

# Washington Statistical Society

W.S.S. Newsletter—September 1980

## Calendar

### W.S.S.-Sponsored:

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**Topic:** World Energy Projections and Some Implications for Energy Policy  
**Speaker:** David Hirshfeld, President, The Institute of Management Sciences  
**Date and Time:** Tuesday, Sept. 16, 1980, 12:00 - 2:00 (Cash bar, 12:00; lunch, 12:30)  
**Location:** Blackie's House of Beef, 22nd & M Streets, NW (Metro Blue/Orange Line, Foggy Bottom /GWU)

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**Topic:** The National Medical Care Utilization and Expenditure Survey (NMCUES) - Design, Problems and Potential  
**Speakers:** Daniel Horvitz, Research Triangle Institute (RTI)  
Allen Dobson, Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA)  
Robert Fuchsberg, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)  
**Date and Time:** Wednesday, September 24, 1980, 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.  
**Location:** Room 10-53, Federal Center Building, Prince George's Plaza, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Maryland 20782.

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**Topic:** Scientific Freedom and Human Rights: The Argentina Controversy  
**Panel:** Edgar M. Bisgyer, Managing Director, American Statistical Association;  
Joseph W. Duncan, Director, Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards, U.S. Department of Commerce; Thomas B. Jabine, Statistical Policy Expert, Energy Information Administration, U.S. Department of Energy; Mervin Muller, Director, Computing Activities Department, The World Bank; Eric Stover, Director, Clearinghouse on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights, American Association for the Advancement of Science  
**Date and Time:** Monday, October 20, 1980, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Department of Labor Auditorium.

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**Sponsor:** Internal Revenue Service, Statistics Division  
**Topic:** Supplemental Report, Statistics of Income—1972-74, Domestic International Sales Corporation Returns (Form 1120-DISC Seminar)  
**Date and Time:** Friday, September 12, 1980, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** 1201 E Street, NW, Room 806B, Washington, D.C.

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**Sponsor:** The Washington Alliance of Statisticians  
**Topic:** The Art of Consulting  
**Speaker:** Donald W. King, King Research  
**Date and Time:** Tuesday, September 23, 1980, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Department of Labor Conference Room N54-37 A-B-C; 5th Floor, 3rd Street & Constitution Avenue, N.W. (Metro Red Line, Judiciary Square Stop)

## DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE MEETINGS

### Agriculture and Natural Resources

**Topic:** World Energy Projections and Some Implications for Energy Policy  
**Speaker:** David Hirshfeld, President, The Institute of Management Sciences  
**Chair:** Douglas A. Samuelson, U.S. Department of Energy  
**Date and Time:** Tuesday, September 16, 1980, 12:00 - 2:00 (Cash bar, 12:00; Lunch, 12:30)  
**Location:** Blackie's House of Beef, 22nd & M Streets, NW (Metro Blue/Orange Line, GWU/Foggy Bottom)  
**Abstract:** This paper will describe a continuing study of long-term world energy supply patterns, emphasizing the interactions between OPEC's price policies and production limits, indigenous energy supplies, world energy demand, and long-term energy price trends. The methodology links data analysis, process engineering, management science, and policy implications. The study and its implications are discussed as an illustration of the contribution quantitative methods can and should make to informing the public debate on critical national priorities.  
**Reservations:** Reservations are \$6.75/person and must be received by September 14, 1980. Because space is limited, reservations will be accepted in order of receipt.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Send \$6.75/person to:**  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Jim Carpenter (W.S.S.)**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Rt. 1, Box 410**  
\_\_\_\_\_ **Jefferson, MD 21755**

**No. of Persons:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Checks payable to:** Washington Statistical Society  
**For inquiries, call:** Jim Carpenter  
**Work Tel.: 523-1194**

### Public Health and Biostatistics

**Topic:** The National Medical Care Utilization and Expenditure Survey (NMCUES) - Design, Problems and Potential  
**Speakers:** Daniel Horvitz, Research Triangle Institute (RTI); Allen Dobson, Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA); and Robert Fuchsberg, National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)  
**Chair:** Dorothy Rice, National Center for Health Statistics  
**Abstract:** The NMCUES is a panel survey of 6000 households in a national probability sample and 1000 households from the Medicaid rolls in each of four large states. The Survey is collecting information on use and expenditure for medical care from household respondents using both personal and telephone interviews, and from Medicare and Medicaid Administrative records.

Dr. Daniel Horvitz, Project Director for the prime contractor, Research Triangle Institute of North Carolina, will discuss the problems in survey design, data collection, and data processing, and the unique solutions developed to solve them. Robert R. Fuchsberg, Co-Project Officer at the NCHS, will discuss the development of the Survey and plans for uses and dissemination of the data at NCHS. Al Dobson, Co-Project Officer at HCFA, will discuss the development of the Survey and plans for uses and dissemination of the data at HCFA.

### Interprogrammatic

**Topic:** Scientific Freedom and Human Rights: The Argentina Controversy  
**Panel:** Edgar M. Bisgyer, Managing Director, American Statistical Association; Joseph W. Duncan, Director, Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards, U.S. Department of Commerce; Thomas B. Jabine, Statistical Policy Expert, Energy Information Administration, U.S. Department of Energy; Mervin Muller, Director, Computing Activities Department, The World Bank; and Eric Stover, Director, Clearinghouse on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights, American Association for the Advancement of Science  
**Chair:** Fred C. Leone, Executive Director, American Statistical Association  
**Abstract:** As reported in the June, 1980, issue of *Amstat News*, the A.S.A. Board of Directors has approved a resolution asking A.S.A.'s Ad Hoc Committee on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights to work with other professional societies in developing ways for A.S.A. members to express their concern over violations of colleagues' human rights in Argentina. In particular, the Committee is focusing on the disappearance, allegedly by clandestine government action, of Carlos Noriega, the head of the Argentine statistics and census bureau. Because of the Noriega case, a number of members of the International Statistical Institute (I.S.I.) have proposed a boycott of the 1981 I.S.I. meetings in Argentina. The panelists (all of whom, except Mr. Stover, are members of both A.S.A. and I.S.I.) represent a range of views on how and whether individual statisticians and/or A.S.A. should respond to this situation.

**Sponsor: Internal Revenue Service**

- Topic:** Supplemental Report, Statistics of Income—1972-74, Domestic International Sales Corporation Returns (Form 1120-DISC Seminar)
- Abstract:** The Internal Revenue Service, Statistics Division, is sponsoring a seminar on the *Supplemental Report, Statistics of Income—1972-74, Domestic International Sales Corporation Returns*. Jeff Hartzok of the Statistics Division will present an analysis of this first comprehensive statistical report on the Domestic International Sales Corporation (DISC) provisions. Included in this presentation will also be a discussion of more recent statistical data from DISC returns. Interested persons are invited to attend, whether or not they are WSS or ASA members. Advance copies of this supplemental report can be obtained by contacting Jeff Hartzok on 376-0177.

**Sponsor: Washington Alliance of Statisticians**

- Topic:** The Art of Consulting
- Speaker:** Donald W. King, King Research
- Chair:** Richard C. Taeuber, Advanced Technology
- Abstract:** This session will be a free form interactive discussion of the Art of Consulting led by Don King. Don is president of King Research, a consulting and contract research firm. His previous activities include periods of independent/individual consulting. Additionally, he was a co-founder and long-term executive vice president of WESTAT. This interactive session will discuss all aspects of the statistician as a consultant, whether as an individual on a free-lance basis; as *the* statistician within a small company, division, or agency; or as a member of a small group offering statistical services independently or within a Company or an Agency. All these cases face many similar problems such as finding clients, defining and understanding their problems, pricing the project, and delivering a quality product to satisfy the customer possibly leading to more business.

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**WASHINGTON ALLIANCE OF STATISTICIANS**

The Washington Alliance of Statisticians was formed in the Washington, D.C., area last year to serve the needs of statisticians which are partially social and partially career-oriented. The focus of the technical portion of Alliance meetings is on career development aspects other than straight statistical theory and methods topics. Although these concerns originally arose at a Washington meeting of the Caucus for Women in Statistics, it is felt that they especially impact on all professionally junior statisticians, both male and female. All statisticians from the local area are invited to join the Alliance, whether or not they are WSS or ASA members. The Alliance will activate a separate mailing list for those who are not WSS members—in addition to announcing its activities in the WSS Newsletter.

Issues which have been raised in the discussions held during the recent program year include the problems of finding or changing jobs, how to get challenging work assignments and the dual problem of how to manage and develop professionally junior statisticians, how to consult as an individual on a free-lance basis or as the statistician within an Agency or a Company, how to sell yourself as a statistician, how to get WSS to make its meetings more accessible to suburban and/or time-pressured junior statisticians, and how to broaden the set of peers/statisticians that one has a sense of knowing. An area-wide social activity for statisticians and spouses is being considered for the coming WSS program year.

The first '80-'81 meeting of the Alliance will be a daytime meeting, as announced in this Newsletter. Other meetings this year will alternate between daytime and early evening. For further information, please contact any member of the Alliance Board of Directors: Ruth Foster, 472-5040; Marcia Glauberman, 632-9797; Lee-Ann Hayek, 357-1527; Mary Mulry, 763-5490; Nancy Schroeder, 827-6798; or Dick Taeuber, 442-4224.

**The Washington Operations Research/Management Science Council  
Presents the following symposium:**

A Symposium on "Professional and Ethical Standards in OR/MS Today: Consultants, Constructors, and the Quality of Analysis for Government" will be presented on Monday, October 6, at the Marvin Center, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. The program will include a morning plenary session and afternoon parallel technical sessions in the areas of defense, energy, environment, health and social services. For further information, contact Nancy Walczak, (202) 833-2200.

## PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1979-80

**Program Activities** — The Washington Statistical Society sponsored a number of different types of program sessions during the past year. These ranged from co-sponsorship of a Census Users' Conference which attracted some 300 people to a few sessions with very small audiences, which allowed for a maximum of questions and interaction between speakers and the audience. A total of 35 program sessions were held during the past year, including five luncheon sessions. Several events were co-sponsored with the George Washington University Department of Statistics and Department of Operations Research. The Economics Committee of WSS is now working very closely with the Society of Government Economists which resulted in cosponsorship of three events during the year including two luncheons.

The event with the largest participation, other than the Census Users' Conference, was a Questionnaire Design Panel presentation chaired by Donnie Rothwell. This session attracted some 150 people during the all-afternoon presentation.

One innovative new program was billed as a "Special Three-Hour Event," featuring a luncheon presentation by Congressman Garcia of New York followed by a panel discussion on Immigration Research on Health Status of Hispanics. This probably was the first time that a United States Congressman had addressed one of our sessions. This presentation attracted quite a number of participants outside the statistics community.

Another unique type of program for WSS was a panel presentation on the official trip to China, which was made by a delegation of government statisticians and economists. The participants included Dr. Courtenay Slater, Janet Norwood, Chuck Waite, and Shirley Kallek. This panel discussion was set up as a late afternoon discussion and social hour, instead of our normal 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. format.

Another luncheon session during the year was the presentation by Dr. Murray Feshbach on Soviet Population and Manpower Trends. In addition to WSS presentations, the Society aided in the publication of the new Washington Alliance of Statisticians, a group composed largely of WSS members trying to address social and informational needs not included in the WSS program agenda.

This society held its annual banquet June 12 at the Washington Navy Yard with Dr. Lincoln Moses, Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, as the main speaker. A special feature of this year's annual dinner was the presentation of the first annual Julius Shiskin Award for Economics Statistics. This year's recipient was Estela Dagum of Statistics Canada, who was honored for her work in Time Series Analysis.

The Society again sponsored a summer program following the successful introduction of such a program in 1979. This year's program was a short course on Time Series Analysis, co-sponsored with George Washington University's Department of Statistics. Four two-hour sessions on the topic were conducted in late June and early July, utilizing facilities at G.W.

**Organizational Activities** — The WSS Review Committee completed its work and issued a report to the Board in January, which was followed by discussion of portions of the report in later Board meetings. Members of the Review Committee were Bob Tortora, Maria Gonzalez, Sam Greenhouse, Tom Jabine and Dave Kaplan. The committee analyzed ten particular areas of interest to the committee members, which covered quite well the scope of WSS activities. A number of recommendations were made to the Board of Directors. Some of these items have been implemented already and others will be reviewed for possible inclusion next year.

This year marked the successful initiation of the Julius Shiskin Award Program. This award, originated by WSS, is administered by a committee composed of representatives from the Bureau of the Census, National Association of Business Economists, National Bureau of Economic Research, Bureau of Economic Analysis, the Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in addition to WSS representation. The committee placed announcements in a number of professional journals calling for nominations for this year's award and established a review procedure for screening nominations and selection of a yearly recipient.

The Board of Directors attempted this year to strengthen the role of building representatives in WSS publicity. A general review of the building representatives list for major agencies was conducted. In addition, a new monthly newsletter format was adopted in which the front page provides a listing of all upcoming events with basic information on topic, participants, location and time provided. A special printing of the front page is set up on colored stock and made available to building representatives. An accompanying change in emphasis was the listing of upcoming events as soon as a date and title are available to provide additional planning information to the WSS membership.

**Graduate Student Awards** — This Society continued this year its program of awarding a year's membership in the ASA and WSS to one outstanding graduate student from each local university. This program is designed to provide recognition to the students and to direct their attention to the professional organizations within the field of statistics. The universities which participated in this year's program and their recipients were:

American University	—	Michael Samuhel
Georgetown University	—	Walid A. Hashem
George Washington University	—	Leyla Mohadger
Howard University	—	Arthur Hughes
University of Maryland	—	Teresa Connor

**Elections** – The Nominations and Elections Committee (Tom Jabine, Kathy Wallman, and Joe Gastwirth) announced that the following officers were elected for 1980-81: Vice President and President-Elect—Shirley Kallek; Secretary—Rich Allen; Treasurer—Bennie Clemmer; Representatives-at-Large—Mitchell Gale, Maria Gonzalez, and Jack Moshman; Methodology Section Program Chair—Paul Biemer.

Assisting Lillian Madow in selecting nominees for the Methodology Program Chair election were Dave Chapman, Fritz Scheuren and Barbara Bailar. A total of 301 ballots were cast this year.

**Other**—Work of an organization such as the Washington Statistical Society depends on the volunteer efforts of a great number of people, all of which deserve our appreciation. I would like to single out a few of these individuals for particular notice. Two people who worked very hard behind the scenes to finalize arrangements for all programs and to get the information out to members are Jim Carpenter, Chair of the Arrangements Committee, and Dharendra Ghosh, Chair of the Publicity Committee. Dave Morganstein, in addition to the regular program activities for the Methodology Section, headed up the arrangements for the summer program on Time Series Analysis. Evelyn Kay's Employment Committee had an increase in numbers of jobs announced in spite of current economic conditions and hiring freezes of Government agencies. Nancy Dearman, as Treasurer in the past two years, has had a dual role handling the finances of the Julius Shiskin Award Committee in addition to those of the Washington Statistical Society itself.

George E. Hall  
President, 1980

### WSS BOARD MEETING NOTES

At the July 8, 1980, joint meeting of the incoming and outgoing Board of Directors, the decision was made to maintain the present dues structure for 1981. Membership dues are: Regular membership, \$4.00. Regular Student Membership, \$1.00. Local Associate (non-ASA), \$5.00. Local Student Associate (non-ASA), \$2.00.

In an effort to speed up delivery of our Newsletter, the monthly deadline for submission of items was changed from the 15th to the 10th of the preceding month. This change will hopefully allow delivery of the Newsletter before the first of each month.

The Board wishes to emphasize that Board meetings are open to all WSS members. Meetings are normally held the first Tuesday of each month, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m., in Room 4000 of 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. (The September meeting was an exception, being held in late August.)

### WSS PROGRAM CHAIRS

The Washington Statistical Society attempts to present a varied and well-rounded program of sessions each year. In order to develop such a program, subject matter have been identified with a program chair for each area. The present program chairs are:

Agriculture and Natural Resources	—	Doug Samuelson
Economics	—	Gregory Schoepfle
Physical Sciences and Engineering	—	Seymour Selig
Public Health and Biostatistics	—	Julia D. Oliver
Social and Demographic Statistics	—	Jeanne Griffith
Interprogrammatic Sessions	—	Sue Rustemeyer

Most program chairs act as coordinators for their area. As such, they welcome suggestions of session topics and assistance in making arrangements for particular sessions.

### EMPLOYMENT COLUMN

Deadline for inserting notices is the 10th of the month preceding the publication date.

Send notices and requests to:  
Evelyn R. Kay  
NCES (205 Presidential Building)  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20202  
Tel.: (301) 436-6791

**TO: SPEAKERS AT HOUSTON MEETINGS**

It has come to our attention that some authors at the Houston Meetings may have difficulty in obtaining funding for page changes in the *Proceedings* by the deadline date of September 26, 1980. For this reason, we are extending the deadline to October 27, 1980.

Fred C. Leone  
Executive Director, A.S.A.

Please address correspondence to the SECRETARY — Rich Allen — P.O. Box 23502, Washington, D.C. 20024 (447 4896)

*President:* George E. Hall  
*V.P. & Pres.-elect:* Marvin A. Schnelderman  
*Past President:* Thomas B. Jabine  
*Secretary:* Rich Allen  
*Treasurer:* Nancy B. Dearman  
*Representatives-at-large:*  
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Irene Montie  
Terrence Ireland  
*District 3 Rep. to A.S.A. Board:*  
Joan R. Rosenblatt  
*Methodology Section:*  
*Chair:* Lillian H. Meadow  
*Program:* David Morganstein

**Washington Statistical Society**  
CHAPTER • AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION



*Program Committees:*  
*Agri. & Nat. Res.:* Gaylord Worden  
*Economics:* Gregory Schoepfle  
*Phys. Sci. & Eng.:* Seymour Sellg  
*Public Health & Biost.:* Julia D. Oliver  
*Soc. & Dem.:* Jeanne Griffith  
*Interprogrammatic:* Sue Rustemeyer  
*Arrangements Comm.:* J. Finley Carpenter  
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*Membership Comm.:* Milton D. Lieberman  
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**AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION**

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