

Re: IIF Board of Directors - Aris A. Syntetos

My name is Aris Syntetos and I am a full research Professor in Operational Research and Operations Management at Cardiff Business School, Cardiff University, UK, where I also hold the Panalpina Chair in Manufacturing and Logistics. I specialize in the area of statistical and judgmental supply chain and inventory forecasting. I am perhaps best known for a series of contributions in the area of intermittent demand (count series) forecasting and in exposing and bridging the gap between forecasting and inventory management.

I have already served one term as Director of the IIF, during which time I focused particularly (although not exclusively) on the workshops organised by the Institute. Since the beginning of 2014, I have been the supply chain editor for FORESIGHT. I have published regularly in the IJF but also in many other top scientific journals on forecasting related matters. I have also contributed extensively to the IJF with book reviews, whilst I have also published a lot in FORESIGHT and have had various contributions and articles in ORACLE.

I have been an active member of IIF since the second year of my Doctoral studies in 1998 when I also attended my first ISF in Edinburgh, Scotland. Since then, I have attended almost all the symposia of the Institute with the exception of the time period that I served my compulsory military service as a Greek National. Over the years I have chaired many invited and contributed sessions and I have also co-delivered workshops on intermittent demand forecasting.

I have promoted Forecasting to the wider academic community by organising many successful forecasting streams for the European Conference on Operational Research (EURO), the Conference for the International Federation of Operational Research Societies (IFORS), the annual conference of the UK Operational Research Society, and most importantly the bi-annual International Symposium on Inventories Research (ISIR) where a new main Section was introduced (by John Boylan and myself) from 2008 onwards on FORECASTING FOR INVENTORIES.

In general, I have been actively involved in linking the activities of IIF with those of other societies for mutually beneficial agreements. Examples include co-sponsorship arrangements between the annual conferences of the Operational Research Society and ISF, linkages with the International Society for Inventories Research (ISIR), and organisation of various workshops funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC, UK).

I have been trying for many years to influence the attendance of more academics to the symposia of the Institute, including collaborators (senior academics), PhD students, Post Docs, etc. I have also been collaborating with many academic and non-academic members of the Institute in various capacities (e.g. research council funded projects, paper collaborations, and industry-oriented projects).

My aim, if re-elected to the Board of Directors, would be two-fold: i) increase the links with industry and organisations (serving in this way the mission of IIF which is to bridge the gap between theory and practice); ii) motivate the contribution and subscription to the Institute of young academics and practitioners, such that they become full and active members who choose to stay with us in the long term. The former is to be achieved through my continued organisation of, and participation in, outward facing events. The latter builds on my ongoing work to bring new talent into the research field and the Institute to facilitate the growth and expansion of the IIF.

Thank you very much,

Aris A. Syntetos

<https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/people/view/598321-syntetos-ariss>