

## Welcome



**Nico Weydert**

*President of the LSS*

The Statistical Society is very honoured to welcome **Stephen Stigler in Luxembourg on 13 September** for a conference on the **“Seven Pillars of Statistical Wisdom”**. Stigler is one of the world’s leading experts on the history of statistics and was the President’s invited speaker for the recent Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM 2014 in Boston), an event gathering more than 6 000 statisticians.

His book, published March 2016 by Harvard University Press, presents the seven pillars in their historical genesis from the Sumerian tablet till today. The **fundamental principles of statistics** are sometimes counterintuitive, opposite to common sense, like the first principle “Aggregation” (e.g. taking of a mean). We increase our information by discarding information in the data! Or the second, “Information” measurement; is the information twice as good if we increase our observations from 100 to 200? No, to double the accuracy of our information, **we need to increase the effort fourfold!**

In a lively manner we expect Stephen Stigler to present **the basis of the science of statistics** “the original and still preminent data science”. As every science, **“Statistics is a living science”** and only history will tell us the routes finally taken, e.g. in the field of big data, and if further pillars will see the light of the day.

**Save the date!**

## Time use of Luxembourg residents

On 16 June 2016, the LSS welcomed **Ms Lucile Bodson and Mr Guillaume Osier** for a lecture on the theme “Time use of Luxembourg residents”.

Time Use Surveys (TUS) are long-established diary-based surveys, gathering detailed information on how people spend their time across a day. For every 10-minute slot of a day, time use diaries aim at collecting the activities carried out by a person, along with contextual information such as the location, the mode of transport (if any), whether the person was alone or not at that moment or whether or not the person enjoyed the activity.

This conference was an opportunity to present the [first results](#) of the survey conducted by STATEC in 2014 and to introduce the methodological work implemented. **Download the [presentation](#) (in French)**



## The 5th edition of the “Big Data Mining and Visualization” days

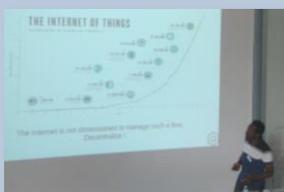


A 2-day conference on [Data Mining with Big Data](#) was given at IUT de Metz (Ile du Saulcy) on 23 & 24 June.

This event was organised by the working groups of the [EGC association](#). Several research projects were introduced such as complex data visualization, algorithms for big data mining, interactive multidimensional data exploration...

This year, the [program](#) focused on “Smart Cities” and “Internet of Things”.

Several French and Luxembourgish - research teams were present (e.g. [LIST](#), [ENAC](#) - Toulouse, [Lab-STICC](#) - Brest...)



Next LSS Conference

Mark your calendars! 13 September 2016



## The Seven Pillars of Statistical Wisdom

Stephen M. Stigler (*University of Chicago*)

On **13 September 2016**, a lecture will be given by **Stephen M. Stigler** on the theme "The Seven Pillars of Statistical Wisdom". The conference will be held at:

**University of Luxembourg (Limpertsberg) – Room BC 0.04, 162 A av. de la Faïencerie, 1511 Luxembourg**

The conference will start at **6:00 p.m.** and will be conducted in English.

### Abstract

“ Can the field of statistics be organized logically in a way that differentiates it from its disciplinary neighbors; by what taxonomy might its principal ideas be arranged?

Traditionally we tend to follow the classifications of our textbooks, whose chapter headings have changed only slightly over decades, but even if it were granted that such an arrangement is pedagogically sound, would it necessarily follow that it was intellectually sound for other purposes?

Another approach that is currently adopted is to relate new work to its immediate predecessor, a scheme that makes good sense for situating the work in current literature, but leads to disciplinary drift: How to distinguish statistics from computer science or applied mathematics when we lean on only the citations? A different taxonomy is proposed, one based on history but looking forward to our modern challenges. ”

“ **Stephen M. Stigler** is Ernest DeWitt Burton Distinguished Service Professor at the Department of Statistics of the University of Chicago. He received his PhD in 1967 from the University of California, Berkeley. His main research topics are the statistical theory of robust estimators and, especially, the history of statistics where he is a world-wide leading expert. His books "The History of Statistics: The Measurement of Uncertainty before 1900" and "Statistics on the Table: The History of Statistical Concepts and Methods" have become unprecedented classics in the statistical literature. Stigler is also famous for "Stigler's Law of Eponymy" stating that no scientific discovery is named after its original discoverer.

He has received numerous awards and distinctions, among which elected membership at the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, the American Statistical Association, the American Philosophical Society and the Académie royale de Belgique.

Visit Stephen M. Stigler's [personal web page](#)

### About the speaker

Register at [admin@luxstat.lu](mailto:admin@luxstat.lu)

### Other Upcoming Events

#### General Assembly: 13 September 2016



The next **General Assembly** of the LSS will take place on **September 13 at 4:30 p.m.** ([University of Luxembourg, Limpertsberg – Room BC 0.04](#)). All Members are welcome to attend the session.

Send an email at [admin@luxstat.lu](mailto:admin@luxstat.lu) to register



In the context of **World Statistics Day 20 October 2016**, a conference will be jointly organized by STATEC and the LSS.

**More information will be posted soon on our [website](#). Stay tuned!**



**Statistical Modeling Conference** organized in Ghent on **15 and 16 September** by **Professor Christophe Ley**, Vice-President of the LSS.

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