

REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL REVIEW TEAM
FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS OF THE
ATHENS UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS
AND BUSINESS

The *Review Team* consisted of Professors C.R. Rao (Eberly Professor of Statistics, Department of Statistics, Pennsylvania State University, USA) (Chairman), P. Florides (Professor of Applied Mathematics, Department of Mathematics, Trinity College, University of Dublin, Ireland), J. Teugels (Professor of Probability and Statistics, University Center for Statistics, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium) and W. Urfer (Professor of Statistics, Department of Statistics, University of Dortmund, Germany).

Prior to their visit to the University, the assessors received a *self-evaluation report* consisting of three volumes.

1. Volume I: The *Main Report* contains information about the University in general and about the Department of statistics and its facilities in particular. The different study programmes (undergraduate, graduate and Ph.D.) are treated in detail.
2. Volume II: This volume contains *Appendices* like the evaluation procedures for the undergraduate programme, for the graduate programme and for the faculty, different application forms, a list of technical reports and a survey of the statistical journals available in the library.
3. Volume III: The *Curricula Vitae* of the professors, lecturers, temporary faculty and assistants are contained in this booklet.

At the end of February, the assessors forwarded their first impressions to the Head of the Department of Statistics Professor J. Panaretos. A compilation of these assessments was made available to the review team at the time of its visit to the Department. The visit itself took place in Athens from 18-21 April 2001. On that occasion the Review Team examined the facilities of the Department, the Statistical Laboratories the secretarial offices and the University Library. Next to a short meeting with the Rector of the University, Professor A. Kintis, the reviewers used ample time to interview representative members from the different groups within the Department, faculty, secretarial staff and students, undergraduates and postgraduates.

The reviewers want to express their sincere indebtedness for the openness of the interviews that enabled them to collect the necessary elements for an authoritative and independent report. The Review Team realized that the Department of Statistics of the Athens University of Economics and Business (AUEB) has been the only one that called upon an evaluation team that consisted entirely of examiners from abroad.

The Review Team investigated carefully a number of different aspects relevant to the activities of the Department of Statistics: among them the undergraduate programme, graduate programmes, scientific staff and the logistic support. The evaluation was done using, among others, criteria suggested by the *Center for Higher Education Policy Studies*: quality, productivity, relevance, management and long-term viability.

Each member of the Review Team had gained experience with similar evaluation procedures on previous occasions and in different countries. As a result, their report compares the overall standing of the AUEB Department of Statistics to that of other statistics Departments worldwide.