Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology
2007 Research Conference
November 5-7, 2007

The 2007 Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM) Research Conference will be held November 5-7, 2007 at the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel, Arlington, Virginia. The Conference provides a forum for experts from around the world to discuss and exchange current research and methodological topics relevant to Federal government statistical programs. Each day of the conference will offer papers on a wide range of topics including the use of advanced technologies for survey design and data collection, processing and dissemination, variance estimation, treatment of missing data, improving coverage and response rates, confidentiality and disclosure issues, record linkage, sample design and estimation, cognitive research, and data quality.

Technical demonstrations on a variety of applications will run concurrently on the second day of the conference. Applications include demonstrations of audio computer-assisted self-interviewing (ACASI), a pen-based data collection system, computer-assisted recording interviewing (CARI), the use of hand-held computers for data collection, the use of GPS hand-held receivers in agricultural surveys, and data dissemination using the web. Sessions feature papers and demonstrations by government, private sector, and academic researchers from nine countries. In the opening plenary session Jon Krosnick from Stanford University will be our guest speaker. All paper sessions will include an open discussion and some sessions will include a formal discussion.

Conference Fee: Registration is $195. For a copy of the advance program and registration information please refer to http://www.fcsm.gov/events/.

WSS and Other Seminars
(All events are open to any interested persons)

July

11   Wed.   **Estimation under Ignorable Response Mechanism and Unweighted Imputation**

18   Wed.   **Assessment of Coverage and Utility of Residential Address Lists**

24   Tues.   **Imputation Using Empirical Likelihood**

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

Program Announcement

Title: **Estimation under Ignorable Response Mechanism and Unweighted Imputation**

Chair: John Eltinge, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Speaker: Santanu Pramanik, the Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland

Discussant: Yves Thibaudeau, U.S. Census Bureau

Date/Time: Wednesday, July 11, 2007 / 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center in G440. 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 (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. 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: In many surveys, unweighted imputation methods are employed because of the unavailability of survey weights at the time of imputing missing survey data. In such situations, it is well known that certain customary design-based estimators with imputed data generally are biased even under the usual uniform response mechanism assumption. In this paper, we present the expression of the bias of a design-based estimator under more realistic ignorable response mechanism and then use this expression to propose a bias-corrected estimator. The second part of the paper deals with a variance estimator that captures different sources of uncertainties. Both theory and results from a Monte Carlo simulation study are presented to justify our approach.

Keywords: ratio imputation, bias-adjusted estimator, variance estimation, small area estimation

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Note from the WSS NEWS Editor

Items for publication in the September of the WSS NEWS will be accepted until August 25, 2007.   E-mail items to Michael Feil at michael.feil@usda.gov.

Program Announcement

Title: **Assessment of Coverage and Utility of Residential Address Lists**

Chair: Meena Khare, NCHS

Speakers: Sylvia Dohrmann (Westat) and Stephanie Eckman (NORC)

Date/Time: Wednesday, July 18, 2007 / 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center. 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 (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

Sponsor: Methodology Program, WSS

Abstracts:

Coverage and Utility of Purchased Residential Address Lists: A Detailed Review of Selected Local Areas. Sylvia Dohrmann

Recently there has been much interest in using address lists originating from the United States Postal Service (USPS) as area sampling frames in place of on-site enumerations of dwelling units. While it has become clear that purchased USPS lists are less costly than the process of on-site enumeration, it is still unclear as to whether these lists are adequate as substitutes for them. In this presentation, we compare the coverage of purchased lists for a selection of PSUs (Primary Sampling Units), differing in size and composition, compared to area sample frames created using on-site enumeration. We will examine the coverage of the USPS lists by comparing them to enumerated lists and review what type of areas are more completely covered by the USPS lists. We will also demonstrate how the extent to which the addresses on the purchased lists can be geocoded relates to their usefulness as the basis for area sampling frames.

Suitability of the USPS Delivery Sequence File as a Commercial-Building Frame. Stephanie Eckman, Michael Colicchia, Colm O'Muircheartaigh, NORC.

The USPS Delivery Sequence File (DSF) has proven to be an accurate and low-cost frame for household surveys. However, no research organization has evaluated the use of the DSF as a frame of non-residential buildings. Given the success that we and other organizations have had using the DSF as a household frame, we are optimistic that the database will provide good coverage of non-residential buildings as well. But we must assess its accuracy and coverage. We have conducted such an assessment in eleven segments across the county. For each segment, we have both a recent field listing of commercial buildings as well as the DSF database of non-residential delivery points. We will compare the two frames, presenting match rates and maps showing the discrepancies between the frames.

Program Announcement

Title: **Imputation Using Empirical Likelihood**

Chair: Clyde Tucker, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Speaker: Jun Shao, ASA/NSF/Census Bureau Research Fellow
             Department of Statistics, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Date/Time: Tuesday, July 24, 2007 / 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center in G440. 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 (underscore after 'wss') by
             noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a
             message. 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: Imputation is one of the most popular methods in dealing with nonrespondents in
             survey problems. In this presentation I focus on the use of empirical likelihood
             method in imputation that leads to more efficient and/or robust imputation than other
             methods such as the parametric regression imputation, nonparametric kernel
             imputation, and random hot deck imputation. More specifically, (1) an empirical
             likelihood imputation method using information provided by covariates and the
             propensity function is introduced to produce efficient and doubly robust estimators
             of population means; (2) an empirical likelihood method is introduced for creating
             imputation cells in hot deck random imputation where imputation cells are
             constructed using a categorical covariate; (3) an empirical likelihood method is
             studied in the case of non-ignorable nonrespondents with either categorical or
             continuous covariates. Simulation results are presented to show the efficiency and
             robustness properties of the proposed methods.

Announcement

WSS AUDIT REPORT

The audit of the WSS financial and income tax statements for tax year 2005 (from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006) has been completed. The statements were found to be in order. The auditor thanks Treasurers John M. Finamore and Daniell Toth for their service and cooperation.

As of June 30, 2006, WSS had an account balance of $36,653.50. Of this, $26,536.19 was in a checking account and $10,117.31 in a fixed term CD. Total tax year 2005 WSS revenues were $13,473.

Stuart Scott, WSS Auditor

Announcement

SRMS Continuing Education Courses
JSM 2007, Salt Lake City

The SRMS is pleased to co-sponsor the following two short courses during the Joint Statistical Meetings in Salt Lake City.

Latent Class Analysis of Survey Error, Saturday July 28 - Paul Biemer will present a statistical framework for modeling and estimating classification error in surveys. The course begins by examining some of the early models for survey measurement error. Then these models are cast in a general latent class modeling (LCM) framework where the true values of a variable are assumed to be unobserved (latent) and a survey response constitutes a single indicator of the latent variable. The course covers the basic concepts of the classical measurement error model, particularly as it applies to categorical data, and how to construct the likelihood functions for a range of latent class models and determine their identifiability. The course will introduce the students to the EM software for fitting a wide-range of LCMs which can be downloaded from the Web at no charge.

Individuals in government, universities, business and nonprofit organizations who are involved in the development, implementation or evaluation of surveys will find this course useful. The course content is accessible to anyone having an intermediate background in statistics and sampling methods.

Modeling and Data Analysis for Complex Surveys, **Sunday July 29 -** Jay Breidt and Jean Opsomer will present this one day short course. The course will review the main aspects of surveys that affect data analysis and model fitting, including stratification, clustering, calibration, survey weights, nonresponse and imputation. The students will acquire a thorough understanding of the issues involved in model fitting and analysis for survey data and will become aware of the statistical issues related to informative designs and their effect on estimates. The course will describe and compare model-based and design-based approaches to estimation and inference with complex survey data, review available software, and illustrate with example data sets.

This course is aimed at researchers with a basic background in statistical theory and methods who need to analyze complex survey data. No previous background in survey sampling is assumed.

There are significant cost savings if you register for the short courses on or before July 12th. In addition, attendance is limited so be sure to enroll soon to avoid missing out on these informative courses!

For more information about the content to be covered in each of these courses refer to http://wwww.amstat.org/meetins/jsm/2007/onlineprogram, or contact Leyla Mohadjer at leylamohadjer@westat.com.

Anyone who has suggestions for short course topics or is interested in finding out more about how to submit a proposal to teach a short course at a future JSM conference should contact Leyla Mohadjer at leylamohadjer@westat.com.

Students' Corner

Have you ever wondered how you could contribute to the community using your expertise in statistics? Are you interested in volunteering opportunities that allow you to use your statistical knowledge you gained through your course work? If so, STATCOM could be the answer for you.

Statistics in the Community (STATCOM) Network is a volunteer organization started at Purdue University's Department of Statistics. It is a graduate student-run consulting service that provides free statistical consulting to local governmental and nonprofit community groups. A need for statistical expertise in the local community was identified by a graduate student at Purdue University who founded STATCOM in 2001. Since then, the network has expanded to five universities (Purdue University, University of Washington, Cornell University, University of Michigan, and Ohio State University). Students who participate in STATCOM work in teams on community projects, while applying classroom knowledge and gaining marketable skills at the same time. STATCOM also has a P-12 Outreach component, which serves as an effort to increase interest and achievement in statistics among pre-college students by involvement in community events and classrooms. For more details about STATCOM and their current activities, please check their website at: www.stat.purdue.edu/statcom. If you have questions about STATCOM, you can also send an email to: statcom@stat.purdue.edu.

STATCOM, through a Strategic Initiatives Grant from the American Statistical Association, is currently developing a network across universities of students devoting time to pro bono statistical consulting. To introduce their activities and initiate similar activities in the Washington D.C. area, Cherie Ochsenfeld, Director of STATCOM, Gayla Olbricht, and Nilupa Gunaratna visited D.C. to make a presentation about STATCOM Network at the WSS seminar in May.   They discussed the overall structure of the organization, how it is run, and types of services it provides, and addressed many of the challenges they had faced while answering the questions from the discussant of the seminar, Shail Butani from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the audience.

As the chair of this seminar, I had an opportunity to meet them in person and discuss the possibility of starting a similar organization in this area. Since most of the statistics programs in the area are in a small to moderate size, we agreed that it has to be multi-school efforts and we need many volunteers across universities in this area. As of this writing, we are trying to recruit students who are interested in helping us start a similar organization in the D.C. area. If you are interested in this type of volunteer opportunities, please email me at: hikawa@gwu.edu, or Joe Maisog, the new student representative, at jmm97@georgetown.edu. Please also look out for information about further development in the future issues of WSS newsletter.

That's all I have for this month. If you have any feedback on this column or ideas of topics for future issues, please send an email to me at hikawa@gwu.edu.

Hiro Hikawa
The George Washington University

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 or (703) 373-6645.

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

With an opportunity for substantial leadership responsibility in studies of international public health import.

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.

Application Procedures: 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

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.

All research and regular faculty at the rank of Assistant Professor in Biostatistics or Statistics may apply for the Samuel W. Greenhouse Biostatistics Research Enhancement Award. For a period of 1 year, the award will provide 20% effort for methodological research and a discretionary fund to support professional activities, travel to professional meetings, supplies and equipment. Applicants for the research faculty position may also apply for the Greenhouse Award while their faculty application is being considered. For complete information including Award Application Materials Requirements, please visit our website at: www.bsc.gwu.edu.

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

SURVEY SAMPLING STATISTICIAN

WESTAT: AN EMPLOYEE-OWNED RESEARCH CORPORATION

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 1,800 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/7001)

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 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. 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 • FAX: (888) 201-1452
Equal Opportunity Employer.
www.westat.com

SENIOR ANALYST/STATISTICIAN

i3 Innovus, a division of Ingenix, provides a scientific view of the marketplace, giving and expert perspective to help pharmaceutical companies make smart decisions about their products. With recognized experience in health economics and outcomes, data analysis, and strategic consulting, i3 Innovus delivers the scientific evidence that helps products success in the real world. As a division on Ingenix, UnitedHealth Group company, i3 Innovus is part of a worldwide health care service organization that uses innovation, integrity, and commitment to prepare for the future.

Apply your research and analysis experience to this senior-level position with our fast-paced team. While focused on analysis and programming, you would enjoy unmatched visibility, variety and advancement potential with a Fortune 100 healthcare leader.

Key responsibilities include:

Consulting with research staff on appropriate statistical approaches for data analysis

Developing methodological strategies for prospective and retrospective studies

Working with senior level programmers / programming datasets based on a complex health care data base

Working with a variety of data sources

Developing study protocols for complex analyses

Executing descriptive and multivariate statistical analysis

Mentoring and training our staff

Leading internal projects

We need a resourceful professional with excellent research skills and proficiency working with high-level analytical methods. A master's degree in statistics, economics, biostatistics, mathematics, or similar field is required. Experience with SAS or STATA desired, but not required. Statistical analysis experience is preferred; experience with survey data and analysis or with administrative claims data is desirable, but not required. Data reporting experience is required. PC proficiency is essential. If you meet these criteria, and you are an organized professional with a strong eye for detail, we urge you to take advantage of this uncommon opportunity with us — apply now at www.unitedhealthgroup.com/careers - requisition number 179254

UnitedHealth Group offers a full range of comprehensive benefits, including medical, dental and vision, as well as a matching 401k and an employee stock purchase plan.

If you are interested in growing professionally within an innovative, highly respected organization, we invite you to explore this excellent growth opportunity!

Diversity creates a healthier atmosphere: equal opportunity employer M/F/D/V.

OFFICE OF BIOSTATISTICS, CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

The Office of Biostatistics in the Office of Translational Sciences, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, FDA, invites applications from Mathematical Statisticians with a background in

biomedical, biological, or pharmacological sciences and strong skills in statistical methodology and communication.

You will work with multidisciplinary teams of review scientists in a dynamic, highly challenging, and innovative atmosphere of drug and therapeutic biological development, evaluation, and research. You will have the opportunity to employ a broad variety of statistical procedures relevant to the pre-market regulatory, scientific pre-clinical, and clinical evaluation decision process, as well as the emerging fields of quantitative risk assessment and pharmacogenomics.

As a mathematical statistician in the Office of Biostatistics, you will apply your skills to address unique and precedent setting problems while refining your consulting, communication, and presentation skills. You will evaluate and advise on protocols for clinical studies and assess the evidence for safety and efficacy from clinical studies submitted in drug and biologics applications. Our active regulatory research program will allow you to advance your skills and professional development. In addition, you will have the opportunity to interact with national, international, public, and private organizations on statistical issues, and will help develop guidance for the pharmaceutical industry and clinical investigators.

QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates must possess a degree that included 24 semester hours of mathematics and statistics, of which at least 12 semester hours were in mathematics and 6 semester hours were in statistics. OR a combination of education and experience - at least 24 semester hours of mathematics and statistics, including at least 12 hours in mathematics and 6 hours in statistics, plus appropriate experience or additional education. Candidates with a Doctorate or Master's degree and associated experience are highly desirable. In addition to a background in statistics and analysis, applicants should have an interest in clinical trials, epidemiology, genomics, risk assessment, or experimental design. Candidates should also possess excellent communication skills, both oral and written. Since work is conducted in interdisciplinary groups, the ability to communicate statistical issues to non-statisticians is important. Candidates for Civil Service or USPHS Commissioned Corps must be U.S. citizens. Permanent U.S. residents may apply for staff fellowship appointments.

SALARY/BENEFITS: Civil Service Salary for GS-12 is $68,124 to $88,565; for GS-13 is $79,397 to $103,220. The FDA is a family friendly workplace offering excellent benefits with flexible work hours and location. CDER's Office of Biostatistics is located in Montgomery County, Maryland, just outside the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

The FDA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and has a smoke-free environment. We particularly welcome applications from women and minority candidates.

HOW TO APPLY: If you are interested in considering employment with CDER's Office of Biostatistics, please submit your resume to the OB Search Committee or more specifically to:

Dr. S. Edward Nevius, Deputy Director, Office of Biostatistics
Bldg. 22, Mail Stop 6105, 10903 New Hampshire Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20993-0002

Telephone: (301) 796-1263
e-mail: SEdward.Nevius@fda.hhs.gov

For more information, please visit the Office of Biostatistics website:
http://www.fda.gov/cder/Offices/Biostatistics

PROGRAMMER ANALYST

Seeking a Programmer Analyst to work with the HIV Research Program in Rockville, MD. Incumbent is responsible for programming support of research data management, and analytic requirements for the HIV Research Program. This is to include database and statistical programming, programming for standard report generation, ad-hoc queries, analyses, data manipulation, extraction and export. The Incumbent should have knowledge of commonly used concepts, practices and procedures within the clinical data management/analysis field. Incumbent will rely on instructions and pre-established guidelines to perform the functions of the job. The incumbent will be a member of the Data Coordinating and Analysis Center which is responsible for providing data management, processing and analytical support to the U.S. Military HIV Research Program. The incumbent will provide database, analytical and statistical programming support to HIV Research Program Protocols. Coordinate, program, analyze, and evaluate clinical data using the SAS programming language. Generate and maintain administrative and statistical reports to be run on a periodic or ad hoc basis. Coordinates, programs, analyzes, and evaluates clinical data using the SAS programming language. Assist Principal Investigators and Scientists in retrieving and incorporating information from multiple data sources using SAS, SQL or other query tools. Interact with Information Systems Group in modeling research protocols on in- house data management software package. Provide written documentation to include description of pertinent data sets, formats, and structures. Insure that data sets are complete and correct. Provide written documentation in the form of Standard Operating Procedures for project related tasks in the department. Adheres to a policy of strict confidentiality concerning all documents, data, and information maintained within the department. Adheres to department Standard Operating Procedures for all data management responsibilities. Performs other duties as required. Must have knowledge of the SAS programming language, especially SAS/STAT and the DATA step and the ability to perform programming tasks in a SAS/Oracle environment. Experience in handling large data sets, awareness of data quality issues, and familiarity with programming in a research environment. Familiarity with personal computers and the ability to learn systems necessary for job completion. Knowledge of word processing and spreadsheets on Macintosh computer systems. Ability to work independently, as part of a team setting, and meet deadlines Must have excellent oral and written communication skills. Must be detail oriented, possess problem-solving skills and the ability to handle multiple tasks.

Qualifications: Minimum Education/Training: Bachelors Degree from a 4 year accredited college, with a concentration in statistics, computer science, or a related research field.

Minimum Experience: 0-3 years SAS programming experience in a research environment. Education may be substituted for experience

How to Apply:
Please apply on-line at www.hjf.org/careers Please click on Advanced Search and enter the job number - 201974 in the Job Opening ID box or fax your resume to 240-314-7334 Please specify title and job number on fax. The Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine offers a competitive salary and generous benefits package. AA/EEO

SURVEY RESEARCH ANALYST

Child Trends, founded in 1979, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan research organization dedicated to improving the lives of children by conducting research and providing science-based information to improve the decisions, programs, and policies that affect children.

General Description:

Child Trends has an opening for a Survey Research Analyst responsible for conducting assigned parts of social science research projects under the general direction of more senior staff members. The analyst will assist in the selection and application of various data collection techniques; development of data collection instruments and field procedures; and participate in and oversee data collection and analysis and writing results.

Typical Duties and Responsibilities:

Works independently and conducts all phases of data collection including: development of questionnaires, instruments or protocols; item development and testing; sample design and management; recruitment and screening of participants; training of junior project members; field procedures; data quality; etc.

Familiarity with various interview and data collection techniques such as standardized interviewing; qualitative semi-structured interviews; site visits; cognitive interviewing; focus groups; and observational data collection.

Ability to analyze and interpret data and identify patterns from data collected through surveys, qualitative interviews, observational data, cognitive interviews and focus groups.

Uses SAS, Stata and other statistical software to manage and manipulate quantitative data sets; including variable creation, data cleaning and recoding, and translating data from one program to another.

Analyzes qualitative data. Familiarity with qualitative software packages. Supervises coding of observational data.

Prepares statistical and qualitative reports and presentations.

Supervises and assigns work to research assistants and support staff. May train interviewers or data users.

Act as liaison with data collection subcontractors.

Develop IRB materials and oversee data security and confidentiality procedures.

Performs other related duties as required.

Some travel may be required.

Qualifications:

  - Masters degree, or BA degree plus 3-5 year's experience in appropriate discipline such as Survey Methods; Sociology; Cognitive or Developmental Psychology, Demography.
  - Demonstrated proficiency in and experience with quantitative and qualitative research methods.
  - Two to three year's work experience with data collection techniques and analysis.
  - Proficiency with SAS, SPSS and/or Stata and Qualitative data analysis software packages.

- Proven organizational and project and time management skills.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills.
- Experience with National Center for Education Statistics data sets a plus.

How to Apply:

 We prefer that you upload your resume with a cover letter, salary requirements, transcripts, writing sample, and three professional references at http://resumes.childtrends.org. Alternatively, email this information to hr@childtrends.org, fax the information to (202) 362-8420, or mail it to: HR Consultant, Child Trends, 4301 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20008. NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE!   Child Trends is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SURVEY SAMPLING STATISTICIAN

ICF International is currently seeking a sampling statistician to direct and supervise all aspects of sampling, variance estimation and weighting for large, complex survey research projects. The candidate should have 5 or more years of relevant experience in sample design, to include selection, stratification, and weighting, development of sampling frames, variance estimation and data imputation. The candidate should possess a doctoral degree in statistics or related discipline. The sampling statistician must provide expert guidance on these topics using current, state-of-the-art methodologies. Strong quantitative analytical and writing skills are also desired, as is experience in survey/questionnaire design. This position is located in our Fairfax, VA headquarters.

Specific Responsibilities

Oversee sample design, sample stratification, weighting and variance estimation for large survey projects

Define population and specify the appropriate sample frame and sample size for complex surveys

Work with other research staff members on the design and implementation of the sampling and weighting plan for complex survey projects, but also on questionnaire development and analysis of survey data

Develop weighting methods appropriate for analysis and reporting and guide the implementation of weighting adjustments.

Prepare sampling, stratification and weighting methodology content for proposals and project reports.

Provide budget estimates for the execution of all aspects of the chosen sampling strategy.

Interact with third-party representatives on sampling/data subject matter (such as data vendors).

Develop written products and discuss issues of sampling, variance estimation and weighting with other team members.

To apply, please submit your cover letter, resume and salary requirements to http://jobs.icfi.com

ICF International is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer.

DATA ACCESS & CONFIDENTIALITY MANAGER

Job Description:

The UCLA Center for Health Policy Research (Center) has an outstanding career opportunity for a Data Access & Confidentiality Manager (Manager) to join its world-class team. The Center is one of the nation's leading health policy research centers and the premier source of health policy information for California. Established in 1994, the Center is based in the School of Public Health and affiliated with the School of Public Affairs.

The Manager is responsible for confidentiality policies and security procedures for all data released through the Data Access Center at the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. Major responsibilities include:

- Evaluating confidentiality policies and data access requests for the California Health Interview Survey (CHIS), the largest state health survey in the nation.

- Developing and implementing computer security plans and risk assessments; negotiating restricted-access data agreements with funders.

- Providing consultation on statistical disclosure limitation techniques, state and federal data privacy laws (including HIPAA), data security best practices, and legal and ethical concerns.

- Preparing or supervising the preparation of CHIS applications to the UCLA and state human subjects protection committees in compliance with applicable policies and procedures. Ensuring that questions and concerns are responded to clearly in writing with appropriate source documentation.

- Developing submissions and obtaining approvals for a CHIS Certificate of Confidentiality from the National Institute of Health (NIH) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

- Ensure timely completion of project deliverables and ongoing operations of the Data Access Center.

Qualifications:

Advanced degree in survey research, public health, law, sociology, demography or a related field, or combination of relevant experience and education desirable, preferred.

- Knowledge of computer security planning, processes, and standards (including HIPAA), and the ability to design, evaluate and implement administrative systems related to secure environments.

- Ability to develop and implement policies and procedures regarding confidentiality and security.

- Detailed knowledge of statistical disclosure limitations theory and methodology as applied to survey data.

- Knowledge of federal and state laws, regulations, policies and procedures related to the protection of human subjects.

- Ability to draft and negotiate agreements with federal, state, and private organizations, in consultation with legal counsel, and serve as liaison with legal counsel and institutional review boards.

- Skills in developing applications to federal agencies and institutional review boards.

- Demonstrated skills in data management and understanding of data systems.

Compensation:

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How to Apply:

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ASSISTANT PROFESSOR - BIOSTATISTICIAN

The Center for Vaccine Development at the University of Maryland School of Medicine has an opening for a full-time non-tenure-track faculty member at the Assistant Professor level. Candidates should have expertise in standard statistical methods and analysis using statistical analysis packages (preferably including SAS), and the abilities to perform research in biostatistical methods, develop and manage databases as applied to medical research, to multi-task in a work environment that is highly complex and varied, and to work independently with minimal guidance after initial direction. The successful applicant will have highly developed interpersonal and communication skills, be skilled in critical thinking and complex problem solving, be able to work as part of a team and have excellent organizational, project management and written statistical report skills.

This position offers an outstanding opportunity for collaborative research in a highly interactive, multi-disciplinary group of clinical, laboratory, and epidemiological researchers, as well as independent methodological research in biostatistics. Send C.V. and the names of four references to Myron Levine, M.D., DTPH, Professor & Director, Center for Vaccine Development, c/o JoAnn Gibbs, Academic Programs Office, Department of Medicine, N3E09, University of Maryland Medical Center, 22 S. Greene Street, Baltimore, MD 21201-1595, Reference position 03-309-483. The UMB encourages women and minorities to apply and is an AA/EEO/ADA employer.

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What we expect of you:
- Statistician / mathematician with a good understanding of biology, ecology, environmental sciences and chemistry or a graduate scientist in either biology, chemistry, environmental sciences with a profound knowledge of statistics and/or modelling
- Experience in statistical evaluation of data, experience in modelling, biometry, biostatistics
- Strong analytical skills
- Good communication and presentation of results to scientists as well as non-experts

- Fluent English and preferable working knowledge in German
- Work independently in an international team
- Ability to work in a diverse interdisciplinary environment
- Creativity and motivation
- In case of adequate qualification no professional experience required

Please apply preferably online under www.basf.de/karriere
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National Seminar
on
Recent Statistical Techniques for Data Analysis
&
XXIX Annual Conference
of
Indian Association for
the Study of Population (IASP)

October 26-28, 2007

Organized by
Department of Statistics
Banaras Hindu University
Varanasi – 221 005, India

Scope and Objectives

The prime aim of Statistics is collection of relevant data and drawing valid and reliable conclusion for specified objective under procedurally and economically optimized way. It leads to the development of various techniques of collection and analysis of data as per requirement of a given situation. The availability of high-speed computers have added new dimension to it. New methodologies are being researched and implemented for those complex problems whose solutions were too difficult to carry out practically. Thus, there is a need not only to acquaint us with the recent developments in this field but also to make ourselves familiar with the situation where the proposed technique possesses their optimal properties so as to ensure their proper use.

The objective of the proposed seminar is to bring research workers from different fields viz. Population Studies, Biology, Economics, Business, Psychology, Agriculture, Medical Sciences, Engineering, etc at one platform.

Although the data of these fields have some common features but many times these have their own peculiar characteristics, which need special treatments for their analyses. The exchange of ideas in the proposed conference is, therefore, expected to throw lights on developing new methodologies, which will in turn capable of handling more complicated problems faced by the society.

The seminar will be divided into a number of technical sessions where invited talks and paper presentation will be made. The suggested sessions / topics are:

1. Analysis of Censored and Truncated Data.
2. Recent Advances of Data Analysis.
3. Sampling Frame as a Determinant of Data.
4. Peculiarities and Analysis of Data of Different Disciplines.
5. Determinants of Sample Size in a Statistical Enquiry.
6. Stochastic Modeling of Demographic Processes.

The above seminar is organized jointly with XXIX Annual Conference of Indian Association for the Study of Population. The theme of this conference is set as "Poverty, Health and Development". As usual it would comprise panel discussions and presentation of invited and contributed research papers and posters on the following five sub-themes:

1. Health, Nutrition and Environment
2. Programmes and Policies of Population and Health
3. Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS
4. Urbanization and Migration
5. Poverty and Development

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Prof. K.K. Singh
    Convener & Organizing Secretary

Dr. Brijesh Pratap Singh
    Joint Organizing Secretary

Submission of Abstract and Full Paper

Authors are invited to submit the abstracts of their talks not more than one side of A4 indicating the theme, main findings and applicability (if any). The abstract should also clearly state the title of the paper and the name(s) of the author(s) with full mailing address including the email address. We encourage you to submit your abstracts to *Prof. K.K. Singh, Department of Statistics, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India* electronically preferably in MS-Word format at email addresses given below

1. iasp2007bhu@gmail.com
2. kksingh@bhu.ac.in.

Last date for receiving abstracts: 31st August 2007
Last date for receiving full papers: 30th September 2007

Registration Fee
Residents of India: Rs.500/-
Residents of Foreign Country: US $ 300.
The registration fee will include the conference registration package, lunch and dinner for all three days and accommodation etc. Participants are required to fill-in the registration form and sent the same with payment to Prof. K.K. Singh, Convener & Organizing Secretary, Recent Statistical Techniques of Data Analysis at the address given above.

Accommodation at BHU/Varanasi

The university has guesthouses inside the campus however advance intimation is essential as the accommodations are limited. Good hotels at moderate rates are also available in city but Varanasi attracts tourists, therefore, it is advisable to make early reservations. Good accommodation costs between Rs. 2500/- to Rs. 5000/- per night (for single/double occupancy). Please add 5% extra towards other charges (taxes etc.). Cheap hotel accommodations (Rs. 800/- onwards) may also be arranged provided intimation to this effect is conveyed to the convener with exact requirement. Reservation will be made and guaranteed if the deposit is received by September 15, 2007.

Venue of the Seminar

The seminar will be held in the beautiful campus of Banaras Hindu University, a great seat of learning, located in the ancient and holy city of Varanasi. It is also known as the city of Lord Vishwanath, situated at the bank of Holy River Ganges and is famous for its ghats and temples. The city, almost at a distance of 700 kilometers southeast of Delhi, is well connected by air, rail and road with other parts of country. The University is about 10 kilometers from the railways station and 30 kilometers from the airport. The main city is at a distance of nearly five kilometers from the university campus where one can enjoy sunrise standing at the bank of the river. The famous Lord Vishwanath temple is situated in the main city. Other worth visiting places in Varanasi are Sarnath (where the Buddha preached his first sermon), Bharat Kala Bhawan, Bharat Mata Mandir, Ramnagar Fort and the University itself. Varanasi enjoys a pleasant weather with daytime temperature of around 20-25 degree Celsius. The temperature can touch a minimum of around 12-13 degree Celsius in late October.

Contact Address:
K. K. Singh
Convener & Organizing Secretary

National Seminar
On
Recent Statistical Techniques of Data Analysis
&
XXIX Announcement of
Indian Association for the Study of Population

Department of Statistics
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Registration Form

National Seminar on
Recent Statistical Techniques for Data Analysis
&
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October 26-28, 2007

Name   :

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Details of cheque/draft enclosed*

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*In favour of Prof. K. K. Singh, Convener & Organizing Secretary
If required, take desired multiple copies of the above registration form.

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