



JUNE 1984

WASHINGTON
STATISTICAL
SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR:

June 4 & 5:	Monday & Tuesday	<u>Short Course: Categorical Analysis of Data from Complex Sample Surveys</u> (FEE EVENT)
June 12:	Tuesday	Workshop on Presenting Statistical Papers
June 12:	Tuesday	WSS Annual Dinner: Looking Ahead at the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Looking Ahead at the Bureau of the Census (FEE EVENT: Pre-Registration Required)
June 15:	Friday	Estimation Using Merged Samples and Supplemental Data
June 21:	Thursday	Editing and Imputation Methods
June 28:	Thursday	The Quality of Statistical Data
June 30:	Saturday	<u>Short Course: Personal Computers for Statisticians</u> (Fee Event: Pre-Registration Required)

RANDOM BITS - Maria Gonzalez, WSS President

It hardly seems possible that my year as president of the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) is almost over. A few things have been changed: the format of this Newsletter; WSS has a new logo; the list of representatives used to publicize WSS has been updated and expanded; The Constitution of the WSS has been changed to elect Representatives-at-large for a two-year term. These are possibly the most important changes.

On June 12 the WSS annual dinner will be held at Blackie's House of Beef (see enclosed form). I look forward to seeing you there. I have invited Jack Keane, Director of the Census Bureau, and Janet Norwood, Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, to tell us a bit about the future directions of their respective statistical agencies. That evening the 1984 Shiskin Award will also be announced.

Emphasis has been placed on short courses and continuing education. On June 4-5 Landis and Lepkowski will be presenting a two-day course on "Analysis of Categorical Data from Complex Sample Surveys." On June 30 a discussion of "Personal Computers" will be presented by Carpenter and Morganstein. You need to register to attend either of these events.

I want to thank all members of the WSS Board for their contribution to the success of this year's WSS activities. I also want to wish a very successful next year to Terry Ireland, the WSS president for next year.

WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM CHAIRS

Agri. & Nat. Res.

Fred Vogel 447-3895

Methodology

Michael Cohen 334-2266

Phys. Sci. & Eng.

Seymour Selig 696-4314

Economics

Eva Jacobs 272-5156
Nancy Gordon 226-2669

Short Courses

Jim Carpenter 272-2271
Doug Samuelson 536-4756

Interprogrammatic

Wendy Alvey 376-0216
Fritz Scheuren 376-0216

Social and Dem.

Lee-Ann Hayek 357-1587
Richard Rockwell 212/557-9494

Pub. Health & Biostat

Mitchell Gail 496-4208
L. J. Wei 676-6359

Stat. Computing

Chap Gleason 633-3458
David Morganstein 251-8215

Employment: Evelyn R. Kay 331-1153

Newsletter: Julia Oliver 252-1676

ABSTRACTS

TOPIC: Short Course: Categorical Analysis of Data from Complex Sample Surveys (Fee Event: Advance Registration Required)
SPEAKERS: J. Richard Landis and James M. Lepkowski
DATE AND TIME: Monday, June 4 and 5, 1984; 9:00AM-4:30PM
LOCATION: George Washington University
ABSTRACT: This is a Fee-Event that will be handled by a special mailing from ASA. The price for this course is \$90 for WSS-Members; \$110 for Non-Members. For additional information call Terry Ireland at 301/859-6695.

TOPIC: Workshop on Presenting Statistical Papers
SPEAKERS: Charles Alexander, Census, and Wendy Alvey and Beth Kilss, IRS
CHAIR: Maria Gonzalez, Office of Management and Budget
DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, June 12, 1984; 12:30PM-2:00PM
LOCATION: IRS Auditorium, 7th Floor, 1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
ABSTRACT: The purpose of this Workshop is to aid participants in the preparation and presentation of more effective presentations of their material. The session will focus on selection of material and oral delivery (Chip Alexander) and handouts and other visual aids (Wendy Alvey and Beth Kilss). The format is envisioned as an interactive Workshop and ample time will be provided for discussion. The speakers will also be glad to comment individually on examples of your work after the session, so feel free to bring along sample visual aids.

TOPIC: WSS-Annual Dinner (Fee-Event: Pre-Registration Form Inside)
TOPICS: Looking Ahead at the Bureau of Labor Statistics and
Looking Ahead at the Bureau of the Census
SPEAKERS: Janet Norwood, Commissioner, BLS and Jack Keane, Director, Census
DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, June 12, 1984; 6:30PM
LOCATION: Blackie's House of Beef, 22nd Street at M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

TOPIC: Estimation Using Merged Samples and Supplemental Data
SPEAKER: Robert Burton, Maxima Corporation
DISCUSSANT: Robert Casady, National Center for Health Statistics
DATE AND TIME: Friday, June 15, 1984; 12:30PM-2:30PM
LOCATION: Martin Luther King Memorial Library, Room 315, 901 G Street, N.W., WDC
ABSTRACT: Large survey frames can be used to provide multiple samples for estimation of multiple population parameters. It is sometimes desirable to use a merged questionnaire for all sampled units. This leads to problems in utilizing supplemental data to improve estimates. The presentation will explore various resolutions, including linked sampling and Horvitz-Thompson estimation.

TOPIC: Editing and Imputation Methods
SPEAKER: Eugene M. Burns, Energy Information Administration
DATE AND TIME: Thursday, June 21, 1984; 1:30PM-2:30PM
LOCATION: Room I-23, Center Building, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, Md.
ABSTRACT: This presentation describes the major features of the editing and imputation system used for the Energy Information Administration's weekly petroleum supply surveys. This system is built around company profiles which consist of three exponentially smoothed means: (1) a mean of nonzero reported values, (2) a mean absolute deviation (one-step forecast error), and (3) a frequency of nonzero responses. Topics discussed include the overall design of the editing and imputation system, parameter estimation, and the determination of appropriate cutoff limits.

ABSTRACTS (Continued)

TOPIC: The Quality of Statistical Data
SPEAKER: Barbara Bailar, Census
DISCUSSANT: Harold Nisselson, Westat, Incorporated
DATE AND TIME: Thursday, June 28, 1984; 12:30PM-2:00PM
LOCATION: Martin Luther King Memorial Library, Room A-5, 901 G Street, N.W.
ABSTRACT: Measurement error affects all kinds of statistical data -- data which are used as the basis for decisions. In this presentation, the concept of statistical control, the need for replication and reproducibility, and the meaning of accuracy and precision are explored. Seven examples from different applications of statistics are used to show the steps taken to gain statistical control, to reduce measurement error and to report the limitations of the data.

TOPIC: Short Course: Personal Computers for Statisticians
(Fee-Event: Pre-Registration Handled by ASA Special Mailing)
SPEAKERS: Jim Carpenter, BLS, and David Morganstein, Westat, Incorporated
DATE AND TIME: Saturday, June 30, 1984; 9:00AM-4:00PM
LOCATION: Auditorium D, Uniformed Services University for the Health Sciences, Bethesda, Maryland

ASA CONFERENCE ON RADIATION AND HEALTH

The fourth annual ASA Conference on Radiation and Health will be held at the Coolfont Conference Center, Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, July 9-13, 1984. Preceded by a social mixer on Sunday evening, July 8, the program will begin Monday morning, July 9, and end Friday morning, July 13. Dr. Naomi Harley, Institute of Environmental Medicine, New York University Medical Center, is the chairperson. Presenters at this interdisciplinary seminar include statisticians, epidemiologists, and others in the health, life and physical sciences to discuss problems related to ionizing radiation and associated environmental health issues. The \$495 registration fees includes all expenses, including handouts, coffee breaks, room and board (three delicious meals each day) for five days. Accompanying family members, including children and pets are welcomed, at a reduced fee. For further information, please write or call Ede Denenberg, American Statistical Association, 806-15th Street, N.W., Washington, DC, 202/393-3253.

EIGHTH SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The Eighth Symposium on Statistics and the Environment is scheduled for October 15-16, 1984, at the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, D.C.

At the Eighth Symposium there will be four sessions: data needs and problems, modeling, forecasting, and policy implications. Within each session there will be presentations on hurricanes, fishery and forest management, materials damage from ambient pollution, and health damage from workplace air pollution. Proceedings will be published in The American Statistician, a professional quarterly journal of the American Statistical Association.

For further information regarding the program topics and speakers, and registration materials, please write to Ede Denenberg, ASA, 806-15th Street, N.W., Suite 640, Washington, DC 20005.

USDA Seminar Series:
Advanced Topics in Survey Research

The USDA Graduate School has organized for this Fall, a series of ten seminars on Advanced Topics in Survey Research. The series, which is intended for anyone who sponsors, designs, manages or works on any aspect of statistical surveys, will highlight recent developments in methodology. Seminars will be held at 600 Maryland Avenue, S.W., from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, from September 18 through November 20. For a brochure with additional information, including scheduled topics and discussion leaders, call 202/447-5885.

EMPLOYMENT COLUMN

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

Send notices and requests to:
Evelyn R. Kay
520-22nd Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037 202/331-1153

Statistician/Mathematician/OR Analyst
GS 7/12

Position as member of small team of statisticians/mathematicians/OR analysts. MS in Statistics/OR/Mathematics desired. Team functions as consulting group to agency economists on statistical, mathematical and econometric issues. Familiarity with statistical software (SAS, TROLL, SPEAKEASY, SPSS/SCSS, TSP, MINOS) and economic modeling desirable. Ability to organize and conduct training seminars on use of statistical packages on both mainframes and micros and the application of statistical techniques. For more information, contact Charlie Hallahan, Data Services Center, Room 192-A, Economic Research Service, USDA, 500-12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250, 202/475-6214



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