WSS NEWS

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

April 2004

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We have very good news. The WSS Board of Directors has voted to lower dues by $2 a year. Full WSS membership for members of the ASA will now be $10, while associate membership (non- ASA members) will become $12. Student membership will remain $4. This reduction was based on a review of our finances, and will go into effect in July of 2004.

A review of our finances found that over 80 percent of our current expenses are due to mailing hard copy newsletters to those who have not asked for electronic mailings. The only way we can afford this reduction of dues, is by eliminating hard copy newsletters by the end of this calendar year. The electronic version is identical to the hard copy, but arrives much quicker. We believe that the overwhelming majority of our members have access to a computer, either at home, at work, or through a friend who can print out a copy for you. If you currently receive the hard copy version, please send your email address and ASA membership number (if you are an ASA member) to Vince Massimini, our electronic newsletter distributor, at svm@mitre.org, as soon as possible. (The ASA membership number is a 4 to 6-digit number that appears on the labels of your Amstat News and WSS newsletters which allows us to uniquely identify you on our membership list.) Each month, Vince sends out the newsletter in the text of an email, along with a pdf attachment version. This newsletter is also posted on our website at www.scs.gmu.edu/~wss/.

Some people have not provided email addresses in the past due to concerns about spam and other unwanted use of their email address. Rest assured, the WSS will not share your email address with anyone else.

If you are a WSS member who does not have access to a computer or prefer to continue to receive the newsletter by regular mail please contact our secretary, Courtney Stapleton, at 301-763- 4142.

We will re-examine our finances based on the number of members who still request mailed newsletters. Based on how many switch to electronic mail, we hope to further reduce dues, possibly just for those receiving the newsletter electronically.

If anyone has concerns or comments about these changes, please contact me at 301-251-4398, or at davidmarker@westat.com. I'd appreciate hearing from you by May 15th.

To summarize:
> Dues are going down $2.
> If you are currently getting the electronic newsletter and not the hard copy, do not do anything.
> If you currently are receiving both the electronic version and the hard copy, please let Vince know if it is ok, and we will remove you from the hard copy list.

> If you are willing to switch to electronic, contact Vince Massimini.
> If you want to stay with regular mail, contact Courtney Stapleton.

> Thank you,
> David Marker

WSS and Other Seminars (All events are open to any interested persons)	
April	
15 Thurs.	**General Model-Based Filters for Extracting Cycles and Trends in Economic Time Series**
21 Wed.	**Robert Engle, ARCH Models, and the 2003 Nobel Prize in Economics**
22 Thurs.	**Avoiding Bad Samples in Business Surveys and Getting "Good" Ones**
23 Fri.	**2004 WSS Special Award for Excellence in Reporting Statistics** The Consumer Price Index and the Debate over Inflation
27 Tues.	**Deflationary Dynamics in Hong Kong: Evidence from Linear and Neural Network Regime Switching Models**
May	
6 Thurs.	**Theory of Median Balanced Sampling**
20 Thurs.	**Operational Examples of Balanced Sampling**
June	
24 Thurs.	**Quantifying What a Representative Sample Is**

Also available on the World Wide Wed at the following URL: http://www.science.gmu.edu/~wss

Announcements

HERRIOT AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Nominations are sought for the 2004 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics. After the sudden death in May 1994 of Roger Herriot, an Associate Commissioner for Statistical Standards and Methodology at the National Center for Education Statistics, the Washington Statistical Society, the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association established an award in his memory to recognize individuals who develop unique approaches to the solution of statistical problems in Federal data collection programs.

The award is intended to reflect the special characteristics that marked Roger Herriot's career.

* Dedication to the issues of measurement;
* Improvements in the efficiency of data collection programs; and
* Improvements and use of statistical data for policy analysis.

The award is not limited to senior members of an organization, nor is it to be considered as a culmination of a long period of service. Individuals at all levels (from entry to senior), Federal employees, private sector employees, and employees of the academic community, may be nominated on the basis of the significance of the specific contribution.

The recipient of the 2004 Roger Herriot Award will be chosen by a committee of representatives of the Social Statistics Section and Government Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association and a representative of the Washington Statistical Society. Roger Herriot was associated with and strongly supportive of these organizations during his career. The award consists of an honorarium of $1,000.00 and a framed citation.

Joseph Waksberg (Westat), Monroe Sirken (National Center for Health Statistics), Constance Citro (National Academy of Sciences), Roderick Harrison (U.S. Census Bureau), Clyde Tucker (Bureau of Labor Statistics), Thomas Jabine (SSA, EIA, CNSTAT), Donald Dillman (Washington State University), Jeanne Griffith (OMB, NCES, NSF), Daniel Weinberg (U. S. Census Bureau), and David Banks (FDA, BTS, NIST) are previous recipients of the Herriot Award.

For more information, contact Phillip S. Kott, Chair of the Roger Herriot Award Committee, 703-235-5211 x 102 or pkott@nass.usda.gov

Nominations must be submitted by April 15. Electronic submissions, via pdf, are permissible. Alternatively, nominations may be mailed to Phillip S. Kott, USDA/NASS, Room 305, 3251 Old Lee Highway, FAIRFAX, VA 22030-1504.

WSS Short Course

The WSS is offering a short course which provides a statistical perspective on the HIPAA rules surrounding privacy, confidentiality, and the protection of health data on April 27, 2004. Further details are in the enclosed flyer.

SIGSTAT Topics for Winter 2004

April 14, 2004: PROC MIXED - Part 6: Generalized Linear Models & Generalized Linear Mixed Models

Continuing the topic begun in October 2003, the difference between general linear models and models using generalized estimating equations (GEE's) is covered. The available correlation structures in PROC GENMOD are discussed and GENMOD is used to fit a longitudinal data model. Finally, the concepts behind generalized linear mixed models are discussed and a longitudinal data model is fit using the GLIMMIX macro.

May 5, 2004: Introduction to using Enterprise Guide for Statistical Analysis (http://www.sas.com)

This demo begins with a quick tour through the layout and purpose of Enterprise Guide (EG) as a menu-based interface to SAS procedures. Emphasis will be on the statistical capabilities of EG. In particular, a set of data will serve as a case study for performing exploratory data analysis, estimating a multiple regression model, and examining graphical diagnostics for the model fit. The demo will show how code generated by EG can be customized, stored, and rerun, and custom reports saved with the Document Builder.

SIGSTAT is the Special Interest Group in Statistics for the **CPCUG**, the Capital PC User Group, and **WINFORMS**, the Washington Institute for Operations Research Service and Management Science.

All meetings are in Room S3031, 1800 M St, NW from 12:30 to 1:30. Enter the South Tower & take the elevator to the 3rd floor to check in at the guard's desk.

First-time attendees should contact Charlie Hallahan, 202-694-5051, hallahan@ers.usda.gov, and leave their name. Directions to the building & many links of statistical interest can be found at the **SIGSTAT** website, **http://www.cpcug.org/user/sigstat/**.

STAT DAY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2004

The Statistics Consortium at the University of Maryland, College Park, will sponsor a Statistics Day on April 20, 2004. The event will be co-sponsored by the Office of Research and Methodology, National Center for Health Statistics, and by the Joint Program in Survey Methodology.

The Stat Day will feature a "Tutorial on Bootstrap Methods with Applications in Complex Surveys" by Randy Sitter, Professor of Statistics, Simon Fraser University, and two lectures for a broad audience by Bradley Efron, Max H. Stein Professor of Statistics, Stanford University and ASA President (Discussant: Carl Morris, Professor of Statistics, Harvard University), and C.R.Rao, Emeritus Eberly Professor of Statistics, Pennsylvania State University (Discussants: Bradley Efron and Fritz Scheuren, VP Statistics, NORC, University of Chicago and ASA President-Elect).

Pre-registration is required to attend the tutorial. The late afternoon lectures by Professors Efron and Rao are open to the public and registration is not required. The stat day will end with a reception for the presenters and the audience. Food and drinks will be served.

Please visit the UMD Statistics Consortium web site at http://www.statconsortium.umd.edu for updates and details.

WSS Annual Dinner

Plan on attending the WSS Annual Dinner, which will be in mid-June. More information will be provided in the next newsletter

Note from the WSS NEWS Editor

Items for publication in the June 2004 WSS NEWS should be submitted no later than April 27, 2004. E-mail items to Michael Feil at michael.feil@usda.gov.

Program Announcement

U.S. BUREAU OF CENSUS
STATISTICAL RESEARCH DIVISION SEMINAR

Topic: **General Model-Based Filters for Extracting Cycles and Trends in Economic Time Series**

Speaker: Thomas M. Trimbur, Statistical Research Division

Date/Time: Thursday, April 15, 2004, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Location: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 4401 Suitland Road, Suitland, Maryland, Room 3225, Federal Office Building 4. Please call (301) 763-4974 to be placed on the visitors' list. A photo ID is required for security purposes.

Abstract: A class of model-based filters for extracting trends and cycles in economic time series is presented. These lowpass and bandpass filters are derived in a mutually consistent manner as the joint solution to a signal extraction problem in an unobserved components model. The resulting trends and cycles are computed in finite samples using the Kalman filter and associated smoother. The filters form a class which is a generalization of the class of Butterworth filters, widely used in engineering. They are very flexible and have the important property of allowing relatively smooth cycles to be extracted. Perfectly sharp, or ideal, bandpass filters emerge as a limiting case.

Thomas M. Trimbur is currently a PostDoctoral Researcher at the U.S. Census Bureau. He recently completed a PhD in economics at the University of Cambridge, under the supervision of Andrew Harvey. His research activities focus on econometric modeling of time series, and he is interested in both classical and Bayesian approaches to statistical analysis.

This seminar is physically accessible to persons with disabilities. For TTY callers, please use the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339. This is a free and confidential service. To obtain Sign Language Interpreting services/CART (captioning real time) or auxiliary aids, please send your requests via e-mail to EEO Interpreting & CART: eeo.interpreting.&.CART@census.gov and S.Yvonne.Moore@census.gov to make arrangements. If you have any questions, you may contact the EEO office at 301-763-2853 (Voice) and 301-457-2540 (TTY).

Program Announcement

Topic: **Robert Engle, ARCH Models, and the 2003 Nobel Prize in Economics**

Speaker: Carla Inclan, Quantitative Economics & Statistics Group, Ernst & Young

Chair: Linda Atkinson, Economic Research Service, USDA

Discussant: Keith Ord, Georgetown University

Date/Time: Wednesday, April 21, 2004; 12:30– 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center Room 10, Postal Square Building (PSB), 2 Massachusetts Ave. NE, Washington, D.C. Please use the First St., NE, entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see "Notice" at the end of this announcement.

Sponsor: Economics Section

Abstract: In 2003, the Nobel Prize in Economics was awarded to Rob Engle "for methods of analyzing economic time series with time-varying volatility (ARCH)" and to Clive Granger "for methods of analyzing economic time series with common trends (cointegration)". This WSS seminar follows after the first in the series, Clive Granger and Cointegration, and will focus on Rob's contribution of ARCH.

In this second seminar of the Economics Nobel Prize series, Carla Inclan will examine Engle's career, his ideas, and a few of the people who contributed to the development of ARCH models. Also, we will discuss various parts of the extensive branch of econometrics generated by ARCH models, as well as some of the future lines of research connected to modeling conditional variances.

Notice

To attend this seminar, you will need to do one of the following:

e-mail name, affiliation, and name of seminar to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by noon 1 day ahead or

call 202-691-7524 at least 2 days ahead and leave a message. Finally, bring a photo ID.

Program Announcement

Title: **Avoiding Bad Samples in Business Surveys and Getting "Good" Ones**

Speakers: Mary Batcher, Ernst and Young LLP
Fritz Scheuren, NORC, University of Chicago
Yan Liu, Ernst and Young LLP

Chair: Chris Moriarity, U.S. General Accounting Office

Date/Time: Thursday, April 22, 2004, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Postal Square Building (PSB), Conference Center, Room 10, 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Please use the First Street entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see notice at the end of this announcement.

Co-Sponsors: WSS Methodology and Computing Sections

Abstract: This is the first of four seminars on ways to avoid bad samples and, instead, obtain "good" samples with high probability. In this session the broad framework and claims we expect to prove are stated. The ideas of replicated sampling and deep stratification are introduced in the context of Neyman allocation of stratified element samples. Additionally, we review and complete the earlier work on Tam, Chan, and Brewer, among others, on how to discard a bad sample if drawn -- doing so in a statistically principled way, of course.

* To attend seminars at BLS, you need to email your name, affiliation, and title of the seminar to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore between "wss" and "seminar") by noon at least two days in advance, or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo id to the seminar. A new list begins April 1, 2004. Once you are on the list you need not contact BLS for seminars through June 30, 2004. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.

Program Announcement

2004 WSS Special Award for Excellence in Reporting Statistics

Title: **The Consumer Price Index and the Debate over Inflation**
                                    (Note special time)

Recipient
& Speaker: John Berry, Bloomberg News (formerly, Washington Post)

Discussants: William Barron, Princeton University, and Patrick Jackman, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Chair: David Marker, Westat

Date/Time: Friday, April 23, 3:00-4:15pm; reception to follow

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center, Room G440, Room 1, Postal Square Building (PSB), 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Washington, DC. Please use the First St., NE, entrance to the PSB.   To gain entrance to BLS, please see "Notice" at the end of this announcement.

Abstract: The measurement of inflation is a difficult chore at best. Unfortunately for the statisticians who do it, the difficulty is compounded because the results of their efforts can have significant impacts on government revenues and outlays and even monetary policy. Comments by Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan recently underscored this fact and provoked renewed political controversy. In Britain, the Bank of England, which formally uses an inflation target in setting monetary policy, changed the inflation index which it uses. Meanwhile, many academics routinely assert that most of the alternative inflation indexes overstate inflation. The European Central Bank, which also targets an inflation rate, concluded that this is not true. On the other hand, numerous analysts on Wall Street, who believe the Federal Reserve is ignoring an imminent inflation threat, argue the indexes understate price changes. In most of this contentious discussion, the statistical details of the indexes and why they vary are usually ignored, both by the discussants and the press.

                    John Berry has reported on economic statistics in an exemplary manner for over 30 years, mostly for the Washington Post. He regularly reports on data from the Bureau of the Census, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the Federal Reserve. Moreover, in his *Trendlines* column and in other articles, he has discussed major methodology issues associated with these statistics. His work has been an important contribution to public understanding of government statistics. Please join the Washington Statistical Society in honoring John Berry as we present this award to him and celebrate in a reception following the seminar.

Notice about Seminars at the Bureau of Labor Statistics

To attend seminars at BLS, you need to email your name, affiliation, and title of the seminar to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore between "wss" and "seminar") by noon at least two days in advance, or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar.

Program Announcement

Title: **Deflationary Dynamics in Hong Kong: Evidence from Linear and Neural Network Regime Switching Models**

Speaker: Paul McNelis, Georgetown University

Moderator: Charlie Hallahan, ERS/USDA

Place: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Postal Square Building (PSB), Conference Center, Room 10, 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Please use the First Street entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see notice at the end of this announcement.

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 27, 2004,12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Sponsor: Statistical Computing Section

Talk to be video-conferenced.

Abstract: This paper examines deflationary dynamics in Hong Kong with a linear and a nonlinear neural network regime-switching (NNRS) model. The NNRS model is superior to the linear model in terms of in-sample specification tests as well as out-of-sample forecasting accuracy. As befitting a small and highly open economy, the most important variables affecting inflation and deflation turn out to be growth rates of import prices and wealth (captured by the rates of growth of residential property prices). The NNRS model indicates that the likelihood of moving out of deflation has been steadily increasing.

* To attend seminars at BLS, you need to email your name, affiliation, and title of the seminar to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore between "wss" and "seminar") by noon at least two days in advance, or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo id to the seminar. A new list begins April 1, 2004. Once you are on the list you need not contact BLS for seminars through June 30, 2004. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.

Program Announcement

Title: **Theory of Median Balanced Sampling**

Speakers: Susan Hinkins, NORC, University of Chicago
                 Patrick Baier, NORC, University of Chicago
                 Yan Liu, Ernst and Young LLP

Chair: Fritz Scheuren, NORC, University of Chicago

Date/Time: Thursday, May 6, 2004, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Postal Square Building (PSB), Conference Center, Room 9, 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Please use the First Street entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see notice at the end of this announcement.

Co-Sponsors: WSS Methodology and Computing Sections

Abstract: There are many ways to obtain "good" samples, given that you can avoid really bad ones. We describe several of these, focusing initially on median balancing when engaged in stratified sampling, first for two strata, then for three strata, and then in general. This is done initially when the unit of sampling is a population element, then for other units including IID replicates that collectively make up the total sample. Asymptotic results are provided that prove in some settings that the limiting distribution is normal or even better than normal. By "better than normal," we mean that the variance of the variance is less than would exist if the distribution were normal. As we will cover, this characteristic of the balanced samples we use is an especially attractive property in small samples, like those common to some business applications.

* To attend seminars at BLS, you need to email your name, affiliation, and title of the seminar to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore between "wss" and "seminar") by noon at least two days in advance, or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo id to the seminar. A new list begins April 1, 2004. Once you are on the list you need not contact BLS for seminars through June 30, 2004. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.

Program Announcement

Title: **Operational Examples of Balanced Sampling**

Speakers: Yan Liu, Ernst and Young LLP
                Ali Mustag, NORC, University of Chicago
                Hongwei Zhang, NORC, University of Chicago

Date/Time: Thursday, May 20, 2004, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Postal Square Building (PSB), Conference Center, Room 9, 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Please use the First Street entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see notice at the end of this announcement.

Co-Sponsors: WSS Methodology and Computing Sections

Abstract: The operational details of how to avoid bad samples and get good ones instead are covered in this seminar, with examples drawn from practice. Deep stratification, the current best practice, is compared for two "typical" populations with several variants of median balanced selection where the median balancing is done initially with the actual population elements as the sampling units. The use of balanced sampling of replicates or IID subsamples is also covered. Replicate balancing is shown, for the kinds of populations commonly encountered in business applications, to be quite an advance. The case where one variable is used to stratify and a second variable or even a third to balance on is also taken up, albeit more theory still remains to be developed here.

* To attend seminars at BLS, you need to email your name, affiliation, and title of the seminar to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore between "wss" and "seminar") by noon at least two days in advance, or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo id to the seminar. A new list begins April 1, 2004. Once you are on the list you need not contact BLS for seminars through June 30, 2004. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.

Program Announcement

Title: **Quantifying What a Representative Sample Is**

Speakers: Mary Batcher, Ernst and Young LLP
Susan Hinkins, NORC, University of Chicago
Chris Moriarity, U.S. General Accounting Office

Chair: Fritz Scheuren, NORC, University of Chicago

Date/Time: Thursday, June 24, 2004, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Postal Square Building (PSB), Conference Center, Room 10, 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Please use the First Street entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see notice at the end of this announcement.

Co-Sponsors: WSS Methodology and Computing Sections

Abstract: In this last seminar in the series, we return to Royall's original formulation and attempt to describe what it means to have a "representative balanced sample." Intuitively the extent to which a sample may be said to be "representative" is a function of many factors -- including the size of the sample, the sample's design and the nature of the population. The use of mass imputation is employed to focus on where the sample is "representative." Formally we expand Royall's original idea to quantify the degree to which a given sample is representative. The way we approach this is to massively employ nearest-neighbor imputation to connect the balanced sample drawn with the population elements by matching the two together on the frame variables. The degree to which a close match can be said to exist is then taken to be a measure of the sample's representativeness. This formulation focuses the sampler on the portion of the population not being "covered" or not closely matched, and exposes the need in a very explicit way to engage in model-based inference. In our formulation the blend between conventional sampling inference and modeling is being determined by data, not by theoretical arguments. It is conjectured that conventional sampling inference is best employed only for that part of the population that can be "covered" by the matching.

* To attend seminars at BLS, you need to email your name, affiliation, and title of the seminar to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore between "wss" and "seminar") by noon at least two days in advance, or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo id to the seminar. A new list begins April 1, 2004. Once you are on the list you need not contact BLS for seminars through June 30, 2004. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.

Spring Research Conference

**11th Annual Spring Research Conference on Statistics in Industry and Technology:
"Statistics on Data Streams for Scientific Research and mplementation"**

**May 19-21, 2004
National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland**

The Spring Research Conference (SRC) is an annual conference jointly sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and the Section on Physical and Engineering Sciences of the American Statistical Association. The SRC provides a continuing forum for promoting statistics in engineering, technology, industry, information and physical sciences. The conference presentations are aimed at statisticians and researchers from corporations, government laboratories, and academic institutions, who use statistics in these disciplines.

Plenary Speakers
James Filliben, NIST, "The World Trade Center Collapse: The Critical Role of Statistics"
Robert L. Jacobsen, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, "Statistical Issues in Particle Physics Experiments"
Vijayan N. Nair, University of Michigan, "Statistical Issues in Network Tomography"
Donna F. Stroup, Centers for Disease Control, "Measuring the Burden of Disease and Disability"
Edward Wegman, George Mason University, "Visualization in Statistics"

Short Course
Barry I. Graubard, National Cancer Institute, "Analysis of Complex Surveys"
Tuesday, May 18, 2004, 1:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Please note: Registration for the short course does not require Conference registration.

Registration and Additional Information
Registration for the conference is $185 for non-students and $70 for students. The registration fee covers handouts, coffee breaks, lunches on Wednesday and Thursday, and social events. To register, or for more information, please visit http://www-math.cudenver.edu/SRC2004/, email SRC@math.cudenver.edu, or contact one of the Conference Chairs:

Program Chair:
Karen Kafadar
University of Colorado at Denver
kk@math.cudenver.edu
303-556-2547

Contributed Papers Chair:
Thomas Loughin
Kansas State University
loughin@stat.ksu.edu
785-532-0522

Local Arrangements Chair:
Will Guthrie
NIST
will.guthrie@nist.gov
301-975-2854

Employment

As a service to local statisticians, WSS News provides notification of employment opportunities and description of those seeking employment here in the Washington, DC, area. Readers are encouraged to take advantage of this feature of the newsletter. The deadline for inserting notices is five (5) weeks before the publication date. Those interested should email or call Anne Peterson, at apeterson@insightpolicy.com or (703) 387-3032.

Job Title: Senior Statistician/Principal Analyst

Resumes: **chuckmayhugh00@aol.com**

Job Responsibilities: The "Principal Analyst, Advanced Analytic Applications" will perform a range of statistical, quantitative, and business analyses which support more efficient planning, execution, and investment in marketing, and across various business lines. He/she will be part of an elite group chartered to work with clients across AOL to develop actionable insights through the application of advanced analytic methods. He/she will define, design, and execute analyses to develop such insight, and work in a team environment to facilitate evaluation of insights for opportunities to drive process and technological change.
Among the responsibilities will include: - Developing/Building scoring models for selecting the most responsive and most profitable prospects for current and emerging AOL products and service promotions, and applying similar techniques to score AOL marketing prospects for potential interest in various AOL product feature sets, and candidate product offerings. -Perform segmentation and clustering analyses for identifying consumer groups around which to orient marketing contact and messaging strategies, and product groups which collectively appeal to similar audiences. -Performing a range of analytics, supporting more accurate forecasting and network planning, involving use of advanced regression approaches, advanced forecasting techniques, cluster analysis, stochastic simulation and optimization.

Skills Required: 8 or more years designing and developing solutions and applications leveraging advanced analytic techniques to support business decisions. 4 or more years of specialized experience in no fewer than two of the following: regression, clustering, stochastic simulation, linear programming, optimization and neural networks. Hands on experience with leading tools supporting such analyses. Demonstrated ability to define, direct and manage projects in capturing and applying data-driven insights across two or more of the following areas: marketing, finance, network/supply chain, customer service. Consulting background a plus. Advanced degree required.

Graduate Student Internship
Forest Inventory Research (FIR)
USDA Forest Service, Washington, DC

Seeking a graduate student in statistics (either U.S. citizen or student visa status) for part-time position focused on inventory and monitoring of natural resources. Looking for experience in SAS software programming and coursework in sampling and linear models. Interest in biology or ecology would be a plus.

Work is helping the principal investigator conduct statistical analysis and modeling of survey data of several forestry studies, including a survey of forest floor deadwood in the eastern U.S., assessment of water quality in forested watershed in the U.S., and design of a vegetation monitoring system for the National Park Service (National Capital Region Parks) in the Washington DC area. There might be some field data collection.

This is an opportunity to gain experience in statistical applications to ecological data; perfect SAS programming skills; work in a "small business/consulting" environment where work is performed for clients at predetermined costs and time schedules; and possibly to obtain ideas and/or funding for thesis topics related to sample survey methods or theory.

The work arrangement includes: flexible hours, most computer work can be done off-site, and typically 1-semester renewable agreements.

Forest Inventory Research (FIR) is an enterprise team within the USDA Forest Service. We offer tools and methodology to address diverse strategic information needs about forest resources, often by linking forest inventory data to other available data or new science. FIR also provides consulting on inventory design, model development, and other statistical analyses.

Please contact for more information: David C. Chojnacky, USDA Forest Service, 1115-VMPR, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-5262. dchojnacky@fs.fed.us. Telephone 703-605-5262.

Washington
Statistical
Society

P.O. Box 752
Suitland, MD 20752

POSTMAN: DATED MATERIAL
Please deliver by April 1, 2004

President		**Past President**		**President-Elect**	
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Secretary		**Treasurer**	
Courtney Stapleton 301-763-4142		Erin Whitworth Dyal 571-235-7128	

Vice Chair for District 2 of Council of Chapters		**Council of Chapters Representative**	
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Representative-at-Large

Dan Cork	202-334-2573	Jill Montaquila	301-517-4046
Tom Mule	301-763-8322	Jennifer Guarino	301-763-4250

WSS Program Chairs

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		Anna Jan	202-327-6328	Wendy Rotz	202-327-7822
Public Health and Biostatistics		**Public Policy**		**Quality Assurance and Physical Sciences**	
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Jai Choi	301-458-4144			Eugene Burns	202-366-3491
Short Courses		**Social and Demographic Statistics**		**Statistical Computing**	
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Trena Ezzati-Rice	301-427-1478			Charlie Hallahan	202-694-5051
				Dean H. Judson	301-763-2057
Electronic Mail Committee		**Data Collection Methods**		**Membership**	
Michael Greene	301-504-7335	Sameena Salvucci	703-807-2309	Fritz Scheuren	202-320-3446
S.V. (Vince) Massimini	703- 883-5893	Jonaki Bose	202-366-9979	John Dixon	202-691-7516
				Timothy Kennel	301-736-6795
Webmaster		**WSS NEWS Editor**			
Dan Jacobs	301- 403-4220	Michael Feil	202-690-3130		
Employment		**Quantitative Literacy**		**Local Arrangement**	
Anne Peterson	703-387-3032	Carolyn Carroll	703-379-4500	Kevin Cecco	202-874-0464
Video Librarian		**Quantitative Literacy Poster Competition**		**Social Arrangements**	
Mel Kollander	202-537-6700	Archana Joshee	202-327-6859	Jeri Mulrow	703-292-4784
		Ryan Petska	202-327-7245		
Science Fair Coordinator		**WSS Committee on ASA Fellows**		**WSS Historian & Financial Advisor**	
Lee Abramson	301-415-6180	Michael L. Cohen	202-334-3765	Michael P. Cohen	202-366-9949
		Fritz Scheuren	202-320-3446		
		Carol House	202-720-4333		
Video Coordinator		Steve Cohen	301-427-1466	**Science Fair Coordinator**	
John Dixon	202-691-7516	Dwight Brock	301-517-4026	Lee Abramson	301-415-6180