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AMSTATNEWS

The Membership Magazine of the American Statistical Association

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To be a world leader in promoting statistical practice, applications, and research; publishing statistical journals; improving statistical education; and advancing the statistics profession.

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MISSION STATEMENT

Support excellence in statistical practice, research, journals, and meetings. Work for the improvement of statistical education at all levels. Promote the proper application of statistics. Anticipate and meet the needs of our members. Use our discipline to enhance human welfare. Seek opportunities to advance the statistics profession.

FEATURES

DEPARTMENTS

MEMBER NEWS

Peter A. (Tony) Lachenbruch

Make Your Mark:

Vote in the ASA Election

Dear Members,

Each year, we hold elections for our society officers. The offices range from the presidency to vice presidency to section offices. The office of secretary is filled by the executive director. This month, I have asked the two candidates for president, Xiao-Li Meng and Sastry Pantula, to help write this President's Corner column to stress the importance of our elections and encourage your participation. This column is a joint effort by the three of us.

Each year, we enter the elections with hopes of substantial participation, and, each year, less than 20% of our members vote. In the last three elections, the percentage of members who voted were 16%, 19%, and 18%. For statisticians who rely on data, this is a very low participation. As the last two U.S. presidential elections indicate, every vote counts!

The ASA president has many areas of concern and opportunity, including the following:

Ensuring the Joint Statistical Meetings go smoothly by getting good local organizing and program committees and facilitating effective working relations between them and the ASA staff

Ensuring that ASA journals are tops in their fields by having good editors, referees, and financial operations, as well as a quicker turnaround time for publications

Keeping our membership growing and active, especially encouraging our students to become ASA members and continuing their memberships after they graduate

Proposing changes in the association to enhance its effectiveness

Working with the professional staff of the ASA to ensure the association has sound financial management

Maintaining the physical plant for the association to meet the association's needs

Identifying and appointing individuals to ASA committees (This will amount to around 150 appointments from the president-elect.)

Representing the ASA and the discipline of statistics, overseeing the conduct of the association, and initiating its policies or direction

These are a few responsibilities you might want to reflect upon as you mark your ballot. The officers of the association will need help from members. The greater the participation in the election, the better it is for the ASA.

Presidents often appoint task forces and ad hoc committees to consider activities that relate to the functioning of the ASA. Sometimes, these are related to current ASA committees, and, sometimes, they relate to potential activities. In the past few years, task forces have addressed issues on science policy, strategic planning, the nominations process, engagement with other organizations, defense and security, and communications and professional development. During 2007 and 2008, an ad hoc committee was formed to advise the president-elect on committee appointments. This ad hoc committee may be changed to a continuing committee. Also, an ad hoc committee was created in 2007 to propose an approach for individual accreditation of statisticians.

Sastry Pantula, a nominee for ASA president, said the following:

> Like the U.S. presidential elections, the ASA presidential elections have two candidates who are very eager to work hard for our association, and we also have an excellent slate of candidates for a number of other important offices. There are a number of opportunities ahead of us (see the list above and the candidates' statements). It is important for all our members, especially students and isolated members in various sectors, to be engaged with our association, and I urge you to show your enthusiasm through your participation in our elections. I have always encouraged all of our students to be active members of [the] ASA, and I believe strongly that the earlier they get engaged with our association, the longer the benefits for them in the future, regardless of whether they enter academia, government, or industrial sectors after graduation. Mentoring they receive from our senior members, networking at JSM, and the information they gain through our quality journals and *Amstat News* have been very rewarding to them. Your engagement in ASA activities and participation in the voting process set good examples for our newer members, who I anticipate will be our future life members. Does the less than 20% participation rate in elections mentioned above indicate only one sector of our membership participates each year? I hope members from all sectors and backgrounds participate in this election. Give the volunteers a pat on the back by casting your vote. As you know, the association is going "green," and your vote is only a few clicks away! Please let your fingers do the talking.

Xiao-Li Meng, another nominee for ASA president, noted that if there is any profession, as a whole, that is most well trained to understand the importance of voting, it must be statistics. Indeed, professional statisticians have written about the rationality of voting. For example, Andrew Gelman recently wrote this about the national election:

> First, the bad news. With 100 million voters, [the] chance that your vote will be decisive—even if the national election is predicted to be reasonably close—is, at best, one in a million in a battleground state such as Ohio and much less than one in 10 million in a less closely fought state, such as New York. … So, voting doesn't seem like such a good investment.
>
> But, here's the good news. If your vote is decisive, it will make a difference for 300 million people. If you think your preferred candidate could bring the equivalent of a $50 improvement in the quality of life to the average American—not an implausible hope, given the size of the federal budget and the impact of decisions in foreign policy, health, the courts, and other areas—you're now buying a $1.5 billion lottery ticket. With this payoff, a one in 10 million chance of being decisive isn't bad odds.

Gelman's arguments are based on both theoretical and empirical evidence provided in the article, "Voting as a Rational Choice: Why and How People Vote To Improve the Well-Being of Others," that he coauthored with an economist and a political scientist. The article appeared in *Rationality and Society* in 2007.

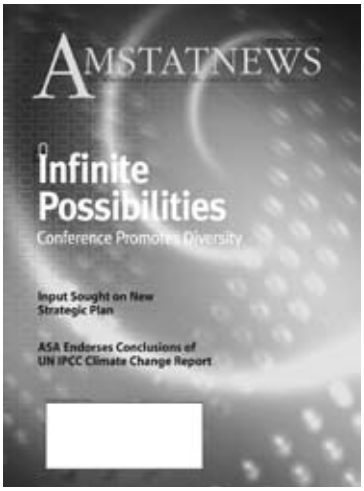
Meng summed up Gelman's analysis as follows:

> The central conclusion of this analysis is that when we consider voting as a way of expressing our social preferences for the well-being of others, then it is rational to vote for what we think will be good for the country, or the ASA in our current case.
>
> I personally found this argument persuasive. Any time I didn't vote, I was indeed in a more narrow-minded framework: "Well, what's the chance that my vote would matter?" And "I just have so many other things to do …" Yet, the expected return of these "many other things," though often more immediately measurable, cannot possibly match the expected return from the social preferences expressed through my voting. For the ASA, although many fewer people would be affected compared to the national election, there is a compensating fact, that is, the chance that a single vote makes a difference is much higher. For example, in the past dozen years or so, about one-third of ASA elections had vote differences (for ASA president) of less than 80 votes, with one difference being only six votes!

So, please do cast your vote. Its expected social impact on your fellow members can be much more than you realize.

Peter A Lachenbruch

Dear *Amstat News*,



After reading "ASA Endorses Conclusions of UN IPCC Climate Change Report" in the January 2008 *Amstat News*, I find myself in agreement with most, but not all, of the key points. I am writing because I am in disagreement with the central point of the article—that the ASA endorses the IPCC conclusions. I am in disagreement for two reasons. First, the ASA as an organization should not endorse policy statements, but rather remain completely open-minded in all matters, especially those with politics seeping from every pore. Second, to not consider or present highly recognized and expert alternative views and opinions is anathema to any and all highly educated individuals. By endorsing a policy statement, and then to recommend all statisticians get involved, seems like putting the cart before the horse. I imagine the IPCC will be happy to have us not rocking their boat, but isn't that what we are all about? Going wherever the data take us and to heck with the policy wonks who have their own axes to grind? Thank God for Galileo and the scientific method. Over and over again, we find the darkest periods in human history always occur when an individual or group gains power and not only believes their way is the only way and the right way, but that it is their duty to force everyone else to adopt their way, or else. There are many, many, many well-known and well-regarded scientists in every specialty who have serious reservations about the whole "climate change" debate. To not present those is a disservice, I believe, to the entire ASA membership and thinking, open-minded people everywhere and in every walk of life.

> "By endorsing a policy statement, and then to recommend all statisticians get involved, seems like putting the cart before the horse."

To quote you, "Most of the observed increase in globally averaged temperatures since the mid-20th century is very likely due to the observed increase in anthropogenic (of, relating to, or resulting from the influence of human beings on nature) greenhouse gas concentrations." Isn't it our duty as statisticians to help determine "likelihood"? And how we would do that is one aspect missing from the article. To continue your quote and subsequent endorsement, "Discernible human influences now extend to other aspects of climate, including ocean warming, continental average temperatures, temperature extremes, and wind patterns." You are joking, right?

Al Gore, winner of the Nobel Prize, is quoted as saying the Earth has "a fever." How would anyone know the Earth has "a fever"? What is a normal temperature for the Earth? Aren't these two questions we as statisticians should be endorsing as begging to be answered by those who support the IPCC conclusions? Some scientists tell us the Earth was a few degrees warmer in the 1850s than it was 20,000 years before. Endorsing policy statements like Mr. Gore's or the IPCC's seems to beg also stating explicitly what time frame the ASA endorses in making a determination of the Earth's fever. Should we be studying 100-year samples, 500-year samples, or less, or more? In terms of the Earth's history, it seems to me that 500 years is nothing. I suspect the Earth's temperature is cyclical, rising and falling in cycles that may take hundreds, or even thousands, of years to complete before the next cycle begins. It should remain open as to whether or not the current perceived upswing is caused by human carbon dioxide emissions since there are paleoclimatologists who believe atmospheric carbon dioxide follows global temperature, rather than leading it. Additionally, David Crisp, senior scientist for the Orbiting Carbon Observatory at NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab, recently was quoted [as saying], "So far, scientists have no reliable way to measure all these fluctuating carbon emissions. Temperature predictions based on future carbon dioxide levels, therefore, could overestimate or dangerously understate the risk of greenhouse warming. A quarter of all carbon dioxide that is emitted is going somewhere and we don't know where, which raises a lot of red flags." It all sounds a bit too fuzzy for me to endorse any position other than much further research needs to be done before we can definitively state with any degree of certainty what is or isn't normal, what is or isn't going on, and what amount, if any, of a global temperature blip can validly and reliably be assigned to human activity.

In closing, I don't consider myself a Democrat or a Republican. I do think we should not pollute and should achieve energy self-sufficiency. I believe "global warming" is a wave that many can ride and have a successful career at, but it is never a good career move to be one of the lemmings and jump off the cliff in so doing. We, as an organization, should volunteer every resource we can spare to the global warming research endeavor, but we should not openly espouse one side or another in doing so. We should work with the IPCC, but not support its or any positions blindly.

Respectfully,
Peter Perugini

Correction:
In the January issue of *Amstat News*, Brent A. Coull and Hans C. van Houwelingen were listed as participants of the 2007 conference of the Greek Statistical Institute. In fact, they did not attend. The others listed as attendees participated in recent years, but not all of them participated in 2007. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

2008 ASA Election Candidates

The ASA announces the selection of candidates for the 2008 election. The winning candidates' terms will begin in 2009. The ASA is going green this year, so look for your ballots to come via email. Those without email addresses on file with the ASA will be sent a paper ballot via mail. Voting begins March 17, 2008, and ends on May 15, 2008. Results will be announced shortly after the election ends.

All 2008 candidate biographies can be accessed at *www.amstat.org/2008election*.

ASA Board of Directors

The Committee on Nominations, chaired by Nancy Flournoy of the University of Missouri-Columbia, selected the following candidates:

President-Elect

Sastry G. Pantula, North Carolina State University

Xiao-Li Meng, Harvard University

In the 2008 election, members will select the officer who will serve as president-elect in 2009, president in 2010, and past president in 2011. The president-elect in 2009 will serve with 2009 President Sally C. Morton of RTI International and 2008 President Peter A. Lachenbruch.

Vice President

C. Frank Shen, Roche Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Christy Chuang-Stein, Pfizer Inc.

Those who vote in the 2008 election will elect the officer who will serve as vice president in 2009 with vice presidents Alicia L. Carriquiry of Iowa State University and Nathaniel Schenker of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The board-appointed editors selected candidates to run for office as:

Publications Board Representative

David W. Scott, Rice University

Karen Kafadar, University of Colorado

The Council of Sections Governing Board nominating committee, chaired by Linda Gage of the California Department of Finance, selected the following candidates:

Council of Sections ASA Board Representative

Jeri Metzger Mulrow, National Science Foundation

Chet Bowie, NORC at the University of Chicago

The Council of Chapters Governing Board nominating committee, chaired by B. Christine Clark of Icon Clinical Research, selected the following candidates:

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Candidates for each section were provided by their respective section nominating committees.

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Sastry G. Pantula


Sastry G. Pantula

Who needs statistics? According to my departmental T-shirt, which I wear as I write, the answer is "Everyone from Agronomists to Zoologists, including YOU!" Everyone needs statistics. And, everyone needs statisticians. You know it. I know it. Do your neighbors know it? Getting more people to understand the importance of statistics and providing a more powerful voice to statisticians are vital, not just for the advancement of our profession, but for the betterment of society.

As ASA president, I will pursue four main strategies:

1. Speak actively and strategically on behalf of our profession. I will work within the ASA and with other organizations to ensure statisticians are "at the table," developing solutions and advocating the views of our discipline in a timely manner.

Now is an exciting time to be a statistician and a member of the ASA! We lead in training problemsolvers of tomorrow and addressing the societal issues of today: energy and environment; health care, social security, and the economics of our safety net; voter and population counts; product quality; business analytics; and gene therapy. As Karl Pearson wrote, "statistics is the grammar of science." We drive and enhance the quality of research in all fields. We must focus our resources to effectively engage and educate the general public and opinion leaders globally.

2. Work tirelessly in the ASA's interests. The shifting landscape of our publications, meetings, and research directions need immediate attention. As a life member of the ASA, I am prepared to work hard for our association and increase opportunities for our members to do the same. It will be an honor to work for—and with—you!

The ASA has new opportunities to engage internationally, and to embrace engagement from our diverse membership. Through past leadership positions within the ASA, I have seen the enthusiasm of our member volunteers. As we develop a new strategic plan together, your involvement (chapters, sections, task forces, editorial boards, and committees) will be pivotal. Together, we can continue to enhance the quality and readership of our journals, increase the effectiveness of our meetings, and build stronger relationships among academia, government, and industry.

3. Lead within the rich and diverse infrastructure of our profession. With the help of the board; SPAIG; Committee on Minorities; Caucus for Women in Statistics; Caucus of Academic Representatives; and other committees, associations, chapters, and sections, I will accelerate our work to improve training at all levels and improve diversity and mentoring across all sectors of our membership. With the help of policymakers and other organizations, I will work to enhance federal funding for research and training and to see our agencies, institutes, and departments thrive.

With formal training from the Indian Statistical Institute and Iowa State, and informal continuing education during 25 years at NC State, I have developed a great appreciation for interdisciplinary research and a strong foundation in mathematical statistics. I have gained invaluable knowledge while spending sabbatical time and teaching in industry. Through a decade in departmental leadership roles, I have worked to strengthen and broaden student training (VIGRE, industrial/EPA traineeships) and participation in the ASA, improve diversity among faculty and students (StatFest, Pipeline Workshop, Infinite Possibilities Conference), and increase mentoring opportunities for junior faculty and students. By working together, across sectors, there are opportunities to train effective and socially conscious graduates and enhance continuing education for others.

4. Keep our "eyes on the prize." I will direct my experience, energy, and enthusiasm to help the ASA achieve its stated objectives: "to foster statistics and its applications, to promote unity and effectiveness of effort among all concerned with statistical problems, and to increase the contribution of statistics to human welfare without prejudice toward any person or group." I will enhance the financial stability and membership of the ASA.

As Treasurer of the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) and member of local committees of the Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI), I have been inspired by the collaboration among academic, government, and industrial statistical scientists, who are working together to solve problems of importance to our society. It has been exciting to see both NISS and SAMSI grow. As ASA treasurer, it has been a pleasure to learn from my time on the board; to see board members come together across sectors; to work first-hand with several past and present presidents and vice presidents as they put their hearts and energy into realizing their vision for the ASA; to work with the ASA leadership and excellent staff through the purchase and renovation of our new building, hiring a new executive director, and growing our assets. The ASA will enjoy the fruits of our past leaders' efforts for many years to come.

Now is the dawn of the age of massive data. Come, let's go out and work to ensure all our neighbors understand the power and importance of statistics and statisticians!

Present Position: Head, Department of Statistics; Director, Institute of Statistics, NC State (2002-Present); Assistant, Associate, Full Professor, NC State (1982-Present) *www4.stat.ncsu.edu/~pantula*

Former Positions: Director of Graduate Programs, NC State (1994–2002); Visiting Statistician, SEMATECH (1990–1991)

Degrees: PhD, Statistics, Iowa State (1982); BStat and MStat, Indian Statistical Institute (1974–1979)

Fields of Major Statistical Activities: Time series, linear models, quality control

Publications: *Applied Regression Analysis: A Research Tool* (1998); "My Trip to the Hill," *Amstat News* (2007) and *Notices* (2008); "Determining the Order of Differencing in AR Processes," *JBES* (1986, 2002); "Nonlinear Regression with Variance Components," *JASA* (1992); "Testing for Unit Roots in Time Series," *Econometric Theory* (1989). Publications also appeared in *The American Statistician*, *Biometrics*, *Biometrika*, *Journals of Applied Probability*, *Econometrics*, *Multivariate Analysis*, *Statistical Planning and Inference*, *Time Series Analysis*, *Sankhya*, and *Survey Methodology*

ASA Activities and Offices Held: Business and Economics Section—JSM Program Officer (2000), Publications Officer (2001–2004), Chair-elect (2007); Fellow (2002); COPSS Award Committee (2002–2005); Youden Award Committee (2004–2006); ASA Treasurer, Finance Committee Chair, Audit Committee Chair, Budget Committee, Planning Committee, Executive Committee, Board of Directors (2005-Present); Associate Editor, *The American Statistician* (1987–1993); Associate Editor, *JBES* (2001–2006)

Related Professional Activities: Coeditor, *Sankhya* (2000–2002); Associate Editor, *Statistics and Probability Letters* (2002–2007); Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Statistical Theory and Practice* (2007-Present); NSF panels and site visits; SAA-PAMS Department Head Award (2005); IISA Young Statistician Award (2002); Mason Faculty Award (2001); NCSU Outstanding Teacher Award (1986); Member of IMS, ISI, ENAR, IISA, ICSA, Phi Kappa Phi, SIAM, Sigma Xi, and Mu Sigma Rho; Board Member, Follow the Child Montessori (2003–2005); NISS Treasurer (2004-Present)

Xiao-Li Meng

Xiao-Li Meng

Jennie, a statistics major, wanted to land a job on Wall Street. She heard that usually about 10% of applicants with economics degrees would be interviewed, so she applied for 50 positions, hoping for five interviews. When Jennie was surprised by 45 invitations, I smiled at her and said, "Well, you forgot that you are a statistics concentrator!" In 2006—the year Jennie graduated—Harvard had 733 economics concentrators, but only seven statistics concentrators.

When I told this story to a group of freshmen during a recent recruitment lunch, one of them asked, "Why are there so few statistics concentrators? Shouldn't there be a supply and demand principle here?" Before I could respond, another student jumped in and said, "No one in my high school would ever think of going into statistics. The statistics class we had was just boring." Several others nodded.

While reasons are many for the low enrollments of statistics majors at most universities, this anecdote succinctly illustrates a number of larger issues. With the ever increasing demand for statistical expertise in all walks of life, and the expectation that public policy at all levels be based on science and data, our profession needs much more future talent than the current supply. Expanding our undergraduate statistics majors is an urgently needed step in meeting this challenge. Second, publicizing the opportunities, both intellectual and financial, of being a statistician to future generations needs to be done as early as possible. Third, the quality of teaching, at all levels, is at the very core of securing our long-term prosperity.

The market may eventually balance the supply and demand by itself, but leading societies such as the ASA can speed up this process. Such effort will help to ensure our profession's welfare and the quality of the supply, and hence the integrity of statistics as a scientific discipline and a service profession—a dual identity that we are proud to possess. More professional statisticians will also mean a healthier ASA. Indeed, a large number of educational and outreach programs have already been put in place by the ASA and other societies. Two kinds of assessment studies, however, can bring extra efficiency to our efforts in these directions.

First, we need to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the "deserved market value" of statistics. We have a good picture of statisticians' pay scale from the ASA's salary surveys and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. However, we need to know more about whether our profession is financially competitive. Are we compensated appropriately for our societal contributions, in line with other professions, especially those requiring similar training and skill? For example, how are biostatisticians compensated in the pharmaceutical industry compared to other bioinformatics- and medical informatics-related professionals?

As a scientific discipline, we rely on intellectual excitement to attract future talent. However, as a profession aiming to improve its visibility, there is little reason to shy away from advertising the financial incentive of being a statistician. (Money talks. Just look at the three most sought after degrees: MBA, JD, and MD.) Unless, of course, we have to because we are underpaid as a profession, especially outside of the academic setting. If so, then it is even more urgent for us to conduct studies to identify the gap, reasons, and remedies.

On an individual level, comparing salaries across professions is a guaranteed way to lose sleep. Leaders of any professional society, however, should lose sleep if their profession is underappreciated financially, and should speak out loudly and act collectively on behalf of their membership to improve the profession's economic status. Being economically competitive can only help our goal of attracting a large pool of future talent.

Second, we need to conduct ongoing assessments of the quality of our outreach programs to ensure their long-term quality. A badly taught introductory course can do more harm than help—a "turned-off" high-school or undergraduate student is one fewer potential statistician, especially in the face of fierce competition.

A local example reminded me of a "double challenge" we face. In recent years, the biologists and other life scientists at Harvard completely revamped their introductory courses, as they seek more well-trained future talent to fuel their fields' rapid growth. At the same time, and for the same reason, they urge their students to learn more statistics and probability to enhance their toolkit. This impacts us in two ways: they compete for future talent, yet they need us to have more too!

Tremendous opportunities come with grand challenges. If elected, and also being on the Council of IMS and Board of Directors of ISBA, I will be a direct part of the coordinated effort by leading statistical societies to meet these challenges. We need everyone's help and participation. So please be involved, even just by casting your vote to show you care.

Present Position: Whipple V. N. Jones Professor of Statistics and Department Chair, Harvard University

Former Positions: Faculty at University of Chicago (1991–2001)

Degrees: PhD (1990) and MA (1987), Statistics, Harvard; BS, Mathematics, Fudan (1982)

Fields of Major Statistical Activities: Statistical modeling and computation; incomplete data; inference foundations; applications in medical and social sciences, astronomy, and engineering; statistical education; and editorial services

Publications: "Quantifying Fraction of Missing Information for Hypothesis Testing in Statistical and Genetic Studies (with discussion)," *Statistical Science* (2008); "Disparities in Defining Disparities: Statistical Conceptual Frameworks," *Statistics in Medicine* (2008); and about 100 publications in *Annals of Statistics*, *Biometrika*, *JASA*, *JRSSB*, *Statistical Science*, *Statistica Sinica*, and others

ASA Activities and Offices Held: COPSS Award (2001); Fellow (2004); Science Policy Task Force; JSM Program Chair (2004); Committee on Meetings (2003–2008, Chair 2005–2008); Committee on International Relations (2003–2007); Committee on Nominations (2001–2002); *JASA* Associate Editor (1996–2002)

Related Professional Activities: IMS Council (2006–2009); ISBA Board of Directors (2007–2009); Coeditor, *Statistica Sinica* (2005–2008); Associate Editor for *Annals of Statistics* (1997–2003), *Bayesian Analysis* (2003–2005), *Bernoulli* (2004–2005), *Biometrika* (2002–2005), and *Statistica Sinica* (1992–1997); IMS Fellow (1997); Regional Advisory Board, ENAR (1995–1997); National Academy of Sciences Panel on 2010 U.S. Census; University of Chicago Faculty Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching (1997–1998); ICSA Distinguished Achievement Award (2003)

C. Frank Shen

C. Frank Shen

I am truly honored to be considered for the position of vice president of the ASA. I support this organization wholeheartedly, and I thank the Committee on Nominations for this great opportunity to serve the ASA. Personally, I have always believed strong leadership begins with a small "i." Along these lines, I have volunteered for many "small things" for the profession since I was a graduate student in statistics. These small things served not for my own recognition or benefit, but more for receiving mentorship from many senior leaders and great statisticians from the ASA. I learned from them that leadership does not solely demonstrate acquired assets, but rather the ability to acquire new assets needed for future situations. As I am now in Shanghai for my new assignment and have the opportunity to contribute to the growth of our profession in this growing region, I would like to submit a few thoughts I believe will support the ASA board's strategic direction well.

The ASA needs to be more international. While the ASA is an American institution, like America, its members have roots everywhere. Two ASA past presidents—Fritz Scheuren and Mary Ellen Bock—have been very insightful and instrumental in extending the ASA beyond the border. The Committee on International Relations has made tremendous efforts in establishing educational ambassadorships; the Engagement with Other Organizations Task Force is looking into our relationships with international professional societies, while an additional new task force has just been appointed to explore the role the ASA can play for its members in the arena of international industry. However, we cannot stop here. After all, we have an international membership of more than 2,000 on record, and we need more.

In the first few months of working in China, I was introduced as a former president of ICSA (International Chinese Statistical Association) more often than as an ASA Fellow. We need to agree among us that while we have advanced the field in the United States, we also have a responsibility to play an international role. We need to be seen as helping hands, rather than as imposing our standards. It goes without saying that if we are to continue to grow and become more responsive to our members and the citizens of other nations, the ASA must expand and learn from other national societies.

The ASA needs to be more interdisciplinary. Quantitative analysis has become more essential than ever to the decisionmaking process due to technological innovation and globalization. Unavoidably, there are many analysts from different disciplines who are equally influential when compared to statisticians. In my career, I have collaborated well with chemometricians (i.e., computational chemists), bioinformetricians (i.e., computational biologists), modelers (i.e., financial modelers or pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic modelers), and decision scientists. While their training may not be the same as traditional statisticians, their analyses undoubtedly influence decisionmaking in the organizations in which we work. More often, they also know how to communicate their quantitative work more effectively than statisticians. We constantly wonder why they don't call themselves statisticians, yet continue to reinvent our wheels. As a result of this attitude, many of us draw the line and stop the communication. On the contrary, we need to reach out to other disciplines as successfully achieved by the ASA to ally with IBS, IMS, and ASQ. We need to focus on collaboration, not division, and effectively manage disagreements at the point of conflict.

The ASA needs to be more individualized. This may sound rather ironic when the ASA already has many different and diverse chapters, sections, and committees. However, for professionals outside the field, we still appear to have only one phenotype: mathematically oriented. This image becomes significant when we consider issues such as declining membership and effective collaboration with other disciplines. The beauty of statistics is in its wide applicability and yet, have we done enough to promote this versatility? For example, while the number of high school students taking AP statistics reached 100,000 in 2007, I know many of them do not seek further statistical coursework in college. Is this because AP Statistics has not evolved to adapt for a younger generation?

Another example is that we have been rewarding people as Fellows for working on problems that are more technically challenging. However, are we ready to recognize more members who work outside of academia, or even outside of the statistical field, who deal with equally important, but less technical, issues? We need to accommodate and recognize people who may think and express their excellent ideas with different formulae (or no formula at all).

In summary, while the ASA is an extremely strong organization, challenges are still ahead of us. As Gerald Hahn pointed out in 1989, "The primary challenges to effective application of statistical methods are nontechnical." To an even greater degree, we are still facing the same challenges nearly 20 years later. Becoming international, interdisciplinary, and individualized are interlinked. To overcome these challenges, we not only need to expand our membership, but we also need to recruit more leaders who are passionate about enhancing the field of statistics. It takes good leaders to preserve and transform our great profession. I look forward to the opportunity to work side by side with you on these issues, as well as raising leaders for the future of the ASA.

Present Position: Head, Biostatistics and Data Management, Roche Global Pharmaceutical Development Center in China

Former Positions: Executive Director/Director/Associate Director, Global Biometric Sciences, Bristol-Myers Squibb (1996–2007); Manager/Biometrician, Biometric Research, Merck Research Laboratories (1993–1996); Research Statistician, Biometrics, Wyeth-Ayerst Research (1989–1993)

Degrees: PhD, Statistics, Temple University (1992); MS, Statistics, Temple University (1987); MES, Chemical Engineering, Lamar University (1985); BE, Chemical Engineering, Chung-Yuan University, Taiwan (1978)

Fields of Major Statistical Activities: Design and analysis of clinical trials, early drug development, and translational medicine

Publications: "Robust and Bootstrap Testing Procedures for Bioequivalence," *J. of Biopharmaceutical Statistics* (1994); "Testing Nonadditivity of Biological Activity in Combinatorial Chemistry," *Combinatorial Chemistry & High Throughput Screening* (2002); "Innovative Approaches for Designing and Analyzing Adaptive Dose-Ranging Trials," *J. of Biopharm Statistics* (2007); other papers in *J. of Medicinal Chemistry*; *Arthritis and Rheumatism*; *SUGI Proceedings*; *Psychopharmacology*; *Pharmacology, Biochemistry, and Behavior*; *Drug Development Research*; *Annals of the NY Academy of Sciences*; *Fundamental and Applied Toxicology*

ASA Activities and Offices Held: Finance Committee (2007–2009); Committee on International Relations (2006–2008); Fellow (2003); Committee on Career Development (2001–2003); Vice Chair, District 1, Council of Chapters (2000–2002); Chair, Midwest Biopharmaceutical Statistics Workshop (1999); Symposium Chair, NJ Chapter (1996–1997); Program Chair and Service Award, Princeton-Trenton Chapter (1997 and 2002); Co-Chair, SPES Spring Research Conference (1997)

Related Professional Activities: Chair, PhRMA Biostatistics and Data Management Technical Group (2005–2006); Chair, Sponsorship Committee, ENAR (2004–2006); President, International Chinese Statistical Association (2004); Board of Directors, International Chinese Statistical Association (2000–2005); Associate Editor, *J. of Biopharmaceutical Statistics* (2002–2004); Regional Advisory Board, ENAR (1997–1999)

Christy Chuang-Stein

Christy Chuang-Stein

I accepted the nomination to run for ASA vice president with excitement and pride. Excited that I might have a chance to serve our great profession in a highly influential capacity and proud that others have recognized my ability to do the job well.

Throughout my 28-year career in academia and industry, I have come to love the statistical profession and appreciate the impact the ASA has made on the society in the United States. Recent efforts to enhance the association's future in traditional areas of strength and to expand the scope of the ASA's influence in science policy will bring further credibility to the association. Ongoing activities to influence K-12 education, to facilitate distance learning, and to attend to member's professional development will help secure the future of the statistical profession, and therefore that of the ASA.

If elected, I would like to focus on the community aspects of the ASA. This comes from my strong desire for the ASA to be the kind of association with which its members have a strong rapport and in which its members take great pride. The areas of particular interest to me are:

1. Inspire a strong professional identity and professional pride. I would like to find ways to share the successful stories of statisticians to inspire members of the ASA. Behind every new Fellow, there is a story. Behind every award, there is a statistical ambassador. If we collectively take pride in what we do, we'll be able to put a touch of glory in our lives and bring our profession to an even higher level.

2. Encourage professional service. The health of a profession depends critically on the full engagement of its members. Engagement means participating in the activities, better yet, leading the activities. To have a vibrant organization, we must first have vibrant members who strive to find a solution instead of finding fault. I would like to work closely with the ASA's Special Interest Group on Volunteerism to further promote the volunteerism culture and find ways of acknowledging all services, big and small, rendered by the ASA members.

3. Promote outreach and partnering with other disciplines. I remember the apprehensions when computer scientists started developing data-mining algorithms. Similarly, some statisticians feel nervous that bioinformatics scientists are developing disease models that incorporate biomarker prediction. Statisticians should not stand by the sidelines; we need to actively reach out and partner with other disciplines. We need to think broadly and apply wisely. We need to be ahead of the game in all areas where statistical thinking is central to the scientific pursuit.

4. Establish a mentoring system. I remember starting as a junior statistician. Many statisticians senior or more experienced than I was have guided me and given me opportunities to stretch myself. The wisdom and experience generously shared with me has greatly helped me grow as a professional. I would like ASA members, especially the junior members, to feel that the ASA is a family and there is a mechanism for them to seek guidance from the statistician whom they consider to be a role model. I look forward to the ASA implementing Zig Ziglar's saying that "A lot of people have gone further than they thought they could because someone else thought they could."

5. Support the activities of the ASA's Section on Statistical Education. I am fully behind the ongoing ASA initiatives in connecting with pre-college teachers and fostering interest in a career in statistics among undergraduates. I would also like to work with graduate programs in statistics to prepare students in their communications and nontechnical skills. The latter, in my opinion, are critical to the effectiveness and success of our statisticians in the modern world.

I will be honored to serve the ASA and its members as vice president. I will give it my best effort if given this unique opportunity.

Present Position: Executive Director, Statistical Research and Consulting Center, Pfizer Inc.

Former Positions: Site Head, Midwest Statistics, Pfizer; Director of Statistical and Programming, Michigan, Pharmacia and Upjohn Company

Degrees: PhD, Statistics, University of Minnesota (1980); BS, Mathematics, National Taiwan University (1975)

Fields of Major Statistical Activities: Adaptive designs, benefit-risk assessment, multiregional trials, on-the-job training of statisticians, multiple co-primary endpoints, noninferiority trials, phase III success probability, safety evaluations

Publications: "An Approach to Rationalize Partitioning Sample Size into Individual Regions in a Multiregional Trial," *Drug Information Journal* (2008); "Measures for Conducting Comparative Benefit: Risk Assessment," *Drug Information Journal* (2008); "Challenge of Multiple Co-Primary Endpoints: A New Approach," *Statistics in Medicine* (2007); "Sample Size and the Probability of a Successful Trial," *Pharmaceutical Statistics* (2006); "Sample Size Re-Estimation: A Review and Recommendations," *Drug Information Journal* (2006); *Analysis of Clinical Trials Using SAS: A Practical Guide* (2005); "Recent Advancement in the Analysis and Presentation of Safety Data," *Drug Information Journal* (2001); other publications in *JASA*, *Controlled Clinical Trials*, *Journal of Biopharmaceutical Statistics*, *Biometrical Journals*, *Statistical Methods in Medical Research*, *Biopharmaceutical Report*, *Encyclopedia of Clinical Trials*, *Encyclopedia of Biopharmaceutical Statistics*, and many medical journals

ASA Activities and Offices Held: ASA Fellows Committee (2008–2010); Fellow (1998); Excellence in Continuing Education Award (2005); Program Committee, Joint Statistical Meetings (1999); Executive Committee, Biopharmaceutical Section (1996–1999); President, South-West Michigan Chapter (1997); Chair, Biopharmaceutical Annual Workshop (1996–1997); Associate Editor, *The American Statistician* (1993–1999)

Related Professional Activities: Chair, Biostatistics and Data Management Group of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers Association of the Americas (2003–2004); Co-Founding Editor, *Pharmaceutical Statistics* (2002–2005); Editorial Board Member, *Pharmaceutical Statistics* (2002–Present); Associate Editor, *Drug Information Journal* (1996–Present); Associate Editor, *Encyclopedia of Clinical Trials* (2005–Present); Associate Editor, *Journal of Biopharmaceutical Statistics* (2000–2002); Steering Committee of the Americas of the Drug Information Association (1997–1999); member of several special emphasis panels to review grants submitted to the National Institutes of Health

Chet Bowie

Chet Bowie

Present Position: Senior Vice President and Director, Economics, Labor and Population Studies Division, NORC at the University of Chicago

Former Positions: Vice President, Government, Foundation and Academic Research Division, Market Strategies, International; Director, Demographic Surveys Division, U.S. Census Bureau

Degrees: MSA, Governmental Administration, George Washington University (1976); BS, Statistics, Penn State University (1972)

Fields of Major Statistical Activities: Designing and conducting large-scale, national household and establishment surveys; combining administrative and survey data for policy-relevant research; conducting research in interviewing methods, questionnaire design, and survey automation

Publications: "The Longitudinal Employer Household Dynamics Program," *Proceedings of the Annual Meeting of State Labor Market Information Directors* (2004); "Overhauling the Current Population Survey: Evaluating Changes in the Estimates," *Monthly Labor Review* (1993); "National Prison Statistics and the Hispanic Population," *Proceedings of the National Council of La Raza Criminal Justice Conference* (1980)

ASA Activities and Offices Held: Executive Board, Government Statistics Section (2005–Present); Chair, Government Statistics Section (2005); Member, Committee on Committees (2006–Present); Co-Chair, Committee on Committees Subcommittee on Web Site Evaluation (2007); Representative to the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics (2006–Present)

Related Professional Activities: Co-Advisor, Federal Interagency Household Survey Nonresponse Group (1998–2005)

Jeri Metzger Mulrow

Jeri Metzger Mulrow

Present Position: Senior Mathematical Statistician, Division of Science Resources Statistics, National Science Foundation

Former Positions: Senior Manager, Quantitative Economics and Statistics Group, Ernst & Young (1997–2001); Sampling Statistician, NORC at the University of Chicago (1996–1997); Mathematical Statistician, Statistics of Income Division, Internal Revenue Service (1988–1996); Lecturer, Southern Illinois University (1986–1988); Mathematical Statistician, National Institute of Standards and Technology (1985–1986)

Degrees: MS, Statistics, Colorado State University (1985); BS, Mathematics, Montana State University (1982)

Fields of Major Statistical Activities: Sampling and estimation; survey design and analysis; and nonresponse methodologies for large federal surveys

Publications: "Problems with Interval Estimation When Data Are Adjusted via Calibration," *Journal of Quality Technology* (1988); "Statistical Sampling at a Win-Win in Tax Audits," *State Tax Notes* (1998); *Proceedings of the American Statistical Association*

ASA Activities and Offices Held: Vice Chair, Council of Sections (2006–2008); Committee on Accreditation (2007–2009); Rep-at-Large, Washington Statistical Society (2007–2008); Committee on Recruitment and Retention, (1996–2003); Committee on Women in Statistics (2001–2002); Social Committee, Washington Statistical Society (1998–2003); Short Course Committee, Washington Statistical Society (1993–1996)

Related Professional Activities: Caucus for Women in Statistics (1996–1998)

Dwight B. Brock


Dwight B. Brock

Present Position: Senior Statistician, Westat

Former Positions: Chief, Biometry Section, Laboratory of Epidemiology, Demography and Biometry, National Institute on Aging, NIH (1981–2002); Acting Chief, Statistical Research Branch, Office of Statistical Research, National Center for Health Statistics (1978–1981); Mathematical Statistician, OSR, National Center for Health Statistics (1976–1978); Mathematical Statistician, Division of Analysis, National Center for Health Statistics (1974–1976); Mathematical Statistician, Office of Statistical Methods, National Center for Health Statistics (1971–1974)

Degrees: PhD, Statistics, Southern Methodist University (1971); MS, Statistics, SMU (1969); BS, Mathematics, SMU (1967)

Fields of Major Statistical Activities: Survey sampling, weighting, variance estimation and quality control; applications of statistical methods to epidemiologic research on aging; studies of risk factors for nursing home placement among older persons

Publications: "Sample Surveys in the Health Sciences," *Encyclopedia of Biostatistics, 2nd ed.* (2005); "Population-Based Studies of AD: Message and Methods: An Epidemiologic View," *Statistics in Medicine* (2004); "Active Life Expectancy From Annual Follow-Up Data with Missing Responses," *Biometrics* (2000); other publications in *JASA, The American Statistician*, *International Statistical Review*, *Bulletin of the International Statistical Institute*, *Annals of the Institute of Statistical Mathematics*, *American Journal of Epidemiology*, *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, *American Heart Journal*, *American Journal of Cardiology*, *American Journal of Public Health*, *Archives of Internal Medicine*, *Neurology*; and other medical and aging-related journals, book chapters, and *Proceedings of the American Statistical Association*

ASA Activities and Offices Held: Board Planning Committee (2001–2002); Board Task Force on Membership (2001–2002); Council of Chapters Board Representative (2000–2002); Chapter Service Recognition Award, Council of Chapters (2001); Fellow (1998); Council of Chapters, District 2 Vice Chair (1994–1996), Member (1993–1996), and Chair (1994–1995); Council of Chapters Governing Board Nominating Committee; Chapter Representative for WSS (1991–1993), Member (1989–1992), and Chair (1990); George W. Snedecor Award Committee; Washington Statistical Society (WSS) Fellows Committee (2003–2008); WSS Roger Herriot Award Committee (2007–2009); WSS Science Fair Judge (1998–2007), Chief Judge (2005–2007); WSS President-elect, President, and Past President (1997–2000); WSS President's Award for Significant Contributions to the Society; WSS Quantitative Literacy Activities Coordinator (1993–1996); WSS Member-at-Large, Board of Directors (1989–1991); WSS Co-Chair of Quantitative Literacy Committee (1989–1991)

Related Professional Activities: International Biometrics Society; ENAR Program Committee (2005); ENAR Representative to JSM Local Area Committee (1989 and 1979); Member, Organizing Committee/Organizer, invited papers sessions, First and Second Conferences on Statistical Methods in Alzheimer's Disease (1998 and 2002); World Health Organization Study Group on Epidemiology and Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease in the Elderly (1993); Technical Review Panel, Prostate Lung, Colorectal, and Ovarian (PLCO) Cancer Screening Trial, National Cancer Institute (1991–1992); National Mortality Follow-Back Survey Consulting Group (1984–1987); Census/National Death Index Working Group (1981–1984); Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Aging and Health* (1995–2002); reviewer for statistical, medical, and public health journals

David Marker


David Marker

Present Position: Senior Statistician and Associate Director, Westat

Degrees: PhD, Biostatistics, University of Michigan (1995); MA, Statistics, University of Michigan (1980); BS, Mathematics, University of Maryland (1978)

Fields of Major Statistical Activities: Survey design, environmental statistics, small-area estimation, statistics and public policy

Publications: Methodological review of "Mortality After the 2003 Invasion of Iraq: A Cross-Sectional Cluster Sample Survey." *Public Opinion Quarterly* (in press); "Informed Consent: Interpretations and Practice on Social Surveys," *Social Science and Medicine* (2007); "Sampling and Inference in Environmental Surveys," *Sample Surveys: Theory, Methods, and Inference* (in press); three other book chapters; and publications in the *Journal of Official Statistics*, *Survey Methodology*, *Statistical Science*, *Environmetrics*, *Environmental Health Perspectives*, and *Statistics in Transition*

ASA Activities and Offices Held: Fellow (2004); Chair, Scientific and Public Affairs Advisory Committee (2005–2010); Organizer, Workshop on a Statistical Consensus on Climate Change (2007); Member, President's Science Policy Task Force (2006–2007); President-elect/President/Past President, Washington Statistical Society (2002–2005); WSS Board Member and Methodology Chair (1997–1999, 1988–1989); Liaison Officer, Section on Statistics and the Environment (1998–2004)

Related Professional Activities: ISI Elected Member (2001); Member, National Academy of Sciences Panel on Research and Development Priorities for the U.S. Census Bureau's State and Local Government Statistics Program; Member, organizing committee for the Third International Conference on Establishment Surveys (ICES-III); Member, organizing committee for the International Conference on Improving Surveys (Copenhagen, Denmark); Associate Editor, *Journal of Official Statistics*; *Referee*, *JASA*, *JOS*, *JRSS*, *Statistical Science*, *POQ*, and *Metron*

David W. Scott

David W. Scott

Present Position: Noah Harding Professor, Department of Statistics, Rice University

Former Positions: Assistant/Associate/Full Professor, Rice University (1979–Present); Visiting Mathematician, National Security Agency (2006–2007, 1999–2000, 1993–1994); Adjunct Faculty, Baylor College of Medicine (2001–Present); Chair, Department of Statistics, Rice University (1990–1993); Visiting Professor, Stanford University (1985–1986); Assistant Professor, Baylor College of Medicine (1976–1979)

Degrees: PhD, MA, Math Sciences, Rice University (1976); BA, Electrical Engineering and Math, Rice University (1972)

Fields of Major Statistical Activities: Nonparametric density estimation, statistical graphics, data mining, multivariate data analysis, robust estimation, and statistical computing.

Publications: *Multivariate Density Estimation* (1992); "Multivariate Visualization by Density Estimation," *Handbook of Computational Statistics* (2007); "From Kernels to Mixtures," *Technometrics* (2001); Chapters in *Theory and Application of Recent Robust Methods*; *Smoothing and Regression: Approaches, Computation, and Application*; *Semiparametric and Nonparametric Economics*; *Statistical Image Processing and Graphics*; and other articles in *JASA*, *Annals of Statistics*, *Biometrika*, *J. Computational and Graphical Statistics*, *Technometrics*, *Statistical Science*, *Sankhya B*, *Stats*, *Scandinavian Journal of Statistics*, *Journal of Nonlinear Analysis*, *Statistics and Computing*, *Communications in Statistics*, *Computational Statistics*, *Mathematics and Computer Education Journal*, *Empirical Economics*, *Circulation*, *Journal of Chronic Diseases*, *Health Services Research*

ASA Activities and Offices Held: Program Chair, Joint Statistical Meetings (1998); Editor, *JCGS* (2000–2003); Electronic Publications Task Force (2001–2002); Program Chair, Nonparametric Section (2000); Committee on Meetings (1997–1999); Noether Award Committee (2000–2004); Associate Editor, *JASA*, *JCGS*, *AOS*; Offices to President, Section on Statistical Graphics (1991–1996); President, Houston Area Chapter (1987–1988)

Related Professional Activities: Council Member, IMS (2002–2005); Board, Interface Foundation (1996–2008); Council Member, IASC (1999–2003); CODATA Member, National Academy (2005–2008); CATS, National Academy (2000–2005); Editorial Board, John Wiley (1994–Present); Co-Editor, *Journal of Computational Statistics* (1991–1998)

Karen Kafadar

Karen Kafadar

Present Position: Rudy Professor, Statistics (primary) and Physics (adjunct), Indiana University

Former Positions: Professor/Chancellor's Scholar, Mathematics, University of Colorado-Denver (1993–2007); Cancer Prevention Fellow, National Cancer Institute, Biometry Research Group (1990–1993); Statistician, Hewlett Packard, Stanford Park/HP Labs (1983–1990)

Degrees: BS, Mathematics, Stanford (1975); MS, Statistics, Stanford (1975); PhD, Statistics, Princeton (1979)

Fields of Major Statistical Activities: Robust methods; exploratory data analysis; statistical graphics/computing; and applications in physical, chemical, engineering, and biological sciences

Publications: "A Biweight Approach to the One-Sample Problem," *JASA* (1982); "Nonlinear Regression in R&D: A Case Study From the Electronics Industry," *Technometrics* (1984); "Smoothing Geographical Data, Particularly Rates of Disease," *Statistics in Medicine* (1996); publications in *JASA*, *CSDA*, *The American Statistician*, *Mathematical Modeling*, *Encyclopedia of Statistical Science*, *IEEE Transactions*, *International Statistics Review*, *Comp Stat & Data Analysis*, *Statistical Science*, *Bioinformatics*, and *Statistics in Medicine*

ASA Activities and Offices Held: Fellow (1994); Publications Representative, Board of Directors (2003–2005); Chair, Task Force, Electronic Publications (2000–2001, 2003–2004); Chair, Task Force, *Biopharmaceutical Journal* (2004–2005); Chair, Task Force, Careers for Statisticians (2008); Editor, *JASA* Reviews (1996–1998); Editor, *Technometrics* (1998–2001); Associate Editor, *JASA* Reviews, (1993–1995); Associate Editor, *Technometrics* (1986–1997); Associate Editor, *JASA* T&M (2005–2009); SPES Executive Board (1983–1985, 1998–2001); Secretary, Section on Statistical Graphics (1986–1988); Continuing Education Representative (1995–1997); Chair, Section on Statistical Computing (1997–1999); Committee on Certification (1992–1993); Committee for *Statistics in Biopharmaceutical Research* (2006–2007); Chair, *Technometrics* Management Committee (2002–2005); CO-WY Chapter Representative (1995–2001); Chair, Outstanding Applications Award Committee (2005–2007); Gertrude Cox Award Committee (2005–2007)

Related Professional Activities: Member, IMS Council (2006–2008); Interface Program Committee (1996, 2001, 2006); Chair, COPSS Award Committee (2006–2008); National Academy of Science: CATS (2003–2008, Chair 2007–2008); CNSTAT (2006–2008); Chair, ISI Publications (2007–2009); Associate Editor, *Annals of Applied Statistics* (2007–2009); Associate Editor, *Statistics in Medicine* (1994–2005); CSDA (1998–2008); Elected Fellow, ISI; Member, IMS; Member, Interface

$alary Survey Results in for Biostatistics, Biomedical Statistics

Taka Ashikaga, College of Medicine, University of Vermont

Below are results from the fall 2007 Salary Survey of Biostatistics and Other Biomedical Statistics Departments and Units conducted by the University of Vermont Bioinformatics Facility. All salary figures are based on a 12-month period. As in the past, previous salary survey data have been included for comparative purposes.

A total of 53 biostatistics and other biomedical departments and units were sent questionnaires. A total of 35 (66%) responded. Questions regarding the tabulations should be addressed to Taka Ashikaga, Director, Bioinformatics Facility, University of Vermont, 27 Hills Building, Burlington, VT 05405; Phone: (802) 656-2526; Fax: (802) 656-0632; *Takamaru.Ashikaga@uvm.edu*. If you would like your biostatistical unit to participate in future surveys, contact Ashikaga with a letter of interest. ■

Salary Survey Results: Biostatistics and Other Biomedical Statistics Departments and Units (12 Months)

Rank/Year in Rank	Percentile	Fall 2001	Fall 2002	Fall 2003	Fall 2004	Fall 2005	Fall 2006	Fall 2007
		Sample Size	Sample Size	Sample Size	Sample Size	Sample Size	Sample Size	Sample Size
Assistant 1–3	25th	$ 67,550	$68,680	$70,020	$73,345	$79,560	$82,400	$86,000
	50th	70,000	78,500	78,309	78,640	83,000	85,000	88,452
	75th	75,701	80,490	82,017	84,505	88,000	90,000	92,869
		(56)	(39)	(71)	(76)	(149)	(112)	(106)
4 or more	25th	$ 65,853	$69,000	$73,217	$78,611	$81,588	$ 84,476	$87,400
	50th	71,450	77,000	79,692	83,408	87,000	88,471	92,000
	75th	76,800	82,800	83,796	87,018	94,039	94,819	98,220
		(24)	(33)	(30)	(48)	(55)	(48)	(65)
Associate 1–2	25th	$71,111	$74,826	$86,415	$92,000	$94,255	$89,937	$102,525
	50th	85,608	78,280	94,000	96,056	100,215	100,441	110,493
	75th	95,500	99,063	99,412	99,759	103,378	113,000	118,900
		(14)	(07)	(23)	(35)	(40)	(46)	(50)
3 or more	25th	$81,452	$81,840	$84,670	$88,142	$95,634	$101,384	$105,000
	50th	89,714	94,212	98,219	97,000	103,334	107,981	109,350
	75th	96,317	101,650	105,951	107,313	117,747	120,000	124,924
		(48)	(37)	(48)	(47)	(53)	(65)	(66)
Full 1–6	25th	$93,739	$92,095	$110,000	$115,000	$122,095	$127,893	$137,991
	50th	110,401	114,796	125,000	130,500	147,988	147,488	163,870
	75th	132,287	133,561	150,000	156,000	172,664	177,840	180,365
		(32)	(24)	(41)	(46)	(47)	(54)	(60)
7 or more	25th	$112,085	$115,489	$120,925	$126,931	$127,630	$139,959	$147,575
	50th	125,692	140,221	145,712	148,000	151,410	172,523	180,760
	75th	143,204	152,360	166,413	164,459	171,303	197,277	209,147
		(59)	(44)	(72)	(72)	(87)	(84)	(71)
Starting Assistant Professors	25th	$59,904	$64,000	$70,000	$72,100	$81,600	$77,500	$84,000
	50th	67,504	68,750	75,000	79,342	84,000	82,400	85,000
	75th	73,000	70,000	80,000	83,000	95,833	85,279	93,150
		(16)	(09)	(21)	(34)	(22)	(27)	(13)

Staff Spotlight
Gene Beard

Gene Beard

I'm Gene Beard, building operations coordinator. This summer (with the help of Advil and extra strength Tylenol) I will start my 10th year with the ASA. My job encompasses building and grounds management, inventory management and control, publication shipping and receiving, daily mail processing, bill reconciliation, and project coordination for the ASA staff of 11 men and 26 women. I do not interact with the membership, but I do interact daily with the staff members who serve the ASA membership.

I was born and raised in Pottsville, Pennsylvania, the youngest of eight boys. My grandfather, Alexander Coles, was born a slave in 1859 near Stafford, Virginia. He eventually moved on to Mahoney City, Pennsylvania, married, and had five sons and a daughter (my mother). Later, the family settled in Pottsville. My father, born in South Boston, Virginia, left as a teenager to work the mines of the anthracite coal region and also settled in Pottsville.

My father fought in WWI with the 93rd Infantry Division, black soldiers, also known as "America's Foreign Legion." Segregation still ruled, and they were "assigned" to the French army's front lines in France, under the French flag. His unit, the 369th, was awarded France's Croix de Guerre, given to the French military or its allies for gallantry.

I left Pottsville to attend Virginia Union University, located in Richmond, on an athletic scholarship. After my junior year, I began a short stint as a professional football player. I started as a draft pick for the Minnesota Vikings of the National Football League and ended a few years later with the Calgary Stampeders of the Canadian Football League. My career actually ended on a football field in Ottawa when I suffered a broken leg and dislocated foot.

Before Ottawa, however, I had settled in Richmond. Ottawa was a great experience, but did not compare to coaching the Highland Springs Steelers to the Henrico County Pee Wee (8–10-year-olds) Championship. To begin the season with eight-year-olds, dressing half of them in their uniforms—because they didn't know what pad went on what part of the body—and ending the season presenting them with a trophy for excellence was priceless.

I also served in the armed forces as a military policeman who patrolled Augusta and Ft. Gordon, Georgia, and a year as a stockade guard at Dachau, Germany—yes, that Dachau.

I have two children, both mature young adults. My son, Mark, is married with two daughters: 5-year-old Brianna and 3-year-old Taylor. He is a deputy with the district courts and testing for the U.S. Marshall's office. My daughter, Necole, is a graduate of Howard University and presently director of business development for Johnson Inc., a marketing and communications firm in Richmond. She has a daughter, Kameron, who is 4 years old and a son, Nicolas, who is one. My hobbies consist of my grandchildren and photography.

If I can assist you with anything, don't hesitate to ask.

ASA Members Push Statistically Based Audits

Mary Batcher, Quantitative Economics and Statistics (QUEST)

The ASA Special Interest Group on Volunteerism includes several subgroups, one of which is interested in working on issues related to elections. Several members of that subgroup have been working with advocates of post-election auditing to help bring statistical principles to the audit process. One successful effort is the January passage of a bill in the New Jersey Legislature and signed by the governor on January 15, 2008, requiring audits of election results in randomly selected districts. Support for the New Jersey bill was provided by former ASA President Fritz Scheuren, who submitted written testimony advocating statistically based audits designed to achieve designated power criteria.

In October, ASA members Arlene Ash, Mary Batcher, Fritz Scheuren, and Victor Addono spoke at an audit summit conference cosponsored by the ASA. The conference brought local election officials together with statisticians, computer scientists, political scientists, and advocates of using statistical principles in post-election audits to talk about the benefits of designing according to statistical principles, determining sample sizes, and making random selections.

To learn more about the involvement of ASA members in election activities, be sure to attend the invited session "Statistical Measures Can Help Restore Confidence in U.S. Elections" during JSM 2008 in Denver. ■

Systat Launches MYSTAT 12
Free Statistical Analysis Software Aids Learning, Academic Research

Systat Software Inc., a leading supplier of scientific software and services, recently launched MYSTAT 12, a free statistical analysis software package designed for use by students and the teaching community.

MYSTAT 12, which has many of the core statistical functions available in the SYSTAT 12 product, contains standard statistical and graphical functionality, as well as teaching aids such as random sampling and a probability calculator.

While it contains statistical and graphical features related to topics generally covered in undergraduate-level and beginning graduate-level statistics-related courses, it also includes advanced functions not normally found in introductory statistics packages, such as the loglinear model, logit, probit, and nonlinear regression. MYSTAT 12 can accept a maximum of 100 variables with no limit on the number of cases.

The software is available for download at *www.systat.com/products/mystat*. It will be helpful to students taking courses that involve quantitative analysis, including psychology, social sciences, biology, economics, and market research. ■

ASA Hires First Director of Science Policy

The director of science policy position was created by the ASA Board of Directors under the leadership of past ASA President Sallie Keller-McNulty and at the recommendation of the Science Policy Task Force.

The director of science policy will execute strategic and short-range plans designed to increase the participation and visibility of the statistical profession and the ASA in science policy discussions at the national and international levels; promote the use and appreciation of sound statistical methods in the collection and analysis of the data on which decisions are based; work with decisionmakers to help the statistical sciences receive an appropriate share of public funds devoted to scientific research and education; work closely with ASA committees, sections, special interest groups, and chapters to foster and encourage their science policy activities; and provide timely information about science policy developments to members and staff.

ASA Executive Director Ron Wasserstein is pleased to announce that Stephen W. Pierson will join the ASA in March as the first director of science policy. Pierson will come to the ASA from the American Physical Society, where he has been the head of government relations for the past five years.

Among his many accomplishments at the American Physical Society, Pierson directed federal science research budget advocacy. He was deeply involved in convincing the Bush administration to create the 2006 American Competitiveness Initiative. He also was responsible for significantly increasing grassroots participation of society members and other scientists through networking and outreach. As a result, response rates to email alerts more than doubled and the number of members participating in congressional visits increased by a factor of two.

Pierson played a lead role in obtaining signatures of two-thirds of the Senate on an appropriations "Dear Colleague" letter in support of the Department of Energy Office of Science over the last three years. He was responsible for researching and developing messages and materials, including the majority of material in the report of the Task Force on the Future of American Innovation, "The Knowledge Economy: Is the United States Losing Its Competitive Edge?" Published in November of 2006 and available at *www.futureofinnovation.org/2006report*, it is the sequel to "Benchmarks of Our Innovation Future," for which Pierson did the majority of the charts, some of which were used in the National Academies report "Rising Above the Gathering Storm."

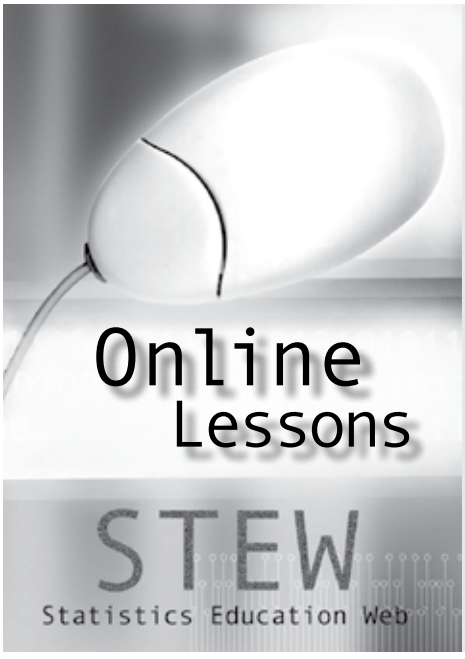

Stephen W. Pierson

Pierson has identified and recruited faculty members from key states/districts to come to Washington to visit their members of Congress. He also contributed to media strategy for budget lobbying, including ghost writing or cowriting numerous op-ed pieces and letters to the editor.

He earned his PhD in physics from the University of Minnesota and his BA in mathematics, physics, and Spanish from Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the Naval Research Laboratory and a faculty member at Worcester Polytechnic Institute before becoming a senior science policy fellow and then head of government relations at the American Physical Society.

"Pierson's references painted a consistent picture of an individual who knows his way around the federal government," said Wasserstein. "They especially pointed out his analytical ability and great skill at explaining technical matters to nontechnical persons."

All of Pierson's references also indicated he used data effectively and convincingly. "He explains it," one said. "He doesn't spin it." ■



Nominations for Editor of the ASA Statistics Education Web (**STEW**)

The American Statistical Association invites nominations for the editor of Statistics Education Web, or STEW, an online bank of peer-reviewed lesson plans for K–12 teachers of math and science. The editor—who will serve from 2009 through 2011, with orientation beginning in 2008—will review lesson plans that showcase the use of statistical methods and ideas in science and mathematics.

All nominations must include a curriculum vitae and a statement describing the nominee's qualifications. Interested individuals may nominate themselves.

Please send nomination materials by March 8, 2008.

Martha Aliaga, ASA Director of Programs *martha@amstat.org*

732 North Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

For more information about STEW, visit *www.amstat.org/education/STEW.*

Committee on National Statistics

Work in Economic Measurement Highlighted

This column appears periodically in *Amstat News* to update readers about activities of the Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) of the National Academies. Here, we highlight a recent CNSTAT seminar delivered by Alan Krueger, Bendheim Professor of Economics and Public Affairs at Princeton University, which reflected important themes in CNSTAT's ongoing work to improve economic measurement.

Measuring Well-Being

In a presentation titled "National Time Accounting: The Currency of Life," at the October 2007 CNSTAT seminar, Krueger reported progress toward the development of methods for measuring subjective well-being of individuals and groups. The topic is part of Krueger's broader research agenda, which is collaborative with Daniel Kahneman of Princeton University, David Schkade of UCSD, Norbert Schwarz of the University of Michigan, and Arthur Stone of Stony Brook University. The presentation focused on the relationship between the time people spend engaged in various activities and subjective measures of satisfaction or well-being.

Krueger challenges the notion that observable variables (e.g., income) should be exclusively used as proxies for opportunities and well-being, while direct, reported measures of well-being should be avoided. Likewise, the conventional wisdom has it that revealed preferences—actual choices rather than stated intentions—should be the mainstay in the study of economic behavior. Krueger argues, however, that people's choices have a complex relationship with well-being, and decisions often appear at odds with those predicted by the standard model of economic rationality—people make inconsistent choices, their levels of satisfaction seem closely linked to how their situation compares with others, rather than to some absolute level, and they fail to learn from experience. As a result, more nuanced models are needed.

Well-Being and Economic Modeling

Advances in psychology and neuroscience suggest experienced utility and well-being can (with some caveats) be measured accurately, and such measures relate in a predictable manner to certain behaviors, health outcomes, and other objective measures. Krueger also noted, if reliable, self-reported, subjective measures of well-being could be generated, it would significantly alter the direction of economic science. In addition to playing a useful role in measurement and prediction of consumer preferences, acceptance of such measures would enable more direct methods for analyzing society's welfare, changing the nature of the concept from one based solely on consumption opportunities to one based on a broader set of experienced activities. Similarly, analysis of well-being could evolve from one based solely on income to one that includes other factors, such as relative rank in society. Additionally, the influence of time allocation and changes in circumstance on people's well-being could be incorporated into economic modeling.

Much of the well-being measurement literature uses questions about overall life satisfaction or happiness; the work of Krueger and his colleagues takes an alternate route based on time budgets and effective ratings of experience. Part of the seminar was spent sharing results from the Day Reconstruction Method (DRM) and Princeton Affect and Time Survey (PATS), which Krueger has combined with historical data on time use to highlight evidence on the reliability of subjective well-being measures. The PATS is a 24-hour time diary that collects information about emotions associated with all activities engaged in during the day using BLS's American Time Use Survey (ATUS) instrument. Data from the diaries allow various emotional states (e.g., happy, stressed, sad) to be tracked by activity and aggregate measures of well-being to be compared across different groups—defined by income, age, gender, education level, marital status, etc. The method also can be useful for comparing time use and well-being of populations over time and across countries.

National Well-Being Index

For time-accounting work, it has been useful to cluster similar activities into categories such as unpleasant personal maintenance (medical care, homework), moderately enjoyable tasks (walking or using a computer), leisure activities, neutral and down time, mundane chores, work and work-like activities. Emotions by cluster can then be measured and trends of time in each cluster monitored. These measures form the conceptual basis for producing a national account tracking time use across groups and activities. Inferences about population satisfaction levels would change along with time allocation patterns. An increase in such burdensome or aggravating activities as commuting would decrease a population's well-being, while increases in such enjoyable activities as leisure would increase well-being. Quantifiable evidence of this sort could be useful in informing a range of policies. For example, such research has shown that people with higher baseline satisfaction scores have greater resistance to cold viruses and heal more quickly from certain kinds of injuries, which has implications for health care.

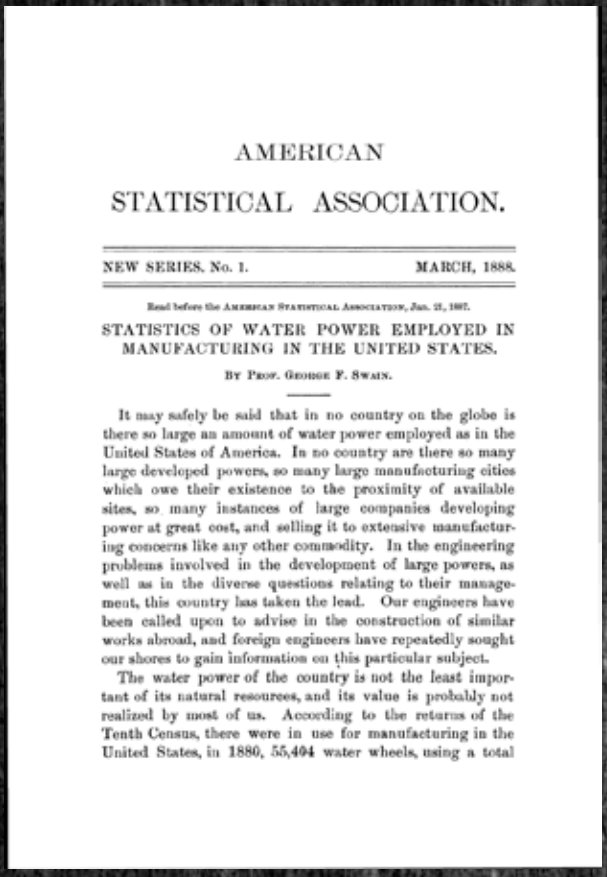
Going further, this line of research could even lead to the acceptance of alternative measures of national well-being that are more complex than purely income-based ones, such as GDP. Krueger cited, as an example of a particularly ambitious goal, a national well-being index. Something like this already has been implemented in the Kingdom of Bhutan's Gross National Happiness measure, which attempts to provide direct reports of subjective well-being and an understanding of other economic phenomena, such as trends in social welfare. However, Krueger cautioned that, given the current state of knowledge and data, a gross national happiness measure was, at this point, overly ambitions.

Misery Index

More realistically, Krueger suggested the idea of developing a "U-index"—a misery index of sorts—that measures the proportion of time people spend in an unpleasant state (e.g., frustrated, worried, depressed, angry, hassled, criticized). The U-index, which underpins much of his group's research, is versatile because it is

Treasures from the ASA Archives

Article from the 1888 issue of the *Journal of the American Statistical Association*



AMERICAN

STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION.

NEW SERIES, No. 1. MARCH, 1888.

Read before the AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION, Jan. 21, 1887.

STATISTICS OF WATER POWER EMPLOYED IN MANUFACTURING IN THE UNITED STATES.

BY PROF. GEORGE F. SWAIN.

It may safely be said that in no country on the globe is there so large an amount of water power employed as in the United States of America. In no country are there so many large developed powers, so many large manufacturing cities which owe their existence to the proximity of available sites, so many instances of large companies developing power at great cost, and selling it to extensive manufacturing concerns like any other commodity. In the engineering problems involved in the development of large powers, as well as in the diverse questions relating to their management, this country has taken the lead. Our engineers have been called upon to advise in the construction of similar works abroad, and foreign engineers have repeatedly sought our shores to gain information on this particular subject.

The water power of the country is not the least important of its natural resources, and its value is probably not realized by most of us. According to the returns of the Tenth Census, there were in use for manufacturing in the United States, in 1880, 55,404 water wheels, using a total

To visit the archive collection at Iowa State University, go to *www.lib.iastate.edu/spcl/manuscripts/MS349.html*. For more information, email Special Collections at *spclref@iastate.edu* or call (515) 294-6672.

based on an ordinal measure of feelings at the episode level. This approach allows survey results to be used to compare U-indexes across different countries and groups by income, gender, race, and other characteristics. Krueger also suggested policymakers may be more comfortable minimizing a specific well-defined aspect of social welfare (i.e., concept of misery) than maximizing a nebulous concept of happiness. Reducing a "misery rate" is, for example, analogous to reducing poverty—a clear policy objective.

Measurement Programs

In discussion, Katharine Abraham—a University of Maryland professor, CNSTAT member, and former BLS commissioner—noted the work of Krueger and his colleagues has direct implications for measurement programs residing within the statistical agencies and should stimulate thinking about what may be possible in the area of economic accounting and statistics. Most obviously, the work suggests new potential directions for the design of future modules of the ATUS. For example, more information is needed about factors that affect reported well-being; this may be done by including "who with" categories that capture the effects of family and social interaction, as well as sleep quality and disability questions. Because the nature of activities (and enjoyment levels associated with them) can change over time, more microdata and time-use data are needed to advance national time accounting work.

CNSTAT Panel Report

Krueger's work relates closely to "Beyond the Market: Designing Nonmarket Accounts for the United States," the 2005 report of a CNSTAT panel chaired by Abraham on which Krueger served. "Beyond the Market" takes up the topic of how to extend national income and product accounting principles underlying measurement of gross domestic product in ways that would be useful to researchers and policymakers interested in developing broader measures of how well the nation is doing. The national income and product accounts (NIPAs) are focused on the production of goods and services that are bought and sold, but they reveal relatively little about important production in the home and other areas outside markets. The report offers recommendations about how satellite accounts—in such areas as health, education, the care and nurturing of children, volunteer and home production efforts, and environmental improvement, or pollution—could be designed to contribute to understanding major issues, such as economic growth and income determination. In all these areas, time is an important input into the production process, and time, itself, (particularly the amount of time a population is able to spend in leisure and other enjoyable activities) provides an indication of social welfare.

The next CNSTAT seminar is scheduled for Friday, May 9, 2008. The theme will be "Past Accomplishments, Current Work, and Future Challenges for the Use of Cognitive Methods in Survey and Questionnaire Design." CNSTAT's 1984 report, "Cognitive Aspects of Survey Methodology: Building a Bridge Between Disciplines," jumpstarted the field, and a seminar almost 25 years later is appropriate to highlight accomplishments and stimulate research and development. Details are available at *www.nationalacademies.org/cnstat*, or you may contact Senior Program Officer Chris Mackie at *cmackie@nas.edu*. ■

Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics

COPAFS Highlights December Meeting

COPAFS, the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics is comprised of more than 60 organizations, including professional associations, businesses, research institutes, and others interested in federal statistics. As a member of COPAFS, the ASA has two representatives from the Government Statistics Section who represent the association by attending its quarterly meetings and reporting back to the membership. Following are highlights from the December 5, 2007, meeting at the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

America's Children

Jennifer Madans from the National Center for Health Statistics distributed copies of "America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being 2007," a report produced by the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. The forum, formed in 1994 and formally established in 1997, fosters coordination and cooperation among agencies in the collection, reporting, and dissemination of federal data on children and families. The forum consists of 22 agencies, many of which are involved with health statistics.

The forum used to publish *The Book* every year, but that was difficult to maintain with a limited staff, so now it is published every other year, alternating with a report issued in the in-between years. One frustration is that by the time *The Book* is released, much of its data are out of date, but the reports are popular and the most recent data are always available on the web.

The 2007 book marks the publication's 10th anniversary, and the forum has taken the opportunity to review and revise its structure and scope. Looking to the future, Madans indicated that the forum plans to research possible new topics, including foster care and the time use and physical activity of children.

BTS Plans

Steven Dillingham noted that he is the new director at the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), an agency that just had a series of acting directors. Established in 1992 under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, BTS is the youngest of the federal statistical agencies and currently authorized under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users. BTS is now a component of the Department of Transportation Research and Innovative Technology Administration, which has a broad mission covering transportation research and statistics.

The BTS mission is to create, manage, and share transportation statistical knowledge by developing high-quality transportation data and data products. Dillingham said BTS employees consider the BTS a performance- and results-oriented agency and take their work seriously, given the importance of transportation to the U.S. economy. To illustrate this importance, Dillingham noted that transportation costs are three times the annual health care expenditures for the average American family. BTS has to be efficient, as its budgets have been static, and its staff is about half the size it once was. He described BTS as a knowledge-based organization that maintains objectivity and does not advocate specific programs.

BTS produces numerous data products and reports to Congress based on data from a variety of public and private sources. The Commodity Flow Survey is their flagship product and includes data on the nation's freight transportation system. BTS also works on geospatial information systems (software related to routing), a national transportation library (an online repository), and a transportation services index (of for-hire transportation services).

BTS publications are available at *www.bts.gov*.

Hill Activities

Whimsically described as "the new Terri Ann Lowenthal," Mary Jo Hoeksema is public affairs specialist with the Population Association of America and no stranger to those who follow census and other population data issues. Hoeksema introduced Darryl Piggee, who started in September as staff director for the House subcommittee with oversight of the Census.

Piggee remarked that, while he is still new on the job, he already has seen bureau director Louis Kincannon make three "final" appearances before the subcommittee. Piggee looks forward to working with census stakeholders, but said his first major task is dealing with the continuing resolution and its implications for 2010 Census preparations. The first continuing resolution did not exempt the census from flat funding, and Piggee credited stakeholder communications as critical in getting the urgently needed exemption into the second continuing resolution. Piggee then reviewed the impact of the first continuing resolution on the census dress rehearsal, 2010 contracts, and SIPP and the census partnership program. He suggested that, to the extent possible, it would make sense to minimize the amount of critical census activity that takes place in the October–November timeframe.

Piggee described recent hearings looking at the 2010 Census information technology contracts, including the hand-held computers and new DADS system. He said everything with the census is moving well and attention is being paid to areas where it is needed. Looking ahead, Piggee stressed the need for educating members in advance of appropriations cycles. Specifically, he sees the need for a hearing on the ACS—what it is, what it does, and why it is important to constituents. We can also look for a hearing on the census undercount—alerting members of the dollar impact of undercount on some areas and examining the reasons for undercount to determine what can be done about it.

Poverty, Disability, and Health Insurance Data

Charles Nelson of the U.S. Census Bureau reviewed the federal poverty definition—a set of poverty thresholds developed in the 1960s based on food costs, income, and family size. There have been only minor adjustments to this official definition, and Nelson noted the universe excludes about 300,000 people per year. Measurement issues include the narrow definition of resources (money income only), thresholds that do not vary by

A Grateful Student Honors His Mentor

Ron Wasserstein, ASA Executive Director

Some 70 years ago, Samuel Wilks changed the life of a young PhD student. Now that student is honoring Wilks' memory with a generous gift.

Alexander Mood and his wife, Marian

Alex Mood, a retired statistics professor, gave $30,000 to the American Statistical Association to add a second cash honorarium to the annual Wilks Memorial Medal. His gift will add $840 to the award in 2008, with an annual increase of 3% each subsequent year.

"I went to Princeton expecting to write a PhD thesis in algebra," Mood said recently during a conversation with ASA Executive Director Ron Wasserstein in Mood's California home. "But I took a course in statistics from Wilks, and it fascinated me. I abandoned algebra and went into statistics."

Mood and Wilks hit it off immediately. "We got along famously," Mood said. Wilks put his new student to work refereeing manuscripts for the *Annals of Mathematics Statistics*, of which Wilks was editor. Mood went on to write his PhD thesis under Wilks' guidance and earned the degree in 1940.

When he joined the faculty at Iowa State University in 1946, Mood was asked to teach a course on mathematical statistics. There was no good textbook for such a course, so he decided to write one. His *Introduction to the Theory of Statistics* was published in 1950, and later editions included coauthors Franklin Graybill and Duane Boes. It became quite popular. Part of the book depended heavily on the notes Mood had written when he took Wilks' course. Wilks had a printed set of notes that would have made a good textbook, but he was a perfectionist. It wasn't until 1962 that he had a manuscript he was willing to publish. "So, I collected all those royalties that Wilks could have had," Mood said with a smile.

Mood noted the important role of a mentor in the life of a student, expressing gratitude for Wilks' impact on his career. He retired in 1975 from the University of California-Irvine. His career also included service at The University of Texas, Iowa State University, UCLA, RAND Corporation, and the federal government, where he was an assistant commissioner in the U.S. Office of Education. He also worked for a few years as the head of a consulting firm he founded.

geographic area, and relationships between the thresholds that do not always make sense.

There has been congressional pressure (dating back to the 1980s) to broaden the definition of resources. Research efforts include a mid-1990s National Academy of Sciences report, a 2006 report on the effect of taxes and transfers on income and poverty, and the 2007 release of online Current Population Survey data that allow users to vary income and thresholds to see the effect on poverty levels. For example, broadening the definition of resources reduces income inequality and changes the view of who is in poverty. It also would affect programs designed to alleviate poverty. Sources of poverty data include the Current Population Survey, American Community Survey, Survey of Income and Program Participation, and Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates—each with its own advantages. The Current Population Survey provides excellent data on long-term and year-to-year trends; the American Community Survey, with its large sample, will provide small-area period estimates; the Survey of Income and Program Participation is based on the most detailed questions and examines poverty transitions; and the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates provide single-year estimates for small geographic areas.

Turning to health insurance, Nelson explained that Current Population Survey data derive from questions added in 1980. The original emphasis was on persons receiving benefits, but much of the focus has shifted to health insurance coverage. Coverage is defined by a series of questions about various types of insurance—with "no coverage" being defined as a "no" answer to all these questions and response to a verification question to confirm absence of any coverage. Measurement issues include health insurance coverage not being a Current Population Survey focus—the coverage questions come after a long set of income questions, and respondent recall on this item is considered less than ideal. By counting coverage at any time during the year, the Current Population Survey overstates coverage relative to the Survey of Income and Program Participation, and coverage by Medicaid and other public programs is known to be under-reported. Research efforts include questionnaire research and the matching of Current Population Survey records to administrative data. Sources of health insurance data include Current Population Survey, Survey of Income and Program Participation, American Community Survey (which is adding questions in 2008) and experimental estimates for states and counties from the Small Area Health Insurance Estimates program.

Nelson finished with a look at disability data, which are derived from six types of activity limitations described in American Community Survey questions. A "yes" response to any of these questions qualifies a respondent as having a disability. Disabilities are defined as long-lasting sensory, physical, mental, or emotional conditions that make it difficult for a person to do functional or participatory activities, such as climbing stairs, dressing, going outside the home, or working at a job. Measurement issues include the use of an umbrella term for a diverse population and respondent sensitivity to question wording. Research includes American Community Survey content tests in 2006, changes in disability questions proposed by an interagency committee, and adoption for the 2008 American Community Survey. Sources of disability data include Survey of Income and Program Participation, American Community Survey, National Health Interview Survey, and Medical Expenditure Panel Survey. In the future, the Current Population Survey may provide monthly or quarterly estimates of employment rates for persons with disabilities. ■

CHANCE *Highlights*

New Year Brings New Editor, Changes

Mike Larsen, Editor, Iowa State University

Volume 21, Number 1, of *CHANCE* (*www.amstat.org/publications/chance*) should already have gone to the printer by the time this issue of *Amstat News* arrives in your mail box. The issue includes the diversity of topics that makes probability and statistics such an interesting field of study.

Two articles concern sports. **Erik Heiny** conducts an in-depth analysis of the leaders of the PGA Tour, America's top professional golf association tournaments. **Jarad Niemi**, **Brad Carlin**, and **Jonathan Alexander** compare strategies for playing sports betting pools. Their specific example is the annual NCAA Division I men's basketball championship tournament. The tournament, dubbed "March Madness" by the media and basketball fans, will begin soon.

In the area of politics, **David Peterson** describes algorithms for drawing electoral boundaries to reduce the politicization of the process. Methods are illustrated for districts in North Carolina. Two articles are related to probability. **M. Leigh Lunsford**, **Ginger Holmes Rowell**, and **Tracy Goodson-Espy** discuss an assessment of student understanding of the central limit theorem. **Jay Kadane** relates the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality to crowding on airplanes. I always suspected the airlines had goals other than my comfort!

Two articles concern gender differences. **Kris Moore**, **Dawn Carlson**, **Dwayne Whitten**, and **Aimee Clement** report on a survey of female and male executives. **Chris Sink** and three high-school students—**Matthew Sink**, **Jonathan Stob**, and **Kevin Taniguchi**—present a well-planned study of computer literacy.

Completing the issue are the Visual Revelations and Puzzle Corner columns. **Sam Savage** and **Howard Wainer** demonstrate a visualization tool for probabilities of false positive determinations in the war on terror (and many other applications). **Thomas Jabine** gives us Spiral Puzzle No. 9. In case you did not know, a winner is selected from among those who correctly solve the puzzle. The prize is a year subscription to *CHANCE*.

It is with great pleasure that I take over as the executive editor of *CHANCE*. I began reading the magazine in graduate school and have enjoyed it ever since. It has accessible articles about interesting and important topics that highlight the contributing role of probability and statistics. Topics and the background of authors are diverse. I look forward to working with contributors, columnists, and editors to produce a quality magazine each and every issue.

I would like to thank Michael Lavine for his great service as executive editor and for his tremendous assistance to me in the transition. Most of the articles in this issue were first submitted to *CHANCE* during his term as editor, and he and his editors deserve credit for their efforts. Lavine advised me on handling submissions and answered many questions without complaint. ASA Communications Manager Megan Murphy also deserves thanks for her guidance, help to me, and work on this issue.

There are a few changes in *CHANCE* I would like to see occur during my time as editor. First, I would like to see *CHANCE* go online. This will increase the access, impact, and attractiveness to people who might consider submitting articles. It will make using *CHANCE* articles in a course on statistics much easier. Several emails have come to me asking how to access articles from the past. Wouldn't it be neat to have all the articles from *CHANCE*'s 20-year history immediately available on your desktop? I have begun discussions with the ASA and Springer about options.

Second, the posting of online supplemental material for *CHANCE* can be greatly increased. Supplemental material may include supporting documents, survey questionnaires, videos, color graphics, and teaching material—including handouts and study questions. The 20th anniversary issue included many suggestions for teaching about statistics using articles in *CHANCE*. The ASA has already begun working on the web site. Have you noticed changes? In my opinion, having *CHANCE* online and augmented with interesting supplemental material will increase its already substantial value. Besides these two goals, I primarily want to maintain the high level of quality, relevance, and entertainment past editors have achieved.

CHANCE Volume 20, Number 1

As always, you are encouraged to submit articles and ideas for articles to *CHANCE* (*chance@iastate.edu*). If you have an interesting story to tell to a general audience in which probability and statistics play an important role, I'd love to hear from you. Instructions for authors can be found on the web site. Some articles are available online through the link to previous issues. ■

What Would an Approved FY 2009 Budget Look Like?

Keith Crank, ASA Assistant Director of Research and Graduate Education

On February 4, 2008, President George W. Bush submitted his FY 2009 budget request to Congress. The total request is $3.1 trillion (that's $3,100,000,000,000). This is the first step in what is likely to be a very long process. With a Congress at odds with the administration on almost all priorities, it is unlikely that the actual appropriations will be completed before President Bush leaves the White House.

But, if the president's budget were to be approved, what would it look like?

I'll start with the National Science Foundation. Here, the news is very good. The overall NSF budget would increase by 13%, though this is not uniform across the different disciplines. For those areas of most interest to the statistics community, the Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) would see a 16% increase; the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE) would see an 8.2% increase (in the two research divisions); and the Education and Human Resources Directorate (EHR) would see an 8.9% increase.

NSF-wide activities planned for FY 2009 include the continuation of Cyber-Enabled Discovery and Innovation (CDI) ($100 million, up $52 million) and new investments in Science and Engineering Beyond Moore's Law ($20 million), Adaptive Systems Technology (AST) ($15 million), and Dynamics of Water Processes in the Environment ($10 million). On the education side, $28.6 million of the $64.8 million increase will go toward adding 700 graduate fellowships. NSF also plans to add three science and technology centers in 2009.

For the National Institutes of Health, President Bush's budget is not so generous. The request for NIH was $29.3 billion, the same as the FY 2008 appropriation. To allow for new activities, funding for the Office of the Director is being reduced. On the extramural side, funding for research projects will decrease by $20 million, with these funds being put into the research centers. To limit the impact on the number of awards, NIH will not be including inflationary increases in its ongoing projects.

Basic research at the Department of Defense would see a 1% increase over its FY 2007 level of $374 million, after absorbing a 9% reduction in FY 2008. The request for basic research at DoD is $378 million. Applied research, on the other hand, would decrease from $1.22 billion to $0.78 billion, a reduction of 36%.

The U.S. Census Bureau would continue to receive increases leading up to the 2010 decennial census. It also would get funds to reinstate the Survey of Income and Program Participation. The Bureau of Labor Statistics would see its budget rise by 8.8%. While some of this increase would offset the agency's decrease in 2008 and allow it to bring its work force back up to 2007 levels, a large portion of the increase would be used to cover the rising cost of the Current Population Survey and enhance the Consumer Price Index. NSF's Survey Research Statistics Division would receive a 10.4% increase to implement a full-scale pilot of a redesigned Survey of Industrial Research and Development (now renamed the Business Research and Development Survey) and to begin pilot data collection on postdoctoral activities.

As mentioned in the opening paragraph, the president and Congress do not see eye to eye on their budget priorities. The president's budget has an 8.2% increase for security-related activities, but only a 0.3% increase for all other discretionary spending. This means the increases to NSF, the U.S. Census Bureau, and BLS mentioned above must be offset by decreases in other agencies and departments. That is where the problem will come, since Congress is not likely to accept reductions to Medicare and Medicaid, nor is it likely to accept a flat budget for NIH.

Although FY 2009 begins on October 1, 2008, it is unlikely that most of the federal agencies will have appropriations by then. I expect another year of continuing resolutions that keep the government operating on a day-to-day (or week-to-week) basis for much of the fall. We won't get a clear picture of the 2009 budget until after the elections in November.

To contact me, send and email to *keith@amstat.org*. Questions or comments about this article, as well as suggestions for future articles, are always welcome. ■

ASA-SIAM Series

What's Next for the ASA-SIAM Book Series?

During the December 2007 annual meeting of the management committee that guides the ASA-SIAM book series, committee members identified several goals they would like to accomplish this year, including the following:

- Identify current hot topics in statistics and applied probability, expand topic areas, and seek authors who specialize in these areas
- Make the series more visible to both readers and potential authors
- Make connections between the series and other programs offered by the ASA

To help accomplish these goals, ASA Assistant Director of Research and Graduate Education Keith Crank is working with Editor-in-Chief Lisa LaVange and Acquisitions Editor Sara J. Murphy to identify topics that should be a focus for 2008 and beyond. Crank's other critical role involves soliciting book proposals and encouraging authors to think about publishing their books as part of the ASA-SIAM book series.

Face-to-Face

Martha Aliaga, committee chair and director of programs for the ASA, has dedicated her efforts to making the series more visible to the statistical community so it "will be recognized as presenting works by authors who have developed new techniques and procedures adapted to solve new kinds of problems in our constantly changing world." Included in her efforts is supporting a topic-contributed panel that may be on the JSM 2008 program, allowing a face-to-face forum with potential authors. (Keep your eyes on future installments of this column for updates.)

Aliaga also is looking for backlist or new series books that would be appropriate for the ASA's LearnSTAT courses, which are intended to "enhance statisticians' understanding of contemporary theory, methodology, and application of the science."

Shaping the Future

The series management committee encourages all ASA and SIAM members to help shape the future of the ASA-SIAM Series on Statistics and Applied Probability, which is a collaborative effort of our two premier professional societies (and the only ASA book series). You can support the series by purchasing the books relevant to your work. ASA and SIAM members always enjoy a 30% discount on all series titles. You also can help identify the areas in which books are needed by emailing Murphy (*murphy@siam.org*), LaVange (*lisa_lavange@unc.edu*), or Crank (*keith@amstat.org*) with your suggestions. Finally, think about proposing your own book for the series by using the ASA series proposal form available at *www.siam.org/books/authors/proposal_info.php*. We welcome your input. ■

ASA-SIAM Management Committee

Keith Crank, ASA Assistant Director of Research and Graduate Education

Elizabeth Greenspan, SIAM Senior Acquisitions Editor

Michelle Montgomery, SIAM Director of Marketing and Sales

Ronald Wasserstein, ASA Executive Director

James Crowley, SIAM Executive Director

David Marshall, SIAM Publisher

Martha Aliaga, ASA Director of Programs

Sarah J. Murphy, SIAM Acquisitions Editor

JASA *Highlights*

March Issue Gives Nod to 'Student'

David L. Banks, Walter W. Piegorsch, Stephen L. Portnoy, and Dalene K. Stangl

One hundred years ago this month, in March 1908, the field of statistics took an exciting and monumental leap forward. William Sealy Gossett, writing under the pseudonym "Student," published "The Probable Error of a Mean." This article introduced technical and empirical arguments for a new form of statistical analysis that would eventually be known to experimenters, scientists, and future 'students' worldwide as the famous (and perhaps, to some of those future students, infamous) *t*-distribution.

In the March 2008 issue of *JASA*, we celebrate this centennial with an article by **Sandy Zabell**, who looks back at Student's effort, its connection to the also famous work of fellow statistical path-breaker R. A. Fisher, and the journey the *t*-distribution has taken these past 100 years. Invited discussions by **Stephen Stigler**, **John Aldrich**, **Anthony Edwards**, **Eugene Seneta,** and **Persi Diaconis**, as well as **Erich Lehmann**, follow. This panel of leading experts in and contributors to the history of statistics gives a broad, and at times intriguing, perspective on Student's work, Student's legacy, and where statistics as a scientific endeavor may journey forward in the next 100 years. We hope *JASA* readers will enjoy reading this wonderful retro/prospective as much as we did.

Additionally, *JASA* is proud to introduce Len Stefansky of North Carolina State University, who is the editor-elect of the Theory and Methods section, and Dalene Stangl of Duke University, who is the new editor of the Reviews section.

Applications and Case Studies

The Applications and Case Studies section leads with a discussion paper by **Ciprian Crainiceanu**, **Peter Diggle**, and **Barry Rowlingson** titled "Bivariate Binomial Spatial Modeling of Loa loa Prevalence in Tropical Africa." This paper will be the subject of the *JASA* Applications and Case Studies invited session at the 2008 Joint Statistical Meetings. Other papers address the usual wide range of applications, from airline delay models to estimating diagnostic accuracy to measuring particulate concentrations, and the usual broad range of tools—from mixtures to spatiotemporal models to Bayesian cluster analysis.

Theory and Methods

The Theory and Methods section leads with an article by **Aurore Delaigle** and **Peter Hall**, "Using SIMEX for Smoothing-Parameter Choice in Errors-in-Variables Problems." The authors treat applying nonparametric methods to errors-in-variable regression and show how use of SIMulation (or remeasurement) and EXtrapolation (SIMEX) steps can enhance the choice of smoothing parameters with a deconvolution kernel estimator. Intriguing theoretical and empirical results are presented to study this intersection of concepts for solving curve estimation problems. The remainder of the section follows with a variety of excellent contributions to other important areas of statistical theory and methodology.

Reviews

The Reviews section includes a paper by **Feng Liang**, **Rui Paulo**, **German Molina**, **Merlise Clyde**, and **Jim Berger** that examines mixtures of g-priors to improve on the Zellner g-prior widely used in Bayesian variable selection. The authors show that the mixture formulation outperforms the original while maintaining the computational tractability that made the g-prior so popular. The paper presents both theoretical properties of the mixture g-priors and examples that compare the mixture formulation with fixed g-priors, empirical Bayes approaches, and other default procedures.

Books Reviewed

Essentials of Statistical Inference, G. A. Young and R. L. Smith

Modern Experimental Design, Thomas P. Ryan

Measurement Error in Nonlinear Models: A Modern Perspective (2nd ed.), Raymond J. Carroll, David Ruppert, Leonard A. Stefanski, and Ciprian M. Crainiceanu

Linear Mixed Models: A Practical Guide Using Statistical Software, Brady T. West, Kathleen B. Welch, and Andrzej T. Galecki

Sampling Algorithms, Yves Tillé

Elements of Information Theory (2nd ed.), Thomas M. Cover and Joy A. Thomas

Gaussian Processes for Machine Learning, Carl Edward Rasmussen and Christopher K. I. Williams

A Course on Queueing Models, Joti Lal Jain, Sri Gopal Mohanty, and Walter Bohm

Stochastic Switching Systems: Analysis and Design, El-Kébir Boukas

Statistical Monitoring of Clinical Trials: A Unified Approach, Michael A. Proschan, K. K. Gordon Lan, and Janet Turk Wittes

Adaptive Design Methods in Clinical Trials, Shein-Chung Chow and Mark Chang

Pharmacometrics: The Science of Quantitative Pharmacology, Ene I. Ette and Paul J. Williams (eds.)

Likelihood, Bayesian, and MCMC Methods in Quantitative Genetics, Daniel Sorensen and Daniel Gianola

Bayesian Core: A Practical Approach to Computational Bayesian Statistics, Jean-Michel Marin and Christian P. Robert

Selected Papers of Frederick Mosteller, Stephen Fienberg and David Hoaglin (eds.)

Multivariate and Mixture Distribution Rasch Models: Extensions and Applications, Matthias von Davier and Claus H. Carstensen (eds.)

Experimental Designs: Exercises and Solutions, D. G. Kabe and A. K. Gupta

Survival and Event History Analysis, Per Kragh Andersen and Niels Keiding (eds.)

Survival Analysis: A Practical Approach (2nd ed.), David Machin, Yin Bun Cheung, and Mahesh K. B. Parmar

100 Statistical Tests (3rd ed.), Gopal K. Kanji

A Handbook of Statistical Analyses Using Stata (4th ed.), Sophia Rabe-Hesketh and Brian S. Everitt

Advances in Economics and Econometrics: Theory and Applications, Ninth World Congress, Vol. II, Richard Blundell, Whitney K. Newey, and Torsten Persson (eds.)

Bayesian Statistical Modelling (2nd ed.), Peter Congdon ■

Nick Fisher warns against believing Disraeli's infamous quip about statistics and urges a professional approach to its practice.

Figures Fool When Fools Figure

Nick Fisher, Past President of the Statistical Society of Australia

Australian governments and public agencies are risking bad policy decisions through poor statistical practice.

We live in a world awash with numbers. They underpin far-reaching decisions being made about our health, safety, security, social and economic progress, environment, jobs, and daily lives.

You are unlikely to trust your life to an untrained doctor, your office building to an unqualified engineer, or your teeth to an unaccredited dentist. You probably wouldn't risk your money with an accountant lacking professional recognition. Yet, every day we are made to rely on policies affecting our health, prosperity, and security that are founded on unprofessional use of statistical methods.

Many of the people who collect, analyze, and interpret these numbers are not trained or qualified to do so—managers, public servants, doctors, engineers, economists, journalists, politicians, and sociologists. They may be well qualified in their own fields, but do not have any statistical training or background. Resulting decisions can be fatally flawed, and may adversely affect millions of people.

Statistics is a complex and delicate science requiring high-level training and experience. An aptitude for figures or the ability to use a computer isn't enough. We need to be certain that policy decisions are anchored on a solid quantitative base.

When practitioners are not regarded as professionals, anyone can call themselves a statistician, regardless of training and experience. A typical professionally accredited statistician will have many years of experience as a professional statistician in addition to at least one degree in statistics.

The several hundred members of the Statistical Society of Australia realize, however, that statistics as a discipline and statisticians as practitioners have image problems, typified by the following exchange 40 years ago between Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and the late Oliver Lancaster, then professor of mathematical statistics at Sydney University:

> Prince to Professor (quoting from Benjamin Disraeli): "There are lies, damned lies, and statistics."
>
> Professor to Prince: "Figures fool when fools figure."

Whereas statements by financial institutions about probity and risk have to be authorized legally by properly qualified accountants and actuaries, statistical conclusions derived from major environmental impact studies require no similar authorization. Yet, decisions of huge community significance are made as a result of the effect of airport noise on housing prices, or the degree of residual contamination in a major industrial site.

Nick Fisher is past president of the Statistical Society of Australia, principal of Value Metrics Australia, and visiting professor at the University of Sydney. ConScience is a column for Australians to express forthright views about national issues. Views expressed are those of the author.

> "An extraordinary catalogue of misadventures … have resulted from failure to deal with statistical issues with due care."

Quantitative concepts are intrinsic to all stages of major scientific and technological projects, from the design of the data to be captured to its analysis and then to the presentation of results. To many, statistics is simply a branch of mathematics that concerns itself with data and probability, but I define statistics as "the science of managing uncertainty."

An extraordinary catalogue of misadventures—some hilarious, some disastrous—have resulted from failure to deal with statistical issues with due care (see *www.statsoc.org.au*). For example, an Australian doctor who had made more than 17,000 Medicare claims in one year was scrutinized under the Health Insurance Commission Act for over-servicing. However, the investigative procedure failed in court because the correct sampling procedure wasn't followed, possibly due to its complexity.

Before the space shuttle *Challenger* exploded after launch in 1986, informal estimates by engineers and management put the chance of failure at between one in 100 and one in 100,000. Later, a proper statistical analysis of the data available pre-launch showed that the actual risk had been one in eight.

Members of the Statistical Society of Australia want government departments and agencies responsible for major policy issues to employ professionally accredited statisticians with oversight of the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data that underpin any major policy decision. ■

Originally published in Australasian Science Magazine *in April of 2004, this column is reprinted with permission.*

German Statistical Society

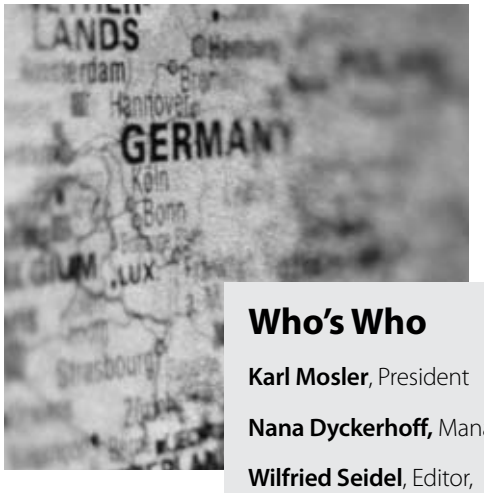
German Society Promotes Statistical Development, Application

For nearly 100 years, the German Statistical Society—founded in 1911—has brought together statisticians across all fields of science and practice and offered them a forum for sharing knowledge and exchanging ideas. In this rich tradition, the society is one of the grand German scientific associations. The spectrum of its individual and corporate members is broad; half are researchers and academic teachers and half are practitioners, while most work in official statistics. Thus, the society fosters direct exchange between statistics in academia and statistics in business and administration. The society has about 800 members, including 40 corporate members.

The aim of the German Statistical Society is to promote the development of statistical methods and their practical applications. Its activities showcase statistics within methodology, data collection, data compiling, and data analysis. The society thus considers itself a supporter of young statisticians and a link between producers and users of statistical methods and data.

The society publishes two quarterly scholarly journals, *Advances in Statistical Analysis* and *Wirtschafts- und Sozialstatistisches Archiv*. Both originated from *Allgemeines Statistisches Archiv*, which was founded in 1890. Traditionally, *Advances in Statistical Analysis* focused on applications in economics and social science. Now, it includes research papers about general statistical theory and methods for a range of applications. Articles about probability or formal methods are included if they use a statistical or practical problem as a starting point. The journal is especially open to theoretical developments and fields that have an increasing impact on applications (e.g., composite likelihoods or stochastic geometry and spatial statistics, including spatial risk analysis and environmental statistics).

Wirtschafts- und Sozialstatistisches Archiv includes problem-orientated papers in economic and social statistics, especially those that combine concepts of classical economic statistics with modern mathematical approaches. Emphasis is placed on topics that address a broad audience. *Wirtschafts- und Sozialstatistisches Archiv* publishes articles in German and English, while *Advances in Statistical Analysis* publishes articles in English only.



The highlight of the year for the society is its annual meeting, which takes place during Statistical Week at the end of September. It includes plenary sessions on specific topics and a variety of contributed sessions and section meetings. Further, it includes the Gumbel Lecture, which is held by a prominent young statistician, and a miniature symposium, which is organized by an up-and-coming statistician. About 500 statisticians from different areas of statistics take part.

The German Statistical Society has established seven sections in the following areas:

- Education and Training
- Recent Statistical Methods
- Business and Market Statistics
- Regional Statistics
- Empirical Economics and Applied Econometrics
- Statistics in Natural Science and Technology
- Methodology of Statistical Surveys

The Recent Statistical Methods, Empirical Economics and Applied Econometrics, Statistics in Natural Science and Technology, and Methodology of Statistical Surveys sections of the society organize a methodology-orientated conference, the Pentecost Meeting, in spring.

Besides scientific exchange, the society focuses on education in statistics and the formation of informational infrastructure. It comments on basic and topical questions related to its area of expertise and offers statistical advice about German official statistics. The German Statistical Society is also a founding member of the German Working Group in Statistics, in which other statistics-related societies act together. For instance, the society takes part in the joint national meetings of the German Working Group in Statistics that started recently with a conference themed "Statistics Under One Umbrella."

The German Statistical Society also provides continuing education training events for selected statistics fields, information events, and topical workshops. Since 1992, the society has held the Wiesbaden Scientific Colloquium in cooperation with the Federal Statistical Office. The colloquium concentrates on special issues in economic and social statistics. Young researcher workshops also have been organized annually since 1994. These workshops allow up to 20 participants to present their work and discuss it with leading experts.

For more information about the German Statistical Society, visit *www.dstatg.de*. ■

Who's Who

Karl Mosler, President

Nana Dyckerhoff, Managing Director

Wilfried Seidel, Editor,
Advances in Statistical Analysis

Hans Wolfgang Brachinger, Editor,
Wirtschafts- und Sozialstatistisches Archiv

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ASA To Offer Online Lesson Plans

Editor Sought for STEW

Brenda Cox of Battelle (center) presents a check for $6,250 to ASA Executive Director Ron Wasserstein to support creating the infrastructure for STEW. Also present is ASA Director of Programs Martha Aliaga.

One of the goals of the American Statistical Association is to improve statistics education at all levels. Through the *ST*atistics Education Web (STEW), the ASA plans to reach out to K–12 mathematics and science teachers who teach statistics concepts in their classrooms. STEW will be an online resource for peer-reviewed lesson plans and resources for K–12 teachers. The web site will be maintained by the ASA and accessible to K–12 teachers throughout the world.

Statistics and probability concepts are included in K–12 curriculum standards and on state and national exams; however, few K–12 teachers have formal training or applied experience with statistical concepts. K–12 teachers need a place where they can find peer-reviewed teaching materials available in a standard format. Teachers also can benefit from guidance toward activities that are appropriate for their students' maturity levels and from the ability to select relevant, useful, and meaningful applications. The ASA is the logical entity to host a resource to support teachers in their efforts to master the content and incorporate it into their classrooms. There are currently lesson plans and resources available for undergraduate statistics instructors through the Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education (CAUSE) at *www.causeweb.org*. STEW will be devoted to K–12 teachers and complement the resources provided by CAUSE.

STEW will be set up as a searchable database, and its content will identify both the statistical concepts being developed and the age range appropriate for its use. The statistical concepts will follow the recommendations of the *Guidelines for Assessment and Instruction in Statistics Education (GAISE) Report: A Pre-K–12 Curriculum Framework*, available at *www.amstat.org/education/gaise*. The web site resource will be organized around the four elements in the GAISE guidelines: formulate questions, collect data, analyze data, and interpret results. Teachers will be able to navigate the site by grade level, statistical topic, and content area (e.g., mathematics, statistics, and science).

STEW will operate like an ASA journal, having an editorial board consisting of an editor and associate editors. Authors will submit proposed activities to the editor according to a template prepared for that purpose, and the editor will determine which material meets the guidelines for posting on the web site.

Nominations are now being accepted for editor of STEW. The position is voluntary, with the editor serving from January 2009 through December 2011; orientation will begin in 2008.

The editor should be someone with both an understanding of statistics and of teaching K–12 students who is comfortable working with associate editors to evaluate the content of the lesson plans and for what age level they would be appropriate. As with most publications, the editor will identify an associate editor to assign a lesson plan. The associate editor will either review it or arrange to have it reviewed by someone else. After the review, the associate editor will make a recommendation to the editor about whether the lesson plan should be accepted, modified, or rejected. The editor will make the final decision. Lesson plans accepted for online publication will be posted to the STEW page on the ASA web site.

During 2008, the editor and associate editors will discuss and determine a framework for STEW based on the GAISE Pre-K–12 report. This framework will include the standards and review criteria and the kinds of content (e.g., in-class activities, homework, class or individual projects, etc.) that would be appropriate, as well as details about the submission process, the format for submissions, and the review procedure. This editorial board also will provide examples of lesson plans appropriate for STEW.

Nominees must be members of the ASA. All applications must include a curriculum vitae and statement describing the applicant's qualifications. Nominations also may be submitted with a brief description of the person's qualifications.

Review of application/nomination materials will begin March 8, 2008, and continue until the position is filled. All materials should be submitted to Martha Aliaga, ASA Director of Programs, 732 North Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; *martha@amstat.org*. ■

9

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Hole in the Poll

Glaring Opportunities for Statisticians

Mani Lakshminarayanan and Amarjot Kaur, ASA Committee on Applied Statisticians

Americans (at least those interested in politics) were engrossed with what people were saying about Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton after the New Hampshire presidential primaries. Two months later, the media are still debating what happened and remain puzzled over some of the pre-election polls post-New Hampshire (e.g., Super Tuesday primaries/caucuses).

What we find most interesting about the media is how little attention they have paid to the scientific aspects and methodologies behind opinion/exit polls. Rather, they have spent their time on the emotional and spontaneous or expected reactions from voters. David Brooks, in his op-ed piece that appeared in *The New York Times* on January 18, wrote about how uncertain our emotional and intuitive decisions are about who we prefer, and then how we try to rationalize our choices with post-hoc reasoning. He also referred to a statement made by Nobel Prize winner Daniel Kahneman: "People often act without knowing why they do what they do."

Theories about why the opinion polls conducted by organizations such as Zogby International, Rasmussen Reports, and Gallup failed to predict the New Hampshire primary results have so far systematically ignored the statistical aspects behind the survey methodologies. Statistician Andrew Gelman discusses some of these aspects on his blog at *www.stat.columbia.edu/~gelman/blog*. He points to the likely voter screen and its potential deficiencies and the problems in survey weighting, especially when the Iowa caucus turnout was unusual.

Descriptions of survey methodologies used in telephone surveys conducted by Rasmussen and Zogby are included on their respective web sites. One issue of interest is their use of a single, digitally recorded voice to conduct the surveys during specific times. In this case, one should ask how likely one would be to answer calls from an unknown number, especially about political issues. There is significant loss of information here, due to nonresponse, about whether the person being surveyed is really an "unlikely voter."

In spite of the media's attention to just one side of the issue, they are given copious amounts of technical/statistical information that are not discussed or shared with the general public. Some of the high-level issues include sample size, types of questions asked, sampling scheme, sample selection and its probabilities, weighting for nonresponders, and margin of error. In addition, it would be of interest to know how the polls were able to provide point estimates for the Republican side that were remarkably close.

The time is right for the ASA and the statistical community to play a visible role in clarifying misconceptions and explaining statistical intricacies. We must address the usefulness, potential biases, and value these pre-election polls provide to voters. We have an obligation to address the use of correct statistical methodology and the resulting interpretation. Also, statisticians must take a closer look at how pre-election polls are conducted and whether conclusions drawn from them are statistically sound. After doing so, we may agree with the pundits that voting is an uncertain, emotional, intuitive decision—a decision that, for a significant group of people, is finalized at the last minute. However, if we find that we don't agree, then we have the responsibility to provide alternative statistical methodologies and join hands with social and political scientists to better interpret such data.

"The time is right for the ASA and the statistical community to play a visible role in clarifying misconceptions and explaining statistical intricacies."

Based on the information we informally gathered from the members of the ASA's Section on Survey Research Methods and other sources, there appear to be innumerable opportunities for master's-level colleagues to contribute and participate in this real-world problem in survey methodology. Additionally, surfing the web sites of some of these polling organizations (e.g., *www.rasmussenreports.com*, *www.zogby.com*, *www.gallup.com*) further reveals there exists career opportunities for master's-level colleagues as research associates/experts who can contribute to attitudinal and behavioral research using survey methods and analytical modeling. ■

Create a Video About What

'Math and Voting'

Means to You and You Could

WIN $500

What does "Math and Voting" mean to you? Unleash your creativity and show millions. The Joint Policy Board for Mathematics* invites you to visit the Math Awareness Month web site at *www.mathaware.org* and then create a video—to be hosted on YouTube—using music, humor, and other creative elements to express your feelings about the connection between mathematics and voting.

Here are some videos others have made about mathematics and statistics:

http://youtube.com/watch?v=xKMxtajvEcw

http://youtube.com/watch?v=DSz1xvQ-0R8&feature=related

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTby_e4-Rhg

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JS9GmU5hr5w

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-97jHx7NEI

Contest

$500 will be awarded to the producer of the top video. The winner will be announced June 1 on *www.mathaware.org* and *www.amstat.org* and acknowledged in *Amstat News* in July.

What constitutes a "top" video? Judges will choose based on the following:

Creativity

How well your message is conveyed

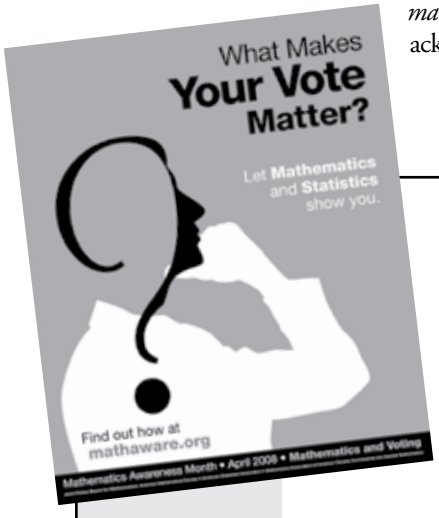
Level of entertainment

Quality of your video

Relevance to the theme of "Math and Voting"

To post your video, register on or sign in to YouTube. Once you have accessed your account, go to *www.youtube.com/group/mathaware* and click on "Join Group." Once you have joined the group, you can submit a video by clicking on "Upload" and following the instructions. YouTube viewers can vote for their favorite video once a day until the contest ends on May 15. All videos must be posted by April 30 to give viewers time to vote, and each video can be up to three minutes in length.

* The Joint Policy Board for Mathematics consists of the American Mathematical Society, American Statistical Association, Mathematical Association of America, and Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics. By participating in this contest, you agree that videos posted for this contest may be used by any of these societies in its activities related to Math Awareness Month.



Mathematics Awareness Month • **April 2008**

Math and Voting is the theme for Mathematics Awareness Month, held each year in April. Its goal is to increase public understanding of and appreciation for mathematics. Visit the Mathematics Awareness Month web site at ***www.mathaware.org*** for details.

Download a copy of this poster at *www.mathaware.org* or order a poster for $5; add $1 for each additional poster. Mail orders may be sent to: **ASA Marketplace**
American Statistical Association
732 North Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Mathematics Awareness Month is cosponsored by the American Mathematical Society, American Statistical Association, Mathematical Association of America, and Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics.

Elaine Allen

The Global Entrepreneurship Research Association recently appointed Elaine Allen chair of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor Research Committee.

Allen is the research director of the Arthur M. Blank Center for Entrepreneurship and an associate professor of statistics and entrepreneurship at Babson College. She is also codirector of the Babson Survey Research Group.

Prior to joining Babson, Allen held executive positions in the health care and biotechnology industry, including at Centocor, ARIAD, and MetaWorks Inc. She also held faculty appointments at the University of Pennsylvania and Rutgers University. Her entrepreneurial activities include starting StatSystems, a medical device company; ARIAD Pharmaceuticals, a publicly held biotechnology company; and Pondview Associates, a high-tech consulting firm.

She is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and American Society for Quality. She has published widely in statistical, clinical, and managed care journals on statistical issues in meta-analysis, data mining, clinical and biological research methodology, and statistical computing.

The Global Entrepreneurship Monitor research program is an annual assessment of the national level of entrepreneurial activity. London Business School and Babson College initiated the project in 1999 with 10 countries and expanded to 42 countries by 2006. For more information, visit *www.gemconsortium.org*.

Francis X. Diebold

ASA Fellow Francis X. Diebold was recently named Joseph M. Cohen Term Professor of Economics at the University of Pennsylvania.

Diebold is an expert in econometrics, forecasting, finance, and macroeconomics. He has published more than 100 articles and 10 books, including the leading text, *Elements of Forecasting*. He has served on the editorial boards of numerous journals, including *Econometrica* and *Review of Economics and Statistics*.

Diebold is an elected fellow of the Econometric Society and the recipient of Sloan, Guggenheim, and Humboldt awards, as well as his department's Kravis Award for Outstanding Teaching. From 1986 to 1989, he served as an economist under Paul Volcker and Alan Greenspan at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. Diebold is codirector of the Financial Institutions Center and Faculty Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Joseph Cohen established this chair in 1990 to recognize a distinguished scholar in economics. He is the chair of the New York brokerage firm J. M. Cohen & Co. LLC and a past member of the SAS Economics Visiting Committee.

Editor's note: Reprinted with permission from *Almanac*, University of Pennsylvania, Volume 54, No. 19, January 30, 2008.

David Blackwell

Sastry Pantula, head of the Department of Statistics at NC State, presents David Blackwell (sitting) with an honorary doctorate degree certificate during a ceremony in his honor.

On December 17, 2007, North Carolina State University bestowed upon David Blackwell—a renowned statistician and mathematician—an honorary doctorate degree.

The first African American to be inducted into the National Academy of Sciences in 1965, Blackwell's most well-known contribution to the world of statistics is the Rao-Blackwell Theorem, which establishes an approach for finding the best unbiased estimator. He is a coauthor of *Theory of Games and Statistical Decisions* and has published more than 80 publications and received a dozen honorary doctoral degrees.

In 1954, he joined the statistics faculty at the University of California-Berkeley, chairing the statistics department for four years and advising more than 50 doctoral students before retiring in 1989. Blackwell has served as president of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, the International Association for Statistics in Physical Sciences, and the Bernoulli Society. He also has served as the vice president of the American Statistical Association and the American Mathematical Society. He received the John von Neumann Theory Prize from the Operations Research Society of America in 1979 for his work in dynamic programming and the Fisher Award from the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies in 1986.

The diploma was presented to Blackwell in person on January 6, 2008, during a Sunday brunch ceremony in Berkeley. A number of people close to Blackwell attended, and NC State faculty member Sastry Pantula conveyed congratulations to Blackwell from Chancellor James Oblinger, Dean Daniel Solomon, and other statistics faculty members from NC State. Blackwell recalled how he got into the field of statistics: "I thought I had an excellent counter example to a theorem presented by Abe Girshick. My discussions with him led to a long-term collaboration and an interest in statistics." He encouraged everyone to take chances because some errors and accidents may lead to great things.

Dipak K. Dey

Dipak K. Dey, professor and head of the Department of Statistics at the University of Connecticut, was awarded Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor in January 2008 for "exceptional distinction in scholarship, teaching, and service while at the University of Connecticut."

Dey is both nationally and internationally known and respected for his research contributions in the areas of statistical decision theory and Bayesian statistics. He has been with the University of Connecticut since 1985 and has supervised 19 PhD students. He is currently working with five more. His stature in the statistical profession is indicated by his election as Fellow in both the American Statistical Association and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. Currently, he is the chair of the ASA Section on Bayesian Statistical Science. He was the past-president of the International Indian Statistical Association.

Dey has served as editor of the *IMS Bulletin* and associate editor of the Theory and Methods section of *JASA*, as well as several other journals. He has published five books and edited volumes and more than 170 research papers. He received the Outstanding Alumni Award from Purdue University in 2007.

Daniel Gianola

Daniel Gianola of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Animal Sciences, was recently elected the recipient of a Humboldt Research Award after having been nominated by Henner Simianer of the University of Göttingen, Germany.

This award is conferred in recognition of lifetime achievements in research. In addition, the awardee is invited to carry out research projects of his or her choice in cooperation with specialist colleagues in Germany. For more information, visit *www.humboldt-foundation.de/en*.

C. R. Rao

(From left) C. R. Rao, professor of statistics; K. Ponmudi, honorable minister for higher education, Government of Tamil Nadu; Surjit Singh Barnala, governor of Tamil Nadu; and S. Ramachandran, vice chancellor, University of Madras

On November 12, 2007, the University of Madras at its 150th Annual Convocation awarded an honorary doctorate to C. R. Rao with the following citation:

> "By reason of his eminence and attainments; for his intuitive gaze into the order, rhythm, and sequence of dancing numbers; for his formulations of multivariate methodology and their applications; and for his steadfast work in the growth of health, communication, computer technology, and energy in India."

Rao now has 32 honorary doctorates from universities throughout the world.

Lynne Hare

Lynne Hare recently retired from corporate life and returned to independent consulting. Throughout his 40-year career in statistics, Hare led internal consulting organizations at Hunt-Wesson Foods, Unilever, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and, most recently, Kraft Foods. He has been active in both the ASA and the American Society for Quality and has been appointed a Fellow of both organizations. Hare helped pioneer statistical thinking and promote its effectiveness in industry. He writes a twice-yearly column in *Quality Progress Magazine*, chairs the Governing Board of the Ellis R. Ott Scholarship, and remains active in the statistics community. He may be contacted at *lynnehare@patmedia.net*.

Obituary

Jasper Emmett Adams Jr.

Jasper Emmett Adams Jr., 65, chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Stephen F. Austin State University, died November 9, 2007, in Houston, Texas, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Born August 27, 1942, he was the son of Emmett and Mayme Adams. He attended Tyler Junior College and later earned both BS and MS degrees from Stephen F. Austin State University. He joined the faculty there in 1965, when he was named instructor of mathematics. In 1971, he earned his PhD from Texas Tech University.

Adams served as principal investigator for state and nationally funded grant projects in excess of $5.5 million throughout several years. He served as governor of the Texas Section of the Mathematical Association of America and president and secretary/treasurer of the Texas Association of Academic Administrators of Mathematical Science. He was honored with the distinguished service award from the Texas Section of the MAA.

Adams loved outdoor activities, especially fishing and hunting. His happiest moments were those times spent with family and friends riding motorcycles, water-skiing, camping, and traveling.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Romberg Adams; two sons, Bryan Emmett Adams and wife, Amber, of Raleigh, North Carolina, and Jason Romberg Adams and wife, Jaime, of Euless, Texas.

Obituary

Albert Hosmer Bowker

Submitted by Ingram Olkin,
Stanford University

Courtesy of the Institute of
Mathematical Statistics

Albert Hosmer Bowker

In so many ways, Al Bowker was a man for all seasons. He was the inaugural chair of the Statistics Department at Stanford from 1947–1963 and dean of graduate studies from 1960–1963. In 1963, he became chancellor of the City University of New York, and, in 1977, he returned to California as chancellor of the University of California, Berkeley. He was appointed the first assistant secretary for postsecondary education in the newly formed U.S. Department of Education in 1980. In 1981, he became founding dean of the School of Public Affairs at the University of Maryland and later became executive vice president. He returned to the City University of New York Research Foundation in 1986, where he served as vice president for planning.

Bowker was born in Winchendon, Massachusetts, on September 8, 1919, but grew up in Washington, DC. His BS was in mathematics from MIT in 1941, after which he worked on several military projects and later joined the Statistical Research Group (SRG) at Columbia. The SRG was a major statistical center during WWII and a statistical "who's who" that consisted of Abraham Wald, Churchill Eisenhart, Jimmie Savage, Milton Friedman, George Stigler, Abe Girshick, Ken Arnold, Harold Freeman, Herbert Solomon, Ed Paulson, Millard Hastay, and Rollin Bennett. Harold Hotelling was also at Columbia, but moved to The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1946 to head the newly formed statistics department.

Bowker studied multivariate analysis with Pao-Lu Hsu when Hsu visited Columbia, and when Hsu moved to Chapel Hill, Bowker followed. Hotelling suggested a thesis topic on asymptotic distributions. When Bowker completed the dissertation, which was submitted to Columbia, it was formally signed by Jack Wolfowitz. However, Wolfowitz was not a specialist in multivariate analysis, so Ted Anderson approved the thesis.

Bowker obtained the noncentral distribution of Hotelling's T2 statistic using an invariance argument described in Section. 5.2.2. of Anderson's book on multivariate analysis. Later, he worked with Rosedith Sitgreaves on an asymptotic expansion for the distribution of a classification statistic. Sitgreaves was also a student at Columbia and later on the faculty at Teachers College. She and Bowker married in 1964. When Bowker was chancellor at Berkeley, Rosedith was on the faculty in the School of Education at Stanford.

Bowker was a talented leader and developer. At Stanford, he helped the mathematics department become an eminent department in applicable math (a term Bowker preferred to applied mathematics). He worked with then Provost Fred Terman to bring the linear accelerator and hospital (then in San Francisco) to Stanford. Bowker had the foresight to attract George Forsythe with the idea of starting a department of computer science, which may have been the first such department in the country. A key feature in Bowker's thinking was that a statistics department would not be large, and for it to have a research effect in a university, it would be wise to have joint appointments with other departments. Thus, over the years, the statistics faculty had joint appointments with psychology, economics, education, mathematics, linear accelerator, Earth sciences, electrical engineering, operations research, and the medical school. As a result, a rather small department had great influence in the university.

When Bowker was chosen by Allen Wallis to chair the newly formed statistics department, he was in the process of completing his dissertation, but even at this young age, he recognized talent and managed to get Abe Girshick to join the department and David Blackwell to visit. Although Blackwell left shortly thereafter for Berkeley, Bowker was able to hire a stellar faculty. By 1956, the department had a formidable faculty consisting of Kenneth Arrow (joint with economics), Herman Chernoff, Samuel Karlin (joint with mathematics), Quinn McNemar (joint with psychology), Charles Stein, Gerald Lieberman (joint with engineering), Lincoln Moses (joint with the medical school), and Emanuel Parzen. Shortly thereafter, Rupert Miller, Vernon Johns, Herbert Solomon, and Herbert Scarf joined the department. These appointments were engineered by Bowker. He formed an applied math and statistics laboratory and obtained ONR support to sustain it. Almost everyone in the two departments received support from the laboratory, and visitors from all over visited Stanford during those years.

In 1987, the idea of a National Institute of Statistical Science (NISS) was in its infancy. If such an institute was to be founded, a working committee needed to be created to move it along. Furthermore, such a committee would need to negotiate with university administrations, which suggested it would be wise to have a senior statesman with name recognition as chair. Bowker was an obvious choice. At the time, he had completed his role as chancellor at both CUNY and Berkeley, and I knew he was somewhat at loose ends and would like to be involved in a project. I asked him if he would be willing to serve as chair of a committee to form an institute of statistics.

Bowker knew many of the chancellors and presidents of major universities, and these connections helped generate interest in founding the institute. Janet Norwood, formerly commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, was the other member. Thus, we had two illustrious people, both committed to the furtherance of statistics and the development of an institute.

NISS came into existence in 1990 and was located in Research Triangle Park in North Carolina. Bowker served as chair of the board. Much needed to be done, and he guided the group with excellent counsel. His style was characteristic of the way he functioned in other roles. Bowker often bumbled along, letting everyone speak in a somewhat chaotic track, then at a certain point—and only he knew when that point was reached—there appeared a motion of exactly what he wanted. Bowker told me that when he went into a meeting, he knew what he wanted to come out at the end and somehow managed to achieve this goal. Stories from his days as chancellor confirm this. Thus, NISS moved along to fruition, and the profession owes him hearty thanks for his efforts.

Bowker was concerned with what we now call "diversity" and "equity." This is exhibited by two examples. The first occurred while he was chancellor at

CUNY. He expanded the university from four senior colleges and a few community colleges to 18 campuses. His policy of open enrollment was designed to permit all students to attend at least one of these colleges. The policy was controversial, but he believed it was untenable for an all-white university to be located in the heart of Harlem without that community in attendance.

The second example relates to women. Bowker was elected president of The Cosmos Club in Washington, which, at the time, was an all-male club. Members (men) used the main entrance, and women were supposed to use a side entrance. One of Bowker's first acts was to change the bylaws to allow women to become members.

The New York Times noted that Bowker "demonstrated extraordinary vision and coverage in promoting access and excellence in public higher education," to which we can add that he was a promoter of statistics in every way he could be. He will be missed by all those who knew him and by future students and faculty members for his efforts in creating a foundation in statistics.

Obituary

Edward C. Bryant

Edward C. Bryant

Edward C. Bryant, a founder and former president of Westat, passed away January 17, 2008, in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, at the age of 92.

The son of homesteaders, Bryant was born in 1915 in a small house near Hat Creek, Wyoming. He grew up in a simpler time in a home without the modern conveniences we take for granted today: running water, electricity, and cars. He worked hard to get an education, which was particularly difficult due to his remote location and the challenges of the Great Depression. Remembrances of his early years can be found in his delightful autobiographies, *Hat Creek and Hard Times* and *Out of Wyoming*.

After earning his master's degree from the University of Wyoming, Laramie, in 1940, Bryant took his first job as a junior statistician at the Interstate Commerce Commission in Washington, DC, and later moved to the War Production Board before entering the U.S. Army in 1943. In late 1944, he graduated from officer candidate school and was assigned to the Pentagon as a statistician. He ended his military service stationed at the Middle Pacific Headquarters in Hawaii, where he was involved in assessing the damage of and possible value for future use of Pacific Island harbors.

When the war ended, Bryant briefly rejoined the Civil Service and then moved to the University of Wyoming, Laramie, as an assistant professor. He went on to earn his PhD in mathematical statistics from Iowa State University in 1955 and become a full professor at the University of Wyoming. While there, he established the Department of Statistics, the Statistics Laboratory, and the Computing Center, all of which he directed. Bryant also served as the experiment station statistician in the College of Agriculture and was the statistical advisor to the graduate school.

It is interesting to note that the University of Wyoming, a relatively small institution that did not have a particularly strong department of statistics, nevertheless produced three distinguished statisticians who later ended up as close friends and colleagues. The other two were W. Edwards Deming, a pioneer in the field of statistical quality control, and Morris Hansen, the most influential statistician in the evolution of survey methodology in the 20th century.

After 14 years at the University of Wyoming, Bryant found he needed to make a change due to declining health. Encouraged by doctors to find work in a lower altitude, he started looking for a teaching job, but two of his former graduate students suggested forming a consulting firm to serve the statistical needs of government, business, and industry. So, in 1961, Westat was born.

The early days of the company were rocky, with everyone involved making personal sacrifices for the endeavor. Today, Westat, with more than 1,900 employees, has grown into one of the world's leading statistical research companies, serving federal, state, and local governments, as well as businesses and foundations. It also has activities in many countries other than the United States.

In addition to serving as president of Westat for some 15 years, and as chair of the board for about 23 years, Bryant was an active participant in its statistical activities. His specialty was the development of practical sample designs, resulting in a variety of unique national, regional, and local probability samples requiring innovative approaches. For example, his sample designs were used for an assessment of reading literacy, measuring housing bias, estimating the number of non-English background children with limited English-speaking ability, and for a longitudinal study of the early childhood learning experiences from birth until kindergarten. He also was very active in the development of statistical process control and disseminated the theory and practice to a wide variety of industrial concerns throughout the United States and abroad, serving both as consultant and through training corporations to conduct their own in-house programs.

Bryant formally retired from Westat in 1985, but continued on as a consultant for another 20 years. He was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by his alma mater. He became a member of the American Statistical Association in 1947 and was elected Fellow in 1970. He also was a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the Biometrics Society, the American Society for Quality Control, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and the Institute of Management Sciences.

Bryant's optimism and fortitude were his hallmark. In 1995, when asked how Westat might honor him for his many contributions, Bryant requested a scholarship for a talented graduate student in statistics be funded. Under an agreement with the American Statistical Association, a $2,500 scholarship has been awarded each year and presented at a special session during its annual meeting, enabling young people to continue their education and contribute to the field. It is no surprise that he would choose the recognition of hard work and talent by a student as a way of acknowledging him.

Bryant was a man with incredible talent and generosity throughout his life, giving to his family, to Westat, and to the statistical profession in general. He will be missed by all who had the good fortune to know him and work with him. Survivors include his wife, four grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Obituary

Daniel Joseph Corrigan

Longtime ASA member Daniel Joseph Corrigan passed away at the age of 69. He was the son of the late Robert and Clara Corrigan and the husband of Jutta, who he was married to for 44 years. He was the devoted father of three sons: Dion, Sean, and Jason.

Obituary

Zachary G. Stoumbos

The faculty, staff, and students of Rutgers Business School–Newark and New Brunswick mourn the loss of Zachary G. Stoumbos, who passed away on January 28 after a long and valiant struggle with leukemia. He was 44.

An award-winning researcher, teacher, and chair and professor of management science and information systems, he is described by Executive Vice Dean Rosa Oppenheim as "above all, a most devoted friend and colleague who inspired all of us with his bravery and optimism."

Stoumbos joined the faculty of Rutgers Business School in 1994 and was elected department chair in 2001.

Among his major honors, he was elected a Lifetime Fellow of the International Statistical Institute in 2005, and, in 2007, he was elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association, an honor reserved for a very small number of ASA members for making outstanding contributions in their field.

Stoumbos was the recipient of the 2003 Jack Youden Prize of the ASA and the American Society for Quality (ASQ) for the best research paper in the physical, chemical, and engineering sciences. He also was the recipient of the highly prestigious 2004 ASQ Brumbaugh Award for the paper with the greatest single contribution to the development of the industrial application of quality control and statistical process control. Stoumbos was twice the recipient of the Paul Nadler Teaching Excellence Award and a recipient of outstanding researcher awards at Rutgers Business School.

He served as the 2004 chair-elect and 2005 chair of the quality, statistics, and reliability section of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS). He was a senior member of ASQ and the Institute of Industrial Engineers. He was a member of INFORMS, the ASA, and the International Federation of Nonlinear Analysts. He also was a member of the editorial review board of the *Journal of Quality Technology.*

Stoumbos was widely published in leading research journals and served as a scientific adviser and consultant for a large number of major corporations and organizations nationally and internationally. His research interests included statistical process control, data mining and classification analysis, time series analysis and forecasting, information systems and technology, financial and risk modeling, public health surveillance, terrorism and bioterrorism preparedness, psychometrics, and supply chain management.

Stoumbos is survived by his wife, Julia, and their three children. For more information, visit *http://zachary.rutgers.edu*. ■

International Indian Statistical Association Awards

Young Researcher Awards

The International Indian Statistical Association is seeking nominations for the two Young Researcher Awards for 2008. The awards will honor one outstanding researcher in theory and one in applications. To be eligible, candidates must meet the following criteria:

They must be born on January 1, 1963, or later

They must have made a significant contribution in high-quality research (theory, methodology, or applied) and education

They must be a member of the International Indian Statistical Association

Nominations should contain a cover letter explaining the significance of the research contributions of the candidate and specifying the area to be considered (theory, methodology, or applied), a current CV, and three letters of support. They should be sent to H. N. Nagaraja by March 31, 2008, at *hnn@stat.osu.edu*. Electronic submissions are strongly recommended. The awards will be presented at the May 22–25 meeting of the International Indian Statistical Association at the University of Connecticut, Storrs.

Student Paper Competition

The student paper competition committee of the International Indian Statistical Association is offering a student paper competition. The winning paper will be presented at the association's conference, May 22–25, at the University of Connecticut, Storrs.

Two awards will be given, one in the theory and methods category and the other in the application category. All papers of substantial statistical content are welcome. Papers should be written in English in a 12-point font and have at least 1.5-line spacing. The length of the paper should not exceed 15 pages, excluding tables and figures. The primary author of an entry paper must be a graduate student at the time of the meeting. An entry should be accompanied by a cover letter and endorsement by the applicant's

Deadlines and Contact Information for ASA National Awards, Special Lectureships, and COPSS Awards

March 15, 2008
Founders Award

Mary Ellen Bock
Purdue University
Dept. of Statistics
250 N. University Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2066
Phone: (765) 494-3141
Fax: (765) 494-0558
mbock@stat.purdue.edu

March 15, 2008
W. J. Youden Award in Interlaboratory Testing

Neil R. Ullman
Ullman Associates
4 Sarazen Court
Florham Park, NJ 07932-2714
Phone: (973) 822-3327
Fax: (973) 822-3327
neil1@ullman.net

April 1, 2008
Samuel S. Wilks Memorial Medal

Daniel Zelterman
Dept. of Epidemiology and Public Health
Box 208034
Yale Station, New Haven, CT 06520-8034
Phone: (203) 785-5574
Fax: (203) 785-6912
daniel.zelterman@yale.edu

April 1, 2008
Committee on Award of Outstanding Statistical Application

Barry I. Graubard
National Cancer Institute
Biostatistics Branch
6120 Executive Blvd., Bethesda, MD 20852
Phone: (301) 496-7455
Fax: (301) 402-0081
graubarb@mail.nih.gov

April 1, 2008
Edward C. Bryant Scholarship

Elaine Zanutto
National Analysts
1835 Market St., 25th Floor,
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2984
Phone: (215) 496 6878
Fax: (215) 496-6801
ezanutto@nationalanalysts.com

April 15, 2008
Gertrude M. Cox Scholarship

Eleanor Feingold
University of Pittsburgh
Grad School of Public Health
130 DeSoto Street A310
Pittsburgh, PA 15261-0001
Phone: (412) 383-8599
Fax: (412) 624-3020
feingold@pitt.edu

April 15, 2008
Excellence in Statistical Reporting Award

Donald A. Berry
The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center
1515 Holcombe Blvd., Box 447
Houston, TX 77030
Phone: (713) 794-4141
Fax: (713) 563-4242
dberry@mdanderson.org

Details can be found at *www.amstat.org/awards*.

major professor. Submission should be made by email as a PDF file to Bani K. Mallick at *bmallick@stat.tamu.edu* by March 31, 2008. The applicant must attend the conference to present his/her paper.

Myrto Lefkopoulou Distinguished Lecture

Each year, the Myrto Lefkopoulou Lectureship is awarded to a promising biostatistical scientist who has made contributions to either collaborative or methodologic research in the applications of statistical methods to biology or medicine and/or excellence in the teaching of biostatistics. Ordinarily, the lectureship is given to an individual within 15 years of receiving an earned doctorate. In the case of nominees without an earned doctorate, the committee makes a relative adjustment of time in keeping with the spirit of the selection process. The lecture targets a general scientific audience and is the first department colloquium of each academic year. The lectureship includes travel to Boston, a reception following the lecture, and an honorarium of $1,000.

Nominations for next year's lectureship should be sent to the Myrto Lefkopoulou Lecture Committee, Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health, 655 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115. Nominations should include a letter of nomination and a CV. The deadline for submission of nominations is April 30, 2008.

The annual Myrto Lefkopoulou Distinguished Lecture was initiated in 1993 in memory of Myrto Lefkopoulou, a beloved faculty member and student in the Department of Biostatistics at Harvard University. Lefkopoulou died of cancer in 1992 at the age of 34 after a courageous two-year battle. ■

Previous Myrto Lefkopoulou Lecturers

Francesca Dominici
Jianqing Fan
Mark van der Laan
Geert Molenberghs
Marie Davidian
Danyu Lin
Bradley Carlin
Steven Goodman
Giovanni Parmigiani
Kathryn Roeder
Ronald Brookmeyer
Trevor Hastie
Hans-Georg Müeller
Louise Ryan

2008 ASA Award ❧ Call for Nominations
Excellence in Statistical Reporting Award

In recognition of outstanding, innovative, and influential communications of important statistical information to a broad segment of the general public.

Eligibility: Any organization or individual who displays a commitment to statistics and to advancing the role of the media in the science of statistics in public life, and whose communications in any media meets the award criteria as a single presentation or for sustained worthy contributions. *Communications used to promote the sale of commercial products are not eligible for this award.*

Awarded to: Commentators, reporters, writers, radio announcers, sports information personnel, promotions and marketing personnel, photographers, or organizations that use communications media as their primary product.

Nomination: ASA members and media members may nominate an individual or organization for work published, broadcast, or televised during the 12 months ended February 29, 2008. Send supporting documentation with a nomination form. Nominations are due March 14, 2008.

Winner of the 2008 EISRA will be notified by April 15, 2008 and will be honored with a plaque, proclamation, and a $1,000 prize at a ceremony at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Denver, Colorado, in August, 2008.

Send nomination form
and supporting documents to:

Professor Donald A. Berry
Department of Biostatistics
The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
1515 Holcombe Blvd., Unit 447
Houston, TX 77030 USA

or via e-mail to: dberry@mdanderson.org

Nomination forms are available from the ASA Public Affairs Office or on the web at http://www.amstat.org/awards/index.cfm?fuseaction=excellenceinstatsreports.

Biopharmaceutical

Sponsorship Program Supports Section

The Biopharmaceutical Section, with more than 2,000 members, is one of the largest and most active sections of the ASA. Thanks in large part to the help and support of our corporate sponsors, we have been able to provide unique and substantial contributions to our members and the greater biopharmaceutical community. We are able to sponsor or cosponsor several professional meetings throughout the year, including the FDA/Industry Workshop, the Midwest Biopharmaceutical Statistics Workshop, and the Deming Conference. We also are able to provide cash awards for the best student paper and best contributed paper presented at the annual Joint Statistical Meetings.

Invitations to become corporate sponsors are mailed out in January of each year. Any company interested in becoming a corporate sponsor may contact the chair of the Biopharmaceutical Section, Kannan Natarajan, at *kannan.natarajan@novartis.com* or the chair of the Corporate Sponsorship Committee, Russ Helms, at *russ_helms@rhoworld.com*.

The members of the Biopharmaceutical Section are indebted to their corporate sponsors for their continued generous support of ongoing programs and activities. This year, the section has 26 sponsors.

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- Gilead Sciences
- GlaxoSmithKline
- Hoffman-LaRoche Inc.
- ICON Clinical Research Inc.
- Insightful Corporation
- Johnson & Johnson, PRD
- Merck Research Laboratories
- Novartis Pharmaceuticals
- Pfizer Inc.
- Proctor and Gamble Pharmaceuticals
- RHO Inc.
- sanofi-aventis
- SAS Institute
- Schering Corporation
- Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Ltd.
- Waban Software
- Wyeth Consumer Healthcare

Workshop for Biostatistical Statisticians

The 2nd Annual FDA/DIA Statistics Forum is scheduled for April 14–16, 2008, in Bethesda, Maryland. This conference will provide a venue for discussing important statistical issues associated with the development and review of therapeutic drugs and biologics. A primary focus will be to establish an ongoing, annual dialogue in an open, public forum regarding the FDA's "Critical Path" initiative, emphasizing the regulatory and statistical challenges associated with innovative approaches to the design and analysis of clinical trials data.

This conference will be an opportunity for statisticians, clinicians, and other interested professionals from industry, academia, CROs, and government agencies to learn about and discuss the current and emerging statistical methodologies and quantitative approaches used to develop evidence of the efficacy and safety of new drug and biologic therapeutic products.

We need this opportunity to come together annually to describe issues, discuss solutions, and review progress and problems. It is important that all stakeholders examine their roles in this enterprise and ask the hard questions that need to be answered so we can develop appropriate, scientific/regulatory consensus regarding our purpose and process.

The workshop will appeal to statisticians in, or consulting for, the biopharmaceutical industry, clinicians, epidemiologists, drug safety professionals, and regulatory and medical communication scientists interested in recent statistical issues in clinical research.

This conference is not cosponsored by the ASA Biopharmaceutical Section. For more information, visit *www.diahome.org*. ■

Biometrics

Member Initiative Proposals Funded

Edited by Ralitza Gueorguieva, Biometrics Section Publications Officer

The section is once again pleased to announce that three proposals were funded recently as part of the section's Member Initiative, "Developing the Next Generation of Biostatisticians." The funded proposals include the following:

Promoting Biostatistics: Developing Materials for Linking Statistics and Biology Classes, Debbie Hydorn, University Mary Washington

Developing a Web Site to House Outreach Materials for AP Statistics Students and Their Teachers: Case Studies in Collaborative Research, Roslyn Stone, University of Pittsburgh

A Biostatistics Apprenticeship Outreach Program for Urban Magnet High-School Students, Scott McNitt, University of Rochester Medical Center

Another round of congratulations is in order for those funded for this important initiative, and many thanks go to members of the Member Initiative Subcommittee for their excellent work. The committee is chaired by Bonnie La Fleur with Scarlett Bellamy, Harold Dyck, Lisa Sullivan, and Mani Lakshminarayanan serving as members.

The section has given awards for biostatistics outreach for the last four years. Another round of awards will be solicited in the fall of 2008. The committee welcomes your input into activities the section could undertake to promote biostatistics. Please contact Bonnie La Fleur at *bonnie.lafleur@hsc.utah.edu* with suggestions.

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Statistics and the Environment

Activities Include Upcoming Workshop

Devin Johnson, Publications Chair

The Statistical Issues in Monitoring the Environment Workshop is scheduled for October 22–24, 2008, at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado. This workshop covers state-of-the-art applications and statistical methods in environmental monitoring. Sessions on applications include monitoring in ecology and air quality and monitoring of aquatic resources and climate change and its impacts. The spatiotemporal data collected in environmental monitoring present interesting and challenging statistical problems such as modeling of space-time correlation, analysis of the huge amount of correlated data, and analysis of high-frequency monitoring data. Technical sessions will cover recent developments in statistical methods for environmental data. A one-day short course on the analysis of spatial and spatiotemporal data will be offered and taught by Doug Nychka. There also will be a poster session. Poster abstracts must be submitted by September 23, 2008. For more information, visit *www.stat.purdue.edu/envr* or contact Hao Zhang, Department of Statistics, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47906; *zhanghao@purdue.edu*.

Climate Change Workshop Update

Mary Christman and David Marker

In October 2007, the section and ASA Scientific and Public Affairs Advisory Committee cosponsored a two-day workshop bringing together 15–20 leading statisticians and atmospheric scientists. The event was hosted by the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, Colorado, and facilitated by David Marker, chair of the Scientific and Public Affairs Advisory Committee, and Mary Christman, then chair of the ASA Section on Statistics and the Environment. The program was facilitated by Richard Smith and Doug Nychka.

The impetus for this workshop came from the need for the American Statistical Association—which has not been involved in the past at an institutional level—to develop a public position on the subject of climate change, as has been done on a number of other public policy issues involving statistics. The objective of the workshop was to ensure the ASA received input from researchers involved in climate change research in order to develop a position.

The major result of the workshop was a white paper on the role of statistics in climate change, including future areas of research. The position stated in the white paper was adopted by the ASA Board of Directors and released in December 2007. In the announcement, the ASA endorses the findings in the recently published Fourth Assessment Report of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. They further identify several areas ripe for statistical research and input into the controversy surrounding human impact on climate change. For more information about the importance of the role of statisticians in climate change research as described in the position paper, see *www.amstat.org/news/index.cfm?fuseaction=climatechange*.

Climate Change in Denver

In addition to the workshop held last year, the section will sponsor several activities at this year's Joint Statistical Meetings in Denver related to increasing awareness of statistical activities in climate change research. Two invited sessions are scheduled: The Role of Statisticians in Understanding Climate Change and Statistical Aspects of Regional Climate Modeling. The section also will sponsor roundtables for more intimate discussions about statistical input to the climate change controversy. Be sure to check out the program for JSM 2008 and plan to attend one or more of these activities. ■

Statistical Computing and Graphics

Student Paper Competition Winners Announced

J. R. Lockwood, Awards Chair, Statistical Computing and Statistical Graphics Sections

As in previous years, the statistical computing and graphics sections sponsored their annual student paper competition. The requirements were that the student be the first author of a paper in statistical computing, which might be original methodological research, a novel application, or a software-related project. The four winners were invited to present their papers at a special contributed session during the 2008 Joint Statistical Meetings at the expense of the sections.

A number of excellent entries were received, from which the selection committee—consisting of the Council of Sections representatives of the sections—selected four winners (in alphabetical order):

Ming-Hung Kao (advisor John Stufken) "Multi-Objective Optimal Experimental Designs for Event-Related fMRI Studies"

Ernest Kwan (advisor Michael Friendly) "Tableplot: A New Display for Factor Analysis"

Adam Rothman (advisor Liza Levina) "Sparse Permutation Invariant Covariance Estimation"

Michael Wu (advisor Xihong Lin) "Two-Group Classification Using Sparse Linear Discriminant Analysis"

The students will be recognized at the statistical computing/statistical graphics business meeting during JSM in Denver. Congratulations to the winners, and many thanks to the judges for their hard work in making this year's competition a success.

Boston

The Boston Chapter—serving members in Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine—continues to offer an active program of lectures, social events, short courses, and conferences for its 450 members.

Recently, program offerings were made more convenient through an internet-based symposium conferencing tool. We are experimenting with remote access for our planning committee meetings, as well.

On September 29, the chapter cosponsored the New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports (NESSIS), which took place at the Harvard University Science Center. There were more than 100 attendees of various backgrounds, including the press (*USA Today*, *The New York Times*, and *ESPN Magazine*). Research presented at the conference included topics as diverse as data collection, training, player and referee evaluation, monetary and other resource allocation, and injury forensics. The conference also provided statisticians an opportunity to improve the quality of the statistical methods used in sports.

In October, the chapter organized a short course on practical computations using Bayesian statistics. The course was taught by Jean-Michel Marin of the University Paris Sud and Christian Robert of the University Paris Dauphine. It provided participants a practical understanding of Bayesian methodology, assuming no previous exposure to Bayesian ideas or methods, and was based on the book *Bayesian Core* by Marin and Robert. While keeping the theoretical background to a minimum, the participants were guided in the practice of prior modeling and Bayesian computing for some of the most classical models (e.g., linear and generalized linear regression, mixtures) based on representative case studies provided as data sets. The emphasis was on model selection and transdimensional Monte Carlo methods.

In November, the chapter sponsored a panel discussion on FDA committees featuring Janet Andersen, Victor DeGruttola, Rich Gelber, David Schoenfeld, and Sharon Lise-Normand. FDA advisory committees are frequently called upon to advise the FDA regarding difficult approval and policy decisions. Statisticians can play an integral role on these committees. These statisticians, all of whom have served on FDA advisory committees, shared their experiences and discussed the complex role of the statistician. They also explored guidelines on often used statistical procedures such as adaptive designs, the use of Bayesian methods, noninferiority studies, and the assessment of benefit and risk.

In December, Ted Colton from Boston University spoke about fraud in medical research. Ethics and data integrity are key issues for academicians, government agencies, researchers, journals, and businesses. Colton described and dissected several recent cases of misconduct in medical research and multicenter clinical trials. While detection of breaches is important, we don't want to falsely accuse. The presentation focused on addressing how the fraud was detected, why the fraud was committed, how it was reported, and what the consequences are.

Indiana

To promote awareness of careers in statistics to high-school students, the Central Indiana Chapter of the ASA, the Department of Mathematical Sciences at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, and the Division of Biostatistics at Indiana University have jointly organized an annual event, Statistics Career Day, for the past several years. The goal is to give an overview of statistics; present statistics applications in academia, government, and industry; and share success stories from speakers working in different areas of statistics.

Over the years, we have witnessed increasing interest in the event among students in Indiana. The recent career day in November turned out to be an overwhelming success, as 150 students and teachers from 11 area high schools participated. Six statistical professionals from industry and academia shared the path that led them to their careers in statistics and gave insight into what they do on a daily basis and how satisfying it is.

The day started with opening remarks and an overview of statistics by Edward Brizendine, a former ASA chapter secretary. The morning session was then devoted to talks about career in industry, where Don Gonzales from Eli Lilly and Company and Lourdes Padilla from Cummins Inc. shared their experiences as statisticians in the fields of drug development and reliability and validity analysis in power emission testing, respectively.

The afternoon session was dedicated to academia, where Xiaochun Li from the Division of Biostatistics at Indiana University and Kristofer Jennings from the Department of Statistics at Purdue University talked about their rewarding experiences in the fields of biomedical and general statistical research. Jennings also shared his perspective on being a researcher and a teacher.

Kristofer Jennings from the Department of Statistics at Purdue University talks about his rewarding experiences in the fields of biomedical and general statistical research.

Indianapolis-area high-school students listen as statistical professionals from industry and academia share their visions of a statistics career.

Finally, Mark Inlow from Rose-Hulman Institute pointed out that being a statistical consultant gives one the opportunity to use a range of statistical methodologies in many fields.

In addition to the inspiring talks, there were exhibit booths from the Central Indiana Chapter of the ASA, Eli Lilly, the Purdue University Statistics for Community Program, and MedFocus Inc., providing information and materials about statistics and career opportunities. The event turned out to be interactive, as the students asked many excellent questions. The organizers also received a lot of appreciative words from the attendees. It was truly a success, an excellent effort in promoting statistics to youngsters. Kudos to the organizers! ■

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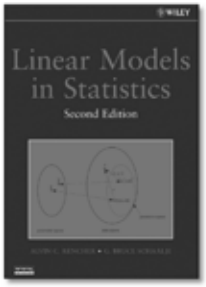

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Introduction to Time Series and Forecasting

Douglas C. Montgomery, Cheryl L. Jennings, Murat Kulahci

9780471653974 • Jan 2008 • 464pp • Cloth • $115.00

Authored by one the country's foremost writers of engineering statistics, techniques, and applications, this book examines methods for modeling and analyzing time series data with a focus towards drawing inferences about the data and generating forecasts that will be useful to the decision maker.

Applied Survival Analysis

Regression Modeling of Time to Event Data, 2nd Edition

NEW EDITION

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9780471754992 • Feb 2008 • 420pp • Cloth • $110.00

This edition provides a comprehensive, self-contained introduction to regression modeling used in the analysis of time-to-event data in epidemiological, biostatistical, and other health-related research. Unlike other texts on the subject, it focuses almost exclusively on practical applications rather than mathematical theory and offers presentations of modern modeling techniques supplemented with real-world examples and case studies.

Fundamentals of Quality Control and Improvement, 3rd Edition

NEW EDITION

Amit Mitra

9780470226537 • Apr 2008 • 736pp • Cloth • $125.00

Rooted in statistics, this book presents real-world applications of quality control. It has been revised to include an expanded chapter on quality management practices, tools, and standards, new material on six sigma, gage repeatability and reproducibility, process capability analysis, control charts for short production runs, and quality costs, among several others.

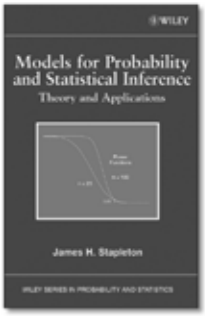
The EM Algorithms and Extensions, 2nd edition

NEW EDITION

Geoffrey J. McLachlan, Thriyambakan Krishnan

9780471201700 • Apr 2008 • 408pp • Cloth • $94.95

This new edition remains the only single source to offer a complete and unified treatment of the theory, methodology, and applications of the EM algorithm. It involves applications in regression, medical imaging, survival analysis, and repeated-measures designs, among other areas. Includes newly added and updated results on convergence and new discussion of categorical data, numerical differentiation, and variants of the EM algorithm.



Models for Probability and Statistical Inference

Theory and Applications

James H. Stapleton

9780470073728 • Dec 2007 • 464pp • Cloth • $110.00

This book was written over a five-year period and serves as a comprehensive treatment of the fundamentals of probability and statistical inference. With detailed theoretical coverage found throughout the book, readers acquire the fundamentals needed to advance to more specialized topics, such as sampling, linear models, design of experiments, statistical computing, survival analysis, and bootstrapping.

A Matrix Handbook for Statisticians

George A.F. Seber

9780471748694 • Nov 2007 • 559pp • Cloth • $110.00

This book emphasizes computational statistics and algorithms and includes numerous references to both the theory behind the methods and the applications of the methods. Written by an experienced authority on matrices and statistical theory, this handbook is organized by topic rather than mathematical developments and includes numerous references to both the theory behind the methods and the applications of the methods.

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For more information about these events, visit *www.amstat.org/dateline.* Announcements are accepted from educational and not-for-profit organizations only. Commercial enterprises should contact the ASA Advertising Department at *advertise@amstat.org*.

* Indicates events sponsored by the American Statistical Association or one of its sections, chapters, or committees

➤ Indicates events posted since the previous issue

2008

March

15—ENAR Workshop for Junior Researchers, Arlington, Virginia
This workshop is aimed at promoting the career development of junior investigators by bringing them together with a prestigious panel of senior investigators. The format includes four theme sessions providing important information about academic growth, including publishing, grant writing, interdisciplinary collaborations, and the promotion process; a roundtable lunch with discussions about professional academic life; and dinner. The workshop immediately precedes the ENAR/IMS meeting; all participants are encouraged to stay and attend. For more information, visit *www.enar.org* or contact Brent Coull, Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health, 655 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115; (617) 432-2376; *bcoull@hsph.harvard.edu*.

19–21—IAENG International Conference on Data Mining and Applications 2008, Hong Kong, China
This conference is held under the International Multiconference of Engineers and Computer Scientists IMECS 2008. Topics will include statistical data mining tools, soft computing data mining tools, and data mining applications. For more information, visit *www.iaeng.org/IMECS2008/ICDMA2008.html* or contact William Young, IAENG Secretariat, Unit 1, 1/F, 37–39 Hung To Road, Hong Kong, International HK, Hong Kong; (852) 27820197; *imecs@iaeng.org*.

➤24–28—Classical and Quantum Information Theory, Santa Fe, New Mexico
Our workshop will explore and exploit developments in classical and quantum information theory, inviting leading experts to discuss the latest problems and techniques of interest. We intend to explore various questions at the interface of these fields, including possible new behaviors in quantum spin glasses due to entanglement and the role of message passing algorithms for quantum systems, both for decoding of error correcting codes and for finding ground and thermal states. For more information,

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Random Forests, Leo Breiman's latest data mining technology, is based on learning ensembles of CART trees. By judiciously injecting randomness into the tree building process and then combining hundreds of these trees, RF is able to deliver high performance predictive models and a variety of novel exploratory data analysis results. RF also incorporates new metric free CLUSTER analyses that automatically select the variables used to define each cluster, with potentially different variables defining each cluster.

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April

14–16—Bayesian Analysis of High-Dimensional Data, Coventry, United Kingdom
The aim of this workshop—a satellite event within "Statistical Theory and Methods for Complex, High-Dimensional Data" of the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences—is to highlight recent methodological and applied advances in the Bayesian analysis of complex data. Participants also are welcome to take part in the last day (April 17) of the parallel workshop on composite likelihood methods (*http://go.warwick.ac.uk/complik2008*), also held at Warwick. The two workshops will combine to organize a single poster session and social event. Bursaries for PhD students and researchers within three years of earning their PhD will be made available to support participation in the workshop. For more information, visit go.warwick.ac.uk/bhdworkshop or contact Fabio Rigat, 1 Cryfield Cottage, Gibbet Hill Road, Coventry, International CV4 7AL, UK; +447947775967; *f.rigat@warwick.ac.uk*.

15–17—Research Workshop on Composite Likelihood Methods, Coventry, United Kingdom
This international workshop aims to review the state of art of composite likelihood inference and promote vigorous discussion of foundations, applications, and future developments. The workshop will bring together active researchers in the theory and application of composite likelihood for an intense, three-day meeting at CRiSM, University of Warwick. For more information, visit *go.warwick.ac.uk/complik2008* or contact David Firth, Department of Statistics, University of Warwick, Coventry, International CV4 7AL, UK; *d.firth@warwick.ac.uk*.

***18—University of Pennsylvania Annual Conference on Statistical Issues in Clinical Trials: From Bench to Bedside to Community, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**
The theme of the 2008 conference is "Early, Translational, and Proof-of-Concept Studies: The 'Go/No Go' Decisions." Leading scientists will make presentations and lead open discussions on state-of-the-art and developing methods. Speakers include Donald Berry, Marie Davidian, Garret Fitzgerald, Peter Gilbert, Lawrence Gould, Frank Rockhold, Lawrence Rubinstein, Daniel Sargent, Stephen Senn, Peter Thall, Janet Wittes, and Janet Woodcock. A range of topics linked closely to translational medicine will be examined, and the conference will conclude with a panel discussion to synthesize and challenge earlier presentations, as well as to propose future directions. Registration is limited to 150 participants, and the deadline is April 4, 2008. For more information, visit *www.cceb.upenn.edu/biostat/conferences/ClinTrials08* or contact Donna Zikowitz, Dept. of Biostatistics & Epidemiology, 634 Blockley Hall, 423 Guardian Drive, Philadelphia, PA 19104; (215) 573-2728; *zikowitz@mail.med.upenn.edu*.

***19—New England Statistics Symposium 2008, Boston, Massachusetts**
New England statisticans will share research, discuss emerging issues in the field, and network. NESS 2008 will be held at Sargent Hall, Suffolk University Law School, in downtown Boston. Invited speakers are Andrew Lo of MIT and Martin Wells of Cornell University. In addition, there will be contributed paper sessions, allowing 15 to 20 minutes per paper. We invite talks on all aspects of statistics and probability. For more information, visit *http://mail.beaconhill.org/~j_haughton/ness2008home.html* or contact Dominique Haughton, Bentley College, 175 Forest Street, Waltham, MA 02452; (781) 891-2822; *ness2008april@gmail.com*.

21–25—The International Conference on Trends and Perspectives in Linear Statistical Inference, LINSTAT 2008, in Celebration of Tadeusz Calinski's 80th Birthday, Bedlewo, Poland
This conference will bring together researchers sharing an interest in a variety of statistical aspects and applications and offer discussion of current developments in these subjects. The format will involve several sessions with plenary and contributed talks, as well as a special session dedicated to Tadeusz Calinski. Topics to be included so far include estimation, prediction and testing in linear models, robustness of relevant statistical methods, estimation of variance components appearing in linear models, generalizations to nonlinear models, design and analysis of experiments, and comparison of linear experiments. For details, contact Katarzyna Filipiak, Wojska Polskiego 28, Poznan, International 60-637, Poland; *linstat@au.poznan.pl*.

24—The 16th Federal Forecasters Conference, Washington, DC
This conference, themed "Health Care Forecasting: Informing Future Choices," seeks to highlight how forecasting must account for rising health care costs, demographic changes, and emerging diseases. It also will focus on how new technologies and treatments might change both the supply of and demand for health care. We will examine the role of federal forecasters in the evolution of public policy to address the need for sustainable, high-quality health care in a time of change. For more information, visit *www.federalforecasters.org* or contact Jeff Busse, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 988, Reston, VA 20192; (703) 648-4914; *jbusse@usgs.gov*.

24–26—SIAM International Conference on Data Mining (SDM '08), Atlanta, Georgia
This conference will provide a venue for researchers addressing the problems associated with large, complex, and noisy data sets to present their work in a peer-reviewed forum. It also will provide an ideal setting for graduate students and others new to the field to learn about cutting-edge research. For more information, visit *www.siam.org/meetings/sdm08* or contact Pang-Ning Tan, 3115 Engineering Building, East Lansing, GA 48824; (517) 432-9240; *ptan@msu.edu*.

***27–29—20th Annual Kansas State University Conference on Applied Statistics in Agriculture, Manhattan, Kansas**
This conference will bring together statisticians from academia, industry, and government to discuss ideas and advances in the application of statistics to solve agricultural research problems. The three-day conference will include a keynote speaker, workshop, and series of contributed paper and poster presentations. Keynote speaker Thomas Loughin will present the Sunday workshop, "Methods and Models for Categorical Data in

Agriculture." For more information, visit *www.ksu.edu/stats/agstat.conference* or contact John Boyer, Kansas State University, Department of Statistics, 101 Dickens Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506; (785) 532-0518; *jboyer@ksu.edu*.

May

16–18—International Conference on Interdisciplinary Mathematical and Statistical Techniques, IMST 2008/FIM XVI, Memphis, Tennessee
This conference will be broad-based, covering a range of topics in mathematics, statistics, and other closely related fields. The focus will be on highlighting advances in interdisciplinary mathematical and statistical techniques. The conference also will facilitate participation of junior researchers, particularly women and minorities, by providing financial support. Featured will be plenary talks by distinguished researchers, including C. R. Rao, Malya Ghosh, Nigel Karton, Viatcheslav Melas, John Rayner, Mary Lou Zeeman, and Dan Zelterman. For details, visit *www.msci.memphis.edu/IMST2008-FIMXVI* or contact Sat Gupta, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Greensboro, NC 27412; (336) 256-1126; *sngupta@uncg.edu*.

***19–21—Thirty-First Annual Midwest Biopharmaceutical Statistics Workshop (MBSW), Muncie, Indiana**
This workshop will feature Michael Proschan, Jerome Friedman, and Rod Little. Invited talks will be presented in four parallel tracks: Clinical will focus on current issues in clinical trials; discovery/preclinical will focus on statistical issues in the design and analysis of -omics experiments; nonclinical will focus on statistical contributions to CMC development, manufacturing, and quality control; and postmarketing will focus on assessing medicines post-launch. There also will be a contributed poster session. Poster abstracts must be submitted by April 25, 2008. Students may submit posters for the Charlie Sampson Award. For more information, visit *www.mbswonline.com* or contact Melvin Munsaka, Takeda Global Research & Development, Inc., 1 Takeda Parkway, Deerfield, IL 60015; (224) 554-5912; *mmunsaka@tgrd.com*.

➤*19–21—2008 Spring Research Conference on Statistics in Industry and Technology, Atlanta, Georgia
The purpose of this conference is to promote research in statistical methods that address problems in industry and technology. The focus will include manufacturing, logistics, health systems, and information sciences to stimulate interactions among statisticians, researchers in the application areas, and industrial practitioners. It will provide a forum where participants can describe current research, identify important problems and areas of application, and formulate future research directions. For more information, visit *www2.isye.gatech.edu/src2008* or contact Paul Kvam, ISyE, Georgia Tech, Atlanta, GA 30332; (404) 894-6515; *pkvam@isye.gatech.edu*.

➤21–24—Interface 2008, Durham, North Carolina
The theme for Interface 2008 is RISK: Reality. Through the dual focus on the problems of information extraction, risk modeling, analysis, and decisionmaking and on the computational technology and advances in tools to make characterization, quantization, and evaluation of risk possible, this symposium will address issues central to understanding real risks and conceptualizing potential risks and risk management scenarios. For more information, visit *www.niss.org/interface2008/index.html* or contact Alan Karr, 19 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-4006; (919) 685-9300; *karr@niss.org*.

22–25—International Indian Statistical Association (IISA) Conference on Frontiers of Probability and Statistical Science, Storrs, Connecticut
The Department of Statistics of the University of Connecticut-Storrs will host the IISA conference 2008. Two plenary lectures will be presented by Jayaram Sethuraman and Marvin Zelen. Also arranged are six specially named presentations honoring R. R. Bahadur, D. Basu, V. S. Huzurbazar, P. R. Krishnaiah, S. K. Mitra, and P. V. Sukhatme. The six special lectures will be presented by Barry C. Arnold, Krishna B. Athreya, Evarist Giné, Glen Meeden, Sanat Sarkar, and Lee-Jen Wei. The rest of the technical program will be made up of invited paper sessions covering most of the areas of probability and statistical science. Plans are under way to organize panel discussions on topics including teaching, editor's forum, and young researchers' needs. Invitations are extended to all colleagues to participate. For more information, visit *http://merlot.stat.uconn.edu/~nitis/IISA2008/index.htm* or contact Nitis Mukhopadhyay, 215 Glenbrook Road, Storrs, CT 06269; (860) 486-6144; *nitis.mukhopadhyay@uconn.edu*.

25–29—Joint Meeting of the SSC and SFdS, Ottawa, Canada
The joint meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada and Société française de statistique will be held at the Ottawa Congress Centre. For more information, visit *www.ssc.ca* or contact Bruno Rémillard, HEC Montréal, 3000, chemin de la Côte Sainte-Catherine, Montréal, Quebec H3T 2A7, Canada; (514) 340-6794; *bruno.remillard@hec.ca*.

***29–31—Fourth Workshop on Statistical Analysis of Neuronal Data (SAND4), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**
This workshop series is concerned with analysis of neural signals from sources such as EEG, fMRI, MEG, 2-Photon, and extracellular recordings. It aims to define important problems in neuronal data analysis and useful strategies for attacking them; foster communication between experimental neuroscientists and those trained in statistical and computational methods; encourage young researchers, including graduate students, to present their work; expose young researchers to important challenges and opportunities; and provide an atmosphere that aids the interaction of young researchers and senior colleagues. Some travel funds will be available. All participants are encouraged to present posters involving new methodology, investigation of existing methods, or application of state-of-the-art analytical techniques. For more information, visit *http://sand.stat.cmu.edu* or contact Cathy Schaefer, 132D Baker Hall, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213; (412) 268-5100; *cathysch@stat.cmu.edu*.

June

***4–6—ASA Quality and Productivity Research Conference, Madison, Wisconsin**
The theme of the 2008 conference is "With Data and Statistics, Unlock the Hidden Treasure of Knowledge." George E. P. Box will be honored for a lifetime

of achievement in statistical methods and applications for quality and productivity and C. F. Jeff Wu will be honored for seminal contributions to statistical theory and methods for quality and productivity. For more information, visit *www.education.wisc.edu/conferences/2008QPRC* or contact Paul Tobias, 8418 La Plata Loop, Austin, TX 78737; (512) 288-0951; *ptobias@austin.rr.com*.

➤4–7—ICSA 2008 Applied Statistics Symposium, Piscataway, New Jersey
Short courses for this symposium will be held on June 4, with scientific sessions June 5–7. Participants will exchange and explore new scientific research and application techniques. The symposium will feature a keynote speech from Robert O'Neill and another keynote from David DeMets, Zhiliang Ying, and Jianqin Fan. Six short courses and as many as 50 invited and contributed sessions will be offered. Contributed paper abstracts may be submitted to Minge Xie at *icsa2008@stat.rutgers.edu*. The symposium also will sponsor student awards and travel grants. For more information, visit *stat.rutgers.edu/icsa2008* or contact Jun Zhao, 56 Livingston Avenue, Roseland, NJ 07068; (973) 324-6602; *j.zhao@organonusa.com*.

8–11—International Workshop on Recent Advances in Time Series Analysis, Protaras, Cyprus
The aim of this workshop is to bring together a number of experts in time series analysis with young researchers in the field. The meeting was organized around two short courses given by M. Rosenblatt and P. Brockwell and 10 sessions with invited speakers. For more information, visit *www.ucy.ac.cy/~rats2008* or contact Konstantinos Fokianos (*fokianos@ucy.ac.cy*) or Theofanis Sapatinas (*fanis@ucy.ac.cy*).

➤9–13—APA Advanced Training Institute: Nonlinear Methods for Psychological Science, Cincinnati, Ohio
This institute teaches methods of nonlinear analysis and provides each participant with first-hand experience analyzing time series for nonlinear structure. The course is tailored to psychologists and graduate students, with the only prerequisites being the standard statistics courses taught in psychology graduate programs. The course focuses on analyses that have already affected psychological science in prominently published work, such as quantitative recurrence analysis and cross-recurrence analysis, fractal methods, and the discovery of power law structure. For more information, visit *www.apa.org/science/ati.html* or contact Nicolle Singer, 750 1st Street NE, Washington, OH 20002; (202) 336-6000; *nsinger@apa.org*.

11–13—Graybill Conference VII - Biopharmaceutical Statistics, Fort Collins, Colorado
Graybill Conference VII will focus on biopharmaceutical statistics and include invited sessions and short courses bringing together leading researchers in the fields of clinical and nonclinical statistics and statisticians with statistical programmers and data managers interested in learning about current work in these fields. Keynote speakers will be Bob O'Neill, L. J. Wei, Christy Chuang-Stein, and Janet Wittes. For details, visit *www.stat.colostate.edu/graybillconference* or contact Naitee Ting, Pfizer Inc., Global Research & Development, MS6025-B3141, 50 Pequot Ave., New London, CT 06320; (860) 732-4871; *naitee.ting@pfizer.com*.

22–25—28th International Symposium on Forecasting (ISF2008), Nice, France
The International Symposium on Forecasting (ISF) is the premier forecasting conference, attracting the world's leading forecasting researchers, practitioners, and students. Through a combination of keynote speaker presentations, academic sessions, workshops, and social programs, the ISF provides many excellent opportunities for networking, learning, and fun. For more information, visit *http://forecasters.org/conf-isf.html* or contact Pam Stroud, 53 Tesla Avenue, Medford, MA 02155; *isf@forecasters.org*.

➤26–27—Fordham Council on Applied Psychometrics Conference, Bronx, New York
This conference will focus on defining psychometrics and its applications, the lack of adequate training, and the need for expertise. There will be a mixture of paper and poster sessions that aim to expose the many facets of psychometrics and its applications. Keynote speakers include Paul Holland and David Rindskopf; invited speakers include Charles Lewis and Michael Edwards. Proposals for posters covering a

mixture of psychometric applications and methods are welcome, but must be received by April 1. The conference will be preceded by a day of technical workshops on R, SAS, and WinBUGS. For more information, visit *www.fordham.edu/fcap/conference* or contact Jodi Casabianca, 441 E. Fordham Road, New York, NY 10458; (718) 817-0654; *casabianca@fordham.edu*.

***30–7/2—1st International Symposium on Biopharmaceutical Statistics, Shanghai, China**
The International Society for Biopharmaceutical Statistics (ISBS) will host its first international symposium to provide an international forum for statistical professionals across the world to share and exchange information and to improve and promote the harmonization of statistical practice. The symposium will cover a range of topics in research, development, and regulations of drugs, biologics, medical devices, and biotechnologics. The theme is "The Roles of Statistics in Biopharmaceutical Globalization." There will be keynote speeches and presentations of invited and contributed talks. Abstracts of contributed talks will be accepted online starting in January 2008. There also will be two days of preconference short courses June 28–29. For more information, visit *www.IsBioStat.org* or contact Jie Chen, 304 Evening Walk Lane, Warrington, PA 18976; (215) 491-4623; *jie_chen@merck.com*.

30–7/4—ICMI/IASE Study Teaching Statistics in School Mathematics, Monterrey, Mexico
This study brings together the mathematics and statistics education communities to analyze teaching statistics at the school level and make recommendations about how to train mathematics teachers to better succeed in educating statistically literate students. For details, visit *www.ugr.es/~icmi/iase_study* or contact Carmen Batanero, Facultad de Educación, Campus de Cartuja, Granada, International 18071, Spain; 34 958243950; *batanero@ugr.es*.

July

1–4—ISBIS-2008: International Symposium on Business and Industrial Statistics, Prague, Czech Republic
This symposium will focus on quantitative aspects of banking, insurance, finance, and important statistical issues relating to productivity improvement and decisionmaking at all levels of business and industry. Many leading quantitative financial analysts and industrial statisticians will be participating in the varied and stimulating scientific program of invited and contributed papers. Authors will have the opportunity to submit extended versions of their papers for publication in a special edition of the society's journal, Applied Stochastic Models in Business and Industry. For more information, visit *www.action-m.com/isbis2008* or contact Milena Zeithamlova, Vrsovicka 68, 101 00, Prague, International 10, Czech Republic; *milena@action-m.com*.

2–4—International Conference of Computational Statistics and Data Engineering 2008, London, United Kingdom
This conference is held under the World Congress on Engineering 2008 by the International Association of Engineers. Camera-ready papers and registration are due March 31, 2008. For more information, visit *www.iaeng.org/WCE2008/ICCSDE2008.html* or contact William Young, Unit 1, 1/F, 37-39 Hung To Road, Hong Kong, International HK, Hong Kong; *wce@iaeng.org*.

➤7–18—IOPS Summer School of Psychometrics and Sociometrics, Wassenaar, The Netherlands
This new initiative of the IOPS Graduate School will provide an intensive course program of master classes in quantitative and methodological methods outside the regular IOPS course program. The Summer School is intended for PhD students and postdocs who have a good background in psychometrics, sociometrics, statistics, econometrics, or related areas. For more information, visit *www.iops.nl/summerschool* or contact Susanna Verdel, Faculty of Social Sciences, P.O. Box 9555, Leiden, International 2300 RB, The Netherlands; +31 71 527 3829; *verdel@fsw.leidenuniv.nl*.

8–11—European Conference on Quality in Official Statistics, Rome, Italy
This biannual meeting is intended to serve as a European-level forum for discussing recent developments and achievements in the field of quality and methodologies for survey statistics, with a special focus on official statistics. The conference will encompass relevant topics for improving quality in the European statistical system. Short courses also will be offered. For more information, visit *q2008.istat.it* or contact Marina Signore, via C. Balbo 16, Rome, International 00184, Italy; *q2008@istat.it*.

8–12—III European Congress of Methodology, Oviedo, Spain
The III European Congress of Methodology, held in conjunction with the Society for Multivariate Analysis in the Behavioural and Social Sciences, will focus on the improvement of teaching and research in methodology in the fields of social science, health, education, and behavior. For more information, visit *methodology.cop.es* or contact Rolf Steyer, Am Steiger 3, Haus 1, Jena, International 07743, Germany; 00493641945231; *rolf.steyer@uni-jena.de*.

➤10–11—Epidemiology and Biometry 2008: Recent Statistical Methods in Epidemiology, Paris, France
This meeting will focus on innovative statistical approaches to the design and analysis of epidemiological surveys. The program will include invited talks, contributed oral sessions, and contributed posters. Epidemiologists and biostatisticians are expected to propose talks about methods (e.g., presentation, illustration, comparisons) or problems for which epidemiologists are looking for solutions. For more information, visit *biomserv.univ-lyon1.fr/SFB/fichiers/epidbiom2008.html* or contact Michel Chavance, INSERM U780, 16 avenue Paul Vaillant-Couturier, Villejuif, International 94807, France; + 33 (0)1 45 59 50 63; *chavance@vjf.inserm.fr*.

13–18—IBC 2008 Dublin, Dublin, Ireland
This conference will include 20 invited sessions, other special sessions, contributed talks, posters, and preconference short courses (July 13). The conference language is English. For more information, visit *www.cpregistrations.com/ibc/2008* or contact John Hinde, Mathematics Dept., NUI Galway, Galway, International GA1, Ireland; +353 91 492043; *john.hinde@nuigalway.ie*.

13–19—AACR Cancer Biostatistics Workshop, Sonoma, California
For information, visit *www.aacr.org* or contact Mark Mendenhall, 615 Chestnut Street, 17th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19106-4404; (267) 646-660; *mendenhall@aacr.org*.

14–19—7th World Congress in Probability and Statistics, Singapore
The World Congress in Probability and Statistics is a major international event in probability and statistics held every four years. It features the latest scientific developments in the fields of probability and statistics and their applications. The program will cover a range of topics and feature more than a dozen keynote lectures presented by leading specialists. In addition, there will be invited paper sessions highlighting topics of current research interest and many contributed talks and posters. For more information, visit *www.ims.nus.edu.sg/Programs/wc2008/index.htm* or contact Irene Tan, Department of Statistics and Applied Probability, 6 Science Drive 2, Faculty of Science, National University of Singapore, Singapore, International 117546, Singapore; *wc2008_general@nus.edu.sg*.

15–17—LASR 2008: The Art and Science of Statistical Bioinformatics, Leeds, United Kingdom
The 27th Leeds Annual Statistical Research workshop will continue to explore the LASR themes of statistical bioinformatics, shape and image analysis, and interdisciplinary statistics. For details, visit *www.maths.leeds.ac.uk/lasr2008* or contact Stuart Barber, Department of Statistics, Leeds, International LS2 9JT, UK; +44(0)1133435146; *workshop@maths.leeds.ac.uk*.

➤16–18—APA Advanced Training Institute: Geographic Information Systems for Behavioral Research, Santa Barbara, California
This course introduces the science and technologies of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to psychologists and other behavioral scientists. There will be morning presentations by GIS experts and afternoon lab sessions that focus on technical aspects of GIS. For more information, visit *www.apa.org/science/ati.html* or contact Nicolle Singer, 750 1st Street NE, Washington, DC 20002; (202) 336-6000; *nsinger@apa.org*.

➤20–26—BIT's 1st World Summit of Antivirals, Kunming, China
This is a focused event for updating the current advances in worldwide R&D of novel antiviral therapeutics. Attendees will represent top-level decisionmakers from leading biotech, pharmaceutical, and health care organizations. The conference also will provide an ideal forum for the promotion of relevant companies, products, technologies, and services. For more information, visit *www.bitlifesciences.com/wsa2008* or contact Chris Han, 26 Gaoneng Street, Room 405, Dalian High-Tech Zone, Dalian, International LN 116025, China; 0086-411-84799479; *chris@bitlifesciences.com*.

21–25—9th World Meeting of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis, Hamilton Island, Australia
ISBA 2008 will combine an excellent scientific program—including five keynote speakers, 90 oral presentations, three parallel sessions, and two poster evenings—with an active social schedule. For details, visit *www.maths.qut.edu.au/asba/docs/isba08* or contact Clair Alston, School of Mathematical Sciences, Queensland University of Technology, GPO Box 2434, Brisbane, International 4001, Australia; *isba08@qut.edu.au*.

23–26—17th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics, IWMS'08, Tomar, Portugal
For more information about this conference, being held in honor of T. W. Anderson's 90th birthday, visit *www.ipt.pt/iwms08* or contact Francisco Carvalho, Estrada da Serra - Quinta do Contador, Tomar, International 2300-313 TOMAR, Portugal; +351 249 328 100; *fpcarvalho@ipt.pt*.

24–26—Current Trends and Challenges in Model Selection and Related Areas, Vienna, Austria
This workshop will provide a forum for presentation and discussion of current trends and challenging problems in model selection and related shrinkage methods. Invited speakers include Yannick Baraud, Ruudy Beran, Ed George, Patrik Guggenberger, Ching-Kang Ing, Paul Kabaila, Gabor Lugosi, and Yuhong Yang. Contributed presentations are welcome. For

details, visit *www.univie.ac.at/workshop_modelselection* or contact Hannes Leeb, 24 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven, CT 06510; (203) 508-2339; *hannes.leeb@yale.edu*.

➤28–29—2nd CensusAtSchool International Workshop, Los Angeles, California
Leaders of the CensusAtSchool project will give hands-on presentations for teachers to illustrate how they use data in the international C@S database. Statistics education leaders from the United States will open the meeting with a series of plenary talks. For more information, visit *www.stat.ucla.edu* or contact Juana Sanchez, UCLA Department of Statistics, 8125 MS Building, Box 951554, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1554; (310) 825-1318; *jsanchez@stat.ucla.edu*.

29–8/2—New Researchers Conference, Boulder, Colorado
The Eleventh Meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability provides an opportunity for new researchers to exchange research ideas in an informal setting and interact with invited senior participants. For more information, visit *www.stat.rutgers.edu/~rebecka/NRC* or contact Rebecka Jornsten, 501 Hill Center, Piscataway, NJ 07030; (732) 445-3145; *rebecka@stat.rutgers.edu*.

August

***3–7—2008 Joint Statistical Meetings, Denver, Colorado**
JSM (Joint Statistical Meetings) is the largest gathering of statisticians held in North America. It is jointly held with the American Statistical Association, the International Biometric Society (ENAR and WNAR), the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and the Statistical Society of Canada. Attended by more than 5,500 people, activities of the meeting include oral presentations, panel sessions, poster presentations, Continuing Education courses, an exhibit hall (with state-of-the-art statistical products and opportunities), the Career Placement Service, society and Section business meetings, committee meetings, social activities, and networking opportunities. For more information, visit *www.amstat.org/meetings* or contact Elaine Powell, 732 North Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; (703) 684-1221; *elaine@amstat.org*.

7–9—14th ISSAT International Conference on Reliability and Quality in Design, Orlando, Florida
This annual conference is an international forum for the presentation of new results, research development, and applications in all aspects of reliability and quality in design. For more information, visit *www.issatconferences.org* or contact International Society of Science and Applied Technologies, P.O. Box 1504, Piscataway, FL 08855; *cs@issatconferences.org*.

12–14—useR! 2008: The R User Conference, Dortmund, Germany
This conference is focused on R as the "lingua franca" of data analysis and statistical computing, providing a platform for R users to discuss and exchange ideas about how R can be used for statistical computations, data analysis, visualization, and applications in various fields. It also will give an overview of the new features of the rapidly evolving R project. For more information, visit *www.R-Project.org/useR-2008* or contact Uwe Ligges, Vogelpothsweg 87, Dortmund, International 44221, Germany; *useR-2008@R-Project.org*.

17–21—29th Annual Conference of ISCB, Copenhagen, Denmark
This conference will provide a forum for the international exchange of theory, methods, and applications of biostatistics in medical research and practice among clinicians, statisticians, and members of other disciplines who are working or interested in the field of clinical biostatistics. For more information, visit *www.iscb2008.info* or contact Bjarne Nielsen, Datavej 24, Birkerod, International DK-3460, Denmark; +45 70202058; *BN@cyncron.com*.

➤26–29—Sample Surveys and Bayesian Statistics: Workshop and Conference, Southampton, United Kingdom
The aim of this meeting is to highlight the potential advantages of Bayesian methodology and discuss and illustrate its possible applications in diverse areas of sample survey design and inference. The meeting will begin with a 1.5-day workshop followed by a 2.5-day conference consisting of invited and contributed research and applied papers and a special panel discussion. For more information, visit *www.s3ri.soton.ac.uk/ssbs08* or contact Christina Thompson, S3RI, University of Southampton, Southampton, International SO17 1BJ, UK; *ssbs08@s3ri.soton.ac.uk*.

September

➤1–5—RSS 2008 International Conference, Nottingham, United Kingdom
This scientific program aims to encompass the range of statistical interests within the Royal Statistical Society and beyond. It will include a range of special topic sessions with invited speakers from both the UK and overseas. There also will be a special program for young statisticians. Abstract submissions are due by March 31, 2008. For more information, visit *www.rss.org.uk/rss2008* or contact Paul Gentry, 12 Errol Street, London, International EC1Y 8LX, UK; *conference@rss.org.uk*.

➤*15–17—2008 FDA/Industry Statistics Workshop, Arlington, Virginia
This workshop will feature sessions organized by statisticians from industry, academia, and the FDA. It will include at least four plenary sessions, 15 concurrent sessions, and luncheon roundtables. To maintain the seminar atmosphere, the workshop is limited to 650 registrants. Short courses will be offered on September 15 for an additional fee.

For more information, visit *www.amstat.org/meetings/fdaworkshop* or contact Ning Li, 520 Skidmore Blvd., Gaithersburg, MD 20877; (240) 276-3166; *ning.li@fda.hhs.gov*.

➤22–24—ENBIS-8, Athens, Greece
The European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics invites papers and presentations about innovative applications of statistical thinking and statistical tools in business and industry. For more information, visit *www.enbis.org* or contact Winfried Theis, ENBIS Permanent Office, Plantage Muidergracht 24, Amsterdam, International 1018 TV, The Netherlands; *enbis8@enbis.org*.

October

***9–10—52nd Annual Fall Technical Conference, Phoenix East/Mesa, Arizona**
The goal of this conference is to engage researchers and practitioners in a dialog that leads to a more effective use of statistics to improve quality. It will feature the latest developments in statistical methods as they relate to quality improvement and decisionmaking. It also will highlight discoveries in unique and innovative statistical methodologies and quality tools. For more information, contact J. D. Williams, One Research Circle, K1-5A-61, Niskayuna, NY 12309; (518) 387-7322; *james.williams@research.ge.com*.

22–24—International Conference on Machine Learning and Data Analysis 2008, San Francisco, California
This conference is held under the World Congress on Engineering and Computer Science. Draft papers must be submitted by July 2, 2008. Registration and camera-ready papers are due July 30, 2008. Accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings (ISBN: 978-988-98671-0-2). For more information, visit *www.iaeng.org/WCECS2008/ICMLDA2008.html* or contact IAENG Secretariat, Unit 1, 1/F, 37-39 Hung To Road, Hong Kong, International HK, Hong Kong; *wcecs@iaeng.org*.

28–31—24th International Methodology Symposium, Gatineau, Ottawa
The theme for this conference is "Data Collection: Challenges, Achievements, and New Directions." It will bring together statistical methodologists and analysts from the data collection community—including those from private, government, university, and other research organizations—to address a variety of topics related to data collection. The first day will consist of workshops, while the following days will consist of both plenary and multiple streams of parallel sessions. Additional research and results will be presented via poster sessions. Abstracts for contributed papers are being accepted until March 31, 2008. For details, visit *www.statcan.ca/english/conferences/symposium2008* or contact Chris Mohl, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6, Canada; *symposium2008@statcan.ca*.

November

8–10—The Impact of Information and Integrated Statistical Systems on Socio-Economical Development, Ras-Al-Khaimah, United Arab Emirates
This conference aims to shed light on the role and importance of information systems and integrated statistical systems in the socioeconomic development of modern societies in general and of Ras-Al-Khaimah in particular. The organizing committee invites you to be part of this conference. For details, visit *www.rakeconconf.ae* or contact Mohamed El-Bassiouni, P.O. Box 17555, Al-Ain, UAE, International 17555, United Arab Emirates; +9713 7133386; *y.bassiouni@uaeu.ac.ae*.

December

1–3—2008 International Conference on Applied Probability and Statistics (CAPS 2008), Hanoi, Vietnam
This conference aims to promote practical applications of probability and statistics, particularly in business and industry, and to strengthen international

relations among researchers in these areas. Contributed papers may be on applied probability or any area of statistics. The conference will be of interest to both researchers and practitioners from business and industry. For more information, visit *www.action-m.com/CAPS2008* or contact Nam-Ky Nguyen, IPO Box 135, Hanoi, International Hanoi, Vietnam; (844) 754-5125; *nkn@designcomputing.net*.

2009

May

31–6/3—37th Annual Meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada, Vancouver, Canada
This conference will bring together academic, governmental, and industrial researchers, as well as users of statistics and probability. It will present workshops and invited and contributed sessions. The SSC features sections in biostatistics, survey methods, business and industrial statistics, and probability. Consequently, the program will include papers in all areas of statistics and probability. About 450 statisticians are expected to participate. For more information, visit *www.ssc.ca* or contact Christian Léger, University of Montréal, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, CP 6128 Succursale Centreville, Montréal, Quebec H3C 3J7, Canada; (514) 343-7824; *leger@dms.umontreal.ca*.

August

***2–6—2009 Joint Statistical Meetings, Washington, DC**
JSM (Joint Statistical Meetings) is the largest gathering of statisticians held in North America. It is held jointly with the American Statistical Association, the International Biometric Society (ENAR and WNAR), the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and the Statistical Society of Canada. Attended by more than 5,500 people, activities include oral presentations, panel sessions, poster presentations, continuing education courses, an exhibit hall, a placement service, society and section business meetings, committee meetings, social activities, and networking opportunities. For more information, visit *www.amstat.org/meetings* or contact Elaine Powell, 732 North Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314; (888) 231-3473; *jsm@amstat.org*.

16–22—International Statistical Institute 57th Biennial Session, Durban, South Africa
This session will include meetings of the Bernoulli Society, the International Association for Statistical Computing, the International Association of Survey Statisticians, the International Association for Official Statistics, and the International Association for Statistical Education. For more information, visit *www.cbs.nl/isi* or contact Shabani Mehta, 428 Prinses Beatrixlaan, P.O. Box 950, Voorburg, International 2270 AZ, The Netherlands; +31-70-3375737; *isi@cbs.nl*. ■

Professional Opportunity Listings may not exceed 65 words, plus equal opportunity information. Ads must be received by the first of the preceding month to ensure appearance in the next issue (i.e., September 1 for the October issue). Ads received after the deadline will be held until the following issue.

Listings are shown alphabetically by state, followed by international listings. Vacancy listings may include the institutional name and address or be identified by number, as desired.

Professional Opportunities Vacancies also will be published on the ASA's web site (*www.amstat.org*). Vacancy listings will appear on the web site for the entire calendar month. Ads may not be placed for publication in the magazine only: All ads will be published both electronically and in print.

Rates: $320 for nonprofit organizations (with proof of nonprofit status), $475 for all others. Member discounts are not given. Display advertising rates are at *www.amstat.org/advertising*.

Listings will be invoiced following publication. All payments should be made to the American Statistical Association. All material should be sent to *Amstat News,* 732 North Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-1943; fax (703) 684-2036; email *advertise@amstat.org*.

Employers are expected to acknowledge all responses resulting from publication of the ad. Personnel advertising is accepted only with the understanding that the advertiser does not discriminate among applicants on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, color, national origin, handicap, or sexual orientation.

Also look for job ads on the ASA web site at *www.amstat.org/jobweb*.

California

■ Statistician: Analyze randomized/quasi-educational experiments and pilot implementation projects involving schools, teachers, and students; integrate SAS code into macro library, holistic optimal improvements; build SAS web sites; adapt SAS code for complex matching procedures; quantitative theoretical and empirical analysis of educational data. Master's in statistics SAS proficiency required. Apply to Tessie, Empirical Education Inc., 425 Sherman Ave., Ste 210, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Empirical Education is an EOE.

Colorado

■ The USDA Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station is seeking a statistician with extensive and wide-ranging consulting experience in natural resources scientific disciplines to lead its statistics unit. The permanent position of Station Statistician (GS1530-14) is located in Fort Collins, CO, with a salary range of

$98,147–$127,590. Interested individuals are encouraged to reply to *www.fs.fed.us/rm/data_archive/statleader.pdf* by April 15, 2008. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Georgia

■ The Franklin College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Georgia invites applications for two tenure-track positions at the assistant or associate professor level to begin August, 2008, in our fast-growing bioimaging research core. Faculty are being recruited across disciplines integral to the development of a University-wide initiative in bioimaging research dedicated to addressing today's biomedical health problems. For details, visit *www.stat.uga.edu/news_events/positions/index.html*. The Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, its many units, and the University of Georgia are committed to increasing the diversity of its faculty and students and sustaining a work and learning environment that is inclusive. The university is an EEO/AA institution.

■ The Department of Statistics at the University of Georgia invites applications for the position of associate director of the Statistical Consulting Center, starting July 2008. Applicants must possess a PhD degree in statistics or a closely related field and would be hired at the rank of academic professional. Duty is management of the UGA Statistical Consulting Center. For detailed information, please visit *www.stat.uga.edu/news_events/positions/index.html*. The Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, its many units, and the University of Georgia are committed to increasing the diversity of its faculty and students and to sustaining a work and learning environment that is inclusive. The university is an EEO/AA institution.

Illinois

■ Post-Doc/Asst. Professor, level commensurate with experience. Responsibilities include collaboration with multidisciplinary research groups and teaching. Doctorate in statistics/biostatistics required. Experience with longitudinal data analysis and teaching, strong communication and

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Manager, Statistics
(Req #41968BR)
Effectively partner with other team members in a multidisciplinary setting on Phase II-IV clinical programs, including the design of clinical trials, development of statistical analysis strategies, analysis and interpretation of safety/efficacy data, and the preparation of study reports and regulatory submissions. Qualified candidates should have a PhD or MS in statistics or biostatistics with a minimum of 5 or 8 years pharmaceutical experience, respectively and be capable of mentoring less experienced statisticians. Requirements also include interaction with regulatory authorities, especially FDA and EMEA. Strong communication (oral and written) and teamwork skills are essential. This position will be based at our Abbott Park, IL site.

Principal/Research Statistician
(Req #46514BR)
Effectively partner with scientists in drug discovery, drug analysis and clinical biomarker research. Primary topics of focus may include high throughput screening, cheminformatics, genomics, discovery pharmacology, immunogenicity and clinical biomarker research. Candidates should have three or more years of experience in at least a few of these topics, along with a PhD or MS in statistics or biomathematics, and some coursework in biological sciences. Strong computing skills with expertise in R and SAS, and experience with general statistical and modern machine-learning methods are required. Strong communication and collaborative skills are essential. This position will be based in Abbott Park IL, Parsippany NJ, or Worcester MA based on mutual agreement of Abbott and the candidate.

If you want to work with people who share a common desire to improve the quality of people's lives, we invite you to visit www.abbott.com, click on Careers, Job Search, Abbott United States, Search Openings and enter the appropriate Req # into the keyword field.

www.Abbott.com

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Abbott
A Promise for Life

computing skills required; missing data, clinical trials. Cover letter and CV to Julia Bienias, Director, Section of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Dept. of Preventive Medicine, Rush University Medical Center, 1700 W. Van Buren, Suite 470, Chicago, IL 60612. *jbienias@rush.edu*. Rush University is an EOE.

■ Faculty biostatistician, Department of Internal Medicine. PhD in biostatistics or related field required. Background in longitudinal analysis and field epidemiologic studies highly desirable. Excellent communication and computing skills required. Level of appointment commensurate with experience. Letter, curriculum vitae, three references to Carlos F. Mendes de Leon, PhD, Rush Institute for Healthy Aging, Rush University Medical Center, 1645 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 675, Chicago, IL 60612. Rush University Medical Center is an EOE.

Statistics

Working for a healthier world™

When do statistics become cures?

Imagine touching the lives of millions of people everywhere. Imagine reaching beyond the ordinary and impacting something greater than the bottom line. Imagine influencing some of the most critical issues facing healthcare today.

At Pfizer Global Research & Development (PGRD), Pfizer's visionary discovery and development division and the largest research-based biomedical and pharmaceutical company in the world, we're not content waiting to witness the evolution of our industry. Instead, we're driven by science, building on our current successes and capabilities, playing a critical role in developing the most compelling story of scientific discoveries.

Opportunities in our Nonclinical Statistics Group

Playing a key role in making the world a healthier place for all is our Nonclinical Statistics group. Here, we work on a very diverse set of problems, including assay development, predictive modeling in genomics and computational chemistry, biomarker validation, and toxicology, to name a few. We use a wide range of tools, from experimental design and linear models to multivariate methods, machine learning, and high-dimensional visualization. We spend much of our time doing one-on-one consulting with scientists, or participating as members of project teams. We also have a strong teaching initiative.

The contribution of this group – designing studies, analyzing data, and formulating and answering questions – is invaluable. Through the tools and information provided by this work, we are able to remain innovative.

Participating in the development of protocols, collaborating with scientists, and actively seeking innovation, our non-clinical Statisticians are vital to our key goal – creating breakthroughs that become miracles for many.

If you want to make the world a healthier place for all, we have non-clinical statistician opportunities in our St. Louis, MO and Groton, CT locations as well as clinical opportunities in Groton, CT.

Now you can be a vital member of a research and development company unlike any other, Pfizer Global Research & Development. Join us and use your talents to turn statistics into cures.

We will be at the ENAR Spring Meeting on March 16-19. We hope you can join us.

To learn more about our people, our products, and our plans for the future, visit **www.pfizer.com/careers**

We're proud to be an equal opportunity employer and welcome applications from people with different experiences, backgrounds and ethnic origins.

Massachusetts

■ Research Scientist, Biostatistics. Collaborate in cancer clinical trials with an emphasis on laboratory correlative science and/or imaging studies. Required: PhD in biostatistics/statistics, 1–2 years' experience, exceptional skills in data analysis and SAS/S/R, and excellent written and oral communication skills. Email CV and names of three references to Research Scientist Job Search, Biostatistics & Computational Biology, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 44 Binney Street, Boston, MA 02115; *biostatistics.job-search@jimmy.harvard.edu* Dana-Farber is an AA/EOE.

■ MS Biostatistician. Collaborate with medical and scientific researchers in design, analysis, and publication of cancer clinical trials and related research. Requirements: strong background in statistical principles, data analysis, computing (especially SAS), communication skills, and 1–2 years of experience. Send CV and names of three references to MS Biostatistician Job

UCLA
School of Public Health

The Department of Biostatistics in the UCLA School of Public Health is recruiting for a faculty member at the Professor, Associate Professor, or experienced Assistant Professor level with expertise in clinical research and the ability to assume a major role in the UCLA Cancer Center. The ideal candidate should have a track record of extramural funding and publications, teaching experience at the graduate level, outstanding research productivity in biostatistics, and strong leadership skills. This is a tenure-track position that involves methodological research, teaching, and collaboration on clinical/translational projects.

Interested candidates should send a cover letter and curriculum vitae to:

Thomas R. Belin
UCLA Department of Biostatistics
P.O. Box 951772
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1772
Phone: 310-825-5250
E-mail: *biostat@ucla.edu*

Faculty appointment level and salary will be determined based on the candidate's experience and qualifications. Applications will be considered confidential and references will not be contacted without the permission of applicants.

UCLA values diversity and is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

NATIONAL® CANCER INSTITUTE

Spatial Statistician

The National Cancer Institute (NCI), located within the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health & Human Services, invites applications for the position of Spatial Statistician. The position is in the Statistical Research and Applications Branch (SRAB) of the Surveillance Research Program, where efforts are targeted at improving and developing statistical methods and models for use in the analysis and presentation of population-based cancer statistics, as well as in the broader areas of cancer surveillance and cancer control research. SRAB has an active program of research in the areas of Geographic Information Systems, the statistical analysis of spatial and temporal patterns of cancer, and data visualization. http://srab.cancer.gov/about/areas/gis_spatial.html).

NCI is seeking a mid- to senior-level spatial statistician to lead geographically-related areas of statistical research and applications. This will include identifying areas where improved statistical methods are needed to conduct studies of the spatial and spatio-temporal patterns of cancer-related outcomes, evaluating and recommending appropriate tools for others who wish to conduct such studies, and extending existing statistical methods to allow a scientifically rigorous analysis of geographic data. Opportunities exist for collaboration and leadership in the areas of geographically-related analysis throughout NIH, with other federal agencies, and the extramural research community.

The ideal candidate must have a doctoral degree in biostatistics or related field and at least 5 years experience in spatial statistical methods applications and research, with emphasis on model-based methods. Experience in one or more of the following areas is also desirable: disease rate mapping, geovisualization, geographic information systems, and cancer registry data analysis. Candidates must demonstrate a strong record of methodological research and scientific collaboration. Located in Rockville, MD, near Washington, DC. Excellent benefits. DHHS and NIH are equal opportunity employers and this position is subject to a background investigation. Please send a cover letter describing research interests and experience--both independent and collaborative—along with your CV to:

Eric Feuer, Ph.D., Chief
Statistical Research and Applications Branch
National Cancer Institute
6116 Executive Blvd., Suite 504
Bethesda, MD 20892-8317
Phone: (301) 496-5029
Fax: (301) 496-9949
rf41u@nih.gov
http://seer.cancer.gov/
http://surveillance.cancer.gov/csb/

Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Search, Biostatistics & Computational Biology, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 44 Binney Street, Boston, MA 02115; *biostatistics.job-search@jimmy.harvard.edu.* Dana-Farber Cancer Institute is an AA/EOE.

Michigan

■ Applications are invited for a postdoctoral researcher to participate in a NASA-sponsored project to develop novel geostatistical algorithms for gap filling and uncertainty assessment of data produced by the Orbiting Carbon Observatory (OCO) satellite mission. This project aims to produce the first full-coverage maps of column integrated CO2 dry air mole fraction (XCO2) using data from this upcoming satellite. For details, visit *www.umich.edu/~amichala/CCS/postdoc*. The University of Michigan is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. The college is especially interested in candidates who can contribute—through research, teaching, and/or service—to the diversity and excellence of the academic community.

World Health Organization

hrp UNDP · UNFPA · WHO · World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction

The UNDP/UNFPA/WHO/World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP), based in Geneva, Switzerland is seeking to fill a position to coordinate HRP's work in:

Statistics, Sexual and Reproductive Health Research

The UNDP/UNFPA/WHO/World Bank Special Programme of Research, Development and Research Training in Human Reproduction (HRP) is the main instrument within the United Nations system for promoting, conducting, evaluating and coordinating interdisciplinary research on sexual and reproductive health; for collaborating with countries in enhancing national capacities to conduct this research; for promoting the use of research results in policy-making and planning for sexual and reproductive health care; and for the setting of standards and guidelines, including ethical guidelines, in the field of sexual and reproductive health research.

Within HRP, the Statistics and Informatics Services Team (SIS) is responsible for: statistical and data management support to clinical and intervention trials, epidemiological, social science and health systems studies and surveys and other research; informatics support to decentralized automated data management for clinical research; and issuance and monitoring of compliance with guidelines on good practice in clinical research.

The Coordinator of SIS will provide scientific and technical leadership to the SIS Team and will serve as a reference in statistical analysis, data management strategies and good clinical research practice for the studies of the entire HRP. The successful candidate will have a Ph.D. in Statistics or Biostatistics with sound knowledge of statistical theory and its applications to the design, management and analysis of clinical trials and epidemiological studies, as well as knowledge and competence in the planning, development and use of automated systems for data and information management for research studies. The successful candidate will have proven experience, at least some of which is at the international level, in the management, organization, statistical design and analysis of multicentre clinical trials and epidemiological research using web-based systems. The position is based in Geneva, Switzerland.

Closing date for applications: **31 March 2008**. For more information about HRP, for a complete description of this position and for details of how to apply, please see http://www.who.int/reproductive-health/hrp

New York University School of Medicine

Faculty Positions Division of Biostatistics

The Division of Biostatistics at the New York University School of Medicine has an immediate opening for a tenure-track/tenure faculty member in our program; rank to be determined depending on experience and qualifications. Faculty members in the Division:

- Develop novel statistical, biostatistical, bioinformatics and computational methodologies.
- Collaborate and consult with physicians and scientists throughout the New York University School of Medicine in the development and conduct of multidisciplinary research programs in basic science, clinical and translational research.
- Participate in the teaching programs of the Division. The Division has an active Ph.D. program in Biostatistics and is responsible for teaching in the School of Medicine and Graduate School of Arts and Science.

In particular, the successful candidate may collaborate with investigators in the NYU Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Center at NYU and conduct statistical research that is motivated by and advances the collaborative research. Other opportunities for collaboration also exist. Qualified candidates must have a Ph.D. in Biostatistics or Statistics with interests in pursuing independent research and collaborating with biomedical investigators. Experience at a research institution and in biomedical collaboration preferred. Background and experience in design and analysis of clinical trials, translational research studies and epidemiologic studies. Outstanding written and oral communication skills.

Please send cover letter, CV, and 3 references to:

Judith D. Goldberg, Sc.D. Professor and Director Division of Biostatistics
New York University School of Medicine
650 First Avenue, 534 New York, New York 10016
Email: ***jd.goldberg@med.nyu.edu***
www.nyumc.org

The New York University School of Medicine is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer and encourages applications from women, persons with disabilities, and underrepresented group members. Federal and state legislation prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, disability, national origin, veteran, marital or parental status, citizenship, age, or sexual orientation.

Mathematical Statisticians
Surveillance Research Program
Division of Cancer Control
And Population Sciences

The National Cancer Institute (NCI), located within the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health & Human Services, has openings for several positions within the Surveillance Research Program (SRP), which provides statistical expertise and sets the direction for mathematical and statistical research used in carrying out surveillance of the nation's cancer burden. NCI's surveillance activities support nationwide program planning and policy setting, and are of interest to researchers and the public at large. Statistical and mathematical modeling increases the utility of data for assessing progress in cancer control.

Statisticians within the Surveillance Research Program work with population-based data on cancer incidence, mortality, survival, and prevalence and study their relationship to geography, risk factors, screening, treatment, and socio-economic factors. Examples include: (1) using state-of-the-art methods to make sure our population-based cancer registry data are accurate, timely, and to detect outliers and understand their source (using methods such as spatial-temporal scan statistics and data mining techniques), (2) developing and evaluating new cancer and cancer-related progress measures and methods for the analysis and presentation of our national cancer statistics (e.g. survival cure models, change point models, back-calculation methods, small area estimation), (3) analysis and simulation modeling to better understand and project trends in cancer data, and (4) identifying and developing funding opportunities for the outside research community to advance methodology in population-based cancer research and managing the resulting grants and contracts. The existing program is expanding its scope, and exciting opportunities are available integrating diverse areas such as spatial statistics/ GIS, population genetics, survival modeling, demography, survey methods, mixed models, simulation modeling, data mining, program evaluation, and outcomes research.

Applicants with masters or doctorial degrees in statistics, biostatistics or a related area with strong academic backgrounds, training and experience are being sought. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are essential for working in this interdisciplinary setting with various collaborators. Multiple positions for Mathematical Statisticians are available at GS12/13/14 levels ($69,764-$127,442). U.S. citizenship is required for permanent positions and this position is subject to background investigation. In addition, opportunities also exist for experienced professionals from academia to spend all or a part of their sabbaticals in SRP and for graduate students and post-docs to join SRP in fellowship positions ranging from summer-only to 1-2 year appointments.

The location is Rockville, Maryland, close to Washington D.C. Excellent benefits. NIH is an equal opportunity employer. Please send a CV and a letter describing your background and interests, by email, to:

Judith Swan, MHS
Public Health Advisor
Surveillance Research Program
Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
National Cancer Institute
swanj@mail.nih.gov
http://surveillance.cancer.gov/

Missouri

■ Senior faculty position in statistics at Washington University in St. Louis. We intend to grow the statistics research group in the mathematics department and seek a midcareer or senior statistician to spearhead this effort. For more information, visit *www.math.wustl.edu/jobs* or contact John McCarthy, Chair, Statistics Search Committee, Department of Mathematics, Washington University, St. Louis, MO 63130; *mccarthy@wustl.edu*. Washington University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and specifically invites and encourages women and minorities to apply.

■ Statistician - Pfizer St. Louis. Provide statistical support to scientists working in nonclinical areas. Advocate statistical thinking. Collaborate with scientists to plan and analyze experimental studies. Support new areas as appropriate. PhD in statistics and a minimum of one year of consulting experience in lab science environment are required. Knowledge of DOE,

Biostatistician

Children's Hospital Boston and Harvard Medical School

The Department of Urology and the Clinical Research Program (CRP) at Children's Hospital Boston and Harvard Medical School seek a PhD biostatistician at the level of Assistant or Associate Professor. The successful candidate will be expected to provide statistical support for all aspects of Investigation including the design and analysis of clinical trials. He or she will collaborate on research with clinical and basis science investigators, contribute To grant applications, participate in teaching biostatistics to clinical faculty, and Mentor fellows and junior faculty.

The CRP currently supports several ongoing observational studies and clinical trials from various departments in the hospital. Current research areas of emphasis in the Department of Urology include but are not limited to the evaluation, treatment and health outcomes of patients with vesicoureteral reflux, prenatal hydronephrosis, and urolithiasis.

Candidates should have a strong record of collaborative research, demonstrated ability in the design and analysis of randomized controlled clinical trials and longitudinal studies, and excellent written and interpersonal skills. A PhD in biostatistics or statistics is required. Faculty appointments will be in the Department of Surgery at the Harvard Medical School. Rank will be commensurate with experience.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter describing their background and experience, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references to:

Robin.Walker@childrens.harvard.edu
or
Robin Walker, Administrative Coordinator
Clinical Research Program, Children's Hospital Boston
300 Longwood Avenue
Boston, MA 02115.

Applications will be review until the position is filled.

Children's Hospital Boston and Harvard Medical School
Are Equal Opportunity Employers

NORC at the University of Chicago
Innovative solutions in research and technology

NORC conducts high quality social science research in the public interest from its headquarters at the University of Chicago and from its offices in Chicago, IL, Washington, DC, Bethesda, MD, and Berkeley, CA.

We conduct research in economics, demographics, education and child development, health, substance abuse, mental health, justice, and survey quality both in the U.S. and internationally. We offer full-service survey design and operations as well as strengths in analysis, information technology, and technical assistance. NORC supports the research needs of government in the U.S. and abroad, international donor agencies, foundations, academic researchers, and private organizations.

NORC is actively seeking statisticians, survey methodologists, statistical programmers, data managers, survey directors, and social scientists with advanced training or experience in survey research or survey operations. New staff will be based in our Chicago, IL or Washington, DC offices. To learn more about NORC and to apply for employment, visit our website at:

http://www.norc.org/careers

NORC is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer that values and actively seeks diversity in the workforce.

Department of Biostatistics

City of Hope™

The Department of Biostatistics at the City of Hope National Medical Center has an opening for an experienced Statistician at the Assistant/Associate Professor level. Responsibilities will center on collaborative clinical research in established and innovative programs. Independent statistical research is supported, and a small amount of teaching is possible. A doctorate in Biostatistics, Statistics, Epidemiology, or similar training is required, with experience in clinical research supported by a record of publications. Experience in the areas of cancer, diabetes, transplantation or surgery is desirable. Excellent written and verbal communication skills are necessary, as are strong statistical computing skills.

City of Hope, a non-profit research and educational institution, and an NCI-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, is located 25 miles northeast of Los Angeles. City of Hope offers a competitive salary and benefits package. EOE.

Send C.V. to:
Jeffrey A. Longmate, Ph.D. Director
Department of Biostatistics
1500 E. Duarte Road
Duarte, CA 91010
e-mail: *jlongmate@coh.org*.

VCU Medical Center
Virginia Commonwealth University

T32 Post-Doctoral Training Position Department of Biostatistics

The Department of Biostatistics at Virginia Commonwealth University has a T32 training grant supported by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences entitled "Integration of Chemical Mixtures Toxicology, Toxicogenomics, and Statistics." We are currently seeking applications to fill a post-doctoral position with salary ranges from $31,000-$51,000, commensurate with experience. The post-doctoral trainee will collaborate with statisticians in methods development related to the statistical analysis of toxicogenomic data and will participate collaboratively with disciplinary scientists in analyzing high-throughput genomic data.

Qualifications: Necessary qualifications include a Ph.D. in biostatistics or statistics with experience in the design and statistical analysis of high throughput genomic data (e.g., microarrays, proteomics), familiarity with statistical programming environments for analyzing such data, and excellent oral and written communication skills. Trainees must be U.S. citizens or have permanent residency.

Application Process: Applications will be reviewed as soon as received, and the position will remain open until filled. Please send curriculum vitae, a letter highlighting research interests and qualifications, and contact information for three references to: Dr. Kellie Archer, Assistant Professor, Dept of Biostatistics, Virginia Commonwealth University, P. O. Box 980032, Richmond, VA 23298 (phone: 804.827.2039, email: *kjarcher@vcu.edu*).

Virginia Commonwealth University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Women, minorities, and persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

The U.S. Census Bureau is seeking two top-level research experts for Scientific and Professional (ST) Positions:

- **Senior Mathematical Statistician** to conduct original research in statistics related to censuses and sample surveys.
- **Senior Researcher for Survey Methodology** to conduct original research in the field of survey methodology.

Location: Washington, DC Metro area (Suitland, MD)
Salary: $138,380–$158,500

For qualifications, educational requirements, and application procedures:
- **Go** to <www.usajobs.com>.
- **Enter** "Senior Mathematical Statistician" or "Senior Researcher for Survey Methodology" in the first search box and "Suitland, MD" in the location search box.
- **Click** on "Search."
- **Follow** the instructions given in the announcement.

Contact information: Kathy Ott, 301-763-4006, <Kathleen.E.Ott@census.gov>

Deadline: April 30, 2008

Applications will be accepted from all sources–U.S. Citizens only.

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biology, and/or chemistry are strongly preferred. Visit us at the ENAR Spring Meeting, March 16-19. *www.pfizer.com/careers.* Pfizer is an EOE.

■ Statistician - Pfizer St. Louis. Provide statistical support to scientists working in nonclinical areas. Advocate statistical thinking. Collaborate with scientists to plan and analyze experimental studies. Support new areas as appropriate. PhD in statistics and a minimum of one year of consulting experience in lab science environment are required. Knowledge of DOE, biology, and/or chemistry are strongly preferred. Visit us at the ENAR Spring Meeting, March 16-19. *www.pfizer.com/careers*. Pfizer is an EOE.

New Mexico

■ University of New Mexico has one lecturer position. Minimum requirements: master's in statistics/related field and two years' teaching experience or PhD in statistics/related field and one year teaching experience. For best consideration, send application letter, vitae, teaching statement, and two reference letters by March 30, 2008, to Edward Bedrick, Department Math and Statistics, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131. Complete information at *http://math.unm.edu/employment/statPosition.htm.* University of New Mexico is an EO/AA employer.

North Carolina

■ The Section on Statistical Genetics and Bioinformatics, Department of Biostatistical Sciences, Wake Forest University Heath Sciences invites applications for faculty positions. A PhD in biostatistics, statistics, or a related field is required with expertise in statistical genetics. Duties include collaboration, statistical research, and teaching. Interested individuals should email a research interest statement, CV and three letters of reference to *dbsrecruit@wfubmc.edu*. Visit *www.phs.wfubmc.edu* for more information. Wake Forest University Health Sciences is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Assistant or Associate Professor Biostatistics

The George Washington University
Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
School of Public Health and Health Services

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and The Biostatistics Center are recruiting for a dynamic full-time faculty member in Biostatistics at the Assistant or Associate Professor level. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to join a growing Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the nation's capital that has a highly respected and energetic teaching and research faculty and the opportunity to be part of a data coordinating center conducting clinical trials and epidemiologic studies in diabetes at The Biostatistics Center. Rank, salary and employment in either a tenure or non-tenure track position will be commensurate with experience.

Under the leadership of its Chairman, Alan E. Greenberg, MD, MPH, the Department has expertise in HIV/AIDS, cancer, behavioral, and aging epidemiology, geographical health information systems, and biostatistical methods. In addition, the Department has established collaborative opportunities with other Departments in the GWU School of Public Health and Health Services, the GWU School of Medicine and Health Sciences, the Veterans Administration Hospital, Children's National Medical Center, the National Cancer Institute, the Department of Defense, the DC Department of Health and Elizabeth Glaser Pediatrics AIDS Foundation.

The Biostatistics Center is renowned for its leadership as a coordinating center for multicenter clinical trials in multiple disciplines sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, and specifically as the biostatistical coordinating center for the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP). The DPP, funded by the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive, and Kidney Diseases, is a national study group of leading academic centers that has a randomized trial of interventions to prevent type 2 diabetes in subjects with impaired glucose tolerance.

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics is involved in the MS and PhD degree programs in biostatistics and in epidemiology, among other graduate degree programs. The MS and PhD degree programs in biostatistics and in epidemiology started to admit students in the fall semester of 1995. There are currently 14 students matriculated in the PhD degree program in biostatistics and 11 students matriculated in the MS degree program in biostatistics.

Responsibilities of the position will include teaching upper level courses in theoretical and applied biostatistics, mentoring masters and doctoral students in biostatistics; clinical trial design and methodology, and data analysis at The Biostatistics Center, and developing an externally-funded research program.

Basic Qualifications: Applicants must hold a doctoral degree in biostatistics or statistics, strong verbal and written communication skills, some experience in teaching at a graduate-level biostatistics degree programs, experience with clinical trials, in particular with study design and statistical analysis using SAS, and a record of peer-reviewed publications.

Preferred Qualifications: Evidence of mentoring graduate students in biostatistics at the masters and doctoral levels, demonstrated success or potential to contribute to secure externally-funded research grants.

Successful candidate for the position may apply for a Samuel W. Greenhouse Biostatistics Research Enhancement award. This award is provided for a period of one year to the enhancement of biostatistics methodological research. Please check at *http://www.bsc.gwu.edu/bsc/sgaward.pdf* for more information about this award.

Application Procedure: To be considered, interested applicants should submit the following documents electronically: 1) current curriculum vitae; 2) a statement of research interests, 3) a statement of teaching and mentoring experience, and 4) list of 3 references with contact information to:

Search Committee, Biostatistics
c/o Stephanie Panichello, Department Manager
sphshp@gwumc.edu (electronic submissions are strongly preferred)

Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
School of Public Health and Health Services
The George Washington University
2300 I (Eye) Street NW, Suite 125
Washington, DC 20037

Review of applications will begin on April 1, 2008 and will continue until the position is filled. Only complete applications will be considered. Applications from women and minorities are strongly encouraged.

GWU SPHHS Webpage: ***http://www.gwumc.edu/sphhs/***
The Biostatistics Center Webpage: ***http://biostat.bsc.gwu.edu***

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Department of Health & Human Services
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Child Health & Human Development
Division of Epidemiology, Statistics & Prevention Research

Postdoctoral Fellowships

The Biometry and Mathematical Statistics Branch is an intramural research program within the Division of Epidemiology, Statistics & Prevention Research (DESPR) at the National Institute of Child Health & Human Development. The Division's mission is to conduct original research focusing on human reproduction and development, pregnancy, and child and adolescent health. Branch members conduct methodological research relevant to the design and analysis of clinical, behavioral and epidemiological studies. Specific research interests of the Branch members include: ordinal and longitudinal data analysis, multiple comparison, statistical genetics, sequential methodologies, survival analysis, and Bayes methods. Postdoctoral fellows will have the opportunity to pursue their own statistical research goals as well as gain experience working on DESPR scientific studies. Candidates eligible to work in the USA and with an earned doctoral degree in statistics or biostatistics within the past five years are invited to apply. Preference will be given to candidates with strong training or research in mathematical statistics and interest in biomedical applications, and with superior communication skills. Stipend is commensurate with training and relevant research experience. These positions will remain open until qualified applicants are found.

Applicants should send: 1) a *curriculum vitae*; 2) official transcripts for undergraduate and graduate degrees; 3) a statement of research interests to be pursued during training; and 4) three letters of reference to: Dr. James F. Troendle, 6100 Executive Blvd. Room 7B05D, Bethesda, MD 20852. [Email contact: jt3t@nih.gov]

These positions will remain open until qualified applicants are found.

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■ The Section on Statistical Genetics and Bioinformatics, Department of Biostatistical Sciences, Wake Forest University Heath Sciences invites applications for faculty positions. A PhD in biostatistics, statistics, or a related field is required with expertise in imaging. Duties include collaboration, statistical research, and teaching. Interested individuals should email a research interest statement, CV and three letters of reference to *dbsrecruit@wfubmc.edu*. Visit *www.phs.wfubmc.edu* for more information. Wake Forest University Health Sciences is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

■ Senior Research Statistician Developer-Bayesian Econometrics Specialist. As a member of the SAS/ETS software development team, you will create innovative software to apply cutting-edge econometric models, with a focus on Bayesian methods using MCMC-type algorithms. Duties include researching of statistical methodology and computational algorithms; designing of software tools for economic modeling; programming and testing of modules. For more information, log on to *www.sas.com/jobs/Position 08001193.*

■ The Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI), a national institute in North Carolina, seeks visiting researchers and graduate students for participation in three 2008–2009 research programs. See *www.samsi.info* for further information. Members of underrepresented groups are particularly encouraged to apply. SAMSI is an AA/EOE.

■ The Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI), a national institute in North Carolina, seeks postdoctoral fellows for 2008–2009. Fellows are typically appointed for two years, earn a very competitive salary, and receive exceptional mentoring. See *www.samsi.info* for further information. Members of underrepresented groups are particularly encouraged to apply. SAMSI is an AA/EOE.

Pennsylvania

■ Possible tenure-track, lecturer, visiting positions. Collegial environment emphasizing disciplinary and cross-disciplinary research and teaching. All areas of statistics welcome. Joint appointments possible with other units in the Pittsburgh area. See *www.stat.cmu.edu* (email: *hiring@stat.cmu.edu*). Send CV, research papers, relevant transcripts, and three recommendation letters to Faculty Search Committee, Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Application screening begins immediately, continues until positions closed. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Carnegie Mellon University is an AA/EOE.

Rhode Island

■ Biostatistician/Statistical Programmer. Opening at Brown University: Candidates for biostatistician should have master's degree in biostatistics or statistics and experience with biomedical data analysis. Statistical programmers should have degree in statistics, epidemiology, or related field. Two+ years of statistical programming experience (SAS, S+/R, STATA) recommended. Candidates must exhibit excellent written/oral communication skills. Visit *http://stat.brown.edu* or contact Susan Furtado (*sfurtado@stat.brown.edu*) for

information, apply online at *https://careers.brown.edu*, position #M01942. Brown University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and actively seeks applications from qualified minorities and protected groups.

Washington

■ Department of Biostatistics, University of Washington. Postdoctoral Position. Fellow will conduct statistical methodological research in cost analysis and ROC curve methodology. Appointment is for two years. PhD required in statistics, biostatistics, or mathematics. To inquire about the position, please contact Professor Xiao-Hua Zhou at *azhou@u.wash ington.edu*. Send CV, transcripts, research papers, and three letters of reference to Christina Cho, 1100 Olive Way, #1400, Seattle, WA 98101. The University of Washington is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. ■

Contacts

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The purpose of this document is to encourage ethical and effective statistical work in morally conducive working environments. Please visit *www.amstat.org/profession/index.cfm?fuseaction=ethicalstatistics* or contact Member Services to receive a copy.

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