香港統計學會
Hong Kong Statistical Society
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Editor's Foreword

Welcome to the March 2017 issue of the HKSS Bulletin.

This issue of the Bulletin highlights two articles: one from Professor Q. SHAO of CUHK on his work (jointly with Professor B. Y. JING of HKUST) on "Self-normalised Limited Theory and Stein's Method" which won the State Natural Science Award by The State Council of China in 2015; the other from Ms. Sharon NG and Mr. SO Ka-kit of C&SD on the improvements and key statistical results of the 2016 Population By-census.

Mr. Dickson CHAN and Dr. Philip YU, Chairpersons of two annual events of our Society, Statistical Project Competition for Secondary School Students and Statistics Creative-Writing Competition, gave reports on this year's events.

I am deeply sorry to tell you that Professor J. Aitchison, the founding President of the Society, passed away on 23 December 2016.

Ben Chan

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President's Forum

Professor K.W. NG

It is a very sad news to the Hong Kong statistics profession that our Founding President, Professor John Aitchison, passed away on 23 December 2016. I trust all HKSS Members would join me in expressing our sincere condolences to his family. Please see the Obituary in the News Section on p.13. He is the one who had influenced me to stay in The University of Hong Kong, leaving the University of Toronto where I was a tenured Associate Professor.

This year marks three significant events for Hong Kong statisticians, namely the 40th Anniversary of the Hong Kong Statistical Society (HKSS), the Golden Jubilee Anniversary of both the Census and Statistics Department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the Statistics and Actuarial Science Department of The University of Hong Kong (which is the earliest tertiary statistics department in Hong Kong).

The commemoration activities of the aforesaid Golden Jubilee Anniversaries are highlighted in the News Section on p.14-15. The activities for the 40th HKSS Anniversary would be planned and finalised after the 2017 Annual General Meeting of HKSS in April.

In addition to the interesting articles with titles and authors on the CONTENTS page in this issue of HKSS Bulletin, I think Members would also be interested in the various items in the News Section. Please enjoy.

Asymptotic Theory: The Legend of Self-Normalisation

Professor SHAO Qi-man
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Asymptotic theory has played an important role in the development of probability and statistics. The classical limit theorems such as the law of large numbers, the central limit theorem, large and moderate deviations are fundamental results in probability theory, which also provide powerful tools for statistical analysis. However, the normalising coefficients in these classical limit theorems are deterministic and given by a sequence of constants. It is well-known that moment conditions or related assumptions are necessary for these theorems. For example, a central limit theorem holds for sums of independent random variables if and (nearly) only if the Lindeberg condition is satisfied; a large deviation theorem is valid if and only if the moment generating condition is finite. On the other hand, the normalising coefficients in many commonly used statistics are typically random. A prototypical example is Student's t-statistic introduced in 1908 by Student (Gosset). This is because the statistic under consideration usually involves some unknown nuisance parameters; in particular, one needs to estimate these nuisance parameters first and then substitute the estimators into the statistic. The statistic with the estimated nuisance parameters is said to be Studentised or self-normalised. To study the asymptotic properties of the self-normalised statistics, since the estimated nuisance parameters are random, one used to assume more moment conditions so that the estimators can be replaced by the deterministic parameters and then some classical asymptotic theorem can be applied. Thus, the assumptions for self-normalised asymptotic theorems used to be more restrictive than the classical limit theorems. On the other hand, the active developments of a rich probability theory of self-normalised processes in the past three decades have shown a completely new aspect of self-normalisation. In contrast to the classical limit theorems, the self-normalised limit theorems may hold under no moment assumptions or much weaker moment assumptions. Griffin and Kuelbs (1989) obtained the laws of the iterated logarithm for self-normalised sums of independent and identically distributed variables belonging to the domain of attraction of a normal or stable law; Shao (1997) established the self-normalised large deviation theorem without any moment assumptions; Jing, Shao and Zhou (2004) further derived saddlepoint approximations for Student's t-statistic with no moment assumptions; Bercu, Gassiat and Rio (2002) obtained large and moderate deviation results for self-normalised empirical processes; Jing, Shao and Wang (2003) established the self-normalised Cramér type moderate deviation theorems for independent random variables, which have been extended to general self-normalised processes by Shao and Zhou (2016). The book by de la Peña, Lai and Shao (2009) is the first book that systematically treats the theory and applications of self-normalisation.

The self-normalised asymptotic theory usually requires much weaker assumptions and hence provides much wider applicability of self-normalised statistics. The theory also provides theoretical justification for many commonly used statistical methods and procedures. The self-normalised asymptotic theorems have been successfully applied to statistical inference, high dimensional data analysis, multiple hypothesis testing, and econometrics; see, e.g., Fan, Hall and Yao (2007), Belloni, Chernozhukov and Wang (2011, 2014), Liu and Shao (2013), and Belloni, Chen, Chernozhukov and Hansen (2012).

The achievements on self-normalised asymptotic theory in the past three decades are significant, however, the theory is far from complete. To solve a wide range of practical problems, including the control of false discovery rate in multiple simultaneous tests and, finding useful laws in big data, further and more systematical developments by researchers from different fields, including probability theory, statistics, econometrics, computer science, engineering, biology and finance are needed.

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2016 Population By-Census : Improvements and Key Statistical Results

Ms. Sharon NG and SO Ka-kit
Census and Statistics Department

I. Introduction

Population censuses / by-censuses provide a comprehensive database on population statistics, which is essential to the development of Hong Kong. The data can facilitate research, discussion, planning and decision-making within the government and in the community.

The 2016 Population By-census (16BC) was conducted by the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) during the 34-day period from 30 June to 2 August 2016. After processing and compilation of key data, the summary results of the 16BC were announced in February 2017. This article describes the improvements introduced in the 16BC in three aspects, viz. use of computer-assisted interviewing method in data collection, availability of new statistics and enhancement of data dissemination services. It also highlights some key results of 16BC just announced in February.

II. Improvements in the 16BC

Use of computer-assisted interviewing method in data collection

As foreshadowed in the article published in the March issue of the Bulletin in 2015, the computer-assisted interviewing (CAI) approach was newly introduced for conducting face-to-face interviews in the 16BC. Enumerators made use of mobile tablets instead of paper questionnaires to record the data provided by respondents. Complementing the use of e-Questionnaire System for self-reporting, the adoption of CAI approach significantly reduced the consumption of paper questionnaires.

Enumerators used mobile tablets for data collection.

Furthermore, all data, once collected, were uploaded real time to the centralised computer system, thereby greatly shortening the time required for data capturing and integration. Apart from being more environmentally friendly, this approach streamlined the subsequent processing steps. Replacing daily batch updating, the real time data sharing among different sub-systems not only facilitated handling of public enquiries by indoor staff, but also enhanced data quality by drastically shortened the turnaround time for back office sample checks on completed questionnaires.

Introduction of CAI also brought about improvements in fieldwork operations. In particular, up-to-date assignment lists with latest response information could be obtained by enumerators timely, while fieldwork progress of individual enumerators could be monitored whenever applicable.

Introduction of new data topics

In the 16BC, data related to four new topics, viz. whether a unit of quarters is a sub-divided unit, floor area of accommodation, working hours, and ability to read / write languages, were collected for the first time. Such new data enable more in-depth analyses of current issues, such as those related to housing, labour and education. In particular, when the data are cross-tabulated with those of other topics (e.g. age, sex, ethnicity, education attainment, income) and different geographical demarcations (e.g. region and District Council district), extensive and valuable statistical information concerning the Hong Kong population and population subgroups can be made available, thereby facilitating relevant researches and planning.

While the summary results of the 16BC were released in February 2017, more detailed results and analyses, including those on the new data topics, will be released in stages in the coming months.

Enhancement of data dissemination services

The C&SD has developed a comprehensive range of statistical products and services for the 16BC to cater for the specific needs of different users, from general to sophisticated ones. Two areas of enhancement in the data dissemination services are highlighted here.

To serve general users, the Interactive Data Dissemination Services (IDDS), first introduced in the 2011 Population Census, is a free online service enabling data users to build statistical tables / charts in accordance with their own specifications through an intuitive, interactive and user-friendly interface. To further facilitate interactive data retrieval by users, the IDDS for 16BC will be enhanced with additional features. A more user-friendly interface will be provided so that users can view statistical tables by web browser in PCs or mobile devices. Statistical tables produced by users, which are displayed in HTML format, can be downloaded in Excel or XML format for further processing. An advanced mode in PC version will also be provided for users to drag and drop rows or columns of the statistical tables in order to customise the desired table layout easily. Last but not least, a search function will be provided for users to search variables available, so that the required statistical tables can be produced readily.

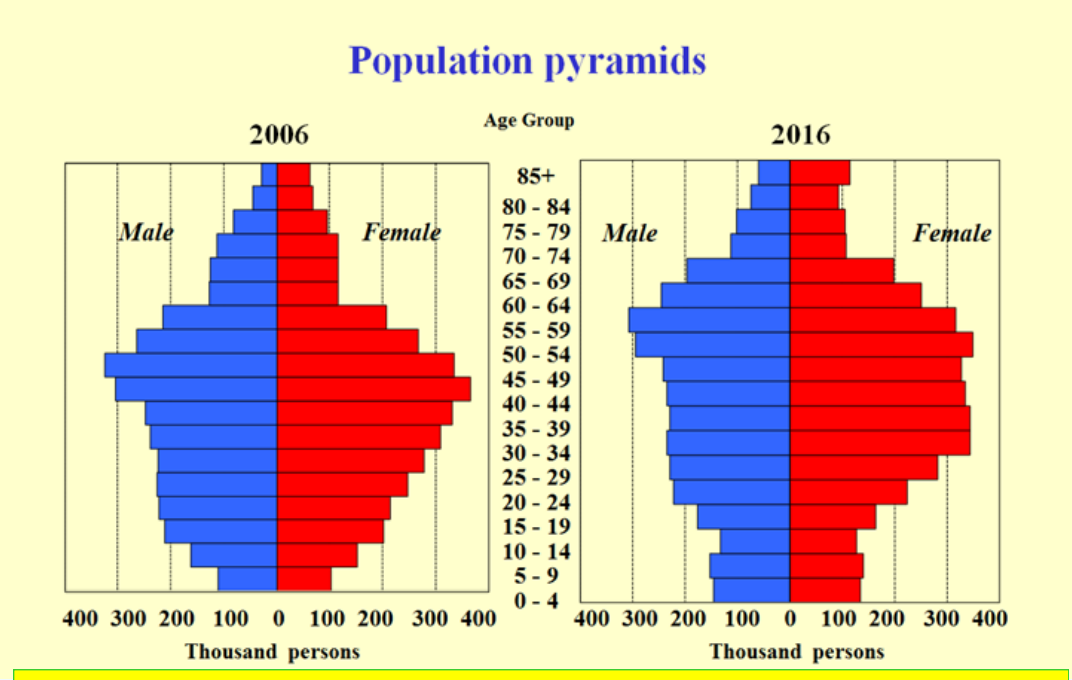
As for sophisticated users such as academic researchers and data analysts, the on-site access to full datasets of the 16BC at the self-help tabulation services centre located at the C&SD office has been enhanced to cater for increasing demand. More computer terminals are made available to researchers for performing on-site jobs. Besides, in case the demand increases further after the release of the 16BC detailed results, additional staff will be suitably deployed for providing assistance to researchers at the centre.

III. Key Statistical Results in the 16BC

Demographic characteristics of the Hong Kong Population

The Hong Kong Population, as measured by the definition of Resident Population, was 7.34 million at the end of June 2016, increasing by 0.7% per annum during 2011-2016, as compared with 0.6% during 2006-2011.

The ageing trend of the Hong Kong population continued and accelerated in recent years, mainly due to the post-war baby boomers entering old age. The proportion of elderly persons aged 65 and above in the total population rose from 12% in 2006 to 16% in 2016. The increase in this 10-year period was similar in magnitude to that in the preceding 20-year period (the proportion increased from about 8% in 1986 to about 12% in 2006).



Population Pyramids of 2006 and 2016

Excluding foreign domestic helpers, the sex ratio, which refers to the number of males per 1 000 females, dropped from 961 in 2006 to 925 in 2016.

As regards marital status, there has been an increase in the proportion of never married population in the ages of 20-49 over the past 10 years.

The education level of the population in Hong Kong has generally improved. The proportion of people aged 15 and over having attended degree course increased significantly from 15.4% in 2006 to 22.2% in 2016.

Domestic households in Hong Kong

The number of domestic households increased from 2.23 million in 2006 to 2.51 million in 2016. Due to the change in household composition, the average household size decreased from 3.0 to 2.8.

During the past 10 years, there was a significant decline in the proportion of domestic households which comprised a couple with unmarried children, from 41.3% in 2006 to 36.7% in 2016. On the other hand, the proportion of one-person households rose from 16.5% in 2006 to 18.3% in 2016, attributable to population ageing and more people staying single. Moreover, owing to a relatively low birth rate, the proportion of two-person households which comprised a couple only increased from 14.1% in 2006 to 15.5% in 2016.

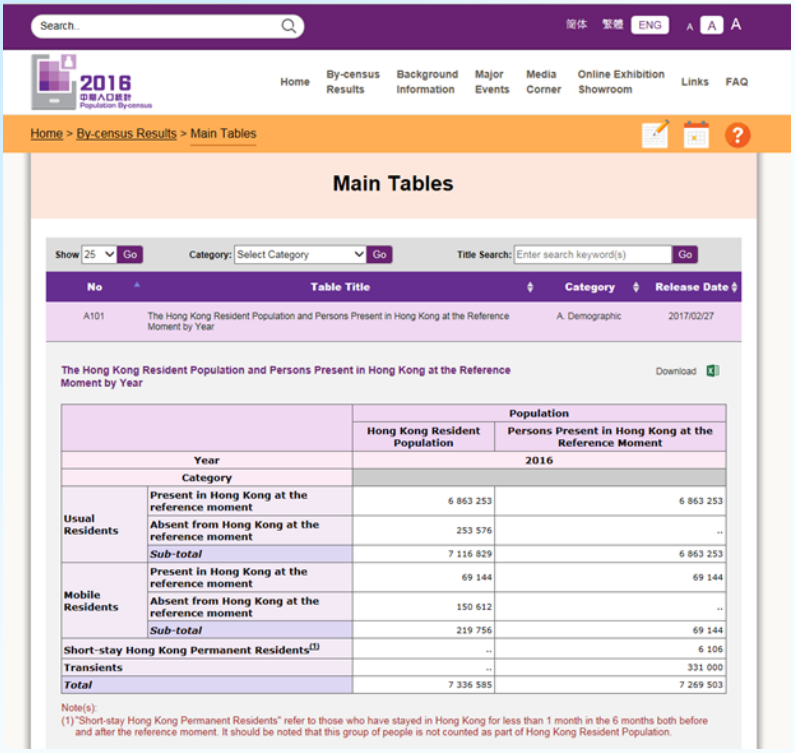
The median monthly income of domestic households was $25,000, an increase of 45% over the past 10 years. Discounting the effect of inflation, a real increase of 5.9% was observed.

In 2016, 53.0% of domestic households lived in private permanent housing and 30.4% in public rental housing. Another 15.3% of domestic households lived in subsidised home ownership housing.

As regards tenure of accommodation, 48.5% of domestic households owned the quarters they occupied in 2016, down from 52.8% in 2006. The proportion of sole tenants rose from 43.0% to 46.8% over the same period. Both sub-letting and co-letting had become less common in the last decade, as reflected by a significant reduction in the corresponding proportion from 1.0% in 2006 to 0.2% in 2016.

IV. Further information

Further information about the 16BC is available at the website: www.bycensus2016.gov.hk/en/index.html. Alternatively, you may contact the 16BC Office of the C&SD at bycensus2016@censtatd.gov.hk or 3547 1800.



An example of table available at the 16BC website.

2015/16 Statistical Project Competition for Secondary School Students

Dickson CHAN
Chairperson, Organising Committee of the Competition

The Hong Kong Statistical Society (HKSS) has been organising the Statistical Project Competition for Secondary School Students (SPC) annually since 1986/87 with the primary objective of encouraging students to understand the local community in a scientific and objective manner through the proper use of statistics, thereby promoting their social awareness and sense of civic responsibilities.

The 2015/16 SPC, jointly organised by HKSS and the Education Bureau and sponsored by the Hang Seng Indexes Company Limited, is the 30th round of the Competition. The Competition is divided into two Sections, namely Junior Section for Secondary 1 to 3 students and Senior Section for Secondary 4 to 6 students. Junior Section participants are required to submit their projects in the form of a poster, while Senior Section participants in the form of a report. In addition to the First, Second, Third and Distinguished Prizes, each Section of the Competition also offers the Hang Seng Indexes Company Limited Prize for the Best Index Application, Census and Statistics Department Prize for the Best Thematic Project related to the World Statistics Day 2015 and the Department of Management Sciences, the City University of Hong Kong Prize for the Best Graphical Presentation of Statistics.

To help interested participants better prepare for the SPC, an exhibition of past winning projects and a briefing seminar was held on 24 October 2015 at the City University of Hong Kong. During the seminar, Dr. Geoffrey TSO, Chief Adjudicator of the 2015/16 round of Competition, briefed the participants on the adjudication process and criteria. Ms Carly LAI of the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) and Mr Galaxy WONG of the Hang Seng Indexes Company Limited gave a talk on “Data Sources” and “Hang Seng Indexes and Statistics” respectively. The winners of the 29th round were also invited to share their experiences.

A total of 106 statistical projects from 463 students of 35 secondary schools were received in this round. Of the 106 entries received, 63 entries were for the Junior Section and 43 for the Senior Section.

The adjudication panel, formed under the leadership of Dr. Geoffrey TSO of the City University of Hong Kong, comprised 30 academics from local tertiary institutions and statisticians working in the Government. Panel members scrutinised all the received projects stringently, shortlisted the more outstanding entries and interviewed students of the shortlisted projects before determining the winning teams of the various awards.

The prize presentation ceremony was held on 25 June 2016 at the Rayson Huang Theatre of The University of Hong Kong, jointly with that of the 2015/16 Statistics Creative-Writing Competition for Secondary School Students (SCC) for better convenience of students and teachers of the participating schools.

Regarding the results of the Competition, students of Shun Tak Fraternal Association Lee Shau Kee College, who used statistics to study the economic characteristics of Hong Kong with the movement of the Consumer Price Indexes, won the First Prize of the Junior Section. Another team of students from the same college won the Second Prize, while a group of Form 3 students of Po Leung Kuk Tong Nai Kan Junior Secondary College won the Third Prize as well as the Prize for the Best Index Application. As for the Prizes for the Best Thematic Project and the Best Graphical Presentation of Statistics, they were awarded to students of Stewards Pooi Kei College and Good Hope School respectively.

Students from Shun Tak Fraternal Association Lee Shau Kee College, First Prize winner of the Junior Section of the 2015/16 SPC, shared their happiness with the officiating guest, Mr Leslie TANG, Commissioner for Census and Statistics .

As for the Senior Section, the statistical report from students of St Paul's Secondary School was appraised as the best amongst all the projects. They applied official statistics from multiple facets to study the problem of ageing population and provision of healthcare service in Hong Kong. Students of King's College won the Second Prize and the Prize for the Best Index Application, while students of St Paul's Co-educational College won the Third Prize and the Best Thematic Project. Another team of students of King's College won the Prize for the Best Graphical Presentation of Statistics.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to all the members of the Organising Committee and the adjudicators of the 2015/16 SPC for their help and contributions. The SPC would not have success without their strenuous efforts and support. I would also like to thank Mr Leslie TANG, Commissioner for Census and Statistics and Dr. CHAN Ka-ki, Deputy Secretary for Education, for being the Patrons of the Competition; as well as the Hang Seng Indexes Company Limited and the City University of Hong Kong, for being the Sponsors of the Competition.

Teacher and students from St Paul's Secondary School, First Prize winner of the Senior Section of the 2015/16 SPC, shared the memorable moment with the patrons and honorable guests .

Report on the Statistics Creative-Writing Competition for 2015/16

Dr. Philip L.H. YU

Chairperson, Organising Committee of the Competition

The Hong Kong Statistical Society (HKSS) and Education Bureau jointly organised the Statistics Creative-Writing Competition for Secondary School Students (SCC) for the first time in 2009. The key objectives of the Competition are to raise the interest of students in statistics and its application; and to encourage students to creatively express in words the daily application of statistical concepts or incorporate statistical concepts into a story in a scientific and objective manner.

The 2015/16 SCC is the 7th round of the Competition. A briefing seminar was held on 24 October 2015 to give an introduction of the Competition for interested schools and students. The supervising teacher of the champion team in 2014/15 SCC was invited to share his experience in guiding his team in the Competition. Also, Mr. James CHENG Lap-yan of the Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) was invited to give an introduction on the theme topic "survey sampling".

Mr James CHENG Lap-yan introduced the theme topic "Survey Sampling" in the briefing session of the 2015/16 SCC.

The 7th round of the SCC was completed with a total of 43 entries received. Altogether, 91 students from 22 schools participated in the Competition. An adjudication panel, which was led by Dr. CHEUNG Ka-chun of The University of Hong Kong and comprised colleagues from mathematical education section of the Education Bureau, university teaching staff and professional statisticians, was set up for the Competition. Having undergone stringent scrutiny by the adjudicators, outstanding entries were selected for receiving the awards finally.

A prize presentation ceremony was held on 25 June 2016, jointly with the Statistical Project Competition (SPC) for Secondary School Students, at Rayson Huang Theatre, The University of Hong Kong. Mr Leslie TANG, Commissioner of the Census and Statistics Department and Dr. Catherine CHAN, Deputy Secretary for Education were invited as officiating guests at the ceremony.

Apart from the champion, runner-ups, distinguished prizes and entry prizes, a thematic prize, named as "Department of Statistics & Actuarial Science, The University of Hong Kong Prize for the Best Thematic Writing", has been introduced since the 2011/12 round. The theme topics set so far are "Correlation", "Outlier", "Missing Data", "Linear Regression" and "Survey Sampling". In addition to this thematic prize, the PolyU Hong Kong Community College has been sponsoring another thematic prize since the 2014/15 round, namely the "PolyU Hong Kong Community College Prize for the Best Article Presentation". The award is to be given to the entry with the best presentation skills.

The winning team of the "PolyU Hong Kong Community College Prize for the Best Article Presentation" presented their project during the prize presentation ceremony.

In line with the development of mathematics education in Hong Kong, booklets of winning entries in the SCC have been published since inauguration for free distribution to secondary schools and are available in the HKSS website for free download. To enhance the overall quality of these booklets, several invited articles written by university professors, school teachers and statisticians from C&SD were also included in each issue. We believe that the booklets can provide teachers with more teaching references. Moreover, through reading a series of interesting articles and creative stories in the booklets, many students will be able to gain knowledge of statistics and recognise the importance of proper use of statistical concepts in analysing problems.

Photo of the officiating guests with the Organising Committees of SPC and SCC for 2015/16 .

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all the members of the Organising Committee and the adjudicators in the 2015/16 SCC for their help and support. Their strenuous efforts have undoubtedly contributed to enhancing students' statistical literacy and raising their interest in statistics. I would also like to thank the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science of The University of Hong Kong and the PolyU Hong Kong Community College for sponsoring the prizes in the Competition.

NEWS

◆ Personnel Changes—New Appointments, Promotions and Retirements (in chronological order)

- Ms. Teresa NG has retired from the Department of Management Sciences at the City University of Hong Kong since July 2016.

- Dr. Fei JIANG, Dr. Aijun ZHANG and Dr. Ke ZHU have joined the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science of The University of Hong Kong (HKU) as Assistant Professors since 15 July 2016, 6 August 2016 and 16 July 2016 respectively.

- Dr. FANG Xiao joined the Department of Statistics of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) as Assistant Professor on 1 August 2016.

- Dr. YAU Chun-yip of CUHK advanced to Associate Professor with effect from 11 August 2016.

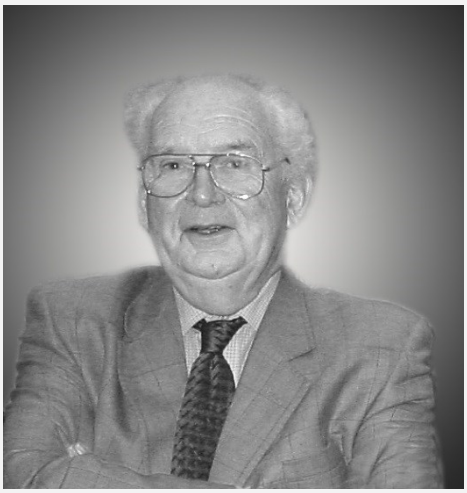
- Professor LI Wai-Keung, Chair Professor and Head of the Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science of HKU, has been appointed as the Director of the Big Data Research Cluster, a new interdisciplinary project of the HKU Faculty of Science, for a period of three years since 1 September 2016.

- With effect from 29 November 2016, Ms. Marion CHAN takes up the post of Deputy Commissioner for Census and Statistics vice Mr. Stephen LEUNG on pre-retirement leave. In the meantime, Ms. Iris LAW takes up the post of Assistant Commissioner (Social) for Census and Statistics.

- Professor Jian HUANG was appointed to the post of Chair Professor of Applied Statistics and Financial Mathematics in the Department of Applied Mathematics of The Polytechnic University of Hong Kong with effect from 3 January 2017.

◆ Obituary

Professor John AITCHISON



The Hong Kong Statistical Society (HKSS) records with deep sadness the passing of Professor John Aitchison, the founding President of the HKSS, on 23 December 2016 in Glasgow, Scotland after a short illness.

Professor John Aitchison, F.R.S.E., was born in 1926 in East Linton, Scotland. He was a graduate of Edinburgh and Cambridge. He joined University of Glasgow's Department of Mathematics in 1956. He was Titular Professor and Mitchell Lecturer on Methods in Statistics from 1966 to 1977 in Glasgow. He was conferred Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1968. He was seconded from the University of Glasgow to the University of Hong Kong as Head of the then Department of Statistics in 1976 and stayed on as Head until his retirement in 1989.

The HKSS was founded by Professor Aitchison in 1977 with the aim of promoting the development of statistics in Hong Kong. He was the President of the HKSS during 1977 to 1979 and was one of the Honorary Members. The HKSS provides a medium for advancing knowledge and enhancing appreciation of the theory and application of statistics. Thanks to the efforts made by Professor Aitchison, an active, professional forum has been established for practising statisticians in Hong Kong to exchange research findings and opinions. At the same time, the statistical literacy in the community has been greatly enhanced through the continuous promotion of correct use and interpretation of statistics by the HKSS.

The passing of Professor Aitchison is a great loss to both the academic and the professional community. We express our sincere condolences to his family.

◆ Golden Jubilee Anniversary of HKU Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science

The Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science of The University of Hong Kong is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in the year 2017. To mark the Golden Jubilee of the Department, a series of events are held, including but not limited to the public lecture by Professor Howell Tong, HKU-NUS-STANFORD Conference in Statistical Science & Decision Analytics, and of course, the Golden Jubilee Banquet held on Saturday, 11 March 2017. More than 400 invited guests, alumni, staff and current students of the Department reunited at the once-in-a-decade banquet. Games hosted by Dr. Philip YU and the student Statistics and Actuarial Science Society heated up the scene, while singing performance by Ms. Lucy KWAN brought the house down. The banquet also played a video made by statistics student Mr. Jiaqi FAN, taking all the attendees back to the past 50 years of history and glory of the Department. Although time is never enough for the reunion, the evening was certainly a memorable occasion for everyone at the banquet.

Photos and the anniversary pamphlet will be uploaded onto the Department's website soon: www.saasweb.hku.hk/50th/.

Growing from originally a special teaching unit to now one of the most established statistics and actuarial science departments in the world, the Department has unquestionably come a long way throughout the years. Over the past 5 decades, the Department has shown to the world its strengths and resolutions. As the name of this special anniversary suggests, the Department will undoubtedly continue to shine like a golden sun and blossom with dynamic developments in the years to come.

NEWS

◆ Golden Jubilee Anniversary of Census and Statistics Department

The Census and Statistics Department (C&SD) will enter its 50th Anniversary in 2017. To mark the **Golden Jubilee**, C&SD is going to organise a Seminar as a highlight event amongst various commemorative activities. The Seminar will be held on **28 April 2017 (Friday)** from 2:30pm to 4:45pm (Registration starts at 2:00pm) at Wang Gungwu Lecture Hall, Level P4, Graduate House, The University of Hong Kong. The theme of the Seminar is "Application of Official Statistics in Public Policy", focusing on the usefulness of statistics in helping the society to resolve issues.

Professor Denise LIEVESLEY, Principal of Green Templeton College of University of Oxford, **Professor LIU Pak-wai**, Research Professor of Lau Chor Tak Institute of Global Economics and Finance and Emeritus Professor of Economics of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and **Professor Frederick HO Wing-huen**, Honorary Professor of Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science of The University of Hong Kong as well as Adjunct Professor of Department of Statistics of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, will be the distinguished speakers of the Seminar. They will share with the audience their valuable insights related to this theme.

The latest information about the Seminar can be found at the following website: www.censtatd.gov.hk/50th_seminar. For enquiry or registration, please contact Miss Helen LEE of C&SD (Tel. no.: 3903 7002; Email: hywlee@censtatd.gov.hk).

NEWS

◆ Seminar on "What Did They Just Say You Said?"

The Society and the City University of Hong Kong (CityU) had jointly organised a seminar titled "What Did They Just Say You Said?" on 14 June 2016 at CityU. The speaker was Dr. Barry D. Nussbaum, the President-elect of the American Statistical Association. The talk was about what to do and what not to do in presenting results and conclusions. About 50 participants attended the talk. For details, please see www.hkss.org.hk/index.php/events/list/academic/event/63-20160614.

Dr. Barry D. Nussbaum gave an inspiring presentation during the seminar.

The speaker had a picture with Professor K.W. NG (the HKSS President -- left 2), Professor W.K. LI (the Department Head of Statistics and Actuarial Science, HKU, and Chair of Professional Affairs Committee of HKSS -- left 1), and Mr Leslie TANG (the Commissioner for Census and Statistics of HKSAR Government -- right 1).

◆ Co-sponsoring the 10th ICSA

The Society co-sponsored the 10th ICSA (International Chinese Statistical Association) international conference held at Xuhui campus of Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China during 19-22 December 2016. The Society sponsored two invited sessions in the conference: (1) "Recent Advances in Rank-based Analysis" organised by Dr. Philip YU Leung-ho; (2) "Recent Advances in Functional/Longitudinal data Analysis" organised by Drs. LI Guodong and Catherine LIU. Besides, Prof. LI Wai-keung represented HKSS to join as a panelist in the special invited panel session on "Global Statistical Collaborations: Opportunities, Challenges, and Future". For details, please see www.hkss.org.hk/index.php/events/list/academic/event/67-20161219.

◆ Institutional sponsor of the Fourth IMS-APRM

The Society was an institutional sponsor of the Fourth Institute of Mathematical Statistics Asia Pacific Rim Meeting (IMS-APRM) which took place in Hong Kong during 27-30 June 2016.

NEWS

◆ Symposium on "Frontiers of Statistics and Data Sciences"

The Society, the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU), the AMSS-PolyU Joint Research Institute for Engineering and Management Mathematics and the Hong Kong Mathematical Society had co-sponsored the Symposium titled "Frontiers of Statistics and Data Sciences" on 25-26 June 2016 at the PolyU. Over 40 world leading statisticians, active statistical colleagues, and data scientists served as the speakers. Professor NG Kai-wang, the President of HKSS, delivered an opening speech at the Symposium. Professor NG also gave a very inspiring presentation on the topic "Adequate sample size for using limiting distributions". For details, please see www.hkss.org.hk/index.php/events/list/academic/event/64-20160625.

In the Symposium, Professor NG gave a very inspiring presentation on the topic "Adequate sample size for using limiting distributions".

NEWS

◆ Social Activity

A one-day tour was jointly organised by the Society and the Association of Government Statisticians on 30 October 2016. A total of 22 members and their families/friends participated. All participants enjoyed a very relaxing trip to explore the Tai O community. For details, please see www.hkss.org.hk/index.php/events/list/social/event/66-20161030.