

CWS Activities at the 57th Session of the ISI in Durban, South Africa August 17-22, 2009

The Committee on Women in Statistics will be very active sponsoring three Special Topics Sessions, conducting meetings for CWS members and for CWS Country Representatives, and taking part in an ISI planned dinner for all women attending the ISI meetings. The purpose of the dinner is to allow young professional women to meet and network with more established professional women.

Special Topic Sessions sponsored by CWS:

“The Challenges Faced by Women in Statistical Offices in Africa” (STCPM 74) Monday, August 17, 2009 from 9:00 to 11:15. Mirando Mafafo, a member of the South African program committee, organized this session. Three women will be presenting papers. We are hoping to have a large audience that will engage with the presenters and share their views on the issues presented in the papers.

“Issues Facing Women in Leadership Roles in Official Statistics” (STCPM 25) Tuesday, August 18, 2009 from 3:30 to 5:45 p.m. Martha Farrar, our webmaster, organized this as a panel session. Denise Lievesley, the current ISI president, will moderate the discussion. The session is being designed as an opportunity for the leaders on the panel to respond to issues they have faced as women. The panel members are Inger Eklund (Sweden), Susan Linacre (Australia), Eva Laczka (Hungary), and Awa Thiongane (Africa).

“Violence Against Women: How Indicators Can Influence Policy Development” (STCPM 24) Thursday August 20 from 3:30 to 5:45. Cynthia Clark organized the session. Violence against women is a topic that the UN Commission on the Status of Women has focused on recently. In this session presenters will discuss the analysis of survey data and the impact of their findings on policy. Three papers will be presented followed by a discussion by Grace Bediako of Ghana.

- Luay Shabaneh (Palestine): *Some Insights on Policy Implications and Methodology of Quantitative Measurement of Domestic Violence.*
- Linda Osterberg and Carolina Nordstrom (Sweden): *Statistics and Policy Making on Men’s Violence Against Women – the Swedish Example.*
- Linda Laura Sabbadini (Italy): *Italian Violence Against Women Survey: Lessons for the Policy Makers.*

We are hoping that the general discussion that follows will provide insights on studies done in other parts of the world.

CWS Meetings:

CWS members will meet Tuesday August 18th from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.

CWS country representatives will meet Thursday August 20th from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m.

Women in Statistics reception/dinner:

The event is scheduled for Thursday evening August 20th at 7:00 p.m. The goal of this activity is to provide a forum in which junior and senior women statisticians can interact with the hope that the interchange will result in individuals finding mentors or mentees within ISI. The event is open to all women registered for the ISI meetings.

Topics for the 58th Session of ISI - Dublin, Ireland in 2011:

This is our opportunity to engage members of ISI in issues of importance to women and women statisticians so we are seeking your suggestions for this future meeting. Please contact Cynthia Clark (czfclark@cox.net) with your ideas.