ANNOUNCEMENTS

WSS Annual Dinner
"WSS: Past, Present, and Future"

There will be several unique features of the WSS annual dinner June 14. The dinner is intended as a true social gathering to commemorate WSS history in this year of the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the American Statistical Association. In order to appeal to a wider mix of participants, an earlier time of day, 5:30 p.m., has been chosen. The meal will be a "light buffet" in order to provide a lower cost, $11, to all.

There will not be one featured speaker. Instead, I have asked Hal Nisselson and Mary Grace Kovar to represent all of us by making some short remarks on their observations on statistics and the WSS in Washington. They both bring good backgrounds to the task. Hal was the WSS Board President 15 years ago and has had a noted career both within and outside government service. Mary Grace was WSS Board President in 1985-86 and has been most active in WSS and ASA activities as well as being widely recognized for her leadership at the National Center for Health Statistics.

The future will be represented by local high school science fair winners who received WSS awards this past year. Our date may be close to final exam time but we hope that some of the students can display their projects.

The program part of the evening will be short. It will include the two speakers and presentation of the Shiskin Award, the President's Award, and the plaque to the past president. I can also promise you some surprises.

I also want to mention that the newly designed WSS coffee mugs which feature the WSS and ASA 150 logos will be available at the dinner for a donation of $4.00. Other souvenir items may also be on hand.

Please join us June 14 for an opportunity to see old friends and meet new ones.

RICH ALLEN
WSS Board President
PROGRAM ABSTRACTS

TOPIC: ESTIMATION OF THE PREVALENCE OF RARE DISEASES PRESERVING ANONYMITY OF THE SUBJECTS USING GROUP TESTING AND WITH APPLICATION TO AIDS

SPEAKERS: Patricia Hammick, Natural Gas Supply Association and Joseph L. Gastwirth, George Washington University

DISCUSSANT: Robert Fay, U.S. Census Bureau

DATE & TIME: Tuesday, June 13, 1989, 12:00 p.m. (Note special time.)

LOCATION: Wilson Hall, Building 1, National Institutes of Health

SPONSOR: Public Health and Biostatistics, WSS

ABSTRACT: In order to preserve individual anonymity when estimating the prevalence of rare diseases or traits possessing a social stigma, such as AIDS, combining of individual samples into batches of size k for testing is proposed. Thus, no individual's blood is tested. The classifications of batches follow a multinomial model. The maximum likelihood and moment estimators of the prevalence are studied and shown to yield more accurate estimates, for a fixed cost, in situations of small prevalence than estimates made when testing samples individually. A restricted occupancy model (an extension of the multivariate hypergeometric distribution) is developed to allow comparison of the estimates obtained from data collected from testing individuals with the expected estimates obtained from the batch testing procedure. The batching procedure is extended to estimate the prevalences of two highly correlated and rare diseases.

TOPIC: STATISTICAL APPLICATIONS TO ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME

SPEAKERS: Ronald W. Wilson, NCHS
Alvaro Munoz, Johns Hopkins University
Michael Stoto, Institute of Medicine, NAS

CHAIR: Susan S. Ellenberg, NIAID

DATE & TIME: Tuesday, June 20, 1989, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. (Note special time.)
Refreshments will be served following the seminar.

LOCATION: Wilson Hall, Building 1, National Institutes of Health
(One block west of Medical Center Metro stop)

ABSTRACT: Ronald W. Wilson, Director of the Division of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, National Center for Health Statistics, will describe the recent HIV Sero-Prevalence Survey.

Alvaro Munoz, Principal Investigator of the Center for the Analysis and Management of the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study (CAMACS) will outline the MACS, a collaborative research effort designed to: elucidate the natural history of the infection causing AIDS; identify risk factors for occurrence and clinical expression of the infection; and establish a repository of biologic specimens for future study. Studies are being carried out in four major cities—Baltimore, Chicago, Pittsburgh, and Los Angeles—with the CAMACS located in Baltimore.
PROGRAM ABSTRACTS (continued)

Michael A. Stoto will address two issues at the interface between AIDS and HIV statistics and policy decisions. One issue is the adequacy of current statistical and epidemiological data for tracking the epidemic, monitoring progress in prevention programs, and for targeting interventions. The other is the use of mathematical forecasting and simulation models for planning and policy analysis.

TOPIC: WHAT DOES PERFORMING A LINEAR REGRESSION ON SURVEY DATA MEAN?

SPEAKER: Phillip S. Kott, National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA

DISCUSSANT: Fritz Scheuren, Internal Revenue Service

DATE & TIME: Thursday, June 22, 1989, 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Rm. 5152, South Agriculture Bldg., 12th and Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C.

ABSTRACT: The analysis of data from complex sample surveys is a field of growing importance to behavioral scientists and applied statisticians. Many are only now becoming aware of the need to abandon—or at least supplement—standard regression packages when analyzing survey data. Recognizing such a need and understanding it are two different things, however. The standard linear model underlying conventional regression software packages is well known. Less well known is the design-based theory behind packages designed specifically for use with survey data.

This seminar will offer alternative justifications for using (and sometimes modifying) design-based linear regression packages. The use of sampling (probability) weights in estimated regression coefficients is shown to provide protection against the existence of missing regressors. The Taylor series (linearization) method of estimating variances is shown to be nearly unbiased for a very broad range of error structures.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

Special Journal Available

One special project that has been completed in conjunction with the ASA 150 celebration is the issuance of a special Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences (WAS). This issue was edited by R. Clifton Bailey and was printed as the 4th quarter 1988 Journal of WAS.


A limited number of additional copies are available from the Washington Academy of Sciences at their usual rate of $7.50 per copy. However, the Washington Statistical Society has 100 copies available at a special price of $5.00, while supplies last. Please contact Rich Allen, U.S. Department of Agriculture, NASS/DAP/ Room 4133, South Building, Washington, D.C. 20250-2000, if you are interested.
ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

President's Annual Report

This has been an amazing year for the Washington Statistical Society. The celebration of the 150 years of history of the American Statistical Association added an additional dimension to an already ambitious program of activities. It involved many of our WSS members in the planning of the ASA meetings this August, including our local Arrangements Committee which has worked on articles for AMSTAT News and materials for the Information Booth at the meetings. It also inspired our series of monthly ASA 150 special presentations. Those sessions on a variety of broad-based statistical topics were a great success. We perhaps had as many attendees to those sessions as we normally have to all regular sessions each year.

This year we still had an outstanding program of regular sessions. I am always amazed at the constant variety of new topics that we can present to our members and the whole statistical community. I want to thank all of the members of our program committees (their names are on the front of this newsletter). Although the number of sessions varied by program area, each program committee member was involved in the planning of sessions that contributed to our overall success.

Besides our regular statistical presentations there were a number of other ongoing programs. The Short Course Committee organized a landmark symposium last year on Quality Assurance in the Government. That symposium was followed up by an even more complete session this year featuring concurrent sessions covering ongoing quality improvement efforts. Once again WSS members judged all local area school science fairs to recognize projects with statistical content. That has been a commendable activity and a most satisfying one for all members who have participated.

It now seems to me that it has been quite a short year. That is due in great part to the outstanding cast of individuals with which I worked the closest. Treasurer Bennie Clemmer and Secretary Marie Argana provide the day-to-day service to the Society which makes the Board President's job much less demanding. We also made good use of the other two WSS President positions as Past President Nancy Kirkendall led all activities of our Local Arrangements Committee for the ASA 150 meetings this summer as well as chairing the WSS Nominations and Elections Committee and Cathy Dippo coordinated the ASA 150 monthly presentations. Bill Bell and Connie Citro, our carryover Representatives-at-Large, proved to be excellent counselors and advisors.

I do want to recognize a few special efforts on behalf of WSS this year. This recognition does not downplay the efforts of other Board members but the following comments come from activities that I worked closely with. Harvey Schwartz stepped in at the eleventh hour, when plans for a special invited WSS session at this summer's ASA meetings collapsed, and organized a very thought-provoking and educational session in about two weeks time. I am sure that we have all appreciated the improvements that Mike Cohen and Jackie Nemes have made to the appearance and quality of the monthly newsletter. Jackie is the typist of the newsletter and secretary to Morris Hansen. Mary Foulkes has done an outstanding job in representing WSS on the ASA Council of Chapters. Mary and Ginny deWolf have been two Board members with ready suggestions whenever new questions arise or new committees are needed. Susan Ellenberg, in addition to directing the Science Fair efforts, was able to arrange co-sponsorship and major funding of the Sir David Cox Distinguished Lecturer presentation from her office. I also want to mention Lynn Kay's ongoing efforts as our Employment Column contact for the Newsletter; I notice that many other ASA chapters now have added WSS-like employment columns.

There were also a few non-Board members who were very important to any success I may have had this past year. There was a short list of individuals whom I called upon for one activity each this year: Maria Gonzalez, Tom Jabine, Mary Grace Kovar, Al Mindlin, Doug Samuelson, Fritz Scheuren, and Dick Tauber. Having that type of talent available is one of the advantages of the WSS. I also want to recognize the fantastic efforts of my secretary, Mary Ann Higgs. There is a great amount of correspondence and telephone call communications in completing the position of WSS Board President. I wouldn't have been able to keep up without the talents and consistent performance of Mary Ann.
ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

In order to have this in the June Newsletter, I have had to write my comments before the full program year is over. There are some key events to occur yet, such as the Annual Dinner, but nearly all planning is complete and I feel the rest of the year will be as successful as the activities to date.

I had a number of ideas in mind for this year, largely ones that would bring in a "have fun while we do important things" attitude. I have learned a lot about the talents and abilities of our Board members through the Newsletter profile articles. I hope that some of you enjoyed the quizzes and other new articles and features in the Newsletter. All of the things I had hoped to do haven't been accomplished; I do plan on helping with at least two new program sessions next year.

There are many strengths of the WSS but the main strength is the people we can draw upon. This is evident in the candidates for our elections this year. I felt very fortunate to be elected two years ago and want to express my thanks for this opportunity to serve the Washington Statistical Society.

RICH ALLEN
President, WSS Board of Directors 1988-1989

...And I'm Here to Help
A Note from Rich Allen

One of my least favorite jokes of all time concludes with the statement "I'm from Washington and I'm here to help." It portrays government agencies as large, misguided organizations and their representatives as nonthinking dolts.

Even though the connotation of that joke is so bad I would like to see all members of the Washington Statistical Society adopt a true "I'm here to help" attitude for the Joint Statistical Meetings this August. These will be the biggest meetings ever which means there will be an amazing number of activities and tremendous confusion. There will be many people looking for basic assistance and guidance. Let's try to provide as much help as we can.

What can we do to help? I am like many of you in that I haven't visited most Washington hotels and I am well familiar with only a small portion of the city. However, I hope to get myself better oriented before the sessions so I can at least point visitors I meet on the street in the correct direction. The first day of the meetings, please note the location of the information and registration areas so you can help others find their way. Above all, show our visitors a friendly greeting and a true willingness to try to help.

VOlUNTEERS WANTED: Gertrude Cox Scholarship Race

The Gertrude Cox Scholarship Race is scheduled for August 6, 1989—the first day of the ASA meetings. For more information about the race, see the entry form enclosed in the newsletter. We need your help with putting on the race. All volunteers will receive a Gertrude Cox t-shirt plus an opportunity to meet ASA members on an informal basis! If you can help with registration, set up a water table, be a sentry, or work at the finish line, please call or write Virginia deWolf, 1719 Luzerne Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910, or call 301/588-8812 and leave a message on her recorder.

Short Course: Analysis of Binary Data

Sheila Edwards, ASA Manager of Continuing Education-Grants and Contracts, is pleased to announce that Sir David R. Cox and Joyce Snell will present a two-day short course on the "Analysis of Binary Data" at the August 1989 Sesquicentennial Annual Joint Statistical Meeting in Washington, D.C. The course will be based on the revised edition of Professor Cox's book which will be published in July 1989. Contact the ASA Continuing Education Program for registration details.
ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

Call for Volunteers

The 150th anniversary of the founding of the American Statistical Association (ASA) is in 1989. The celebration of the Sesquicentennial will culminate in the 1989 Joint Statistical Meetings which will be held in Washington, D.C. from August 6 through August 10 at the Washington Sheraton and Omni Shoreham hotels.

The Local Arrangements Committee is a special Washington Statistical Society Committee which has been active throughout 1988-1989. Committee members (listed below) have been busy preparing articles for the AMSTAT News, preparing restaurant and city highlights guides, and coordinating with ASA on publicity requirements. They are also organizing the Information Desk, which must be staffed by volunteers throughout the meetings.

The committee needs volunteers for several tasks: assembling notebooks prior to the meetings, helping with publicity during the meetings, and most importantly, staffing the Information Desk. Volunteers who work at the Information desk will be scheduled in two-hour shifts.

Volunteering is a good way to meet other statisticians. Any WSS member is welcome to volunteer. As an enticement, any full-time student (WSS membership not required) will receive FREE REGISTRATION in exchange for volunteering to work at the Information Desk.

Those who want to volunteer should call Leslie Christovich at 547-0741 and leave your name, phone number, and area of interest (publicity, information desk, or general) on her answering machine.

Members of the 1989 Local Arrangements Committee:

Nancy Kirkendall (Chair)
Dwight Brock (ENAR Co-representative and restaurant guide)
Sherrie Emoto (ENAR co-representative)
Nancy Fournier (IMS representative)
Mary Garvin (*Newsletter articles)
Mary Batcher (Newsletter articles)
Virginia deWolf (*Highlights guide)
Stan Freedman (Highlights guide)
Stephanie Shipp (Highlights guide and publicity)
Carolee Bush (Highlights guide)
Julia Oliver (*Restaurant guide)
Evelyn Kay (Restaurant guide)
Yahia Ahmed (Restaurant guide)
Pankaj Ghosh (*Information desk)
Terri Shelton (Information desk)
Robert Parker (*Publicity)
Leslie Christovich (Volunteer coordinator)

(*Indicates subcommittee chair)

EMPLOYMENT COLUMN

The Washington Statistical Society Newsletter provides a service of notification of employment opportunities and descriptions of those seeking employment here in Washington. Evelyn Kay, who is in charge of this service, has achieved a high success rate. Readers are encouraged to take advantage of this feature of the newsletter. Deadline for inserting notices is 5 (five) weeks before the publication date. Those interested should write to: Evelyn R. Kay, 2510 Virginia Avenue, N.W., #709, Washington, D.C. 20037, Phone 337-8418.

JOB OPENINGS

SURVEY STATISTICIAN, GS-1530-5/7/9

Assists others to identify parameters and questions to be addressed by statistical studies. Assists in reviewing sampling plans and designs. Has knowledge of probability theory and sampling. Examines scientific and technical literature to develop options for addressing products using well-established statistical methods and concepts. Performs mathematical calculations and analyses required to implement the work planned. Prepares working drafts of tables, graphics, and text summarizing study findings. Has knowledge of ADP software, systems, and capabilities. Applicants must meet OMB educational and experience requirements. Send resume to: Robert E. Frye, Director; Division of Hazard Analysis, Directorate for Epidemiology, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20270. For further information, call 301/492-6470.
JOB OPENINGS (continued)

Immediate opening for GS 12/13 STATISTICIAN, PSYCHOLOGIST, or SURVEY METHODOLOGIST to conduct applied research on questionnaire design issues, and to develop methods to reduce response error. Will participate in development and laboratory testing of questionnaires to be used in national health surveys. Position is located in the Questionnaire Design Research Laboratory, National Laboratory for Research in Cognition and Survey Measurement, National Center for Health Statistics. Questionnaire design skills and knowledge of sources of response error are essential. Background in statistics and/or cognitive or social psychology is also essential. Additional experience in planning, conducting, and analyzing research projects is desirable. CV to: Patricia Royston, Office of Research and Methodology, Room 1-29, National Center for Health Statistics, 3700 East West Highway, Hyattsville, MD 20782; or phone 301/436-7111.

STATISTICIAN/DEMOGRAPHER

Claritas currently has two excellent career opportunities for both a mid-level and a senior statistician/demographer. Claritas is a demographic market research company specializing in demographic market segmentation. Both positions are in our data product development group which is responsible for the development of proprietary segmentation systems, demographic estimates and projections, and custom client statistical models. Candidates should have an M.S. in Statistics or Demography, solid expertise in linear regression and multivariate techniques, and programming experience. We seek very talented people and in return offer freedom, flexibility, and the opportunity for profession growth. Please send your resume to: Personnel Director, Claritas, 201 N. Union Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

The Division of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Department of Community and Family Medicine, Georgetown University School of Medicine is seeking a doctoral level (Sc.D., Ph.D., Dr. P.H.) BIOSTATISTICIAN/EPIEMDEIOLOGIST at the Instructor or Assistant Professor level to fill a full-time, non-tenure track position. Primary responsibility will be to provide biostatistics/epidemiology expertise for investigators throughout the School of Medicine. In addition, there will be an opportunity to participate in the medical and graduate teaching programs of the Division. Doctorate in biostatistics/epidemiology and experience with statistical computing including SAS are required. Prior participation in collaborative clinical research and data base management are highly desirable. The position is to be filled at the earliest possible date. Please send letter of intent, c.v., and names of three references to: Leonard Chiazze, Jr., Sc.D., Professor and Director, Division of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, Room 402 Kober-Cogan Hall, Georgetown University School of Medicine, Washington, D.C. 20007. Georgetown University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.
JOB OPENINGS (continued)

STATISTICIAN
The Biometry and Field Studies Branch, Division of Intramural Research, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Public Health Service (PHS), announces an opening for a Statistician. Candidates must be U.S. citizens and have education and experience in statistics of biostatistics, statistical software, and strong oral and written communication skills. Responsibilities include statistical analysis of data from large collaborative observational studies, selection of appropriate statistical software, and preparation of reports. Applicants must meet Office of Personnel Management (OPM), X-118 qualification standards for the Statistician-1529 or 1530 series, obtainable at Federal Job Information Centers or by calling Mr. Wallace Holland on (301) 496-6334. Depending on qualifications and experience, starting salary ranges between GS-09 ($23,846 per annum) and GS-11 ($31,123 per annum). At the GS-11 level a Master’s Degree in statistics or a Bachelor’s Degree with appropriate experience is required. At the GS-9 level, a Bachelor’s Degree in statistics and appropriate experience is required. Applications from women and minorities are invited. Interested candidates should send a curriculum vitae, a brief statement of research interests, and the name of three references to: Dr. Mary A. Foulkes, BFSB, DIR, NINDS, Federal Building, Room 7A08, National Institutes of Health, 7550 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20892, Telephone: (301) 496-6818. EOE.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS ANALYST
The Automation and Research Computing (ARC) Section of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in Washington is seeking candidates for the above position.

As part of the Division of Research and Statistics, analysts within ARC work closely with Board economists to develop and modify computer-based analysis tools used principally on a Sun network.

Candidates should possess the following qualifications:

- BA/BS or MAMS background in Quantitative Economics, Applied Mathematics, or Statistics or equivalent work experience
- Experience with development of applications and use of commercially available software in the above mentioned areas of study
- Working knowledge of FORTRAN and C required, and knowledge of object oriented language(s) a real plus
- Experience with Unix in workstation environment extremely useful.

The operational environment consists of:

- Over 100 Sun workstations, access to personal computers and the Board's VM and MVS mainframe environments
- Development software - a full selection of compilers, Mathematica, S Language, other sophisticated analysis and database management systems.

United States citizenship is required. The Federal Reserve Board of Governors is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Salary is commensurate with experience. Send resume and salary requirements to the attention of: Elizabeth Flanagan, M.S. 96; Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; 20th and Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20551.
JOB OPENINGS (continued)

**SAMPLING STATISTICIAN**

The Institute for Survey Research (ISR) of Temple University has an immediate job opening for a Sampling Statistician. Responsibilities are to provide statistical sampling designs, oversee execution and evaluation of designs, write sampling sections for proposals, supervise Sampling Department staff, and consult with staff members of ISR and clients. Also includes maintenance and implementation of ISR's 100 PSU National Sampling Frame. Ph.D. in statistics in appropriate relevant field (e.g., sociology) or M.S. with equivalent experience in survey research required. Salary negotiable, commensurate with background and experience. Opportunity exists, but not necessarily, for dual role as Sampling Statistician and Study Director. Send letter and resume to: Dr. Leonard LoSciuto, Institute for Survey Research, Temple University, 1601 N. Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19122. EOE

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**Mathematical Statistician**

GS-9/11/12

The Mathematics and Statistics Division of the Food Safety and Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is seeking a Mathematical Statistician for its Statistical Analysis Branch. The branch provides statistical support for USDA's Meat and Poultry Inspection Program. The branch assists in sample surveys, data analysis, quality control, laboratory methods development, statistical reporting, and in establishing the warranted limits of statistical inference. Candidates must have demonstrated education in the areas of applied statistics, data analysis, and statistical computing. Position has minimum educational requirements. U.S. citizenship and a critical-sensitive security clearance are required. Equal opportunity employer. Call Rhonda Carr at 447-6617 for a vacancy announcement and application information.

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**Supervisory Mathematical Statistician**

GM-14

The Mathematics and Statistics Division of the Food Safety and Inspection Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is seeking candidates for Chief of its Statistical Analysis Branch. The branch provides statistical support for USDA's Meat and Poultry Inspection Program. The branch assists in sample surveys, data analysis, quality control, laboratory methods development, statistical reporting, and in establishing the warranted limits of statistical inference. The incumbent must have broad statistical knowledge and experience and be able to manage a large number of projects in an environment where priorities change frequently. Position has minimum education requirements. U.S. citizenship and a critical-sensitive security clearance are required. Equal opportunity employer. Call Rhonda Carr at 447-6617 for a vacancy announcement and application information.
JOB APPLICANTS

Listed below is a brief description of the qualifications of an applicant seeking employment. Employers interested in interviewing this applicant should notify Ms. 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 #89-02
Position wanted: Government Technical Manager/Supervisor at GM15 level, or GM14 level with strong promotion potential
Education: B.A. in Physics and Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics
Contact directly: 202/447-7042

CODE #89-03
Objective: Position as Applied Mathematician, specializing in Statistical Analysis
 Desired Salary: $30,000/year with private industry
 Location preference: D.C. Metropolitan Area
 Professional Experience:
 Seasonal Adjustment of Time Series data (2 years)
 Econometric Forecasting (2 years)
 Mathematical Optimization Techniques (3 years)
 Reliability of Computer Systems (1 year)
 Computer Knowledge:
 TSO, JCL, and WYLBUR on IBM mainframe
 Micro computer communication packages Crosstalk and PcLink
 SAS (5 years) on mainframe and micro computer
 Education:
 B.A. Mathematics With Specialization in Statistics
 Central Connecticut State University
 Contact directly: 703/243-3959