



**WASHINGTON
STATISTICAL
SOCIETY**

**WSS NEWS
December 2010**

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Hello Everyone,

Best wishes for a joyful holiday season and a prosperous New Year.

Below is a letter by President Obama in recognition for our contributions.

Colleen S. Choi, WSS editor

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October 19, 2010

I am pleased to send greetings to all those celebrating World Statistics Day.

Statistical data drives countless decisions which impact our Nation. It guides representation in the United States Congress; informs our economic, social service, and national security outlook; and helps determine where infrastructure like schools, hospitals, and roads should be built.

The Federal statistical system—including the United States Census Bureau, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Energy Information Administration, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service—has been pivotal to our progress as a Nation. I commend all the hardworking women and men who are a part of this endeavor, as their efforts to provide critical data have helped maintain and improve our country.

As you gather to acknowledge the global statistical system and raise public awareness of statistics, I wish you all the best.

LECTURES AND SEMINARS

Title: **Estimating the Distribution of Usual Daily Energy Expenditure**

Organizer: David Judkins, Westat
WSS Methodology Section Chair

Chair: Brian Meekins, BLS

Speaker: Nick Beyler, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.

Date/Time: **January 12, 2011, 12:30-2:00pm** (NOTE rescheduled date!)

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 Section, WSS

Abstract:

When making inferences about physical activity, public health researchers are often interested in the distribution of usual (long-term average) daily energy expenditure for individuals in population groups, such as groups defined by gender and age. Because usual daily energy expenditure cannot be directly measured, self-reported activity data are collected from a sample of individuals and converted to energy expenditure. Daily energy expenditure measurements from self-report instruments contain measurement errors that lead to biased estimates of usual daily energy expenditure parameters. Activity monitors give more accurate measures of energy expenditure, but are expensive to administer. If monitors are used on a subsample of respondents, the reference monitor data can be used in a measurement error model framework to adjust estimates for the presence of errors. We propose a method for estimating usual daily energy expenditure parameters for multiple population groups. The research extends an existing method for estimating usual dietary intake distributions using 24-hour recall data (without a reference measure) for a single subpopulation. The new method involves transforming daily energy expenditure values to normality. The distribution of individuals' mean daily energy expenditure in the transformed scale is estimated using measurement error models to characterize sources of bias and random error for population groups. An estimated distribution of usual daily energy expenditure is generated in the original scale for each of the groups and parameters of usual daily energy expenditure are estimated from the estimated distributions. We illustrate our method with preliminary data from the Physical Activity Measurement Survey (PAMS).

Title: **Providing Double Protection Against Unit Nonresponse Bias with a Nonlinear Calibration Routine**

Chair: Adam Safir, BLS

Organizer: David Judkins, Westat

Speaker:

Phillip S. Kott

Senior Research Statistician, RTI International

Date/Time: Wednesday, January 26, 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:

There are at least two reasons to calibrate survey weights: 1, to force estimators to be unbiased under a prediction model, and, 2, to adjust for the bias caused by unit nonresponse. When there is no nonresponse or coverage errors, many forms of calibration are asymptotically equivalent.

When there is unit nonresponse, Lundström and Särndal (IOS 1999) argue that a unit's weight adjustment under linear calibration is an estimate of the inverse of its response probability. A more natural calibration approach for response-probability modeling employs an extension of generalized raking proposed by Folsom and Singh (SRMS PROCEEDINGS 2000). Surprisingly, fitting a logistic model indirectly through calibration usually leads to smaller mean squared errors than fitting it directly through weighted or unweighted maximum likelihood methods. This is because calibration weighting produces estimators that have good properties under a linear prediction model. These properties can hold even when the response model under which the calibration was developed fails. Conversely, properties under the response-probability model do not depend on the prediction model holding.

Title: **Statistical Disclosure: Independent Rounding of Discrete Tabular Data and Efforts to Perturb Data**

Organizer: J. Neil Russell, NCES

Chair: Adam Safir, BLS, WSS Methodology Program Chair

Speakers: Ramesh A. Dandekar, U.S. Department of Energy
Tom Krenzke, Westat

Date/Time: Tuesday, January 18, 2011, 12:30-2:00pm

Location:

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center Room 10

To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics, you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (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

Abstracts:

(In)Effectiveness of Independent Rounding of Discrete Tabular Data as a Statistical Disclosure Control Strategy, Ramesh A. Dandekar

In an attempt to protect sensitive counts data (discrete data), independent rounding of tabular data cells has been proposed and implemented by statistical agencies all over the world. In this presentation, we demonstrate that such a practice results in (1) degradation of tabular data quality and (2) produces non-additive tables. This strategy also fails to provide adequate protection from statistical disclosures for low count tabular data cells.

Efforts to Perturb ACS Data for the Census Transportation Planning Products, Tom Krenzke

The main disclosure control practice that has been used on certain Census Transportation Planning Products (CTPP) tabulations is cell suppression. The underlying data for the CTPP are moving from the Census Long Form data to the smaller American Community Survey (ACS) five-year combined sample. It is clear that the data loss at finer geographic areas, such as planned travel analysis zones (TAZs), will be substantial on five-year ACS data due to Census Bureau Disclosure Review Board (DRB) disclosure rules. For this reason, research is being conducted on ways to generate perturbed ACS values in an operationally-practical way that retain the usability of the data tabulations, satisfy the transportation data user community's analytical needs, and pass the disclosure rules set by the DRB. Here we report on some initial results from an evaluation of data utility from three perturbation approaches: parametric model-based, semi-parametric model-assisted, and a constrained hotdeck.

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIUMS

Event: International Spatial Statistics 2011 conference

Speakers:

Martin Schlather (Universität Göttingen, Germany), Noel Cressie (Ohio State University, USA) and Yong Ge (State Key Laboratory of Resources and Environmental Information System, China)

Date: March 23 – 25, 2011

Location: Enschede, The Netherlands

Description:

Please see conference website (<http://www.spatialstatisticsconference.com/>). Abstracts are now invited on [these topics](#)

Event: The 18th Federal Forecasters Conference

Date/Time: April 21 2011, 9:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Location:

Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center
2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Washington DC, 20212
Take the Red Line to Union Station. Bring a photo ID to the conference.

Sponsors:

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Research and Innovative Technology Administration/Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Department of Veterans Affairs, Economic Research Service, U.S. Energy Information Administration, Internal Revenue Service, International Trade Administration, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Postal Service, and Center for Economic Research, George Washington University

Theme:

Environmental issues have become an increasing priority for governments, businesses, and consumers. Challenges to forecasters include the implementation of programs and policies addressing efficiency, alternative energy sources, jobs, health, air and water quality, transportation, land use, and recycling programs. The 2011 Federal Forecasters Conference will examine how forecasters face this challenge and how policy-makers and other decision-makers use forecasts to make decisions.

Description:

For further information visit www.federalforecasters.org or contact Pheny Weidman at pheny.weidman@dot.gov; (202) 366-2817.

Event: **GDRR 2011 - Second Symposium on GAMES AND DECISIONS IN RELIABILITY AND RISK**

Host:

CNR IMATI and Institute for Integrating Statistics in Decision Sciences,
George Washington University

(Confirmed) Speakers:

Simon French, Miguel Lejeune, Massimo Marinacci, Jorge Mateu, Robert Nau, Nicholas Polson, David Rios Insua, Renata Rotondi, Marco Scarcini, Nozer Singpurwalla, Jim Q. Smith, Fabio Spizzichino, Fabio Trojani and Robert Wolpert

Date: **May 19-21, 2011**

Location: Hotel Villa Carlotta, Belgirate (VB), Lake Maggiore, Italy

Description:

The symposium follows the one held in Washington at George Washington University in 2009.

The objective of the symposium is to present novel use of game and decision theory in reliability and risk analysis and to bring together researchers from disciplines such as economics, engineering, finance, mathematics, medical sciences, probability and statistics who have a lot to contribute to this theme.

CALL FOR PAPERS

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People interested in presenting a paper at the symposium are kindly invited to send an abstract by DECEMBER 1, 2010, to fabrizio@mi.imati.cnr.it.

Details on registration fees, lodging, location and travel can be found on the web site (www.mi.imati.cnr.it/conferences/gdrr11.html).

Event:

International Conference on Methods for Surveying and Enumerating Hard-to-Reach Populations

Host:

H2R|2012: Survey Methods for Hard-to-Reach Populations

Date:

October 31–November 3, 2012

Location:

Marriott New Orleans at the Convention Center, New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A.

Description:

The H2R 2012 conference will bring together survey methodologists, sociologists, statisticians, demographers, ethnographers, and other professionals from around the world to present new and innovative techniques for surveying hard-to-reach populations. Addressing both the statistical and survey design aspects of including hard-to-reach groups, researchers will report findings from censuses, surveys, and other research related to the identification, definition, measurement, and methodologies for surveying and enumerating undercounted populations.

Identifying, Defining, and Measuring the Hard-to-Reach (H2R)

Defining H2R populations

Measuring undercounts for H2R groups

Improving measurement with administrative records

Sampling H2R populations

Techniques and Methodologies

Recruitment methods

Targeting the H2R

Use of social marketing and outreach campaigns

Overcoming language and literacy barriers

Use of community-based organizations

Dealing with complex living and housing situations

Tracking and tracing H2R populations

H2R Subpopulations

Racial minorities

Immigrant populations

Indigenous populations

Highly mobile and migrant populations

Homeless and refugee populations

Sexual minorities

Populations affected by natural disasters

Populations in zones of armed conflict

Stigmatized populations

Cross-cultural similarities and differences in H2R populations

Linguistic and cultural minorities

Call for Submissions

February–March 2011: Invited Call for Submissions

April–May 2011: Contributed Call for Submissions

For information, visit www.amstat.org/meetings/h2r/2012 or email
H2R2012@amstat.org.

Event:**Fourth International Conference on Establishment Surveys
Survey Methods for Businesses, Farms, and Institutions****Host:****Date:**

June 11–14, 2012

Location:

Sheraton Centre Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada

Description:

The ICES series of conferences serves an important role in the world of survey methodology. Few other conferences focus on methods and applications for establishment surveys.

The first three conferences held in 1993, 2000 and 2007 were successful, with more than 400 attendees per conference. The conferences covered a spectrum of survey methods for businesses, farms, and institutions. The fourth conference will continue along this path. Examples of potential topics include the following:

- Updating business registers
- Sample design challenges
- Questionnaire design for establishment surveys
- Collecting data electronically from establishment surveys
- Issues of multi-mode data collection
- Factors that affect establishment survey participation
- Generalized survey processing systems for establishment surveys
- Measuring nonresponse bias
- Variance estimation
- Advances in disclosure protection
- Efficient use of administrative data in establishment surveys
- New directions in establishment surveys

The conference will include short courses, a keynote speaker, poster sessions, software demonstrations, and invited and contributed paper sessions. Online solicitation for invited papers opens **December 1, 2010**, and will continue until **March 1, 2011**. Online solicitation for contributed papers will occur **June 1, 2011 through August 31, 2011**. Inquiries may be directed to ices4@amstat.org.

Call for Invited Paper Session Proposals

As the fourth in the series of international conferences on establishment surveys, ICES-IV is designed to look forward at key issues and methods pertaining to establishment surveys. We invite you to submit a proposal for an invited paper session by **March 1, 2011**.

The ICES-IV program committee will review the proposals and notify session organizers by the end of **May 2011** to let them know whether their proposal has been accepted.

Invited sessions will have three 25-minute presentations, a 15-minute formal discussion in which a discussant draws out the main themes of the session and asks questions of the authors, and a 5–10-minute floor discussion.

Proposal Submission

Online submission of invited session proposals will open **December 1, 2010, and close March 1, 2011 at www.amstat.org/meetings/ices/2012.**

Session organizers will be asked to submit a proposal describing the session topic and why it is important or what has changed since ICES-III in 2007 and include the names of session presenters and abstracts for each presentation. If a session proposal is accepted, session presenters will be asked to upload an abstract to the conference system by **September 30, 2011**.

There are limited invited sessions, and the program committee is seeking sessions of a consistently high quality for ICES-IV, so we request that organizers provide sufficient information to clearly demonstrate the importance of the topic and the quality of its contributions. We encourage proposals that incorporate presenters and perspectives from different countries and agencies/departments. If a proposal is not accepted as an invited session, the organizer will be invited to resubmit the session as a topic-contributed session. The deadline for contributed papers (including topic-contributed sessions) is August 31, 2011. Information about the differences between the invited and contributed sessions and their formats is available at www.amstat.org/meetings/ices/2012.

CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

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

Registration Deadline: December 29, 2010

WEB SURVEY DESIGN

www.jpsm.org/shortcourses

JANUARY 12-13, 2011

Presented at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 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.

SUBMIT QUESTIONS, TOPICS AND EXAMPLES

The instructor would like to provide an opportunity for those who will be attending the Web Survey Design course to raise specific questions or provide examples to be discussed in class. If there are specific topics you want addressed, or if you have examples of Web surveys you would be willing to share in exchange for specific discussion on these issues in class, please send these (either as an attachment or as a link to the survey) to jpsmshort@isr.umich.edu, and the instructor will do his best to address these issues during the course.

Please send these by 5 PM on Wednesday, January 5th, at the latest. The instructor cannot provide personal feedback on any submissions, and this is not an offer of free consulting, but rather an attempt to make the course more relevant to the specific needs of participants.

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.

DAILY CHECK-IN

Course registrants must check-in with JPSM Onsite each day of the course.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2011

8:00 - 9:00 Registrant Check-in and Continental Breakfast

9:00 - 10:10 Introduction and Overview. Sources of error in Web surveys; types of Web surveys.

10:10 - 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 - 2:40 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.

2:40 - 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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 13, 2011

7:30 - 8:30 Registrant Check-in and Continental Breakfast

8:30 - 10:00 General Layout and Design. Continued.

10:00 - 10:20 Break

10:20 - 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 - 2:40 Putting the Questions Together to Create a Questionnaire. Continued.

2:40 - 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

FEE\$

The course fee is **\$665** for JPSM sponsor affiliates, **\$665** for full-time university students, and

\$875 for

other participants. **JPSM Sponsor Affiliate List:**

<http://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/info.cfm#sponsors>.

REGISTRATION

Online registration is required. Short Courses: www.jpsm.org/shortcourses. 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 **December 29, 2010.**

PAYMENT

Payment by credit card is required. Payment may be done online during registration.

Post

registration payment may be done online at www.jpsm.org/shortcourses using the registration number or by calling (800) 937-9320. Payment is required by **December 29, 2010.**

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 **December 29, 2010.**

Cancellation **December 30-January 4, 2011** will require a **\$100** administrative fee, the remainder will be reimbursed.

Cancellation on or after **January 5, 2011** 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.

Fellowship applicants should submit:

1. The **online registration form** must be completed to reserve a position in the course.
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 financial 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 **December 15, 2010**. JPSM will evaluate the applications and inform the successful applicants by **December 22, 2010**. 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.

L'ENFANT PLAZA HOTEL

480 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington, D.C. 20024

Front Desk: (202) 484-1000 **Web:** <http://www.lenfantplazahotel.com/>

Classroom: Renoir Room

Luncheon: Degas Room

The course will be held at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel in downtown Washington DC. The location is minutes away from corporate offices and government agencies.

OVERNIGHT ROOMS

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

METRO

L'Enfant Plaza Metro Station: Blue, Green, Orange and Yellow Lines.

PARKING

L'Enfant Plaza Hotel Parking (0 mi)

Park America Inc (0.1 mi SE) 901 D St SW

Central Parking Systems (0.2 mi W) 1201 Maryland Ave SW

Central Parking (0.2 mi SW) 1280 Maryland Ave SW # 100

Parking Management Inc (0.2 mi E) 300 7th St SW

AIRPORTS

Reagan National Airport (2 miles) Four Metro stops away or a 15-minute drive.

Dulles International Airport (27 miles)

Baltimore Washington International Airport (33 miles)

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 or interested student 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 who need to know the principles and practices of economic measurement. Completion of either citation program 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.

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.

Short Courses: www.jpsm.org/shortcourses

Sponsor Affiliate List: <https://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/info.cfm#sponsors>

JPSM Home Page: www.jpsm.org

Tax Identification Number (University of Michigan): 38-6006309

JPSM Short Course

Main site: www.jpsm.org

Short Courses: www.jpsm.org/shortcourses

Sponsor Affiliate List: projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/info.cfm#sponsors

January 12-13, 2011

Web Survey Design

Mick P. Couper

Registration Deadline: December 29, 2010

February 24-25, 2011

The Use of Paradata and Process Data in Social Surveys

Frauke Kreuter

Registration Deadline: February 10, 2011

March 3-4, 2011

Introduction to Survey Estimation

David Morganstein and Richard L. Valliant

Registration Deadline: February 17, 2011

March 23, 2011

Telephone Surveys in the Era of Cell Phones

Scott Keeter and J. Michael Brick

Registration Deadline: March 9, 2011

April 18-19, 2011

Writing Questions for Surveys: A Workshop

Nora Cate Schaeffer

Registration Deadline: April 4, 2011

April 28-29, 2011

The Psychology of Survey Responses

Roger Tourangeau and Frederick Conrad

Registration Deadline: April 14, 2011

May 2011 Dates to be determined

Analysis and Presentation of Economic Data

Katharine G. Abraham and Deborah P. Klein

June 13-14, 2011

Methods for Longitudinal Surveys

Peter Lynn

Registration Deadline: May 30, 2011

**Johns Hopkins University
School of Applied and Computational Mathematics (ACM)**

Graduate courses offered in the spring 2011 semester (31 January 2011 to 14 May 2011) at locations in the Baltimore–Washington area (Howard and Montgomery Counties, Maryland).

Subject to meeting admission criteria, a non-degree candidate may register as a special student to take one or more courses to enhance mathematical and statistical skills. These courses are scheduled at times convenient for the working adult. Registration and general information is at ep.jhu.edu. Information specific to the ACM Program is at ep.jhu.edu/graduate-degree-programs/applied-and-computational-mathematics.

An advising session for new or prospective students will be held on 24 January 2011, at the JHU Applied Physics Laboratory (see ep.jhu.edu/open-houses). Further information related to academic requirements and course content is available from [Dr. James Spall](#), Program Chair (240-228-4960). Courses offered in spring 2011 in the Baltimore–Washington area are listed below. Detailed information for all courses listed below is available at the course webpages ep.jhu.edu/course-homepages/.

625.251 Applied Mathematics II (this course provides mathematical background for certain graduate courses at JHU; this course does not count for graduate credit)

Instructor: James D'Archangelo

Time and location: Wednesdays, 7:20 – 10:00PM, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisites: Differential and integral calculus. Students with no experience in linear algebra may find it helpful to take 625.250 Applied Mathematics I first.

625.401 Real Analysis

Instructor: Stacy D. Hill

Time and location: Thursdays, 7:20 – 10:00PM, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisite: Multivariate calculus.

625.403 Statistical Methods and Data Analysis

Instructor: Sue-Jane Wang

Time and location: Thursdays, 4:30 – 7:10PM, Montgomery County Center (Rockville, MD)

Prerequisite: Multivariate calculus.

625.404 Ordinary Differential Equations

Instructor: Ronald Farris

Time and location: Thursdays, 4:30 – 7:10PM, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisites: Two or more terms of calculus are required. Course in linear algebra would be helpful.

625.417 Applied Combinatorics and Discrete Mathematics

Instructor: J. Miller Whisnant

Time and location: Tuesdays, 4:30 – 7:10PM, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisite: Two or more terms of calculus.

625.438 Neural Networks

Instructor: Mark Fleischer

Time and location: Wednesdays, 7:20 – 10:00PM, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisite: Multivariate calculus.

625.462 Design and Analysis of Experiments

Instructor: Barry Bodt

Time and location: Tuesdays, 4:30 – 7:10PM, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisites: Multivariate calculus, linear algebra, and one semester of graduate probability and statistics (e.g. 625.403 Statistical Methods and Data Analysis). Some computer-based homework assignments will be given.

625.490 Computational Complexity and Approximation

Instructor: Kerry Wood

Time and location: Wednesdays, 4:30 – 7:10PM, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisites: Introductory probability theory and/or statistics (such as 625.403) and undergraduate-level exposure to algorithms and matrix algebra. Some familiarity with optimization and computing architectures is desirable, but not necessary.

625.726 Theory of Statistics II

Instructor: Mostafa Aminzadeh

Time and location: Wednesdays, 4:30 – 7:10PM, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisite: 625.725 Theory of Statistics I or equivalent

625.734 Queuing Theory with Applications to Computer Science

Instructor: Christine Nickel

Time and location: Wednesdays, 7:20 – 10:00PM, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisites: Multivariate calculus and a graduate course in probability and statistics such as 625.403.

625.743 Stochastic Optimization and Control

Instructor: James C. Spall

Time and location: Thursdays, 4:30 – 7:10PM, Applied Physics Laboratory (southern Howard County)

Prerequisites: Multivariate calculus, linear algebra, and at least one semester of graduate probability and statistics (e.g. 625.403 Statistical Methods and Data Analysis). Some computer-based homework assignments will be given. It is recommended that this course be taken in the last half of a student's degree program for those seeking an M.S. degree.

Webinar: Introduction to Sampling for Non-Statisticians

The next webinar in the web-based training program of the Survey Research Methods Section of American Statistical Association and AAPOR will be given by Safaa Amer, Senior Statistician at NORC, on the topic "Introduction to Sampling for Non-Statisticians". The webinar will occur on **Tuesday, February 8, 2011, 1-3pm Eastern**. Full abstract, presenter information, and registration can be found at

<http://www.amstat.org/sections/SRMS/webinar.cfm>. For each webinar, participants register for a modest fee. Each registration is allowed one web connection and one audio connection. The section encourages multiple persons to view each registered connection. For example, an entire classroom can watch for the price of one registration. Registration is now open.

Many researchers, journalists, policy makers, and educators encounter sample surveys in their research, work, reading, or everyday experience. This course will uncover the logic behind sampling. It will give an explanation of the different types of samples and the terminology used by statistician and survey researchers. It will outline and illustrate the steps needed before, during, and after selecting a sample. It will describe the types of errors faced when conducting a survey and whether they are sampling related or not. The goal of the course is to expose non-statisticians to sampling so that they are able to read and understand articles or documents describing sampling designs and communicate with statisticians about their research needs. The course may even motivate participants to design and select simple samples to illustrate concepts and procedures. The presenter Dr. Safaa Amer is a multi-lingual Senior Statistician and Project Director at NORC with wide-ranging experience in data analysis, survey sampling, missing data, and data mining. In addition, Dr. Amer held several academic positions with the most recent being on the faculty list for the Survey Design & Data Analysis Graduate Certificate program at George Washington University.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rick Peterson at the American Statistical Association. Rick is their Education Programs Associate: rick@amstat.org; (703) 684-1221 ext. 1864.

SIGSTAT Topics for Fall/Winter 2010-2011

<http://www.cpcug.org/user/sigstat/>, <http://www.cpcug.org/user/sigstat/Schedule.htm>

Description:

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.

Location:

All meetings are in **Room 3031, 1800 M St, NW from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.**
Enter the South Tower & take the elevator to the 3rd floor to check in at the guard's desk.

Point of Contact:

First-time attendees should contact Charlie Hallahan, 202-694-5051, hallahan@ers.usda.gov, and leave their name.

SEEKING AWARD NOMINATIONS

Nominations Sought for 2011 Julius Shiskin Award

Nominations are invited for the annual Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics. The Award is given in recognition of unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics or in the use of statistics in interpreting the economy. Contributions are recognized for statistical research, development of statistical tools, application of information technology techniques, use of economic statistical programs, management of statistical programs, or developing public understanding of measurement issues. The Award was established in 1980 by the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) and is now cosponsored by the WSS, the National Association for Business Economics, and the Business and Economics Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association (ASA). The 2010 award recipient was Dr. Dale W. Jorgenson for his contributions to the measurement of productivity, innovation, capital, human capital, poverty, and for his leadership in the integration of the U.S. National Accounts.

Because the program was initiated many years ago, statisticians and economists often ask, "Who was Julius Shiskin?" At the time of his death in 1978, "Julie" was the Commissioner for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and earlier served as the Chief Statistician at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the Chief Economic Statistician and Assistant Director of the Census Bureau. Throughout his career, he was known as an innovator. At Census he was instrumental in developing an electronic computer method for seasonal adjustment. In 1961, he published *Signals of Recession and Recovery*, which laid the groundwork for the calculation of monthly economic indicators, and he developed the monthly Census report *Business Conditions Digest* to disseminate them to the public. In 1969, he was appointed Chief Statistician at OMB where he developed the policies and procedures that govern the release of key economic indicators (Statistical Policy Directive Number 3), and originated a *Social Indicators* report. In 1973, he was selected to head BLS where he was instrumental in preserving the integrity and independence of the BLS labor force data and directed the most comprehensive revision in the history of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which included a new CPI for all urban consumers.

Nominations for the 2011 award are now being accepted. Individuals and groups in the public or private sector from any country can be nominated. The award will be presented with an honorarium of \$1000 plus additional recognition from the sponsors. A nomination form and a list of all previous recipients are available on the ASA Website at www.amstat.org/sections/bus_econ/shiskin.html.

For questions or more information, please contact Steven Paben, Julius Shiskin Award Committee Secretary, via e-mail at paben.steven@bls.gov or call 202-691-6147.

Completed nominations must be received **by March 15, 2011**.

JEANNE E. GRIFFITH MENTORING AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

by Carol House, 2011 Chair, Griffith Award Selection Committee

It's time to start thinking about nominating an outstanding supervisor, technical director, team coordinator, or other member of a governmental statistical staff who encourages mentoring of junior staff in the Federal, State, or Local statistical system for the 2011 Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award. **Nominations must be submitted no later than March 25, 2011.**

Nominations for 2011 will be accepted beginning in **January 2011**. The last date for submission of nominations is **March 25, 2011**, and the Award Committee will make its determination of the award winner by **April 22, 2011**. The award will consist of a \$1,000 honorarium (to be split if there is more than one awardee), a citation, and a plaque, which will be presented at a ceremony arranged by the co-sponsors in **June 2011**.

For more information about the nominating process for the 2011 award, please go to:

<http://www.amstat.org/sections/sgovt/JEGform11.doc> or

<http://www.amstat.org/sections/sgovt/JEGform11.pdf>.

If you have questions about the award, please contact **Rick Peterson** at rick@amstat.org (703) 684-1221, and **Carol House** at housca@gmail.com 703-989-1334.

The nomination package may be mailed or emailed **no later than March 25, 2011**, to:

The Jeanne E. Griffith Mentoring Award Committee
c/o The American Statistical Association
732 N. Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-1943
rick@amstat.org

Herriot Award Nominations Sought

Nominations are sought for the 2011 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics. The award is intended to reflect the special characteristics that marked Roger Herriot's career:

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

The award is not limited to senior members of an organization, nor is it to be considered as a culmination of a long period of service. Individuals at all levels within Federal statistical agencies, other government organizations, nonprofit organizations, the private sector, and the academic community may be nominated on the basis of their contributions.

The recipient of the 2011 Roger Herriot Award will be chosen by a committee comprising representatives of the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association, and of the Washington Statistical Society. Roger Herriot was associated with, and strongly supportive of, these organizations during his career. The award consists of a \$1,000 honorarium and a framed citation, which will be presented at a ceremony at the Joint Statistical Meetings in August 2011. The Washington Statistical Society will also host a seminar given by the winner on a subject of his or her own choosing.

The previous recipients of the Roger Herriot Award are Joseph Waksberg (Westat), Monroe Sirken (NCHS), Constance Citro (CNStat), Roderick Harrison (Census Bureau), Clyde Tucker (BLS), Thomas Jabine (SSA, EIA, CNStat), Donald Dillman (Washington State University), Jeanne Griffith (OMB, NCES, NSF), Daniel Weinberg (Census Bureau), David Banks (FDA, BTS, NIST), Paula Schneider (Census Bureau), Robert E. Fay III (Census Bureau), Nathaniel Schenker (NCHS), Nancy Kirkendall (EIA), Elizabeth Martin (Census Bureau), Lynda Carlson (NSF), and Katharine G. Abraham (JPSM, University of Maryland).

Nominations for the 2011 award will be accepted beginning in February 2011. Nomination packages should contain:

1. A cover letter from the nominator that should include references to specific examples of the nominee's contributions to innovation in Federal statistics. These contributions can be to methodology, procedure, organization, administration, or other areas of Federal statistics, and need not have been made by or while a Federal employee.
2. Up to six additional letters in support that demonstrate the innovativeness of each contribution.
3. A current vita for the nominee, including contact information.

Both individual and group nominations may be submitted. The committee may consider nominations made for prior years, but it encourages resubmission of those nominations with updated information.

For more information, contact Robert Fay, Chair, 2011 Roger Herriot Award Committee, at 240-314-2318 or BobFay@Westat.com. Completed packages must be received **by April 1, 2011**. Electronic submissions in MS-Word or as a "pdf" file are strongly encouraged. Please contact the chair if you need to make arrangements to fax or mail a nomination.

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.

Additional employment opportunities are available at: <http://scs.gmu.edu/~wss/employ.html>.

Institute of Medicine

The Institute of Medicine serves as adviser to the nation to improve health. Established in 1970 as the health arm of the National Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Medicine is an independent, nonprofit organization that works outside of government to provide unbiased and authoritative advice to decision makers and the public.

The Institute of Medicine's Board on Global Health is concerned with advancing the health of populations worldwide. This involves addressing developing country health issues, enhancing the United States role in global health, and addressing health issues that have implications for U.S. health policy. The Board identifies priority issues in these areas and provides evidence-based guidance and recommendations to the U.S. government, international organizations, foundations, and non-governmental organizations.

The Board on Global Health is currently seeking two Program Officers with graduate degree in biostatistics, epidemiology, or related field and three years of relevant experience to support a mixed-methods evaluation of U.S. global HIV/AIDS programs implemented under the Lantos – Hyde Reauthorization Act of 2008.

Positions will require highly-motivated people with excellent technical skills who can work in a team environment on a range of tasks. These positions in Washington, D.C. will begin in **Fall 2010** and last approximately two years. Job responsibilities will include international travel.

Full job descriptions and application instructions can be found at:
<http://www7.nationalacademies.org/careers/>

Job # 100205-5 Program Officer (Data Manager/Statistics)

Job # 100206-5 Program Officer (Statistics)

EOE/M/F/D/V

The Henry M. Jackson Foundation (HJF)

HJF is seeking a Senior Biostatistician to support the Infectious Disease Clinical Research Program (IDCRP) at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) in Bethesda, Maryland. HJF provides scientific, technical and programmatic support services to IDCRP.

The IDCRP is a collaborative research effort with the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Established at USUHS in 2005, this unique program aims to strengthen infectious disease clinical research in the U.S. It brings together a network of clinical scientists at military treatment facilities who are focused on conducting patient-based research on a wide range of infectious diseases relevant to the military and the broader medical communities.

Responsibilities of the position are to provide biostatistical consulting for clinical and/or laboratory research, to perform statistical analysis on data collected from clinical trials, observational studies and/or laboratory assays, to conduct independent methodological research, to supervise the work of junior biostatisticians, and to take part in the IDCRP's teaching activities.

The requirements of the position are: a Ph.D. in Statistics or Biostatistics, a strong research background, a minimum of 5 years' experience in biostatistical consulting and teaching as well as excellent verbal, written and interpersonal skills

Please apply on-line at www.hjf.org/careers Click "Advanced Search" and enter job number 205719 in the Job Opening ID box.

The Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, Inc. (HJF) is a congressionally authorized, not-for-profit corporation that provides unparalleled scientific and management services to military medical research and education programs worldwide. Our mission is to advance military medical research. AA/EEO

For a comprehensive list of our benefits, please visit: <http://www.hjf.org/careers/benefits.html>



**1700 Research Boulevard □ Rockville, Maryland 20850
301-340-2210**

EXECUTIVE SEARCH CONSULTANTS

BRANCH CHIEF (SUPERVISORY AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIST)

USDA'S ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE (ERS) MARKET and TRADE ECONOMIC\$ DIVISION FIELD CROP\$ BRANCH

Client:

The Economic Research Service (ERS) serves as the research and policy arm of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). With 400 employees and a budget of more than \$80 million, ERS conducts research that informs decision-makers on public programs and policies involving agricultural commodities, food, farming, natural resources, and rural development; a spectrum that ranges from biotechnology to food stamps, from farmland protection to meat inspection, and from commodity policy to global inter-sectoral trade. ERS' clients are the executive and legislative branches; environmental, consumer and public interest groups, including farm and industry groups; and the general public. For more information, visit www.usda.ers.gov.

The Field Crops Branch (FCB) integrates agency analysis of the U.S. agricultural sector and provides policy, cross commodity, and aggregate market analysis for all major feed grains, oilseeds, and cotton products produced in the U.S. and internationally, including analysis of the impact of biofuel market development on commodity markets and prices. The Branch is responsible for inputs to the outlook program; inputs to the USDA ten year domestic long-term projections and international baseline; research and analysis involving interactions of multiple crop commodities; development, coordination, and implementation of and support for Agency and Division data bases; and participation and interaction with University researchers on various activities. The staff also provides program planning and coordination for the agency's situation and outlook program.

Duties and Responsibilities:

A. Scope of Assignment

Reporting to the Director, Market and Trade Economics Division (MTED), the Branch Chief is responsible for planning, directing, and managing the FCB program of agricultural economic research, analysis, and information dissemination. This includes responsibility for the coordination and integration of the branch's program of research and analysis with those of other branches within ERS. Specifically, the Branch Chief has overall responsibility for the following functions:

- Analyzing the consequences of public policies that relate to the specialized work of the FCB and providing public and private decision-makers with economic analyses on appropriate subjects.
- Targeting the dissemination of basic statistics and data, research findings, and policy analyses toward key client groups. Dissemination may take place through a wide variety of media, including situation and outlook reports, agricultural outlook articles, departmental and agency bulletins, electronic data products, staff analyses and briefing papers, professional journal articles, speeches, and other means.
- Serving as the agency's reference point to provide economic advice and counsel relating to the FCB area of responsibility. This includes providing technical information and advice to other U.S. government agencies, and serving on various Department-level committees, as well as interagency and interdepartmental task forces.

B. Technical Complexity

The Branch Chief is responsible for providing the overall management of the highly technical components of the FCB program and for providing the expertise needed in decision-making and management of the FCB. He/she is responsible for managing a number of technically complex projects involving selecting or developing the most appropriate and current research methodologies and applying them to extremely complex economic problems. The economic variables employed in these analyses are wide-ranging.

The Branch Chief is responsible for maintaining a high degree of expertise in the subject matter areas of technical concern to the FCB, particularly in the area of commodity market and price analysis, and in the process of adapting and modifying methods of economic research and analysis and/or developing and designing new methods as necessary to provide solutions to technical problems.

C. Technical Responsibility

The Branch Chief is responsible for identifying research activities and resources required to complete the work assigned to the FCB. The Branch Chief has final authority for allocating resources and defining research studies and analyses to be undertaken within the FCB, and is responsible for the validity and integrity of the economic results produced. This responsibility includes the oversight of data collection, economic analysis and research, and publication of

results and findings. The incumbent is responsible for selecting appropriate methods for dissemination of the results of research to include working papers, agency publications, professional journals, and specialized magazines.

This individual serves as the focal point for research and analysis on topics appropriate to the FCB, and represents the FCB within the Department. This includes responsibility for oversight or coordination of the preparation of briefing/working papers for the Secretary of Agriculture or the Assistant Secretary for Research, Economics & Education, and of position papers for national and international meetings.

The Branch Chief is personally recognized as an expert in the area of responsibility. The Branch Chief represents the FCB, division, agency, and Department in various high level meetings concerning FCB responsibilities and may represent the Department at domestic and international conferences and workshops. He/she may also represent the Department in working level contacts with foreign diplomatic missions, and on interagency or intergovernmental committees, in his or her area of expertise. The validity of the incumbent's professional judgments can, thus, have significant impact on economic issues.

D. Administrative Responsibility

The Branch Chief is responsible for the development of program and product plans for the FCB. This includes work plans, as well as development and justification of a FCB budget. The incumbent is responsible for identifying promising and pertinent areas of research, providing technical advice to develop and expand research activities, and thus helping to plan the ERS research and analytical program and its related product/publication portfolio.

He/she has overall responsibility for developing and monitoring contracts, and for assuring that money, personnel, and materials are properly allocated. He/she coordinates and maintains relationships with state research programs, with land grant universities, and with other federal agencies to ensure cooperation and to encourage utilization and application of research and related implications of economic information.

E. Policy Responsibility

The Branch Chief provides authoritative technical advice and guidance on departmental actions and policy decisions related to FCB activities, providing necessary expertise in this area at all levels in the Department; also provides input regarding legislation or the actions of other federal agencies, advice regarding policy implications, and input into the formulation of U.S. policies that may impact agricultural commodity markets.

Requirements:

A minimum of 10 years sophisticated economic and/or financial research. A Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics, Economics, or Finance is highly preferred.

Location:

Washington, DC

Compensation:

to \$155,500 and eligible for performance-based bonus

EEO:

All candidates will be considered without regard to race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

Deadline:

To be considered, applications must be received no later than midnight, December 6, 2010.

Citizenship: U.S. Citizenship required. You may be required to obtain a security clearance.

Contact:

Jennifer 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 the federal government, non profit organizations, associations, Fortune 1000 corporations, and a variety of government contractors.



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EXECUTIVE SEARCH CONSULTANTS

DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS

**RESEARCH AND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION (RITA)
Within the DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

Washington, DC

Client:

The U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS), which is part of USDOT's Research and Innovative Technology Administration (RITA), is charged with advancing rigorous analysis and the deployment of cross-cutting technologies to improve our nation's transportation system. BTS was created in 1992, and became part of RITA in 2005. It has approximately 52 highly professional, and motivated staff members (plus approximately 43 contractors), and a budget of \$30+ million. For more information, please see www.bts.gov.

Opportunity:

Under the executive direction of the RITA Administrator, the Director of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics is responsible for managing a team of transportation statistics experts and support staff toward the development of enhanced data collection, analysis, and reporting and to ensure the most cost effective use of the resources used to measure the performance of our nation's transportation system. The Director shall lead the BTS program by demonstrating a vision for the future where the Bureau plays an integral part in the Department of Transportation which bases its significant investment and policy decisions on sound science and rigorous analysis, and by providing and implementing a roadmap for achieving this vision. The Director shall be appointed from among individuals who are qualified to serve as the Director

by virtue of their training and experience in the collection, analysis, and use of transportation statistics.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Serves as the Secretary of Transportation's senior advisor on data and statistics
- Provides data, statistics, and analyses to transportation decision makers that enable the Department as well as other federal, state, local and private sector stakeholders to base their decisions on sound science and rigorous analysis
- Communicates with internal and external customers to identify their needs and meet expectations for high quality products and results
- Develops mechanisms that lead to collaboration across RITA program offices and other mechanisms that encourage and lead to collaboration with other DOT modal administrations (e.g., Federal Aviation Administration, Federal Highway Administration, Federal Railroad Administration)
- Collects, compiles, analyzes, and publishes a comprehensive set of transportation statistics on the performance and impacts of the national transportation system
- Makes statistics accessible to the public

Professional and Technical Qualifications (PTQs):

Each response should be one page in length.

- Experience that reflects the ability to provide national executive leadership for planning, developing, implementing and evaluating a comprehensive, relevant program for the collection and analysis of statistical data relating to the performance of the national transportation system.
- Demonstrated ability to work in cooperation with internal and external partners and stakeholders to ensure that accurate, reliable, relevant and accessible data are available for statistical and economic analysis for use in policy, program and regulatory decisions.
- Leadership experience that reflects an ability to promote cross-office collaboration and lead, manage, and inspire a diverse workforce towards goal achievement.

Education: Bachelors degree required; Masters or PhD in an analytical discipline highly preferred.

Compensation: Up to \$179,700 plus eligibility for performance bonus

Relocation: Relocation assistance will be provided.

EEO: All candidates will be considered without regard to race, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

Deadline: To be considered, applications must be received no later than midnight, November 15, 2010.

Citizenship: U.S. Citizenship required.

Contact:

Jennifer 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 the Federal government, associations/non-profits, Fortune 1000 corporations, and a variety of government contractors.

Ernst & Young LLP

The Quantitative Economics & Statistics Group (QUEST) at Ernst & Young LLP is seeking a Ph.D. or Masters in Statistics to join our team of statisticians and economists in Washington, D.C.

QUEST provides quantitative advisory services to private sector clients that analyze proposed policy issues, support regulatory compliance, enhance business processes, and provide litigation support. Our services include applied economic and business research, statistical analysis and sampling, and econometric modeling.

As a member of EY's QUEST practice, you will have the combination of deep quantitative knowledge and a sophisticated understanding of business drivers to serve clients to the best of your ability. Our people work on key client issues with a focus on enhancing client strategies that align with the client's business objectives through quantitative analysis.

Responsibilities

- Perform statistical sampling, estimation, and modeling.
- Analyze client data to develop efficient sample designs using design based and model based methods.
- Work directly with internal project teams and the client to devise the best quantitative approach.
- Oversee sample design and estimation work and provide technical guidance to project staff.
- Assist in expanding statistical work through networking.

Qualifications

- a graduate degree in Statistics or related field including course work in sampling
- a minimum of 3 years of related work experience.
- excellent analytical skills
- excellent written and verbal communication skills
- ability to spot issues and solve problems
- ability to work with internal as well as external clients and build relationships
- ability to prioritize multiple tasks in a team environment and effectively meet deadlines or on specific projects ability to work independently
- computer skills, including familiarity with SAS and database management.

Please email resumes to judy.mcmahon@ey.com and put attention **E&Y QUEST** in the subject line of the email.

NORC

Senior Survey Statistician Bethesda, MD

NORC is seeking a Senior Survey Statistician in Bethesda, Maryland who will be responsible for taking a leadership role for statistical tasks of assigned projects. The Senior Survey Statistician will provide methodological and statistical leadership on survey and evaluation projects. Project responsibilities include sample design and selection; sample monitoring, analysis and estimation, methodology, and quality initiatives. The Senior Survey Statistician will assume responsibility for writing the statistical, sampling, analysis, and/or methodology sections of technical proposals and project deliverables. Administrative responsibilities include participation in selection and development of professional staff, and developing business opportunities.

Requirements

- A PhD in statistics and a minimum of 10 years experience working as a statistician.
- Expertise in the field of rigorous impact evaluations—design of samples and surveys for experimental and quasi-experimental designs that use randomized control trials and matching techniques.
- Strong econometric skills.
- Experience with design and implementation of both descriptive and analytic surveys.
- International work experience.
- Fluency in French or Spanish is highly desirable.

NORC offers a comprehensive compensation and benefits package including medical, dental and vision care, as well as life insurance, 403 (b) retirement fund, and tuition assistance.

NORC is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer (M/F/D/V) that values and actively seeks diversity in the workforce.

Please apply to www.norc.org

**Department of Health and Human Services,
Health Resources and Services Administration**

The Office of Quality and Data (OQD) in HRSA's Bureau of Primary Health Care provides national leadership, information and resources to improve access to and quality of health care for underserved and vulnerable populations. One of four OQD branches, the Data Branch focuses on the analysis of data, including administrative data and patient surveys, data dissemination and utilizing the data to conduct research to drive healthcare quality improvement and to guide health policy initiatives in Community Health Centers (CHCs) on a national level.

A candidate for **Public Health Analyst** should have experience in public health theory and practice, with a focus on biostatistics or epidemiology or quantitative health services research, be knowledgeable about community health centers (preferred but not required), and the provision of health care services to the underserved/vulnerable populations.

Qualifications:

- Have proven analytical skills
- Demonstrate strong written and verbal communication skills
- Demonstrate the ability to prioritize and follow through on a diverse range of responsibilities.
- Be results-oriented, organized, and able to work effectively in small interdisciplinary teams (consisting of physicians, health administrators, IT professionals, public health specialists, economists and others)

Job Responsibilities:

- Program Monitoring and Evaluation: Involvement with strategy and implementation of national public health initiatives for CHCs
- Data Analysis: Analysis of data from a variety of large databases on CHC housed by the Bureau of Primary Health Care
- Research Reports and Papers: Drafting reports and papers for internal and external audiences (including peer-reviewed publications)

Position Requirements/Qualifications:

- Master's in public health/biostatistics/epidemiology/health service research required, PhD preferred
- Analytical/research experience in health policy.
- Commitment to stay abreast of current relevant literature and legislative trends
- Enthusiasm for the mission to improve the health of vulnerable populations

If you would like to be considered, please email your cover letter and resume to Candace Smith, Administrative Assistant, HRSA/OQD/Data Branch at CSmith1@hrsa.gov.

FROM WSS NEWS EDITOR

Items for publication in the **January 2011** issue of the WSS NEWS will be accepted until the last day of the preceding month.

Email items to Colleen S. Choi at wss.editor@gmail.com.

Please submit all materials in **MS WORD** or **plain text**.



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