

President: Thomas B. Jabine
V.P. & Pres.-elect: George E. Hall
Past President: Barbara A. Bailar
Treas.: Nancy B. Dearman
Representatives-at-large:
Harry M. Rosenblatt
Anitra Rustemeyer
Richard C. Tæuber
District 3 Rep. to A.S.A. Board:
Beatrice N. Vaccara (1976-1978)
Joan R. Rosenblatt (1979-1981)
Methodology Section:
Chair: Peter A. Bounpane
Program: Lillian H. Madow

Washington Statistical Society

CHAPTER • AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION



Program Committees:
Agriculture: Barry Ford
Computer Tech.: Ruth Meilen
Economics: Gregory Schoepfle
Phys. Sci. & Eng.: Seymour Selig
Public Health & Biost.: Earl S. Pollack
Soc. & Dem.: Wray Smith
Interprogrammatic: Paul Ahmed
Arrangements Comm.: J. Finley Carpenter
Employment Comm.: Evelyn R. Kay
Membership Comm.: Milton D. Lieberman
Publicity Comm.: Dharendra Ghosh

NEWSLETTER—March 1979 (Mailed March/2)

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| March 13: | The EIA at a Year and a Half |
| March 16: | Statistics in Scientific Research and Decision Making |
| March 21: | Minorities in Statistics: Progress Report of the ASA Committees |
| March 22: | Federal Requirements for 1980 Census Data |
| April 4: | Sampling Methodology and Preliminary Results—National Health Care Expenditure Survey |
| April 11: | Lunch (at the Foreign Service Club)
The U. N. Statistical Office—What It Is—What It Is Becoming |

METHODOLOGY

- Topic:** The EIA at a Year and a Half
- Speaker:** Lincoln E. Moses, Administrator, Energy Information Administration (EIA), Department of Energy
- Chair:** Edwin D. Goldfield, Executive Director, Committee on National Statistics, National Academy of Sciences

These earliest quarters have been occupied with several activities; the list includes: improving documentation and access for models; developing the Validation program, approaching the closely related problems of assessing forecast uncertainties and "model validation"; addressing organizational and personnel needs.

The talk will look at these matters.

- When:** Tuesday, March 13, 12:30-2:00 p.m.
Where: Martin Luther King Library, Meeting Room A-5, 901 G Street, N.W.
Metro Center stop, 11th Street exit.

METHODOLOGY

(Co-sponsor: Statistics Department, George Washington University)

- Topic:** Statistics in Scientific Research and Decision Making
- Speaker:** C. R. Rao, Visiting Professor of Statistics, The Ohio State University
- Chair:** Morris H. Hansen, Senior Vice President, WESTAT, Inc.

Is statistics a separate discipline? What role does it play in scientific research? Examples will be given illustrating the use of statistics and the need for proper interface between statistics and other disciplines in research work.

How useful is statistics in decision making? What are the limitations of the statistical method in short and long range forecasting? How does one examine whether given data are genuine? These questions will be discussed with reference to some practical problems.

When: Friday, March 16, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Where: George Washington University Auditorium, Room 103, Building C, G Street, between 22nd and 23rd
Visitors parking structure on I Street at 23rd.

SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

Topic: Minorities in Statistics: Progress Report of the ASA Committee

Speakers: Leroy Bailey, Bureau of the Census, will present "Careers in Statistics—A Brochure;"

Brucy Gray, Department of Agriculture, will present "Visitors' Program;"

Kenneth Harris, National Center for Health Statistics, will present "Directory of Minority Statisticians;"

Maria E. Gonzalez, Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards, will present, "Local Chapter Participation;"

Chair: Camilla Brooks, Bureau of the Census

This session will discuss the activities of the Committee on Minorities in Statistics of the American Statistical Association. We would like to increase the awareness of the local chapter members of these activities. After the presentations we will have an open discussion with the attendees followed by an informal discussion during which coffee will be served.

When: Wednesday, March 21, 1979, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Where: Martin Luther King Library, 9th and G Streets, N.W., Room A5
COFFEE WILL BE SERVED AT 2 P.M.

INTERPROGRAMMATIC

Topic: Federal Requirements for 1980 Census Data

Speakers: Marshall Turner, Bureau of the Census

Kathy Wollman, Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards

Cynthia Taeuber, Bureau of the Census

Ray Smith, Office of Secretary, HEW

Chair: Paul Ahmed, Office of International Health, HEW

When: Thursday, March 22, 1979, 12:30-2:30 p.m.

Where: IRS Auditorium, 1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND BIostatISTICS

Topic: Sampling Methodology and Preliminary Results—National Health Care Expenditure Survey

Speakers: Dr. Daniel Horvitz, Vice President, Statistical Sciences Group, Research Triangle Institute

Dr. Gail Wilensky, Senior Economist, National Center for Health Services Research

Chair: Dr. Daniel Walden, Senior Research Manager, National Center for Health Services Research

M-E-E-T-I-N-G

- TOPIC : The Probability of Fatigue Failure or "No Highway in the Sky" Revisited
- SPONSORED BY : Physical and Engineering Sciences Section,
Washington Statistical Society and Department of Operations Research, George Washington University
- SPEAKER : Sam C. Saunders
Professor of Pure and Applied Mathematics
Washington State University
- CHAIR : Donald Gross
Chairman, Department of Operations Research
George Washington University

This talk will present a synoptic view of the phoenix-like problem of fatigue and its successive reincarnations, being an historical-comical-tragical account of a scientific problem, in which engineers refused to utilize any statistical considerations and statisticians refused to consider any engineering utilizations.

Metallic fatigue came to the attention of the modern world through the Comet disasters of the early 1950's. The consequent redesign with scheduled inspection of all aircraft structures and the success of such measures will be discussed. The current method of analysis, using a probabilistic shock model and renewal theory (which is a vindication of an early engineering rule for fatigue life) will be presented. A brief discussion of flight safety of various airlines will be given. The topic will be of interest only to persons whose lives depend, from time to time, on the strength and endurance of metal, e.g., skiers, commuters or travellers by vehicle, especially on fleets of aging aircraft.

TIME : Thursday, March 1, 1979
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

PLACE : George Washington University
Marvin Center
Room 405 (4th Floor)
800 - 21st Street, N.W. (corner of H Street)

Convenient to GWU - Foggy Bottom Metro station. Pay parking at Marvin Center (H St.) and at 22nd and I St. garage.

C. R. RAO TO SPEAK AT MARYLAND

Professor C. R. Rao of the Indian Statistical Institute will present two lectures at the University of Maryland, College Park, under the sponsorship of the Mathematical Statistics Program. The titles, times, and locations of Professor Rao's lectures are:

- "Characterizations of Probability Distributions"
Thursday, March 8, 3:30 p.m., Room YB407
- "Separation Theorems, Matrix Approximations and Their Applications in Statistical Problems"
Friday, March 9, 3:00 p.m., Room Y3205

The lectures will be held in the Mathematics Building. For further information, call 454-4883.

WSS CANDIDATES

The following persons have agreed to run for offices in the Washington Statistical Society for the 1979-80 year:

For Vice President and President-Elect

Marvin Schneiderman, National Cancer Institute
Joseph Steinberg, Survey Design, Inc.

For Representatives-at-Large (three to be elected)

Terry Ireland, George Washington University
Don King, King Research, Inc.
Irene Montie, Energy Information Administration
Seymour Selig, Office of Naval Research
Miron Straf, Committee on National Statistics
Anthony Turner, Bureau of the Census

For Secretary

Rich Allen, U. S. Department of Agriculture

For Treasurer

Nancy Dearman, National Center for Education Statistics

For Methodology Section Program Chair

David Morganstein
Senior Statistician, WESTAT, Rockville, Md.

Rolf Wulfsberg

Assistant administrator for Research and Analysis
National Center for Education Statistics (NCES)
U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW)

Candidates other than these may be nominated by petition of at least 2 percent of the members of WSS, provided that the petition is received by the Nominations and Elections Committee at least two weeks before balloting. This means that any such petition should be sent to Barbara Bailar, Room 3555-3, Bureau of the Census, Washington, D. C. 20233, before March 15.

AFTER HOURS M.A. PROGRAM AT MARYLAND

Beginning in the fall semester, 1979, the University of Maryland will offer late afternoon and early evening courses leading to the M.A. degree in Mathematical Statistics. Students combine courses in theoretical and applied statistics, probability, mathematics, and applications in a flexible degree program. Both thesis and non-thesis options are available. After hours M.A. programs are also available in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science with statistics as a supporting area.

For information about admission, degree requirements and course scheduling, write to:

Director, Mathematical Statistics Program
Department of Mathematics
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland 20743

or call (301) 454-4883

The National Health Care Expenditure Survey, currently being carried out, is based on a large nationwide sample of the general population. Details of the sampling design and some of the preliminary substantive findings of the survey will be presented.

When: Wednesday, April 4, 12:30-2:00 p.m.
Where: HEW North Building, Room 5051, 4th and Independence Avenue, S.W.

LUNCH MEETING
(Reservations required)

Topic: The United Nations Statistical Office—What It Is—What It Is Becoming
Speaker: Dr. Simon A. Goldberg, Director, United Nations Statistical Office, The United Nations, New York, New York
Chair: Dr. Joseph W. Duncan, Director, Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards, U. S. Department of Commerce

The biannual meeting of The United Nations Statistical Commission ended March 2, and Dr. Goldberg who is Director of the United Nations Statistical Office will describe some of the new directions which have been evolving in recent years.

When: Wednesday, April 11, 1979
Cash Bar 11:30 a.m.
Buffet Lunch 12:00 Noon

Where: The Foreign Service Club, 2101 E Street, N.W.
(About 4 blocks from the Foggy Bottom stop on the Metro Blue Line)

Reservations are \$5.25 per person, and must be made by April 9. Because space is limited, reservations will be accepted in order of receipt.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Telephone Number _____

No. of persons: _____

Send \$5.25 per person to: Jim Carpenter
Route 1, Box 410
Jefferson, Maryland 21755

(Check payable to Washington Statistical Society)

CONGRATULATIONS

Robert D. Tortora, of the Economic Statistics and Cooperatives Service, U.S.D.A., co-authored a paper which received the highest audience evaluation rating for papers sponsored by the Section on Statistical Education at the 1978 Annual Meeting of ASA. Title of the paper was "A study of measurement errors suitable for a classroom example."

EMPLOYMENT COLUMN

Deadline for inserting notices is the 12th of the month preceding the publication date.

Send notices and requests to:
Evelyn R. Kay, National Center for Education Statistics
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D. C. 20202
(202) 245-8340

Job Openings

Mathematical Statistician
GS-1529-11/12
Interstate Commerce Commission

Position is open for highly qualified statistician. Participation in all phases of statistical studies will be expected, particularly sample design, data analysis, and study evaluation. Efforts will be in a consulting format requiring good communication skills. Some adjustment in GS grade may be possible depending on background and experience of candidate.

Advancement is open to GS-13 level. PhD in statistics is preferred. Contact Dr. Otis Lancaster or Dr. Raymond Sansing, Section of Mathematics and Statistics, Office of Policy and Analysis, Interstate Commerce Commission, Washington, DC 20423, or 202/275-7400.

Computer Systems Analyst
GS-334-15
National Center for Education
Statistics

Serves as Chief, Data Systems Branch, responsible for supervising, directing, and providing computer programming services for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES). In this capacity, sets, monitors, and implements standards, general guidelines, and over all technical aspects of Branch's work, including data base design and maintenance, operation and maintenance of hardware, adequacy of programming and systems support for mathe-

matical analyses, and efficiency of computer-related dissemination activities. Acts as liaison between NCES and the education research community, introducing the Center's computer-related dissemination services and providing general data-processing consultation. Supervises branch's staff consisting of professional statisticians, computer systems analysts, computer programmers, and computer specialists.

Must have a general knowledge of statistical applications in education, social sciences, or other research areas that include mathematical statistics; skill in dealing in administrative and informational settings with both technicians and laymen; and demonstrated administrative and managerial experience.

Send SF 171 (refer to announcement no. 79-41) to Personnel Officer, Room 345 HHH Building, 200 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D. C. 20202.

Statisticians
GS-1530-9/12
Environmental Protection Agency

Seeking statisticians as applicants for two positions at the GS 9-12 levels. Ideally, potential candidates should have graduate education in statistical theory and experience in applied statistical investigations. As members of a group of professional statisticians responsible for quantitative matters throughout the OWPS, the individuals will be required to partici-

pate actively with and to make substantial contributions to multidisciplinary project teams. While functioning independently as statisticians, the persons must communicate with and consider the perspectives of other team members together with operating and policy objectives and constraints. On occasion, this participation will require writing court briefs on statistical matters and other legal records in consultation with the EPA Office of General Counsel. There are opportunities (and responsibilities) to apply numerous statistical methods (e.g., sampling, bioassay, risk assessment, regression, goodness-of-fit, quality control, and exploratory data analysis) to a variety of quantitative problems arising through the development of national standards for water pollution control. The ability to identify, formulate, and resolve statistical issues is critical. Interested parties, especially women and minorities, are urged to forward resumes or SF-171s to Dr. Maurice E. B. Owens (WH-586), Office of Analysis and Evaluation, Office of Water Planning and Standards, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D. C. 20460.

Job Applicant

Listed below is a brief description of the qualifications of an applicant seeking employment. Employers interested in interviewing this applicant 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 will be confidential.

CODE NUMBER 3-6-79

Education: PhD (Michigan State)

Fields of competence: Applied statistics, including design of experiments, sample surveys, medical research, agricultural research. Computer applications.

Experience: 19 years in university research and teaching; 7 years in government biostatistics.

Salary desired: Open. Will consider full-time or part-time position.

Location: Private industry or university in Washington/Baltimore metropolitan areas.

CODE NUMBER 3-7-79

Education: BS Mathematics, MA Statistics

Fields of competence: Factorial designs, linear estimation, sampling theory, mathematical statistics.

Experience: Private industry as data analyst.

Salary: \$12-14,000

Type of employment: Private industry in Washington Metropolitan Area.

* * * * *

For emergency inquiries regarding last minute changes in the schedule of meetings call:

Thomas Jabine, 673-5727
Nancy Dearman, 245-8053
Anitra Rustemeyer, 763-7331



AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

806 Fifteenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20005

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
FALLS CHURCH, VA.
PERMIT NO. 188