

# Appendix MG: Organizations and Individuals Responsible for TIMSS Advanced 2015

## Introduction

TIMSS Advanced 2015 was a collaborative effort involving hundreds of individuals around the world. This appendix acknowledges the individuals and organizations for their contributions. Given that work on TIMSS Advanced 2015 has spanned approximately four years and has involved so many people and organizations, this list may not include all who contributed. Any omission is inadvertent. TIMSS Advanced 2015 also acknowledges the students, teachers, and school principals who contributed their time and effort to the study. This report would not be possible without them.

## Management and Coordination

TIMSS Advanced was conducted by IEA's TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center at Boston College, which has responsibility for the direction and management of the TIMSS and PIRLS projects, including design, development, and implementation. Headed by Executive Directors Drs. Ina V.S. Mullis and Michael O. Martin, the study center is located in the Lynch School of Education. In carrying out the project, the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center worked closely with the IEA Secretariat in Amsterdam, which managed country participation, was responsible for verification of all translations produced by the participating countries, and coordinated the school visits by International Quality Control Monitors. Staff at the IEA Data Processing and Research Center in Hamburg worked closely with participating countries to organize sampling and data collection operations and to check all data for accuracy and consistency within and across countries; Statistics Canada in Ottawa was responsible for school and student sampling activities; and Educational Testing Service in Princeton, New Jersey consulted on psychometric methodology, provided software for scaling the achievement data, and replicated the achievement scaling for quality assurance.

The Project Management Team, comprising the study directors and representatives from the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center, IEA Secretariat and IEA Data Processing and Research Center, Statistics Canada, and ETS met twice a year throughout the study to discuss the study's progress, procedures, and schedule. In addition, the study directors met with members of IEA's Technical Executive Group twice yearly to review technical issues.

To work with the international team and coordinate within-country activities, each participating country designates an individual to be the TIMSS National Research Coordinator (NRC). The NRCs have the challenging task of implementing TIMSS in their countries in accordance with the TIMSS guidelines and procedures. In addition, the NRCs provide feedback and contributions throughout the development of the TIMSS assessment. The quality of the TIMSS assessment and data depends on the work of the NRCs and their colleagues in carrying out the complex sampling, data collection, and scoring tasks involved. Continuing the tradition of exemplary work established in previous cycles of TIMSS, the TIMSS Advanced 2015 NRCs performed their many tasks with dedication, competence, energy, and goodwill, and have been commended by the IEA Secretariat, the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center, the IEA Data Processing and Research Center, and Statistics Canada for their commitment to the project and the high quality of their work.

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## TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center at Boston College

Ina V.S. Mullis, *Executive Director*

Michael O. Martin, *Executive Director*

Pierre Foy, *Director of Sampling, Psychometrics, and Data Analysis*

Paul Connolly, *Director, Graphic Design and Publications*

Ieva Johansone, *Associate Research Director, Operations and Quality Control*

Marcie Bligh, *Manager, Events and Administration*

Victoria A.S. Centurino, *Assistant Research Director, TIMSS Science*

Kerry Cotter, *Research Specialist, TIMSS Mathematics*

Susan Farrell, *Lead Web and Database Designer*

Bethany Fishbein, *Research Specialist, TIMSS Science*

Joseph Galia, *Lead Statistician/Programmer*

Shirley Goh, *Assistant Director, Communications and Media Relations*

Christine Hoage, *Manager of Finance*

Kathleen Holland, *Administrative Coordinator*

Martin Hooper, *Assistant Research Director, TIMSS and PIRLS Questionnaire Development and Policy Studies*

Jenny Liu, *Graduate Assistant*

Lauren Palazzo, *Research Associate, TIMSS and PIRLS Questionnaire Development and Technical Reporting*

Yenileis Pardini, *Lead Designer/Developer for eAssessments*

Mario A. Pita, *Lead Graphic Designer*

Jyothsnadevi Pothana, *Statistician/Programmer*

Betty Poulos, *Administrative Coordinator*

Katherine Reynolds, *Graduate Assistant*

Ruthanne Ryan, *Senior Graphic Designer*

Jennifer Moher Sepulveda, *Data Graphics Specialist (through 2015)*

Amy Semerjian, *Graduate Assistant (through 2015)*

Steven A. Simpson, *Senior Graphic Designer*

Erin Wry, *Research Associate, TIMSS and PIRLS Operations and Quality Control*

Liqun Yin, *Research Psychometrician*

## IEA Secretariat

Dirk Hastedt, *Executive Director*

Hans Wagemaker, *Executive Director (through 2014)*

Paulína Koršňáková, *Director of the IEA Secretariat*

Barbara Malak, *Manager, Member Relations (through 2013)*

Gabriela Nausica Noveanu, *Senior Research Advisor*  
 David Ebbs, *Research Officer*  
 Michelle Djekić, *Research Officer*  
 Roel Burgers, *Financial Manager*  
 Juriaan Hartenberg, *Financial Manager (through 2013)*  
 Isabelle Braun-Gémin, *Financial Officer*  
 Dana Vizkova, *Financial Officer*  
 Gillian Wilson, *Publications Officer*  
 Manuel Butty, *Public Outreach Officer*

## IEA Data Processing and Research Center

Heiko Sibberns, *IEA DPC Director*  
 Oliver Neuschmidt, *Senior Research Analyst, Unit Head, International Studies*  
 Milena Taneva, *Senior Research Analyst, Project Co-Manager, TIMSS and TIMSS Advanced Data Processing*  
 Juliane Hencke, *Senior Research Analyst, Project Co-Manager, TIMSS and TIMSS Advanced Data Processing*  
 Sebastian Meyer, *Research Analyst, Deputy Project Manager, TIMSS and TIMSS Advanced Data Processing*  
 Mark Cockle, *Research Analyst, Deputy Project Manager, TIMSS and TIMSS Advanced Data Processing*  
 Yasin Afana, *Research Analyst*  
 Alena Becker, *Research Analyst*  
 Clara Beyer, *Research Analyst*  
 Christine Busch, *Research Analyst*  
 Tim Daniel, *Research Analyst*  
 Limiao Duan, *Programmer*  
 Eugenio Gonzalez, *Senior Research Analyst*  
 Michael Jung, *Research Analyst*  
 Deepti Kalamadi, *Programmer*  
 Hannah Köhler, *Research Analyst*  
 Kamil Kowolik, *Research Analyst*  
 Sabine Meinck, *Unit Head, Sampling & Research and Analyses Unit*  
 Ekaterina Mikheeva, *Research Analyst*  
 Dirk Oehler, *Research Analyst*  
 Duygu Savaşci, *Research Analyst*  
 Sabine Tieck, *Research Analyst*  
 Meng Xue, *Unit Head, Software*

## Statistics Canada

Jean Dumais, *Chief*  
 Sylvie LaRoche, *Senior Methodologist*  
 Craig Seko, *Senior Methodologist*

## Educational Testing Service

Matthias Von Davier, *Senior Research Director*  
 Edward Kulick, *Research Director*  
 Jonathan Weeks, *Associate Research Scientist*  
 Zhan Shu, *Psychometrician*  
 Scott Davis, *Senior Data Analysis and Computational Research Specialist*  
 Mei-Jang Lin, *Data Analysis and Computational Research Specialist*

## Sampling Referee

Keith Rust, *Vice President and Associate Director of the Statistical Group, Westat, Inc.*

## TIMSS Advanced 2015 Science and Mathematics Item Review Committee

### Mathematics

Kiril Bankov  
 Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics  
 University of Sofia

#### **Bulgaria**

Sean Close  
 Educational Research Centre  
 St. Patrick's College

#### **Ireland**

Khatab M. A. Abulibdeh  
 National Center for Human Resources  
 Development

#### **Jordan**

Sun Sook Noh  
 Department of Mathematics Education  
 Ewha Women's University

#### **Korea, Republic of**

Liv Sissel Grønmo  
 Chief Mathematics Consultant  
 Department of Teacher Education and  
 School Research  
 ILS, University of Oslo

#### **Norway**

Torgeir Onstad  
 Department of Teacher Education and  
 School Research  
 ILS, University of Oslo

#### **Norway**

Mary Lindquist

#### **United States**

**Science**

Newman Burdett (through 2014)  
 National Foundation for Educational  
 Research (NFER)

**England**

Jouni Viiri  
 University of Jyväskylä

**Finland**

Siu Ling Alice Wong  
 Faculty of Education  
 University of Hong Kong

**Honk Kong SAR**

Berenice Michels  
 Faculty of Science  
 Utrecht University

**The Netherlands**

Vitaly Gribov  
 Physics Faculty  
 Moscow Lomonosov State University

**Russian Federation**

Galina Kovaleva  
 Center for Evaluating the Quality of  
 Education  
 Federal Institute of the Strategy of  
 Education Development of the Russian  
 Academy of Education  
 Ministry of Education and Science

**Russian Federation**

Gabriela Noveanu (through 2013)  
 Institute of Educational Science  
 Curriculum Department

**Romania**

Gorazd Planinsic  
 Faculty of Mathematics & Physics  
 University of Ljubljana

**Slovenia**

Wolfgang Dietrich  
 National Agency for Education

**Sweden**

Lee Jones  
 Chief Science Consultant

**United States**

Christopher Lazzaro  
 The College Board

**United States**

Gerry Wheeler  
 United States

**TIMSS Advanced 2015 Item Development Task Forces**

**Advanced Mathematics**

Ina V.S. Mullis, *TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center Executive Director*  
 Kerry Cotter, *Research Specialist, TIMSS Mathematics*  
 Liv Sissel Grønmo, *Chief Mathematics Consultant (ILS, University of Oslo)*  
 Mary Lindquist, *Mathematics Consultant (United States)*  
 Torgeir Onstad, *Mathematics Consultant (ILS, University of Oslo)*  
 Ray Philpot, *Mathematics Consultant (ACER)*

## Physics

Victoria A.S. Centurino, *Assistant Research Director, TIMSS Science*

Lee R. Jones, *Chief Science Consultant (United States)*

Ron Martin, *Science Consultant (ACER)*

Gerry Wheeler, *Science Consultant (United States)*

## Questionnaire Item Review Committee

Sue Thomson

Australian Council for Educational  
 Research

### Australia

Josef Basl

Czech School Inspectorate

### Czech Republic

Wilfried Bos

Institute for School Development  
 Research (IFS)

TU Dortmund University

### Germany

Martina Meelissen

Department of Research Methodology,  
 Measurement, and Data Analysis

Faculty of Behavioral Sciences

University of Twente

### Netherlands

Chew Leng Poon

Planning Division, Research and  
 Evaluation Section

Ministry of Education

### Singapore

Peter Nyström

National Center for Mathematics  
 Education

University of Gothenburg

### Sweden

Jack Buckley

The College Board

### United States

## TIMSS Advanced 2015 National Research Coordinators

### France

Franck Salles

Ministère de l'éducation nationale

Direction de l'évaluation, de la prospective  
 et de la performance (DEPP)

### Italy

Laura Palmerio

Elisa Caponera (through 2014)

Istituto Nazionale per la Valutazione del  
 Sistema Educativo di Istruzione e di  
 Formazione (INVALSI)

### Lebanon

Nada Oweijane

Leila Maliha Fayad (through 2015)

Educational Center for Research and  
 Development

Ministry of Education

### Norway

Liv Sissel Grønmo

Department of Teacher Education and  
 School Research

ILS, University of Oslo

**Portugal**

João Maroco  
Instituto de Avaliação Educativa, I. P.

**Russian Federation**

Galina Kovaleva  
Center for Evaluating the Quality of  
Education  
Federal Institute of the Strategy of  
Education Development of the Russian  
Academy of Education  
Ministry of Education and Science

**Slovenia**

Barbara Japelj Pavesic  
Educational Research Institute

**Sweden**

Carola Borg  
Swedish National Agency for Education

**United States**

Stephen Provasnik  
National Center for Education Statistics  
U.S. Department of Education