Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology
2009 Research Conference
November 2-4, 2009

The 2009 Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM) Research Conference will be held November 2-4, 2009 at the Washington Conventions Center, 801 Mount Vernon Place NW, Washington, DC. The Conference provides a forum for experts from around the world to discuss and exchange current research and methodological topics relevant to Federal government statistical programs. Each day of the conference will offer papers on a wide range of topics including the use of advanced technologies for survey design and data collection, processing and dissemination, data mining, data warehousing and metadata, treatment of missing data, improving coverage and response rates, confidentiality and disclosure issues, record linkage, sample design and estimation, cognitive research and usability testing, and data quality.

Technical demonstrations will run concurrently on the second day of the conference during the first morning session. Applications will include demonstrations on Q-Notes, Demonstration of Field Interviewer (FI) Tracker Tool, Statipedia, and a Demonstration of Census Coverage Measurement Clerical Matching Software. Sessions feature papers and demonstrations by government, private sector, and academic researchers from eight countries. Katharine Abraham from the Joint Program in Survey Methodology at the University of Maryland will be our guest speaker in the opening plenary session. All paper sessions will include an open discussion and some sessions will include a formal discussion.

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

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

October

8 Tues. **The Sociolinguistics of Survey Translation**

19th ANNUAL MORRIS HANSEN LECTURE
13 Tues. **The Care, Feeding and Training of Survey Statisticians**

20 Tues. **Racial Profiling Analysis**

28 Wed. **Differences in the Academic Careers of Men and Women at Research Intensive Universities and at Critical Transitions**

29 Thurs. **Calibration Alternatives to Poststratification for Doubly Classified Data**

November

19 Thurs. **Empirical likelihood based inference for quantiles and low income proportions in selection bias and missing data problems**

December

2 Wed. **Data, Information and Interpretation in Assessing the Sustainability of the Nation's Forests**

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

Note from the WSS NEWS Editor

Items for publication in the November issue of the WSS NEWS will be accepted until October 22, 2009. E-mail items to Michael Feil at michael.feil@ams.usda.gov.

Announcement

SIGSTAT Topics for Fall/Winter 2009-2010

October 14, 2009: PROC COUNTREG
(http://support.sas.com/documentation/cdl/en/etsug/60372/HTML/default/countreg_toc.htm)

The **COUNTREG** (count regression) procedure analyzes regression models in which the dependent variable takes nonnegative integer or count values. The **dependent variable** is usually an **event count**, which refers to the number of times an event occurs. For example, an event count might represent the number of ship accidents per year for a given fleet. In count regression, the **conditional mean** $E(y_i / x_i)$ of the dependent variable, y_i, is assumed to be a function of a vector of covariates, x_i. The **Poisson (log-linear) regression model** is the most basic model that explicitly takes into account the nonnegative integer-valued aspect of the outcome.

With this model, the probability of an event count is determined by a **Poisson distribution**, where the conditional mean of the distribution is a function of a vector of covariates. However, the basic Poisson regression model is **limited** because it forces the conditional mean of the outcome to equal the conditional variance. This assumption is often violated in real-life data. **Negative binomial regression** is an extension of Poisson regression in which the conditional variance may exceed the conditional mean.

Also, an often encountered characteristic of count data is that the **number of zeros** in the sample exceeds the number of zeros predicted by either the Poisson or negative binomial model. **Zero-inflated Poisson (ZIP)** and **zero-inflated negative binomial (ZINB)** models explicitly model the production of zero counts to account for excess zeros and also enable the conditional variance of the outcome to differ from the conditional mean. Under **zero-inflated models**, additional zeros occur with probability φ_i, which is determined by a separate model, $\varphi_i = F(z'_i \gamma)$ where F is the normal or logistic distribution function resulting in a **probit** or **logistic** model, and z_i is a set of covariates.

November 18, 2009: SAS for Forecasting Time Series: Part 1
(http://support.sas.com/publishing/bbu/companion_site/57275.html)

This month begins a series of meetings on the topic using SAS to forecast time series. We follow the book titled "**SAS for Forecasting Time Series 2nd Edition**" by Brocklebank and Dickey.

Part 1: This month covers **Chapter 1: Overview of Time Series** and **Chapter 2: Simple Models: Autoregression** . Topics include regression with autocorrelated error terms, transformations to stabilize the variance, forecasting with PROC ARIMA, the backshift operator B, and the Yule-Walker equations.

December 16, 2009: SAS for Forecasting Time Series: Part 2
(http://support.sas.com/publishing/bbu/companion_site/57275.html)

This month continues a series of meetings on the topic using SAS to forecast time series. We follow the book titled "**SAS for Forecasting Time Series 2nd Edition**" by Brocklebank and Dickey.

Part 2: This month begins **Chapter 3: The General ARIMA Model**. Topics include prediction and model identification.

January 20, 2010: SAS for Forecasting Time Series: Part 3
(http://support.sas.com/publishing/bbu/companion_site/57275.html)

This month continues a series of meetings on the topic using SAS to forecast time series. We follow the book titled "**SAS for Forecasting Time Series 2nd Edition"** by Brocklebank and Dickey.

Part 3: This month continues **Chapter 3: The General ARIMA Model**. Topics include using the IDENTIFY and ESTIMATE statements with a number of examples.

February 24, 2010: SAS for Forecasting Time Series: Part 4
(http://support.sas.com/publishing/bbu/companion_site/57275.html)

This month continues a series of meetings on the topic using SAS to forecast time series. We follow the book titled "**SAS for Forecasting Time Series 2nd Edition"** by Brocklebank and Dickey.

Part 4: This month continues **Chapter 3: The General ARIMA Model**. Topics include models for nonstationary data and differencing to remove a linear trend.

March 17, 2010: SAS for Forecasting Time Series: Part 5
(http://support.sas.com/publishing/bbu/companion_site/57275.html)

This month continues a series of meetings on the topic using SAS to forecast time series. We follow the book titled "**SAS for Forecasting Time Series 2nd Edition"** by Brocklebank and Dickey.

Part 5: This month begins **Chapter 4: The ARIMA Model: Introductory Applications**. Topics include an introduction to seasonal modeling and model identification.

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

All meetings are in Room S3031, 1800 M St, NW from **12:00 to 1:00**.
Enter the South Tower & take the elevator to the 3rd floor to check in at the guard's desk.

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

Program Announcement

Title: **The Sociolinguistics of Survey Translation**

Speaker: Yuling Pan, Statistical Research Division, Census Bureau

Discussant: Eileen O'Brien, Energy Information Administration

Chair: Bill McNary, Energy Information Administration

Date/Time: October 8, 2009 (Thursday) / 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Room 10. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.

Sponsors: WSS Data Collection Methods and DC-AAPOR

Abstract: With the increasing diversity in the United States population, there is a growing need to translate survey questionnaires and survey documents from English into languages other than English. Challenges arise concerning the functional equivalence of the translated materials and the methodology in ensuring the quality of survey translation.

This presentation analyzes the challenges for survey translation from the perspective of sociolinguistics, a scientific discipline that focuses on the social function of language, and studies the relationship between language, culture, and society. The talk will illustrate three key components of successful survey translation: linguistic rules, cultural norms, and social practices. In order to highlight the connection between these three components, findings from two Census Bureau multilingual projects will be presented and discussed. The talk will conclude with recommendations for future research on survey translation.

Program Announcement

19th ANNUAL MORRIS HANSEN LECTURE

The Care, Feeding and Training of Survey Statisticians

Sharon L. Lohr
Thompson Industries Dean's
Distinguished Professor of Statistics
Arizona State University

Abstract: The two volumes of *Sample Survey Methods and Theory* by Hansen, Hurwitz, and Madow (1953) have had great influence on the training and practice of survey statisticians. We examine current themes in survey sampling research and relate them to topics taught in classes on survey sampling. We discuss other aspects of university training and background that may help the survey statistician thrive in and adapt to a variety of environments.

Discussants
James Lepkowski, University of Michigan
Donsig Jang, Mathematica
David Morganstein, Westat

Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. in the Jefferson Auditorium of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's South Building (Independence Avenue, SW, between 12th and 14th Streets); Smithsonian Metro Stop (Blue/Orange Lines). Enter through Wing 5 or Wing 7 from Independence Ave. (The special assistance entrance is at 12th & Independence). A photo ID is required.

Please pre-register for this event to help facilitate access to the building. After August 15, Pre-register on line at http://www.nass.usda.gov/morrishansen/.

Sponsors: The Washington Statistical Society, Westat, and The National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Program Announcement

Title: **Racial Profiling Analysis**

Speaker: Greg Ridgeway, Ph.D.
                Senior Statistician
                Director, Safety & Justice Research Program
                RAND Corporation

Discussant: Joel Garner, Ph.D.
                Chief, Law Enforcement Statistics Unit
                Bureau of Justice Statistics

Organizer: Dave Judkins, Westat

Chair: Brian Meekins, BLS

Date/Time: October 20, 2009 (Tuesday) / 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center. To be placed on the seminar
                attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name,
                affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by
                noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a
                message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts
                Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

Sponsor: Methodology Program, WSS

Abstract: Several studies and high profile incidents around the nation involving police and
                minorities, such as the July arrest of Harvard Professor Henry Louis Gates, have
                brought the issue of racial profiling to national attention. While civil rights issues
                continue to arise in other areas such as offers of employment, job promotions, and
                school admissions, the issue of race disparities in traffic stops seems to have
                garnered much attention in recent years. Many communities have asked, and at times
                the U.S. Department of Justice has required, that law enforcement agencies collect
                and analyze data on all traffic stops. Data collection efforts, however, so far have
                outpaced the development of methods that can isolate the effect of race bias on
                officers' decisions to stop, cite, or search motorists.

                In this talk Dr. Ridgeway will describe a test for detecting race bias in the decision
                to stop a driver that does not require explicit, external estimates of the driver risk set.
                Second, he'll describe an internal benchmarking methodology for identifying
                potential problem officers. Lastly, he will describe methods for assessing racial
                disparities in citation, searches, and stop duration. He will present results from his
                studies of the Oakland (CA), Cincinnati, and New York City Police Departments.

Program Announcement

Title: **Differences in the Academic Careers of Men and Women at Research Intensive Universities and at Critical Transitions**

Speaker: Alicia Carriquiry, Department of Statistics, Iowa State University

Chair: Promod Chandhok, Bureau of Transportation Statistics/ RITA

Date/Time: October 28, 2009 (Wednesday) / 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave., NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.

Sponsor: Social & Demographic Statistics Section

Abstract: A congressionally mandated report written by the National Research Council examined how women at research intensive (RI) universities fare compared with men at key transition points in their careers. Two national surveys were commissioned to help address the issue. The report's conclusions are based on the findings of these surveys of tenure-track and tenured faculty in six disciplines -- biology, chemistry, mathematics, civil engineering, electrical engineering, and physics -- which were conducted at 89 institutions in 2004 and 2005.

In each of the six disciplines, women who applied for tenure-track positions had a better chance of being interviewed and receiving job offers than male applicants had. This was also true for tenured positions, with the exception of those in biology. Men and women reported comparable access to most institutional resources, including start-up packages, travel funds, and supervision of similar numbers of postdocs and research assistants. And in general, men and women spent similar proportions of their time on teaching, research, and service. Although at first glance men seemed to have more lab space than women, this difference disappeared when other factors such as discipline and faculty rank were accounted for. On most key measures -- grant funding, nominations for awards and honors, and offers of positions at other institutions -- there is little evidence that men and women exhibited differences in outcomes. In terms of salary, men and women are paid comparable salaries except at the rank of full professor where males continue to have an edge. This is probably due to differences among men and women in terms of time in rank.

While the data indicate important progress, there are still areas that need addressing. Most striking is the leakage of women between graduate school and academic positions at RI universities. Women are not applying for tenure-track jobs at RI universities at the same rate at which they are earning Ph.D.s. Furthermore, women were underrepresented among candidates for tenure relative to the number of women assistant professors. While at first glance this might suggest attrition of women during the probationary period, the cross-sectional data available to the committee did not permit addressing the question.

In this talk, we describe the data collection, analysis and synthesis from which the report drew its conclusions. In particular, we discuss the type of inferences that can be drawn from this study and also the type of inferences that the study design did not allow.

The study was sponsored by the National Science Foundation at the request of Congress.

Program Announcement

Title: **Calibration Alternatives to Poststratification for Doubly Classified Data**

Chair: Daniel Toth, OSMR, BLS

Speakers: Paul Biemer, RTI International & Brian Meekins, OSMR, BLS

Date/Time: October 29, 2009 (Thursday) / 11:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

Sponsor: Methodology Program, WSS

Abstract: Two papers are presented:

Paul Biemer:
The standard latent class model (LCM) makes three key assumptions: independent classification errors, homogeneity, and univocality. When these assumptions are satisfied, the indicators satisfy the condition of local independence; i.e., the joint conditional probability of the model indicators given the latent variable is factorable as the product of conditional marginal probabilities. When one or more of these assumptions do not hold, the indicators are said to be locally dependent and the estimates will be biased. This presentation will describe these assumptions in more detail.   It provides guidance gleaned from the literature and new research on approaches to dealing with local dependence in latent class analysis as well as the problems of unidentifiability, data sparseness, boundary values, and latent class "flippage." Along the way, key areas that are fruitful for new research will be highlighted.

Brian Meekins and Daniel Toth:
 Some recent research uses Markov Latent Class Models to assess measurement error (Tucker, Biemer, Meekins 2008), rotation group bias (Tran & Winters 2004), and other concepts of interest where panel data is available and the concept cannot be directly estimated. The authors examine, specifically, second-order Markov Latent Class models, a simplified version of the model Tucker et al.applied to measurement error on expenditure reports from the BLS Consumer Expenditure Survey. The authors note two assumptions of these models that have the potential to be frequently violated: 1) that measurement error is stationary across all time points in the model and that 2) respondents report no false positive expenditure reports. By using simulations they estimate the effect of violations of these assumptions. It is shown that violations in either assumption can lead to biased estimates, but that violating the assumption that no false positives are reported results in larger biases.   This work also calls into question the robustness of estimates attained through use of the EM algorithm, showing that any added "noise" results in a significantly skewed distribution for the estimates in question.

Program Announcement

Title: **Empirical likelihood based inference for quantiles and low income proportions in selection bias and missing data problems**

Speaker: Jing Qin, Ph.D.
Mathematical Statistician
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

Chair: David Judkins, Westat

Discussant: Paul Zador, Ph.D.
Senior Statistician
Westat

Date/Time: November 19, 2009 (Thursday) / 12:3 0- 2:00 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

Video Link: Westat, Rockville Offices. On a trial basis, Westat is opening up its conference center for watching the lecture remotely. Reservation required. Call Fran Winter, 301-294-4419.

Sponsor: Methodology Program, WSS

Abstract: In this talk, we study covariate-adjusted median treatment effects based on the empirical likelihood method. This method is useful for studying treatment effects on skewed variables in studies where treatment is not randomly assigned. A closely related problem is to estimate the low income proportion on a sample subject to nonresponse that is ignorable given measured covariates but is not completely random. The low income proportion is defined as the proportion of the population income falling below a given fraction $\alpha(0 < \alpha < 1)$ of the βth $(0 < \beta < 1)$ quantile of the income distribution. It is an important index in comparisons of poverty in countries around the world. The stability of a society depends on this index heavily. An accurate and reliable estimation of this index plays an important role for government's economic policies.

Program Announcement

Title: **Data, Information and Interpretation in Assessing the Sustainability of the Nation's Forests**

Speaker: Guy Robertson, Ph.D.
                 Sustainability Program Lead
                U.S. Forest Service

Chair: Mike Fleming

Date/time: December 2, 2009 (Wednesday) / 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Location: Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center. To be placed on the seminar list attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to wss_seminar@bls.gov (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

Sponsor: WSS Agriculture and Natural Resources Section

Abstract: The Montreal Process Criteria and Indicators for Forest Sustainability (MP C&I) provide the foundation for the 2010 National Report on Sustainable Forests, a major Forest Service reporting effort currently underway. The processes through which the MP C&I were derived and applied as well as the specific content of selected indicators will be the focus of this talk. The MP C&I include 64 indicators spanning ecological, economic and social dimensions associated with the sustainability of forest ecosystems, and they entail a host of technical and conceptual issues related to data gathering, reporting and interpretation. Moreover, the underlying concept of sustainability presents various challenges both when considered generally and within the context of specific indicators. These topics and others will be discussed within the general context of presenting the overall findings of the 2010 Report.

Point of contact e-mail: grobertson02@fs.fed.us

Announcement

110th Meeting of the Committee on National Statistics

The National Academies, Keck Center, 500 5th St, NW, Washington, DC

Open Session – Public Seminar and Reception – Keck 100

Friday, October 30, 2009

1:30 p.m.	Light refreshments for seminar guests (first floor prefunction space)
2:00 p.m.	Welcome —Bill Eddy, CNSTAT Chair and Carnegie Mellon University
2:05 p.m.	Developments at the OMB Statistical and Science Policy Office —Katherine K. Wallman, Chief Statistician Featured Topic: Challenges for Policy Uses of Economic Statistics Chair: John Haltiwanger, CNSTAT and University of Maryland
2:20 p.m.	Using Current Economic Statistics for Understanding the Business Cycle—All You Wanted to Know about the NBER "Recession Dating" Process —David Romer, Professor of Economics, University of California at Berkeley
2:40 p.m.	Using Current Economic Statistics for Economic Policy-Making —Rebecca Blank, Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, U.S. Department of Commerce
3:00 p.m.	Perspectives from the Producer Agencies —Keith Hall, Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics —Steven Landefeld, Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis —Thomas Mesenbourg, Deputy Director, U.S. Census Bureau
3:40 p.m.	Floor discussion
4:00 p.m.	Reception for seminar guests – 3rd floor Atrium
5:00 p.m.	Adjourn

Abstract: The federal statistical system produces key statistics that are widely used for monitoring the health of the nation's economy and formulating economic policy. Data users want statistics that are up to date, issued frequently (monthly, if possible), of high quality, and that can indicate turning points in the business cycle—a tall order, indeed. David Romer, a member of the National Bureau of Economic Research's "Business Cycle Dating Committee," will describe how that committee uses economic indicators to date peaks and troughs denoting expansions and recessions in the U.S. economy, and where the committee would most like to see data improvements made. Rebecca Blank will discuss how the administration uses economic statistics to determine economic policy and what improvements in quality, timeliness, and relevance would be most helpful for this purpose. Senior managers from the key economic statistics-producing agencies, including the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and the Census Bureau, will offer their perspectives. Key concerns to be addressed by all speakers are the tradeoffs between timeliness of release and quality (as reflected in the magnitude of revisions) and what new or modified indicators could help predict turning points, such as last year's financial collapse.

NOTE: All venues are handicapped-accessible. There is first-come, first-served parking on the first floor of the Keck parking garage, entrance on 6th St between E and F. Pedestrian entrance is on 5th St between E and F.

The nearest Metro station is Gallery Place (Red and Green/Yellow lines; arena exit at 7th and F Sts).

Please RSVP by October 28th to Bridget Edmonds at 202-334-3096 or cnstat@nas.edu.

Announcement

JPSM Short Courses

www.jpsm.org/shortcourses

October 29-30, 2009
An Introduction to Survey Management
Michael F. Weeks
Registration Deadline: October 15, 2009

November 19-20, 2009
Focus Groups from Start to Finish
David Morgan
Registration Deadline: November 5, 2009

December 17-18, 2009
Introduction to Survey Sampling
Colm O'Muircheartaigh and James M. Lepkowski
Registration Deadline: December 3, 2009

January 11-12, 2010
Web Survey Design
Mick P. Couper
Registration Deadline: December 28, 2009

February 1-2, 2010
Experimental Design for Surveys
Roger Tourangeau
Registration Deadline: January 18, 2010

February 23-24, 2010
Balancing Data Confidentiality and Data Quality
Lawrence Cox
Registration Deadline: February 9, 2010

March 3-4, 2010
Introduction to Survey Estimation
David Morganstein and Richard L. Valliant
Registration Deadline: February 17, 2010

March 29-30, 2010
Writing Questions for Surveys: A Workshop
Nora Cate Schaeffer
Registration Deadline: March 15, 2010

April 22-23, 2010
Cognitive Interviewing Methods: A Hands-On Approach
Gordon B. Willis
Registration Deadline: April 8, 2010

May 4-5, 2010
Sampling and Estimation for Establishment Surveys
Richard Valliant and Phillip Kott
Registration Deadline: April 20, 2010

May 26, 2010 (1-Day course)
Introduction to Item Response Theory (IRT) Modeling and Applications
Bryce B. Reeve
Registration Deadline: May 12, 2010

JPSM SHORT COURSES: www.jpsm.org/shortcourses

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

JPSM HOME PAGE: www.jpsm.org

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

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.

WESTAT
AN EMPLOYEE-OWNED RESEARCH CORPORATION

WESTAT is an employee-owned corporation headquartered in the suburbs of Washington, DC (Rockville, Maryland). We provide statistical consulting and survey research to the agencies of the U.S. Government and to a broad range of business and institutional clients. With a strong technical and managerial staff and a long record of quality research, Westat has become one of the leading survey research and statistical consulting organizations in the United States.

Our company was founded in 1961 by three statisticians. The current staff of more than 1,900 includes over 60 statisticians, as well as research, technical, and administrative staff. In addition, our professional staff is supported by data collection and processing personnel situated locally and in field sites around the country. The work atmosphere is open, progressive, and highly conducive to professional growth.

Our statistical efforts continue to expand in areas such as the environment, energy, health, education, and human resources. Westat statisticians are actively involved in teaching graduate-level courses in statistical methods and survey methodology in collaborative arrangements with area colleges and universities.

We are currently recruiting for the following statistical position:

Survey Sampling Statistician (Job Code WSS/DRM/90001)
A total of 3 or more years of relevant experience in sample design and selection, frames development, weighting, imputation, and variance estimation. Applicant must have a master's or doctoral degree in statistics and have excellent writing skills. Coursework in sample survey design is highly desirable.

Westat offers excellent growth opportunities and an outstanding benefits package including life and health insurance, an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP), a 401(k) plan, flexible spending accounts, professional development, and tuition assistance. For immediate consideration, please send your cover letter, indicating the Westat Job Code, and resume, by one of the following methods to:

Job Code is REQUIRED to apply.
Westat
Attn: Resume System
1650 Research Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20850-3195
Email: resume@westat.com / FAX: (888) 201-1452
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www.westat.com

ASSOCIATE TO FULL PROFESSOR OF STATISTICS OR BIOSTATISTICS

The Department of Statistics (DOS) and The Biostatistics Center (BSC) of The George Washington University are recruiting a tenured faculty position at the Associate Professor or Professor level. Basic Qualifications are a PhD in Statistics or Biostatistics, an established program of research, and a strong national and international reputation. Core responsibilities of the position will be to serve as Principal Investigator or co-Investigator on one or more BSC major projects; to teach 1 course per year in the DOS and to advise PhD students in Statistics and Biostatistics. The position will be tenured and funded 100% in Year 1. Salary support will decrease to 25% over a 5-year period. The remaining salary will be funded by sponsored projects (either at the BSC, or other external funding secured by the faculty member). Review of applications will begin May 1, 2008 and will continue until the position is filled. For additional information and the application procedure, please see http://www.gwu.edu/~stat/.

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

CLINICAL TRIAL BIOSTATISTICIANS

The Biostatistics Center of The George Washington University is currently recruiting biostatisticians to serve as Co-Investigator or Principal Investigator (Project Director) and to provide statistical direction of the design, conduct and analysis of studies and the conduct of methodologic research to meet the projects needs.

Basic Position Requirements: Doctorate in Biostatistics, Statistics or Epidemiology, or alternatively an M.D. or Ph.D. in Biological Science, Physical Science or Computer Science **with** a Masters in Biostatistics or Statistics, 1-5 years' experience with clinical trials, especially study design and statistical analysis of study results using SAS, excellent oral and written English communication skills, and supervisory experience. All interested applicants at the rank of Assistant Professor in Biostatistics or Statistics may apply for the **Samuel W. Greenhouse Biostatistics Research Enhancement Award**. For a period of 1 year, the award will provide 20% effort for methodological research, professional activities and travel. Review of applications is ongoing until the positions are filled. For complete information and application procedures, please visit our website at: www.bsc.gwu.edu. Only complete applications will be considered

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Christine Cox	301-458-4164	Robert Santos	202-261-5904

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Timothy Kennel 301-763-6795

WSS Program Chairs

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Mike Fleming 202-366-0183
Barry Nussbaum 202-566-1493

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Michael P. Cohen 202-232-4651

Short Courses
Sylvia Dohrmann 301-610-5119

Social and Demographic Statistics
Judy Droitcour 202-512-9145
Promod Chandbok 202-366-2158

Statistical Computing
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