



The Oracle

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A publication of the International Institute of Forecasters

Fernando Cyrino, Oracle Editor

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Mark your calendar for ISF 2025! Beijing, China | June 29 – July 2

We are now accepting abstract submissions for ISF 2025 ~ Visit our [website](#) for more information

For more information on Keynote Speakers, venue, lodging and social activities, go to the [ISF website](#). If you have any questions, contact us at isf@forecasters.org.

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Foresight News Foresight's New Online Platform

We're excited to announce that [*Foresight: The International Journal of Applied Forecasting*](#) has launched a much-improved online version to go along with our printed edition.

The modern interface provides much friendlier access to the current issue and the complete *Foresight* archives (going back to Issue 1 in 2005). The journal can be read online, or you can download a pdf of full issues or individual articles or pages. Overall, it delivers *Foresight* to IIF members and subscribers anywhere they can access the internet.

Logon to *Foresight's* new online platform at: <https://forecasters.org/members-only-foresight-archives/>

Instruction / details:

- IIF membership notification will include a member-only link with a password to access the archive page
- Instruction will also be included in the quarterly email communication along with each new *Foresight* issue
- Member-only link can also be found on *Foresight* [homepage](#)
- If you have password or other access questions, please contact forecasters@forecasters.org



If you no longer need to receive a printed copy, please notify forecasters@forecasters.org. Going digital is good for the environment - and it reduces IIF printing and mailing costs. When renewing your membership you can save by selecting an online-only option.

Please give *Foresight's* new online platform a try!

Send your feedback to **Michael Gilliland** (mike.gilliland@forecasters.org).

***Foresight* Practitioner Conference 2025**

Venue: University of North Carolina at Charlotte | 3 & 4 March 2025



The ***Foresight* Practitioner Conference** (FPC) brings together preeminent forecasting practitioners and business leaders to network, learn, and explore emerging and cutting-edge aspects of forecasting. The conference focuses on collaborating and improving forecast practice by showcasing businesses, subject matter experts, and organizations that significantly impact value. The conference is hosted by the ***International Institute of Forecasters*** (IIF) and includes the first-annual ***IIF Practice Competition***.

REGISTER NOW

Important dates:

- Early bird rate ends on January 15, 2025
- Conference and presentations at the *Foresight* Practitioner Conference on March 3-4, 2025

For more information, visit [FPC website](#).

IIF Award for the Impact of Forecasting in Practice

IIF is pleased to announce the first annual ***IIF Practice Competition***. Participants will compete for The IIF Award for the Impact of Forecasting in Practice, which includes a \$10,000 prize for the first place winning team. The competition aims to recognize and showcase businesses or institutions that achieve significant impact by applying forecasting.

Important dates:

- Initial application deadline due on December 9, 2024
- Review submissions in December and announce finalists
- Finalist application deadline due on January 31, 2025
- Conference and presentations at the ***Foresight* Practitioner Conference** on March 3-4, 2025

Visit our [website](#) for more information.

APPLY NOW

Foresight Call for Papers: The Changing Role of Demand Planners

What is the role of today's demand planner, and how is it changing? Are planners merely passive receptacles of information from sales, marketing, finance, customers, etc? Or should they be engaged with their colleagues to proactively shape demand patterns through pricing and promotional practices? How is demand shaping accomplished, and how is it related to "revenue management" strategies employed in the hotel and airline industries? How does AI impact demand planners, and will it end that role completely?

These are the sorts of questions we would like to address in a *Foresight* special feature on "The Changing Role of Demand Planners," organized by **Stephan Kolassa** (stephan.kolassa@sap.com). Please contact Stephan with any questions, and submit your manuscript by January 1, 2025.

Find instructions for manuscript preparation in *Foresight's* Guidelines for Authors (<https://forecasters.org/wp-content/uploads/FORESIGHT-Guidelines-for-Authors-2024-03.pdf>).

Nominations for the Len Tashman Best Paper Award due January 15

We will again be honoring *Foresight's* most important and influential papers with the Len Tashman Best Paper Award, a \$500 prize, and induction into *Foresight's* Hall of Fame.

What papers did you find most informative and valuable -- especially those having real impact on forecasting practice? Please provide your nominations covering Len's full tenure as *Foresight's* editor-in-chief, from issues 1 - 67 (through 2022:Q4). Name all your favorites as multiple nominations are encouraged, and five papers from 2005-2022 will be awarded.

Send all nominations to mike.gilliland@forecasters.org by January 15, 2025.

International Symposium on Energy Analytics (ISEA)

Venue: University of North Carolina at Charlotte | 3 & 4 March 2025

The theme of **ISEA 2025** is Energy Analytics: State of the Practice. ISEA2025 will feature Rafal Weron's IIF Distinguished Lecture Series on electricity price forecasting, together with other insightful presentations. Practitioners, researchers, and students are all welcome to attend. ISEA2025 will be hosted in parallel with the next **Foresight Practitioners Conference**, so the participants will also have the opportunity to network with other forecasters outside the energy sector.

If you are interested in participating in ISEA as a speaker or audience, please join the **INTEREST LIST**. We will contact you once registration opens. For questions, please contact **Dr. Tao Hong** (hong@charlotte.edu).

IIF Research Awards Forecasting for Social Good Grant

Calling for applications for 2024/2025. The Forecasting for Social Good (F4SG) research grant aims to draw together researchers and practitioners, from developing and developed countries, to advance forecasting knowledge and its link to decision making, influence forecasting for social good practices and drive developments.

Important dates:
Application submission deadline: 30 Jan 2025
FSGRG panel meeting: Feb 2025
Indicative start date of award: Mar 2025

[Download guidelines](#)

[Download application form](#)



For any queries, please contact **Dr. Shixuan Wang** (shixuan.wang@reading.ac.uk)

5th joint IMA-ORS conference, Birmingham UK, 30/04 - 02/05 2025

We are delighted to invite you to the 5th biennial joint conference of the Institute of Mathematics and Its Applications (IMA) and the UK Operational Research Society, which will take place in Birmingham from the 30th of April to the 2nd of May 2025.

5th IMA and OR Society Conference on Mathematics of Operational Research - IMA

Join us for a terrific scientific event in the heart of the UK with easy access from everywhere in the world. We have secured a fantastic line-up of keynotes (including Elif Kongar, James Reade, Maria-Paola Scaparra, and Ruud Teunter) and practitioner sessions, with multiple opportunities for networking.

The conference will cover all aspects of management mathematics and analytics, emphasising very much the value of prediction for decision making. If you would like to organise a session, please fill out this simple [form](#).

For any enquiries, or if you would like to contribute to the event in some way, please get in touch with any of us on the organising committee.

2025 IMA-ORS conference committee:

Paresh Date, Adam Letchford, Dilek Onkal, Anna-Lena Sachs and **Aris Syntetos** (Chair) SyntetosA@cardiff.ac.uk

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