ERC – European Regional Committee

The European Regional Committee held its 2002 meeting during the 24rd European Meeting of Statisticians in Prague, the Czech Republic. The most important points at the meeting and in email discussions during the previous year were:

- The following new members of the ERC were declared elected for the period 2002 – 2006: Stephen P. Brooks (UK), Alexander Bulinski (Russia), Petros Dellaportas (Greece), Ingrid K. Glad (Norway), Adam Jakubowski (Poland), Tonu Kollo (Estonia), Catherine Laredo (France), and Daniel Peña (Spain).
- The 13th European Young Statisticians Meeting will take place in Ovronnaz, Switzerland in the days September 21 - 26, 2003. The members of the Local Organizing Committee are Reinhard Furrer, Thomas Gsponer, Baptiste Fournier and Eva Restle.
- The next Séminaire Européen de Statistique (SemStat) will be held in the Spring or Summer of 2004. The theme will be spatial-temporal processes and their statistics. The venue has not been decided yet. Claudia Klüppelberg wished to retire from the SemStat Steering Group and has been replaced by Michael Sørensen. The ERC is grateful Claudia Klüppelberg for the enormous work she has done for SemStat.
- The 25th European Meeting of Statisticians will be held in Oslo in 2005. The meeting will be organized jointly by the Norwegian Computing Centre and the University of Oslo. The Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee is Arnoldo Frigessi, and the Deputy Chairman is Nils Lid Hjort. It is expected that the broadening of the invited scientific programme decided by the ERC at its meeting in Prague will be visible in the programme of this meeting. Hopefully, the meeting will be attractive to a broad cross-section of statisticians and probabilists from all regions of Europe.
- The 24th European Meeting of Statisticians has held August 19 - 23, 2002 in Prague, the Czech Republic. The meeting was joint with the Prague Conference on Information Theory, Statistical Decision Functions, and Random Processes. In spite of the enormous problems caused by the flooding of Prague in the week before the meeting, the 24th EMS took place almost according to plan. Only relatively few participants had canceled their participation, and the invited programme was affected to only a minor degree by cancellations. The ERC wishes to express its profound gratitude to the organizer of the 24th European Meeting of Statisticians, Martin Janzura, and the Local Organizing Committee for arranging an unusually well-organized EMS under extremely difficult conditions. The ERC is also deeply grateful to the Scientific Programme Committee and in particular to its chairman Thomas Mikosch for his dedicated and able work. The meeting was supported financially by the European Commission through the Improving Human Potential Programme (High-Level Scientific Conferences).
- The ERC is similarly grateful to those who organized or lectured at the Séminaire Européen de Statistique instructional workshop on Extreme Value Theory and Applications held in Gothenburg, Sweden in the days December 10 - 15, 2001. The lecturers were Sid Resnick, Thomas Mikosch, Claudia Klüppelberg, Richard Smith, Stuart Coles, Anne-Laure Fourgères, and Paul Embrechts. The organizers of the meeting were Holger Rootzén, Bärbel Finkenstädt, Johan Segers and Jaques de Maré.
- The ERC has up-dated its statutes and the scenarios for the arrangement of the European Meetings of Statisticians and the SemStat courses. Apart from a number of natural updates caused e.g. be the availability of e-mail, the main changes in the scenario for the arrangement of the European Meetings of Statisticians are that the new version of the

scenario enables and encourages a broader and larger invited programme than has so far been the tradition, that from now on the meetings will be held biennially, and that the tradition of fairly modest circumstances has been emphasized more strongly.

- After the ERC meeting in Prague, Claudia Klüppelberg (Germany) took over the responsibilities as Chair of the ERC for the term 2002 – 2004.

- The new ERC Statutes, the new versions of the EMS and SemStat scenarios, and the minutes of the ERC meeting in Prague can be down-loaded from the ERC web-page at the address

  http://www.math.ku.dk/∼michael/erc/

  Here further information about the activities of the ERC and about future meetings can be found too.

Michael Sørensen