April 2011 • Issue #406

AMSTATNEWS

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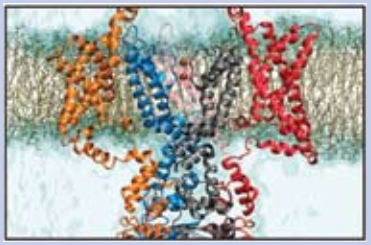


April 2011

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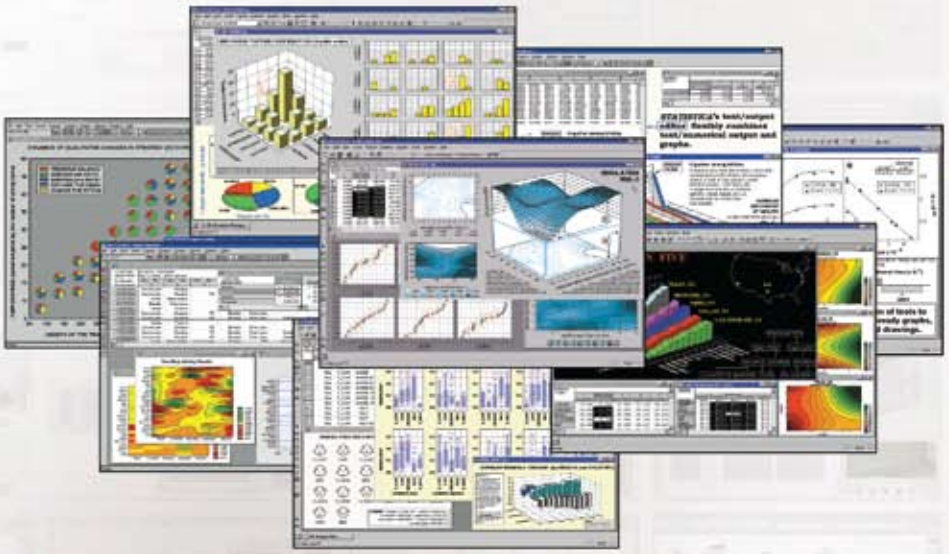

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Advanced Data Mining Algorithms: Boosted Trees, Random Forests, MARSplines, Advanced Neural Networks, Support Vector Machines, Naive Bayesian Classifiers, k-Nearest Neighbor methods (Memory-Based Learners), and much more...

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Amstat News welcomes news items and letters from readers on matters of interest to the association and the profession. Address correspondence to Managing Editor, *Amstat News,* American Statistical Association, 732 North Washington Street, Alexandria VA 22314-1943 USA, or email *amstat@amstat.org*. Items must be received by the first day of the preceding month to ensure appearance in the next issue (for example, June 1 for the July issue). Material can be sent as a Microsoft Word document, PDF, or within an email. Articles will be edited for space. Accompanying artwork will be accepted in graphics file formats only (.jpg, etc.), minimum 300 dpi. No material in WordPerfect will be accepted.

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The American Statistical Association is the world's largest community of statisticians. The ASA supports excellence in the development, application, and dissemination of statistical science through meetings, publications, membership services, education, accreditation, and advocacy. Our members serve in industry, government, and academia in more than 90 countries, advancing research and promoting sound statistical practice to inform public policy and improve human welfare.

features

columns

This column highlights research activities that may be of interest to ASA members. These brief articles include information about new research solicitations and the federal budget for statistics. Comments or suggestions for future articles may be sent to ASA Research and Graduate Education Manager Keith Crank at *keith@amstat.org*.

Crank

Contributing Editor

Keith Crank earned a BS in mathematics education and an MS in mathematics from Michigan State University and a PhD in statistics from Purdue University. Prior to joining the ASA as research and graduate education manager, he was a program officer at the National Science Foundation, primarily in the probability program.

This column is written to inform ASA members about what the ASA is doing to promote the inclusion of statistics in policymaking and the funding of statistics research. To suggest science policy topics for the ASA to address, contact ASA Director of Science Policy Steve Pierson at *pierson@amstat.org*.

Jorgenson

Contributing Editor

Dale Jorgenson is the Samuel W. Morris University Professor at Harvard University. A Fellow of the ASA since 1965, he is the recipient of the 2010 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics for his leadership in the integration of the U.S. National Accounts and contributions to the measurement of productivity, innovation, capital, human capital, and poverty.

Online Articles

The following articles in this issue can be found online at *http://magazine.amstat.org*.

The Third International Workshop in Sequential Methodologies (IWSM) will be held at Stanford University from June 14–16. The three main themes are sequential and adaptive design of clinical trials and other sequential methods in biostatistics; sequential change-point detection, quality control and surveillance, sequential methods in signal processing, and sensor networks; and sequential estimation, testing, ranking and selection, optimal stopping and stochastic control, applications to finance and economics, and related topics in statistics and probability. The 70th birthdays of both Gary Lorden and David Siegmund also will be celebrated. Visit *http://magazine.amstat.org* to read more.

Judges Sought for ASA Project Competition The ASA/NCTM Joint Committee on Curriculum in Statistics and Probability is seeking judges for the ASA Project Competition. Judging takes place via email during the summer and requires about four hours of your time. If interested, email Jamis Perrett at *jamis@stat.tamu.edu*.

Project Competition Deadline Extended to June 9 Introduce K–12 students to statistics through the annual project competition directed by the ASA/NCTM Joint Committee on Curriculum in Statistics and Probability. The competition offers opportunities for students to formulate questions and collect, analyze, and draw conclusions from data. Winners will be recognized with plaques, cash prizes, certificates, and Texas Instruments calculators. Also, their names will be published in *Amstat News*.

Projects, for all grades, are now due on June 9 to accommodate AP Statistics students who will be taking the exam in early May. For more information, including two instructional webinars, visit *www.amstat.org/education/posterprojects*.

columns

STAT*tr@k* is a column in *Amstat News* and a website geared toward people who are in a statistics program, recently graduated from a statistics program, or recently entered the job world. To read more articles like this one, visit the website at *http://stattrak.amstat.org*. If you have suggestions for future articles, or would like to submit an article, please email Megan Murphy, *Amstat News* managing editor, at *megan@amstat.org*.

Beamer

Contributing Editor

Andrew Beamer is a second-year master's student at North Carolina State University. As an undergraduate, he majored in computer science, computer engineering, and electrical engineering, also at NC State.

departments

member news

Statistics without Borders

Gary Shapiro, Statistics without Borders Chair

*You probably know the ASA has chapters (*www.amstat.org/chapters*) and sections (*www.amstat.org/sections*). However, you may not know there is a third type of ASA group—the outreach group. There are four, including the Caucus of Academic Representatives, Friends of Australasia, Isolated Statisticians, and Statistics without Borders (SWB). For the April president's column, I invited Gary Shapiro, SWB chair, to describe this group and tell you about its activities.*

~ Nancy L. Geller, ASA President

Statistics without Borders is an apolitical group that was formed in late 2008 to provide pro bono statistical support to organizations involved in not-for-profit international health (broadly defined) efforts. The goal of the group is to achieve better statistical practice, including statistical analysis and design of experiments and surveys. To that end, there are about 250 members from many countries, far exceeding expectations.

While SWB members have a wide range of expertise, most projects so far have involved survey planning and/or analysis of survey data. Most work has been done through email, but there have been occasional trips to developing countries. Following are a few examples of SWB projects:

- SWB assisted the company SciMetrika with a cell phone survey to assess the economic impact of the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti. The specific goals were to estimate the employment and housing status of the Haitian population. SWB volunteers visited Haiti to begin the planning and are now analyzing the survey results. This work was featured on National Public Radio (*http://media.theworld.org/audio/060120109.mp3*).
- Each year, the Food and Nutritional Technical Assistance II (FANTA-2) project at the Academy for Educational Development reviews and provides comments about baseline survey plans for newly awarded food security programs in developing countries funded by USAID's Office of Food for Peace. For the last two years, SWB volunteers have served as statistical reviewers of these plans.
- SWB helped prepare a proposal for the Inter-American Development Bank to survey households in Mexico about their use of bottled water. SWB was extensively involved in the early planning and assisted with the general sample design and questionnaire.
- SWB is working on a long-term project with UNICEF to evaluate health interventions in Sierra Leone. SWB assisted with the design of the baseline survey, data cleaning, and survey

Serving as a volunteer on an international health project can be a personally rewarding and satisfying experience.

weighting. Ongoing work will include data analysis and planning for a post-intervention survey. An unsolicited comment from our main UNICEF contact follows: "… [your SWB volunteer] did an outstanding job. I could not have done it without her. She was so patient with cleaning the data and dealing with unexpected problems related to revisits. …"

- KOMAZA (*www.komaza.org*) works with farmers in Kenya to promote the planting of Eucalyptus trees. They sought SWB assistance to assess the social and economic impact of their program over time. SWB volunteers helped KOMAZA plan a baseline survey. They proposed a stratified sample design, recommended a sample size to achieve the desired reliability, advised on training sessions for nonresponse follow up (enumerator training sessions), and advised on the conduct of the survey.

It is clear from these examples that many organizations in the United States and other countries would benefit greatly from statistical consulting and support, but cannot afford to pay for it. SWB is particularly eager to spread the word of its services to organizations that can use statistical help. Please email me at *g.shapiro4@verizon.net* if you know of any such organization.

Serving as a volunteer on an international health project can be a personally rewarding and satisfying experience. SWB volunteer Sowmya Rao said, "The most gratifying part … was teaching the statisticians from Sierra Leone techniques to analyze data since they were very enthusiastic, eager to learn, and appreciative of the opportunity to be part of the project beyond data collection." The dedication of so many SWB volunteers who have worked on projects is quite astounding. ASA can be proud of its far reach.

To learn more about SWB, visit *http://community.amstat.org/amstat/StatisticsWithoutBorders*. ■

CORRECTION:
In the February issue of *Amstat News*, Juanita Lott was unintentionally left off the Annual Fund drive 500+ list. We regret the error.

Recognizing the ASA's Longtime Members

The American Statistical Association would like to thank its longtime members by continuing its tradition of honoring those members who joined the association 35 years ago or more. This year, we recognize the following members for their distinguished and faithful membership.

If you are a longtime member and will be attending the 2011 Joint Statistical Meetings in Miami, Florida, please join us for a reception in your honor. If your name is not listed below and you believe it should be, please contact Alessandra Boniface at *alessandra@amstat.org* to correct your record.

50+ Years

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Carol H. Ammons
Sigmund J. Amster
Theodore W. Anderson
Virgil L. Anderson
Charles E. Antle
Kenneth J. Arrow
Kiyoharu Azai
Barbara A. Bailar
John C. Bailar
Noel S. Bartlett
Glenn E. Bartsch
Rex J. Bates
Gary S. Becker
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Alan P. Berens
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Herman Chernoff
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Theodore Colton
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John W. Cotton
David R. Cox
Lolafaye Coyne
Herbert A. David
Martin H. David
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Kweku T. Degraft Johnson
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Ramanathan Gnanadesikan
Arnold F. Goodman
Leo A. Goodman
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Irwin Guttman
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Lyle V. Jones
Graham Kalton
Marvin A. Kastenbaum
Shriniwas K. Katti
Kathleen M. Keenan
John J. Kinney
Melville R. Klauber

50+ Years

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Eugene M. Laska
William J. Latzko
Marvin A. Lavenhar
Malcolm R. Leadbetter
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Gauri L. Ghai

P. D. Ghangurde

Glenn H. Gilbreath

Edward J. Gilroy

Howard Seth Gitlow

John R. Gleason

T. F. Glover

James H. Godbold

Prem K. Goel

Judith D. Goldberg

Robert N. Goldman

Matthew Goldstein

J. Douglas Gordon

Louis Gordon

Bernard S. Gorman

Jack W. Green

Jeffrey J. Green

David M. Grether

William E. Griffiths

Joseph A. Guarnieri

Richard F. Gunst

Shelby J. Haberman

Hermann Habermann

Robert E. Hale

Robert E. Hall

Silas Halperin

Chien-Pai Han

R. Choudary Hanumara

Lynne B. Hare

Galen F. Hart

Larry D. Haugh

Robert M. Hauser

Douglas M. Hawkins

William F. Heiland

Karl W. Heiner

Robert W. Hertz

Agnes M. Herzberg

Klaus Hinkelmann

David V. Hinkley

David C. Hoaglin

Theodore R. Holford

Stephen C. Hora

David W. Hosmer

David C. Howell

Lawrence J. Hubert

William F. Hunt

Frank L. Hurley

Huynh Huynh

Dar-Shong Hwang

Ronald L. Iman

William G. Jackson

Joan R. Jacobs

David Jacobson

F. E. James

Sreenivasa Rao Jammalamadaka

J. D. Jobson

Clifford L. Johnson

Dallas E. Johnson

Richard A. Johnson

Paul K. Jones

Peter R. Jones

John H. Kalbfleisch

John D. Kalbfleisch

Balvant K. Kale

William D. Kalsbeek

Howard S. Kaplon

Joseph D. Kasile

Myron J. Katzoff

Thomas Keefe

Ralph L. Kent

David L. Kimble

Robert Kinnison

Roger E. Kirk

Robert C. Kohberger

David C. Korts

Neal Koss

Mary Grace Kovar

Helena C. Kraemer

Joseph B. Kruskal

Richard J. Kryscio

Arabinda Kundu

Lynn Roy LaMotte

Kenneth C. Land

James M. Landwehr

Per Lange

Chang S. Lao

Kinley Larntz

William D. Lawing

Jerald F. Lawless

Anthony James Lawrance

Kenneth D. Lawrence

Russell V. Lenth

Yves Lepage

Donald Lewin

David L. Libby

Robert F. Ling

Robert G. Lovell

George W. Lynch

James R. Maar

Bruce E. Mackey

Edward R. Mansfield

Dennis R. Mar

Helen Marcus-Roberts

Ronald G. Marks

Robert L. Mason

Takashi Matsui

Clement J. Maurath

George P. McCabe

Lyman L. McDonald

J. Thomas McEwen

John D. McKenzie

Glen D. Meeden

Jeff B. Meeker

James I. Mellon

Gayle T. Meltesen

William L. Mietlowski

Satish Chandra Misra

Melvin L. Moeschberger

Robert Mondschein

Douglas C. Montgomery

Roderick Montgomery

Billy J. Moore

David S. Moore

John K. Moore

Effat A. Moussa

Robb J. Muirhead

Henry D. Muse

Wayne L. Myers

Jun-mo Nam

Krishnan Namboodiri

Subhash C. Narula

Charles R. Nelson

Glenn L. Nelson

Anna B. Nevius

S. Edward Nevius

David S. Newman

James A. Nickel

Earl Nordbrock

Julia A. Norton

Marija J. Norusis

Janet L. Norwood

Paula K. Norwood

Robert L. Obenchain

Peter C. O'Brien

Jerry L. Oglesby

Morris Olitsky

Leonard Oppenheimer

J. Keith Ord

Gordon H. Otto

Albert C. Ovedovitz

Maurice E. B. Owens

William J. Padgett

Connie F. Page

Darrel W. Parke

Leonard J. Parsons

Harold C. Pasini

Jon K. Peck

Arthur V. Peterson

Charles G. Pfeifer

Eswar G. Phadia

40–44 Years

Louis A. Pingel
Forrest H. Pollard
Mike Pore
Stephen L. Portnoy
Ross L. Prentice
Philip J. Press
Bertram Price
Philip C. Prorok
David A. Pyne
J. G. Ramage
Calyampudi R. Rao
Carol K. Redmond
George F. Reed
Benjamin Reiser
Louise C. Remer
John A. Rice
Hans Riedwyl
Richard D. Rippe
Bernard Rosner
Donald C. Ross
Dwight N. Rousu
Donald B. Rubin
Barbara J. Rutledge
Julia Sabella
Susan T. Sacks
John J. Salera
Francisco J. Samaniego
Douglas A. Samuelson
Patricia D. Saunders
James J. Schlesselman
Joyce A. Schlieter
Josef Schmee
James Schmeidler
William R. Schucany
Eugene F. Schuster
Neil C. Schwertman
Stuart Scott
Nell Sedransk
Subrata K. Sen
Jolayne W. Service
Jayaram Sethuraman
Charles E. Shaffer
Juliet Popper Shaffer
Nagambal D. Shah
Paul Shaman
Gary M. Shapiro
Michael W. Sherrill
Ronald E. Shiffler
Iris M. Shimizu
James G. Shook
Albert P. Shulte
Robert H. Shumway
Jon J. Shuster
Moshe Sicron
Robert L. Sielken
Jagbir Singh
Nozer D. Singpurwalla
Walter Sloboda
Stephen C. Smeach
Dennis E. Smith
Mitchell Snyder
F. Michael Speed
Randall K. Spoeri
M. K. Srirama
Muni S. Srivastava
Michael R. Stoline
Robert L. Stout
Jerrell T. Stracener
William E. Strawderman
Nariaki Sugiura
Moon W. Suh
Michael Sutherland
Richard D. Terrell
Ronald A. Thisted
Carol B. Thompson
Steven F. Thomson
Bruce W. Turnbull
Neil R. Ullman
Gerald van Belle
Joseph Van Den Reysen
Lonnie C. Vance
Wayne F. Velicer
Hrishikesh D. Vinod
R. Lakshmi Vishnuvajjala
Frederic A. Vogel
Kenneth W. Wachter
Sylvan Wallenstein
George H. Wang
James F. Ward
James H. Ware
Larry S. Webber
Edward J. Wegman
Lynn Weidman
Sanford Weisberg
K. Laurence Weldon
James P. Whipple
Owen Whitby
David A. Wise
Douglas A. Wolfe
Robert F. Woolson
Gooloo S. Wunderlich
Morty Yalovsky
Mark C. Yang
Rita Zemach
Eric R. Ziegel
Stuart O. Zimmerman

35–39 Years

Dennis Aaron
Julian Abbott
Robert D. Abbott
Sandra C. Abbott
John M. Abowd
Bovas Abraham
Lee R. Abramson
C. J. Adcock
Frances J. Adox
Donald R. Akin
Francis B. Alt
Dallas W. Anderson
Keaven M. Anderson
Robert J. Anderson
Sharon Anderson
Bengtung Ben Ang
Lawrence Annable
Taka Ashikaga
Anthony C. Atkinson
Agustin F. Ayuso
Leroy Bailey
Stephen P. Baker
Saad T. Bakir
Vincent P. Barabba
William A. Barnett
John L. Barone
Michael P. Battaglia
Eileen J. Beachell
Robert J. Beaver
Patricia C. Becker
Richard A. Becker
Jay H. Beder
Steven Belle
David R. Bellhouse
Kerry G. Bemis
Robert B. Bendel
Jacqueline Benedetti
George Benson
Roger L. Berger
Timothy M. Bergquist
James S. Bergum
Catherine S. Berkey
Jose Miguel Bernardo
Ernst R. Berndt
David J. Bernklau

35–39 Years

Bibhuti B. Bhattacharyya

Wayne F. Bialas

William T. Bielby

Paul P. Biemer

Robert H. Bigelow

Richard A. Bilonick

David A. Binder

Stephen F. Bingham

Giselle Binstok

Jeffrey B. Birch

Herbert L. Bishop

Thomas A. Bishop

Richard M. Bittman

Jan F. Bjornstad

Ernest A. Blaisdell

Mark M. Blanchard

Peter Bloomfield

Harvey Blumberg

Dan C. Boger

Robert J. Boik

James A. Bolognese

James T. Bonnen

Dennis Boos

Marie V. Bousfield

John E. Boyer

Norman M. Bradburn

Ann Cohen Brandwein

Ellen F. Brewer

Kenneth R. W. Brewer

J. Michael Brick

Ron Brookmeyer

Dean S. Bross

Rocco L. Brunelle

Edward C. Bryant

Shirrell Buhler

Richard K. Burdick

John M. Bushery

Thomas J. Bzik

Lawrence S. Cahoon

Patrick J. Cantwell

Thomas P. Capizzi

Grant D. Capps

Arthur Carpenter

George Casella

Frank C. Castronova

Amrut M. Champaneri

John P. Chandler

Judith-Anne W. Chapman

Yogendra P. Chaubey

Gina G. Chen

Michael R. Chernick

Robert D. Chew

Nanjamma Chinnappa

Joan Sander Chmiel

Jai Won Choi

Adam Chu

William P. Cleveland

George W. Cobb

Timothy C. Coburn

Steven B. Cohen

James J. Colaianne

John R. Collins

Salvatore V. Colucci

Loveday L. Conquest

Kennon R. Copeland

Margaret D. Copenhaver

Thomas W. Copenhaver

Charles D. Cowan

Brenda G. Cox

Anne P. Cross

Suzanne L. Cross

John J. Crowley

Kenny S. Crump

Andrew Joseph Cucchiara

William G. Cumberland

L. Adrienne Cupples

Robert D. Curley

Lester R. Curtin

Andrew I. Dale

Prithwis Dasgupta

William W. Davis

Roberta W. Day

Forest C. Deal

R. B. Deal

Michael L. Deaton

Pierre C. Delfiner

David L. DeMets

Lorraine Denby

Wayne S. Desarbo

Thomas F. Devlin

Terry E. Dielman

E. Jacquelin Dietz

David P. Doane

Allan P. Donner

Joseph R. Donovan

Janice L. Dubien

Joseph W. Duncan

William D. Dupont

Ann Durand

L. Marlin Eby

William F. Eddy

Marlene J. Egger

Kathleen Louise Emery

Wil B. Emmert

Curtis S. Engelhard

Richard M. Engeman

Kurt Enslein

Thomas W. Epps

Samuel M. Epstein

William H. Epstein

Eugene P. Ericksen

James W. Evans

Michael J. Evans

Ray E. Faith

David L. Farnsworth

Thomas B. Farver

Alan Fask

Gerald M. Fava

John P. Fazio

Ronald S. Fecso

Michael L. Feldstein

Martin Feuerman

David F. Findley

Carl Thomas Finkbeiner

Nicholas I. Fisher

Allen I. Fleishman

James W. Flewelling

Nancy Flournoy

Hans T. Forst

Peter E. Fortini

Mary A. Foulkes

Janet F. Fowler

John D. Fox

Leroy A. Franklin

Martin D. Fraser

Carol L. French

David Frontz

David S. Fryd

Barbara A. Gabianelli

Stephen J. Ganocy

Roan A. Garcia-Quintana

Turkan K. Gardenier

Edward E. Gbur

Robin T. Geiger

Alan E. Gelfand

John F. Geweke

Dhirendra N. Ghosh

Malay Ghosh

David E. A. Giles

Brenda Wilson Gillespie

Phyllis A. Gimotty

Dennis R. Givens

Beth C. Gladen

Marcia A. Glauberman

Joseph Glaz

Frederick P. Glick

Fred Goettler

Shirly A. Goetz

Huseyin A. Goksel

Richard F. Goldstein

Joe Fred Gonzalez

James H. Goodnight

Robert D. Gordon

Jerren Gould

Stephanie J. Green

Timothy A. Green

William H. Greene

Joel B. Greenhouse

John Vic Grice

35–39 Years

Susan Groshen

Cynthia R. Gross

Marvin H. J. Gruber

Leslie S. Grunes

Victor M. Guerrero

Farrokh Guiahi

Perry D. Haaland

Timothy O. Haifley

David B. Hall

James L. Hall

Nancy R. Hall

David C. Hamilton

Janet M. Hanley

Robert C. Hannum

James N. Hansen

C. David Hardison

William V. Harper

Frank E. Harrell

Stephen P. Harris

Diane S. Harry

Kenneth R. Hartmann

Robert E. Hausman

Maurine A. Haver

Ronald W. Hawkinson

Richard M. Heiberger

Lance K. Heilbrun

Harold V. Henderson

Ellen Hertzmark

Thomas Herzog

James L. Hess

Eugene R. Heyman

James J. Higgins

Robert Hill

Steven C. Hillmer

Susan M. Hinkins

Jerry L. Hintze

Raymond G. Hoffmann

Thomas P. Hogan

Robert M. Holmes

Alan Hopkins

Berne Martin Howard

Ina P. Howell

Louis Hsu

Elizabeth T. Huang

Lee Huang

Marla L. Huddleston

Mark L. Hudes

Mohammad F. Huque

David N. Ikle

Duane M. Ilstrup

John M. Irvine

Alan J. Izenman

Kirk A. Jackson

William E. Jackson

Eva E. Jacobs

Peter J. Jacobs

Michael A. Jacroux

Raj K. Jain

David Jaspen

Jean G. Jenkins

Linda W. Jennings

Robert W. Jernigan

Bruce E. Johnson

Paulette M. Johnson

Gerald A. Joireman

Ian T. Jolliffe

David C. Jordan

Harmon S. Jordan

Henry D. Kahn

Lee D. Kaiser

Paul B. Kantor

Theodore G. Karrison

Daniel Kasprzyk

Masatoshi Katsuhara

Richard W. Katz

Robert M. Katz

Roswitha E. Kelly

Sheryl F. Kelsey

James L. Kenkel

James R. Kenyon

James L. Kepner

Andre I. Khuri

Ruth Ann Killion

Charles L. Kincannon

Donald W. King

Roland E. King

Terry L. King

Albert Kingman

Ignatius A. Kinsella

Nancy J. Kirkendall

Syed N.U.A. Kirmani

Rudolf G. Kittlitz

Beat Kleiner

Richard E. Kleinknecht

Stuart A. Klugman

Ralph L. Kodell

Kenneth J. Koehler

Kenneth J. Kopecky

Edward L. Korn

Kenneth J. Koury

Ioannis A. Koutrouvelis

Andrew Kramar

Abba M. Krieger

S. David Kriska

Pieter M. Kroonenberg

Robert Kushler

Alan H. Kvanli

John M. Lachin

James R. Lackritz

Nan Laird

Mansum A. Lam

Carol J. Lancaster

Patricia Langenberg

Wallace E. Larimore

Nicolaas F. Laubscher

Philip T. Lavin

Sheila M. Lawrence

Johannes Ledolter

Clifford J. Lee

Kelvin K. Lee

Kerry L. Lee

Martin L. Lee

James D. Leeper

Stanley A. Lemeshow

Ramon V. Leon

Heryee H. Leong

James M. Lepkowski

Trudy J. Lerer

Martin L. Lesser

Marcia J. Levenstein

Bruce Levin

Charles Lewis

Frederick W. Leysieffer

Shou-Hua Li

Walter S. Liggett

Lawrence I-Kuei Lin

Carol L. Link

Robert E. Little

George A. Livingston

Greta M. Ljung

Nancy C. Lo

Roger Longbotham

Michael T. Longnecker

Thomas A. Louis

Milton W. Loyer

Jay H. Lubin

Dennis W. Luckey

Donald M. Luery

James Lynch

John MacIntyre

Michael E. Mack

Kathleen S. Madsen

Jay Magidson

Linda C. Malone

Eric J. Mandel

Charles F. Manski

Agustin Maravall

Kanti V. Mardia

Michael J. Margreta

Mary A. Marion

Ray L. Marr

Donald L. Marx

Paula E. Mason

Frances J. Mather

Victor M. Matthews

LeRoy T. Mattson

Timothy A. Max

Margaret W. Maxfield

Scott E. Maxwell

Michael J. Mazu

35–39 Years

Janet E. McDougall

Stephen A. McGuire

Joseph W. McKean

Geoffrey J. McLachlan

Christine E. McLaren

Don L. McLeish

Ronald E. McRoberts

William Q. Meeker

Robert J. Meier

Kathleen A. Mellars

Roy Mendelssohn

Ulrich Menzefricke

Michael M. Meyer

Terry G. Meyer

Joel E. Michalek

Richard O. Michaud

Mary-Jane Mietlowski

John A. Miller

Katherine L. Monti

Thomas F. Moore

George E. Morgan

David R. Morganstein

Max D. Morris

Norman Morse

Michael L. Mout

Barbara G. Mroczkowski

Lawrence H. Muhlbaier

Leigh W. Murray

John C. Nash

Elliott Nebenzahl

Reinhard Neck

John T. Neely

Gary L. Neidert

James W. Neill

Paul I. Nelson

Margaret A. Nemeth

Robert L. Newcomb

H. Joseph Newton

Kai Wang Ng

Thomas W. Nolan

El-Sayed E. Nour

Thomas S. Nunnikhoven

Barry D. Nussbaum

David Oakes

Kevin F. O'Brien

Ralph G. O'Brien

Michael W. O'Donnell

Judith Rich O'Fallon

Walter W. Offen

Douglas M. Okamoto

Patrick D. O'Meara

Bernard V. O'Neill

Terence John O'Neill

J. Burdeane Orris

Joyce Orsini

Melvin L. Ott

Willis L. Owen

David J. Pack

Mari Palta

William S. Pan

Arthur C. Papacostas

Swamy A.V.B. Paravastu

Sung H. Park

Won J. Park

William C. Parr

Rudolph S. Parrish

Van L. Parsons

Jeffrey S. Passel

Jagdish K. Patel

Charles L. Paule

Karl E. Peace

N. Shirlene Pearson

Raymond C. Peck

Peter H. Peskun

A. John Petkau

Maurice Pfannestiel

Daniel Pfeffermann

Charles B. Pheatt

Philip J. Pichotta

Linda Williams Pickle

Joseph G. Pigeon

Brian D. Plikaytis

Dale J. Poirier

William E. Pollard

Jessica Pollner

Darwin H. Poritz

Frank J. Potter

Randall W. Potter

Manfred Precht

Dale L. Preston

Kevin Price

Lloyd P. Provost

Peter Purdue

John N. Quiring

Tony K. S. Quon

Alfred W. Rademaker

Damaraju Raghavarao

Volker W. Rahlfs

Philip H. Ramsey

Rose M. Ray

William J. Raynor

Susan L. Reiland

Mark R. Reiser

Kenneth J. Resser

Mark William Riggs

William C. Rinaman

Paula K. Roberson

Rosemary A. Roberts

Frank W. Rockhold

Robert N. Rodriguez

Russell H. Roegner

John E. Rolph

Paul R. Rosenbaum

James L. Rosenberger

N. Phillip Ross

Roch Roy

Lawrence V. Rubinstein

Estelle Russek-Cohen

Carl T. Russell

Thomas P. Ryan

Michael S. Saccucci

Thomas W. Sager

John P. Sall

William M. Sallas

Allan R. Sampson

Ester Samuel-Cahn

Gilles F. M. Santini

Thomas J. Santner

Robert L. Santos

Nathan E. Savin

Richard L. Sawyer

William G. Saylor

Patricia A. Scanlan

Stephen Schacht

Nancy K. Schatz

Kenneth Schechtman

Perry A. Scheinok

Mildred E. Schmidt

John D. Schmitz

David A. Schoenfeld

Timothy L. Schofield

Friedrich W. Scholz

John H. Schuenemeyer

Donald J. Schuirmann

Alastair J. Scott

Thomas A. Scripps

William L. Seaver

Jeanne L. Sebaugh

Joseph Sedransk

Teddy I. Seidenfeld

Thomas R. Sexton

Glenn R. Shafer

Arvind K. Shah

Mohammed A. Shayib

Shingo Shirahata

Patrick E. Shrout

Andrew F. Siegel

Richard S. Sigman

Judith D. Singer

Robert D. Small

Robert K. Smidt

Murray H. Smith

Patricia L. Smith

William A. Sollecito

Dan J. Sommers

Frank C. Sonsini

35–39 Years

Keith A. Soper

John David Sparkes

Terence P. Speed

Bruce D. Spencer

Clifford H. Spiegelman

Nancy L. Spruill

Donald M. Stablein

William M. Stanish

Richard M. Stanley

Bert Steece

J. Michael Steele

Lynda K. Steele

David W. Stewart

Gerald R. Stewart

John A. Stewart

Robert A. Stine

Sandra S. Stinnett

Anne M. Stoddard

Michael A. Stoto

Miron L. Straf

Robert F. Strahan

Michael M. Strand

Donna F. Stroup

Walter W. Stroup

Perla Subbaiah

James P. Summe

Richard A. Sundheim

Robert Sutherland

David A. Swanson

Gerald R. Swope

Richard J. Sylvester

Prem P. Talwar

Ajit C. Tamhane

Robert M. Tardiff

Erica S. Taucher

Marcia A. Testa

A. Cole Thies

John M. Thomas

John H. Thompson

Mary E. Thompson

Theodore J. Thompson

Richard B. Tiller

Ronald R. Titus

Jerome D. Toporek

Lynn D. Torbeck

Robert D. Tortora

David C. Trindade

Ishwari D. Tripathi

J.R. Roger Trudel

L. Claire Tsao

Kam-Wah Tsui

James P. Tuck

Alan R. Tupek

David L. Turner

Gregory W. Ulferts

Richard F. Ulrich

Jessica M. Utts

Pamela M. Vacek

Hernando Valencia

Richard L. Valliant

George H. Van Amburg

Richard Craig Van Nostrand

Kerstin Vannman

Stephen B. Vardeman

Denton R. Vaughan

Niels H. Veldhuijzen

Joseph S. Verducci

Hajime Wago

Joel A. Waksman

Esteban Walker

Joseph J. Walker

Katherine K. Wallman

Chao Wang

Sophronia W. Ward

Herbert W. Ware

John Warren

Stanley Wasserman

William L. Weber

William E. Wecker

Thomas E. Wehrly

William W. S. Wei

Daniel L. Weiner

Jon August Wellner

Roy E. Welsch

Fredrick S. Whaley

Robert M. Wharton

Andrew A. White

Roy W. Whitmore

Howard L. Wiener

Rand R. Wilcox

Leland Wilkinson

Andrew R. Willan

Jean F. Williams

Stephen R. Williams

William J. Wilson

Michael A. Wincek

Lawrence C. Wolfe

Kirk M. Wolter

Michael G. Yochmowitz

Sarah T. Young

James R. zumBrunnen

Applying for Accreditation: It All Starts with Intent

Now that the ASA's accreditation program is up and running, perhaps you are giving some thought to applying. Applications for accreditation are handled entirely online. First, go to *www.amstat.org/accreditation* and review the guidelines to be sure of your eligibility. You'll find a button leading to the guidelines on the left side of the screen.

Second, click on the "intent to apply" button (*www.amstat.org/accreditation/intenttoapply.cfm*) to fill out a short form. The purpose of this form is to notify the ASA of your interest. Filling out the form creates no obligation on your part, but it does trigger a process that leads to an email from the ASA inviting you to apply.

When you receive this email, log in to ASA Members Only at *www.amstat.org/membersonly*. On the left side of the screen, you'll see the PStat button. When you click on it, your online application will open.

Your application should be a thoughtfully assembled document that makes clear to the accreditation committee that you meet the requirements for accreditation. To guide you, your online application consists of the following components:

- Contact information. This is filled in for you based on your record in the ASA database, but you may update the information for your application. It will be updated in your ASA record, as well.
- A cover letter (uploaded as a PDF file). This letter summarizes and clarifies the materials submitted in the application and helps make clear to the accreditation committee why you meet the criteria for accreditation.
- A résumé or CV (uploaded as a PDF file)
- A list of degrees earned and statistics courses taken
- A detailed list of relevant experience as a practicing statistician
- Up to five examples of work product (uploaded as a PDF file)

- A list of your professional development activities in the last three years
- Contact information for two referees. These are two people who will provide references for you.

The online application form provides detailed information about what is expected for each of these components.

Once your application is submitted, your referees will be notified and pointed to an online reference form. When the ASA receives these references, your application will be sent to three members of the accreditation committee for review.

Approval is by the committee's "rule of three"; it takes three affirmative votes to grant accreditation and three negative votes to deny it. If the initial review team has a split vote, then your application will be reviewed by two additional committee members who are unaware of the initial vote. At that point, there will be at least three votes to either approve or deny. Votes of 3-2 will be, in certain cases, subject to further discussion by the accreditation committee.

In most cases, applicants will receive notification of the committee's decision within two to four weeks. In the case of a negative decision, applicants will receive guidance for improving their application and qualifications prior to reapplying.

Again, filling out the intent-to-apply form and starting an application does not obligate you to ultimately submit an application; however, getting started on an application opens up a wealth of information to help you apply.

If you have questions about the accreditation process, drop a note to Ron Wasserstein, ASA executive director, at *ron@amstat.org* or Iain Johnstone, accreditation committee chair, at *imj@stanford.edu*. ■

Statisticians Participate in Climate Science Day on Capitol Hill

Five members of the ASA's Advisory Committee on Climate Change Policy joined 30 scientists from other disciplines to participate in the first Climate Science Day (CSD) on February 17. Sponsored by the ASA, American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Geophysical Union, and others, the scientists formed multidisciplinary teams to meet with members of Congress or their staffs about climate science and offer their help in answering questions relating to climate science.

Targeting freshman offices, the teams visited nearly 100 and emphasized potential regional effects of climate change. They also shared the executive summaries of the 2009 U.S. Global Change Research Program report, *Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States*, and the 2010 National Academies' report *Advancing the Science,* as well as a 2009 letter signed by 18 science organization heads—including 2009 ASA President Sally Morton—stating a shared common view that climate change is occurring and greenhouse gases emitted by human activities are the primary driver.

Murali Haran with Representative Glenn Thompson (R-PA) and Penn State colleague Patrick Drohan, a professor of pedology

To help prepare for the day of visits, participants attended "Congress 101," a day of sessions teaching CSD objectives and how to have a successful Hill visit and communicate on climate change. There was also a panel with four Congressional Committee staffers and a Republican and Democrat from both the House and Senate.

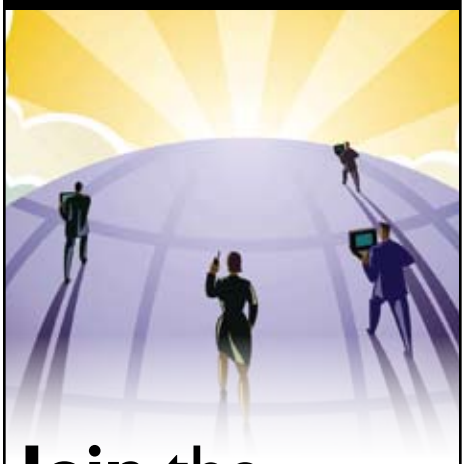
Three of the ASA's participants, who were teamed with crop/soils scientists and geoscientists, had positive comments about CSD and their reception. Murali Haran of Penn State said, "By having our focus be on local concerns at the start, we helped make the staffers much more receptive to what we had to say about climate science later on. It also really helped to have someone with me who could speak directly to agronomy and soil science issues."

Peter Craigmile commented, "It was interesting to learn about the interactions between policy and science, but I think the bigger message that I brought home was that new member offices were receptive to us as sources of climate science information."

Based on feedback from the offices visited, the scientists involved, and the society staff, the groups have agreed to start planning for 2012 Climate Science Day. The society staffs also are discussing how to support the goals of Climate Science Day through other activities.

Other ASA participants were Mark Berliner of The Ohio State University, Leonard Smith of the London School of Economics, and Richard Smith of The University of North Carolina/SAMSI. Additionally, the ASA Section on Statistics and the Environment helped support the ASA's involvement. ■

It was interesting to learn about the interactions between policy and science, but I think the bigger message that I brought home was that new member offices were receptive to us as sources of climate science information.



Join the Conversation

It is now easier than ever to become engaged in the ASA and its members through social media.

ASA Community—Join this online setting for ASA members to communicate, collaborate, and share.

Twitter—Follow *Amstat News* on Twitter @AmstatNews and keep up to date on the profession.

Facebook—Check out the ASA's page on Facebook to keep up with the latest deadlines, news, and activities and to share your tips and comments with colleagues worldwide.

Engage your fellow statisticians and enhance your mind, education, and career at ***www.amstat.org***.

Davidian to Give Keynote at Women's Symposium

Kim Weems, North Carolina State University

Marie Davidian, William Neal Reynolds Professor of Statistics and director of the Center for Quantitative Sciences in Biomedicine at North Carolina State University, will deliver the keynote address at the North Carolina Symposium for Women in Mathematics and Statistics, to be held at NC State on April 16. Her talk will focus on a variety of applications that require combining mathematical and statistical modeling.

Davidian

In addition to the keynote, there will be 20-minute contributed talks and small group discussions. Graduate students are especially encouraged to present their work, and expository talks describing a problem of interest also are welcome.

The goals of the symposium are to build a network of female mathematicians and statisticians in North Carolina to foster mentoring and collaborative relationships and to provide an opportunity for graduate students to present their research in a relaxed, friendly, and supportive environment.

The symposium is being organized by the North Carolina Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education (EDGE) Mentoring Network in collaboration with NC State. For more information, contact Kim Weems at *kim_weems@ncsu.edu*. ■

Papers Sought for FCSM Research Conference

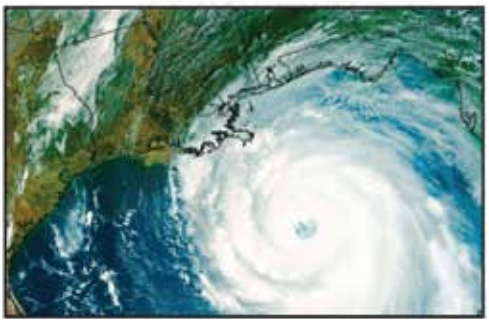
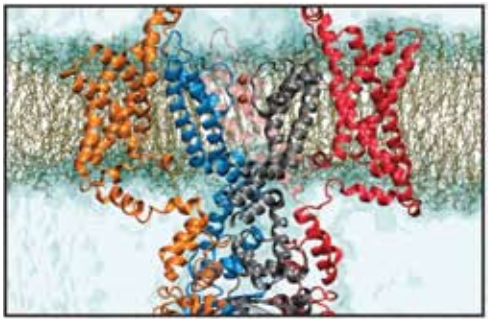
The Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology is planning a research conference—to be held at the Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC, from January 10–12, 2012—and abstracts are being accepted.

The conference will feature mostly contributed papers with formal discussion and software demonstrations on topics related to a variety of statistical research issues. Papers and demonstrations should address methodology, empirical studies, relevant issues, or needs for statistical research. Papers must be original and not previously published or disseminated.

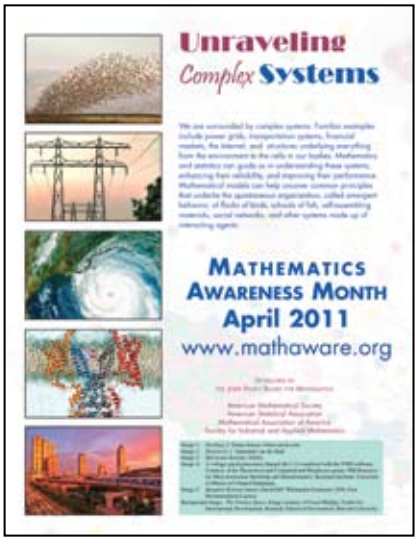
The deadline for abstract submission (300 or fewer words) is May 6. Visit *www.fcsm.gov/events* for a list of possible topics and abstract template, and then submit your abstract via email to *fcsm@census.gov*. ■

April 2011

Mathematics Awareness Month


Celebrate Mathematics by Unraveling Complex Systems



2011 Mathematics Awareness Month poster; download at *www.mathaware.org*

How do epidemics spread, birds flock, and stock markets operate? Answers to these and many other such questions fall within the realm of mathematics.

From natural entities such as living cells, insect colonies, and whole ecosystems to man-made inventions like power grids, transportation networks, and the World Wide Web, one sees complex systems everywhere. Deciphering the mathematics behind such systems can unravel well-structured networks and discernible patterns in natural and artificial structures. That is the idea behind Mathematics Awareness Month this April.

In an effort to improve the understanding of such systems, the Joint Policy Board of Mathematics chose the theme "Unraveling Complex Systems" to highlight the role mathematics plays in them.

Understanding complex systems can help people manage and improve the reliability of such critical infrastructures of everyday life, as well as allow them to interpret, enhance, and better interact with natural systems. Mathematical models can delineate interactions among components of these systems, analyze their spontaneous and emergent behaviors, and help prevent undesirable developments while enhancing desirable traits during their adaptation and evolution.

To download a free poster and view activities and resources, visit *www.mathaware.org*. ■

Statisticians Evaluate Program-Ranking Methods

Ron Wasserstein, ASA Executive Director

Assessing the quality of academic programs has become an increasingly important issue. Such assessments can have major impact on choice of graduate program, careers of individual researchers, funding opportunities, and strategic decisions. University administrators, politicians, and thought leaders are looking for ways to assess the quality of programs out of concern for cost and societal return on investment for higher education.

However, as Nick Fisher, a statistician who specializes in performance measurement for enterprises and programs, noted, "None of the existing methodologies developed to carry out these assessments seems to be satisfactory." According to Fisher, some of the limitations derived from failure to be specific about the diverse quality requirements of different target audiences, which meant there was no sound basis for identifying suitable indicators of the quality of graduate programs. He thinks bringing statistical ideas and methods to bear on these issues could lead to greatly improved assessments.

With this in mind, the ASA conducted a two-day workshop, funded through the ASA's Member Initiative Program, during which Fisher and 16 others evaluated methodologies and developed an agenda for further research. They determined that at least the following five elements are worthy of note:

Creativity in discovery. An effective academic institution fosters an environment in which the creative component of discovery is enhanced.

Quality versus productivity. Quantitative approaches for ranking departments or programs rely largely on measures of productivity because they are readily available and less susceptible to the criticism of subjectivity. But the quality of departments and programs is more inherently qualitative.

Impact of measurement on behavior. Setting productivity targets, rather than continually improving the workplace, may well be counterproductive. There is evidence that this also may be true for graduate programs.

University goals sharply differ from corporate goals. There is a tendency for many to view universities as corporations and to assess a university's quality and effectiveness as they would that of a corporation. However, insisting on the narrow corporate model risks diminishing the intellectual environment that nurtures creativity and discovery.

Transparency is better than rankings. The "inputs" and "outputs" of academic institutions and programs should be publicly available. However, transparency should be moderate, lest it stifle frank discussion.

Workshop participants evaluated a number of methodologies for ranking graduate programs and developed an agenda for further research. To read the entire workshop report, visit *www.amstat.org/misc/AQGPworkshop.pdf.* ■

Meet James Lynch, Director of BJS

Amstat News invited new Bureau of Justice Statistics Director James Lynch to respond to the following questions so readers could learn more about him and the agency he directs. Look for more interviews with new statistical agency heads in forthcoming issues.

BJS Fast Facts

BJS is part of the Department of Justice Programs

Website: *http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov*

Fiscal year 2010 budget: $69 million

Staff size: 60

What about this position appeals to you?

I have worked with crime statistics for more than 30 years. The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) is the principal source of statistical data on crime and criminal justice matters in the United States, so being the director gives me a chance to implement many of the changes and improvements in these statistics that I (and others) have advocated for many years. It also gives me the opportunity to work with some very committed and talented colleagues within the agency.

Describe the top two or three priorities you have for the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

The biggest challenges for BJS involve building statistical infrastructure, including systems to describe those parts of the criminal justice system not well covered and improving the quality of existing data series. More specifically, I am committed to restoring the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) to its former levels of precision and quality and to getting more useful information out of it on a routine basis. I also am committed to exploring ways to change the design and organization of the survey to produce more useful estimates for subnational areas such as states and large cities, improving the quality of estimates of sexual violence, and getting better estimates of crime for juveniles. These goals all involve research and development work that is under way.

Beyond the NCVS, I am eager to take advantage of the increase in the quality of operational and administrative records in the criminal justice system to give us better data on offenses known to the police, arrest information, and recidivism. Line agencies in every corner of the justice system are using automated data and the exchange of these data to improve service. The federal government has spent a great deal of money improving these operational systems and we should explore their ability to be used for statistical purposes. Exploiting these data poses a number of logistical, statistical, policy, and legal challenges that we are working through with pilot programs.

How can the statistical community help you?

The statistical community includes a number of groups with different interests and abilities. It is easier for me to respond to this question if I can focus on specific entities in this broader community, such as the Inter-Agency Council on Statistical Policy (ICSP) and the American Statistical Association (ASA), represented by the Committee on Law and Justice Statistics.

The ICSP brings together the family of federal statistical agencies that have a unique perspective on the federal statistical system, while the Committee on Law and Justice Statistics includes a much broader group sharing a general set of skills and knowledge. The ICSP has become, for me, a helpful group in sharing approaches to common problems, including strategies for preserving independence, recruiting staff, vetting statistical products, and routinely communicating with constituencies and consumers. This kind of cooperation could blossom into more ambitious commonwealth efforts such as pooling resources to get the assistance of world-class statisticians that no single agency could sustain in terms of worth problems and money.

The Committee on Law and Justice Statistics can provide advice to the agency on a number of statistical issues, including the following:

Disclosure policies for micro data

Assessing the relative merits of general variance formula estimates of standard errors versus those from direct estimates using empirical variance estimation procedures

Balancing the reporting obligations of a federal statistical agencies with the confidentiality rights of agencies supplying administrative record data

Approaches to imputation: when is imputation appropriate, inappropriate, and essential

James P. Lynch was confirmed as the director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics by the Senate in June 2010. Lynch is on leave from John Jay College in New York, where he is a distinguished professor. He earned his PhD in sociology from The University of Chicago and has published three books, 25 refereed articles, and more than 40 book chapters and other publications. Lynch also has chaired the American Statistical Association's Committee on Law and Justice Statistics.

Advantages and disadvantages of different approaches to subnational estimation with the NCVS

Estimating standard errors for multi-year aggregations of the NCVS for both rate estimation and multivariate modeling

Methods for assessing data quality, scope of coverage, and record linkage in using administrative records and addressing the consent and disclosure issues resulting from the linkage of administrative records with survey data

The budget for BJS was increased by nearly a third in fiscal year 2010 to improve the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS). Please describe the progress to improve NCVS and what remains to be done.

The increased budget for the NCVS was divided into two components—funds for restoring the core survey and funds for redesigning the survey to enhance its utility. The CNSTAT panel was not critical of the basic design of the NCVS, but they focused on ways to accommodate the flat funding of BJS and the survey. Some of these accommodations had large negative consequences for the quality of the survey data. With additional funding for the core, exploration of these accommodations was given less priority and efforts were directed at restoring the sample size and quality controls that were gradually, but substantially, eroded over the last two decades.

The first increment in sample was introduced this past October, and the first interviewer training will be conducted in April. Another increment in sample will be introduced in January.

Restoring the survey is complicated by the need to avoid another break in series for the victimization statistics as occurred in 2007, when changes to the survey were introduced without a plan for understanding their effects on victimization rates. All the actions taken to restore the NCVS must be done in a manner that lets us understand and take account of effects on the statistical series.

Efforts to redesign the survey to enhance its utility are focused on three major areas—improving subnational estimates of victimization, measurement of sexual violence, and the victimization of juveniles, including those under 12. In 2010, we began to assess alternative strategies for providing routine estimates for states and large cities. These alternatives include direct estimation with the current sample and with enhanced and reallocated samples; indirect estimates, including blended estimates from low-cost boosts to the current sample; and using low-cost options for free-standing local surveys. The initial results from the direct estimates work will be available in the next month or two.

The NCVS has long been criticized for its measurement of rape and sexual assault. Substantial improvements were made in this area in 1992, but alternative methodologies have been used since that time that provide very different estimates of the level and change in level of these crimes. These conflicting estimates raise damaging doubts about self-report surveys of victimization. We must confront these difficult measurement issues and determine the optimum set of procedures for measuring sexual violence and whether the NCVS can be altered to accommodate those procedures or a different vehicle is required. We are negotiating an agreement with CNSTAT to begin this process.

The measurement of juvenile victimization is complicated by a parallel set of methodological issues, and we must decide if the NCVS is the appropriate vehicle for addressing this population and, if so, what changes to the design are required.

Describe your interactions with other components of the U.S. Department of Justice and the role of BJS within the department.

Part of BJS' role in DOJ is the same as its role with respect to the public: to provide routinely high-quality statistics on crime and the criminal justice at the federal, state, and local levels. Increasingly, however, various components of the department have come to rely on BJS for all things statistical and ask for statistical analysis in support of their mission. While we try to service these requests with existing reports, they often result in special analyses of available statistical series. This kind of responsiveness is important for establishing the relevance of statistics, but it also can detract from the maintenance of statistical infrastructure and the production of routine reports.

With John Laub as director of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) (the research arm of the DOJ), we are looking for ways that BJS and NIJ can work together more closely. We are considering ways of sharing information at an early point in the planning and budget process to determine how our programs can inform each other. In planning its research agenda, for example, NIJ may be able to use routinely collected data from BJS to determine if a specific solicitation is necessary or whether the assumptions on which the research program is based are accurate. In turn, many of the measurement issues of concern to BJS can be informed by some of the research funded by NIJ. Both John and I look forward to making these and other exchanges more formal and systematic. ■

Editor's Note: The entire interview can be viewed online at *http://magazine.amstat.org.*

Administration Affirms Role of Data-Driven Decisionmaking with FY12 Budget Requests

Steve Pierson, ASA Director of Science Policy

In President Obama's fiscal year 2012 (FY12) budget request, released on February 14, the federal statistical agencies' budgets generally see the increases requested for FY11 request postponed a year. Acknowledging the atmosphere of fiscal restraint and the uncertainty around the still unresolved FY11 budget, the administration largely affirms its belief in the value of the federal statistical system through the FY12 request.

As the table to the right illustrates, the National Center for Health Statistics, Energy Information Administration (EIA), and Bureau of Economic Analysis still see the large increases requested for FY11 (over FY10) in the FY12 request, although EIA's requested increase is more modest. The small increases requested in FY11 for the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Economic Research Service, and National Center for Education Statistics also are mostly left intact in the FY12 request.

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) and Social Security Administration's Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics (ORES) both see larger requested increases in the FY12 request.

With its 30% requested increase, BTS would establish a safety data analysis program to "centralize, standardize, and address gaps in safety data" across all transportation modes. It also would expand the sample for the Commodity Flow Survey and conduct the Vehicle Inventory and Use Survey—last conducted in 2002—on the physical and operating characteristics of trucks on the nation's roads.

With its 25% requested increase, ORES would "expand disability research by creating a disability research consortium and commissioning expert studies on critical program design issues."

The main exceptions to the trends above are the U.S. Census Bureau and Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS). The Census Bureau's FY12 request is $1.025 billion, down from the $1.267 billion request for FY11, largely because of the continued wrap-up of the 2010 decennial census. The FY12 request continues the FY11 request plans to increase the sample size of the American Community Survey and continue developing the supplemental statistical poverty measure. Other major programs seeing increases

Agency (amounts in millions of $)	FY10	FY11 Request	FY12 Request
Bureau of Economic Analysis	97.3	113	113
Bureau of Justice Statistics	69	70	66
Bureau of Labor Statistics	611	645	647
Bureau of Transportation Statistics	27	30	35
Economic Research Service	82	87	86
Energy Information Administration	111	129	124
National Agricultural Statistics Service	162	165	165
National Center for Education Statistics	264	279	279
National Center for Health Statistics	139	162	162
Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics, SSA	28	32	35
Statistics of Income Division, IRS	43	44	44
U.S. Census Bureau	7225	1267	1025

The Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) and Social Security Administration's Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics (ORES) both see larger requested increases in the FY12 request.

in the FY12 request include the 2012 Economic Census, planning for the 2020 decennial census, and enhancing the statistical agencies' ability to use administrative records.

The BJS budget request is $3 million below the FY10 level and $4 million below the FY11 request, but still substantially above the FY09 level in order to continue revitalizing the National Crime Victimization Survey.

It's essential for the statistical community to communicate the importance of the statistical agencies to Congress. The following excerpt from the opening paragraph of the Strengthening Federal Statistics chapter of the FY12 Analytical Perspectives says it well:

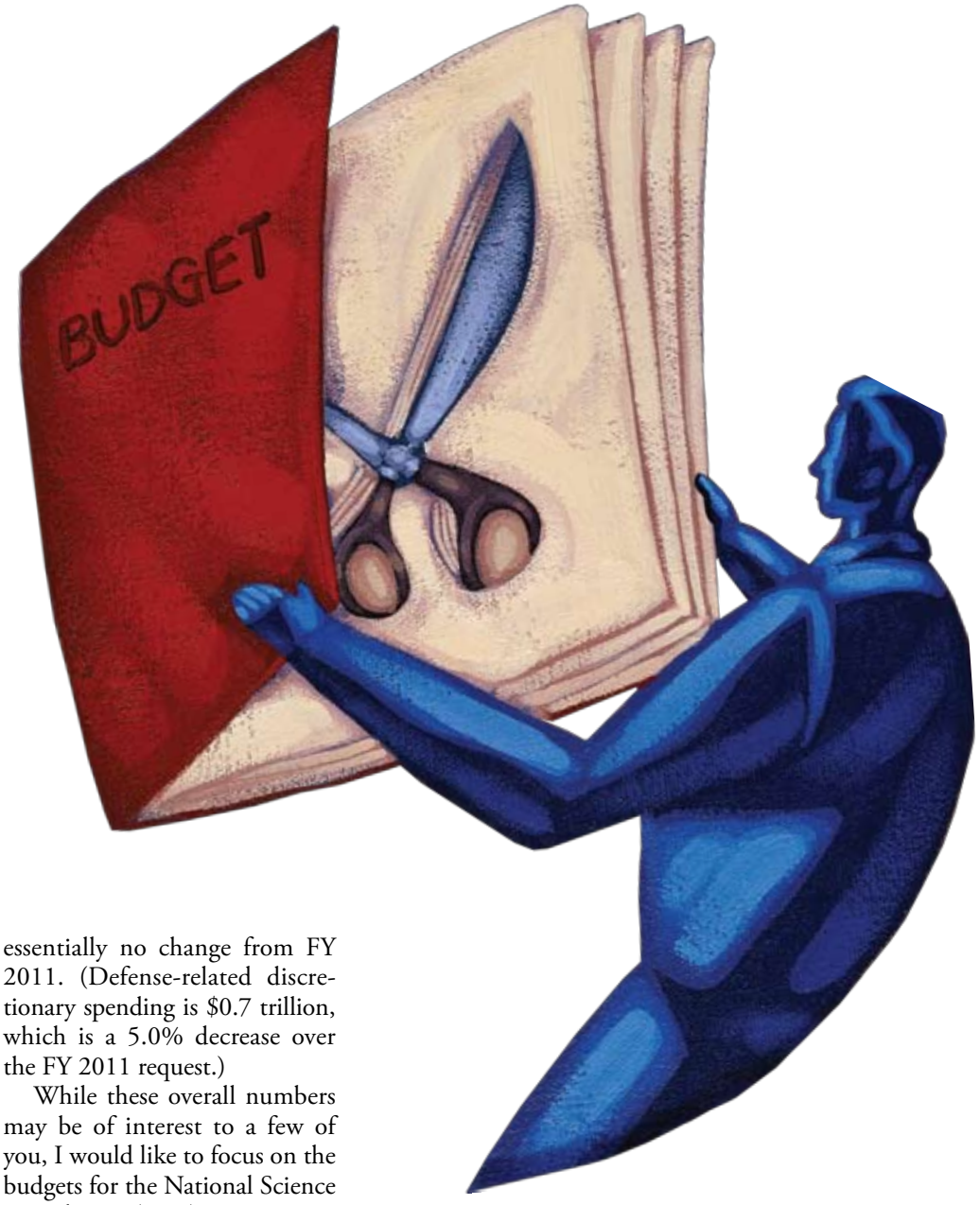
> The ability of governments, businesses, and the general public to make appropriate decisions about budgets, employment, investments, taxes, and a host of other important matters depends critically on the ready availability of relevant, accurate, and timely federal statistics.

For sources of request levels and further information, see the blog post "FY12 Statistical Agency Budget Requests" at *http://community.amstat.org/amstat/amstat/blogs*. ■

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

FY 2012 Federal Budget Request

Keith Crank, ASA Research and Graduate Education Manager



President Obama submitted his fiscal year (FY) 2012 budget to Congress on February 14, outlining his priorities and beginning the public debate about how much money the government should spend and on what it should be spent.

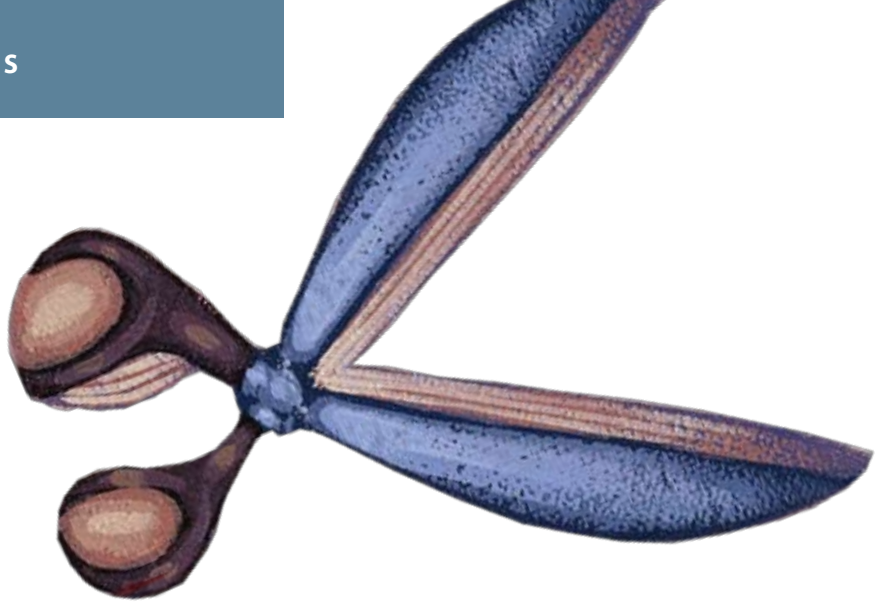
When you read this, the FY 2012 budget should be the only one under consideration, though, as I write this, the FY 2011 budget has not been completed. The federal government is operating under a continuing resolution (CR) at the level of the FY 2010 appropriations. That CR is set to expire on March 4, at which time Congress will probably pass another two-week CR before completing the 2011 appropriations. This makes it impossible to identify the year-to-year change being requested

Currently, there are (at least) three levels for FY 2011 that could be used for comparison: the FY 2011 request to Congress, the FY 2010 appropriations (the current CR level), and the current proposal being debated by the House of Representatives.

The total request for FY 2012 is $3.7 trillion, compared to an estimated $3.8 trillion for FY 2011. Of this $3.7 trillion, $0.5 trillion is nondefense, discretionary spending. The FY 2012 request for this category reflects essentially no change from FY 2011. (Defense-related discretionary spending is $0.7 trillion, which is a 5.0% decrease over the FY 2011 request.)

While these overall numbers may be of interest to a few of you, I would like to focus on the budgets for the National Science Foundation (NSF), its Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS), and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), since these are the places from which most of the federal money for academic statisticians and biostatisticians comes.

For NSF, the FY 2012 request is $7.8 billion, which is a 13% increase over the FY 2010 appropriations of $6.9 billion. When compared to the FY 2011 request of $7.4 billion, it represents a 4.6% increase,



and when compared to the $6.6 billion currently being considered by the House, it represents an 18.3% increase. This increase is not spread evenly over the various directorates; the Mathematical and Physical Sciences Directorate (MPS) would only see a 6.0% increase over the FY 2010 appropriations (a 1.6% increase over the FY 2011 request). This is also not spread evenly, and DMS would receive a 7.9% increase over FY 2010 (a 2.9% increase over the FY 2011 request).

DMS is continuing to scale back its educational activities. In FY 2011, DMS planned to reduce its education funding by about $2 million. For FY 2012, an additional $5.5 million will be moved to the research and related activities side of the budget. DMS will no longer provide funding for IGERT, interdisciplinary training for undergraduates in biological and mathematical sciences, or the graduate research fellowships. Overall, the budget for the core research activities in the division is expected to increase by more than $26.5 million, or about 12.4%, when compared to FY 2010.

Details about the NSF budget request can be found at *www.nsf.gov/about/budget/fy2012/index.jsp*.

As with NSF, the president's budget includes an increase for NIH, albeit a more modest 2.4% increase over the FY 2010 appropriations (and a 1.0% decrease from the FY 2011 request). It's impossible to tell how much is spent on statistics and biostatistics, but we've been making a strong effort to emphasize the importance of our discipline to the NIH research activities over the past 18 months.

The NIH budget request is at *http://officeofbudget.od.nih.gov/br.html*.

It's a long way from the president's budget request to the congressional appropriations, and it will be many months before we see what happens this year. Hopefully, it will not take as long as the FY 2011 has taken, but with different parties controlling the House of Representatives and the Senate, it is difficult to predict.

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

2011 ASA Quality and Productivity Research Conference

The conference will be held at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center, in Roanoke, VA from June 8-10, 2011.

At the conference, Dr. A. Blanton Godfrey, Dean of the College of Textiles at North Carolina State University, will be honored for his many contributions in the fields of quality management and business statistics, and for service to the statistical community.

Short Course on June 7, 2011: The conference will also feature a short course on **Statistical Engineering** taught by Dr. Ronald D. Snee and Dr. Roger W. Hoerl.

Check the conference web site at ***http://www.qprc2011.org/*** for additional information on the conference program, student scholarships, registration, and accommodations.

SCIENCE POLICY

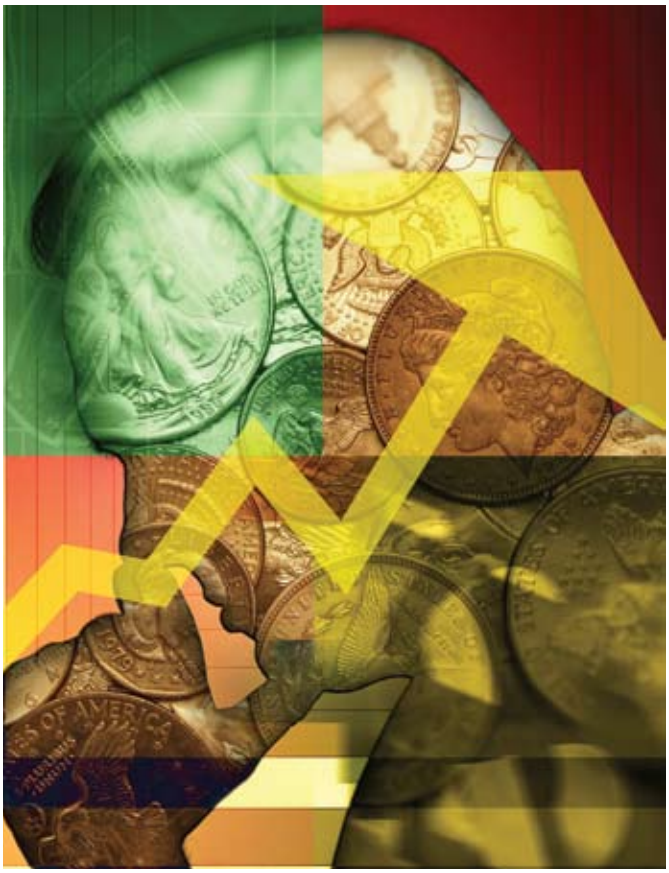
Measuring Innovation: Better Data to Help Design Policies to Revive Economic Growth

Dale Jorgenson, Harvard University

I'm honored to have Dale Jorgenson as this month's guest columnist. A Fellow of the ASA since 1965 and the recipient of the 2010 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics, Jorgenson discusses the components of economic growth in the context of furthering the U.S. economic recovery.

~ Steve Pierson, ASA Director of Science Policy

The great preponderance of economic growth in the United States involves the replication of existing technologies through investment in equipment and software and expansion of the skilled labor force. Replication generates economic growth with no increase in productivity. Productivity growth is the key economic indicator of innovation and accounts for less than 12% of U.S. economic growth, despite its importance in industries such as computers and software. Although innovation contributes only a modest portion of growth, this is vital to long-term gains in the American standard of living.



The predominant role of replication of existing technologies in U.S. economic growth is critical to the formulation of economic policies. As the U.S. economy recovers from the Great Recession of 2007–2009, economic policy must focus on reviving the growth of employment and stimulating investment. Policies that concentrate on enhancing the rate of innovation will have a modest impact over the intermediate run. However, the long-run growth of the economy depends on the performance of a relatively small number of sectors in which innovation takes place.

The U.S. statistical system has begun to incorporate inputs of capital, labor, energy, materials, and services (KLEMS), as well as outputs and productivity for individual industries. The KLEMS framework was endorsed by the Advisory Committee on Measuring Innovation in the 21st Century Economy to Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez. The Bureau for Economic Analysis and the Bureau of Labor Statistics are now implementing this

The trade industries head the list of innovators

approach to measuring productivity. The U.S. Census Bureau is providing important new data on inputs and outputs of services.

The U.S. statistical system has shifted gradually to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), beginning with the Business Census of 1997. The national accounts converted to NAICS in the 2003 Comprehensive Revision of the National Income and Product Accounts. An important advantage of NAICS is the greater detail available on the service industries that make up a growing proportion of the U.S. economy. NAICS also provides more detail on industries that produce information technology hardware, software, and services.

An examination of economic growth by industrial sector for the period 1960–2007 reveals that more than half was due to trade and services industries that are particularly intensive users of information technology equipment and software. The information-producing industries—computer hardware, software, services, and the related industries—accounted for slightly less than 10%. The rest of economic growth is accounted for by the remaining industries in manufacturing and mining, as well as service industries that do not use information technology equipment and software intensively.

The industries that lead in innovation are, surprisingly, headed by wholesale and retail trade, which comprise a large swath of the U.S. economy and have rapidly adopted information technology equipment and software. The trade industries head the list of innovators because of leading firms such as Walmart and Cisco that have used information technology to integrate supply chains around the world. These supply chains link electronic cash registers at retail outlets and business-to-business ordering systems with order dispatch and transportation scheduling at remote factories.

Semiconductors and computers have sustained high rates of innovation through new products and processes pioneered by firms such as Apple, IBM, and Intel. The rapid pace of innovation in information technology and software has continued through successive generations of technology, beginning with mainframe computers and continuing with minicomputers and then personal computers. Recently, this has shifted to services accessed through the Internet such as cloud computing. Voice, data, and video communications moved onto the Internet as broadband services became available to households, along with mobile and landline communications services.

Successful applications of information technology require new organizational structures to manage the steady procession of new generations of equipment and software. These organizational structures rapidly become antiquated so that executive-level management of information technology–based businesses must direct a continuous process of restructuring. Business systems have become imbedded in software that requires incessant updating as business needs evolve.

For details, download "New Data on U.S. Productivity Growth by Industry," by Dale W. Jorgenson, Mun Ho, and Jon Samuels at *www.worldklems.net/conferences/worldklems2010_jorgenson.pdf*. ■

STAT*tr@k*

From Computer Scientist to Statistician

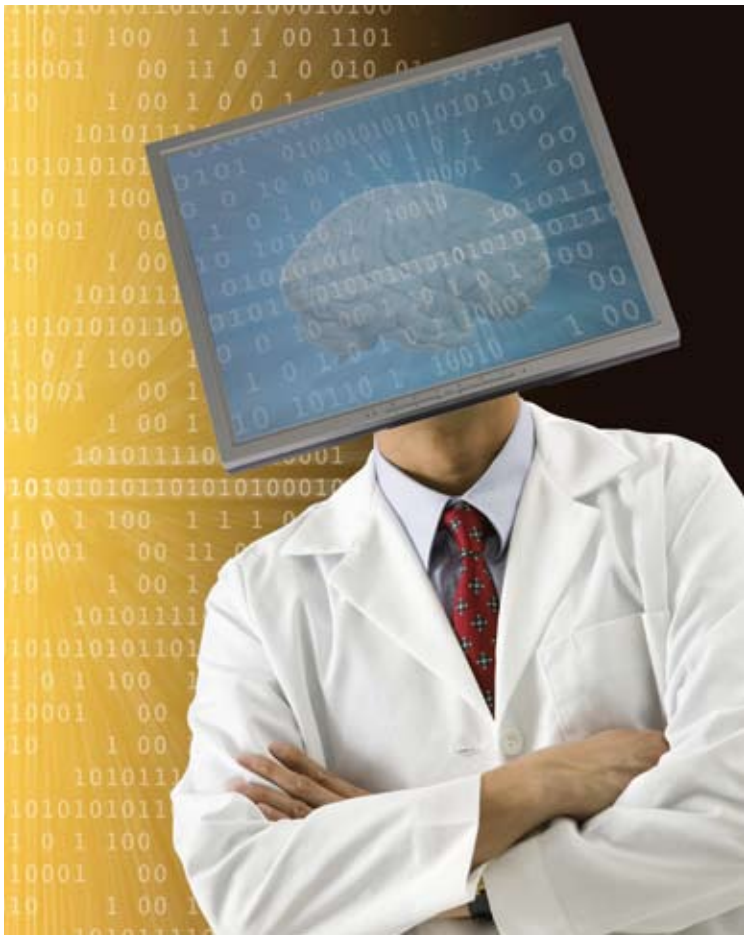
Stumbling backward and landing well

Andrew Beamer, NC State University

Unlike most students entering a graduate statistics program, my background is not in statistics or mathematics. As an undergraduate, I majored in computer science and engineering. I took courses on topics such as ANOVA and basic random variables, but, as I later found out, I knew very little statistical theory (just ask my first-year professors).

After graduating, I found myself working for a biotech company on projects that bordered on both computer science and statistics. I mainly wrote R scripts for data analysis, but increasingly became involved with projects that were statistical in nature and found that my statistical ability was wanting.

Through a fortuitous series of events, I became engaged with the EPA's computational toxicology research program, in which there are many talented scientists working on a vast array of problems, nearly all of which have a large statistical component. I was working on a nonlinear regression problem and found the standard approach of Gauss-Newton often failed, even with a concerted and meticulous search for initial values. I distinctly remember the supervising statistician telling my coworker and me that what we were embarking on would be difficult for most graduate students in statistics. I naïvely thought it would be no sweat, since I "was so good at programming." Statistics was easy, right? After struggling for a month or two and getting nowhere, I finally abandoned hubris.



Doing what any good computer scientist would do when at an impasse, I threw more computation at the problem using a parallel search technique. My idea was to view the regression as a searching and optimization problem, something I knew a great deal more about. In this context, I could use methods I was familiar with to solve the problem, such as evolutionary algorithms.

It was at this point that I was put in contact with Alison Motsinger-Reif of the NC State statistics department. She helped refine my original idea, taking time out of her busy schedule to help me, despite my not being a student. The approach worked well, and we put together a paper outlining the technique.

After a year of work, I was offered the chance to pursue a master's of science in statistics while working on problems with

> ... what we were embarking on would be difficult for most graduate students in statistics. I naïvely thought it would be no sweat, since I "was so good at programming." Statistics was easy, right?

the EPA computational toxicology group. Given the interesting problems I would be working on and how badly I wanted the statistical training, I eagerly agreed and submitted my application to NC State.

I'm not sure what my expectations were as I entered my first year. I knew my reasons for being there, but I didn't have a clear picture of what statistics really was as a discipline. Andrew Gelman once remarked in an *Amstat News* article that he "… was worried that statistics was just too easy to be interesting." I didn't expect my classes to be easy (which, of course, they were not), but I think his comment reflects the general lack of understanding of what "real" statisticians do. I certainly had no idea as an engineering student what my statistics professors worked on when they weren't teaching. Was there more to it?

As my first year progressed and I delved deeper into the world of statistics, I occasionally asked, "What are the 'big' questions in statistics?" or "If you could solve just one problem in statistics, what would it be?" Surely I was missing something, but I was unable to find a satisfactory answer.

I was aware of the work being done in other fields—physicists were searching for the Higgs-Boson (also called the "God" particle) while trying to formulate the theory of everything; mathematicians were hard at work on famous problems such as Goldbach's, the Hodge, and the Twin Prime conjectures; computer scientists wanted to know if P = NP; and biologists were untangling the foundations of life. David Hilbert once said, "If I were to awaken after having slept for a thousand years, my first question would be, 'Has the Riemann hypothesis been proven?'" Was there an equivalent question for the slumbering statistician?

I eventually discovered what "real" statisticians do, and the answer was simpler than I imagined. Everything. Statisticians are involved in a formative role in nearly all science disciplines, in addition to laying new statistical theory. John Tukey once said, "The best thing about being a statistician is that you get to play in everyone's backyard."

We are now being told about the coming "data deluge" and how statistics is the new "sexy" profession. Statistical savoir-faire beyond $p < 0.05$ is quickly becoming a necessity for most research scientists. When fellow graduate students in other fields learn I am studying statistics, most of them express a longing to know more about it. I know the feeling of statistical confusion and am glad it is receding.

So, if you are like me and stumbled somewhat backward into statistics, be glad for it; you have landed well. ■

Workshops Lined Up Ahead of USCOTS

The 2011 United States Conference on Teaching Statistics (USCOTS) will be held May 19–21 at the Embassy Suites in Raleigh/Cary, North Carolina. This biennial meeting is the largest gathering dedicated to statistics education in North America and features provocative plenary talks and active breakout sessions.

The Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education is pleased to join four other National Science Foundation–funded projects to offer United States Conference on Teaching Statistics (USCOTS) pre-conference workshops in Raleigh/Cary, North Carolina, from May 17–19. The workshops will be held on the SAS campus.

There is no registration fee and lunch will be provided; however, advance registration is required for all workshops. Space is limited, so participation will be based on a first-registered, first-admitted basis. Acceptance into the workshops will be confirmed via email. Workshop offerings include the following:

Teaching the Big Ideas in Introductory Statistics, taught by Deborah Rumsey of The Ohio State University and Marjorie Bond of Monmouth College

Facilitating Student Projects in Elementary Statistics, taught by Brad Bailey of North Georgia College & State University

Teaching Statistics with R, taught by Danny Kaplan of Macalester College, Nick Horton of Smith College, and Randy Pruim of Calvin College

Computationally Intensive Methods in Teaching Introductory Statistics, taught by Webster West of Texas A&M University and Roger Woodard of North Carolina State University

Workshop registration is part of USCOTS registration at *www.causeweb.org/uscots/register*. Participants may apply for an USCOTS registration grant if they do not have their own funds. For details, visit *www.causeweb.org/uscots/workshop*.

The special conference lodging rate of $109 is guaranteed until April 16. For details, visit *www.CAUSEweb.org/uscots*. ■

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- **2010 DMA Analytics Challenge**
  Make-A-Wish Foundation Targeting Solution, Lapsed Donor Segments
- **INFORMS 2009**
  Healthcare Quality Task
- **2009 KDDCup**
  CRM task, telecom dataset
- **2008 DMA Analytics Challenge**
  Direct Marketing Optimization task
- **2008 Scientific Computing**
  Data Mining Readers' Choice Award
- **2007 DMA Analytics Challenge**
  Targeted Marketing task
- **2007 PAKDD**
  Cross-selling task, financial dataset
- **2006 PAKDD**
  Upselling task, telecom dataset
- **2004 KDDCup**
  Particle Physics task
- **2002 Duke/TeraData**
  Churn Modeling, CRM
- **2000 KDDCup**
  Web Analytics

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CDC Symposium to Focus on Massive, Complex Data in Public Health

Lester R. Curtin and Myron Katzoff, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) 13th Biennial Symposium on Statistical Methods will be held at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Decatur, Georgia (Atlanta metropolitan area), May 24–25. The theme of this year's conference is "Statistical Applications Using Massive and Emerging Data in Public Health."

As health information technology continues to advance, larger and more complex data sets will be available to researchers for both primary and secondary data analysis. These data sets could be based on standardized administrative records collected through federal entitlement programs, private health insurance or health provider companies, large or combined clinical trials, or state-based health record systems. With the emergence of such large and complex data sets come new statistical, logistical, and legal problems.

The focus of this year's CDC symposium will be on statistical applications for complex networks, administrative and legal (privacy) issues in data linkage, and the confidentiality issues that may arise in primary and secondary analysis of large linked data sets for the confidentiality for new and emerging data sets. Special emphasis will be placed on the use of data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for epidemiological studies and public health research and surveillance.

A short course on complex networks and statistics will be offered on May 23 in conjunction with the symposium. The course will be taught by Eric Kolaczyk from Boston University and be based on his book *Statistical Analysis of Network Data*. The course will run from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and focus on network mapping (creating a network representation), network sampling (in particular, respondent driven sampling), network modeling, and the dynamics of networks with respect to contact processes and epidemics.

There will be invited and contributed oral presentations and contributed poster sessions. Provision has been made for session topics to include statistical and epidemiological applications of the large CMS data set; design issues based on adaptive sampling and related methodology; analytic innovations in public health surveillance and medical screening applications using multiple data sources; analysis of text, image, or qualitative data; secondary analysis of nonpublic released data sets; and simulation models for predicting disease outcomes.

This venue provides statisticians, social and behavioral scientists, epidemiologists, economists, policy analysts, and other health researchers a unique opportunity to gain knowledge and stimulate further methods development in the area of massive data sets and complex networks and to exchange ideas with symposium contributors through formal and informal discussions. Presenters represent academia, private industry, and federal and local government agencies.

The CDC Statistical Advisory Group, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, and the ASA are sponsoring the symposium to promote the development and application of statistical methods. This symposium is designed to draw from statistical and related quantitative and information sciences across a variety of public health applications, disciplines, and information technology concepts that relate to emerging data sets and the ability to synthesize such information for use in public health practice. For more information, visit *www.cdc.gov/sag*. ■

Read about your colleagues and friends in the news. Go to *www.amstat.org* and click on "Statisticians in the News."

C. R. Rao was recently awarded an honorary doctor of science degree at the first convocation of the Jawaharlal Nehru Technical University, Kakinada, India. He delivered the convocation address with a talk titled "The Role of Statistics as the Key Technology of the Future."

Rao has received 33 honorary degrees from universities in 18 countries spanning six continents. ■

The department of biostatistics at the Harvard School of Public Health recently named **Richard Landis** the recipient of the 2011 Marvin Zelen Leadership Award in Statistical Science. Landis is a professor in the department of biostatistics and epidemiology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and professor of statistics at the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

This annual award was established to honor Marvin Zelen's long and distinguished career as a statistician and his major role in shaping the field of biostatistics. It recognizes an individual in government, industry, or academia who, by virtue of his/her outstanding leadership, has greatly affected the theory and practice of statistical science. While individual accomplishments are considered, the most distinguishing criterion is the awardee's contribution to the creation of an environment in which statistical science and its applications have flourished.

Landis will deliver a public lecture on statistical science on May 20 at the Harvard School of Public Health and be presented with a citation and honorarium. ■

The Department of Biostatistics at the Harvard School of Public Health recently named **Manning Feinleib**, professor emeritus of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health in the department of epidemiology, the recipient of the 2011 Distinguished Alum Award.

Each year, the Distinguished Alum Award is given to an individual in government, industry, or academia who—by virtue of applications to support research, methodology and theory, significant organizational responsibility, and teaching—has affected the theory and practice of statistical science. The overall career of the individual is considered, with an emphasis on how the nominee has used their experience to bring out the best in life with research and academics.

Feinleib, who graduated from Harvard School of Public Health's department of biostatistics in 1966 with his PhD, will be presented with a plaque and deliver a lecture during the fall of the 2011–2012 academic year at the Harvard School of Public Health. ■

Obituaries

Bernard Harris

Bernard Harris passed away peacefully on January 28, 2011, at Tulane University Medical Center in New Orleans, Louisiana, following complications from heart surgery.

Harris was born on June 20, 1926, in New York City. An academically precocious youngster, he graduated at an early age from Townsend-Harris High School, and entered City College of New York. During the midst of his college education, he was drafted into the Army, assigned to the Counter Intelligence Corps, and sent to Germany near the end of World War II. Upon completion of military service, he finished his bachelor's degree in business administration at City College in 1946. He changed his academic focus to mathematics and statistics, earned a master's degree from The George Washington University in 1953, and, in one year, completed his doctorate at Stanford University in 1958.

During the years between his master's and doctorate degrees, Harris worked as a statistician at the U.S. Census Bureau and as a mathematician for the National Security Agency. He became an associate professor in the department of mathematics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln after completing his doctorate and moved to the University of Wisconsin-Madison to work as a professor in the Mathematics Research Center from 1964 to 1985 and as a professor in the statistics department from 1966 to 2002. After Harris retired from UW-Madison, he rejoined the faculty of the statistics department at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as an adjunct faculty member until his death.

He enjoyed visiting professorships at the Technical Institute in Munich, Germany; Technical University of Eindhoven, Netherlands; University of Lund, Sweden; the Mathematics Institute Steklova, Moscow, Russia; University of Muenster, Germany; Heinrich Heine University in Duesseldorf, Germany; and the Kungliska Techniska Hogskolan. He also was a member of many commissions and advisory boards for the government, including a review board of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Statistics Task Force for the FAA/DOD Committee on Material Properties.

Harris was an elected Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and the American Statistical Association. He was proud to be a founding member of the ASA Section on Risk Analysis and served as its first chair. He was a member of the Classification Society of North America, serving on its board of directors. He was also a member of the International Classification Society and the American Mathematical Association.

Harris received the Pioneers of Science Award. He was a perennial advocate of and contributor to statistical science for the Department of the Army. He participated as part of the Mathematics Research Center at Wisconsin that supported the Army in addressing research questions and presented his work at countless annual statistical conferences.

Harris's contributions to risk analysis, reliability, probability, and statistical inferences with application to open Department of Defense questions was recognized in 1982 with the Wilks Award for Contributions to Statistical Methodologies in Army Research, Development, and Testing. His work continued to address current problems in his later years, with recent work concerning mathematical methods in combating terrorism and his 2010 paper, titled "Random Contamination of Semiconductor Materials."

Harris was the author of the book *Theory of Probability* and the editor of *Spectral Analysis of Time Series* and *Graph Theory and Its Applications*. He published hundreds of articles and reviews over the course of his career, but was most proud of his work in random mappings, combinatorics, reliability, and risk analysis.

In addition to his academic interests, Harris enjoyed a variety of music (classical, opera, and jazz), reading, gourmet cooking, films, and doing the *New York Times* crossword puzzles in ink. He also loved to create puns.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the American Statistical Association to support the education of young statisticians.

James Richard Murphy

James Richard Murphy died peacefully during his sleep on December 21, 2010.

He earned a bachelor's in chemistry from The University of Chicago and a master's in mathematics from the University of Denver. In 1977, he earned his PhD in biostatistics from The Johns Hopkins University.

Murphy served as director of the biostatistics core of the University of Colorado Cancer Center and was head of the division of biostatistics at the National Jewish Medical and Research Center.

To read more about Murphy's life, see *http://attheforefront.ucdenver.edu/?p=1236*.

Patrick W. Crockett

Patrick W. Crockett, 58, passed away on December 29, 2010, in his home in Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Born in Houston, Texas, Crockett attended The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he earned his PhD in 1983. He was director of statistical sciences for 14 years at SRA International in Research Triangle Park.

Crockett was an avid sailor and loved the ocean. He was also a talented painter and boat builder, whose hand-painted wooden kayaks were admired by many. He enjoyed camping and cycling with family and friends and will be remembered for his special sense of humor, spirituality, warmth, and child-like wonder.

sectionnews

Business and Economic Statistics

The Business and Economic Statistics Section (B&E) is offering up to two travel awards— roughly $350—for students in doctoral programs in business, economics, econometrics, statistics, or allied disciplines. The awards will help students attend the 2011 Joint Statistical Meetings, to be held in Miami Beach, Florida, from July 30 to August 4. Applicants should be either presenting a paper or participating in a poster session.

Applications will be accepted until May 6 and should be sent to (email preferred) Stuart Scott, Chair, B&E Student Travel Award Committee, 5611 Lee Hwy., Arlington, VA 22207; *stuscott@comcast.net*.

To download an application form or for more information, visit *http://magazine.amstat.org/?cat=17.* To fill out an application form online, visit *www.amstat.org/sections/bus_econ/index.html*. Questions may be sent to Scott.

Government Statistics

John Dixon, outgoing section chair, recognizes the accomplishments of the 2010 executive committee, which produced last year's program at JSM and a successful poster competition.

The section sponsors the Pat Doyle, Roger Herriot, and Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring awards, as well as the Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship. Details about the awards and how to apply for them can be found at *www.amstat.org/sections/sgovt*.

GSS also is a permanent sponsor for the International Conference on Establishment Surveys, which takes place every three or four years and explores the current state of the art in survey methodology for business, institutional, and agricultural surveys. The next conference will be held in Montréal, Québec, Canada, from June 11–14, 2012. Additionally, GSS cosponsors the International Conference on Methods for Surveying and Enumerating Hard-to-Reach Populations, which will take place in New Orleans, Louisiana, from October 31 to November 3, 2012. For more information about these meetings, visit *www.amstat.org/meetings*.

More information about the section can be found online at *www.amstat.org/sections/sgovt* or *http://magazine.amstat.org/?cat=17*.

Quality and Productivity

This year's Quality and Productivity Research Conference will center on quality and productivity in a global economy from June 8–10 in Roanoke, Virginia. The conference will feature a range of technical sessions covering topics in reliability, the design and analysis of experiments (including computer experiments), statistical process control, and measurement systems analysis. On June 7, Ronald Snee and Roger Hoerl will lead a short course called "Using Statistical Engineering to Solve Large, Unstructured Problems." Registration is open for both the short course and conference at *www.cpe.vt.edu/qprc/index.html*.

Also, the section will sponsor an invited session and five roundtable discussions during the 2011 Joint Statistical Meetings in Miami Beach, Florida. The invited session is titled "Quality Issues in Health Care" and will feature speakers Benjamin Kemper, Jason Gillikin, Victoria Jordan, and James Benneyan. The roundtables include "Effective Statistical Training in Industry" with Willis Jensen, "Bayesian Reliability" with Alyson Wilson, "Measurement System Assessment" with Stefan Steiner, "Quality Excellence in Design and Manufacturing: A Roadmap to Customer Delight" with Daksha Chokshi, and "What Is a Statistical Engineer, and Do I Want to Be One?" with Jennifer Van Mullekom.

To view section news in its entirety, visit *http://magazine.amstat.org.*

Finally, the 55th Annual Fall Technical Conference will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, from October 13–14. The theme is "Quality and Statistics: Getting up to Date." Short courses are offered the day before and after the conference. For additional information, visit *www.asqstatdiv.org/ftc.htm*.

The section is always interested in receiving proposals for short courses. Contact Reid Landes at *rdlandes@uams.edu* for details.

For more information about the section, visit *Amstat News* online at *http://magazine.amstat.org/?cat=17*.

Statistics and the Environment

Margaret Short, ENVR Publications Chair

The International Environmetrics Society (TIES) North American Regional meeting will be held in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, from July 18–20. The theme is "Quantitative Methods for the Analysis of Long-Term Monitoring Data." Special sessions will be devoted to natural resource monitoring problems ranging from climate change to wildlife management. TIES aims to foster the development and use of statistical and other quantitative methods in the environmental sciences, environmental engineering, and environmental monitoring and protection by promoting the participation of statisticians, mathematicians, scientists, and engineers in solving environmental problems. Abstract submission runs through May 30. For details, visit *www.uwlax.edu/conted/ties2011*.

Survey Research Methods

The Survey Research Methods Section is offering up to three travel awards for students in doctoral programs in statistics, survey methodology, or allied disciplines. The awards of up to $500 will offset the cost of attending the 2011 Joint Statistical Meetings in Miami Beach, Florida, from July 30 to August 4. Preference will be given to students presenting a paper or poster at the conference. The application deadline is April 15, and questions may be directed to Jill A. Dever at *jdever@rti.org*.

The section also is sponsoring the webinar "Reconsidering Mail Survey Methods in an Internet World," by Don Dillman of Washington State University. Information about the webinar can be found at *www.amstat.org/sections/srms/webinar.cfm*.

For more information about the travel awards and webinar, visit *http://magazine.amstat.org/?cat=17*.

committeenews

Scientific and Public Affairs

Finishing his six years as chair of the ASA Scientific and Public Affairs Committee (SPA), David Marker reflects on the committee's accomplishments, including organizing a climate change workshop, working with fair-election activists to improve the accuracy of elections, and helping the ASA organize a dozen professional organizations to support action in Congress.

Now chaired by Clyde Tucker, SPA is holding an invited panel discussion at JSM 2011 to focus on the measurement issues involved in Race to the Top, financial reform legislation, economic statistics, and measuring greenhouse gases. This will be followed by an invited session on statistics and climate change.

For details and to read more about SPA's accomplishments, visit *http://magazine.amstat.or/?cat=17*. ■

2011

May

***16—Pictures at an Exhibition: The Visual Display of Quantitative Phenomena, Cleveland, Ohio**
For information, visit *www.bio.ri.ccf.org/ASA/cspring.html* or contact Jerry Moreno, John Carroll University, University Heights, OH 44118; (216) 397-4681; *moreno@jcu.edu*.

18–20—Conference of Applied Statistics in Ireland (CASI), Galway, Ireland
For details, visit *www.maths.nuigalway.ie/~jnmaths/CASI2011* or contact John Hinde, NUI Galway, Galway, International GA1, Ireland; +353 91 492043; *john.hinde@nuigalway.ie*.

***24–25—13th Biennial CDC Symposium on Statistical Methods, Decatur, Georgia**
In conjunction with the symposium, a short course will be offered on May 23. For more information, visit *www.cdc.gov/sag* or contact Lisette Werbowetzki, 732 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314; (703) 684-1221, *lisette@amstat.org*.

June

14–16—Third International Workshop in Sequential Methodologies (IWSM 2011), Stanford, California
For details, visit *http://iwsm2011.stanford.edu* or contact Tze Lai, Department of Statistics, Stanford University, Sequoia Hall, Stanford, CA 94305-4065; (650) 723-2622; *lait@stat.stanford.edu*.

17–18—GPS11: Conference in Genetics, Probability, and Statistics in Honor of David Siegmund, Stanford, California
For more information, visit *stat.stanford.edu/gps11*or contact Cindy Kirby, Department of Statistics, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-4065; (650) 725-2229; *siegmund-fest@googlegroups.com*.

***22–24—Graybill 2011 Conference on Modern Nonparametric Methods, Fort Collins, Colorado**
For details, visit *www.stat.colostate.edu/graybillconference* or contact Jean Opsomer, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523; *jopsomer@stat.colostate.edu*.

July

18–20—Third North American Regional Meeting of the International Environmetrics Society, La Crosse, Wisconsin
For more information, visit *www.uwlax.edu/conted/ties2011* or contact Brian Gray, *ties.na2011@environmetrics.org*.

27–29—Fordham Psychometrics Conference, New York, New York
For more information, visit *www.fordham.edu/fcap/conference* or contact Stephen Cubbellotti, 441 E. Fordham Road, Bronx, NY 10458; (718) 817-0654; *fcap@fordham.edu*.

August

16–18—useR! Conference, University of Warwick, Coventry, United Kingdom
For details, visit *www.R-project.org/useR-2011* or contact Jennifer Rogers, Department of Statistics, University of Warwick, Coventry, International CV4 7AL, UK; *J.K.Rogers@warwick.ac.uk*.

September

8–10—Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness Fall 2011 Conference, Washington, DC
For more information, visit *www.sree.org/conferences/2011f* or contact Evelyn Asch, 2040 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208-4100; (847) 467-7093; *evelyn@sree.org*.

The following events are the latest additions to the ASA's online calendar of events. Announcements are accepted from education and not-for-profit organizations only. To view the complete list of statistics meetings and workshops, visit *www.amstat.org/dateline*.

* Indicates events sponsored by the ASA or one of its sections, chapters, or committees

25–29—International Chemometrics Research Meeting (ICRM 2011), Berg en Dal (Nijmegen), The Netherlands
For details, visit *www.icrm2011.org* or contact Renger Jellema, P.O. Box 1, Delft, International 2600 MA, The Netherlands; *info@icrm2011.org*.

October

19–21—International Conference on Machine Learning and Data Analysis 2011, San Francisco, California
For more information, visit *www.iaeng.org/WCECS2011/ICMLDA2011.html* or contact the IAENG Secretariat, Unit 1, 1/F, 37-39 Hung To Road, Hong Kong, International HK; (852) 3169-3427; *wcecs@iaeng.org*.

To view the entire list of statistics meetings and workshops, visit *www.amstat.org/dateline.*

2012

February

***16–18—2012 American Statistical Association Conference on Statistical Practice, Orlando, Florida**
For more information, visit *www.amstat.org/meetings/csp/2012/index.cfm* or contact the ASA Meetings Department, 732 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314; (703) 684-1221, *meetings@amstat.org*.

Professional Opportunity listings may not exceed 65 words, plus equal opportunity information. The deadline for their receipt is the 20th of the month two months prior to when the ad is to be published (e.g., May 20 for the July issue). Ads will be published in the next available issue following receipt.

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 website (*www.amstat.org*). Vacancy listings will appear on the website 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. For display and online advertising rates, go to *www.amstat.org/ads*.

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 their ads. Personnel advertising is accepted 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 website at *www.amstat.org/jobweb*.

NIAID

Department of Health and Human Services
National Institutes of Health
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

Postdoctoral Fellow

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) conducts and supports a global program of research aimed at improving diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of immunologic, allergic, and emerging infectious diseases. NIAID's mission is driven by a strong commitment to basic research, which incorporates the complementary fields of vaccine research, immunology, microbiology, and infectious diseases.

Statisticians at NIAID are involved in the design, monitoring, and analysis of clinical studies and laboratory experiments, as well as conducting independent research in statistical methodology. NIAID offers a broad range of opportunities for collaboration, including large cooperative AIDS research groups, vaccine development, immunology, transplantation research, and biodefense. The ability to conduct research on statistical methodology are required, as is a doctorate in statistics, biostatistics, bioinformatics, or related field.

To apply for this vacancy, send your resume to Michael Fay, mfay@niaid.nih.gov, and formally apply through the NIH Office of Intramural Training & Education (OITE) system at http://www2.training.nih.gov/apps/publicForms/postdoctoral/forms/adIndex.aspx?strSearch=NIAID. The selected candidate will have an anticipated start date of September 2011, but the vacancy will remain open until it is filled.

HHS and NIH are equal opportunity employers

Indiana

■ Eli Lilly is seeking a data mining leader, advanced analytics, to lead a small group focused on the broad use of data mining in R&D and business applications. Qualified candidates will be responsible for developing new methods/tools, building models from data mining efforts, and understanding variability and spurious/biased findings that may come from data mining projects. Apply directly online *www.lilly.com* and reference number 50406727. Lilly is an equal opportunity employer.

Lousiana

■ Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine is seeking applications for three tenure-track faculty positions (associate/assistant professor level). Two positions focusing on genomics/bioinformatics/statistical genetics. One position focusing on survival analyses and clinical trials methodology. A letter summarizing experience and research interests and curriculum vitae including contact information for three references to: Susan Gautier, *sgautie@tulane.edu*. Assistant professor–level applicants should provide graduate-level transcripts. Tulane University is an EEO/AA employer.

Massachusetts

■ MS Biostatistician-Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts. The division of sleep medicine invites applications for an MS-level biostatistician position. The biostatistician will work with other team members, including physicians, biostatisticans, epidemiologists, project coordinators, and research assistants on study design, data management/analysis, and manuscript/grant proposal preparation. The position has excellent work conditions and opportunities to advance. If interested, apply to requisition 2205723 online at *careers.brighamandwomens.org*.

University of Connecticut Health Center

Assistant Director of the Biostatistics Center

The Connecticut Institute for Clinical and Translational Science (CICATS) at the University of Connecticut Health Center (UCHC) invites nominations and applications for a full-time position as Assistant Director of the Biostatistics Center.

The Assistant Director will be a full-time faculty member at the School of Medicine in Farmington, CT with the potential for an appointment in the Department of Statistics at the UCONN Storrs Campus. The Assistant Director will assist the Director to develop the CICATS Biostatistics Center that will facilitate and support the proposed growth of Clinical and Translational Science across CICATS, which includes the university's Schools of Medicine and Dentistry, the Storrs campus, and local area hospitals. In addition to original research and research collaborations, the Assistant Director will be responsible for assisting with the operations of the CICATS Research Design, Epidemiology and Biostatistics cores. CICATS investigators will include trainees and both junior and senior faculty members from multiple disciplines. The Biostatistics faculty, in collaboration with a team of epidemiologists and master's level staff, will provide guidance to transdisciplinary teams for the development of clinical and translational research studies. He/she will also be responsible for biostatistics teaching in the new Master of Science in Clinical and Translational Research, with teaching opportunities available in other university health-related degree programs.

The successful candidate must hold a doctorate in biostatistics or a closely related discipline and have demonstrated success with self-initiated research, extramural funding and published scholarship and have the ability to work in collaboration with clinical, translational and/or basic scientists, and to lead a biostatistics academic unit including students, postdoctoral fellows, master-level staff, and other faculty.

Applicants should apply using the Health Center's applicant tracking system at **https://jobs.uchc.edu**, Search No. 2010-1076. A curriculum vitae and a cover letter should be uploaded through this site. Questions regarding this search should be addressed to James Grady DrPH, Director, CICATS Biostatistics Center, at **jgrady@uchc.edu**.

UCHC is an Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/V/PwD

■ Proud to be recognized as one of *Fortune* magazine's "100 Best Companies to work for" in 2011, Millennium: The Takeda Oncology Company has two FTEs (both clinical and nonclinical statistics) and one summer internship positions in biostatistics department. For more information, please visit *www.joinmillennium.com/AMSTAT.* AA/EOE.

New York

■ Research Statistics Analyst. Provide statistical support on assigned research projects and assist end-user community with report requests and data analysis. You will also prepare reports, develop executive summaries and computer programs for data management and statistical analysis. Requires a master's in statistics, biostatistics, or related field and at least two years of experience. To apply, visit *www.nslijcareers.com* and enter Job Number NSH0001AB. EOE.

A career at **Millennium: The Takeda Oncology Company** comes with something no other company can offer: a community of people with diverse talents and backgrounds, all dedicated to the discovery and development of therapies that can change the world – one patient at a time. Our casual but focused environment fosters the free exchange of ideas, encourages collaborative research, and sparks discovery of innovative solutions in science and business. At Millennium, we're big on results, not formality.

Biostatisticians play a critical role in advancing pipeline through works in areas including Clinical Development, Health Economics, Translational Medicine, Safety, Toxicity, and Discovery. The Department of Biostatistics currently has the following opportunities available:

Principal Biostatistician/Associate Director, Clinical Biostatistics

Partner with clinicians to design efficient trials. Contribute to the development of clinical and regulatory strategies and overall development planning. Conduct clinical, PK/PD, and biomarker data analyses independently. Ph.D. in Biostatistics or Statistics with 3+ years of pharmaceutical or biotechnology experience. Filing experience is preferred.

Principal Biostatistician, Nonclinical Biostatistics

Partner with translational medicine scientists to conduct biomarker data analyses and proactively contribute to biomarker strategies in clinical oncology drug development. Implement biomarker information to advance clinical trial designs. Collaborate with lab scientists from Cancer Pharmacology and Molecular Oncology to develop and validate assays. Ph.D. in Biostatistics or Statistics with 3+ years of relevant experience. Knowledge of cancer biology a plus.

Summer Internship (May-August)

Available for students enrolled in a Statistics or Biostatistics doctoral program. Successful candidates will gain hands-on experience in the pharmaceutical industry by researching advanced oncology clinical trial designs. Methodology research, simulation, and literature review are among key responsibilities. Candidates should have experience with Bayesian methodologies and using SAS, R, and WinBUGS.

For the summer internship position please send CV to michael.pickard@mpi.com

To apply online, visit joinmillennium.com/AMSTAT

Millennium is proud to be recognized as one of *Fortune™ Magazine's* "100 Best Companies to Work for in 2011"

Takeda MILLENNIUM THE TAKEDA ONCOLOGY COMPANY

Science 2010 TOP EMPLOYER

Pennsylvania

■ Postdoctoral fellow in statistical genetics within biostatistics division at University of Pennsylvania. The candidate will develop and implement statistical and computational methods for genetic studies. PhD degree in statistics, biostatistics, bioinformatics, computer sciences, or other quantitative fields and programming skills in C/C++/Perl and at least one statistical package are required. To apply, send CV, publication reprints, 3 references to *ruifeng@upenn.edu*. *www.med.upenn.edu/apps/my/bpp_postings/index.php?pid=13411*. University of Pennsylvania is an AA/EOE.

Texas

■ The department of preventive medicine and community health at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston is recruiting a tenure-track associate professor of biostatistics to play an active role in teaching, conducting

Statistician, Tenure-Eligible or Tenure-Track Investigator Position, National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

The Radiation Epidemiology Branch (REB, http://dceg.cancer.gov/reb, Chief, Dr. Martha Linet), a component of NCI's intramural Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics (DCEG), is recruiting a statistician to develop an independent research program focusing on development of statistical models that incorporate dose uncertainties, that provide cancer risk projections for low-dose exposures, that can be used to estimate radiation-induced lifetime risks, that quantify the effect of key modifiers on radiation-related cancer risks, or that provide mathematical formulations of biological models for radiation carcinogenesis.

Current REB research includes studies of late effects of radiological diagnostic examinations, radiotherapy, occupational exposures, or nuclear fallout from above-ground tests, military sources (Japanese atomic bomb survivors) or radiation accidents (Chernobyl). REB is also evaluating late health effects of new radiation technologies in medicine including the estimation of doses, extremely low-frequency and radio-frequency electromagnetic field exposures, and ultraviolet radiation. In addition, REB studies are examining gene-radiation interaction in studies of breast and thyroid cancer, etiologic and genetic studies (including genome-wide association studies) of brain tumors and thyroid cancer, and the development of various strategies for reconstructing historical radiation doses of medical radiation workers and populations exposed to environmental, military, and accidental sources of radiation exposure. Challenges for the statistician include modeling the excess relative and absolute risk as a function of dose, evaluating the modifying effects of dose-rate and type of radiation, addressing effects on risk estimates of uncertainties from complex dosimetry systems, developing appropriate analytic approaches for special study designs, identifying and describing gene-environment interaction, and developing strategies to identify true associations in genome-wide scans for disease-producing genetic variants. REB investigators are encouraged to collaborate with scientists in other parts of the DCEG, including members of the Biostatistics Branch and the Human Genetics Program.

Candidates must have a doctorate in biostatistics, statistics, mathematics or a related discipline (with additional post-doctoral experience in statistics). They must have at least two years of post-doctoral research experience and an established record of publications that demonstrates their ability to apply cutting edge, appropriate statistical models and analyze and interpret data from radiation epidemiology studies. They should also have knowledge of and demonstrated capacity to apply state-of-the-art statistical and epidemiologic methods in at least one of the following areas of research: risk assessment, measurement (dosimetry) errors, genetic susceptibility in relation to radiation carcinogenesis, or mechanisms of radiation carcinogenesis. Collaboration with epidemiologists, dosimetrists, health or medical physicists, radiologists, and laboratory investigators is central to the success of our research. Candidates must document the strong verbal and written communication skills that will be required to write effective research papers, present work at scientific meetings, and convey information clearly to staff, collaborators, consultants and contractors. Candidates must also be sufficiently experienced to function independently, both in the development of their own research efforts and in the mentoring and supervision of less experienced investigators. Appropriate office space and resources will be provided.

Salary is competitive and commensurate with research experience and accomplishments, and a full Civil Service package of benefits (including retirement, health insurance, life insurance, and a thrift savings plan) is available. Candidates may be eligible for the NIH Loan Repayment Program (http://www.LRP.NIH.gov). This position is not restricted to U.S. citizens. Interested individuals should send a cover letter, curriculum vitae, brief summary of research interests, experience and future plans, copies of no more than 5 selected publications and three letters of reference to:

Ms. Judy Schwadron
Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics
National Cancer Institute
6120 Executive Blvd., Room EPS 8073
Rockville, MD 20852-7242
Email: schwadrj@mail.nih.gov

The closing date of the advertisement is April 15, 2011. A completed package of your application is required in order to be considered for this position.

DHHS and NIH are Equal Opportunity Employers

translation and population health science research, and obtaining external funding. Applicants must have a PhD or DrPH in biostatistics, statistics, or the equivalent. Submit letter of interest and CV to *dfreeman@utmb.edu*. UTMB is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution that proudly values diversity. Candidates of all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Utah

■ The Study Design and Biostatistics Center at the University of Utah School of Medicine seeks an applied PhD or MS statistician to play a leadership role in an interdisciplinary research environment. Proficiencies in data analysis, writing statistical sections of grant applications and manuscripts, and ability to communicate with biomedical researchers are essential. Please send CV, 3 references, and cover letter to Camie Derricott at *camie.derricott@hsc.utah.edu*. The University of Utah is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity

employer. Upon request, reasonable accommodations in the application process will be provided to individuals with disabilities. The University of Utah is committed to diversity in its workforce. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

Nationwide

■ PRA International is a leading global clinical research organization. Due to our continued growth, we have several openings for biostatisticians at varying levels, from biostatistician II through senior and principal levels. Possible locations include Raleigh, NC; Charlottesville, VA; Lenexa, KS; or Victoria, BC, Canada. Senior-level candidates who reside in other areas may be considered for regional positions. If interested, please email CVs to *SiferdJenny@praintl.com*. PRA is an equal opportunity employer.

Job opening

Are you a PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY METHODOLOGIST?

Looking for a great career opportunity?

The Office of Opinion Research at the U.S. Department of State is looking for a well-qualified STATISTICIAN with a strong background in survey methodology and solid experience with public opinion polls

Where? Washington, DC
What level? GS-13 ($89,033.00 - $115,742.00 a year)

What we need:
We are an office of survey research and area specialists who design and conduct international public opinion research on political, economic, social, and security issues. We're looking for someone who can advise us on:

- Overall survey design (including innovative research designs for challenging environments or hard-to-reach populations)
- Sampling strategies for stringent probability-based sampling in face-to-face, telephone, online or mixed mode/multiple-frame surveys
- Questionnaire design (including measuring constructs such as political efficacy, social distance and nationalism)
- Advanced multivariate analysis of public opinion data with a wide range of strategies for identifying significant patterns, segmenting potential audiences and estimating sampling error in complex sample designs

A successful candidate will also have excellent communication skills to be able to train other members of the staff in research design, sampling and statistical analysis.

This job is open to all U.S. citizens.

For additional information, contact:
Anna Dean, Acting Director, Office of Opinion Research (*DeanAS@state.gov*)

The formal job posting will be available in April or May 2011 at *http://jobview.usajobs.gov/*.
Keyword: Statistician
Where: Washington, DC

■ PPD, Inc. continues to grow! We are hiring experienced biostatisticians (all levels) and experienced SAS programmers (all levels) for our North America, EMEA, and China offices. Below is a list of the opportunities. North America - AD biostatistics, biostatisticians, and SAS programmers. EMEA - biostatisticians, SAS programmers. China - senior biostatisticians, biostatisticians, and SAS programmers (Shanghai and Beijing). All job descriptions can be found at *www.ppdi.com/careers* or email *Kacy.Fortson@ppdi.com.* PPD is an EEOC.

International

■ PRA International is a leading global clinical research organization. Due to our continued growth, we have several openings for biostatisticians at varying levels, from biostatistician II through senior and principal levels. Possible locations include Raleigh, NC; Charlottesville, VA; Lenexa, KS;

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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.

www.westat.com

EOE

Survey Sampling Statistician

Westat is an employee-owned corporation headquartered in the suburbs of Washington, DC (Rockville, Maryland). We provide statistical consulting and survey research to the agencies of the U.S. Government and to a broad range of business and institutional clients. With a strong technical and managerial staff and a long record of quality research, Westat has become one of the leading survey research and statistical consulting organizations in the United States.

Our company was founded in 1961 by three statisticians. The current staff of more than 2,000 includes over 60 statisticians, as well as research, technical, and administrative staff. In addition, our professional staff is supported by data collection and processing personnel situated locally and in field sites around the country. The work atmosphere is open, progressive, and highly conducive to professional growth.

Our statistical efforts continue to expand in areas such as the environment, energy, health, education, and human resources. Westat statisticians are actively involved in teaching graduate-level courses in statistical methods and survey methodology in collaborative arrangements with area colleges and universities.

We are currently recruiting for the following statistical position:

Survey Sampling Statistician
Job Code DRM/3233BR

Position available for a survey sampling statistician with 3 or more years of relevant experience. Responsibilities include sample design and selection, power calculations, frames development, weighting including nonresponse adjustment and benchmarking, imputation, and variance estimation. Must have a master's or doctoral degree in statistics and have very good writing skills. Coursework in sample survey design is highly desirable.

Westat offers excellent growth opportunities and an outstanding benefits package including life and health insurance, an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP), a 401(k) plan, flexible spending accounts, professional development, and tuition assistance. To apply, go to **www.westat.com/jobs** and enter **3233BR** in the space provided.

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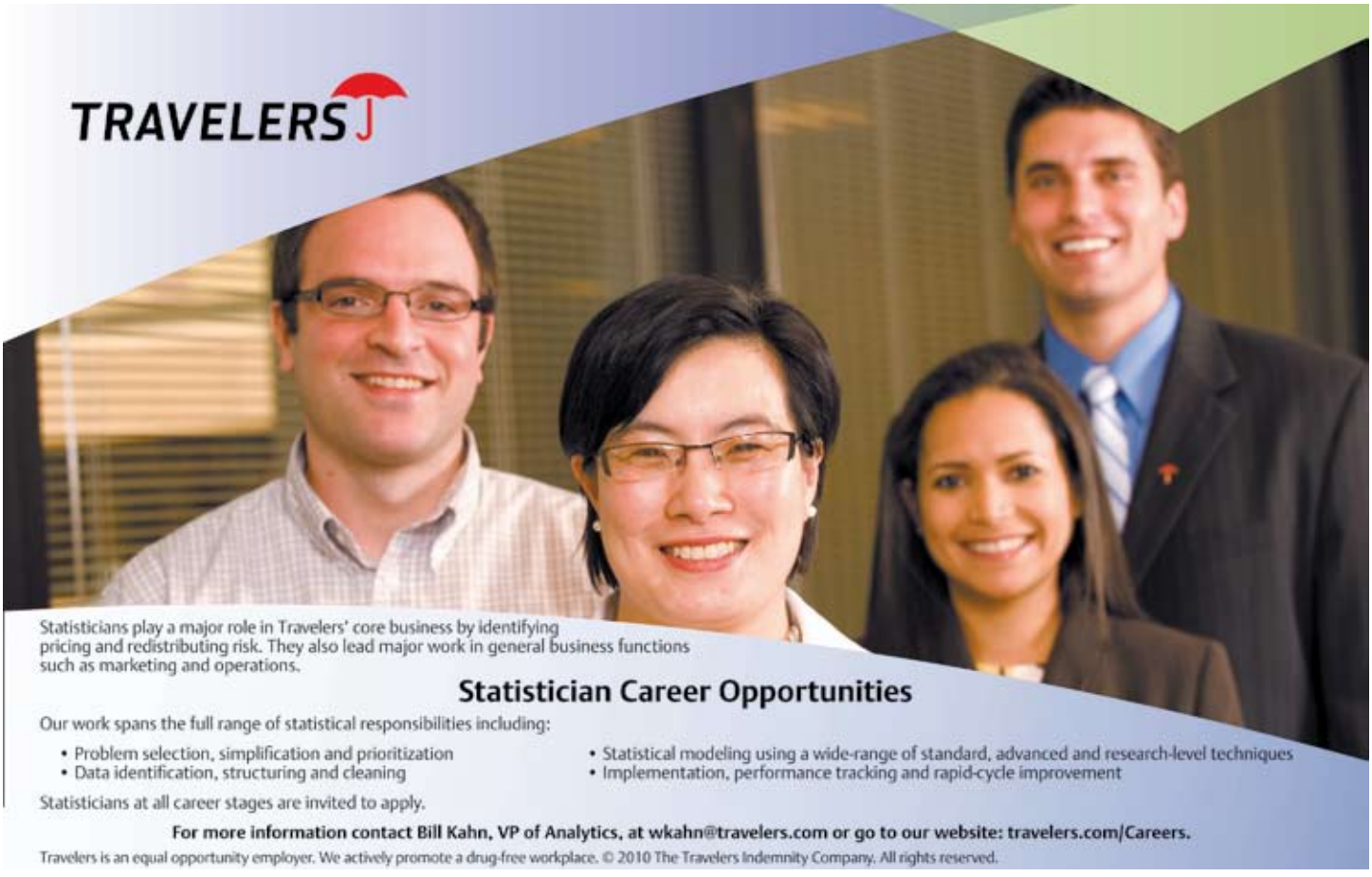
or Victoria, BC, Canada. Senior-level candidates who reside in other areas may be considered for regional positions. If interested, please email CVs to *SiferdJenny@praintl.com*. PRA is an equal opportunity employer.

■ PPD, Inc. continues to grow! We are hiring experienced biostatisticians (all levels) and experienced SAS programmers (all levels) for our North America, EMEA, and China offices. Below is a list of the opportunities.North America - AD biostatistics, biostatisticians, and SAS programmers. EMEA - biostatisticians, SAS programmers. China - senior biostatisticians, biostatisticians, and SAS programmers (Shanghai and Beijing). All job descriptions can be found at *www.ppdi.com/careers* or email *Kacy.Fortson@ppdi.com*. PPD is an EEOC. ■



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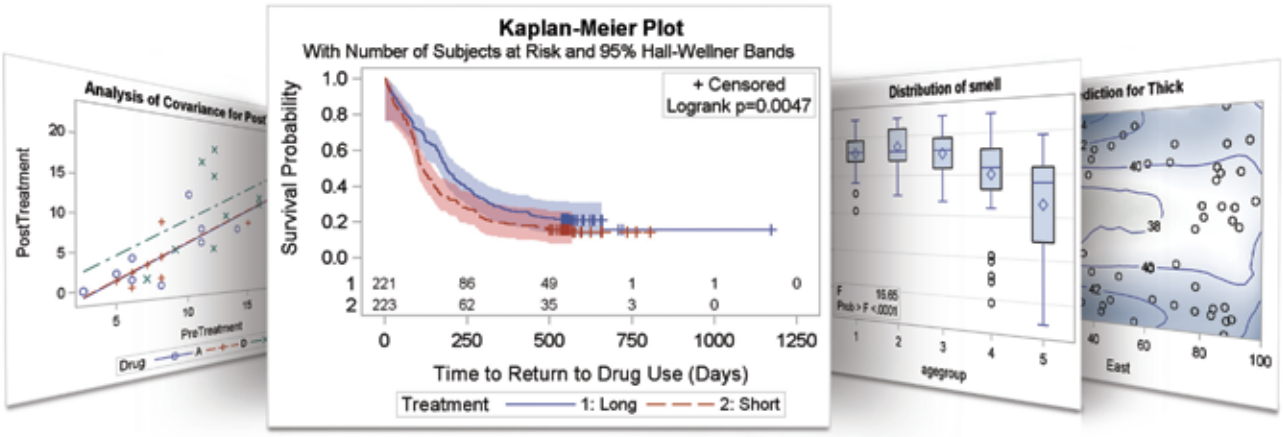

What if you could **produce hundreds of statistical graphics automatically?**

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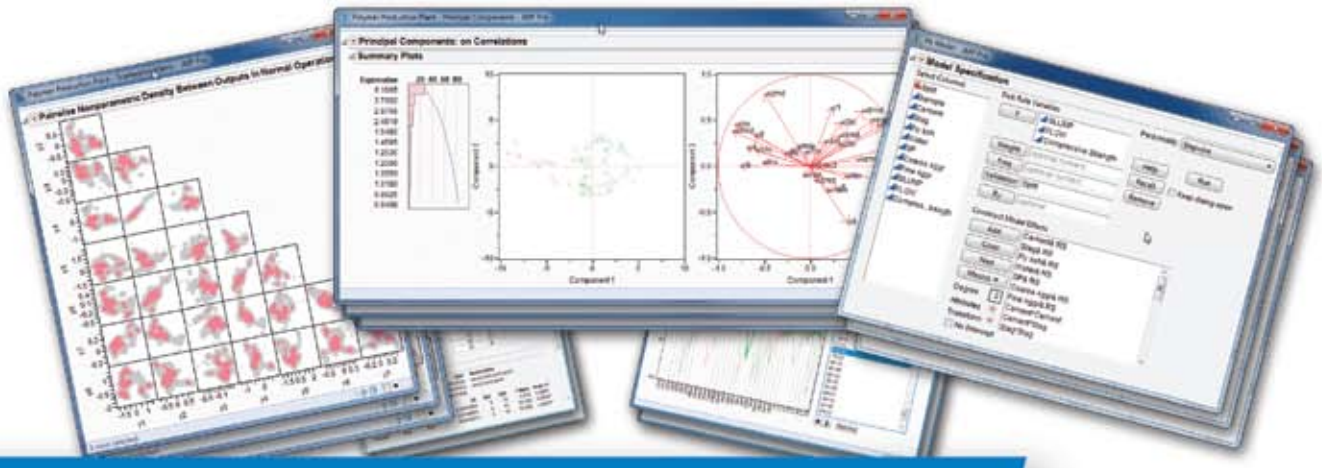

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