

Washington Statistical Society

WSS Newsletter – August 1982

WSS SPECIAL MEETING

Speaker: THE HONORABLE DAN QUAYLE, Senator from Indiana

Topic: The Need for a Two-Year Budget Process

Abstract: The Budget and Oversight Reform Act of 1981 (S. 2008) would replace the current annual Federal budget cycle with a two-year budget process. The bill also provides for more timely oversight of authorizing legislation and appropriations.

Since passage of the Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974, the first and second budget resolution deadlines have been met only twice out of eleven reporting dates. The record on appropriations has been equally dismal. Since 1976, the first year in which the Budget and Impoundment Control Act actually went into operation, only once were all appropriations bills enacted at the beginning of the fiscal year (FY 77), and even in that year a continuing resolution was needed to fund some programs. Over the past five years, ten continuing resolutions have been enacted. Today, much of the Federal government is still operating on the basis of a continuing appropriation.

The necessity for moving to a longer budget cycle has become increasingly evident to those who support the budget process. Currently, the two budget resolutions and the multiple authorization and appropriation bills create too many legislative activities for a one-year period and allow too little time for program oversight.

Date and Time: MONDAY, September 20, 1982, 12:30–2:00 P.M.

Location: Room 318, Russell Senate Office Building, Constitution and Delaware Avenues, Washington, D.C.

After an introduction by Joseph Gastwirth, WSS President, and Senator Quayle's remarks, members of the audience will be invited to ask questions of or address comments to Senator Quayle.

CALENDAR

WSS Sponsored

Topic: Statistical Judgements

Speaker: Charles R. Mann, Ph.D.

Date and Time: Thursday, 16 September 1982, 12:30 – 2 P.M.

Location: Room BE069, Forrestal Building, Independence Avenue, between 7th and 12th, Washington, D.C. (Smithsonian Metro Stop on Orange/Blue Line, use the Mall Exit)

Topic: Imputation of Missing Values

Speaker: John S. Greenlees, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Date and Time: Wednesday, 22 September 1982, 12:30–2:00 P.M.

Location: Main Commerce Building, Conference Room 6802

Other Sponsor

Topic: NIH

Topic: Closed Adaptive Sequential Procedures for Selecting the Best Bernoulli Procedure

Speaker: Professor Robert E. Bechhofer, College of Engineering, Cornell University

Date and Time: Friday, 1 October 1982, 11:00–12:30 P.M.

Location: National Institutes of Health, Landow Building, Conference Room A (1st Floor), 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland

WORKSHOP ON IMPROVING FEDERALLY FUNDED SURVEYS

Dates: September 28 – Design of Surveys and Field Work
October 5 – Data Processing and Analysis of Results
October 12 – Preparing Study Requirements

Locations: Department of Energy Conference Hall–Room 3000-A, 12th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Additional Details Inside Newsletter

Topic: Statistical Judgements
Chair: Lee-Ann C. Hayek, Ph.D.
Affiliation: Partner, Semmes, Bowen & Semmes, Baltimore, Maryland
Discussants: Joseph Gastwirth, Ph.D., George Washington University
 Richard T. Sampson, Esq., Chair, Federal Bar Association's Committee in Equal Employment
Abstract: An examination of two instances of statistical analysis which continue to be the subject of court rulings. The issues of Underutilization and the Eighty-Percent Rule will be considered as they are viewed by statisticians, the courts and others.

Topic: Imputation of Missing Values
Chair: Cathy Dipps, Bureau of Labor Statistics
Discussant: Robert Fay, Bureau of the Census
Abstract: A method is developed for imputting missing values when the probability of response depends upon the variable being imputed. The missing data problem is viewed as one of parameter estimation in a regression model with stochastic censoring of the dependent variable. The prediction approach to imputation is used to solve this estimation problem. Wages and salaries are imputed to non-respondents in the Current Population Survey and the results are compared to the nonrespondents' IRS wage and salary data. The stochastic censoring approach gives improved results relative to a prediction approach that ignores the response mechanism.

WSS ELECTION RESULTS AND BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The winning candidates in this year's Washington Statistical Society election were:

Vice President/President Elect.	Maria E. Gonzalez
Secretary.	Rich Allen
Treasurer.	Bennie Clemmer
Representatives at Large.	Donald W. King
	Mary Grace Kovar
	Wesley L. Schaible
Methodology Program Chair	Karen Kafadar

Other members of the Board of Directors for 1982-83 include:

President.	Joseph L. Gastwirth
Past President	Shirley Kallek
Methodology Section Chair.	Nancy J. Kirkendall

Program Committee Chairs:

Agriculture and Natural Resources	Julia D. Oliver
Economics.	Eva E. Jacobs/Nancy M. Gordon
Physical Sciences and Engineering.	Seymour Selig
Public Health and Biostatistics	Mary C. White/Mitchell H. Gail
Social and Demographic	Lee-Ann C. Hayek
Statistical Computing	John J. Miller/David Morganstein
Interprogrammatic	Fritz Scheuren
Short Courses	Jim Carpenter
Arrangements Committee	Charles Roberts
Employment Committee.	Evelyn R. Kay
Membership Committee	Doug Samuelson
Representative to Shiskin Award.	Lillian H. Madow
District 3 Representative to ASA Board	Gary A. Chase

**THE WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY WILL SPONSOR A SERIES OF
WORKSHOPS ON FEDERALLY FUNDED SURVEYS**

Professional statisticians and survey researchers have been greatly concerned in recent years about the deteriorating quality of surveys conducted under Federal sponsorship. One of the key points of failure has been a lack of understanding and appreciation by Federal contract officers and project monitors concerning the intricacies of conducting high quality surveys. The Washington Statistical Society is sponsoring three-half day workshops for Federal project monitors and contract officers, in order to help them conduct their difficult task better. The purpose of the workshops is not to make these persons qualified statisticians and survey researchers, but rather to help them understand the details of survey research better and to point out things they should look for in monitoring survey projects.

These free workshops will be held in three consecutive Tuesday afternoons in early Fall, in the Department of Energy Conference Hall, Room 3000A, 12th & Penn. Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. The tentative schedule is as follows:

September 28—A workshop on the design of surveys (research design, sample design and questionnaire design) and fieldwork (personal interviews, telephone interviews, and self-administered questionnaires). The chairperson of this session is Charles Turner, National Academy of Science, with two lecturers, (1-5 P.M.).

October 5—A workshop on data processing (receipt, coding and editing, input and computer tabulation and analysis of results (statistical analysis and modelling, interpretation of results, and presentation of results). The chairperson of this session is Dr. Barbara Bailar, U.S. Census Bureau, with two lecturers, (1-5 P.M.).

October 12—A workshop on preparing study requirements and writing a Request for Proposal. The chairperson of this session is Mr. Donald W. King, King Research, Inc. He will be assisted by Mr. Douglas Berninger, RFP, Inc. (1-5 P.M.).

This notice serves two purposes:

(1) Members of the Washington Statistical Society are invited to attend the Workshops.

(2) Members of the WSS are asked to distribute this notice to nonmembers who are known to be interested in Federally-sponsored survey research or who are monitoring survey research projects.

The workshop is considered to be vital to all those involved with Federally-funded survey research. For further details, contact Mr. Donald W. King or Ms. Helen Kurtz, King Research, Inc. (881-6766) 6000 Executive Boulevard, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

EMPLOYMENT COLUMN

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

Send notices and requests to:
Evelyn R. Kay
National Center for Education Statistics
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202 (301) 436-6791

JOB OPENINGS

**Mathematical Statistician, GS-1529-12
Statistician, GS-1530-12**

Army has a permanent competitive-service vacancy for either of these two positions. The position requires knowledge of and ability to apply mathematical and statistical theory and methods (including principles of experimental design, probabilistic and mathematical modeling, random processes, methodology statistical inference, and sampling theory). It is located in an activity responsible for operational testing and evaluation for major items of Army material. Candidates must meet OPM qualification standards for the position. Send SF-171 to Fort Myer Civilian Personnel Office, Building 469, Fort Myer, Arlington, Virginia 22211; Attention: OTEA 81.

**Statistician, GS-1530
Grades 7-12**

The Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Toxic Substances, is seeking statisticians for permanent part-time positions up to 32 hours/week. Training and/or experience with statistical software packages, SAS, etc., required. Knowledge of sampling theory and biostatistics desirable. Possibility of full-time openings in the near future. Salary range \$16,000-37,000. Send SF-171 to Joe Carra, 2262 Wheystone Street, Vienna, Virginia 22180. Telephone: (703) 382-3886.

1982 ADPU ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Association of Public Data Users (APDU) will hold its 1982 Annual Conference at the Embassy Row Hotel in Washington on October 14th and 15th. APDU is a consortium of business organizations, universities, research institutes, and federal, state and local government agencies; all with a major interest in public machine-readable statistical data. The annual APDU Conference provides producers, distributors and users of public data with a unique opportunity to discuss current and proposed data products.

For more information, please contact Rick Bender, APDU Secretariat, Princeton University Computer Center, 87 Prospect Avenue, Princeton, New Jersey 08544, (609) 452-6023/6052.



AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

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