



# WSS NEWS

WASHINGTON  
STATISTICAL  
SOCIETY

May 2005

## Annual Election for Board of Directors

An election ballot for the 2005-2006 program year of the Washington Statistical Society Board of Directors is being mailed to all members of WSS. Biographical information on the candidates is enclosed in this issue. Results will be announced at the WSS Annual Dinner. The candidates are:

### President

Jill Montaquila (Westat)  
Carol House (USDA)

### Methodology Chair

Donald Malec (Census)  
Partha Lahiri (University of Maryland, JPSM)

### At-Large Member of the Board

Nell Sedransk (NIST)  
Barry Nussbaum (EPA)  
Larry Cox (NCHS)  
Nancy Bates (Census)

### Secretary

Tom Broene (EIA)

<b>WSS and Other Seminars</b> (All events are open to any interested persons)		
May 11	Wed.	Evolving Information Access/Security Issues
24	Wed.	Jackknife and Bootstrap Resampling Methods in Two-Stage Designs
25	Wed.	Questionnaire Design Methodology for a Study of Human Rights Abuses during the Armed Internal Conflict of Sierra Leone
26	Thurs.	An Introduction to the American Time Use Survey
June 9	Thurs.	An Assessment of the Comparative Accuracy of Time Series Forecasts of Patent Filings: The Benefits of Disaggregation in Space or Time
13	Mon.	The Fourth Funding Opportunity in Survey and Statistical Research Seminar
16	Thurs.	Household Telephone Service and Usage Patterns in the United States in 2004
July 19	Tues.	Using MASSC to Minimize Information Loss and Control Disclosure Risk

Also available on the Web at the following URL: <http://www.science.gmu.edu/~wss>

## Announcements

### SIGSTAT Topics

May 11, 2005: PROC QLIM - Qualitative and Limited Dependent Variable Models (<http://www.sas.com>)

The QLIM (Qualitative and Limited dependent variable Model) procedure analyzes univariate and multivariate limited dependent variable models where dependent variables take discrete values or dependent variables are observed only in a limited range of values. This procedure includes logit, probit, tobit, and general simultaneous equations models. The simultaneous equations model can contain discrete choice and limited endogenous variables as well as continuous endogenous variables. Charlie Hallahan will be the speaker.

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> floor to check in at the guard's desk. First-time attendees should contact Charlie Hallahan, 202-694-5051, [hallahan@ers.usda.gov](mailto: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/>.

### Changed Your Email Address?

If your email address has changed, please notify us. Send your new address and your old address to Vince Massimini at [svm@mitre.org](mailto:svm@mitre.org). If you are an ASA member, you should also notify the ASA. You can update your email address on-line through the Members Only feature on the ASA web page ([www.amstat.org](http://www.amstat.org)). You will need your six-digit ASA member ID, which is printed on the label of your ASA journals and Amstat News.

### Note from the WSS NEWS Editor

Items for publication in the Summer issue of the WSS NEWS should be submitted no later than July 12, 2005. E-mail items to Michael Feil at [michael.feil@usda.gov](mailto:michael.feil@usda.gov).

## Program Announcement

- Title:** **Evolving Information Access/Security Issues**
- Presenter:** Dr. Odelia Funke, Branch Chief for Policy and Program Management, EPA
- Chair:** Mel Kollander
- Data/Time:** Wednesday, May 11, 2005, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** BLS Conference Center, Room 9. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** Agricultural Natural Resource Society
- Abstract:** The events of September 11 compelled federal agencies to carefully review the information made available to the public over the Internet in a new light. Prior to 9-11, EPA had some experience with this issue, removing information on facility Risk Management Plans from public access based on security concerns articulated by DOJ. In Fall 2001, EPA initiated a broad review, screening the large array of its databases, tools, and models publicly accessible via the Internet, to assess their potential for misuse. In Spring 2002, the White House initiated a second, broader round of reviews by federal agencies. An ongoing issue has been how to maintain consistency in access decisions across the Agency. In addition to these security issues, the Agency has encountered more complex privacy issues as it seeks greater access to public health data collected by other agencies. Information access and security must be addressed in the context of the federal guidelines on identity management, and NIST's new FIPS guidelines. These physical security systems and decisions may provide solutions for "sensitive" information, but they do not resolve the primary policy issues of what needs protecting.
- Heightened information security raises a number of public policy issues, including impacts on public access and potential privacy infringements, as well as increased costs. What has happened as a result of heightened information concerns over the past few years, and what lessons are discernible?— e.g., Has any solid federal policy emerged? How important is it that agencies have a unified policy across their various offices/subagencies, and what pressures push toward fractured approaches? To what extent might an identity management framework "solve" these problems? What are the likely effects on access and privacy?

## Program Announcement

- Title: **Jackknife and Bootstrap Resampling Methods in Two-Stage Designs**
- Speakers: Yan Liu, Ernst & Young LLP and Steven Kaufman, NCES
- Discussant: Alan Dorfman, BLS
- Chair: Wendy Rotz
- Date/Time: Wednesday, May 24, 2005, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
- Location: BLS Conference Center. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor: WSS Methodology Section
- Abstracts: *Empirical Study on the Second Stage Sample Size* - Yan Liu, Mary Batchner, Ryan Petska, and Amy Luo

In a typical research setting, two-stage stratified sampling is typically done in situations where both the populations and the samples are large. But in the case of an audit setting, where business records are sampled and reviewed, sampling is typically done on relatively small populations and samples. For this setting, there are two common methods used for variance estimation; the classical design-based approach or a resampling approach. The classical design-based approach directly incorporates the second-stage sample size into the variance formula, while the typical resampling approach does not explicitly express the second-stage sample size but it is implied in the variance formula.

It is known that as the second-stage sample size increases, the overall variance decreases; but how large of a second-stage sample size is 'large enough?' In this paper, we will investigate the impact the second-stage sample size has on the overall estimation in different estimation approaches in the two-stage stratified, audit sampling setting.

*The Bootstrap Variance Estimator in a Nested Two-stage Sample Design with High Sampling Rates* - Steven Kaufman.

When the sampling rates are high, it is important to reflect the finite population correction (FPC) in the variance estimator. With replication methodologies, this can be accomplished by multiplying the replicate weights by an appropriate factor. This is the same thing as multiplying the replication variance by the first-stage FPC. Since this is a simple multiplication, this factor is applied to all variance components. In a single stage sample design, this works quite well because there is only one variance component, the first-stage component, which needs to be multiplied by the first-stage FPC. In multiple stage designs, the second and subsequent stages variance components are correct without adjustment. So this adjustment, when applied, will necessarily introduce a bias in the overall variance estimate. With the bootstrap, it is easy to adjust the variance estimator to correct for this bias. However, in this process, it is usually assumed that there are at least two units selected within each stratum for all selection stages. This paper describes how to modify the bootstrap procedure to handle the situation where only one unit is selected within a second and/or subsequent stage.

## Program Announcement

- Title:** Questionnaire Design Methodology for a Study of Human Rights Abuses during the Armed Internal Conflict of Sierra Leone
- Speakers:** Jana Asher, Carnegie Mellon University
- Chair/  
Discussant:** Fritz Scheuren, NORC, University of Chicago
- Date/Time:** Wednesday, May 25, 2005/12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center Room 1. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. To be placed on the seminar list attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. Use the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** Methodology Section, WSS and DC-AAPOR
- Abstract:** In order to estimate a count of human rights abuses of various types in Sierra Leone during the 1991-2001 armed internal conflict, a national random sample survey was administered between January and July of 2004 by the American Bar Association. The author served as the technical and administrative coordinator for that project, and used the opportunity to test several questionnaire design methodologies, including scripted probes to elicit time information, pairing of interviewer and respondent by gender, and cognitive interviewing across multiple languages follows by extensive standardization across languages. In this talk, the author will discuss the conflict, the survey project in general, and the questionnaire design methodology in specific. She will then discuss the results of the survey in the context of this methodology, and finally make suggestions as to future uses for the data collected in Sierra Leone.

## Program Announcement

- Title:** **An Introduction to the American Time Use Survey**
- Speakers:** Jay Stewart, Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Chair:** Katharine G. Abraham, Joint Program in Survey Methodology
- Date/Time:** Thursday, May 26, 2005, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center Room 9. To be placed on the seminar list attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** Public Policy Section, WSS and DC-AAPOR
- Abstract:** The American Time Use Survey (ATUS) collects information on how people living in the United States spend their time. While BLS has long produced statistics about the labor market, such as employment, hours, and earnings, the ATUS marks the first time that a Federal statistical agency has produced estimates on how Americans spend another critical resource—their time. Estimates show the kinds of activities people do and the time spent doing them by sex, age, educational attainment, labor force status, and other characteristics, as well as by weekday and weekend day. The possibilities for using ATUS data are extremely broad, and this seminar is designed to introduce researchers and policymakers to the ATUS and to illustrate some of the questions that can be answered using ATUS data. This seminar will provide a brief overview of the ATUS, describe what data are collected, and present results from some of the early research. A question and answer period will follow.

## Program Announcement

Title: **An Assessment of the Comparative Accuracy of Time Series Forecasts of Patent Filings: The Benefits of Disaggregation in Space or Time**

Speaker: Nigel Meade, Tanaka Business School, Imperial College London

Discussant: Keith Ord, McDonough School of Business, Georgetown University

Chair: Peg Young, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Department of Transportation

Date/time: Thursday, June 9, 2005, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Room 10. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.

Sponsor: WSS Economics Section

Abstract: This work with the European Patent Office studies methods for forecasting the filing of patents. The filings are subdivided by regional blocs and industries. Issues addressed are: benefits of multivariate models versus univariate in exploiting correlations between filings in different blocs or industries; effects of aggregation over time and effects of aggregation by bloc or industry on forecast accuracy of total EPO filings. Two approaches are used: the ARIMA framework and the dynamic linear model (DLM) in both univariate and multivariate modes.

We find: that monthly data tends to provide greater accuracy in annual forecasts; no significant benefits are gained from multivariate modelling or aggregating over blocs or industries. There were benefits from using monthly data, the best modelling approach is the univariate DLM; for annual data either the univariate ARIMA or DLM could be used.

The recommended forecasting approach provides a benchmark against which other forecasts drawing on different data sources can be compared.

## Program Announcement

Title: **The Fourth Funding Opportunity in Survey and Statistical Research Seminar**

Organizers: Research Subcommittee of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology

Date/Time: Monday, June 13, 2005, 9:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. (NOTE SPECIAL TIME)

Sponsors: Washington Statistical Society, and Washington DC/Baltimore Chapter AAPOR

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Postal Square Building (PSB), Conference Center, 2 Massachusetts Ave. N.E., Washington, D.C. Please use the First Street entrance to the PSB. Take the Red Line to Union Station. Bring a photo ID to the seminar.

(Note: If you have not registered by May 31 with [SDockery@CDC.gov](mailto:SDockery@CDC.gov), please e-mail your name, affiliation, and the name of this seminar to [wss\\_seminar@BLS.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@BLS.gov) (underscore after wss) by noon June 9 or call 202-691-7524 and leave message.)

Registration: There is no registration fee. If you plan to attend, please e-mail [SDockery@CDC.gov](mailto:SDockery@CDC.gov) by May 31 if possible, to guarantee seating, help with planning refreshments, and to be put on the BLS seminar attendance list.

Abstract: Since 1998, 12 Federal statistical agencies in collaboration with the National Science Foundation and the support of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology have been funding and administrating the Funding Opportunity in Survey and Statistical Research, a research grants program oriented to the needs of the Federal Statistical System. The Fourth Funding Opportunity Seminar features the reports of the principal investigators of 3 research projects that were funded in 2003, and invited speakers and discussants.

The agenda of the 2005 Funding Opportunity Seminar is shown on the following page.



## Program Announcement

**Program of the Funding Opportunity Seminar In Survey and Statistical Research**  
BLS Conference and Training Center  
June 13, 2005

- 8:45 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Welcoming Remarks  
Brian Harris-Kojetin, OMB
- 9:10 a.m. Session 1. Invited Speaker  
“Future Directions of Total Error Research” Paul Biemer, RTI
- 10:00 a.m. Session 2. “Topics in Small Area Estimation”  
Investigators: Malay Ghosh – University of Florida  
Tapabrata Maiti – Iowa State University  
Discussant: Jerry J. Maples – USCB
- 11:00 a.m. Refreshment Break
- 11:15 a.m. Session 3. “Improved Methods of Estimating Production and Income Across Nations”  
Investigators: Alan Heston – University of Pennsylvania  
Robert Feenstra – University of California-Davis  
Discussant: Raymond Mataloni Jr.- BEA
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch on your own
- 1:30 p.m. Session 4. “Regression and Deconvolution with Heteroscedastic Measurement Error”  
Investigator: Leonard Stefanski – North Carolina State University  
Discussant: Stephen M. Miller – BLS
- 2.30 p.m. Refreshment Break
- 2:45 p.m. Session 5. Remarks on the Funding Opportunity, Past and Future  
Speaker: Robert E. Fay - USCB

## Program Announcement

- Title:** Household Telephone Service and Usage Patterns in the United States in 2004
- Chair:** Chet Bowie, Census Bureau
- Speaker:** Clyde Tucker, Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Discussant:** Stephen J. Blumberg, NCHS
- Date/Time:** Thursday, June 16, 2005, 12:30 - 2 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center Room 9. To be placed on the seminar list attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** Methodology Section, WSS
- Abstract:** Recent changes in the U.S. telephone system (especially the growing reliance on cell phones) have led to concern about coverage error and productivity in telephone surveys. In 2004, a supplement to the Current Population Survey on telephone service was conducted. This talk will present some of the more interesting results from this supplement with respect to cell phone usage. There also will be a discussion of problems associated with asking questions about household telephone service. In addition, a recent study comparing survey results from a sample of cell phones and a sample of landlines will be discussed. This discussion will include a description of procedures used to improve response rates among the cell phone respondents as well as weighting and estimation issues. Finally, an explanation will be given for why it is unlikely that the major Federal surveys will ever be conducted by telephone.

## Program Announcement

- Topic:** Using MASSC to Minimize Information Loss and Control Disclosure Risk
- Speaker:** David Wilson, RTI International
- Chair:** Larry Cox, CDC
- Key Words:** Disclosure risk, Information loss, MASSC, NHIS, NCHS
- Date/Time:** Tuesday, July 19, 2005, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** BLS Conference Room 1. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsors:** Confidentiality and Data Access Committee (CDAC) and WSS Methodology Section
- Abstract:** This presentation describes a statistical disclosure limitation methodology, applicable to microdata, that is designed to control the information loss that occurs as a result of the disclosure treatment. This methodology, developed by RTI and known as MASSC, provides a statistical process that relies partly on random perturbation and partly on random suppression, thus limiting the introduction of bias and variance. With this stochastic framework, MASSC introduces sufficient uncertainty about the presence and identity of a target. As a result, sensitive databases previously unavailable because of confidentiality concerns can be treated with MASSC and made available to researchers. MASSC enables the control of disclosure risk and information loss without modeling assumptions for both tabular and micro data. In addition, standard software for the analysis of survey data may be used to analyze MASSC-treated data sets.

In order to examine the real-world performance of MASSC, we will discuss the application of MASSC to data derived from the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). The NHIS, conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics, provides information on health-related outcomes in sampled families and individuals. Protecting the confidentiality of families and individuals in the family is of great concern when releasing public use files because they contain confidential information on health-related characteristics. The impact of MASSC treatment will be examined by comparing estimates derived from the 2000 NHIS public use data with estimates derived from the data set produced by applying MASSC to the 2000 NHIS public use data. In particular, the impact of MASSC treatment on a variety of totals, standard errors, proportions, and regression coefficients will be discussed.

## Biographical Information Of Candidates For The 2005 - 2006 WSS Board Of Directors

### Two Candidates for President-Elect (Vote for 1):

**Jill Montaquila** is a senior statistician at Westat and a research assistant professor in the Joint Program in Survey Methodology (JPSM). Her statistical interests include various aspects of complex sample survey methodology, with emphasis on variance estimation for imputed data, methodology for random digit dialing surveys, and issues pertaining to sampling rare subpopulations. She has served WSS as co-chair and chair of the Social Arrangements Committee (1994 - 1998), as co-chair for Fairfax County on the Quantitative Literacy Committee (1994 - 1999), as Treasurer (1998 - 2002), and as Representative-at-Large (2002-2004). She has also served the Caucus for Women in Statistics as Representative-at-Large and Newsletter Features Editor. Jill received a B.A. in mathematics and economics from Ashland College, a M.S. in statistics from Miami University, and a Ph.D. in statistics from American University.

**Carol House** is the Associate Administrator of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). She directs a staff of Federal, state and contract employees in pursuit of the NASS mission to provide quality statistics in service to U. S. agriculture. Former positions with NASS include: Director of Research and Development (1999-2002), Director, Survey Management Division (1996-1999), Chief, Survey Sampling Branch (1992-1996), Section Head for Yield, Economic and Environmental Survey Methodology (1986-1992), Mathematical Statistician (1976-1986). Ms. House currently serves on the Fellows Nomination Committee for the WSS, and on the Hansen Lecture Committee. She served previously as the WSS Program representative for Agriculture and Natural Resources. Ms. House is an ASA Fellow and a member of the International Statistical Institute. She has served in several capacities within the ASA Council of Sections, and was on the organizing committee for the 2nd International Conference on Establishment Surveys.

### Two Candidates for Methodology Chair (Vote for 1):

**Donald Malec** is a mathematical statistician at the Bureau of the Census where he has served as a principal researcher and as group leader of the Small Area Estimation Research group for about five years. Before this he worked at the National Center for Health Statistics for about fifteen years. He has also served as a special assistant to the Food and Drug Administration and the National Institute of Standards and Technology, working on initiatives in practical Bayesian methods. He has worked primarily on household surveys including the American Community Survey, the 2000 census Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation survey, the National Health Interview Survey and the National Health and Nutrition Examination survey. His interests include modeling survey data for small area estimation and non-sampling error adjustment, survey design and general statistical applications. His research has resulted in publications in the Journal of the American Statistical Association, Biometrika, Statistics in Medicine and others. He received a Ph.D in Statistical Science in 1982 from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

**Partha Lahiri** is currently Professor, JPSM and Interim Director, University of Maryland Statistics Consortium. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Florida. ASA offices held: Program Chair, SRMS, 2004, President and Vice President, Nebraska Chapter of ASA; ASA Census Advisory Committee; and member of the Bryant Scholarship Committee. Journals published: JASA, Annals of Statistics, Survey Methodology, Statistica Sinica, Sankhya, JSPI, Communications in Statistics, Statistics and Decisions.

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#### Four Candidates for Representative-at-Large (Vote for 2):

**Nell Sedransk** is presently Chief of the Statistical Engineering Division of the Information Technology Laboratory at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Dr. Sedransk was educated at Iowa State University (B.S., 1964, and Ph.D., 1969). Beginning in 1970 at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, she pursued a thirty-year academic career in statistics and mathematics, with particular application to basic medical sciences and clinical medicine. In the course of this career she also taught extensively and mentored doctoral students at Yale University, SUNY Albany, University of Iowa and Case Western Reserve University. At Case Western Reserve University she also held joint faculty professorships in the Functional Electro-Stimulation Center of the Department of Biomedical Engineering and in the University Hospitals Ireland Cancer Center. In 1989 she served as an ASA Fellow at the Bureau of Labor Statistics; and she was the Senior Program Director for Statistics and Probability at NSF for two years beginning in 1990. In 2000, she joined the National Institute of Standards and Technology where she now leads research in statistical metrology, statistical modeling, theory and methods. Her work has spanned the areas Bayesian modeling and inference, spatio-temporal modeling and graphics for high-dimensional information, experimental design and topological foundations for statistical inference and has been published in both leading statistical and substantive journals. She has recently served as Vice-Chair of the Publications Board for the American Statistical Association and Member of the Deming Award Committee. She is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and an elected Fellow of the International Statistical Institute.

**Barry D. Nussbaum** has been with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency since 1975. Currently in the Office of Environmental Information, he began his EPA career in Mobile Source Enforcement. In that office, he collected and analyzed data leading to the development of motor vehicle emission programs and support for enforcement cases, including serving as an expert statistical witness. Further, he led the technical efforts regarding the phasedown of leaded gasoline, the effects of fuel additives, and the extent of motor vehicle emission control tampering. For these efforts, he received two EPA Silver Medals for Superior Service. Outside of EPA, Barry Nussbaum has been a member of the ASA and the WSS for twenty years. He has served as both the Program Chair and the Section Chair for the Section on Statistics and the Environment of the ASA. He has also survived two terms as the treasurer of the Ravensworth Elementary School PTA. His success at that is partly attributable to serving as a waiter between college semesters in the Catskills (where else?). Dr. Nussbaum has a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and both a master's and a doctorate in operations research (with minors in statistics and economics) from the George Washington University. He has also taught graduate statistics courses for George Washington University and Virginia Tech.

**Lawrence H. Cox**, Ph.D. is Associate Director for Research and Methodology, National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Prior to joining NCHS, Dr. Cox served as the Senior Mathematical Statistician for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and also for the U.S. Census Bureau, and as Director, Board on Mathematical Sciences, U.S. National Academy of Sciences. He has taught for local universities, the Joint Program in Survey Methodology, and other organizations. Dr. Cox holds a Ph.D. in Mathematics from Brown University. Dr. Cox has over 100 publications in the scientific literature. He is an elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association, served on the Board of Directors and the Board Executive Committee of the ASA, on the Board of the National Computer Graphics Association, and is an Elected Member of the International Statistical Institute. Within the ASA, he served as Chair of the Committee on Privacy and Confidentiality, the Computer Review Committee, the Section on Statistical Graphics, the Section on Statistics and the Environment, and the Board Budget Committee. Within the ISI, he served as Chair of the Committee on Statistics and the Environment, as Chair of the Theme Day on Environmental Statistics for ISI 2005, and has been instrumental in forming an ISI Section on Statistics and the Environment. He is the recipient of a Department of Commerce Medal, EPA Scientific and Technology Achievement Awards, and twice won the annual CDC Best Statistical Paper Award. His technical specialty is confidentiality and statistical data protection, reflecting a broader interest in application of mathematical optimization methods to statistical problems. He has lectured and consulted in the United States and many foreign countries.

**Nancy Bates** is currently a Survey Statistician/Methodologist in the Survey Operations Research and Development Staff at the U.S. Census Bureau. Nancy received her M.A. in applied sociology from the University of Oklahoma in 1987. Since joining the Census Bureau in 1988, Nancy has researched topics ranging from coverage research, questionnaire design, Decennial Census evaluations, Web surveys, and nonresponse research. In 2003, Nancy served as the ASA Government Statistics Section program chair. Nancy's publications include articles in the Journal of Official Statistics, Survey Methodology and the Journal of Economic and Social Measurement. She is currently an Associate Editor for the Journal of Official Statistics and co-chair of the Interagency Household Survey Nonresponse Group, a subgroup of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology.

#### One Candidate for Secretary (Vote for 1):

**Tom Broene** is a Mathematical Statistician at the Energy Information Administration. He has been a member of the ASA for over 20 years. Tom received a MS in Statistics from Purdue. He previously worked at BLS and at AT&T.

## 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@insightpolicyresearch.com](mailto:apeterson@insightpolicyresearch.com) or (703) 387-3032.

### WESTAT

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 1,700 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 WSS/DRM/5001)**

Three or more years of relevant experience in sample design and selection, frames development, weighting, imputation, and variance estimation. Must have a master's or doctoral degree in statistics and have excellent writing skills. Coursework in sample survey design 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. For immediate consideration, please send your cover letter, indicating the Westat Job Code, and resume by one of the following methods to: **Job Code is REQUIRED to apply** Westat, Attn: Resume System, 1650 Research Boulevard, Rockville, MD 20850-3195; Email: [resume@westat.com](mailto:resume@westat.com) ; FAX: (888) 201-

1452. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

### **Biostatistician/Mathematical Statistician**

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) has an opening for a permanent position within the Surveillance Research Program (SRP) of the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences. This is located within the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). SRP manages the Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program, a comprehensive population-based reporting system and extends the utility of the SEER database through linkages with other key data sets. SRP also provides leadership in developing statistical methodologies appropriate for analyzing trends and for evaluating the impact of cancer control interventions as well as geographic, socioeconomic, behavioral, genetic, and health care delivery factors on the cancer burden.

This position will encompass several broad areas of responsibility: (1) Assume major responsibility for initiating and managing collaborative analyses with scientists from NCI and other institutes, agencies and academic centers, of the rich data sets resulting from recent database linkages, such as SEER and the National Longitudinal Mortality Study. (2) Conduct research to answer key questions about cancer rates and cancer-related health status in diverse populations of the U.S., with particular emphasis on socioeconomic and geographic parameters.

Doctoral degree required with considerable experience related to the analysis and interpretation of health statistics. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are essential. Salary \$74,000-\$97,000. The location is Rockville, MD, near Washington, DC. Excellent benefits. U.S. citizenship or permanent residency is required for federal positions. DHHS and NIH are equal opportunity employers. Please send a cover letter briefly summarizing your experience and interests along with your CV, preferably by e-mail, by **June 1**, to:

**Judith Swan, MHS**  
**Surveillance Research Program, DCCPS**  
**6116 Executive Blvd., MSC 8315**  
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<http://srab.cancer.gov/>

## Research Analyst

The National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities (NICHCY) is a national information center is seeking a candidate to perform a variety of duties related to the collection, analysis, and publication of research related to the education of children and youth with disabilities.

Bachelors required; Masters preferred plus a min 3 year(s) of relevant experience required; firm understanding of evidence-based educational practices, especially as they relate to children and youth with disabilities; working knowledge of current research, policy, and practice in the field of special education; familiarity with database management and web publishing; ability to write clearly and concisely for a variety of audiences, including those unfamiliar with the academic language of most published research studies; some travel required (5%).

Interested applicants should send resume with cover letter referencing position #KN5080ipr to: AED/HR, 1825 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009; fax: (202) 884-8413 or email: [employ@aed.org](mailto:employ@aed.org). For additional information, visit our website at <http://www.aed.org>

AA/EOE/M/F/D/V

## Program Officer: CNSTAT

The Committee on National Statistics (CNSTAT) of the National Academies seeks a program officer to participate in studies of business statistics, national accounts, and survey methods. The program officer will work with senior study directors and volunteer panel members on various aspects of one or more studies. Duties will include researching and preparing background materials for panel deliberations, organizing workshops and meetings, developing and implementing work plans for subgroups of panels, and drafting chapters of panel reports.

Applicants for the position should have a Ph.D. in a relevant discipline, such as economics or statistics, or an M.A. and equivalent knowledge. The applicant should have 3 years of relevant experience (which can include experience while in school) in data-oriented research and analysis, survey design and implementation, or similar work. The applicant must have excellent written and oral communication skills. Salary is commensurate with experience.

**How to Apply:** If you are interesting in applying for the position, please e-mail or fax your resume and your contact information to Dr. Constance F. Citro, [ccitro@nas.edu](mailto:ccitro@nas.edu), 202-334-3009.

**Contact Information:** Dr. Constance F. Citro, Director, Committee on National Statistics, 500 5<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Keck Building, Room 1139, Washington, DC 20001; Phone: 202/334-3009; Fax: 202/334-3751; E-mail: [ccitro@nas.edu](mailto:ccitro@nas.edu)

## CLINICAL TRIAL BIOSTATISTICIANS M.S. and Ph.D. Level Positions

The Biostatistics Center of The George Washington University, founded in 1972, is a leader in the statistical coordination of clinical trials conducted by the National Institutes of Health. We enjoy over \$45 million per year of NIH research funding for major studies in cardiovascular disease, diabetes, maternal/fetal medicine, osteoporosis, urology, and the genetic basis for various diseases. The center has a staff of over 100 with 27 biostatisticians/epidemiologists, including 10 faculty. We are recruiting M.S. and Ph.D. level staff to participate in these and future studies. Please visit our web site (below). **Master's Level Research Positions:** These positions require a Master's in Biostatistics or Statistics and 1-5 years experience in analysis, supervision of data management and study design for biomedical applications. Good written and oral communication skills, and detailed knowledge of SAS required. **Send CV to address below.** **Assistant to Full Research Professorial Positions are available immediately** to serve as Co-Investigator or Principal Investigator (Project Director) and to provide statistical direction of the design, conduct and analysis of studies and the conduct of methodologic research to meet the projects needs. We are seeking individuals who want to join a highly competent team of academic biostatisticians and epidemiologists; who desire to contribute to the design and analysis of major medical studies, seek substantive scientific and statistical responsibility, enjoy interacting with medical investigators; take pride contributing to the publication of major papers in leading medical journals, and desire to make an impact on the public health. Our faculty also participate in graduate programs in biostatistics, epidemiology and statistics which afford opportunities for teaching at the graduate level. The research projects also provide an environment rich in methodological problems, with opportunities for collaboration with research active Center faculty and graduate students. **Minimum Position Requirements:** Doctorate in Biostatistics, Statistics or Epidemiology, or alternatively an M.D. or Ph.D. in Biological Science, Physical Science or Computer Science with a Masters in Biostatistics or Statistics, 1-5 years' experience with clinical trials, especially study design and statistical analysis of study results using SAS, excellent oral and written English communication skills, and supervisory experience. **Additional Position Requirements:** In addition to meeting the minimum position requirements above, applicants must send a Curriculum Vitae and three letters of reference; a letter to include a synopsis of their role in collaborative medical research that has led to medical scientific presentation or publication and a statement of career purpose indicating their career goals and how this position can help you achieve those goals; and applicants for Assistant Research Professor positions must send an Official Transcript of graduate coursework leading to the doctoral degree to: Sarah Fowler, Research Professor and Director, The George Washington University Biostatistics Center, 6110 Executive Blvd., Suite 750, Rockville, MD 20852. [HTTP://WWW.BSC.GWU.EDU](http://WWW.BSC.GWU.EDU)

Individuals hired into Assistant Research Professorial positions may be granted a **Samuel W. Greenhouse Biostatistics Research Enhancement Award**. Selected on the basis of the successful candidate's merit, this award will be provided to one individual for a period of 1 year beginning on September 1, 2005 for the enhancement of biostatistics methodological research to meet the needs of The Biostatistics Center. Regular and research faculty in Statistics or Biostatistics at the Assistant Professor level are eligible to apply for the award. For a period of 1 year, the award will guarantee 20% effort for methodological research and a discretionary fund to support professional activities, travel to professional meetings, supplies and equipment. The application deadline for consideration of this award is July 15, 2005, the decision to be made by August 1, 2005. Additional materials are required to apply for the award beyond those required to apply for the research faculty position. For complete information including Award Application Materials Requirements, please visit our website at: [www.bsc.gwu.edu](http://www.bsc.gwu.edu).

Review of applications is ongoing until the positions are filled. Rank/position title and salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Tuition benefits for employees (including Ph.D. in Statistics, Biostatistics and Epidemiology) and for spouse and dependent children.

The George Washington University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer



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