

Tagungsbericht: International Conference of Teaching Statistics Salvador da Bahia, Brasilien, 2.-7. Juli 2006



Die von der International Association for Statistical Education alle vier durchgeführten Weltkonferenzen ICOTS sind ein großes Treffen von Mathematikdidaktikern, Kognitionspsychologen und Stochastikern zur Didaktik der Statistik. In diesem Sommer fand ICOTS 7 statt und war trotz der weiten Anreise (und wohl wegen der Attraktivität des Konferenzortes im Nordosten Brasiliens) auch von Teilnehmern aus Deutschland und Österreich gut besucht (siehe Liste am Ende des Beitrags). ICOTS 8 findet im Jahre 2010 in Slowenien statt. Im Folgenden finden Sie einen Kurzbericht der Organisatoren von ICOTS 7. Carmen Batanero (Spanien) ist die Vorsitzende des Internationalen Programmkomitees, Gilberte Schuyten (Belgien) ist Vorsitzende von IASE und Lisbeth Cordani (Brasilien) ist Vorsitzende des lokalen Organisationskomitees. Viele weitere Details können über die IASE Web-Seite gefunden werden: <http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/>.

CARMEN BATANERO, LISBETH CORDANI, GILBERTE SCHUYTEN

The International Conferences on Teaching Statistics (ICOTS) are the most important means of interchange that the International Association for Statistical Education (IASE) offers to the community of professionals and researchers concerned with statistics education. ICOTS history started 24 years ago when the Education Committee of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) decided to hold an International Conference on Teaching Statistics. The success of ICOTS-1 (1982, Sheffield, UK), ICOTS-2 (1986, Victoria, Canada), ICOTS-3 (1990, Dunedin, New Zealand) demonstrated that statistics teachers felt a strong need to unite, talk, and discuss the problems experienced in the course of their daily activities. In the meantime, it gave specialists in statistics, psychology and statistics education a forum to present the results of their research. Since the creation in 1991 of IASE as a section of ISI, IASE continued organizing ICOTS every four year (ICOTS-4, 1994, Marrakech, Morocco; ICOTS-5, 1998, Singapore; ICOTS-6, 2002, Cape Town, South Africa).

ICOTS-7 “Working Cooperatively in Statistics Education” is the first ICOTS conference at the South American continent and was attended by a total of 520 delegates from 55 countries. It was organized in collaboration with the Brazilian Statistical Association (ABE) with support by the American Statistical Association and other institutions (see list at ICOTS-7 webpage).

The theme “Working Cooperatively” has many faces. International cooperation was clearly emphasized in sessions under topic 1 “Working cooperatively in

Statistics education”, topic 9 “An international perspective on Statistics Education” and in other invited paper sessions. Also in the seven plenary lectures, speakers enlightened different aspects of “working cooperatively”. Statistics education is indeed based on many different disciplines such as statistics, education, mathematics education, psychology, sociology, philosophy which makes interdisciplinary cooperation for research beneficial for the advancement of statistics education research. Recent trends in teaching-learning theories emphasize the role of student activity and social interaction in learning.



Abb. 1: Carmen Maxara von der Universität Kassel bei ihrem ICOTS-Vortrag

Cooperative learning is said to stimulate depth of understanding, acquisition of problem-solving skills and formation of positive attitudes toward the subject being taught. The traditional model of teaching as a “transmission” is changing into a “transformation” model of learning.

Following the example of ICOTS-6 in South Africa where teacher training activities were for the first time organized as a separate stream throughout ICOTS, the Local Organizing Committee and in particular Lisbeth Cordani, Lilia Carolina Costa and 20 lecturers and observers organized a series of workshops attended by 60 local school teachers. The active approach of these activities was highly appreciated by the participants and they are looking forward for more. All this was possible thanks to financial support by the American Statistical Association and local support by the Universidade Federal da Bahia and the Instituto Anisio Teixeira. By supporting these local workshops IASE aims to stimulate statistics education in that part of the world the conference takes place and aims to attract people to research in statistics education.

During twenty four years of continuous critical work and progress in the field of statistics education, the ICOTS conferences have provided international fora for those involved in statistics education to exchange their ideas and to present their research and experiences in teaching statistics. This effort is reflected in the seven volumes of ICOTS Proceedings, which now constitute a valuable contribution to statistics education as a research discipline and a desired reference for teachers and researchers. In order to enhance the quality of the papers, the International

Programme Committee organized onwards ICOTS-6 a refereeing option for people submitting a paper. The papers presented in the ICOTS-7 proceedings are the product of the effort of more than 500 educators, statisticians, psychologists, researchers and lecturers. The more than 220 invited papers of the conference aim to present a synthesis of the main tendencies and developments in statistics education. They have been organized around the following 9 main topics: Working cooperatively in Statistics education, Statistics education at school level, Statistics education at the post-secondary level, Statistics education/training and the workplace, Statistics education and the wider society, Research in Statistics education, Technology in Statistics education, Other determinants & developments in Statistics education, An international perspective on Statistics education. The proceedings are completed with keynote lectures, about 110 Contributed Papers and about 120 summaries of Posters. A conference like ICOTS only can happen because of the commitment of a large number of people from around the world who are prepared to freely give much time and effort. We would like to pay tribute to the great support we received from so many people who helped in making the conference such a success.

After having ICOTS conferences at different continents, next ICOTS-8 will return to Europe where it started in 1982; this time in Slovenia in 2010 at Ljubljana. Note already the dates in your diary July 11-16, 2010, we are looking forward to meet you there! Visit our website at

<http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/>

ICOTS-7 Teilnehmer aus Deutschland und Österreich und ihre Themen

Rolf Biehler, *Working Styles and Obstacles: Computer-supported Collaborative Learning in Statistics*

Manfred Borovcnik, *New Paths in the Teaching of Statistics - with the Help of Spreadsheets*

Andreas Eichler, *Individual Curricula - Beliefs behind Teachers' Beliefs*

Joachim Engel, *Regression Modeling in Computer-Supported Learning Environments*

Helmut Maier, *Impact of Bologna Regulations on Education in Statistics within New Bachelor and Master Programmes in Berlin and Germany*

Carmen Maxara, *Students' Probabilistic Simulation and Modeling Competence after a Computer-intensive Elementary Course in Statistics* (zusammen mit Rolf Biehler)

Laura Martignon, *Educating Children in Stochastic Modeling: Games with Stochastic Urns and Colored Tinker-Cubes* (zusammen mit Elke Kurz-Milcke)

Hans-Joachim Mittag, *The Use of Advanced Visualisation Tools for Communicating European Data on Earnings to the Citizen*

Karsten Schmidt, *Throwing a Die with a Computer Algebra System - in Theory and Practice*

Peter Sedlmeier, *The Role of Scales in Teaching Statistics for Social Science Students*