ENVIRONMETRICS

The International Environmetrics Society - TIES

Newsletter

Volume 21, No. 1, May 2015

Editor: Ayesha Ali

In This Issue:

1. A Message from the President,
Ron Smith
(president@environmetrics.org)

Dear TIES members,

You are all now aware of the changes that happened within TIES after the AGM in Guangzhou, China, last December, and many of you participated in the electronic vote on whether or not TIES remained an Association of the International Statistical Institute (ISI). The Board are now able to move forward to plan the future for TIES and we are very grateful that you gave us a clear decision. There is now a significant amount of technical work to be done before we will again ask for your input and votes to confirm TIES new status with the ISI – the final decision still remains in your hands. We hope that there will be substantial progress on this by the ISI World Statistical Congress in Rio de Janeiro at the end of July, where there will be a chance for TIES members attending the congress to meet together, discuss and make future plans.

You have hopefully seen on the website that we now have arrangements for the 25th Annual TIES Conference to be held at Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, from 22-25 November 2015 and organised by Abdel El Shaarawi and Ali Soliman Gargoum. I had thought that we were unlikely to manage to arrange a meeting this year and we are grateful for the work by Krishna Jandhyala and Yulia Gel as well as the meeting organisers in bringing this all together in a relatively short time. Plans for the scientific content of the meeting are now progressing and we hope many of you will be able to make the trip to UAE.

Next month we also have the GRASPA 2015 meeting, the biennial conference of the Italian Research Group for Environmental Statistics (GRASPA-SIS) and the 2015 European regional conference of TIES. GRASPA has been active since 1995 and has been a permanent working group of the Italian Statistical Society (SIS) since May 2013. GRASPA-SIS promotes statistical and interdisciplinary research *Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Edinburgh, Scotland* in the field of environmental quality, safety

and sustainability including air and water quality, epidemiology, climate, earth science and ecology. This promises to be a very interesting meeting fostering co-operation among statisticians, academics from environmental sciences as well as practitioners from government and independent environmental agencies.

I feel it is very important for TIES, as it enters this new relationship with the ISI, that we continue not just as a society for statisticians but to be really interdisciplinary – as was the vision when TIES was started – and that we offer as much benefit for practitioners as academics. I was impressed at the last TIES meeting I attended in Alaska at the breadth of experience of the participants and the Board intends to ensure that element of the society is not lost.

On a personal note, my recent contacts with the ISI have made me more appreciative of the work that Bronwyn Harch and Alex Schmidt did to promote TIES in the statistical community, and I would like to thank them sincerely for their efforts to promote the best interests of TIES. I also very much appreciate the support of the current Board in keeping the society functioning this year. I was not able to attend the last TIES meeting in Guangzhou but I look forward to meeting as many of you as I can over the next few months.

With best wishes,

Ron Smith

2. TIES News

Awards

The following awards were presented at the TIES 2014 Meeting.

TIES-Wiley Best Student Presentation Award

- **Yi Liu** (University of Bath, UK) for "Incorporating Large-scale Exposure Modelling into Studies of Air Pollution and Health", and

- **Jussi Jousimo** (University of Helsinki, Finland) for "Inferring Habitat Use, Population Distribution and Total Population Size by Combining Individual-level and Population-level Data"

Yi Liu is a PhD student in the Department of Mathematical Sciences, at the University of Bath,

where he is researching spatio-temporal models for environmental exposures and health under the supervision of Gavin Shaddick. Yi received this award for showing a novel application of large-scale Bayesian methodology in the modelling of air pollution and its public health impacts.

Jussi Jousimo received a BSc and an MSc in Statistics in University of Helsinki in 2010 and is currently a PhD student in the Metapopulation Research Centre of University of Helsinki under supervision of Professor Otso Ovaskainen. His main research interests lie in applied spatio-temporal statistics on population density estimation with random encounter model and inferring ecological processes from spatio-temporal data. Jussi presented a spatio-temporal Bayesian smoothing model for animal population assessment that combined multi-source information on individual- and population-levels.

Yulia R. Gel (University of Waterloo, Canada and University of Texas, USA), received the Abdel El Shaarawi TIES Young Researcher Award with the citation:

For sustained and significant methodological contributions around high dimensional inference for temporal and spatial processes, spatiotemporal modeling, and robust nonparametric resampling approaches, for strong impact in areas such as climate change, hydrology, ecology and epidemiology, and for an outstanding professional contribution and outreach.

Yulia's main research interests stem around time series analysis, space-time processes, random networks and nonparametrics, with applications ranging from weather forecasting to risk assessment due to climate change and spatio-temporal surveillance of climate-sensitive infectious diseases.

Bo Li (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA) received an Honorable Mention for the Abdel El Shaarawi TIES Young Researcher Award. Bo's research interests are in spatio-temporal and Bayesian hierarchical modeling, with applications including climatology, atmospheric and environmental science, and time series.

Latest News from the *World of Statistics*

The World of Statistics acts as the successor to the highly successful International Year of Statistics (Statistics2013) campaign celebrated in 2013. It is a global network of nearly 2,360 organizations worldwide, including TIES, and is committed to:

- Increasing public awareness of the power and impact of statistics on all aspects of society;
- Nurturing statistics as a profession, especially among young people; and
- Promoting creativity and development in the sciences of probability and statistics.

The latest newsletter discusses the American Statistical Association Statistical Education of Teachers Report. An activity that demonstrates statistics for an environmental application may provide an engaging experience for our young statisticians-to-be. Something to think about! See http://www.worldofstatistics.org/files/2015/05/May-7-2015.pdf
.

On *Environmetrics*
Ayesha Ali

With Environmetrics being the official journal of TIES, we are always seeking ways to improve the relationship between Environmetrics and the society. This endeavor is led by the Publications Committee, which is chaired by the Publications Officer and includes the Editor of Environmetrics as one of the committee members.

Just to keep you posted, here are a couple of the agenda items we have been discussing.

1. We will invite TIES Award winners (J. Stuart Hunter lecture, President's lecture), and Invited Sessions speakers to prepare their papers and submit through ScholarOne. Once they are through the review process, the Editor of Environmetrics will fast track them to appear at the beginning of the next issue of Environmetrics.

2. We are developing a new award that showcases the best paper from Environmetrics over a calendar year at the following year's Annual TIES Conference. Eligible papers would be all regular paper submissions that are accepted by the journal's Editor-In-Chief over a calendar year (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31), regardless of whether the paper appears in print/online at a later date. While all authors of the winning paper would be notified, only one would be invited to present the paper at the TIES meeting. Selection criteria would be along the lines of a paper that:

- Presents novel methodology for a relevant and current application;
- Is well written with large potential for impact; and
- Provides a significant contribution to environmetric research.

However, there are still some details to be worked out between TIES, Environmetrics and Wiley before we can fully establish the award. We will keep you posted as this award develops.

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/%28I0SSN%291099-095X/earlyview

3. Environmetrics Conferences

3.1 Already Announced

60th ISI World Statistics Congresses, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July 26-31, 2015

This year's conference will be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from July 26-31, 2015 and organized by Brazil's Central Bureau of Statistics.

Environmetrics
The official journal of The International Environmetrics Society
An Association of The International Statistical Institute

Four TIES contributed sessions are:

- "Advanced random effects modelling of environmental and natural resources data." (Renjun Ma, Quanxi Shao)

- "New developments in spatial sampling" (Sarah Nusser)

- "Modern methods of environmental epidemiology: from remote sensing to random graphs and social media" (Yulia R. Gel)

- "Spatial statistics for natural hazard modelling" (Jorge Mateu, Serge Guillas)

3.2 Forthcoming Conferences

TIES 2015: 25th Annual Conference of The International Environmetrics Society, Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, November 22-25, 2015

The 25th Annual TIES Conference will be held in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, November 22-25, 2015 with short courses on environmental statistics held on November 21, 2015 and hosted by

Camel Market, Al Ain

the United Arab Emirates University. The United Arab Emirates University was established in 1975 and is the first and oldest of the three government-sponsored institutions of higher learning in the United Arab Emirates.

AlAin (*al-ʿayn*) is known as the *Garden City* because of the many oases, parks, tree-lined avenues and decorative roundabouts within the city. It is the second largest city in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and is rich in history and archaeological findings dating back to the third millemnium.

Tourists often visit the mineral springs located at the base of Jebel Haffet, a 1340m-high mountain that

dominates the region, and then drive up to the mountaintop to watch the sunset.

Al Ain has a hot desert climate, much of which is covered by *shrublands* (93%), *lakes and rivers* (4%), and *built-up areas* (3%). Temperatures in late November can range from 18°C to 30°C.

Public Gardens, Al Ain,
http://www.planetware.com/united-arab-emirates/al-ain-uae-abu-alain.htm

Approximately 160km away lies the shining metropolis of Abu Dhabi, which is the capital of the United Arab Emirates and is a modern city located on a T-shaped island.

The J. Stuart Hunter Lecturer has been confirmed and will be Peter J. Diggle, Division of Medicine, Lancaster University, UK.

Al Ain Museum Palace

Conference Organizers and Scientific Program Chairs: Abdel El-Sharaawi and Ali Soliman Gargoum

More details on important dates for paper submissions and registration will be available once the website is set up. We will keep you posted.

For more information, please contact:

Abdel H. El Shaarawi, Cairo University, Egypt and National Water Research Institute Canada, elshaarawi@aucegypt.edu

or

Ali Soliman Gargoum, United Arab Emirates University, United Arab Emirates, alig@uaeu.ac.ae

GRASPA 2015, Università degli Studi di Bari Aldo Moro, June 15 – June 16, 2015

GRASPA 2015 is the biennial conference of the Italian Research Group for Environmental Statistics (GRASPA-SIS) and the 2015 European regional conference of The International Environmetrics Society (TIES). It is sponsored by the Young section of the Italian Statistical Society and is a connected event of the Spatial Statistics 2015 Conference.

The meeting will have Tata Subba Rao (University of Manchester) and Adrian Bowman (University of Glasgow) as keynote speakers, 10 Invited tracks on various Statistical and Environmental topics and more than 40 contributed papers. An extensive poster session with nominations for best poster awards will be held. A Book of Abstracts will be printed and Conference Proceedings will be published online in the GRASPA Working Papers Series (with ISSN), including invited and contributed short papers. Extended versions of a selection of invited and contributed papers will be considered for publication in special issues of the Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation (guest editors: A. Pollice, G. Jona Lasinio) and Stochastic Evironmental Resarch and Risk Assessment (guest editors: E. Romano, J. Mateu, M.D. Ruiz-Medina). A post-conference one-day short course on introducing flexible regression for environmental data will be given by Adrian Bowman (University of Glasgow). http://www.graspa.org/graspa2015

9th International Conference on Extreme Value Analysis, Ann Arbor, USA, June 15 – 16, 2015

The 9th international conference on Extreme Value Analysis will be hosted by the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor from June 15 to 19, 2015. Featured research will include recent advances on the probability and statistics of extreme value phenomena for important applications to climate and weather, finance, insurance, engineering and computer science. All students, researchers, practitioners, and scientists with interests in statistics of extremes are welcome! This event is co-sponsored by SAMSI. NISS and NISS/SAMSI University Affiliates may use the Affiliate Award Fund to attend this workshop. http://sites.lsa.umich.edu/eva2015/

17th International Conference on Environmental Mathematics and Statistics, Venice, Italy, August 13-14, 2015

The ICEMS 2015: 17th International Conference on Environmental Mathematics and Statistics aims to bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research results about all aspects of Environmental Mathematics and Statistics. It also provides the premier inter-multi-trans-disciplinary forum for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns, practical challenges encountered and the solutions adopted in the field of Environmental Mathematics and Statistics. https://www.waset.org/conference/2015/08/venice/ICEMS

3.2 Meeting Reports

TIES 2014: 24th Annual Conference of The International Environmetrics Society, December 15-19, 2014, Guangzhou, China
Xingfa Zhang and Ayesha Ali

The theme for TIES 2014 was *Statistical Methods and Applications in a Changing Environment* and was hosted in collaboration with the Division of Resource and Environment Statistics, Chinese Association for Applied Statistics and Guangzhou University. The Vice-President of Guangzhou University, Professor Yu Qicai, delivered the Welcome Address and emphasized the need for statistical development both within China and abroad. The bright, warm southern China weather, combined with the local hospitality and organization, made for a friendly and efficient conference environment.

The Opening Ceremony, parallel sessions and Welcome Dinner were held at the Guangdong Science Center, which is an impressive piece of architecture

located in the Higher Education Mega Center of Guangzhou University. Busses were

Guangdong Science Center, from http://www.lifeofguangzhou.com/

organized for daily transport between the center and the Clayton Hotel, where participants stayed and the banquet dinner was hosted.

In total, there were 150 participants (65 from overseas, 85 from Mainland China), 99 technical talks that comprised 25 invited sessions divided across 4 parallel sessions at a time. As indicated by the theme of the conference, invited sessions focussed on diverse aspects of space-time data, including spatial sampling designs; Bayesian, semiparametric, and multivariate methods for complex data; and applications such as wildland fires, water and natural resources, infectious diseases, and remote sensing/GIS monitoring.

Participants of TIES 2014

The J. Stuart Lecture was given by Tata Suba Rao, University of Manchester, whose animated talk was on *Domain Methods for Modeling and Kriging of spatio-temporal random processes with applications*. The President's Invited Lecture was given by Jixian Zhang, President of the U.S. Chinese Academy of Surveying and Mapping, and was entitled *Eco-environment Remote Sensing Monitoring: Technology and Application*. Other plenary talks were given by Dennis K. J. Lin (Penn State University), Jian Huang (University of Iowa), and Ying Fan (Director of Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research at Chinese Academy of Sciences). To round out the conference, there was a panel discussion with 4 discussants, and 7 poster presentations.

The social program consisted of two tours: the Night Pearl River tour, and a visit to the Baomo Garden. The former is a tribute to the electrifying lights and modern metropolis of Guanzhou juxtaposed with the enchanting landscapes and historical buildings. The latter provided a trip back in time, where one can catch a glimpse of the Golden Age in ancient China.

Baomo Garden   http://www.douban.com/note/138389354/

A special thanks goes out to Quanxi Shao and the local organizing committee for making this a successful meeting. We are now planning the 25th Annual TIES Conference and look forward to seeing you there to celebrate this important milestone with us.

geoENV2014: 10th Conference on Geostatistics for Environmental Applications, July 9-11, 2014, Paris, France
Nicolas Jeannée and Thomas Romary

The geoENV2014 conference took place in Paris last July. With more than 160 participants from 30 countries, this 10th edition has been a great success! Pre-conference workshops were organized on various topics (R-geostats, R-INLA, stochastic simulations). Keynote speakers of the conference included: Havard Rue, Gerard Heuvelink and Laurent Bertino. The presentations and posters covered a wide range of geostatistical tools addressed to a variety of problems in environmental modelling, especially those connected to:

(i) typical scarcity of spatial sampling,
(ii) time component of dynamic systems,
(iii) modelling of different systems of contaminants,
(iv) assessment of health cost functions, and
(v) assessment of uncertainties.

Participants of geoENV2014.   from http://www.geoenv2014.org

Issues are currently under process with Mathematical Geosciences and Spatial Statistics. The organizers are looking forward to meeting you in Lisbon in 2016 to celebrate the 20 years of the conference!

International Biometric Society (IBC) conference, July 6-11, 2014, Florence, Italy.
Ross Darnell

The 27th IBC was held in Florence on 6-11 July. Around 900 folk registered and during the 4 days of conference presentations, many of the sessions were filled to capacity. There were up to 5 concurrent sessions, covering a range of application areas including spatial statistics, ecological and agricultural research, genetic research, medical diagnostics research, and longitudinal methods, with a special session devoted to missing or partially observed data.

The venue was the Palazzo dei Congressi, which is adjacent to the main Florence railway station. The conference dinner was held at the restaurant "La Loggia" which has a superb outlook over the city of Florence. Wednesday was kept free of talks so attendees could enjoy what Florence has to offer the visitor. I visited the Museo Galileo and within the museum the brachistochrone descent model was my favourite installation.

Many of the attendees who work in ecological research had attended the ISEC conference held in Montpellier, France the week before the IBC.

METMA VII – GRASPA14, September 10-12, 2014, Torino, Italy
Maria Franco-Villoria and Rosaria Ignaccolo

METMA VII was the Seventh International Workshop on Spatio-Temporal Modelling, while GRASPA14 represented the 2014 meeting of

the Research Group for Statistical Applications to Environmental Problems. The conference, that was also a TIES regional meeting, was hosted by the department of Economics and Statistics "Cognetti de Martiis", University of Torino (Italy), with the support of the "Fondazione Franca e Diego de Castro" and the SMAT group (Società Metropolitana Acque Torino S.p.A.). The meeting took place at Campus Luigi Einaudi, which has been included in the list of the top ten most spectacular university buildings.

The scientific program was a fair mix of methodological and applied topics, through an arrangement of 10 plenary sessions with invited and keynote speakers, 8 contributed sessions, plus a poster session with a previous series of snapshot sessions where poster authors were able to briefly introduce their work. Applications included air and water quality, epidemiology, earth science and ecology and were mostly motivated by the increasing relevance of environmental quality, safety and sustainability. Methodological sessions focused on functional data analysis, spatial and spatio-temporal sampling and extreme values.

Campus Luigi Einaudi, University of Torino, Italy

Keynote speakers were Abdel El Shaarawi (The American University in Cairo, Egypt), Rick Schoenberg (University of California at Los Angeles, USA) and Alfred Stein (University of Twente, Netherlands). Invited speakers included Giada Adelfio (University of Palermo, Italy), Annibale Biggeri (University of Firenze, Italy), Daniela Cocchi (University of Bologna, Italy), Rosa Crujeiras (University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain), Thomas Goicoa (Public University of Navarra, Spain), Luigi Ippoliti (University of Chieti-

Pescara, Italy) and Lola Ruiz-Medina (University of Granada, Spain).

The conference was an enjoyable experience, with a rich scientific program but presented in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. The poster session wasturned out to be very stimulating, it was a great opportunity to talk to people from different backgrounds and both authors and participants were eager to discuss their work. The highlights of the social program were a guided walking tour around the city of Torino and the conference dinner, followed by a demonstration of Piemonte's regional Occitan folk dancing with active involvement of the participants.

Poster session, Campus Luigi Einaudi Main Hall

More information about the event can be found on the conference website:
www.graspa.org/metmagraspa

where all the extended abstracts can be downloaded. Selected papers from both oral and poster presentations will be published in two forthcoming special issues of "Spatial Statistics" and "Statistical Methods & Applications".

Occitan folk dancing at the conference dinner

4. Short Courses and Workshops

Environmental Statistics: Power Analysis, Ordination and Cluster Analysis, June 18, 2015, University of Ottawa, Canada

This course is aimed at people in industry whouse power analysis and multivariate statistics. Participants learn how to sabotage your t-test with power analysis with Leana Van der Vliet. Dr. Michelle Bowman will demystify multivariate statistics, providing participants with the information they need to perform ordination and cluster analysis. The course will use a mix of lecture style presentations and small group work to analyze real-life data. Please note attendees must bring their own PC laptop with Microsoft Excel® (including Analysis ToolPak) loaded. See the attached abstracts (1: Van der Vliet, 2: Bowman) for more information.

30th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling

The International Workshop on Statistical Modelling (IWSM) will celebrate its 30th anniversary. The conference will be hosted by the Department of Applied Statistics of the Johannes Kepler University Linz (Austria) from July 6-10, 2015. As in previous years, the workshop will bring together a wide variety of international researchers, coming from all over the world and featuring different levels of experience, to encourage discussion and interchange between junior and senior scientists.
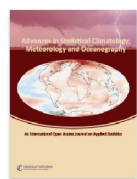
Confirmed invited speakers are:
* Richard Chandler (University College London)
* Andrew Finley (Michigan State University)
* Sylvia Frühwirth-Schnatter (Vienna University of Business and Economics)
* Sonja Greven (Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich)
* John Hinde (National University of Ireland, Galway)

A Short Course on the day before the conference (July 5, 2015) will be held by:
* Alan Agresti (University of Florida)

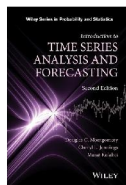## 5. Recently or soon-to-be Published

New Journal! *Advances in Statistical Climatology, Meteorology and Oceanography ASCMO*, published by Copernicus Publications as an open access journal (no article processing charges). This new journal serves at the interface of statistics and the atmospheric and oceanic sciences. It will allow statisticians and mathematicians the opportunity to reach more scientists while publishing cutting-edge statistical methodology. By the same token, researchers in climatology, meteorology, and oceanography will have an outlet to publish more details of their statistical and computational mathematical developments which will lead to improved models and methods for this important area.

Advances in Statistical Climatology, Meteorology and Oceanography publishes cutting-edge scientific advances and statistical methods. We seek articles that are accessible to interdisciplinary researchers including scientists from the fields of statistics, applied mathematics, atmospheric science, climate research, oceanography, and related fields.

Submissions are being accepted currently - see the website (ascmo.net) for submission information. The executive editors of the journal are Michael Wehner from Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley Lab), and Jennifer Hoeting from Colorado State University.

Introduction to Time Series Analysis and Forecasting, 2nd Ed. by D. C. Montgomery, C. L. Jennings, and M. Kulahci (April 2015) Wiley. This book provides the theory of time series analysis that are needed to analyze time-oriented data and make real-world short- to medium-term statistical forecasts. Discussions on both popular and modern time series methods, including Bayesian methods.
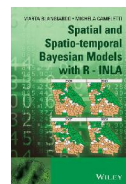
Spatial and Spatio-Temporal Geostatistical Modeling and Kriging by J. M. Montero, G. Fernández-Aviles, J. Mateu (July 2015), Wiley. This book meets the current high demand for geostatistical methodology with its unified approach to modeling spatial and spatio-temporal data. Coupled with relevant developments in R, it incorporates ideas from time series, spatial statistics and stochastic processes.

Statistical Applications for Environmental Analysis and Risk Assessment by J. Ofungwu (May 2014), Wiley. This book is aimed at the environmental professional seeking statistical methods to determine the nature and extent of an environmental problem, evaluate the potential human health and ecological risks, or design and implement remedial systems. Real-world examples are worked out and "ready-made" software scripts are provided.
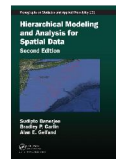
Spatial and Spatio-Temporal Bayesan Models with R-INLA by M. Blangiardo, and M. Cameletti (June 2015), Wiley. This book sits at the interface between Bayesian methodology and spatial statistics in a practical and innovative manner. A main focus is on using spatial and spatio-temporal models within the Bayesian framework. The numerous practical applications that arise in epidemiology, biostatistics and social science allow the reader to link the statistical theory to real data problems. Examples are all coded in the R package R-INLA, which has proven to be a valid alternative to the commonly used Markov Chain Monte Carlo simulations

Modelling Interactions Between Vector-Borne Diseases and Environment Using GIS, H. M. Khormi, and L. Kumar (May 2015), CRC Press. This book demonstrates geographic information systems (GISs) can enhance our understanding of the spread of vector-borne diseases and its impact on public health. Key spatial analysis techniques available in modern GIS are combined with real-world applications to help practitioners formulate disease causation hypotheses and identify areas at risk.

Hierarchical Modeling and Analysis for Spatial Data, 2nd Ed. S.Banerjee, B. P. Carlin, A. E. Gelfand (September 2014) by Chapman and Hall/CRC. This book presents a fully model-based approach to all areas of spatial statistics, including point level, areal, and point pattern data. A practical treatment of geostatistics that is supplemented with theory and statistical computing for hierarchical models is provided.

Distance Sampling: Methods and Applications by S. T. Buckland, E. A. Rexstad, T. A. Marques, and C. S. Oedekoven (August 2015) Springer. This book is aimed at quantitative ecologists interested in estimating the abundance of a given animal population. In particular, basic methods such as the design of surveys, distance sampling experiments, field methods (e.g. line and point transect sampling) are reviewed. Several modelling approaches for distance sampling data are also presented. Finally, variations in all of the above and practical data issues are discussed.

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:

Interim President: Ron Smith
        (president@environmetrics.org)

President-Elect: open position

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TIES Newsletter is a publication of The International Environmetrics Society (TIES). It is published semi-annually, or whenever the need arises by The International Environmetrics Society and distributed to TIES members as part of their annual dues. For questions regarding membership and other benefits, please contact Rosalba Ignaccolo at

    secretary@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 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 (pubofficer@environmetrics.org). 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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