Dear,

The IIF sends our best to all of our members! We hope that you enjoy this issue of *The Oracle*, and we encourage you to submit contributions for future ones. The deadline for the next issue is **1 December**.

Ana Galvao, IIF Director and *Oracle* Editor

your member ID:

**In this issue**

**Forecasting in the News**

FiveThirtyEight's 2020 Presidential Forecast Works 12 August, *FiveThirtyEight*

Soccer Is Back, What's Going To Happen? 10 Sept, *Forbes*


Demand Forecasting Has Changed Forever 22 Sept, *Forbes*

**IIF Events**

40th International Symposium on Forecasting

Virtual ISF 2020--Rio de Janeiro

October 26-28

> Virtual ISF 2020--Rio de Janeiro will begin in just a couple of weeks, with LIVE keynote lectures, practitioner talks, panel-discussion, workshops, contributed sessions, and much more.

> FREE registration to all IIF members - you'll need your member ID, located above.

Foresight Practitioner Conference 2020 -- Virtual

Integrated Business Planning and Forecasting: Innovations to Drive Profitable Growth

December 2, 2020

Join us for this unique, online conference as industry experts and thought leaders examine why truly integrated processes are difficult to achieve and what organizations can do to overcome the impediments.

> FREE registration to all IIF members - your member ID is located above.

> Interested in sponsoring our event? Special discounts for our members! Contact us for rates and opportunities.

**IIF News**
IIF Member Profile
Slawek Smyl

Excerpt: How did you become a forecaster?

At some stage of my work in Microsoft, following one of the business reorganizations that happen regularly at large companies, I found myself in a rather nascent Azure organization that started to move from manual capacity planning into a more automated, better organized one. I was asked to forecast some of the capacity variables.

Read more ...

UFO Project (Usage of Forecasting in Organizations)
Jim Hoover, University of Florida

Jim Hoover is a Professor at the University of Florida and a member of the Foresight Advisory board. He is conducting research on how organizations develop and use forecasts. Take a moment to complete a short survey about forecasting that should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete. The initial page of the survey explains the survey and your rights as a participant. Then you will be asked if you wish to participate or not.

Thank you for considering to participate in this research.

Or copy and paste the URL below into your internet browser: https://ufl.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cT86aD6tq3HE4fP

Roy Pearson, In Memorium

Roy L. Pearson of Williamsburg, VA, passed away on August 16, 2020, at 80 years of age. Roy was a faculty member at William & Mary since 1971, and retired in 2005, becoming Chancellor Professor Emeritus. Roy's specialty was forecasting, which he taught in the MBA program for three decades. From 1984 to 1998 as Director of the College's Bureau of Business Research he regularly published his quarterly two-year-ahead forecasts, and also ten-year forecasts, for Virginia and six of its metropolitan areas.

Roy was an active member in the IIF, a Director from 2001-05, an associate editor on Foresight, and a master scuba diver. More importantly, Roy was a humorous, kind, and generous person. Read more about Roy's life.

Community Events

Center for Marketing Analytics and Forecasting

Friday Forecasting Talks: ‘Reducing the Gap Between Research And Practice’
~ A series of free webinars: https://cmaf-fft.lp151.com/. Here is a sample of the upcoming events:

1. What's new in forecasting software, Oliver Schaer, 16 October
2. Forecast Value Added, Robert Fildes, 27 November

Herman Stekler Research Program on Forecasting
George Washington University's Herman Stekler Research Program on Forecasting is pleased to announce their virtual launch event for the new name, in memory of the late Herman Stekler. The event will be held on Zoom, Thursday, November 5th, from 12:30 pm - 2 pm ET. The event will highlight the contributions of Herman Stekler to the field of forecasting, where Herman is remembered as one of the founding fathers of forecasting as well as the grandfather of forecast evaluation. Panelists will include Neil Ericsson, Fred Joutz, Prakash Loungani, and Tara Sinclair.

> email forecasting@gwu.edu to register (no cost) and receive a link to join the meeting.

---

Timberlake Consultants

**Time Series Econometrics Webinar**

Join Dr Malvina Marchese for this online intensive course, providing a comprehensive introduction to time series analysis and forecasting with EViews. The course offers a full overview on time series models and forecasting methods, covering a variety of different models including ARMA, ARDL, Regime Switching models, GARCH models and Midas time series regressions.

[Click here](#) to sign up, or take a [look at other courses](#) led by experts in their field, using EViews, Oxmetrics, Stata and more.

---

**RENEW NOW**

Not sure when your membership expires? Need to update your address? Contact us at forecasters.forecasters.org

**Foresight Bookstore** coupon codes: issues20 and gb20 (for guidebooks)