



WSS NEWS

November 2008

WASHINGTON
STATISTICAL
SOCIETY

Annual Holiday Dinner!!!

Please come join your friends and colleagues for a celebration of the holiday season.

The 2008 WSS Holiday Dinner will be held Wednesday, December 17, at the Gordon Biersch Brewery from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Finger foods (wings, hummus salad, pizza & artichoke hearts) and a cash bar featuring Gordon Biersch Lagers. The Brewery is located at 900 F St, NW, D.C. - close to the Gallery Place Metro Station (green, yellow or red line).

The cost is \$25 per person.

Register Online at <https://www.123signup.com/register?id=zqyqt>

or send cheque payable to WSS to: Yves Thibaudeau, 1037 17th St S, Arlington, VA 22202

If you have questions, please contact Yves at (301)-763-1706 or yves.thibaudeau@census.gov

Hope to see you there!

Administrative Data in Support of Policy Relevant Statistics

The Public Policy Program of the WSS, in partnership with the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology's Subcommittee on the Statistical Uses of Administrative Records, is pleased to announce the launch of a seminar series on "Administrative Data in Support of Policy Relevant Statistics." The series will run from Fall 2008 until Spring 2009, with approximately one seminar a month. The series will focus on federal statistical uses of state- and locally-held administrative records, often in concert with survey data, including for federal program evaluation and other policy relevant applications.

Confirmed seminars will cover Medicaid undercount issues, Earned Income Tax Credit impact on employment, improving recidivism research, and outcomes of students attending the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. Seminars in the planning stages include examining Food Stamp eligibility and participation, innovations with the Quarterly Census of Employment, and others.

The first seminar will be: "Administrative Data in Support of Policy Relevant Statistics: The Medicaid Undercount Project." It will be held on November 13, 2008, in Room 8 of the BLS Conference Center. The full session description is in this issue. Please put the first seminar on your calendar and watch this space for updated information each month. Direct any questions to Shelly Wilkie Martinez (rmartinez@omb.eop.gov) or Michael Cohen (MCohen@nas.edu).

WSS and Other Seminars

(All events are open to any interested persons)

November

- 3 Mon. **Can Calibration Be Used to Adjust for ‘Nonignorable’ Nonresponse?**
- 4 Tues. **Self-Service Business Intelligence for Statistical Agencies/Departments**
- 6 Thurs. **Nearest Neighbor Imputation Strategies : Does 'nearest' imply most likely ?
- And other difficult questions ...**
- 10 Mon. **NOAA's National Weather Service Weather Services for the Nation -- A
Transition Briefing**
- 13 Thurs. **Administrative Data in Support of Policy Relevant Statistics: The Medicaid
Undercount Project**
- 14 Fri. **High-throughput flow cytometry data analysis: tools and methods in
Bioconductor**
- 20 Thurs. **Bayesian Multiscale Multiple Imputation with Implications to Data
Confidentiality**

December

- 3 Wed. **Administrative Data in Support of Policy Relevant Statistics: the Earned
Income Tax Credit (EITC) – Eligibility, Participation, and Its Impact on
Employment**
- 9 Tues. **Getting Started with ODS Statistical Graphics in SAS 9.2 & An Introduction
to SAS Stat Studio**
- 12 Fri. **On Robust Tests for Case-control Genetic Association Studies**
- 16 Tues. **Disclosure Protection: A New Approach to Cell Suppression**

January

- 22 Thurs. **Challenges and Opportunities for the Statistics Profession and the American
Statistical Association**

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

Note from the WSS NEWS Editor

Items for publication in the December issue of the WSS NEWS will be accepted until November 10, 2008. E-mail items to Michael Feil at michael.feil@usda.gov.

Announcement

SIGSTAT Topics for Fall 2008

November 19, 2008: Survival Models in SAS: PROC PHREG Part 5
(<http://www.sas.com/apps/pubscat/bookdetails.jsp?pc=55233>)

Continuing the series of talks based on the book "Survival Analysis Using the SAS System: A Practical Guide" by Paul Allison begun in October 2007, we'll cover Chapter 6: Competing Risks

Topics covered are:

1. Introduction
2. Type-specific hazards
3. Time in Power for Leaders of Countries: Example
4. Estimates and Tests without Covariates
5. Covariate Effects via Cox Models
6. Accelerated Failure Time Models
7. An Alternative Approach to Multiple Event Types

December 17, 2008: GeoDA
(<https://www.geoda.uiuc.edu/>)

GeoDa is the latest incarnation in a long line of software tools developed by Dr. Luc Anselin's Spatial Analysis Laboratory (SAL) in the Department of Geography at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. It is designed to implement techniques for exploratory spatial data analysis (ESDA) on lattice data (points and polygons). The free program provides a user friendly and graphical interface to methods of descriptive spatial data analysis, such as spatial autocorrelation statistics, as well as basic spatial regression functionality. The latest version contains several new features such as a cartogram, a refined map movie, parallel coordinate plot, 3D visualization, conditional plots (and maps) and spatial regression.

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 12:00 to 1:00. Enter the South Tower & take the elevator to the 3rd floor to check in at the guard's desk.

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

Washington Statistical Society - Short Course Announcement**Introduction to Bayesian Methods for Data Analysis
November 18, 2008
Registration Due By November 10, 2008**

As a result of recent advances in computing and the consequent ability to evaluate complex models, Bayesian methods have increased in popularity in data analysis. This course introduces hierarchical and empirical Bayes methods, demonstrates their usefulness in challenging applied settings, and shows how they can be implemented using modern Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) computational methods. We also provide an introduction to and live demonstration of WinBUGS, the most general Bayesian software package available to date, and BRugs, a convenient function for calling BUGS from R. Use of the methods will be demonstrated in advanced high-dimensional model settings (e.g., nonlinear longitudinal modeling or spatio-temporal estimation and mapping), where the MCMC Bayesian approach often provides the only feasible alternative that incorporates all relevant model features.

Who Should Attend: Short course participants should have an M.S. (or advanced undergraduate) understanding of mathematical statistics. Basic familiarity with common statistical models (e.g., the linear regression model) and computing will be assumed, but we will *not* assume any significant previous exposure to Bayesian methods or Bayesian computing.

About the instructor: Brad Carlin is Mayo Professor of Public Health and Professor of Biostatistics in the School of Public Health at the University of Minnesota. His research interests include statistical applications in AIDS research, spatial disease mapping, longitudinal studies, and the development of hierarchical Bayes methods for such projects, especially techniques which take advantage of modern computing power. In addition to his two textbooks (Bayes and Empirical Bayes Methods for Data Analysis, coauthored with Tom Louis, and Hierarchical Modeling and Analysis for Spatial Data, coauthored with Sudipto Banerjee and Alan Gelfand) he has published more than 100 papers in refereed books and journals.

Schedule for Course: The course will be held November 18. Registration and continental breakfast will begin at 8:30 AM and the class will run from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. Lunch and afternoon refreshments will also be provided.

Location:

Hilton Crystal City at Washington Reagan National Airport (near Crystal City Metro stop)
2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202

Registration: (Please register by November 10, 2008).

Registration available online at <https://www.123signup.com/register?id=zgqyf>

Full-time students (Provide copy of student ID with registration—only 5 student slots available)

\$ 30

All other registrants

\$ 165

For more information on this course, please visit <https://www.123signup.com/event?id=zgqyf> or contact Sylvia Dohrmann – SylviaDohrmann@westat.com

Announcement

Call for Abstracts

Info-Fusion: Utilization of Multi-Source Data

Twelfth Biennial CDC Symposium on Statistical Methods

April 7-8, 2009

Statisticians, social and behavioral scientists, epidemiologists, economists, policy analysts, and other health researchers are invited to participate in the Twelfth Biennial Symposium on Statistical Methods to be held in Decatur, Georgia (Atlanta metropolitan area). The Symposium is sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention* (CDC) and the American Statistical Association (ASA). The theme of the 2009 Symposium is “Info-Fusion: Utilization of Multi-Source Data.” In conjunction with the Symposium, short courses will be offered on April 6, 2009 and announced at a later date.

Submission of abstracts is encouraged for contributed sessions of oral and poster presentations related to any of the following Symposium topic areas:

- * Application of analytic techniques to multiple data sources
- * Best practices in information fusion and biosurveillance
- * Statistical issues in bioterrorism and environmental tracking
- * Public health threat surveillance, monitoring, and assessment
- * Public health preparedness, emergency or disaster response
- * Spatial-temporal analysis of multiple information sources
- * Applications of health risk analysis, risk modeling, and decision science
- * Model assessment in large linked or networked data bases
- * Cutting edge analytics applied to public health data

To submit an abstract, go to: <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/cdcatsdr>

Abstracts will be considered for either oral or poster presentation and must be submitted no later than December 15, 2008. The Symposium program will be determined by the end of January, after which authors will be notified of acceptance or rejection. For more information, please contact:

Drew Baughman
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road NE (MS C-25)
Atlanta, GA 30329
(404) 639-8198
DBaughman@cdc.gov

Program Announcement

- Title:** Can Calibration Be Used to Adjust for ‘Nonignorable’ Nonresponse?
- Chair:** TBA
- Speaker:** Phillip S. Kott, National Agricultural Statistics Service (written with Ted Chang, University of Virginia)
- Discussant:** John Eltinge, Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Date/Time:** Monday, November 3, 2008, 12:30 – 2:00pm
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, 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 (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
- Abstract:** Although not originally designed for that purpose, calibration can be used to adjust for unit nonresponse. It is less well known that calibration can be employed when the (explanatory) model variables on which the response/nonresponse mechanism depends do not coincide with the benchmark variables in the calibration equation. As a result, model-variable values need only be known for the respondents. This allows the treatment of what is usually considered nonignorable nonresponse.
- Two distinct theories justify using calibration as a method for nonresponse adjustment: quasi-random response modeling and prediction modeling. The prediction- modeling approach needs to be extended to cover nonignorable nonresponse. The prediction model itself relates the survey variable to the model variables. A second model equation, called the “measurement-error model,” connects the model variables to the benchmark variables.
- The justification for both the response and prediction modeling approaches relies on samples being large and on model assumptions that can fail in practice. We explore these limitations empirically using data from an agricultural census.
- Mutually exclusive group-indicator variables known for all units in the population serve as the benchmark variables in our investigation. The “benchmark groups” themselves are based on previously-collected frame information. Model variables are created by constructing analogous “model groups” using survey information known only for the respondents.
- Neither the prediction/measurement-error model nor the response model employing these model variables is correct . Both, however, are closer to the truth than commonly-invoked models that treat the benchmark groups as the model groups. As a consequence, using the response-generated model groups leads to much lower empirical biases and smaller mean squared errors if slightly larger empirical standard deviations.

Program Announcement

Title: Self-Service Business Intelligence for Statistical Agencies/Departments

Speakers: Karen Cholak, Space-Time Research
Brian Garrett, Space-Time Research

Chair: Jeri M. Mulrow, Mathematical Statistician, National Science Foundation

Date/Time: Tuesday, November 4, 2008 / 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics 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 (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. Take the Red Line to Union Station.

Sponsors: ICSP Innovation Working Group

Abstract: Federal, state and local statistical agencies are under increasing demands from their key stakeholders and the public at large. Timely, relevant and robust statistics are being recognized as fundamental to enabling policy formulation by government agencies and allowing industry and the community to make better informed decisions. At the same time, agencies must ensure the confidentiality of the data.

Some of the key business, policy, and management issues facing statistical agencies include:

- Enhancing the transparency of government information
- Transforming government through information sharing
- Providing better information services with fewer programmers and statisticians
- Providing appropriate access to a diverse range of information users
- Meeting the user's expectation for instant answers to questions
- Making more data available to the stakeholders
- Balancing increased demands of privacy protection for individuals versus increasing access to data
- Ensuring responsible statistical communication to users

This seminar is designed to address these issues.

Space-Time Research (STR) is the global leader in *Self-Service Business Intelligence*. Our solutions are EASIER, FASTER, and SAFER than traditional statistical analysis. End-users interactively analyze and visualize data in a drag-and-drop environment. By optimizing detailed-level data, or microdata, our solution supports a "Query-Answer-Query" approach to data exploration. Confidentiality routines protect the privacy of the data; integration with mapping technology supports visualization options for geo-coded data.

Our customers are the most advanced government agencies for statistics, education, transportation, health, and justice. Customers include the U.S. Census Bureau, the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Statistics New Zealand, Office for National Statistics in the United Kingdom, and the Russian Federal Statistics Office, among others.

Program Announcement

- Title:** Nearest Neighbor Imputation Strategies : Does 'nearest' imply most likely ?
- And other difficult questions ...
- Speaker:** Timothy Keller, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Washington, DC
- Chair:** Mike Fleming
- Date/Time:** Thursday, November 6, 2008 12:30 - 1:30 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:** WSS Agriculture and Natural Resources Section
- Abstract:** A frequently stated objective for methods of imputing values for missing data fields is that the distribution of the data be preserved. Some knowledge of the underlying distribution seems to be necessary to any reasonable method of imputation, although in practice that knowledge may be very limited. It is proposed that imputation methods using the concept of a nearest neighbor with respect to some appropriate metric may be viewed as a sort of surrogate for likelihood maximizing substitutions. A formal statement of the problem of determining when nearest neighbor techniques are a reasonable proxy for selection based on likelihood considerations is attempted.
- e-mail: Tim_Keller@nass.usda.gov

Program Announcement

Title: NOAA's National Weather Service Weather Services for the Nation -- A Transition Briefing

Speaker: Jack Hayes, Assistant Administrator for Weather Services and National Weather Service (NWS) Director

Chair: Mel Kollander

Date/Time: Monday, November 10, 2008 12:00 - 1:30 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: WSS Agriculture and Natural Resources Section

Abstract: A new Administration assumes responsibility for leading our Nation on January 20, 2009. There will be new people running the Executive Branch of the Federal Government and they will need to learn about the many agencies they oversee. The Transition Briefing offers a unique opportunity to explain the critical role the National Weather Service serves to provide the people of our Nation with weather, water, and climate forecasts and warnings for the protection of life and property and enhancement of the national economy.

Point of contact e-mail: Leslie.Taylor@noaa.gov

Program Announcement

- Title:** **Administrative Data in Support of Policy Relevant Statistics: The Medicaid Undercount Project**
- Speaker:** Dr. Michael Davern, Assistant Professor and Research Director, State Health Access Data Assistance Center, University of Minnesota
- Discussant:** Linda Bilheimer, Associate Director for Analysis and Epidemiology, National Center for Health Statistics
- Chair:** Shelly Wilkie Martinez, Office of Statistical and Science Policy, U.S. Office of Management and Budget
- Date/Time:** Thursday, November 13, 2008 / 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, you need to email your name, affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (note that there is an underscore after 'wss') by noon at least two days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message with this information. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave., NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** WSS Section on Public Policy
- Abstract:** Dr. Davern will focus on efforts to understand why survey estimates of the number of people enrolled in Medicaid are well below administrative data enrollment counts. A crude comparison between the Current Population Survey's Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS) and the Medicaid Statistical Information System (MSIS) shows the survey estimate to be 43% smaller than the administrative data estimate. The causes of this large discrepancy are varied and many of them can have a profound impact on our understanding of health access policy. This project categorized the identified causes of the "undercount" into universe alignment issues and survey response error. After adjusting for universe alignment issues (which include adjustments for people counted in MSIS that will not be counted in the CPS such as institutional group quarters and people enrolled in more than one state during the reference year), the gap between the survey estimate and administrative data narrows to 31%. The remaining cause of discrepancy is survey reporting error with 17% of the linked cases reporting being uninsured in the CPS. The extent of the reporting error, at first glance, places the error clearly in the domain of survey measurement for counting many people as being uninsured all of last year when they were enrolled in Medicaid for at least a day.

The large reduction in the number of uninsured has far reaching implications on those who use the survey data to evaluate federal and state programs, model program eligibility and forecast the costs of program alterations. However, the reporting error is not unique to one survey instrument as other subsequent linkage projects show

large numbers of linked cases answering other surveys as though they are uninsured (although the CPS has the highest level examined so far). Furthermore, the reporting error varies greatly by state. States exercise substantial control over the operation of the Medicaid program. Thus, what at first appears to be "survey error" may partially be the result of Medicaid program operations as large numbers of people do not know they (or their dependents) have health insurance coverage. The study, therefore, has implications for not only improving survey instrument design (as some instruments are clearly better than others at reducing the error), but is also suggestive that some states may need to improve communication with enrollees regarding their enrollment in Medicaid.

Dr. Bilheimer will discuss the implications of Dr. Davern's findings for survey design, statistical infrastructure issues in using administrative data, and health policy formulation. Her remarks will also address the importance of developing innovative projects, such as the Medicaid Undercount project, that are designed to integrate existing survey and administrative data resources to gain a deeper understanding of important policy issues. Projects such as these require federal agencies to work creatively to overcome institutional barriers to data sharing, and to form new collaborations between a variety of non-federal partners including foundations and health policy and research organizations, such as SHADAC.

Program Announcement

Friday, November 14, 2008

“High-throughput flow cytometry data analysis: tools and methods in Bioconductor”

Speaker: **Dr. Florian Hahne**, Computational Biology Program, Division of Public Health Sciences, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Abstract: Automation technologies developed during the last several years have enabled the use of flow cytometry high content screening (FC-HCS) to generate large, complex datasets in both basic and clinical research applications. A serious bottleneck in the interpretation of existing studies and the application of FC-HCS to even larger, more complex problems is that data management and data analysis methods have not advanced sufficiently far from the methods developed for applications of flow cytometry (FCM) to small-scale, tube-based studies. Some of the consequences of this lag are difficulties in maintaining the integrity and documentation of extremely large datasets, assessing measurement quality, developing validated assays, controlling the accuracy of gating techniques, automating complex gating strategies, and aggregating statistical results across large study sets for further analysis. In this seminar, we present a range of computational tools developed in Bioconductor that enable the automated analysis of large flow cytometry data sets, from the initial quality assessment to the statistical comparison of the individual samples.

Time/Location: 10:00-11:00 AM. Georgetown University Medical Center, Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, 4000 Reservoir Rd, NW, Warwick Evans Conference Room, Building D, Washington, DC 20007.

Sponsor: Department of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics and Biomathematics
For information, please contact Caroline Wu at 202-687-4114 or ctw26@georgetown.edu

Program Announcement

Title: Bayesian Multiscale Multiple Imputation with Implications to Data Confidentiality

Speaker: Dr. Scott Holan, University of Missouri-Columbia

Discussant: Stephen Cohen, National Science Foundation

Chair: Jeri M. Mulrow, Mathematical Statistician, National Science Foundation

Date/Time: Thursday, November 20, 2008 / 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics 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 (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. Take the Red Line to Union Station.

Sponsors: ICSP Innovation Working Group

Abstract: Federal Statistical Agencies currently employ a variety of ways to share and disseminate information and data ranging from print publications to tabular output to integrated database systems. The goal is to provide useful data to a variety of audiences. Statistical agencies face a significant challenge in striking an appropriate balance between providing access to sensitive data and safeguarding confidentiality. This seminar is designed to showcase a new option.

Many scientific, sociological and economic applications present data that are collected on multiple scales of resolution. Frequently, such data sets experience missing observations in a manner that they can be accurately imputed using the method we propose known as Bayesian multiscale multiple imputation. Although our method is of independent interest one immediate implication of such methodology is the potential affect on confidential databases where the mechanism of protection is through cell suppression. In order to demonstrate the proposed methodology and to access the effectiveness of disclosure practices in longitudinal databases, we conduct a large scale empirical study using the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW). During the course of our empirical investigation it is determined that we can predict several suppressed cells to within 1% accuracy, thus causing potential concerns for data confidentiality.

Program Announcement

- Title:** **Administrative Data in Support of Policy Relevant Statistics: the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) – Eligibility, Participation, and Its Impact on Employment**
- Speaker:** V. Joseph Hotz, Arts & Sciences Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, Duke University
- Discussant:** Nada Eissa, Associate Professor of Public Policy and Economics, Georgetown Public Policy Institute, Georgetown University
- Chair:** Clinton W. Brownley
- Date/Time:** Wednesday, December 3, 2008 / 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 email your name, affiliation and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (note that there is an underscore after 'wss') by noon at least two days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message with this information. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave., NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** WSS Section on Public Policy
- Abstract:** Hotz will report on research he has conducted on the EITC using administrative matched administrative data sources for the State of California during the 1990s. These data include information from California's welfare and unemployment insurance administrative data systems that is linked to federal tax returns under a unique arrangement with the State of California's taxing authority. Hotz will report on findings on rates of EITC eligibility, participation and the impacts of the EITC on rates of employment for California using these data.

Program Announcement

SAS - New Extensions

The Statistical Computing Section of WSS is jointly sponsoring with the DC SAS User Group, DCSUG, two presentations by Bob Rodriguez of SAS Institute. The talks, listed below, discuss statistical graphics and a new product, SAS Stat Studio. The talks will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, from 9:15 to 11:45 in the BLS Conference Center. Further details for this presentation can be found at www.dc-sug.org (from Oct 1 onwards).

All those who plan to attend must be on WSS or DCSUG entry list or have a BLS ID.

Getting Started with ODS Statistical Graphics in SAS 9.2 **Robert N. Rodriguez, SAS Institute**

SAS 9.1 introduced an experimental extension to the output Delivery System (ODS), which enabled over two dozen SAS/STAT and SAS/ETS procedures to create statistical graphics as automatically as they create tables. This extension, referred to as "ODS Graphics" for short, requires minimal additional syntax, and it provides commonly needed displays for data analysis and statistical modeling, including scatter plots, histograms, and box-and-whisker plots. Many ODS features, such as styles and destination statements, apply equally to tables and graphs.

With the production release of ODS Graphics in SAS 9.2, over sixty statistical procedures have been enabled to use this new functionality. New SAS/GRAPH procedures, as well as existing SAS/QC procedures, also take advantage of this functionality. Additional ODS styles for statistical work are available. You can use a new point-and-click graphics editor to make changes to graphs, such as modifying titles and annotating points. This talk explains the basics of using ODS Graphics to create and manage graphs for data exploration and statistical analysis.

An Introduction to SAS Stat Studio **Robert N. Rodriguez, SAS Institute**

SAS Stat Studio 3.1 is new statistical software in SAS 9.2 that is designed to meet the needs of innovative problem solvers who are familiar with SAS/STAT or SAS/IML but need more versatility to create customized analyses. Stat Studio provides a rich programming environment that blends the flexibility of the IML matrix language with the ability to call SAS procedures as functions and create customized dynamic graphics.

With Stat Studio, you can build on your familiarity with either SAS/STAT or SAS/IML to write programs that explore data, fit models, and use linked graphics to relate the results to the data. You can move seamlessly between programming and interactive analysis. If your programs use methods that are computationally intensive, you can run them simultaneously in multiple workspaces. This talk demonstrates how Stat Studio facilitates techniques that would otherwise be difficult with traditional SAS programming.

Biographical Sketch

Bob Rodriguez joined SAS in 1983 and is currently a senior director in SAS R&D with responsibility for the development of statistical software, including SAS/STAT and SAS/QC. He received his Ph.D. in statistics from the University of North Carolina in 1977, and was a staff research scientist at General Motors Research Laboratories from 1977 until 1983. Bob is active in the American Statistical Association, where he currently serves as vice president.

Program Announcement



Office of Biostatistics Research
Division of Prevention and Population Sciences

(Bio)Statistics Seminar Series

10:30am-11:30am
December 12, 2008

Conference Room 9091, Two Rockledge Center,
6701 Rockledge Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892

On robust tests for case-control genetic association studies

Gang Zheng, Ph.D.

Office of Biostatistics Research
National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

Abstract

When testing association between a single marker and a disease using case-control samples, the data can be presented in a 2x3 table. Pearson's Chi-square test (2 *df*) and the trend test (1 *df*) are commonly used. Usually one does not know which of them to choose. It depends on the unknown genetic model underlying the data. So one could either choose the maximum (MAX) of a family of trend tests over all possible genetic models (following Davies, 1977; 1987; both in *Biometrika*) or take the smaller p-values (MIN2) of Pearson's test and the trend test (following WTCCC - Wellcome Trust Case-Control Consortium, 2007, *Nature*).

We first show that Pearson's test, the trend test and MAX are all trend tests with different types of scores: data-driven or prespecified, restricted or not restricted. The results provide insight into the properties that **MAX is always more powerful than Pearson's test when the genetic model is restricted** and that **Pearson's test is more robust when the model is not restricted**. Then, for the MIN2 of WTCCC (2007), we show that its asymptotic null distribution can be derived, so the p-value of MIN2 can be obtained. Simulation is used to compare some common test statistics. The results are applied to WTCCC (2007). In particular, MIN2 is applied to the SNPs obtained by The SEARCH Collaborative Group (*NEJM*, August 21, 2008) who used MIN2 to detect these SNPs in a genome-wide association study, but also reported the minimum p-values as the true p-values.

This talk is based on three recent manuscripts with Jungnam Joo, and/or Minjung Kwak, Kwangmi Ahn and Yaning Yang.

Program Announcement

- Title:** Disclosure Protection: A New Approach to Cell Suppression
- Speakers:** Bei Wang, U.S. Bureau of the Census
- Discussant:** Lawrence Cox, National Center for Health Statistics
- Chair:** Linda Atkinson, Economic Research Service, USDA
- Date/Time:** Tuesday, December 16, 2008 / 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics 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 (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. Take the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** WSS Economics Section
- Abstract:** Census products and related programs use cell suppression to protect data that is sensitive to our respondents. A disclosure procedure is applied before any data goes out for publication. The underlining algorithm used is a network flow model. We will review the disclosure procedure and how well the model does. A question that always arises is "how is a near optimized solution to be determined to the Cell Suppression Problem (CSP)?" A new linear programming approach is used in this research. The algorithm is applied to Survey of Business Owners (SBO)'s Hispanic data and comparisons with the 2002 publications are made.

Program Announcement

- Title:** **Challenges and Opportunities for the Statistics Profession and the American Statistical Association**
- Speaker:** Ronald L. Wasserstein, Ph.D.
Executive Director
American Statistical Association
- Sponsor:** Office of Biostatistics Research
Division of Prevention and Population Sciences
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

(Bio)Statistics Seminar Series
- Date/Time:** Thursday, January 22, 2009 / 11am - noon
- Location:** Conference Room 9091
Two Rockledge Center, 6701 Rockledge Drive,
Bethesda, MD 20892
- Abstract:** From his perspective as ASA's Executive Director, Ron Wasserstein will discuss seven sets of challenges and opportunities he sees as particularly important for our profession, and for the ASA. These include: membership, the statistical pipeline, visibility and impact of the profession, publications, meetings, internationalization/globalization, and accreditation. Each set includes a set of questions for the participants, so a large portion of the time will be spent in audience discussion.

JPSM Short Course

WEB SURVEY DESIGN

A two-day short course sponsored by the Joint Program in Survey Methodology

JANUARY 29-30, 2009

Presented at the Marriott at Metro Center, Washington DC

MICK P. COUPER

Research Professor

Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan

Joint Program in Survey Methodology, University of Maryland

COURSE ABSTRACT

The course will focus on the design of Web survey instruments and procedures, based on theories of human-computer interaction, interface design, and empirical research on Web survey design and implementation. The course will begin with a review of Web or Internet surveys in the general context of sources of survey error (sampling, coverage, nonresponse, measurement error, and costs). The course will then discuss different approaches to Web survey design (e.g., scrolling versus paging) and discuss various design approaches for developing effective Web surveys. The course will draw on empirical results from experiments on alternative design approaches as well as practical experience in the design and implementation of Web surveys. The course will not focus on the technical aspects of Web survey implementation, such as hardware, software or programming.

PREREQUISITES

A working knowledge of survey research methods will be assumed. No knowledge of Web programming or scripting (HTML, JavaScript) or any particular software package is necessary.

THE INSTRUCTOR

Mick Couper is a Research Professor in the Survey Research Center at the Institute for Social Research and in the Joint Program in Survey Methodology at the University of Maryland. He received a Ph.D. in sociology from Rhodes University, an M.A. in applied social research from the University of Michigan and an M.Soc.Sc. from the University of Cape Town. He is co-author of *Nonresponse in Household Interview Surveys*, chief editor of *Computer Assisted Survey Information Collection*, co-author of *Survey Methodology* (all published by Wiley), and author of *Designing Effective Web Surveys* (Cambridge). His current research interests focus on aspects of technology use in surveys, whether by interviewers or respondents.

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE**THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2009**

- 8:00 - 9:00 Registrant Check-in and Continental Breakfast
9:00 - 10:00 Introduction and Overview.
Sources of error in Web surveys; types of Websurveys.
10:00 - 10:30 Break
10:30 - 12:00 Importance of Design.
Types of Web surveys (continued); implications for Design.
12:00 - 1:00 Lunch
1:00 - 2:30 Designing Questions - The Basic Building Blocks of a Web Survey.
Basic HTML tools for creating survey questions; radio buttons, check boxes, drop boxes, text fields, text areas, etc.; going beyond HTML: multimedia, graphics, Web 2.0, other tools.
2:30 - 3:00 Break
3:00 - 4:30 General Layout and Design.
Typography, font size and style; background design; layout and screen design; use of grids or matrices.
4:30 Adjourn

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30, 2009

- 7:30 - 8:30 Registrant Check-in and Continental Breakfast
8:30 - 10:00 General Layout and Design. Continued.
10:00 - 10:30 Break
10:30 - 12:00 Putting the Questions Together to Create a Questionnaire.
Instructions; skips, edit checks and routing; progress and movement through the instrument; error messages.
12:00 - 1:00 Lunch
1:00 - 2:30 Putting the Questions Together to Create a Questionnaire. Continued.
2:30 - 3:00 Break
3:00 - 4:30 Implementing the Web Survey.
The e-mail invitation; access control and login; the welcome screen; follow-up reminders and repeat access; wrap up.
4:30 Adjourn

COURSE MATERIALS

Registrants will be provided with a copy of the book "Designing Effective Web Surveys" and a course lecture notebook.

MEALS

JPSM group continental breakfasts, lunches and refreshments are included in the course fee.

JPSM SHORT COURSES: www.jpsm.org/shortcourses

SPONSOR AFFILIATE LIST: projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/info.cfm#sponsors

FEES

The course fee is \$665 for JPSM sponsor affiliates, \$665 for full-time university students, and \$875 for other participants.

REGISTRATION

Online registration is required. Confirmation of acceptance will be sent after the registration form has been processed. Registration is not firm until you receive an acceptance email. The email will include directions to the course. The automatic web registration number is not an acceptance letter. The registration deadline is January 15, 2009.

PAYMENT

Payment by credit card is required. Payment may be done online during registration. Post registration payment may be done online using the registration number or by calling (800) 937-9320. Payment is required by January 15, 2009.

CANCELLATION

Please notify JPSM as soon as possible if you need to cancel your registration. Cancellation requests should be done online. You will be fully reimbursed if you cancel by January 15, 2009. Cancellation January 16-21 2009 will require a \$100 administrative fee, the remainder will be reimbursed. Cancellation on or after January 22, 2009 is subject to the full fee amount.

FELLOWSHIP

The Joint Program in Survey Methodology strives to increase the number of survey professionals from groups traditionally under-represented in the field. As part of this effort, a limited number of competitive fellowships are available to African-Americans, Latinos, Hispanic Americans, and Native American Indians for the short course. The registrant must be a US citizen or permanent resident.

The applicants should submit:

1. Online registration
2. A 500-word essay describing their reasons for wanting to attend this short course and how their participation will enhance their chosen career path. The essay should indicate the applicant's background (i.e., African-American, Latino, Hispanic American, or Native American Indian) and why fellowship support is needed.
3. A letter of recommendation written by a person knowledgeable about the applicant's aptitude and interest in survey methodology.

The online registration form, essay, and letter of recommendation are due January 1, 2009. JPSM will evaluate the applications and inform the successful applicants by January 8, 2009. The fellowship covers the registration fee, materials to be distributed during the course and the JPSM group continental breakfasts, lunches and refreshments. The registration must be done online. The essay and letter of recommendation may be faxed to (734) 764-8263 or emailed to JPSMShort@isr.umich.edu.

JPSM CITATION PROGRAM

The citation programs are built around the JPSM short courses. The JPSM Citation in Introductory Survey Methodology is designed to provide the working professional and interested students with state-of-the-art knowledge about current principles and practices for conducting complex surveys combined with practical skills of day-to-day utility. The JPSM Citation in Introductory Economic Measurement is designed for professional staff requiring a grounding in the principles and practices of economic measurement. Completion of the citation programs involves taking a semester-length JPSM credit-bearing course and eight JPSM short courses, of which four are specified core courses. For information on the Certificate and Citation Programs visit the website at

<http://www.jpsm.org> or call 301-314-7911.

MARRIOTT AT METRO CENTER

775 12th Street NW, Washington, District Of Columbia 20005

Phone: (202) 737-2200 Fax: (202) 347-5886

The hotel is situated adjacent to the DC Metro rail system, with easy access to Reagan National Airport (4.0 mi N), Washington Dulles Airport (25.0 mi E), Baltimore Washington Airport (40.0 mi S) as well as the Amtrak station.

OVERNIGHT ROOMS

Individuals are responsible for making their own overnight room reservations and for payment.

PARKING

Onsite Parking: \$30 a day

Parking Garages: Rates range from \$13 to \$20 a day

METRO CENTER STATION: Red, Blue, Orange Lines (G & 12th Street)

BUS STATION: Union Station (2.0 mi E)

TRAIN STATION: Union Station (1.6 mi E)

INQUIRIES

Questions for this course should be directed to the JPSM Short Course, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, 426 Thompson Street, Room 4050, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-2321, Phone: (800) 937-9320, Fax: (734) 764-8263, Email: jpsmshort@isr.umich.edu.

JPSM SHORT COURSES: www.jpsm.org/shortcourses

SPONSOR AFFILIATE LIST: projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/info.cfm#sponsors

JPSM HOME PAGE: www.jpsm.org

TAX IDENTIFICATION (University of Michigan): 38-6006309

Primary Funding for JPSM is from the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy.

Announcement

Federal Committee On Statistical Methodology Statistical Policy Seminar

Beyond 2010: Confronting the Challenges

November 18-19, 2008

The Ninth in a Series of Seminars Hosted by COPAFS
(The Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics)

Participants will include statisticians, economists, and managers, as well as other professionals in the broader statistical community who share an interest in keeping current on issues related to federal data.

Support Provided by: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality * Bureau of Economic Analysis * Bureau of Justice Statistics * Bureau of Labor Statistics * Bureau of Transportation Statistics * Energy Information Administration * Environmental Protection Agency * National Agricultural Statistics Service * National Center for Education Statistics * National Center for Health Statistics * Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics of the Social Security Administration * Statistics of Income Division of the Internal Revenue Service * U.S. Census Bureau * Science Resources Statistics/National Science Foundation

Topics:

- * Statistical Uses of Administrative Records in Federal Agencies
- * Case Studies in the Statistical Uses of Administrative Records
- * Cell Phones: The New Frontier in RDD surveys
- * New Perspectives and Practices on Non-Response Bias Analyses
- * Current Issues in Privacy and the Safekeeping of Personally Identifiable Information
- * Survey Respondent Incentives
- * Current Trends in Access to Restricted-Use Data
- * Development and Management of Human and Institutional Capital in Statistical Organizations
- * 2010 Census Experiments
- * Issues of Data Capacity and Statistical Quality to Support Modeling and Micro-simulation Efforts
- * Making Survey Processes More Robust in Response to Funding Reductions
- * Using Paradata to Improve the Management of Survey Costs

Keynote Address: Hermann Habermann, Consultant

Location and Seminar Cost:

L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20024
Cost: \$195.00 per person

For Further Information, Contact the COPAFS Office at:

Phone: 703-836-0404 Email: copafs@aol.com Fax: 703-836-0406

The registration form is available at the COPAFS web site at: www.copafs.org

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](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 Research Bayesian Statistician

RTI International is an independent organization dedicated to conducting innovative and multidisciplinary research that meets its mission to improve the human condition. RTI is currently celebrating 50 years since its original founding by a consortium of North Carolina based research Universities. Since its founding, the Institute has grown into a worldwide staff of more than 4,000 people with a truly global presence. Your work will have an impact that ranges from the single individual to influencing national governments and critical regional policy. Join our distinguished staff in developing innovative research and development, creating wide ranging policy and providing a full spectrum of multidisciplinary services.

Job Description

The Statistics and Epidemiology Unit of RTI International seeks a Senior Research Statistician to support the use of Bayesian statistics in a wide range of research studies, program evaluations and surveys in public health, education, the environment, and other social sciences.

The successful candidate is expected to have strong skills and relevant experience in developing and applying the principles and methods of Bayesian statistics to a broad range of research studies, including the design and analysis of randomized clinical trials and other intervention studies, program evaluations and survey methodologies. Expertise in eliciting and incorporating prior information and expert opinion, as well as designing and analyzing adaptive early phase clinical trials would be especially beneficial.

Responsibilities

The successful candidate will apply Bayesian methods to the design and analysis of research studies (both interventional and observational) in the social and environmental sciences, including public health and education research. He/She should also be able to apply Bayesian principles to the design and analysis of survey methods and program evaluation studies.

Qualifications

- PhD or equivalent degree in Statistics, Biostatistics or related field with at least 5 years relevant experience.
- Expertise in designing and analyzing Bayesian studies in the social sciences, including randomized clinical trials.
- Excellent writing, leadership, communication, and organizational skills.

Desired Skills

- Expertise in adaptive clinical trial designs
- Expertise in applying Bayesian principles to developing survey methodology.
- Though we prefer a full time employment situation, a less than full time schedule can be considered for a highly qualified individual.
- The job location should be at one of RTI's established offices, however a telecommuting situation can also be considered.

For more information and to apply, please visit www.rti.org/careers and refer to: Senior Research Bayesian Statistician (Job ID 11724)

We are proud to be an EEO/AA employer M/F/D/V

The University of District of Columbia, Washington D.C.

Assistant Professor Statistics

The Department of Mathematics of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of District of Columbia invites applications for two tenure-track Assistant Professor Positions in Applied Statistics to begin January 2009. Ph.D. in Statistics or completed Ph.D. by May 2009 is required. In addition to service to the Department and to the College, a faculty member is expected to teach undergraduate and graduate courses in statistics and mathematics. Applicants should send a statement detailing research interests, teaching philosophy, commitment to teaching, curriculum vitae, copies of academic transcripts, completed UDC employment application form and have three reference letters sent to Dr. Vernise Steadman, University of District of Columbia, Department of Mathematics, Washington D.C.20008. Contact Numbers: Dr. Vernise Steadman: 202-274-6151 (vsteadma@udc.edu) and Dr. Aroona S. Borpujari: 202-274-5390 (aborpuja@udc.edu). Application form can be found at www.udc.edu.

Human Intelligence Statistician Booz Allen Hamilton's Organization and Strategy Team

Booz|Allen|Hamilton has added a number of new opportunities, especially within the intelligence community. These opportunities are primarily in the D.C. Metropolitan area. Booz Allen Hamilton's aim is to help US government agencies operate more efficiently at home and abroad. Booz Allen has undertaken engagements for agencies in the intelligence community. Each role will help in assessing strategic business and mission challenges for the purpose of recommending solutions and plans that have enough detail and specifics to lead to implementation. This would involve research, recommendation, implementation, and support of the project(s). We are looking for the following:

8+ years of experience with intelligence community (IC)

Experience with analysis or inductive reasoning or process documentation or development

Experience in a team environment

Ability to travel up to 25 percent of the time

TS/SCI clearance with Poly required

BA or BS degree required (preferably MBA)

Please send resume and/or questions to:

Greg Schopp
Recruiting Services for Organization Strategy
Booz | Allen | Hamilton
Office: (920) 699-7444
Cell: (920) 342-9001
Email: schopp_greg@ne.bah.com
Web: www.boozallen.com

SENIOR RESEARCH ANALYST

**National Education Association (NEA)
Washington, DC**

Client:

JDG Associates, Ltd., has been engaged to conduct the search for a Senior Educational Research Analyst with the National Education Association, reporting to the Manager of Surveys and Data Analysis. Headquartered in Washington DC with 3.2 million members across the country, NEA is the nation's leading organization committed to advancing the cause of public education in the United States. Founded in 1857 "to elevate the character and advance the interests of the profession of teaching and to promote the cause of popular education in the United States," the NEA is currently focusing the energy and resources of its members toward the concept of "great public schools for every child". Membership in NEA is open to anyone who works for a public school district, a college or university, or any other public institution devoted primarily to education. For further information on NEA please visit its website: www.nea.org.

Position Summary:

The essential functions of this position include conceptualizing and conducting a broad range of survey-based research and secondary analyses in areas such as teacher quality, teaching and learning, education policy and practice, and membership targeting/organizing; providing expertise and skills in advanced multivariate statistical methods; developing written reports, publications, graphics, and presentations accessible to diverse audiences.

Education Requirement:

Ph.D. in Sociology, Economics, Statistics or Demography

Minimum Qualifications: Five years of progressively responsible experience in survey research involving the application of advanced statistical techniques in the analysis of complex data sets; experience in heading research projects; experience writing for professional and scholarly journals; proven ability to communicate complex ideas to professional and lay audiences.

Selection Criteria:

* Comprehensive knowledge and practical experience in conceptualizing, designing and conducting survey research on topics pertaining to K-12 and higher education.

- * Training and experience in advanced statistical methods such as demographic modeling, economic estimation techniques, forecasting, multi-level regression analysis (HLM), analysis of longitudinal data, discrete data analysis or meta-analysis.
- * Knowledge of key education policy issues, research literature and data sources relevant to public K-12 education and higher education.
- * Training and/or experience in conducting survey research, designing complex samples and computing appropriate tests of significance for complex designs.
- * Experience in using national data sets, particularly those maintained by NCES, Census Bureau, and other Federal agencies (e.g., Schools and Staffing Survey, Common Core of Data, American Community Surveys, Current Population Surveys, etc.).
- * Proven project management skills and ability to allocate time and resources toward the completion of multiple projects with overlapping timelines.
- * Demonstrated ability to synthesize and interpret quantitative research documents for professional and lay audiences, including training and/or experience in meta-analysis.
- * Proven oral and written communications skills.
- * Capacity to work effectively within the context of the NEA, an advocacy organization.
- * Knowledge or experience calculating the cost of projects, delineating the scope of work in contracts for services, and monitoring/evaluating contractor activities and products.
- * Membership and active participation in professional organizations.
- * Extensive networks within academic and policy communities.

EEO: All candidates will be considered without regard to race, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability. The NEA provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities.

Compensation: \$90,000 - \$120,000

Contact:

Jenifer Moss

JDG Associates, LTD

1700 Research Boulevard

Rockville, MD 20850

301-340-2210

moss@jdgsearch.com

JDG Associates, established in 1973, is a leading provider of executive recruiting services to associations, non-profit organizations, the Federal government, Fortune 1000 corporations, and a variety of research and consulting firms.



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Washington Statistical Society

Holiday Party



Wednesday December 17, 2008

6:00 to 9:00 pm

Finger Foods and Cash Bar

Gordon Biersch Brewery

900 F Street NW, Washington DC

Close to the Gallery Place Metro Station (green, yellow or red line)

Wings-Hummus Salad-Pizza-Artichoke Hearts

Featuring Gordon Biersch Lagers

\$25 per person

Register Online at <https://www.123signup.com/register?id=zayqt>

Or Send Cheque Payable to WSS to: Yves Thibaudeau, 1037 17th St S, Arlington, VA 22202

If you have questions, please contact Yves at (301)-763-1706 or yves.thibaudeau@census.gov