Classification Society

— Formerly the Classification Society of North America (CSNA) —

Herbie Lee, President
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Editorial

Dear friends, dear members of the Classification Society:

The next annual meeting of the Classification Society is just four weeks away! Our past president, Doug Steinley, will host the meeting at the University of Columbia-Missouri from June 1–4, 2016.

Further details can be found on the Classification Society’s new website.

https://tcs.wildapricot.org/Meeting

If you are planning on giving a talk, then, please, sent your abstract to Brian Franczak immediately (bfrancza@math.mcmaster.ca).

See you all in Columbia!

Frieder

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1. Looking Ahead: The Classification Society’s Annual Conference 2016

The 45th annual meeting of the Classification Society will take place from WED, June 1 (5:00 PM CDT), to SAT, June 4 (1:30 PM CDT), 2016, at the University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, MO. The meeting will be hosted by our former President, Doug Steinley.

Accommodation
The organizing committee has made arrangements with two hotels, the Tiger Hotel (http://www.thetigerhotel.com/) and The Broadway (http://thebroadwaycolumbia.com/), group code MCC. Both hotels are within convenient walking distance from the heart of the Mizzou campus.

Transportation
Direct flights to Columbia are available. Alternatively, participants can fly into St. Louis or Kansas City and take a shuttle to Columbia. A link to the most popular shuttle (The Mo-X) is given here: http://moexpress.com/moxolrs/default.aspx

Presentations
The organizing committee is now accepting abstracts for oral and poster presentations. Contributed talks will take place on June 2, 3, and 4th; posters will be presented on June 2. If you are interested in presenting your work at the upcoming meeting, please, send a pdf file with a Title and Abstract containing no more than 300 words to Brian Franczak, bfranca@math.mcmaster.ca, by May 1, 2016. In addition, please indicate whether you would like to be considered for an oral or poster presentation.
2. The 2016 Classification Society Distinguished Dissertation Award

Each year, the Classification Society offers a Distinguished Dissertation Award for an outstanding Ph.D. dissertation on the theme of clustering, classification, or related areas of data analysis, encompassing associated theory and/or applications. Several nominations of high quality were received for the 2016 award (for a dissertation completed in 2015).

As chair of the award committee, I am delighted to announce that the winner of the 2016 award is

Zsuzsa Bakk, Tilburg University, The Netherlands, for a thesis entitled
Contribution to Bias Adjusted Stepwise Latent Class Modeling,

and honourable mention goes to

Samuel Ventura, Carnegie Mellon University, USA, for a thesis entitled
Large-Scale Classification and Clustering Methods With Applications in Record Linkage.

Drs. Bakk and Ventura have been invited to speak at a special session of the Classification Society annual meeting, which will be held at the University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, MO, USA, from June 1–4. I would like to extend my thanks to Kathleen Gates and Herbie Lee for serving with me on the award committee. Details about nominations for the 2017 award (for a dissertation completed in 2016) will be available later this year.

Paul McNicholas
3. Important Conference Dates

(1) IC-SMHD-2016: International Conference on Information Complexity and Statistical Modeling in High Dimensions with Applications—a Festschrift in Honor of Prof. Dr. Hamparsum Bozdogan, May 18–21, 2016; Cappadocia, Nevşehir, Turkey; http://www.ic-smhd2016.com
(Abstract submission deadline, January 16, 2016.)

(2) Symmetry, Proportion and Seriality: The Semantics of Mirroring and Repetition in Science and the Arts, Academia Europaea Conference; May 26-28, 2016; Freiburg, Germany, Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS); www.ae-info.org/ae/Acad Main/Events/Symmetry
(Plenary address by Fionn Murtagh and Rosapia Lauro-Grotto.)

(3) Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy VI, June 6–10, 2016; Carnegie Mellon University; www.scma6.org
(The program is under development but tentatively includes keynote talks by Zeljko Ivezic (University of Washington) and Robert Tibshirani (Stanford); invited talks by astronomers/cosmologists Coryn Bailer-Jones (Max Planck Institute for Astronomy), Rebekah Dawson (UC Berkeley), Laurent Eyer (Geneva), Daniel Foreman-Mackey (Univ. of Washington), Ashish Mahabal (Caltech), Rachel Mandelbaum (CMU), Phil Marshall (SLAC), Brice Menard (Johns Hopkins), Pavlos Protopapas (Harvard), Jean-Luc Starck (CEA Saclay), Lucianne Walkowicz (Princeton), Risa Wechsler (Stanford); and by experts in statistical and machine learning methods: Ethan Anderes (UC Davis), Jeremy Kubica (Google), Ann Lee (CMU), Thomas Lee (UC Davis), James Long (Texas A&M), Jon McAuliffe (UC Berkeley), Xiao Li Meng (Harvard), Bodhisattva Sen (Columbia), Robert Wolpert (Duke). Abstract submission by February 1, 2016.)

(4) 2016 Classification Society Annual Conference, June 1–4, 2016; Columbia, MO, USA; www.classification-society.org

(5) IMPS 2013: International Meeting of the Psychometric Society, July 12–15, 2016; Renaissance Hotel in Asheville, NC, USA; www.psychometricsociety.org/content/imps-2016


(7) 22nd International Conference on Computational Statistics, August 23–26, 2016; Conference Centre of Oviedo, Spain; www.compstat2016.org
(8) CLEF 2016: Conference and Labs of the Evaluation Forum, **September 5–8, 2016**; Computer Science Department of the School of Sciences and Technology of the University of Évora, Portugal; clef2016.clef-initiative.eu/index.php

(9) RSS 2016: Royal Statistical Society—International conference for all statisticians and users of data, **September 5–8, 2016**; University Place, Manchester; www.rss.org.uk/RSS/Events/RSS_Conference/RSS_2016_International_Conference

(10) IAUS 325: Astroinformatics (AstroInfo16)—International Astronomical Union Symposia 325, **September 29–October 4, 2016**; Sorrento, Italy; www.iau.org/science/meetings/future/symposia/1158

(11) ICPR 2016: 23rd International Conference on Pattern Recognition, **December 4–8, 2016**; Cancun International Convention Center, Cancun, Mexico; www.icpr2016.org (Hosted by the Mexican Association for Computer Vision, Neurocomputing and Robotics [MACVNR]; includes pattern recognition, machine learning and computer vision.)

(12) 2017 IFCS Biennial Meeting, **August, 8–10, 2017**; Tokyo, Japan; www.ifcs.info