The International Federation of Classification Societies, founded in 1985, is composed of: British Classification Society, Classification Society of North America, Gesellschaft für Klassifikation, Japanese Classification Society, Société Francophone de Classification, Società Italiana di Statistica, Association des Sociétés Yougoslaves de Statistique, and Vereniging voor Ordinatie en Classificatie.

The IFCS is a non-profit, non-political scientific organization, the aims of which are to further classification research. Among other activities, the IFCS organises a biennial conference, and supports the Journal of Classification.

President's Introduction

The Federation is now over five years old and during most of this time we have been looking forward to the better communication between members that a Newsletter can bring. That we are now in the happy position of welcoming the first issue is in no small measure due to the efforts of Hans Bock and his committee (David Hand, BCS; William Day, CSNA; Martin Schader, GfKl; Keiji Yajima, JCS; Antonio Mineo, SIS; Michel Jambu, SFC; Jacqueline Meulman, VOC; Anuška Ferligoj, JSK). They all deserve our thanks for putting in so much hard work, not only in finding an editor but also in working out the mechanics and format of the publication. We are indeed fortunate that Fionn Murtagh has agreed to take on the editorship; he has substantial publication experience, speaks many of the languages used by our members and is a personal member of three of our societies. I am sure that we all recognise that editorship of the Newsletter is not a sinecure. If there are no teething troubles, it will probably be for the first time that such a publication will have had a smooth launch. So please help by sending Fionn interesting material, by offering suggestions for improvement and by letting him know of any difficulties that you may come across. I wish him well in this venture.

According to our constitution the members of the Federation are not individual people but are the component societies. These are a very heterogeneous group, with different constitutional structures and whose memberships seem to have rather different interests. Thus the SFC and VOC are linguistically defined (for French and Dutch-speaking members, respectively), the SIS and JSK are subsections of their national statistical societies (in Italy and Yugoslavia, respectively) while the other societies are more geographically defined. Even there we have variations: the CSNA embraces the USA and Canada, a well-defined geographic area but crossing national boundaries and overlapping with the interests of the SFC; the GfKl presumably now serves a unified Germany but I believe it is not defined linguistically. The BCS has always been a little unsure of its geographical identity, probably because of two different historical usages - "The Isle of Britain" and "The British Isles". The former smacks of Arthurian legend and certainly refers to what are now England, Scotland and Wales (and Cornwall too); the latter seems also to include Ireland. However one interprets things I am sure that the BCS welcomes Irish members - how about it Fionn? Only the JCS seems to have a completely well-defined geographical, linguistic and methodological area.

This organisational diversity extends to the technical interests of our members. For some the study of classification is securely embedded within long-standing statistical societies. For others it exists alongside such societies, usually, but not always, on good terms. Sometimes the emphasis is on methodological matters, sometimes on philosophical matters and sometimes on applications. Much depends on regional traditions and much on how data-

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analysis is viewed locally. Historically the earliest activities of what was to become the IFCS were concerned with biological and ecological classification and these remain important sectors of interest. A little later applications in the social sciences were added. As is so often the case, new problems demanded new methodology, and before long it was recognised that those working in these areas were developing methods that had much wider interest than for the immediate applications; indeed methods of general statistical and data-analytical applicability were being developed. Thus the IFCS welcomes all who have an interest in the theory and applications of classification, and we are ready to interpret very broadly what we mean by the theory of classification, so broadly indeed that most forms of data-analysis, especially multidimensional data-analysis, are acceptable. The role of computing and information science also comes within our orbit, not only the development of algorithms and associated software but also those aspects that are concerned, in the widest sense, with information storage and retrieval. Although the degree of emphasis varies from one region to region, I believe that it is the cross-disciplinary nature of our activities that offers the most exciting challenges and makes our Federation unique among scientific societies.

With such a rich background and diversity of interests the Newsletter should have a bright future. It is up to its readers to see that the potential is realised.

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Vereniging voor Ordinatie en Classificatie (Dutch-Belgian Classification Society, VOC)

The Dutch-Belgian VOC (Vereniging voor Ordinatie en Classificatie) was officially founded in January 1989, and became a member organization of the IFCS in June 1989. At the moment the society has 82 members. The current board of the VOC consists of Willem J. Heiser (president), Georgios Martakis (secretary), Jaap de Gruijter (treasurer), and Paul de Boeck, Jacqueline Meulman, Geert de Soete (members).

The main activities of the VOC are the distribution of a newsletter and the organization of two meetings per year. Since 1989 meetings were held in Wageningen (organized by the Agricultural Mathematics Group), Leiden (Department of Data Theory), Vlaardingen (Unilever), and the November 1990 meeting will be in Leuven (Department of

Psychology). Usually the scientific part of a meeting consists of a symposium around a central theme, and a number of contributed papers. In addition, a number of distinguished guests from abroad (such as John Gower, Pierre Legendre, Jan-Bernd Lohmoeller, and next time Hans Bock) have given keynote addresses at VOC meetings.

The provisional programme of the 16 November 1990 meeting in Leuven is:

"Automatic count and identification of single-celled algae using a new type of flow cytometer"; "Introduction", K. Peters; "Technique and first results", H. Hofstraat; "Neural networks as methods of classification", A. Smit.

"Graphical representation of data: MDS, clustering and line diagrams", H.-H. Bock.

"The use of three-way methods in chromotography", A. Smilde and D.A. Doornbos.

"The importance of subjectivity in the classification of spatial units", I. Thomas.

Jacqueline Meulman
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People and Places

The following are some recent address changes. Please let the editor know of such changes for the next issue of the Newsletter.

• Michael Greenacre is at: Ecole des Mines, Centre for Remote Sensing and Analysis of Natural Environment (CTAMN), Sophia Antipolis, F-06565 Valbonne Cedex, France, until June 1991. His email address is: mg@bull.cma.fr.

• Anuška Ferligoj is a Fulbright Scholar at the following address until May 1991: c/o Prof. Patrick Doreian, Department of Sociology, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260, USA.

• ... and Phipps Arabie is at: Graduate School of Management, Rutgers University, 92 New Street, Newark NJ 07102-1895, USA. Email: 2018001@rutvm1.bitnet

British Classification Society

The British Classification Society will host the Internation Federation's Third Conference in August 1991 (see Diary entry on page 7). Much effort is being currently directed towards this event. Note that it will directly precede the 45th Edinburgh International Festival of the Arts.

A meeting sponsored by the BCS among other organizations was held on 23 October 1990 on "Cluster Analysis in Chemistry". Speakers and presentations were as follows:

N. Bratchell, Institute of Food Research: "Review/tutorial".
S. Pack, Shell Research, "Applications of cluster analysis".
M. Parsell and S. Elmore, Institute of Food Research, "Cluster analysis for sample selection".
M. Adams, Wolverhampton Polytechnic, "Application of cluster analysis to infrared..."
D. Livingstone, SmithKline Beecham, "Applications of cluster analysis in QSAR and molecular modelling".

The BCS also hope to hold a meeting on "Classification in Psychology and Psychiatry" in February or March 1991.

Dr. S. E. Hitchcock
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Classification Society of North America

This year marks the twenty second year in the history of the Classification Society of North America (CSNA). The growth and development of quantitative methods in clustering and classification experienced in the sixties led to the establishment of the Classification Society in Great Britain in 1964 and to the North American Branch in 1969, which was incorporated into CSNA in 1984. Professional specialities represented among CSNA's members, in numerical order, are Statistics, Psychology, Biology, Computer Science, Engineering, Business, Mathematics, Sociology, Education, and others. Most members are affiliated with universities, but government, industry, private business, and consultants are also members. CSNA is one of the charter members of the International Federation of Classification Societies.

The Society is a nonprofit, interdisciplinary organization that promotes the scientific study of clustering and classification. It disseminates scientific and educational information through publications and meetings. The Journal of Classification, which has been published continuously since 1984, is methodologically oriented and emphasizes developments in techniques of data analysis. In addition to scientific articles, it includes book review and software abstracts. The Classification Literature Automated Search Service is an annual indexed bibliography of recent articles in clustering and classification. The CSNA Newsletter appears five times a year and features Society news, brief overviews of research areas, book reviews, and regular columns. Members of CSNA receive all three publications.

The 1990 annual meeting of CSNA was hosted by Michael Windham at Utah State University, Logan Utah. The 1991 meeting will be hosted by Phipps Arabie at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ jointly with the Psychometric Society. For the first time, the 1990 meeting was immediately preceded by a short course on clustering and exploratory data analysis taught by Richard Dubes, Pierre Legendre, and Glenn Milligan. The meeting consisted of two days of technical sessions included invited talks by James Bezdek (Pattern Recognition and Neural Networks) and John Hartigan (Probabilities and Clustering). Invited sessions were arranged on Clustering and Search with Pathfinder, Classification in Psychology and Sociology, and Pattern Analysis Using the Mantel Test. Contributed sessions on clustering, scaling, trees, validity, and related topics were held. The annual business meeting of the Society and the annual meeting of its Board of Directors were also held. As with all annual meetings, the informal interaction among the 60-odd attendees typified the type of interchange of ideas that has made the annual meeting so valuable.

Prof. Richard C. Dubes
Computer Science Department
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824, USA
Email: dubes@pixel.cps.msu.edu

Japanese Classification Society (JCS)

The Japanese Classification Society was founded in 1983 with the following objectives:

"The purpose of the Society shall be the development and expansion of classification research through cooperation by researchers in classification-related fields and through international information exchange." (Article 2 of the JCS Constitution.)

As indicated, the JCS works for the advancement of both theories of classification and the practical application of these theories in a variety of fields. The Society currently consists of 170 members representing a wide cross-section of related fields: statistics, computer science, psychology,

social psychology, philology, archaeology, linguistics, economics, industrial engineering, biology, agriculture, medicine, geology, and many others. This is a unique membership mix which is not seen in the other seven societies of the IFCS.

The JCS holds both a general meeting and a research meeting annually, and in addition sponsors a yearly symposium with the objective of reviewing classification research on specific topics or research fields and of promoting the activities of the Society. In addition to publishing the proceedings of these meetings, the Society also publishes a biennial newsletter for exchanging information on the latest advances in classification research and in data analysis and related software. Recently the newsletter has been produced using a desk-top publishing system, and thus documentary and software information can be distributed to members on request. The Bulletin of the JCS, for instance, which is available in English, contains abstracts of the annual research meeting. This document is available on a Macintosh diskette.

The Executive Members of the JCS are (April 1, 1989 to March 31, 1991):

President: Seiroku Sakai (Daito Bunka University)
Secretary: Keiji Yajima (Science University of Tokyo)

The Executive Committee Members are (dates as above):

Hirotugu Akaike (Institute of Statistical Mathematics)
Choichiro Asano (Kyusyu University)
Syuichi Iwatsubo (National Center for University Entrance Examination)
Shoichi Ueda (Ryukoku University)
Noboru Ohsumi (Institute of Statistical Mathematics)
Yasuo Ohashi (Tokyo University)
Masashi Okamoto (Otemon Gakuin University)
Tadakazu Okuno (Science University of Tokyo)
Kiyosi Karube (Yoron-Kagaku Kyokai)
Masashi Goto (Shionogi Kaiseki Center)
Masaaki Sibuya (Keio University)
Meiko Sugiyama (NHK)
Tatsuzo Suzuki (Institute of Statistical Mathematics)
Chikio Hayashi (University of the Air)
Toji Makino (Science University of Tokyo)
Nozomu Matsubara (Tokyo University)
Kinji Mizuno (Institute of Statistical Mathematics)
Keiji Yajima (Science University of Tokyo)
Haruo Yanai (National Center for University Entrance Examination)
Kazumasa Wakimoto (Okayama University)

Prof. Keiji Yajima
Faculty of Engineering, Science University of Tokyo
1-3 Kagurazaka, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan 162
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Section on Classification (JSK) of the Federation of Statistical Societies of Yugoslavia

The Section on Classification (JSK) of the Federation of Statistical Societies of Yugoslavia (SSDJ), founded in 1986, combines about 50 researchers from many scientific fields who are concerned with various problems of classification and clustering. JSK was officially admitted to membership of the IFCS on 15 June 1988.

JSK organizes regular annual meetings at Mostar. There have been four meetings so far in 1987, 1988, 1989 and 1990. The proceedings of these meetings are published. The proceedings of the most recent meeting, held in May 1990, will appear shortly. Selected papers are also published in the journal of the Federation of Statistical Societies of Yugoslavia, *Statistička revija*.

JSK is managed by a council and the council elects a president, vice-president and secretary. The JSK's first president was Prof. Branislav Ivanović. The current JSK officers are: Dr. Anuška Ferligoj (President), Dr. Srđan Bogosavljević (Vice-President) and Dr. Emir Veledar (Secretary).

Contents of Proceedings, Annual Meeting, Mostar University, 1989.

D. Acketa and N. Carić, "An algorithm for clustering the organizational units in enterprises".

K. Bosnar, "Application of classificational procedure over the parameters of regressional analysis".

A. Ferligoj and V. Batagelj, "Relocation method for multicriteria clustering".

M. Gredelj, A. Hošek and K. Momirović, "Taxonomic analysis of qualitative changes of criminal behavior".

B. Ivanović, "Distance between two classifications".

M. Jerman, "Coefficients in the Lance-Williams' formula for hierarchical clustering".

Z. Jevtić and D. Durić-Bijelić, "Determining the position of Yugoslavia in the group of chosen countries on the basis of development indicators".

J. Jug, "Procedures for cluster analysis in the cluster analysis package CLUSE and statistical analysis packages SPSS and SAS".

B.V. Kudravcev and K. Momirović, "On an approach to recognition problems".

S. Mićković, "The clustering method based on dissimilarity measure specific for time series".

S. Misović, "Classifications and nomenclatures of products and services in statistical systems".

K. Momirović, "Quasicanonical discriminant analysis in Pearson discriminant space".

M. Nikolić, "On procedures of classification by descriptive characteristics".

M. Nikolić, "For the discussion on classifications of official statistics".

F. Prot, "Algorithm and program for recognition of taxons of sportsmen in sport games".

M. Siudak and M. Trocki, "The measure of similarity of

discriminations".

S. Stavić, "Classification of North-Bosnian communes according to participation of employees in the social sector".

N. Viskić-Stalec and R. Bujanović-Pastuović, "Evolution of deviant and delinquent behavior (a classification comparison)".

Dr Anuška Ferligoj
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61000 Ljubljana, Yugoslavia

Società Italiana di Statistica (SIS) - Italian IFCS Group

Colloquium: *Classification and Data Analysis. Methods, Software and Applications*, Pescara, 11-12 October 1990. Program:

A. Bellacicco and A. Pacinelli, "Clustering of territorial data using a quasi-Markovian model".

M. Chiodi, "Group analysis of mixed data in the presence of missing data".

C. Greco, "Influence of the clustering method on the estimation of parameters of a bimodal normal distribution".

C. Greco and L. La Tona, "An extension to the bivariate case of a method for clustering into 'natural classes'".

L. La Tona, "On estimation of regression parameters using clustered data".

R. Baccolini, F. Camillo and S. Zecchi, "Synthetic indices of the stock market: an application of principal components factor analysis".

G. Bove, "Representation of the components of statistical models using square tables".

G. Colasanti, "Stopping and validity tests in cluster analysis. A theorem of the trade-off between partitions in k-means and partitions in fuzzy k-means".

A. Di Ciaccio, "Forced classification and generalized canonical analysis. Relations and potential for employment in sociological analysis".

A. Russo and P.D. Falorsi, "The estimation of mean quadratic error of any form of synthetic estimator in two-level samples used in ISTAT family surveys".

G. Arbia, "Area sampling of dependent observations".

G. Jona-Lasinio, "Tables and distributions of Moran and Geary indices under the hypothesis of dependent normal observations, with replacement through random and non-random sampling".

P. Andreozzi, "Use of a multinomial function for charac-

terization of populations. A sampling application relative to professional development of Roman university graduates".

M. Corduas, "Critical considerations on methods of classification of time series".

G. Di Biase and A. Maturo, "On a Bayesian analysis for verifying causality in pseudo-random series: application software and interpretation of results".

C. Perna, "Common principal components in discrimination problems".

A. Tarsitano, "Theory and applications of multivariate tolerance intervals".

N. Bartoli, "An application of the Wilson model for distinguishing gravitational consumption-motivated zones in the Latium region".

S. Camiz, "Multivariate methods for the analysis of urban services".

G. Celant, "Simulation problems in the area of stationary spatial stochastic processes".

A. Pollice and M. Chieppa, "A method for the analysis of territorial distributions of a structural autoregressive type".

G. Skonieczny, "Territorial structure and human capital in Sicily".

S. Balbi, "Problems of stability in factor analysis".

L. D'Ambra and H. Kiers, "Analysis of log-trilinear models for a three-way contingency table by least squares method and Parafac/Candecomp procedure".

L. Ricolfi, "HELGA: a new package for cluster analysis".

S. Scippacercola, "Methods for analysis of trajectories of data matrices".

R. Siciliano, "Non symmetric correspondence analysis by maximum likelihood".

Round table: A. Rizzi, A. Bellacicco, G. Burgio, R. Coppi, L. D'Ambra, F. De Antoni, C. Lauro, A. Mineo, D. Piccolo and L. Pieraccini, "Reflections on classification and data analysis: methods, applications and new research perspectives".

Prof. Antonino Mineo
Istituto de Statistica della Facoltà
di Economica e Commercio
Università di Palermo
Viale delle Scienze
I-90128 Palermo, Italy

German·Classification Society - Gesellschaft für Klassifikation

Fall Meeting, Data Analysis and Numerical Classification Working Group of the German Classification Society, Siegen University, 26-27 October 1990. Program:

L. Glagau, "The concept of dimension as a special display".

G. Herden, "Stress measures for distances, which have ordinal significance only".

B. Lausen, "On a local improvement of the method of classification and regression trees".

J. Formella, "An expert system for assessing and classifying coal storage locations (with demonstration)".

R. Baumgart, "Considerations for systematizing the geometric interpretation of correspondence analysis of aggregated data".

P. Ihm, "Influential observations in correspondence analysis".

M. Nagel, "Meta-analysis of the contamination through BCB and DDT of Baltic fish with the help of PC-ISP/DGS+".

H.J. Mucha, "Assessment of stability in cluster analysis: methods and applications".

P.O. Degens and U. Halekoh, "Minimization of quadratic forms and/or the method of least squares".

Dressler, Fisher and H.G. Nollau, "Investigation of writing patterns by means of neural networks".

Workshop: Proposals for analysis of two data sets concerning usage of media and socio-demography; and detective thrillers and fairy tales.

-   The first project seeks, in an exploratory way, to study the knowledge structures or cognitive schemata which are most prominent among television viewers, in relation to program format. It also seeks to know which socio-demographic and media-usage characteristics influence these knowledge structures. Possible questions for the analysis include: What are the average knowledge structures for the program formats looked at? Do the data allow clusters of program formats to be constructed, and how might these clusters be described? What are the socio-demographic and media-usage characteristics which result in noticeable deviation from the average knowledge structure, or in cross-over from one cluster to another? What graphical representation methods are possible for the data (i.e. the knowledge structure data)?

The second data set concerns detective thrillers and fairy tales. Knowledge of these were surveyed among 42 test subjects and represented in a net structure for further processing. The nets consist of concepts (statements) and relations (logical relationships). Data are formed as the distance measure of a net with respect to another net.

The Siegen meeting is organized by: Dr. R. Ostermann, Universität-Gesamthochschule-Siegen, Postfach 101240, D-5900 Siegen, Germany. Telephone: 0271/740-4388. Email: ostermann@hrz.uni-siegen.dpb.de.

15th Annual Conference of the Gesellschaft für Klassifikation, Salzburg University, 25-27 February 1991: "Classification, Data Analysis and Information Processing: A Challenge for Interdisciplinary Research"

Themes: Conceptual Structuring and Basic Concepts; Analysis and Classification of Data; Classification in Linguistics; Data Analysis in Geography; Classification in Medicine and Biology; Information and Data Analysis in Jurisprudence; Information Systems and Databanks; Terminological Methods; Library Science and Archival Research; Data Analysis in Aesthetics and Antiquities; Data Analysis and Classification in Economics; and Software for Classification, Data Analysis and Information Processing.

A range of workshops and tutorials is planned in conjunction with the conference:

• a workshop on "Data analysis in aesthetics and antiquities";

• a training course for librarians;

• a workshop on "Informatics and data analysis in jurisprudence";

• a workshop on "Analysis of sequence data: programs and applications", in the area of biological taxonomy; and finally

• an introductory course in software for data analysis and cluster analysis.

In addition a number of working group meetings are planned, such as that of the Terminology Systems Working Group.

For the contact point, and deadlines, for the Salzburg conference, see the Diary section on page 7.

Workshop of the Working Group on Biological Taxonomy, Institute for Botany and Microbiology, Technical University Munich, 23-24 November 1990. (See Diary section on page 7 for contact point.) Program:

W. Ludwig, "Structure and information content of 23-s-ribosomal RNA".

Dr. Klenk, "RNA polymerase as a phylogenetic marker molecule".

B. Lausen, "Distances and positional variability".

Th. Debener, "Genetic analysis in plants using molecular markers".

W. Vach, "Methodological considerations concerning the estimation of the number of mutations".

H. Hofmann, "A question of significance when searching for similar sequences in protein and DNA databases".

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Diary

Event: Workshop of the Working Group on Biological Taxonomy, German Classification Society
Dates: 23-24 November 1990
Venue: Institute for Botanics and Microbiology, University of Munich, Germany
Contact: Dr. P.O. Degens; or Dr. W. Ludwig, Lehrstuhl für Mikrobiologie, TU München, Arcisstraße 16, Munich. Tel: 089/2105-2370 or -2375.

Event: Workshop on Neural Networks for Statistical and Economic Data
Dates: 10-12 December 1990
Venue: Dublin, Ireland
Contact: F. Murtagh: fionn@dgaeso51.bitnet or murtagh@scivax.stsci.edu.

Event: 7th Annual Research Meeting, Japanese Classification Society
Date: End of December 1990 (full day)
Contact: Prof. Keiji Yakima, Faculty of Engineering, Science University of Tokyo, 1-3 Kagurazaka, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan 162. Tel: 03 260-4294 ext. 3557. Fax: 03 260-4294. Bitnet: II6718@JPNSUT20

Event: 15th Annual Conference, Gesellschaft für Klassifikation
Dates: 25-27 February 1991
Venue: University of Salzburg, Austria
Contact: Prof. Dr. J. Hoebl, Institut für Romanistik, Universität Salzburg, Akademiestr. 24, A-5020 Salzburg.
Abstract: Receipt of abstract by 30 October 1990

Event: 6th Conference on the Scientific Use of Statistical Software
Date: 7-21 April 1991
Venue: Heidelberg, Germany
Contact: SoftStat '91, ZUMA, Postfach 122155, D-6800 Mannheim 1, Germany. Tel: + 49 621 180040, fax: + 49 621 1800449, email: o05@dhdurz2

Event: 5th JSK Annual Meeting
Venue: Dept. of Economics, University of Mostar, Yugoslavia
Dates: 25-26 May 1991
Contact: Dr. Emir Veledar, Ekonomoski fakultet, B. Parovića 2, YU-88000 Mostar. Tel: 88 415-236

Event: 1991 Joint Meeting of the Psycho-metric Society and the Classification Society of North America
Venue: Cook Campus Center, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Dates: 13-16 June 1991
Contact: Prof. Phipps Arabie, Graduate School of Management, Rutgers University, 92 New Street, Newark NJ 07102-1895. Tel: (201) 648-1020
Paper: Receipt of paper by 15 March 1991

Event: 6th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling
Dates: 15-19 July 1991
Venue: University of Utrecht
Contact: W. Jansen, VOS, Methods Section, University of Utrecht, Postbus 80.140, NL-3408 TC Utrecht. Email: sslzejj@ cc.ruu.nl or sslzejj@ hutruu0.bitnet

Event: European Meeting of the Psychometric Society
Dates: 28-31 July 1991
Venue: University of Trier
Contact: Rolf Steyer, University of Trier, FB 1-Psychology, Postfach 3825, D-5500 Trier, Germany. Tel: 0651/ 2012056

Event: 9th Annual Symposium, Japanese Classification Society
Date: End of July 1991 (half day)
Contact: Prof. Keiji Yakima, Faculty of Engineering, Science University of Tokyo, 1-3 Kagurazaka, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan 162. Tel: 03 260-4294 ext. 3557. Fax: 03 260-4294. Bitnet: II6718@JPNSUT20

Event: Third Conference, International Federation of Classification Societies
Dates: 6-9 August 1991
Venue: Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, Scotland
Contact: Prof. David J. Hand, Faculty of Mathematics, The Open University, Walton Hall, Milton Keynes MK7 6AA, England. Tel: 0908-655974. Fax: 0908-653744. Email: dj_hand@vax.acs.open.ac.uk
Abstract: 3 copies of abstract by 15 January 1991

Officers and Council Members, IFCS

Executive Committee of the IFCS

President:
Prof. John C. Gower
Department of Data Theory
Leiden University, The Netherlands

Vice-President (to 31 December 1990):
Prof. Robert R. Sokal
Deparment of Ecology and Evolution
State University of New York at Stony Brook

Secretary/Treasurer:
Prof. Pierre Legendre
Department of Biological Sciences
University of Montreal, Canada

Council:
BCS: Mr. R.W. Payne
              Rothamsted Experimental Station
         Prof. David J. Hand
              The Open University
CSNA: Prof. Phipps Arabie
              Rutgers University
         Dr. Joseph B. Kruskal
              AT&T Bell Laboratories
JCS: Prof. Chikio Hayashi
              University of the Air
         Dr. Keiji Yajima
              JUSE
JSK: Prof. Branislav Ivanović
              University of Belgrade
         Dr. Anuška Ferligoj
              Edvard Kardelj University
GfKl: Prof. Hans H. Bock
              University of Aachen
         Dr. Paul O. Degens
              University of Düsseldorf
SIS: Prof. N. Carlo Lauro
              University of Naples
         Prof. Atonino Mineo
              University of Palermo
SFC: Prof. Pierre Cazès
              University of Paris-Dauphine
         Dr. Michel Jambu
              CNET
VOC: Prof. Willem J. Heiser
              University of Leiden
         Dr. Jacqueline L. Meulman
              University of Leiden

Four additional members:
         Prof. William H.E. Day
              Memorial U. of Newfoundland
         Prof. Edwin Diday
              INRIA

Dr. Ludovic Lebart
CNRS
Prof. Gert de Soete
University of Ghent

Editor's Final Word

With thanks to all of the contributors to this issue, a start has been made and the long-awaited IFCS Newsletter has taken shape. Some societies will discuss further the type of material to be contributed next time around. This is an excellent idea. There is a wealth of information in the different societies of the Federation which needs to be effectively communicated.

One important remark concerning this issue: the order of placement of articles from the different societies is random!

The deadline for contributions for issue number 2 is Friday, February 22 1991, so that the Newsletter will appear in early March. Contributions in electronic form, preferably by email, will make life easier.

In the light of John's remarks on page 1, I must confess to having had thoughts of investigating interest in an Irish Classification Society! For the foreseeable future, however, it is clear that looking after this Newsletter will be a sufficient task.

Suggestions and ideas for topics similar to, or other than, the range of material covered in this issue are very welcome. Do you have particular thoughts, for instance, that could appear in a "Letters to the Editor" column? Or is there an issue - technical or social - that you would like to communicate with other members of the IFCS? If so, the IFCS Newsletter is the place for it!

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