WSS NEWS

March 2004

HERRIOT AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Nominations are sought for the 2004 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics. After the sudden death in May 1994 of Roger Herriot, an Associate Commissioner for Statistical Standards and Methodology at the National Center for Education Statistics, the Washington Statistical Society, the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association established an award in his memory to recognize individuals who develop unique approaches to the solution of statistical problems in Federal data collection programs.

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 (from entry to senior), Federal employees, private sector employees, and employees of the academic community, may be nominated on the basis of the significance of the specific contribution.

The recipient of the 2004 Roger Herriot Award will be chosen by a committee of representatives of the Social Statistics Section and Government Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association and a representative of the Washington Statistical Society. Roger Herriot was associated with and strongly supportive of these organizations during his career. The award consists of an honorarium of $1,000.00 and a framed citation.

Joseph Waksberg (Westat), Monroe Sirken (National Center for Health Statistics), Constance Citro (National Academy of Sciences), Roderick Harrison (U.S. Census Bureau), Clyde Tucker (Bureau of Labor Statistics), Thomas Jabine (SSA, EIA, CNSTAT), Donald Dillman (Washington State University), Jeanne Griffith (OMB, NCES, NSF), Daniel Weinberg (U. S. Census Bureau), and David Banks (FDA, BTS, NIST) are previous recipients of the Herriot Award.

For more information, contact Phillip S. Kott, Chair of the Roger Herriot Award Committee, 703-235-5211 x 102 or pkott@nass.usda.gov

Nominations must be submitted by April 15. Electronic submissions, via pdf, are permissible. Alternatively, nominations may be mailed to Phillip S. Kott, USDA/NASS, Room 305, 3251 Old Lee Highway, FAIRFAX, VA 22030-1504.

WSS and Other Seminars (All events are open to any interested persons)	
March	
3 Wed.	**Outliers: Identification and Treatment Through the Use of Chebyshev's Theorem**
	Identifying Problems with Raking Estimators
10 Wed.	**Reconstructing Industrial Production: Conversion to NAICS**
16 Tues.	
17 Wed.	**Clive Granger, Cointegration, and the Nobel Prize in Economics**

Also available on the World Wide Wed at the following URL: http://www.science.gmu.edu/~wss

Announcements

SIGSTAT Topics for Winter 2004

March 10, 2004: PROC MIXED - Part 5: Model Assessment

Continuing the topic begun in October 2003, we examine residual plots and a histogram of the residuals. Subjects with residual values in the first or last percentiles are identified. Finally, we examine how the violation of assumptions regarding the random effects influences the inference of the model.

April 14, 2004: PROC MIXED - Part 6: Generalized Linear Models & Generalized Linear Mixed Models

Continuing the topic begun in October 2003, the difference between general linear models and models using generalized estimating equations (GEE's) is covered. The available correlation structures in PROC GENMOD are discussed and GENMOD is used to fit a longitudinal data model. Finally, the concepts behind generalized linear mixed models are discussed and a

longitudinal data model is fit using the GLIMMIX macro.

SIGSTAT is the Special Interest Group in Statistics for the **CPCUG**, the Capital PC User Group, and **WINFORMS**, the Washington Institute for Operations Research Service and Management Science.

All meetings are in Room S3031, 1800 M St, NW from 12:30 to 1:30. Enter the South Tower & take the elevator to the 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/**.

WSS Short Course

The WSS is offering a short course which provides a statistical perspective on the HIPAA rules surrounding privacy, confidentiality, and the protection of health data on April 27, 2004. Further details are in the enclosed flyer.

The Washington Academy of Sciences and its Affiliates Present Capital Science 2004 to be held March 20 - 21

On Saturday and Sunday, March 20-21, 2004, The Washington Academy of Sciences and its Affiliated Societies (including WSS) will hold the pan-Affiliate Conference, Capital Science. It will be held in the Conference Facility of the National Science Foundation in Ballston. With more than 25 of our Affiliates participating, the Conference will serve as an umbrella for scientific presentations, seminars, tutorials, and talks.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

The Saturday evening dinner meeting will feature a keynote address by NSF Director and former Washington Academy of Sciences President Rita Colwell. The Saturday lunch meeting will feature a talk by Nobel Laureate William Phillips, of NIST and the University of Maryland. Dr. Phillips received the Nobel award in 1997 for his work in ultra-low temperature atomic physics. The Sunday lunch meeting will feature a talk by John Marburger III, Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology.

Plenary Sessions

Memorial Session honoring Nobelist Ilya Prigogine. Awarded the Nobel Prize for chemistry in 1977, Dr. Prigogine's work spanned mathematics, physics, chemistry, and philosophy.

Science, Ethics, and Religion, a special session of the AAAS lecture series.

A presentation by ASA President-Elect Fritz Scheuren on "Human Rights Issues Around the World: The Role of Good Data"

For more information or on-line registration, go to

http://www.washacadsci.org/Website/Index.htm

or contact Michael P. Cohen, 202-366-9949, Michael.cohen@bts.gov, the WSS representative to the Washington Academy of Sciences.

Note from the WSS NEWS Editor

Items for publication in the May 2004 WSS NEWS should be submitted no later than March 30, 2004. E-mail items to Michael Feil at michael.feil@usda.gov.

Program Announcement

Title: **Outliers: Identification and Treatment Through the Use of Chebyshev's Theorem**

Speaker: Richard Esposito, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Discussant: Hyunshik Lee, Westat

Chair: Fritz Scheuren, National Opinion Research Center

Date/Time: Wednesday, March 3, 2004, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Postal Square Building (PSB), Conference Center, Room 9, 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Please use the First Street entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see notice at the end of this announcement.

Sponsor: WSS Methodology Section

Abstract: Outliers have traditionally been presented as unwanted and troublesome elements whose influence we should protect against through robust methods of data handling and estimation. In this presentation, extreme representative outliers are seen both as inevitable and as providing necessary information about the tail ends of universe distributions. A new method for identifying and treating outliers based on an innovative use of Chebyshev's Theorem is introduced. The method presented avoids the overly wide ranges commonly associated with the use of this theorem, and, being based on Chebyshev's Theorem, does not depend on the normality or specific form of the underlying distribution. The speaker will present data and results demonstrating the importance of outliers, as well as test results that show the ability of the new method to predict corresponding universe values, using universe and drawn samples from national establishment employment data. In addition, a justification and derivation of Winsorizing that follows from considerations of the method will be presented.

* To attend seminars at BLS, you need to email your name, affiliation, and title of the seminar to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore between "wss" and "seminar") by noon at least two days in advance, or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo id to the seminar. A new list begins January 1, 2004. Once you are on the list you need not contact BLS for seminars through March 31, 2004. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.

Program Announcement

Note: *This is the fifth in a series of WSS seminars on calibration and related types of estimation.*

Title: **Identifying Problems with Raking Estimators**

Speaker: Jill M. Montaquila and J. Michael Brick, Westat

Co-authors: Shelley Brock Roth, Westat

Discussant: Michael P. Cohen, Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Date/Time: Wednesday, March 10, 2004, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Postal Square Building (PSB), Conference Center, Room 9, 2 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. Please use the First Street entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see notice at the end of this announcement.

Sponsor: WSS Methodology Section

Abstract: In sample surveys, raking is often used to calibrate survey weights to external totals and adjust for undercoverage. Raking may be particularly useful when control to several dimensions is desired but sample sizes are too small to use all the dimensions simultaneously as required with poststratification. However, raking may be problematic and these problems are not always easily identified. Problems may arise when two or more raking dimensions are highly correlated, there are many raking dimensions, there is measurement error in the variables used on one or more dimensions, or there are sparse tables. In this presentation, we give several examples illustrating the problems that may occur with raking. We also describe approaches for diagnosing potential problems with raking and discuss methods of addressing these problems when they occur.

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Program Announcement

Topic: **Reconstructing Industrial Production: Conversion to NAICS**

Speakers: Kimberly Bayard, Norman Morin, and John Stevens, Federal Reserve Board

Chair: William P. Cleveland, Federal Reserve Board

Discussant: Dennis Fixler, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Date/Time: Tuesday, March 16, 2004, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center Room 10, Postal Square Building (PSB), 2 Massachusetts Ave. NE, Washington, D.C. Please use the First St., NE, entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see "Notice" at the end of this announcement.

Sponsor: Economics Section

Abstract: The Federal Reserve Board's monthly indexes of industrial production, capacity, and capacity utilization are principal indicators of economic activity in the US industrial sector. In December 2002, the Federal Reserve Board issued a historical revision of these indexes going back to 1972. This revision, unprecedented among statistical agencies, is the first significant historical restatement of industry-level economic time series under the new North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS).   These presentations review the history and structure of the industrial production indexes, the steps to reclassify the plant-level historical census data from the Standard Industrial Classification System (SIC) to NAICS, the restructuring of major market and stage-of-progress groups based on NAICS series, and the overall effect of the changes on the industrial production and capacity series.

NOTICE

To attend this seminar, you will need to do one of the following:

e-mail name, affiliation, and name of seminar to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by noon 1 day ahead

or

call 202-691-7524 at least 2 days ahead and leave a message. Finally, bring a photo ID.

Program Announcement

Topic:	**Clive Granger, Cointegration, and the Nobel Prize in Economics**
Speakers:	Neil R. Ericsson, Federal Reserve Board
Chair:	Anna Jan, Ernst & Young
Date/Time:	Wednesday, March 17, 2004, 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
Location:	Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center Room 10, Postal Square Building (PSB), 2 Massachusetts Ave. NE, Washington, D.C. Please use the First St., NE, entrance to the PSB. To gain entrance to BLS, please see "Notice" at the end of this announcement.
Sponsor:	Economics Section

Abstract: In 2003, the Nobel Prize in Economics was awarded to Clive Granger "for methods of analyzing economic time series with common trends (cointegration)" and to Rob Engle "for methods of analyzing economic time series with time-varying volatility (ARCH)". This WSS seminar examines Clive's contribution of cointegration; a subsequent WSS seminar will focus on Rob's contribution of ARCH.

Cointegration is a statistical property that characterizes a long-run relationship between two or more integrated time series. After examining the analytics and implications of cointegration, we consider testing procedures due to Engle and Granger (1987) and Johansen (1988). The Johansen procedure establishes a natural framework for testing hypotheses about multiple cointegrating vectors and about the adjustment coefficients. Cointegration is also isomorphic to the existence of an error correction mechanism in a set of dynamic behavioral equations, so we discuss error correction models, including tests for cointegration based on those models. The relationships between the Engle-Granger, Johansen, and error correction procedures for testing cointegration provide the basis for discussing their relative advantages and disadvantages. Empirical applications help illustrate these testing procedures.

NOTICE

To attend this seminar, you will need to do one of the following:

e-mail name, affiliation, and name of seminar to <u>wss_seminar@bls.gov</u> (underscore after 'wss') by noon 1 day ahead

or

call 202-691-7524 at least 2 days ahead and leave a message. Finally, bring a photo ID.

2004 LearnSTAT Program Offerings

The American Statistical Association has two program LearnSTAT Program Offerings having registration deadlines this month. Both take place at the following location:

Arlington Campus Professional Center
George Mason University
3401 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, Virginia (Near Washington, DC)

The registration fee for both courses is $500 for ASA members and $600 for nonmembers.
(Registration fee includes materials, lunch, and refreshments for AM and PM breaks)

The first course is "Intermediate/Advanced Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling" which is a one-day course scheduled to be held on March 26, 2004 with a registration deadline of March 5, 2004. The second course is "Longitudinal and Incomplete Data" which is also a one-day course scheduled for April 2, 2004 having a registration deadline of March 12, 2004.

You can register online at www.amstat.org/education.

Intermediate/Advanced Bayesian Hierarchical Modeling

This is an award-winning short course on intermediate- and advanced-level methods and applications of Bayesian hierarchical modeling, including reviews of Bayesian modeling, Bayesian computation, and hierarchical models (HMs) for meta-analysis, and coverage of Bayesian model diagnostics, model checking, and model elaboration, mixture modeling with latent variables, HMs for clustered (hierarchical, multilevel) data, and semi-parametric HMs for dealing realistically with model uncertainty; case studies drawn from medicine, education, and environmental risk assessment.

Abstract: This course provides coverage of intermediate- and advanced-level topics arising in the formulation, fitting, and checking of hierarchical or multilevel models from the Bayesian point of view. The Bayesian approach is particularly effective in fitting hierarchical models because other model- based methods -- principally involving maximum likelihood -- often do not capture all relevant sources of uncertainty, leading to over-confident decisions and scientific conclusions.

The basic principles of Bayesian hierarchical modeling are reviewed in this course with emphasis on practical rather than theoretical issues. Intermediate- and advanced-level ideas are illustrated with real data drawn from case studies involving complicated applications of hierarchical models in cluster sampling and mixture modeling. The course is intended for applied statisticians with an interest in learning more about intermediate and advanced topics in hierarchical modeling in general, and the Bayesian analysis of such models in particular.

 The instructor is Dr. David Draper, University California, Santa Cruz. Dr. Draper is a Professor in and Chair of the Department of Applied Mathematics and Statistics in the Baskin School of Engineering at the University of California, Santa Cruz. From 2001 to 2003 he served as the President-Elect, President, and Past President of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA). His research is in the area of Bayesian inference and prediction, model uncertainty and empirical model-building, hierarchical modeling, Markov Chain Monte Carlo methods, and Bayesian semi-parametric methods, with applications mainly in health policy, education, and environmental risk assessment. When he gave this same short course at the San Francisco JSM last year, it won the ASA Excellence in Continuing Education award for 2003.

Longitudinal and Incomplete Data

Abstract: This course provides a general introduction to longitudinal data and the linear mixed model for continuous responses. The topic will be approached from the modeler(s and practitioner's points of view. Emphasis will be on model formulation, parameter estimation, and hypothesis testing, as well as on the distinction between the random-effects (hierarchical) model and the implied marginal model. When the response of interest is categorical, the linear mixed model concepts can be extended towards generalized linear mixed models. An alternative approach is the use of generalized estimating equations (GEE). A lot of emphasis will be put on the fact that the regression parameters in both types of models have different interpretations. Advantages and disadvantages of both procedures will be discussed and compared in detail. Finally, when analysing longitudinal data, one is often confronted with missing observations, i.e., scheduled measurements have not been made, due to a variety of (known or unknown) reasons. It will be

shown that, if no appropriate measures are taken, missing data can cause seriously biased results, and interpretational difficulties.

The instructors are Dr. Geert Verbeke and Dr. Geert Molenberghs. Dr. Verbeke is an Associate Professor in Biostatistics at the Biostatistical Centre of the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium. He wrote his dissertation as well as a number of methodological papers on various aspects of linear mixed models for longitudinal data. Dr. Molenberghs is a Professor of Biostatistics at the Limburgs Universitair Centrum in Belgium. He published methodological work on repeated categorical data and on the analysis of nonresponse in clinical and epidemiological studies. Both instructors are the editors and authors of three books on the use of linear mixed models for the analysis of longitudinal data and they have taught several courses on the topic in universities as well as industry.

For more information and to register for these courses, visit the Education section of the ASA Web site at www.amstat.org/education and click on the link for this course.

If you have any questions, email LearnSTAT@amstat.org or call (703) 684-1221 ext. 166.

JPSM Short Course

INFORMATION VISUALIZATION FOR DIGITAL GOVERNMENT:
ENVISIONING STATISTICAL KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS

This is a one-day short course sponsored by the Joint Program in Survey Methodology on April 14, 2004 and presented at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda, Bethesda, Maryland. The instructors are Ben Shneiderman (ben@cs.umd.edu) and Catherine Plaisant (plaisant@cs.umd.edu). Both are from the Human-Computer Interaction Laboratory at University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742 USA

The objectives of the course are to enable attendees:
- to recognize the seven types of information visualizations and which combination is best for a given problem domain;
- to distinguish between scientific and information visualization;
- to learn guidelines for successful designs;
- to see demos of novel visualizations; and
- to understand opportunities for successful visualizations.

Information visualization has rapidly emerged as a potent technology to support human decision making. The latest generation of visual data mining tools and animated GUIs take advantage of human perceptual skills to produce striking results. This tutorial will show examples of successful uses of information visualization technology, plus recent research breakthroughs and hints of what's to come. Our emphasis will be on examples of government statistical data sets and we will highlight the challenges of providing universally usable interface designs.

Information visualization techniques empower users to perceive important patterns in large data sets, identify areas that need further scrutiny, and make sophisticated decisions. But looking at information is only a start. Users also need to manipulate and explore the data, using real-time tools to zoom, filter, and relate the information - and undo if they make a mistake.

Information visualization tools can aid in any situation that's characterized by large amounts of multi-dimensional or rapidly changing data, e.g. demographic trends, economic data analysis, health statistics, homeland security. The lectures are enhanced by a large number of live demonstrations, and with time for question asking and discussion.

The target audience is information professionals who must manage, present, interpret, and explore vital databases along with designers of advanced tools for decision support and business intelligence.

The course will be held at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda, One Bethesda Metro Center, at Wisconsin Avenue and Old Georgetown Road in Maryland. The hotel is in the heart of Maryland's high-tech corridor, just 6 miles from downtown Washington, D.C., with convenient access to the Capital Beltway and Metro Subway. The Hyatt is accessible via the Metro Red Line at the Bethesda Metro stop. For overnight room reservations, call the Hyatt Regency Bethesda at 301-657-1234. There is a parking garage located directly underneath the Hotel which offers both valet and self-parking. The garage is not owned or operated by the Hyatt Regency.

JPSM group lunches and refreshments are included in the course fee. Registrants will be provided with "The Craft of Information Visualization: Readings and Reflections", and a course pack containing detailed course notes.

The registration fee for staff at sponsoring agencies and affiliates is $400, $400 for full-time university students, and $535 for other participants. Payment by credit card is required. Post registration payment may be done online using the student's confirmation number. **Payment is required by March 30, 2004.** The JPSM Sponsor Affiliate List is located at http://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/sponsorlist.cfm .

Online registration is required. Go to the JPSM Home Page at http://www.jpsm.org. Click on "JPSM Short
Courses" for online registration. Confirmation of registration and instructions will be sent after the registration form has been processed. Registration is not firm until you receive a confirmation letter. Payment by credit card is required. Post registration payment should be done online using the student's confirmation number. Please note confirmation number. **The registration deadline is March 30, 2004.**

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 March 30, 2004. Cancellation between March 31-April 6, 2004 will require a $100 administrative fee with the remainder being reimbursed. Cancellation on or after April 7, 2004 is subject to the full fee amount

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 the effort, a limited number of competitive minority fellowships are available for African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native American Indians for the short course. Applicants should complete: 1. A 500-word essay describing their reasons for wanting to attend this short course, how their participation will enhance their chosen career path. Indicate ethnic background; 2. A recommendation written by a person knowledgeable about their aptitude and interest in survey methodology; and 3. The online course registration form. Registrations, essays, and recommendations are due by March 17, 2004. JPSM will evaluate the applications and inform the successful applicants by March 24, 2004. The fellowship covers the registration fee for the course including the cost of materials to be distributed during the course and lunch. Essays and recommendations may be either faxed to (734) 764-8263 or mailed to JPSM Short Course, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, 426 Thompson Street, Room 4050, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248.

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 48106-1248, Phone: (800) 937-9320, Fax: (734) 764-8263, Email: jpsmshort@isr.umich.edu .

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.ipr@verizon.net or (703) 387-3032.

Epidemiologist/GIS Scientist

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) anticipates one opening for a position within the Cancer Statistics Branch (CSB) of the Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences. This is located within the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). CSB oversees the SEER cancer registries and conducts surveillance studies of health and disease outcomes for various population groups. NCI's surveillance activities provide for nationwide program planning, and are of interest to researchers, policy planners and analysts, and the public at large. Recent examples include: studies of access to cancer care, treatment options and survival, and the role of socioeconomic status in the incidence, mortality, and survival of cancer. Position responsibilities will include: advising on geographic issues related to geographic/spatial data collection, processing and analysis, including efficient geocoding methods, maintaining patient confidentiality in cancer data systems and statistical displays, choice of geographic unit appropriate for statistical analysis, geographic information system (GIS) development, and map design. In addition, opportunities exist for collaboration with SRP staff on studies of small-area population characteristics relevant to cancer screening and health disparities, and statistical, epidemiologic and geovisualization methods useful for the spatio-temporal analysis of cancer data and related demographic and environmental data. Excellent communication skills are necessary to communicate and translate complex information to diverse audiences. Experience with cancer registry data, competing sources of demographic and population data and ESRI software and its extensions is desirable. For more information on the Cancer Statistics Branch see http://surveillance.cancer.gov/csb. For more information on GIS activities at NCI see http://gis.cancer.gov.

A minimum of a Master's degree required in geography, demography, epidemiology, biostatistics or a related field with extensive experience in the application of geospatial techniques to health data. Salary commensurate with experience. The location is Rockville, MD, near Washington, DC. Excellent benefits. DHHS and NIH are equal opportunity employers. Please send a cover letter summarizing your experience and interests along with your CV, and contact information for three references, by March 15, 2004 to: Dr. Benjamin Hankey, Chief, Cancer Statistics Branch, National Cancer Institute, 6116 Executive Blvd., Room 5023, MSC 8316, Bethesda, MD 20892-8316 (US Mail) or Rockville, MD 20852 (Overnight courier); Phone: (301) 496-8510; Fax: (301) 496-9949; Bh43a@nih.gov

National Academies
Committee on National Statistics
Director

The National Academies seeks a director for its Committee on National Statistics. The Committee and the panels of experts that it convenes conduct studies on the data and methodology needed to improve our understanding of the U.S. population, the economy, the environment, public health, crime, education, immigration, poverty, welfare, and other public policy topics. Its reports are highly influential in public policy communities and in both government and academic statistical communities. The Committee Director is a key leadership position in the National Academies and in the federal statistical community. The Director leads, manages, and provides vision for the Committee and develops, finds funding for, and nurtures a high-quality program of effective studies that address important issues in national statistics. The Director represents the National Academies in statistical communities and before the Congress, heads of government departments and agencies, the media, and the public.

Applicants must have a Ph.D. or the equivalent in a relevant discipline, such as statistics, economics, demography, sociology, or policy analysis, with at least 10 years of relevant experience; leadership and expertise in how statistics is used in public policy decision making; and excellent written and oral communication skills. Salary is commensurate with experience. More information about the Committee is available at www.national-academies.org/cnstat.

To apply, please submit a detailed resume and the names and contact information of at least three references to The National Academies, Office of Human Resources, 500 Fifth Street, N.W., Keck 105, Washington, DC 20001. To apply on-line, please visit our website at www.national-academies.org. Under

employment, click on job opportunities; select Department–Division of Behavioral & Social Sciences & Education; select Director–Committee on National Statistics.

U. S. Postal Service, Finance Department, Revenue and Volume Reporting (RVR)

Two Operations Research Analyst Positions (EAS 21, Salary Range $48,520-$74,887; EAS 23, Salary Range $54,207-$85,173)

The Postal Service is seeking to fill two Operations Research Analyst vacancies to work in the area of the design, sampling, development, implementation, and improvement of large scale sample surveys and systems used to estimate revenue, pieces, weight and service performance of its product lines.

Successful candidates must be knowledgeable in: mathematical statistics, including sampling techniques and measures of precision; applied statistical methods; large scale survey sample design; operating systems and languages, particularly SAS; application of appropriate probability methods to design surveys, sampling plans, estimation measures of reliability and precision; and analysis of statistical estimates and the control of measurement errors and other non-sampling errors associated with data collection and data processing. Successful candidates will have experience, and or can demonstrate the ability to work, in a structured report processing environment that supports the Postal Service's official measurements of mail revenue and volume used in Postal rate regulation and other applications. The candidate will be able to demonstrate the ability to verbally communicate technical statistical issues in non-technical terms. The extent to which the candidate meets these requirements will determine the position level, either EAS-21 or EAS-23, obtained.

More information on the two positions can be found at the following links, respectively:

http://www.usps.com/employment/documents/04005.htm

 and

http://www.usps.com/employment/documents/04006.htm.

Non-postal applicants are encouraged to use a resumé format when following the application instructions described at the web site. For further information please call Richard Prescott, Manager, RVR, (202) 268-2687 or send email to rprescot@email.usps.gov.

United States Postal Service
Outside Recruitment Announcement

Vacancy Number: 03-192

Closing Date: OPEN UNTIL FILLED

TITLE: Economist

The United States Postal Service has the following excellent and challenging employment opportunity for highly motivated and innovative individuals to work in our Marketing Strategy and Support office at the U. S. Postal Marketing Headquarters in Arlington, VA. Successful candidates must demonstrate through a combination of education, training, and experience the following requirements:

REQUIREMENTS:
1.   Knowledge of econometric, survey and statistical techniques for business applications such as customer segmentation.
2.   Ability to conduct quantitative and qualitative economic research and analysis methods such as forecasting and multi-variant analysis.
3.   Ability to conduct studies, analyze, and collect data when volumes of data for manipulation and analysis are extremely large.
4.   Ability to develop economic policies, plans, and objectives.
5.   Ability to manage projects and programs, which includes planning, developing timelines, determining resource requirements, monitoring progress, and reporting results.
6.   Ability to prepare and present technical documentation, reports, and expert testimony.

Desirable Education Requirement: baccalaureate or higher level degree in Economics or related field.

Qualified applicants must successfully pass a pre-employment drug screening to meet the U. S. Postal Service's requirement to be drug free. Applicants must also be a U. S. citizen or have permanent resident alien status.

The salary range is $54,207-$85,173. Salary will be based on previous experience, salary history, and current postal pay policies. We offer excellent benefits including health and life insurance, retirement plan, savings/investment plan with employer contribution, flexible spending account, flextime scheduling of core work hours, annual and sick leave.

If your qualifications match the above requirements, submit a separate sheet addressing each knowledge and ability requirement, along with a resum, or Postal Service Form 2591, to the address below.
Failure to address each requirement will result in non-consideration of your application.

MAIL TO:

U S POSTAL SERVICE
ATTENTION: VACANCY NUMBER 03-192
CORPORATE PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
475 L'ENFANT PLAZA SW ROOM 1831
WASHINGTON DC 20260-4261

HOW TO APPLY:

Applicants must complete and submit resume or Form 2591, Application for Employment, plus a separate statement of qualifications for each knowledge, skill, or ability (KSA) to the application address for receipt on or before the closing date. Applicants are encouraged to include the ZIP + 4 in their mailing address. The United States Postal Service is an equal opportunity employer. The United States Postal Service provides reasonable accommodation to qualified individuals with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application, bidding, interview, and/or selection process, please contact the office identified on the vacancy announcement. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.

**United States Postal Service
Outside Recruitment Announcement**

Position Number:

Closing Date: OPEN UNTIL FILLED

TITLE: Mathematical Statistician

The United States Postal Service has the following excellent and challenging employment opportunity for highly motivated and innovative individuals to work in our Marketing Strategy and Support office at the U. S. Postal Marketing Headquarters in Arlington, VA. Successful candidates must demonstrate through a combination of education, training, and experience the following requirements:

REQUIREMENTS:
1. Knowledge of statistics, including statistical sample design and probability sampling techniques, survey and experimental design, and measures of precision.
2. Ability to use computer-based data and operating systems, programming languages, and statistical packages.
3. Ability to develop methods and procedures for the collection, processing, analysis, and reporting of statistical survey or system data.
4. Ability to implement quality control techniques to ensure the integrity of data collection and data analysis activities.
5. Ability to prepare and maintain statistical summaries and comprehensive files of statistical data.
6. Ability to provide technical guidance on statistical programs, policies, and procedures.

Desirable Education Requirement: baccalaureate or higher level degree in Mathematics, Statistics or related field.

Qualified applicants must successfully pass a pre-employment drug screening to meet the U. S.Postal Service's requirement to be drug free. Applicants must also be a U. S. citizen or have permanent resident alien status.

The salary range is $54,207-$85,173. Salary will be based on previous experience, salary history, and current postal pay policies. We offer excellent benefits including health and life insurance, retirement plan, savings/investment plan with employer contribution, flexible spending account, flextime scheduling of core work hours, annual and sick leave.

If your qualifications match the above requirements, submit a separate sheet addressing each knowledge and ability requirement, along with a resum, or Postal Service Form 2591, to the address below. Failure to address each requirement will result in non-consideration of your application.

MAIL TO:

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HOW TO APPLY:

Applicants must complete and submit resume or Form 2591, Application for Employment, plus a separate statement of qualifications for each knowledge, skill, or ability (KSA) to the application address for receipt on or before the closing date. Applicants are encouraged to include the ZIP + 4 in their mailing address. The United States Postal Service is an equal opportunity employer. The United States Postal Service provides reasonable accommodation to qualified individuals with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application, bidding, interview, and/or selection process, please contact the office identified on the vacancy announcement. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.

DEPARTMENT CHIEF and SENIOR STATISTICIAN

THE US NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

and

THE RADIATION EFFECTS RESEARCH FOUNDATION

are recruiting for two positions

DEPARTMENT CHIEF and SENIOR STATISTICIAN
Department of Statistics, Hiroshima, Japan

The US National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and the Radiation Effects Research Foundation (RERF) are recruiting two statisticians, including a departmental chief, to lead a team of 8 statisticians in Hiroshima, Japan. RERF is a cooperative US-Japan research institute with about 40 scientists and a staff of 300 engaged in the continuing mortality and morbidity followup of several large cohorts of atomic-bomb survivors and their children. The assessments of radiation risk based on evaluations of the health data by RERF have provided a key basis for radiation protection guidelines used throughout the world, and important work remains to be done. RERF statisticians collaborate with researchers in other departments on the design and analysis of various studies, play a central role in analysis and interpretation of the major RERF studies, and conduct research on statistical issues that arise including development of analytical models and statistical methodologies in cutting-edge technologies such as microarrays and pedigree analyses.

Applicants should possess expertise in theoretical and applied statistics and a background in risk assessment and statistics applied to epidemiologic studies. While familiarity with radiation risk assessment is preferred, experience in other areas of environmental or occupational risk assessment is acceptable. A background in a health- or biologic-related research setting is important.

The chief must have proven communication and human relations skills in order to be able to maintain an environment where researchers are able to collaborate effectively, publish their work successfully, and maintain a high level of involvement in the international radiation research community.

Successful applicants will become staff members of the National Academy of Sciences assigned to RERF. Salaries will be commensurate with experience and will be supplemented by a compensation package that accommodates relocation, cost-of-living, housing, home leave, school tuition, and other costs. TO APPLY FOR EITHER POSITION, email or mail a letter expressing your interest and including a resume to:

Dr. Evan B. Douple
Director, Board on Radiation Effects Research
The National Academies
500 5th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001 USA
edouple@nas.edu

For information about RERF and examples of RERF scientific publications, see www.rerf.jp

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