

IASC News June 2020

Data Science, Statistics & Visualisation Conference (DSSV 2020)

Conference dates: July 29-31, 2020

Conference web site: <https://www.samsi.info/programs-and-activities/research-workshops/2020-data-science-statistics-and-visualisation-conference-july-29-31-2020/>

Location: VIRTUAL



Due to the Covid'19 outbreak, DSSV 2020 will be held as a virtual conference. All plenary speakers and most invited session speakers have already agreed to give their presentations virtually. However, since the timing needs to be as convenient as possible for different audiences around the world, the conference will be more compact,

starting at 9:00 a.m. New York City time and ending at 12:50 p.m. This will be difficult for our Australian and Chinese colleagues, and I apologize to them, but these are the time bands that work best for most of the IASC membership.

We are also planning to create social interactions and a virtual poster session during and outside the conference hours. We encourage members to make side appointments with old friends to Zoom or Skype and enjoy catching up over a glass of wine.

Going virtual has important benefits:

- The registration fee is only \$50 for IASC and ISI members.
- The conference will be recorded, so you won't have to pick between two equally interesting parallel sessions.
- No one will travel, which is good for the environment and for your finances.

Chef Paul Prudhomme was once asked about secrets for replacing butter when on a diet. He scoffed, saying approximately "There is no replacement for butter. Do something different." In that spirit, this won't be the same experience as an in-person conference---we are doing something different.

DSSV sessions will last for 75 minutes, so speakers in invited sessions will each have 25 minutes. We plan to use the platform Whova, which sits on top of Zoom and provides an intuitive visual interface for all the conference activities. We believe this platform has the capability we require to create an amazing virtual conference.

As a reminder, the plenary speakers are David Dunson (Duke University), Bobby Gramacy (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), Cynthia Rudin (Duke University), and Ming

Yuan (Columbia University). For a list of all speakers, see <https://www.samsi.info/programs-and-activities/research-workshops/2020-data-science-statistics-and-visualisation-conference-july-29-31-2020/speakers/>. A nearly complete schedule has been posted on the DSSV website, and speaker titles and abstracts are being added rapidly.

Renewed: IASC and Taylor & Francis Affiliate Program Continues to Provide Discounts on Book Purchases

IASC is pleased to announce that the affiliate agreement with Taylor & Francis continues in 2020. Taylor & Francis (and their CRC Press, Chapman & Hall, and Routledge branches) are the publishers of numerous statistical book series such as *The R Series* and *Texts in Statistical Science* and of numerous books in the area of *Computational Statistics*.

Our agreement with Taylor & Francis offers current IASC members a **20% discount** on book purchases when initiated through the IASC web page. You have to start at <http://iasc-isi.org/> and then click on the “20% OFF! with code IAS18” link at the bottom of this page. This redirects you to the IASC ISI web page maintained by Taylor & Francis / CRC Press. Make your online order as usual. At the time of checkout, please enter **IAS18** as promo code (if necessary). Even if you make purchases of already discounted books, please enter **IAS18** as promo code as a small proportion of the proceeds created through purchases via this web page will be returned to IASC. Enjoy your discounted book purchases from Taylor & Francis.



News from the IASC Executive Committee (May & June 2020)

First of all, I hope you and your loved ones made it through these difficult times so far. There is probably nobody among us who has not been effected one way or the other by the coronavirus pandemic.

It is incredible to see how quickly time flies by. It is now already June – which would have been the start of an exciting summer with several regional IASC-sponsored conferences in Mexico City, North Carolina, and Bologna/Italy. Apparently, due to the coronavirus pandemic, none of

these will take place physically in 2020. However, we will hold the virtual Data Science, Statistics, and Visualization (DSSV 2020) conference – see <https://www.samsi.info/programs-and-activities/research-workshops/2020-data-science-statistics-and-visualisation-conference-july-29-31-2020/>

With a registration fee of only \$50 for IASC members, retired people, and students, this will be an excellent opportunity to participate in this IASC conference series. I hope to virtually see you there next month,

Other than this, we have started to look how to hold our Executive Committee meeting and the IASC General Assembly in a virtual way. Look for further announcements in the next few weeks.

If you haven't renewed your IASC membership for 2020 so far, we really would like to keep you as an IASC member in these difficult times where it is so important, but also difficult, to draw meaningful conclusions for all of our everyday lives from limited information and data. At this time, we are looking at options how we can provide free access to the DSSV presentations to all IASC members a few weeks or months after the virtual DSSV conference. Also, if you are a more senior member of IASC, keep in mind that the IASC *ISI Nominations Committee* permanently looks for IASC members who could be supported with their nomination as an ISI-Elected Member – but this requires to be a current IASC member and to have been an IASC member in the past few years. So, if you haven't renewed your IASC membership for 2020 yet, I hope you will still do so in the next few weeks. Here is the link to the ISI *IASC Membership Form 2020*:

<https://www.isi-web.org/index.php/membership/individual-membership/iasc>

In any case: Stay healthy! I hope to see you virtually or in real life at one of our events in the next few years.