Editorial

The editors are again pleased to report that *Statistical Modelling* continues to move in the right direction, now in our 19th volume. For the very first time, the journal now ranks within the top third (tercile) among Statistics and Probability journals (40th out of 123). Further, our one-year impact factor is up by nearly 30% at 1.43, while our five-year impact factor, although slightly down, remains stable at 1.33. OnlineFirst continues to bring accepted papers online roughly within 6 weeks after acceptance (while allowing colour figures). We strive to make *Statistical Modelling* the primary research resource for statistical modellers, as well as an attractive outlet for statistical modellers to submit their own quality manuscripts (within the journal's aims and scope found at www.statmod.org/smij). In return, the editors make every effort to provide authors with a timely and professional review.

At least in part, the journal's slight upswing is due to its recent special issues on a variety of niche areas, including functional regression modelling and statistical contributions to bioinformatics. *Statistical Modelling* has continued this tradition into 2018 with two more special double issues. Specifically, issues 18(3–4) brought us 'Bridging the Gap between Methodology and Applications: Tutorials on Semiparametric Regression', with guest editors Thomas Kneib, Andreas Groll and Andreas Mayr; it is worthy of note that this is the first ever tutorial papers to have appeared in *Statistical Modelling*. Issues 18(5–6) brought yet another special double issue— this time on 'Sports Modelling', with guest editors Andreas Groll, Marica Manisera, Gunther Schauberger and Paolo Zuccolotto. On a longer horizon, we have plans for yet another special issue on 'Demographic Modelling' with guest editors Jutta Gampe and Carlo Giovanni Camarda. And *Statistical Modelling* is always open to new ideas for future special issues related to discussions, workshops or tutorials; so do let us know if you have any ideas for us.

Like nearly every year, this one has also brought a few changes to our associate editorial board. Most recently, Rolando de la Cruz (Chile), Konstantinos Fokianos (Cyprus), Josu Arteche (Spain) and Sophie Vanbelle (The Netherlands) have joined in (the first two during late 2017). Gilles Teyssiere has left our board during 2018. We are pleased to have the opportunity to work with Rolando, Kostas, Josu and Sophie in future, who certainly add relevant expertise to our board. We thank Gilles for his hard work and wish him the best.

The editors also wish to congratulate Jennifer Pohle of Bielefeld University, Germany, on her first place student competition award for her paper 'Coupled Markov-switching Regression: Inference and a Case Study Using Electronic Health Record Data' (with co-authors). Jennifer presented her work at the International Workshop on Statistical Modelling in Bristol, England, during July 2018. Among her awards, the journal offered a fast-tracked review process, subject to refereeing. Congratulations, Jennifer!

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Please remember that this is your journal, so along with reading it, the editors encourage you to help with its visibility across the globe. Further, we value your constructive input and outreach to encourage appropriate submissions and special issues. As an additional service to authors, note that SAGE also offers an open access option (for a fee) through its SAGE Choice programme. See www.statmod.org for online data, code and e-appendices associated with most of our published articles (now with a newly completed search functionality), as well as a variety of general information regarding the Statistical Modelling Society.

Thank you for your support and for another great year of modelling.

Brian Marx
Arnošt Komárek
Vicente Núñez-Antón