

**Female Statisticians looking for greater stature, ISI Daily 3, Friday April 8, 2005, Sydney, Australia, page 1.**

A worldwide network of women statisticians to help women achieve increased stature in statistics was outlined on Wednesday in the meeting of the ISI Committee on Women in Statistics (CWS).

The committee is actively soliciting regional and country correspondents to undertake development and profile raising activities for women statisticians, according to the CWS Chair, Cynthia Clark.

“The correspondents will be there to assist in networking in the country or region and to provide reports of activities relevant to CWS from their area of representation to be posted on the CWS web site, which is part of the ISI web site,” said Cynthia.

“Correspondents will also encourage the nominations of women as members of the ISI.

“The correspondents initiative is an important activity in support of the CWS objectives.”

Cynthia outlined the objectives of the CWS as follows:

- To promote and strengthen the representation of women statisticians in the ISI and its Sections,
- To help in providing opportunities for women members to assume active and visible roles in the ISI and other statistical associations,
- To collect information on women in the statistical professions in different countries and to facilitate the flow of information among women statisticians,
- To stimulate interest in statistics among women and encourage women in schools and colleges to study statistics,
- To support the compilation of statistics on women, with a view to generating relevant studies concerning women’s roles in the various activities in their countries.

Cynthia has been active in the ISI since the 1989 Session. She is presently the Director of the Methodology Directorate at ONS and was previously the Associate Director for Methodology and Standards of the US Census Bureau.

Her female role models and mentors in official statistics have been Margaret Martin, Barbara Bailar, Katherine Wallman, and Janet Norwood. Her statistical heroine? Florence Nightingale.

Cynthia reminded delegates that tomorrow there will be an Invited Paper Session, organized by the CWS, called *Surveying Women’s Issues*. It will address issues facing designers and program developers preparing surveys on issues specific to women – abortion, health, women’s rights, sexual assault, and literacy.

For more information about CWS, the web address is: [www.nass.usd.gov/cws](http://www.nass.usd.gov/cws)