



The Oracle

February 2025



A publication of the International Institute of Forecasters

Fernando Cyrino, Oracle Editor

Get Involved, stay up-to-date

- Submit an article, news or an event for inclusion in our next issue! Send submissions to secretary@forecasters.org
- Get the news when it happens! [Subscribe and Sign up](#) for IIF blog notifications
- Join one of our forecasting [community sections](#)
- Do you offer consulting services? [Add your name](#) to our website of IIF member consultants.



ISF 2025: Call for Abstracts, Invited Sessions and Travel Awards

Abstracts We are now [accepting abstracts!](#) The deadline for submission is **March 21**. Learn more about submissions and guidelines at our [website](#).

Invited Sessions We are accepting proposals for invited sessions devoted to special interests in forecasting. An invited session consists of 3 or 4 talks around a specific forecasting theme. If you are interested, [contact us](#) with your topic. **Deadline for proposals is March 7.**

Travel Awards The IIF grants travel awards to enable researchers to attend the International Symposium on Forecasting. They are primarily for students in the area of forecasting and secondarily for non-student forecasting researchers and practitioners. **Deadline is March 7.** [Apply Now](#)

Follow us on:
[LinkedIn](#) @International Institute of Forecasters
and
[X](#) @IIFforecasters, #ISFconf2025

IIF Summer School

IIF offers a two-day course which provides in-depth analysis on a cutting edge topic in forecasting offered by an invited speaker at [International Symposium on Forecasting](#) (ISF). The [Summer School](#) shares the same venue as the ISF.

8th Forecasting Summer School - Forecasting High-Frequency Seasonal Time Series

Instructors:

Tommaso Proietti, Professor of Economic Statistics, University of Rome 'Tor Vergata'

Location: Beijing Friendship Hotel, China

Dates: June 28-29, 2025

Deadline for applications is April 2. [Apply Now](#)



Member Profile - Feng Li

Dr. Feng Li born in Erdos, Inner Mongolia, China, joined the Guanghua School of Management at Peking University in 2024 as an Associate Professor in the Department of Business Statistics and Econometrics. Prior to this, he served as an Assistant Professor and later as an Associate Professor of Statistics at the Central University of Finance and Economics in Beijing, China, where he also held the position of Associate Dean for the School of Statistics and Mathematics from 2016 to 2023. He earned his Ph.D. in Statistics from Stockholm University, Sweden, in 2013. Feng Li will be serving as the Local Chair for [ISF 2025](#).

Dr. Li has led and contributed to impactful research projects and grants. He is currently funded by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC, 2025+) for research on video time series forecasting. His prior projects include a study on hierarchical economic forecasting from a global modeling perspective, supported by the National Social Science Fund of China (2022–2024). He has also received industry recognition and funding, notably from Alibaba Inc. (2021–2023) for complex time series forecasting in e-commerce and the Hong Kong Jockey Club (2024+). Additionally, his work has extended to the clinical evaluation of Traditional Chinese Medicine and the projection of myopia trends under an NSFC grant (2020–2024). Earlier, Dr. Li spearheaded the development of efficient Bayesian flexible density methods for high-dimensional financial data, supported by NSFC (2016–2020) and the Ministry of Education of China (2014–2016). These projects underscore his commitment to advancing statistical

methodologies, scalable algorithms, and practical applications across diverse domains.

[Read more](#) about Feng Li.

• Interested in having your member profile featured in our next newsletter? Send submission to forecasters@forecasters.org.

Foresight Practitioner Conference 2025

Venue: Popp Martin Student Union,
University of North Carolina at Charlotte | 3 & 4 March 2025

FORESIGHT
The International Journal of Applied Forecasting

The [Foresight Practitioner Conference](#) (FPC) brings together business leaders, forecasting practitioners and preeminent researchers to network and critically explore the latest advances in forecasting.

Distinguished speakers from energy/oil/gas, shipping, retail, technology, consulting, financial services, and pharmaceuticals are presenting and the winners of [2025 IIF Forecasting Practice Competition](#) will present forecasting technologies that had quantifiable value-add to their companies.

Who should attend?

- Business executives seeking honest guidance on the latest trends and hype around forecasting, including the effectiveness of AI-based forecasting models
- Data scientists and executives who create and monitor forecasting models and estimate uncertainty
- Demand executives and planners who foresee, review and adjust forecasts
- Sales executives and planners who plan and schedule promotional activity
- Supply professionals who rely on forecasts to plan production and maintain inventory
- Logistics and transportation professionals who use forecasts for scheduling resources
- Managers and executives who use forecasts for budgeting and financial planning
- Academics who research and teach forecasting courses and who wish to network with forecasting practitioners
- All industries are welcome!

Find program details [here](#).

**REGISTER
NOW**

IIF Award for the Impact of Forecasting in Practice

In conjunction with the FPC, IIF is hosting its first annual [IIF Forecasting Practice Competition](#), which offers a \$10,000 prize.

The competition highlights the **IIF Award for the Impact of Forecasting in Practice** and aims to recognize and showcase organizations that achieve significant impact by applying forecasting, while also contributing to the forecasting community. Applications are evaluated in five key areas: impact to their organization, impact on the forecasting community, challenge of their forecasting problem, role of forecasting in the solution, and quality of their submission and presentation. The five finalists for the award are [Wayfair](#), [Maersk](#), [Hewlett-Packard](#), [Ipiranga](#), and [OpenGrid Europe](#).

The finalists will deliver presentations on March 2, in-person, and all FPC conference attendees are welcome to attend. The winner will be announced at the [FPC](#).

ISEA2025 - the 2nd International Symposium on Energy Analytics

[Register now](#) before the February 20th deadline

Venue: Popp Martin Student Union; University of North Carolina at Charlotte | 3 & 4 March 2025

Join us for a unique opportunity to:

- Attend [Rafal Weron's IIF Distinguished Lecture](#) in person, and learn from successful [IIF-SAS award-winning projects](#).
- Understand emerging challenges and solutions in energy forecasting, find speakers [here](#).
- Hire the rising stars: Connect with promising students and explore career opportunities.
- Connect with [SWEET](#): IIF Section on Water, Energy and Environment (SWEET) is the home for energy forecasters.
- Network with energy and other industry forecasters at the concurrent [Foresight Practitioner Conference](#).
- Enjoy exclusive benefits: Receive a free one-year [IIF Foresight online membership](#) with your registration.

Read more about [ISEA2025](#) from Tao Hong's [blog](#).

**REGISTER
NOW**

Submit a Nomination for the Secretary position on the SWEET Section Committee

We are delighted to announce that nominations are now open for the position of **Secretary** on the IIF SWEET Section Committee. This is an excellent opportunity to contribute to the leadership of our vibrant community.



Find details about the role and transition plan [here](#).

Please submit your nomination to **Dr Jooyoung Jeon** at j.jeon@kaist.ac.kr by the end of April.

Call for Speakers/Presentations GOR AG in-person meeting on "Forecasting in Retail and Industry"

SAVE THE DATE: May 8 -9, 2025 @ SAP in MUNICH

The next meeting of the working group on forecasting methods of the German OR Society (GOR) will be held on Thu & Fri May 8-9, 2025 on the kind invitation by SAP at their new SAP Labs Munich in Garching (close to Munich).

The [event](#) will be free-of-charge to all GOR members and for a small fee to non-members. Find more details and registration [here](#).

Speakers for the event - please send your proposal with title, short abstract in German or English, and your contact details to **Sven F. Crone** at s.crone@lancaster.ac.uk.

Submit a Manuscript for A Special Issue in Memory of Professor John E. Boylan, 1959-2023

We are pleased to invite you to contribute to a special issue of the International Journal of Production Research entitled "Supply Chain Forecasting: A Special Issue in Memory of Professor John E. Boylan, 1959-2023".

Please see details regarding this special issue in the link:

https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special_issues/supply-chain-forecasting-a-special-issue-in-memory-of-professor-john-e-boylan-1959-2023/.

Submission Instructions

Manuscripts should be prepared following the information on IJPR's instructions for authors, and submission made using Taylor & Francis submission portal, both of which can be accessed via the [IJPR homepage](#). When you submit your paper, please indicate that this is intended for the SI on 'Supply Chain Forecasting: In memory of Professor John Boylan'. If you have any enquiries or if you need to discuss whether any work-in-progress of yours fits the scope of the SI please contact the guest editors. All papers will be refereed according to the standards of the International Journal of Production Research.

Manuscript submission: March 31, 2025



Your Membership — Tips and tools

Member ID:

Have questions about your membership?
Need to update your contact details?
Contact forecasters@forecasters.org

Contact us at forecasters@forecasters.org if you need access details for online viewing of our journals.

Membership expired?

RENEW NOW

International Institute of Forecasters | forecasters.org



IIF | Business Office | Redwood City, CA 94065 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!