Editorial Note: Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the first issue of REVSTAT for which I act as Editor.

First of all, a special thanks to my predecessor, Ivette Gomes. It is an honour to succeed her as editor and to help the journal evolve to continue to meet the needs of the applied and theoretical statisticians. Over the past 18 years, she improved the visibility and impact of REVSTAT, serving the science community with dedication and commitment, setting up and shaping the journal to ensure it has maintained its place among the international benchmark journals in the field of Statistics. With the regular publication of REVSTAT since 2003, she has acted with the utmost scientific integrity, which combined with her broad and deep understanding of statistical methodologies and applications, and a hard work capacity that makes her an example to be followed, but hard to match. Throughout this period Ivette has also promoted some special issues, spreading the scientific communications of thematic workshops or conferences. The importance of obtaining high quality reviews and timeliness in publish-decisions, have also been a major concern under Ivette's Editorship, assisted by the co-editor Antónia Amaral Turkman.

I also would like to thank those who served on the journal editorial board, some of the Associated Editors cooperating with REVSTAT since the first issue. Thanks are also due to reviewers, which constitute integrant part of this publishing process, providing the support and feedback necessary to find, develop and publish high-quality material. REVSTAT receives since 2010 the Journal Citation Reports impact factor, which to some extent reflects the dedication and expertise of our editors and reviewers. In 2017 the journal was given a 5-Year JCR Impact Factor of 1.238. Close to this, I also present my thanks to both readers and authors, who helped us by citing papers from our journal. To improve this result, we hope to receive high quality manuscripts from authors all over the world.

The new AE team will greatly contribute to the high standards of the Journal, and we are thankful for their committed participation in the respective field of

expertness, enabling the journal will continue to publish original high quality standards research in Statistics. We will encourage all authors to work to these standards. Peer review remains a prominent component of our assessment of submitted manuscripts. It is important we have a good balance of different article type within the journal, encompassing theoretical, methodological, real case studies applications, and promoting overviews or reviews of emerging subjects. Special Issues will continue to be published, not necessarily associated to scientific meetings.

Lastly, I must thank all our submitting authors, both current and future, who worked on the production of their research, and have chosen REVSTAT as the journal they would like to publish in. Unfortunately, due to the great volume of submissions, less than 20% of submissions are eventually accepted for publication, and inevitably many of those submitting authors will be disappointed by a negative decision of rejection.

I am very aware of the responsibilities that the editor's role entails, and I face my new role and challenge with both enthusiasm and some anxiety! At last, but not least, I am fortunate to be supported by a highly effective team from editorial office of Statistics Portugal, in particular by the executive editor Pinto Martins and Secretary Liliana Martins. It is their goal to adopt a refreshed look for the journal's website and in a near future an effective automatic submission editorial platform.

I look forward to working with all of you, aiming to make REVSTAT a success and we welcome your submissions, sincerely hoping you find the future issues of interest by benefiting from the articles appearing in this publication.

Sincerely,

Isabel Fraga Alves