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NEWSLETTER - MARCH 1978

- ✓ March 2 - Statistical Analysis of Life-Test Data in Evaluation Treatments for Addictive Behavior
- ✓ March 15-17 - NBER Workshop on Social Security Research Files
- ✓ March 20-21 - A Professional Writing Improvement Seminar
- ✓ March 22 - Federal Contracts for Statistical Surveys: Advantages and Pitfalls
- ✓ March 23 - Growth of Productivity in the United States: The Recent Slowdown and Prospects
- ✓ March 28 - Statistical Methodology Applied to Regulatory Action for the Detection of Mutagenic Agents
- ✓ March 29 - Conference on the Uses of Evaluation

PHYSICAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING PUBLIC HEALTH AND BIostatISTICS

Topic: Statistical Analysis of Life-Test Data in Evaluation of Treatments for Addictive Behavior

Speaker: Dr. Nancy R. Mann, Science Center, Rockwell International

Chair: Thomas Harford, National Institute for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism

The speaker will first briefly describe the idea behind generation of life-test data (e.g., times to failure) and the general approach to statistical analysis of such data. She will then demonstrate how one may use such an approach to analyze time-to-failure data from an individual who is addicted to a drug, for example, alcohol. Time-to-failure is defined as the period between detoxification and the first use of the drug that leads to a subsequent detoxification. From the analysis of the failure data, inferences can be drawn concerning 1) what constitutes a treatment effect for a given subject, 2) if and when an individual might

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have experienced a treatment effect in the past, 3) whether or not willpower alone is effective in maintaining his or her abstinence, and so forth. One can also characterize groups of addicts in terms of their failure patterns. The methodology offers promise for evaluation of diverse treatment modalities and identification of therapies that have been successful in producing treatment effects.

When and Where: Thursday, March 2, 1978, 12:30-2:00 p.m., IRS Auditorium, 7th floor, IRS Building. (Please use entrance at 1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W., and show this notice to the building guard.)

NBER WORKSHOP ON SOCIAL SECURITY RESEARCH FILES

The National Bureau of Economic Research is sponsoring a Workshop on Policy Analysis with Social Security Research Files, to be held at the Hospitality House Motor Inn in Williamsburg, Virginia, on March 15-17, 1978.

The conference features both invited and contributed papers by government and nongovernment researchers doing policy analysis on Social Security issues. There are scheduled sessions on:

1. general problems of access, availability, and confidentiality of Social Security research files;
2. uses of the Longitudinal Retirement History Survey;
3. documentation and analysis of data linkages among Census Bureau, Internal Revenue Service, and Social Security Administration information;
4. research based on Social Security disability data; and
5. analyses with the Continuous Work History Sample.

Persons interested in attending may obtain full information by writing to: Ms. Wendy Alvey, Program Coordinator, Social Security Administration, Universal North Building, Room 320-J, 1875 Connecticut Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

A PROFESSIONAL WRITING IMPROVEMENT SEMINAR

The Washington Chapter of the Society of Logistics Engineers presents a Professional Improvement Seminar with the theme: Improved Writing and Editing in Business, Industry, and Government. The seminar will be held at the Eisenhower Auditorium of the National War College, Ft. McNair, Washington, D.C. on March 20-21, 1978. The cost is \$80 to SOLE/STC members and \$90 to non-members. For information contact: STC/SOLE Washington Spring Seminar, c/o Ms. Shirley G. Carter, 2020 Brooks Drive, Suitland, MD 20025 or telephone (301) 382-4058.

SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

Topic: Federal Contracts for Statistical Surveys: Advantages and Pitfalls

Speakers: Donald King, King Research
Thomas Staples, Social Security Administration

Chair: George Hall, Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards

Discussant: Joseph Waksberg, Westat, Inc.

The need to investigate how Federal contracts affect statistical surveys will be discussed at this meeting. The point of view of both contractors and Federal agencies issuing contracts will be covered.

When and Where: Wednesday, March 22, 1978, 12:30-2:00 p.m., IRS Auditorium, 7th floor, IRS Building. (Please use entrance at 1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W., and show this notice to the building guard.)

ECONOMICS

Topic: Growth of Productivity in the United States: The Recent Slowdown and Prospects

Speakers: Peter K. Clark, Senior Staff Economist, Council of Economic Advisors
John W. Kendrick, Professor of Economics, George Washington University
J. Randolph Norsworthy, Chief, Division of Productivity Research,
Bureau of Labor Statistics

Chair: Jerome A. Mark, Assistant Commissioner for Productivity and Technology, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Both labor and capital growth in the United States have slowed considerably since the mid-1960's. The panel will discuss the possible sources of this slowdown: slower capital formation, changing labor force composition, reduced investment in research and development, increased expenditures for pollution abatement and safety. Productivity growth prospects for the near future also will be appraised.

When and Where: Thursday, March 23, 1978, 12:30-2:00 p.m., New Department of Labor Building, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Conference Room N-4437 A,B,C,D (fourth floor, north corridor)

(Metro Red Line, Judiciary Square stop, 4th and D Street exit, one block southeast)

METHODOLOGY
PUBLIC HEALTH AND BIostatISTICS

Topic: Statistical Methodology Applied to Regulatory Action for the
Detection of Mutagenic Agents

Speaker: Dr. Theodore W. Horner, President, Theodore W. Horner and Associates

Chair: James Winbush, Acting Director, Division of Mathematics, Bureau of
Foods, FDA

Discussant: Dr. W. Gary Flamm, Associate Director for Regulatory Evaluation,
Division of Toxicology, Bureau of Foods, FDA

Dr. Horner's presentation will illustrate an application of statistical methodology to a biological problem so as to provide a basis for possible regulatory action. It will demonstrate the transformation of a set of complex relationships into a set of simplified relationships which, though approximate, have practical applications for the biologist in the selection of sample size and other experimental parameters and in the estimation and testing of hypotheses concerning biological parameters. The biological problem concerns the detection of mutagenic agents through the reciprocal translocation test. The methodology will be illustrated by the use of actual data.

When and Where: Tuesday, March 28, 1978, 12:30-2:00 p.m., Basement
Conference Room in the Tower Building, 1401 K Street, N.W.

INTERPROGRAMMATIC

Topic: A One-Day Conference of "The Uses of Evaluation"

Chair: Paul I. Ahmed, U.S. Office of International Health, DHEW

When and Where: Wednesday, March 29, 1978, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.,
Auditorium A, Martin Luther King Library, 10th and G
Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Morning Session: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Speakers

1. Dr. Laurie Oliver, Army Research Institute
"Utilization of Research in the Military"
2. Dr. Dorothy Lally, Human Development Resources
"Evaluation of International Social Welfare Programs"

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3. Mr. Phillip Rutledge, National Institute of Public Management
"The Impact of Manpower Program Evaluation"
4. Mr. Paul Ahmed, Office of International Health
"Evaluating the Impact of Closing State Mental Hospitals"
5. Dr. Mancus Olson, University of Maryland
"Criteria for Evaluation of Research and Its Impact"

Discussants

Dr. William R. Tash, Horizon Institute
Dr. Helen Nowlis, ADAMHA
Dr. George Coelho, National Institutes of Mental Health

Afternoon Session: 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Speakers

1. Mr. Max Hultin, World Bank
"Educational Evaluation in Developing Countries"
2. Ms. Lois-ellin Datta, National Institute of Education
"Increasing the Impact of Educational Evaluation"
3. Dr. Eliza Kolker, George Mason University
Dr. Joel Millonzi, Lagudia Community College, New York
"Participant Observer Method in Evaluating Non-Traditional Education"
4. Ms. Genevieve Knezo, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress
"Uses of Social Indicators by Congress"
5. Mr. Sidney Brownstein, Center for Management and Policy Research
Dr. Joseph Firestone, Center for Management and Policy Research
"Subjective Aspects of Evaluation and its Impact"

Discussants

Dr. Joseph Scimecca, George Mason University
Mr. Jack Triplett, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Mr. Joe Quinn, Bureau of the Census

For further details, please contact the chairman of the Arrangements and Planning Committee of the conference: Dr. Eliza Kolker, (703) 323-2338.

EMPLOYMENT COLUMN

Notes to job applicants and to employers with job openings:

1. Deadline for inserting notices is the 12th of the month preceding the publication month
2. Reruns of notices may be made on a space-available basis
3. Send all notices and requests to the Employment Committee Chairman:

Evelyn R. Kay
National Center for Education Statistics
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202 (202) 245-8340

JOB OPENINGS

Quality Assurance Statistician
GS-301-14
Civil Service Commission

As Chief, Quality Assurance Section, incumbent is responsible for development, implementation, and management of the quality assurance of the government-wide workforce information systems of the Civil Service Commission. Must have a strong computer background as well as a solid statistical foundation. Send SF 171 to A. Ray Demarest, Chief, Federal Personnel Systems Management Division, Bureau of Personnel Management Information Systems, US Civil Service Commission, 1900 E Street, NW, Washington DC 20415.

Mathematical Statistician
GS-1529-9
Civil Service Commission

Serves in an office whose primary function is consultation and support to nonstatistical researchers. Needs an understanding of inferential methods, operations research techniques, and statistical packages. Send SF 171 to Dr. D.H. McElhone, Chief, Office of Analytic Methods, Bureau of Personnel Management Information Systems, US Civil Service Commission, Washington, DC 20415.

Statistician, GS-1530
Part time
Civil Service Commission

The Civil Service Commission has several openings for part-time (not to exceed 30 hours a week) statisticians. Send resume to Dr. P.A.D. Schneider, Associate Director for Workforce Information, Bureau of Personnel Management Information Systems, U.S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, DC 20415.

Statistician, (economics)
GS-1530-5/7--5 vacancies
Internal Revenue Service

Assists in planning and developing project specifications including computer validity checks and specifications for statistical tables which shed light on the operation of the income tax laws; participates in reviewing statistical data; develops written materials for inclusion in annual Statistics of Income. Should have analytical skills and background that includes economics and knowledge of data processing. Send SF 171 to Internal Revenue Service, Washington, DC 20224. Attention: Statistics Division, Gayle Smith.

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Employment Column -- Continued

Statistician (Health)
GS-1530-12.
Public Health Service
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Plans and develops mathematical resource allocations modules in multi-mode design. Advises executive staff and professional health specialists concerning the application and value of a statistical and computerized program approach to the solution of problems, etc. Independently develops studies to analyze, interpret, and evaluate effectiveness of programs. Designs statistical resources to describe medically the magnitude of health problems. Plans and directs the development, completion, and reporting of health statistics by medical facilities. Contact Christine M. Noyce, Recruiting Specialist, Alaska Area Native Health Service, Box 7-741, Anchorage, Alaska 99510.

Mathematical Statisticians
GS-1529-7/9,11,12 EOE
US Department of Agriculture

Three Civil Service positions for applicants with BS, MS, or PhD degrees or equivalent training/experience in mathematical statistics. Positions involve consulting on experimental design and analysis, and sampling problems. Send for SF 171 and transcripts by April 17, 1978, to Anne Doyon, Room 1717-S, Agricultural Marketing Service, US Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

JOB APPLICANTS

Listed below are brief descriptions of the qualifications of individuals seeking employment. Anyone interested in interviewing these applicants should notify Mrs. Kay of their interest by CODE NUMBER. The request should be by mail and should include the employer's name, organization, and telephone number. The applicant will be notified of the employer's interest and initiation of any further contact will be left to the applicant. All contacts are confidential.

CODE NUMBER: 3-8-78 Rerun of 10-2-77

Education: BA (Math); MA (Statistics); PhD candidate in statistics

Fields of competence: Discrete multivariate analysis, continuous multivariate analysis, sampling theory, nonparametric statistics

Experience: 3-year graduate assistantship teaching mathematics and statistics courses; summer intern (1976) GS-9

Salary level: GS-9 or equivalent

Type of employment: Government or private industry in Washington metro area

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Employment Column -- Continued

CODE NUMBER: 3-9-78

Education: PhD (Human factors and statistics)

Fields of competence: Applied statistics, design of experiments, multivariate statistics, nonparametric statistics, sampling and survey techniques, data analysis and statistical packages, psychometry, factor analysis, mathematical modeling, and operations research

Experience: 5 years consulting and 3 years teaching industrial engineering, transportation safety, and mining problems; taught operations research, statistics in traffic engineering.

Salary level desired: \$30,000 in Washington metro area.