



Statistical Training at the Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics, Makerere University

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1. Introduction

The Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (ISAE) was established as an autonomous institute within the legal framework of Makerere University in July 1969 to provide facilities for the high level professional training of personnel in statistics and applied economics to meet the needs of Uganda, as well as those of other English speaking countries in the context of the formulation and implementation of national plans for economic and social development. The Government of Uganda (GoU) is the main source of funding through monthly subventions to the University. Other resources are got from the privately sponsored students.

Since 1969, the Institute has trained a number of Statisticians from English-speaking African countries up to postgraduate professional level. Some of our graduates hold key and professionally important posts in the statistical services of their counties. Others have joined regional and international organizations.



Vision



The vision of ISAE is to be an internationally recognized center of excellence in statistics and applied economics with capacity for training, research and information technology.

Mission

The mission of ISAE is to produce high quality professionals in statistics, applied economics, population studies and information technology so as to spearhead informed policy making both for public and private sectors through training, research and community service.

2. Management of the Institute of Statistics

The Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics is managed by the Director who is the Secretary of the Advisory Council whose membership consists of the Vice Chancellor of Makerere University as Chairperson, representatives of governments of Botswana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zanzibar and Zimbabwe, The

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Academic Registrar and the Deans of Faculties of Science and Social Sciences of Makerere University. The Advisory Council recommends policies governing the operation of ISAE to the University Senate or to the University Council.

The Board of Studies, chaired by the Director, oversees all the academic business of the Institute and reports to the University Senate. The Director is assisted by the Deputy Director and the Heads of Departments. The Institute runs under three academic departments; the Department of Statistical Methods, Department of Planning and Applied Statistics and Department of Population Studies.

3. Facilities and Staffing at the Institute

The Institute operates three Computer Laboratories.

1. Undergraduate Laboratory
2. Postgraduate Laboratory
3. Ph.D Laboratory

The facilities for the Ph.D Laboratory were offered by the School of Graduate Studies and are used in training the Ph.D students in data management, processing and analysis.

ISAE also has a Library with six sections namely; Demography, Statistics, Computing, Reference, Book Bank and Dissertations

The Institute is serviced by the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science and Faculty of Economics and Management. On ground, it has a total of 43 members of academic staff and 24 administrative and support staff (Table 1). The number of academic members of staff is inadequate but the University has already advertised for some posts which will somewhat ease the work load.

Table 1:
Staff of ISAE

Rank	Number
Professor	1
Associate Professor	1
Senior Lecturers	6
Lecturers	14
Assistant Lecturers	4
Teaching Assistants	5
Part time Lecturers	12
Administrative/Support staff	24



4. Academic programmes

From the time of establishment, the Institute has grown both in the scope and depth of the programmes it offers and the services it offers to the community.

The Institute runs five undergraduate programmes and nine postgraduate programmes. All bachelor programmes have a duration of three years and except for Bachelor of Statistics, have both Day and Evening components. The postgraduate diploma programmes are run for one year and the masters are run for two years. All Ph.D programmes take at least three and half years and a maximum of five years.

Undergraduate programmes

1. Bachelor of Statistics
2. Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science
3. Bachelor of Science in Quantitative Economics
4. Bachelor of Science in Population Studies
5. Bachelor of Business Statistics

Postgraduate programmes

1. Postgraduate Diploma in Demography
2. Postgraduate Diploma in Statistics
3. Master of Statistics
4. Master of Science in Quantitative Economics
5. Master of Arts in Demography
6. Master of Arts in Population and Development
7. Master of Science in Population and Reproduction Health
8. Ph.D in Population Studies
9. Ph.D in Statistics

Master of Science in Population Studies is already approved by Makerere University Council and will commence during the academic year 2006/2007.

Short courses

The following are the short courses:

1. Data Handling, Biostatistics and Use of Stata for Windows funded by DBL-Institute of Health Research and Development
2. Economic Statistics and National Accounts
3. Monitoring and Evaluation of Population Programs



4. A Practical Approach to Data analysis Using Stata/SPSS
5. Statistics for Ph.D students (service course)

5. Research

The Institute has carried out a number of research independently or in collaboration with other organizations. A number of members of staff also do consultancies for governments, national or international organizations, as individuals or in collaboration with consultants.

6. Student Numbers

ISAE has expanded from 60 students at the time of its establishment in 1969 to the current 1,792 students in 2005/2006 of this 1,520 are registered in undergraduate programmes (Table 2) and 272 in postgraduate programme (Table 3) excluding Ph.D students. Currently we have 7 Ph.D candidates.

Table 2:
Student enrollment by undergraduate programmes

	GOVT		PRIVATE DAY		PRIVATE EVE.		TOTAL
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
FIRST YEAR							
BPS	6	5	57	33	44	30	174
B.STAT	54	19	33	20	-	-	126
BSC.QE	12	5	24	21	55	29	146
BSC.AS	4	3	13	3	14	1	38
BBS	10	4	33	10	19	9	84
TOTAL	86	36	160	87	132	69	569
TOTAL	122	247	201	570			
SECOND YEAR							
BPS	22	10	34	44	28	46	184
B.STAT	57	14	13	11	-	-	95
BSC.QE	35	21	11	6	46	18	137
BSC.AS	8	2	22	7	7	2	48
BBS	-	-	19	7	22	08	66
TOTAL	122	47	99	75	103	74	520
TOTAL	169	174	177	520			
THIRD YEAR							
BPS	10	23	35	31	28	38	165
B.STAT	57	22	9	7	-	-	95
BSC.QE	57	24	6	4	36	21	148
BSC.AS	15	0	4	2	2	0	23
TOTAL	139	69	54	44	66	59	431
TOTAL	208	98	125	431			
TOTAL	347	152	312	206	301	202	1520
GRAND TOTAL	499	518	503	1520			

B.STAT. Bachelor of Statistics
 BSC.AS Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science
 BSC.QE Bachelor of Science in Quantitative Economics
 BPS Bachelor of Science in Population Studies
 BBS Bachelor of Business Statistics

Table 3:
 Student enrollment by postgraduate programmes

	PRIVATE DAY		PRIVATE EVE.		TOTAL
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
FIRST PART					
DIP DEMO	3	1	-	-	4
DIP STAT	9	3	-	-	12
MSTAT	27	8	-	-	35
MA DEMO	10	6	-	-	16
MA PDV	11	13	-	-	24
MSC PRH	37	26	-	-	63
MSC QE	14	3	-	-	17
TOTAL					
PART I					
SECOND PART					
M.STAT	17	2	-	-	19
MA DEMO	14	24	-	-	38
MA PDV	21	19	-	-	40
MSC PRH	27	8	-	-	35
MSC QE	17	8	15	3	43
TOTAL					
PART II					
GRAND TOTAL	272	18	272		

DIP. DEMO. Postgraduate Diploma in Demography
 DIP. STAT. Postgraduate Diploma in Statistics
 M.STAT. Master of Statistics
 MSC. QE Master of Science in Quantitative Economics

MA.DEMO. Master of Arts in Demography
 MA.PDV Master of Arts in Population and Development
 MSC PRH Master of Science in Population and
 Reproduction Health

Table 4:

Trend in enrollment by programmes, nationality

	2002/2003		2003/2004		2004/2005		2005/2006	
	U	NU	U	NU	U	NU	U	NU
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES								
BPS	115	1	158	7	182	2	167	4
B.STAT	81	1	97	8	89	6	118	12
B.QE	119	2	145	3	131	6	131	15
SAS	-	-	10	0	41	7	26	12
BBS	-	-	-	-	56	0	85	0
TOTAL	315	4	410	18	499	21	527	43
TOTAL	319	428	520	570				
POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES								
DIP. DEMO.	3	1	1	1	4	0	5	0
DIP. STAT.	4	0	5	1	12	0	10	2
M. STAT.	16	0	11	1	16	3	18	4
MA DEMO.	9	1	5	1	32	2	20	1
MA PDV	10	0	11	0	40	0	24	0
MSC PRH	18	0	25	0	35	0	65	0
MSC QE	-	-	-	-	43	0	17	0
TOTAL	60	2	58	4	182	5	159	7
TOTAL	62	62	187	166				
GRAND TOTAL	381	490	702	736				

The Institute was set up as a regional project with the main objective of training high level professionals in order to meet the needs of the member countries. In trying to evaluate the regional status of ISAE, figures of registration of students by nationality is compared for the academic years 2002/2003 to-date. The Institute is increasingly attracting foreign students from 6 in 2002/2003, 22 in 2003/2004, 26 in 2004/2005 and 50 in 2005/2006 (Table 4). The table shows high leaps in the number of foreign students coming for bachelor programmes from 4 in 2002/2003 academic year to 18 in 2003/2004 and further to 21 in the year 2004/2005 and this year 43 students.

7. Planned Activities

Two programmes (Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science and Bachelor of Business Statistics) have no postgraduate components for more specialized training. This, the Institute, is embarking in writing the proposal for consideration by Makerere Senate and subsequent approval by University Council.

To improve in the quality of service to the University student, the University has embarked on training of staff. A number of staff members have registered for further studies in Makerere University or outside Uganda. However, because of policy of holding a Ph.D to be appointed a Lecturer, the staff development funds at Makerere University had been overstretched. The candidates from ISAE have, therefore, not benefited as much we expected.

8. Challenges

ISAE has experienced insufficient space for a number of years now. This is caused by non-completion of Statistics Building which has remained at slab level for the last 30 years. This has led to lack of space lecture rooms, computer laboratories, Library, offices and stores.

Another critical issue is insufficient staffing establishment caused by the freezing of appointment which affected Makerere University in general.

The Institute will embark on reviewing its five year strategic plan.