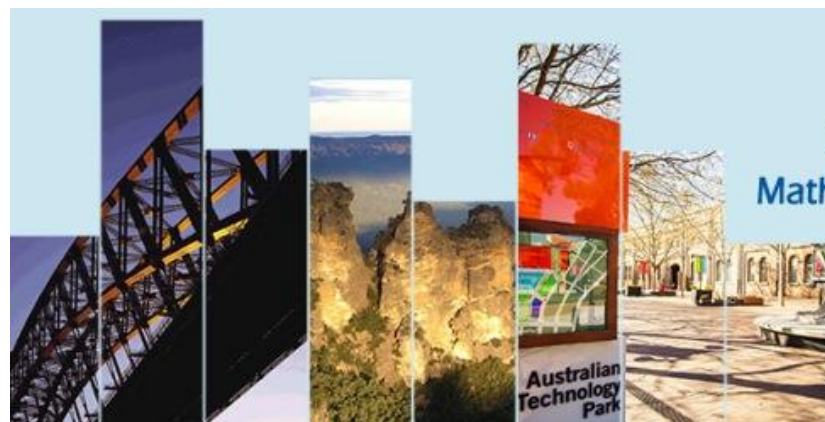
This is the first IUFRO World Congress in the US since 1971 and the first in North America since 1990. This event will bring 3000 researchers from 100 countries to the USA for a week of intensive technical sessions and networking. The Society of American Foresters will hold their 2014 National Convention that same week in the same venue. That will bring another 1200 US forest scientists and managers. Further, 2014 is the once-every-five-years cycle when the Canadian Institute of Foresters—SAF's counterpart in Canada—will meet with SAF, bringing several hundred Canadian forest scientists and managers to the event. Confirmed plenary speakers include David Brillinger and Abdel El-Shaarawi. More information at:

<http://www.xcdsystem.com/saf/site14/track-descriptions>

TIES 2014: 24th Annual Conference of the International Environmetrics Society, Guangzhou, China, 15-19 December 2014

Plans for the next TIES meeting are well under way, and the dates have been set for an end of year conference. Quanxi Shao is coordinating the meeting and is the one to contact for suggestions and comments while the program is being set. You will be notified once the conference website is available.

Email contact: Quanxi.Shao@csiro.au



**Australian Statistical Conference
in conjunction with the Institute of
Mathematical Statistics Annual Meeting**

7 - 10 July 2014
Australian Technology Park, Sydney

ims **SSAI** 
Statistical Society of Australia Inc.

Networks of climate and statistics

Peter Guttorp

There has been an increasing tendency of national funding agencies to fund networks of scientists. The basic idea is that modern research often is not only multidisciplinary, but also multisite. Funding a network allows better interaction between scientists at different sites, focused workshops and summer (or winter) schools, allowing doctoral students to spend time with a research group not at their home institution, etc.



Windmills in Denmark. *P. Guttorp*.

The earliest such network, the Nordic Network on Statistical Approaches to Regional Climate Models for Adaptation (SARMA) was created in 2010 by the Nordic Council research funding organization, *Nordforsk*, as part of their Top Research Initiative program. The network has 20 nodes in the five Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden), and includes the five national meteorological services. The network has organized seven workshops (one on visualization of climate data in Iceland was joint with TIES). Technical director is Peter Guttorp at the Norwegian Computing Center.

The US National Science Foundation, also in 2010 (but later in the year) funded the Mathematics and Climate Research Network (MCRN), directed by Chris Jones at the University of North Carolina. The network has extensive funding for postdocs, and focuses on dynamics of climate, climate process modeling, and data assimilation. There are 19 nodes, all but one at universities. The lone non-university node is the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Colorado.

A more statistically oriented network started in 2011, also funded by the US National Science Foundation. It is called Research Network for Statistical Methods for Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences (STATMOS) and directed by Montserrat Fuentes at North Carolina State University. The network has 17 nodes, including a Canadian (PIMS) and two European (Charles III University of Madrid and University of Glasgow). Among the nodes are also NCAR, SAMSI (Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute), National Climatic Data Center and Arfonne National Laboratory. The network funding is a little unusual, in that there is money to fund graduate students and postdocs when they are away from their home institutions, but not when they are at home. This is intended to increase serious and long-term collaborations. STATMOS organizes annual workshops and summer schools. Next summer school is the Pan-American Advanced Studies Institute in Buzios, Brazil, June 16-26 2014.

A network that is more similar to SARMA than the two North American networks is CliMathNet in the UK, funded by the UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council as part of the Living with Environmental Change cross-council programme. This network is not using the node structure of the other networks, but has individual members. The project is directed by Peter Ashwin at Exeter and Chris Budd at Bath. It organizes an annual conference, and has frequent online seminars.

There is a lot of collaboration between these four networks, and each funds its members to participate in the other networks' activities. As always with centrally funded projects, it is difficult to obtain funding to make them permanent. The SARMA network is funded through mid-year 2014, and does not currently have any mechanism which will allow it to continue (in spite of substantial efforts to obtain other types of funding). The MCRN and CliMathNet funding lasts through 2015, while STATMOS is funded through 2016.



Glaciers in Iceland. *P. Guttorp*.

For more information about these networks, consult their web pages:

<http://www.nrcse.washington.edu/NordicNetwork/>



<http://www.mathclimate.org>



<http://www.statmos.washington.edu/>

<http://www.climathnet.org/>

CliMathNet

3.2 Meeting Reports

Mathematics of Planet Earth Earth Activity in Australia

As part of the year of Mathematics for Planet Earth – TIES members in Australia have made seminal contributions as Keynote speakers and organisers of a major workshop facilitating dialogue across research organisations, universities and federal and state governments.

A Planet at Risk – Bioinvasion and Biosecurity Workshop (Co-led by CSIRO Computational Informatics – key contact Simon.Barry@csiro.au)

For Australia, because of its special (highly endemic) fauna and flora, bio-security is a key national priority. The responsibility encompasses not only the control of the spread of invasive animals and plants, but also the spread of disease causing pathogens between and within people, animals and plants. In one way or another, the spreading can be viewed and modelled as a bio-invasion, for which mathematical and statistical modelling play a key decision-making role in answering questions like – What can we do before a particular invasion occurs?

How do we monitor and control an invasion once it has commenced? In this MPE year, it is timely to ask: “What are the current and future biosecurity and bioinvasion topics requiring the development of

mathematical and statistical modelling protocols?” The goals of the September 2013 workshop included:

- (i) Focussing on current national biosecurity and bioinvasion issues for which mathematical and statistical modelling has an important future role to play in informing decision making.
- (ii) Stimulating community, and in particular student, awareness of research topics in mathematics and statistics which have a direct connection to current and future bioinvasion and biosecurity problems.
- (iii) Ensuring a specific focus on MPE in Canberra that links with government activities of public and national concern with a strong emphasis on bioinvasion and biosecurity.
- (iv) Reviewing successful and unsuccessful case studies to identify viable future strategies.

4. Short Courses and Workshops

Spatio-temporal Statistical Modelling Short course: February 3 & 4, 2014, Wollongong, Australia

Spatio-Temporal Statistical Modelling – a short course presented by Peter J. Diggle (Lancaster University, UK) and Noel A. Cressie (NIASRA, University of Wollongong, Australia) will be held on the University of Wollongong campus on Feb 3rd and 4th next. The course, aimed at researchers and students with Bachelor’s-level probability and statistical inference, is being presented with the support of the Statistical Society of Australia Inc. and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation. It offers an intermediate-level introduction to spatio-temporal statistical modelling over the course of 1.5 days. Topics include:

- Exploratory analysis: point process, geostatistical, and lattice data
- Empirical/mechanistic models for point process data; case studies
- Dynamical/descriptive models for geostatistical and lattice data; hierarchical statistical models; predictive inference; case studies

- Combining point process, geostatistical, and lattice data: Towards a synthesis

To register and for further information, visit the NIASRA website at <http://niasra.uow.edu.au> Places are limited and registrations will be processed as they are received.

NIASRA
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED
STATISTICS RESEARCH AUSTRALIA

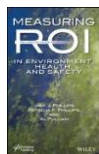


**UNIVERSITY OF
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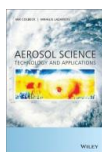


5. Recently or soon-to-be Published

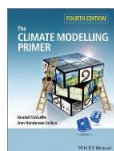
Here is a listing of a few upcoming book that me be of interest to you.



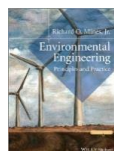
“Measuring ROI in Environment, Health, and Safety”, by J.J. Phillips, P.P. Phillips, and A. Pulliam (January 2014), Wiley-Blackwell.



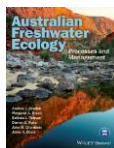
“Aerosol Science: Technology and Applications” by Eds. I. Colbeck and M. Lazaridis (January 2014), Wiley-Blackwell.



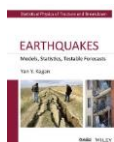
“The Climate Modelling Primer”, 4th Ed. by K. McGuffie (March 2014), Wiley-Blackwell.



“Environmental Engineering: Principles and Practice” by R.O. Mines and L. Lackey (April 2014), Wiley-Blackwell.



“Australian Freshwater Ecology: Processes and Management” by A. Boulton, M. Brock, B. Robson, D. Ryder, J. Chambers, and J. Davis (June 2014), Wiley-Blackwell.



“Earthquakes: Models, Statistics, Testable Forecasts” by Y.Y. Kagan (March 2014), Wiley-Blackwell.

“Nonlinear Climate Dynamics” by H.A. Dijkstra (June 2013), Cambridge Press.

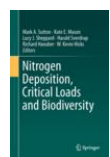
“Groundwater Modelling in Arid and Semi-Arid Areas” by H.S. Wheater, S.A. Mathias, and X. Li (February 2014), Cambridge Press.



“Air Pollution Modeling and its Application XXIII Series: Springer Proceedings in Complexity” by Eds. D. Steyn and R. Mathurt (2014), Springer.



“Recent Trends in Modelling of Environmental Contaminants” by Ed. S. Debashish (2014), Springer.



“Nitrogen Deposition, Critical Loads and Biodiversity” by Eds. M.A. Sutton, K.E. Mason, L.J. Sheppard, H. Sverdrup, R. Haeuber, and W.K. Hicks (2014), Springer.



“Data-Driven Modeling: Using MATLAB® in Water Resources and Environmental Engineering” by S. Araghinejad (2014), Springer.

The Editorial Board would like to encourage TIES members to volunteer for book reviews and to bring new publications to our attention.

6 TIES Board of Directors

Elected members of the TIES Board of Directors:

President: Bronwyn Harch
(president@environmetrics.org)

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Secretary: Rosalba Ignaccolo
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(treasurer@environmetrics.org)

Publications Officer: Ayesha Ali
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Regional Representatives:

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Europe:

Giovanna Jona Lasinio

(giovanna.jonalasinio@uniroma1.it)

Ron Smith (ris@ceh.ac.uk)

Other Regions:

Erin Peterson (Erin.Peterson@csiro.au)

Quanxi Shao (Quanxi.Shao@csiro.au)

and honours received, promotions, appointments, etc.).

Communications, (e.g. contributions, comments and suggestions) regarding this publication should be addressed to the TIES Newsletter editor: Ayesha Ali (aali@uoguelph.ca). As Editor, I would like to encourage TIES members to submit items for publication in the Newsletter. I would like to thank the members who contributed to this issue.

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secretary@environmetrics.org.

TIES Webpage:

<http://www.environmetrics.org/>

Objectives of the Newsletter include:

- to inform TIES members of happenings within the Society;
- to cover news in latest developments in theory and applications of environmetrics;
- to discuss of a broad range of issues which are of interest to members of TIES and are consistent with the objectives of the Society;
- to facilitate communication between environmental scientists and statisticians about research problems of mutual interest;
- to provide details about upcoming conferences and workshops related to Environmetrics;
- to announce members' news that are worthy of notice or recognition (e.g., awards, prizes)