



February 1988

WASHINGTON
STATISTICAL
SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

February 10	Wednesday	Determinants of Underemployment Among Migrant Married Women
February 11	Thursday	Statistical Considerations in Constructing Hedonic Indexes
February 15	Monday	Some General Problems in Statistics
February 17	Wednesday	A Glimpse at GLIM
February 18	Thursday	Statistical Considerations in the Design and Analysis of Clinical Trials of Treatments for AIDS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

U. S. Census Bureau's Fourth Annual Research Conference

ARC IV is scheduled to begin Sunday evening, March 20, 1988, and run through 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 23, 1988, at the National Clarion Hotel in Arlington, Virginia, USA.

The program focuses on "Improvements in Technology & Measurement Problems Related to Census and Survey Operations." The program will devote one session to each of 16 topics within the overall theme, and also include the Shirley Kallek Memorial Lecture. Session topics include: counting the hard-to-enumerate population; measurement models in undercount research; improving foreign trade statistics; statistical models for undercount adjustment; disclosure research; automated cartography; computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI); methods and software for survey data analysis; computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI); expert systems for matching and classifying; microeconomic panel surveys; standard industrial classification (SIC); demographic coverage improvement; seasonal adjustment and related research; issues in survey methodology; and quality control.

For additional information contact Maxine Anderson-Brown, Office of the Director, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C. 20233, 301/763-1150.

Seminar Series: Advanced Topics in Survey Methodology

The USDA Graduate School's popular seminar series on Advanced Topics in Survey Methodology, first presented in the Fall of 1984, will be repeated in the Spring of this year. The series is intended for anyone who sponsors, designs, manages or works on any aspect of statistical surveys. It will provide insights into all phases of survey methodology, with leading practitioners as presenters and discussion leaders. Among the many topics to be included in the 1988 series are: total survey design, questionnaire development, interviewer training, treatment of missing data, cognitive aspects of surveys and survey processing on microcomputers. The seminar series is scheduled for Thursday evenings from April 7 through June 9. The fee will be \$249. For a brochure and further information, call the USDA Graduate School office on (202) 447-5885.

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM CHAIRS

Agriculture & Natural Resources

Ron Bosecker 447-3895
W. Barnes Johnson 249-7388

Economics

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Robert Yuskavage 523-0876

Physical Sciences & Engineering

Thomas Mazzuchi 994-7514
Refik Soyer 994-6794

Employment

Evelyn Kay 331-1153

Public Health & Biostatistics

Jai Choi 436-7047
Mary Foulkes 496-6818

Social & Demographic Statistics

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Harvey Schwartz 223-5555

Statistical Computing

Khalid Aboura 994-7534
David Grier 546-8231

Short Courses

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Donald Gantz 425-3931
Brad Pafford 447-2129
Glenn White 763-5248

Methodology

Bill Winkler 252-2140
David Marker 251-4398

Newsletter Editor

Michael Cohen 454-6193

PROGRAM ABSTRACTS

TOPIC: DETERMINANTS OF UNDEREMPLOYMENT AMONG MIGRANT MARRIED WOMEN
SPEAKER: Donna Morrison, Decision Resources Corporation
CHAIR: David Myers, Decision Resources Corporation
DISCUSSANT: Suzanne Bianchi, Bureau of the Census
DATE & TIME: Wednesday, February 10, 1988; 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.
LOCATION: Room 315, Martin Luther King Memorial Library, 901 G Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.
SPONSOR: Social and Demographic Section
ABSTRACT: The paper examines the sociodemographic and family characteristics expected to influence the likelihood of underemployment among women who relocate with their husbands. Data for the analysis are from the young women sample of the National Longitudinal Surveys. Recent evidence from these surveys (Morrison and Lichter, 1987) revealed an association between migration and underemployment for married women. In addition to labor force nonparticipation and unemployment, migration was shown to contribute to other forms of labor force hardship including involuntary part-time employment and low pay. This paper extends that analysis and examines the influence of human capital variables such as job tenure and years of education, structural variables including metro/nonmetro status and unemployment rate of the new residence, and characteristics of women's spouses and their families on the likelihood of labor underutilization of migrant wives.

NOTE: Talk entitled STATISTICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN CONSTRUCTING HEDONIC INDEXES to be held February 11 has been postponed. Details will be given at a later date.

TOPIC: SOME GENERAL PROBLEMS IN STATISTICS
SPEAKER: Joseph Gani, University of California at Santa Barbara
CHAIR: Donald Gross, George Washington University
DATE & TIME: Monday, February 15, 1988; 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. (Note special time.)
LOCATION: Room 301, Staughton Hall, 707 22nd Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. (corner of 22nd and G Streets, N.W.), George Washington University
SPONSOR: Physical Sciences and Engineering Section and Department of Operations Research, George Washington University
ABSTRACT: Statistics means different things to different people. Three of its main aspects are statistics for the state, statistics for prediction, and statistics for mathematicians. In this talk, these aspects of statistics will be discussed, with examples from the speaker's personal experience.

TOPIC: A GLIMPSE AT GLIM
SPEAKER: Ann Gibb, National Center for Health Statistics
CHAIR: Joe Fred Gonzalez, Jr., Office of Research and Methodology, NCHS
DATE & TIME: Wednesday, February 17, 1988; 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Note special time.)
LOCATION: NCHS, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Maryland, Room 2-19
SPONSOR: Office of Research and Methodology, NCHS and WSS
ABSTRACT: GLIM (Generalized Linear Interactive Modelling) is a statistical computer package developed primarily to handle the interactive fitting of generalized linear models by maximum likelihood. The package also has several other uses. It can be used for data exploration, e.g., by trying various transformations in order to produce approximate linearity of relationship between two variables. It can be used as a programming language as it allows macros to be defined and used as blocks in branching and looping.

PROGRAM ABSTRACTS (continued)

The kernel of GLIM is the algorithm for the fitting of generalized linear models. This provides a unified framework embracing classical linear regression models with Normal errors, log-linear models for contingency tables, logit and Probit models for the analysis of proportions, and models with gamma errors.

The aim of the seminar is to provide an introductory overview of GLIM. This is done by looking at:

1. The assumptions and statistical theory behind GLIM;
 2. The range of different linear models that can be fitted using GLIM (e.g., from simple linear regression to logit models), with examples; and
 3. Comparisons between GLIM and other software (e.g., GENCAT, SAS).
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TOPIC: STATISTICAL CONSIDERATIONS IN THE DESIGN AND ANALYSIS OF CLINICAL TRIALS OF TREATMENTS FOR AIDS

SPEAKER: Lawrence Hauptman, FDA

CHAIR: Robert O'Neill, FDA

DISCUSSANT: David Byar, NCI

DATE & TIME: Thursday, February 18, 1988; 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. (Note special time.)

LOCATION: Parklawn Building, Conference Room G & H, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland (Twinbrook Metro Station)

SPONSOR: Public Health and Biostatistics and Washington Academy of Sciences

ABSTRACT: Recent experience with the evaluation of several completed clinical trials of drugs for the treatment of AIDS and with the design of trials to evaluate the only FDA approved drug, AZT, in other AIDS subpopulations provides the background for discussing the various approaches to studying treatment for AIDS. Because of the public health importance and visibility of the need for effective AIDS treatments, it is very important to design trials which will meet scientific and regulatory standards of evidence. The issues that must be addressed concern the confirmation of a successful trial, the role of interim data analysis, the multiple endpoints as well as the multi-phasic aspect of HIV infection, the numbers and types of control groups, the various censoring mechanisms, and the statistical methodology for analysis and sample size determination for study planning.

TOPIC: APPLICATION OF THE RAI AND VAN RYZIN DOSE-RESPONSE MODEL TO DATA FROM DEVELOPMENTAL TOXICITY STUDIES

SPEAKER: Dorothy Wellington, Environmental Protection Agency

CHAIR: Barnes Johnson, Environmental Protection Agency

DISCUSSANT: Janet Springer, Food and Drug Administration

DATE & TIME: Monday, March 7, 1988; 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Room 1409, 200 C Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20204

SPONSOR: Natural Resources and Agriculture, and Public Health and Biostatistics Sections

ABSTRACT: Rai and Van Ryzin have proposed the only mechanistic model for determining the dose-response relationship in developmental toxicity. The results of applying the Rai and Van Ryzin model to the data from several teratology studies involving different toxicants and different species will be presented. The model's underlying assumptions will be discussed in terms of these data sets.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Press Release on the 20th Interface Symposium

The Twentieth Symposium on the Interface of Computing Science and Statistics will be held at the Sheraton International Conference Center in Reston, Virginia on April 21-23, 1988. The Symposium is a long-standing interdisciplinary forum focusing on the interface between computing science and statistics. The focus of the 20th Symposium will be on computationally intensive methods in statistics. Professor Brad Efron of Stanford University will give the keynote address on this theme and sessions are organized with this theme in mind.

Sessions will include invited talks, contributed papers and exhibits. An opening night reception is planned as well as a banquet. An extensive exhibit area is also planned. Contributed presentations will be selected by the Program Committee and will last for 20 minutes. Authors who wish to contribute a paper should submit a written abstract no later than **January 15, 1988**. The abstract should be no longer than one page. Abstracts of invited and contributed papers will be available at the Symposium. Abstract and inquiries should be sent to: Professor Edward J. Wegman, Interface Symposium, P.O. Box 7460, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7460, 703/323-2723.

Conference Proceedings will be published. Camera-ready copy of the contributed and invited papers will be due on **June 1, 1988**. The Proceedings will include both invited and contributed papers.

The Conference will be held at the Sheraton International Conference Center in Reston, VA (suburban Washington, D.C.) on the 21st through 23rd of April. April is an extremely attractive time in Washington coinciding with the blooming of the famous cherry blossoms. Free shuttle service is provided by the Sheraton to and from nearby Dulles Airport. A commercial airport bus service is available from Washington National Airport. Hotel rates are quite reasonable for the peak of the tourist season (\$79 for a single on Wednesday and

Thursday and \$45 for a single on Friday and Saturday). A block of rooms has been reserved and attendees are expected to make their own reservations. **Because this is a peak tourist season, early reservations are strongly encouraged.** Reservations can be made by calling (800) 325-3535 or (703) 620-9000. Make sure to identify yourself as being associated with the Interface Symposium. Registration and welcoming reception will take place on Wednesday, April 22.

The regular registration fee for members of the cooperating societies (ASA, IMS, SIAM, and ORSA) is \$105 and for non-members is \$130. A preregistration discount is being offered to those who register early. For registrations received **before January 15, 1988**, the registration fee will be \$95 for members of cooperating societies and \$120 for non-members. The registration fee will include a copy of the proceedings and the opening night reception. For further information, to be put on the INFA mailing list and/or to register, please contact Ed Wegman at the above address.

Washington Academy of Sciences Meeting

The Washington Academy of Sciences will hold its February meeting in the Mary Graydon Center of American University at Massachusetts and Nebraska Avenues, N.W., on Thursday, February 18. Julius Axelrod, Nobel Laureate and Program Director, Intramural Research Program, National Institute of Mental Health, will be speaking on *Catecholamines: Adrenaline-like Chemical Messengers of the Brain*.

There will be a wine and cheese reception at 6:45 p.m. followed by dinner at 7:30. The lecture will begin at 8:30 p.m. It is not necessary to attend the dinner to hear the lecture, and there is no charge for the lecture only. Call (301) 320-3621 for information and make dinner reservations at least three days in advance.

EMPLOYMENT COLUMN

Deadline for inserting notices is 5 (five) weeks before the publication date. Send notices and requests to: Evelyn R. Kay, 520 22nd Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037, (202) 331-1153.

JOB OPENINGS

STATISTICIAN (GS 9/11/12)

The Epilepsy Branch of NIH has an opening for a statistician with a Masters degree or equivalent training. Incumbent will participate in protocol development, study site monitoring, data analysis and writing final reports for clinical trials of antiepileptic drugs. U.S. citizenship is required. Equal opportunity employer. Please send Form SF-171 or resume to: Mr. Clifford Schein, Personnel Management Specialist, NINCDS, National Institutes of Health, Building 31, Room 8A23, 9000 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20892.

For more information, please call Dr. Pledger or Dr. Tsay at 301/496-9725.

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

The Division of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Department of Community and Family Medicine, Georgetown University School of Medicine, is seeking a masters level biostatistician to participate in the Division's ongoing occupational epidemiology studies. Requirements: masters in Biostatistics/Epidemiology, strong quantitative skills and experience with statistical computing including SAS, strong oral and written communications skills, and ability to travel. Knowledge of Rbase highly desirable. Please send letter of intent, c.v., and names of three references to Leonard Chiazze, Jr., Sc.D., Professor and Director, Division of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Room 402, Kober-Cogan Hall, Georgetown University of School of Medicine, Washington, D.C. 20007. AA/EOE.

STATISTICIAN (GS 11/12/13)

The National Center for Health Services Research is seeking a statistician to join the statistical staff of the National Medical Expenditure Study. The position is available for a Ph.D. in statistics/biostatistics or an M.S. with experience in sample design, survey research, sampling weights development, data analysis for complex surveys, imputation procedures, and matching techniques. Familiarity with statistical software packages (SAS, SPSS) is required. Send SF-171 application forms and resume to Dr. Steven B. Cohen, Senior Biostatistician, National Center for Health Services Research and Health Care Technology Assessment, Room 18 A-55, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857; or call him at 301/443-4836 for additional information.

JOB OPENINGS (continued)

SENIOR STATISTICIAN

Systems Applications provides the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and other governmental and industrial organizations with consulting services related to air and water pollution. The Environmental Statistics group performs data analyses which typically require originality and ingenuity and offer the opportunity for professional growth. Data analytic responsibilities are of both a confirmatory and exploratory nature. Thus, imaginative approaches to probing and presenting data are sought. Conscientiousness concerning the accuracy, appropriateness, and timeliness of results is essential. Depending on qualifications and interests, the individual may be given major responsibility for selected statistical projects and may participate in marketing activities. Requirements: Ph.D. degree in statistics or equivalent, with at least one year of statistical consulting, especially in the environmental field. Candidates should also possess the oral and written communication skills needed to present results clearly to clients. Ability to program in Fortran, SAS, Minitab, BMDP, and/or other statistical packages is required. Send resume, salary requirements, and referral source to Job #8-P-87R, Systems Applications, Inc., 101 Lucas Valley Road, San Rafael, CA 94903.



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