MARCH, 1984

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

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* CALENDAR:                                                                        *
* 1. March  6, Tuesday    Designing Integrated Multi-Purpose Sample Surveys        *
* 2. March  7, Wednesday  Analysis of Lung Cancer Mortality Maps Using Linear Regression *
* 3. March 14, Wednesday  Measurement of Non-Cash Income                           *
* 4. March 20, Tuesday    Statistical Packages for the 16-Bit Micro-Computers      *
* 5. March 29, Thursday   Statistical Significance of the Eighty Percent Rule      *
* 6. March 29, Thursday   Application of Transportation Theory to Statistical Problems *
* 7. May 16, 17 & 18      Short Course: Introduction to Survival Analysis           *
*                         (Fee Event - Pre-Registration Required)                  *
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RANDOM BYTES -- Daniel Kasprzyk, Representative-At-Large

An aspect vital to any professional society is the participation of its members in the educational and social activities it sponsors. The Washington Statistical Society (WSS) is no exception. In fact, the extensive use of statistical methodology in the Washington Metropolitan area, both in the private and public sectors suggests the Society should be aggressive in publicizing its activites to the widest possible audience, both WSS members and non-members. Six months ago, Maria Gonzalez, WSS President, asked the Representatives-At-Large to develop a system to inform persons who have an interest in statistical matters of the WSS scope of activities. In particular, it seemed necessary to provide a wider dissemination of the Society's monthly calendar of events. The Representatives-At-Large began with a short list of members, identified as building representatives, who in the past had posted the monthly calendar of events in their buildings. A review of the list indicated that the coverage of public agencies and private sector firms was inadequate. By means of an extensive telephone campaign, a new and expanded list of individuals who could publicize WSS events was developed. Since these persons will, in many ways act as the WSS representative in their area, the Society has given them the title of WSS Local Representative.

Each month the Local Representatives will receive a pre-set number of copies of the program announcement to distribute and post. They will also review the program so that sessions of particular interest to their unit are highlighted. Local Representatives will also serve as a contact for information about WSS membership, for distributing announcements of special meetings not arranged in time to be on the calendar, and for disseminating information about cancellation of previously announced sessions. Distribution of the monthly WSS calendar to the Local Representatives is occurring for the first time this month. While dissemination of the calendar of events has increased throughout the metropolitan area, gaps in the mailing list are still apparent. If the monthly calendar is not posted or distributed in your department, agency, or firm, call me at 301/763-5784.

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM CHAIRS

Agri. & Nat. Res.
Fred Vogel 447-3895
Economics
Eva Jacobs 272-5156
Nancy Gordon 226-2669
Social and Dem.
Lee-Ann Hayek 357-1587
Richard Rockwell 212/557-9494

Methodology
Michael Cohen 334-2266
Short Courses
Jim Carpenter 272-2271
Doug Samuelson 536-4756
Pub. Health & Biostat
Mitchell Gail 496-4208
L.J. Wei 676-6359

Phys. Sci. & Eng.
Seymour Selig 696-4314
Interprogrammatic
Wendy Alvey 376-0216
Fritz Scheuren 376-0216
Stat. Computing
Chap Gleason 633-3458
David Morganstein 251-8215

Employment
Evelyn R. Kay 331-1153

Newsletter
Julia Oliver 252-1676

PROGRAM ABSTRACTS

TOPIC: Designing Integrated Multi-Purpose Sample Surveys
SPEAKERS: Monroe Sirken, NCHS and Fred Vogel, USDA
CHAIR: Michael Cohen, National Academy of Sciences
DISCUSSANT: Fritz Scheuren, Internal Revenue Service
DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, March 6, 1984; 12:30-2:00PM
LOCATION: Auditorium A-5, Martin Luther King Memorial Library, 901 G Street, N.W.
ABSTRACT: The first paper describes the statistical research program for investigating
                  the effects of the plan to integrate the designs of the NCHS health surveys and
                  presents the preliminary findings. The second paper discusses a plan to inte-
                  grate several single purpose sample surveys into a multi-purpose multiple frame
                  survey design along with an evaluation of theoretical and practical problems.
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TOPIC: Analysis of Lung Cancer Mortality Maps Using Linear Regression
SPEAKER: Dr. Steven Piantadosi, National Cancer Institute
DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, March 7, 1984, 10:00-11:30AM
LOCATION: Landow Building, Room A, 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Bethesda, Maryland
ABSTRACT: Geographically based data are increasingly used to generate hypotheses about
                  environmental causes of cancer. This discussion will outline problems assoc-
                  iated with the use of such data, as well as for the analysis of maps and geo-
                  graphic data. Techniques will be illustrated using maps of Lung Cancer mortal-
                  ity, and geographic and demographic data based on state economic areas.
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TOPIC: Measurement of Non-Cash Income
SPEAKERS: John Coder, Census Bureau; G. Donald Wood, BLS
DISCUSSANT: Dan Weinberg, HHS
CHAIR: Eva Jacobs, BLS
DATE AND TIME: Wednesday, March 14, 1984, 12:30-2:00PM
LOCATION: Room BE-069, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
ABSTRACT: John Coder will describe the work of the Census Bureau in exploring the issues,
                  data requirements and technical feasibility of measuring and valuing non-cash
                  income for the low income population. G. Donald Wood will similarly discuss
                  the work of the Bureau of Labor Statistics in measuring employer provided
                  benefits collected in connection with constructing the Employment Cost Index.
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TOPIC: Statistical Packages for the 16-Bit Micro-Computer
SPEAKER: Harry J. Foxwell; Chair, Statistics Special Interest Group,
                  Capital Personal Computers Club
DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, March 20, 1984, 1:00-2:30PM (Note Special Time)
LOCATION: Room A-5, Martin Luther King Memorial Library, 901 G Street, N.W.
ABSTRACT: The recent announcement by SPSS of the availability on a 16-Bit Micro-Computer
                  of their widely known statistical packages marks the beginning of a new era in
                  statistical computing. The speaker will discuss the availability, the perfor-
                  mance and the accuracy of these forthcoming statistical packages.
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TOPIC: Statistical Significances of the Eighty Percent Rule
SPEAKER: Charles R. Mann, Charles R. Mann Associates
DATE AND TIME: Thursday, March 29, 1984, 12:30-2:00PM
LOCATION: Room BE-069, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
ABSTRACT: When the field of employment testing was faced with considering the fairness of
                  tests to women and minorities, a rule of thumb was developed providing guidance
                  to on-site reviewers. Non-statisticians have elevated this procedure, known as
                  the eighty percent rule, to the point where it is competing with the concept of
                  statistical significance as a means of measuring adverse impact. This talk
                  will cover the history of this conflict and will demonstrate the potential for
                  a psuedo-statistical procedure to win acceptance over one which is statisti-
                  cally sound.
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TOPIC: Application of Transportation Theory to Statistical Problems
SPEAKER: Lawrence R. Ernst, Census Bureau
DATE AND TIME: Thursday, March 29, 1984, 1:30-2:30PM
LOCATION: Room 1-23, Center Building, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Maryland
ABSTRACT: Using transportation theory, complete solutions are obtained for the first time
               to the following three problems: two dimensional control selection problem;
               the problem of maximizing the overlap of old and new primary sampling units
               after destratification; and the problem of optimally rounding real valued en-
               tries in a two-way tabular array to adjacent integer values in a manner which
               preserves the additive structure of such array.

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TOPIC: Short Course: Introduction to Survival Analysis
SPEAKER: Gordon Lan
DATE AND TIME: May 15, 16 & 17; 9:00AM-12:30PM
LOCATION: Room A-5, Martin Luther King Memorial Library, 901 G Street, N.W.
ABSTRACT: This short course will cover Life Tables, Exponential and Weiball distribu-
               tions; Linear Rank Statistics; Generalized Wilcoxon and Savage Statistics;
               Interim Analysis of Survival Data;zand the Proportional Hazards Model. There
               will be a nominal charge for this session. The pre-registration form and
               additional information will be provided in the April Newsletter.

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ANNUAL OPEN BOARD MEETING

The Constitution of the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) requires that at least one meet-
ing of the Board of Directors each year be advertised as an "open" meeting with participation
invited from the membership at large. This year's open meeting will be held April 24, 1984 at
12:30PM in Room 3000, at 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. (FOB 6). The meeting is expected to last
until approximately 2:00PM. While thoughts and opinions on any subject relating to WSS are
invited, the Board of Directors this year has focused much of its efforts on continuing educa-
tion presentations and improvement of the local representative's system for notification of
WSS activities. The Board seeks comments from members on these topics. Contact Rich Allen at
447-4557 for more details.

EMPLOYMENT COLUMN

Deadline for inserting notices is   Send notices and requests to:
the rirst of the month preceding   Evelyn R. Kay
the publication date.   520-22nd Street, N.W.
                                           Washington, D.C. 20037   202/331-1153

JOB OPENINGS

Mathematical Statistician   The United States Postal Service is recruiting for Mathematical
                               Statistician positions. Incumbents develop statistical systems
for a broad area of postal operations including the design of sampling plans, estimation pro-
cedures, and measures of precision. Starting salary: $28,690 and up, depending on qualifica-
tions and experience. Forward resume with salary history to: General Manager, Headquarters
Personnel Division, 475 L'Enfant Plaza West, SW, Room 1813, Washington, DC 20260-4261.

Mathematical Statistician,   The Research Division of the Internal Revenue Service invites
GM-1529-15   applications for the position of Chief, Statistical Methods
                               Group. The incumbent of the position supervises a group of
approximately 8-9 professionals who provide statistical consulting services and conduct
state-of-the-art statistical research in workload selection and other subjects. Applicants
should have completed a Ph.D. in mathematical statistics, and have background skills in com-
puter science, mathematical modeling, operations research, economics or finance. For addi-
tional information contact: Internal Revenue Service, Attn: Ms. Terri Clark, Research Div.,
PM:PFR:R, Room 3423, 1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W, Washington, D.C. 20224, 202/566-3614.

JOB OPENINGS (Continued)

Mathematical Statisticians, Survey Statisticians, Economists, Operations Research Analysts: The Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, is recruiting for Mathematical Statisticians, Survey Statisticians, Operations Research Analysts and Economists at entry levels (GS-5 through 11) and mid-levels (GS-12 and 13). Applicants with current or former Federal employment status must apply the Sf-171, Personnel Qualifications Statement, against DOE announcements as they are published. You may call 252-6689 for information on EIA announcements. Interested persons, without prior Federal career service (non-status applicants) must apply to an Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Job Information Center for the applicant package needed for placement on the appropriate occupational series registers. Copies of the OPM applicant packages, as well as SF-171 forms can also be sent to: Mrs. Gannaway, Personnel Staffing Specialist, Department of Energy (MA-205.2), Forrestal Building, Room 4H-062, Washington, DC 20585.

JOB APPLICANTS

Listed below is a brief description of the qualifications of applicants seeking employment. Employers 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 will be confidential.

CODE NUMBER   83-12-01
POSITION WANTED: Mathematical Statistician in Washington, D.C. Area
EDUCATION: Master's Degree in Mathematical Statistics, McGill University, 1969
EXPERIENCE: Fourteen (14) years in Canadian Federal Government and private industry; design of large scale survey sampling plans, estimation procedures (including non-response adjustment), variance estimation, editing and imputation, questionnaire design, analysis of log-linear data, multivariate analysis, and non-parametric statistics. Experience with FORTRAN and major statistical packages.
AREAS OF INTEREST: Survey Design and Data Analysis.

CODE NUMBER: 84-02-01
POSITION WANTED: Consulting Work on Statistics/Data Processing
EDUCATION: Ph.D. in Statistics and Economics (Joint Majors), Iowa State University, 1974
EXPERIENCE: Twenty-three years plus, in private and research environment; applied statistical work; computerized data processing; system analysis and programming; statistical and mathematical packages.
AREAS OF INTEREST: Multivariate, modeling, survey, data processing and software development.

P.O. Box 23502
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