



# WSS NEWS

WASHINGTON  
STATISTICAL  
SOCIETY

September 1993

**\*\*\* Congratulations! \*\*\***

The balloting results are in and the following people were elected to the Board of Directors of the Washington Statistical Society (WSS):

<p><b>President-Elect (1993-94)</b> Sue Ahmed, National Center for Education Statistics</p> <p><b>Methodology Program Chair (1993-94)</b> Michael P. Cohen, National Center for Education Statistics</p> <p><b>Representative-at-Large (1993-94)</b> Howard Hogan, Bureau of the Census</p> <p><b>Representatives-at-Large (1993-95)</b> Mary Batcher, Internal Revenue Service A. Richard Bolstein, George Mason University</p> <p><b>Secretary (1993-95)</b> Ruth Ann Killion, Bureau of the Census</p>
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Welcome to the new Board!

A round of applause also goes out to nine WSS members who were recently elected Fellows of the American Statistical Association (ASA). This honor goes to:

- William R. Bell, Bureau of the Census
- Charles E. Caudill (Posthumous),  
National Agricultural Statistics Service
- Nancy L. Geller, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
- Hermann Habermann, Office of Management and Budget
- Nancy J. Kirkendall, Department of Energy
- Edward L. Korn, National Cancer Institute
- Lars Lyberg, Statistics Sweden
- Dale L. Preston, Radiation Effects Research  
Foundation Hiroshima
- Robert T. Smythe, George Washington University

<b>WSS Seminars</b>		
(All events are open to any interested persons)		
<b>September</b>		
1	Wed.	Marginal Regression for Repeated Categorical Data with Outcome Subject to Nonignorable Nonresponse
15	Wed.	Displaying Data for Decision Makers
22	Wed.	Handling Missing (or Bad) Data: The Application of Regression Weighting to the 1987-1988 Nationwide Food Consumption Survey
23	Thurs.	GARCH or Sudden Changes in Variance? An Empirical Study
28	Tues.	Should the American Statistical Association Certify Statisticians?
29	Wed.	Quantum Statistical Inference
<b>November</b>		
4	Thurs.	Morris Hansen Lecture, What Respondents Learn from Questionnaires: The Survey Interview and the Logic of Conversation

## **SPECIAL SESSION**

**Should the ASA Certify Statisticians?**  
**Speaker: Stuart Hunter, President of ASA**  
**Tuesday, September 28, 1993**  
**2:30 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Details on page 11 of this newsletter.**

## **Announcements**

### **Barbara Ballar Receives Shiskin Award**

Barbara Bailer, Executive Director of the ASA, received the Julius Shiskin Award for Economic Statistics at the WSS Annual Dinner in June. The Shiskin Award, sponsored by the WSS and the National Association of Business Economists honors unusually original and important contributions to aid in the measurement and interpretation of the economy or especially sound and innovative research in economic statistics. Bailer, formerly, Associate Director for Statistical Standards and Methodology at the Bureau of the Census, was cited for her contributions in modernizing, improving, and extending the Census Bureau's statistical programs. In the Census Bureau's Statistical Research Division, then later in the Research Center for Measurement Methods, Bailer's statistical research and analysis of the Decennial Census of Population and Housing and the Current Population Survey directly led to major improvements in both these Census programs. Later, as Associate Director for Statistical Standards and Methodology, Bailer's work in undercount and nonsampling error in the

decennial census led to major improvements in the quality of the U.S. Census. Throughout her distinguished career, Bailer's work has exhibited the highest standards of quality, thoughtfulness, and professional integrity.

### **Sixth Annual Federal Forecasters Conference**

The Sixth Annual Federal Forecasters Conference (FFC/93) will be held at the Crystal Gateway Marriot in Crystal City, Virginia on September 8, 1993. This conference will provide an opportunity for forecasters from different federal agencies to meet and discuss various aspects of forecasting in the United States Government, as well as to learn new forecasting techniques. Concurrent sessions are planned for the discussion of forecasting methodologies and techniques, and for the expansion of information networks. There is no charge for registration or attending. Anyone interested in attending should contact Ronald Earley, chairperson of the organizing committee, at the Energy Information Administration on (202) 586-1398.

**Letter from the President:  
Some Possible Projects for the New Year**

With the new year new issues are being raised, and with the hope of keeping the WSS responsive to these issues I would like to mention some possible projects that I am interested in pursuing. If any of these projects appeal to you, I would appreciate any assistance that you might be able to offer.

1. **Reminiscences in the newsletter.** I believe that the "institutional memory" that is represented by the membership of the WSS is imperfectly preserved. This is to some extent unavoidable but possibly we can reduce the loss. One possibility is to have a small section of each newsletter dedicated to reminiscences from some of our members. These might be recollections of the initial circumstances surrounding current technical problems--including earlier ideas of how to deal with the problem. These might also be interesting anecdotes, etc. Those interested in contributing should mail or fax the submissions to me. Also, any further thoughts on how the institutional memory of the WSS can be better preserved would be welcome. It is possible that we might be able to have interviews similar to those in Statistical Science.

2. **Certification.** There is currently an effort underway to certify statisticians. This matter is now at a crucial stage in its development, i.e., very serious consideration, and it is important that everyone educate themselves about the advantages and disadvantages of this proposal. The WSS has scheduled a session concerning this topic on September 28, 1993. See page 11 in this newsletter for further details.

3. **Microsimulation modeling.** The new administration is interested in several policy initiatives, especially health care reform. A principal tool that models the costs and benefits of policy initiatives is microsimulation modeling. There was a recent report from the Committee on National Statistics concerning the evaluation of these models, and this is an area of increasing interest. Jack Rodgers of Price Waterhouse has offered to arrange several talks on microsimulation models this year to help educate us about this area. Furthermore, the broader issue of model validation and the development of uncertainty intervals is one that I am personally interested in; there may be a few talks concerning the validation of models in other settings. See the announcement on page 14 in this newsletter.

4. **Defense statistics.** About one year ago the Committee on National Statistics held a workshop on "Statistical Issues in Defense Analysis and Testing". This workshop made clear the need for greater interaction of the defense and statistical communities, not only for testing of weapons systems, but also more broadly. Nancy Spruill has offered to organize some talks this year on statistical issues in defense. I am sure that WSS members inside, as well as outside, of the defense community will discover much of interest in these talks.

**5. Membership.** Over the last few years the membership of the WSS has declined by at least 10%. This is even more disturbing when compared to the concurrent substantial increase in ASA membership. We will try to counter this trend in several obvious ways: (1) we will try to determine whether and why members are not renewing, possibly through a survey, (2) we will try to determine whether and why new arrivals are not joining, again possibly through a survey, and (3) we will try various ways of enticing people to join or rejoin. Hopefully, with some effort, this trend can be arrested or reversed. Ideas or help here would be especially welcome.

**6. Electronic information.** There are additional ways of informing people about our programs, especially electronic bulletin boards, that have not been investigated. It is probably time to do that.

**7. WSS's relationship with the Washington academic community.** The recent establishment of the Maryland/Michigan/Westat Joint Program in Survey Methodology has raised a number of issues about WSS's interaction with academic institutions, the degree to which joint sponsorships should be undertaken, the use of the newsletter, etc. This is the year to resolve these matters. A committee will be formed to draft a proposal.

**8. Financial matters.** The increasing amount of cash flow handled by the WSS, situations that arise in joint sponsorship of short courses, the possibility that the WSS might need liability insurance, and other matters point towards the need for greater attention to our finances. WSS will probably need to contract for some professional help on these matters. This will receive a great deal of attention in the coming year.

To close, I would like to mention that I am greatly honored to be president of the WSS. Marie Argana's outstanding performance last year will serve as a splendid example to me, and we are all greatly in her debt. I hope this coming year will be as successful as last year. As you all know, WSS only works because of volunteers. If there is anything that you would like to contribute, please give me a call at (202) 254-5464.

Michael L. Cohen  
President, WSS

## 1992-93 Annual Report

The 1992-93 program year of the WSS was active and successful. Some of the highlights of the past year are summarized below:

- The Morris Hansen Memorial Lecture was held at the Jefferson Auditorium of the Department of Agriculture and featured Wayne A. Fuller from Iowa State University.
- The Short Course Committee sponsored three courses: Applied Survey Data Analysis Methods with Rick Williams; Resampling Methods for Complex Surveys given by J.N.K. Rao; and Self-Administered/Mail Surveys presented by Don Dillman.
- The Quantitative Literacy program continued to grow and gain influence in schools in the Washington area. In recognition of their efforts, the President's Award was presented to Ron Fecso, Shail Butani, Sharon Bobbit, and Terry O'Connor.
- The WSS hosted an Academic Fair at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Representatives from area universities were on hand to talk about their graduate programs to potential students.
- The timeliness and quality of the WSS Newsletter was outstanding during the year. The editors, Wendy Alvey and Bettye Jamerson, also received the President's Award at the Annual Dinner.
- There were 74 regular technical sessions which drew 2,842 attendees--an average of 38 per session. (See page 6 for a full summary of session attendance.)
- We presented awards to 43 students at five regional science fairs. In addition, we continue to sponsor the Curtis Jacobs Award, which was presented to students from the Kettering Middle School in Upper Marlboro, MD.

As you can see, it was a successful year, thanks to the efforts of the Board. A special thanks goes to the program chairs who organized all the sessions and to the speakers and discussants who shared their expertise and helped us to stay informed about new developments in the statistical community.

Our challenge for the coming year will be to focus on attracting new members to the WSS so we can increase our membership base and interest. We need to know if our sessions meet your needs...and if not, contact any Board member to give him/her your suggestions.

I have enjoyed serving you during the past year and I look forward to continued participation in the WSS.

Marie Argana  
Past President, WSS

<b>THE 1992-93 YEAR IN REVIEW</b> Washington Statistical Society Program Summary			
Program Section	Number of Sessions	Average Attendance	Total Attendance*
<b>Total</b> .....	74	38	2842
<b>Agriculture &amp; National Resources</b> .....	6	23	139
(John Herbert/Carol House)			
<b>Economics</b> .....	5	21	105
(Linda Atkinson/Art Kennickell)			
<b>Methodology</b> .....	18	33	596
(Tapan Nayak/Phil Kott)			
Handling Missing (or Bad) Data .....	5	44	219
Other .....	13	29	377
<b>Data Collection Methods</b> .....	6	28	169
(Jared Jobe/Clyde Tucker)			
<b>Physical Science and Engineering</b> .....	5	17	87
(Tom Mazzuchi/Refik Soyer)			
<b>Public Health and Biostatistics</b> .....	7	45	317
(Barry Graubard/Dean Follman)			
<b>Quality Assurance</b> .....	6	42	250
(Ken Riccini/Sid Schwartz)			
<b>Social and Demographic Statistics</b> .....	10	39	392
(Michael Greene/Mike Horrigan)			
<b>Statistical Computing</b> .....	3	22	67
(Dan Carr/Franklin Winters)			
<b>Short Courses</b> .....	3	92	275
(Glenn White/Mary Batcher)			
<b>Special Events</b> .....	5	89	445
(Theresa Hallquist/Kim Long/ Lorraine McCall--Social Events) (Morris Hansen Committee--Hansen Lecture) (Nancy Flournoy--Academic Fair)			

\*Roster estimates updated 8/4/93.

## Program Abstracts

- Topic:** Marginal Regression for Repeated Categorical Data with Outcome Subject to Nonignorable Nonresponse
- Speaker:** Stuart G. Baker, National Cancer Institute
- Chair:** Barry I. Graubard, National Cancer Institute
- Day/Time:** Wednesday, September 1, 1993, 11:00 AM - 12:00 Noon (Note Special Time)
- Location:** Conference Room G, Executive Plaza North, 6130 Executive Blvd., Rockville, MD
- Sponsor:** Public Health and Biostatistics Section  
Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, National Cancer Institute
- Abstract:** The regression model for incomplete repeated categorical data consists of a data and a nonresponse model (Laird, 1988). The data model specifies a regression for the marginal probabilities of response using a success parametrization (Ekholm, 1991, 1992 and Lipsitz, Laird, and Harrington, 1990) to incorporate dependence. The nonresponse model accommodates both ignorable and nonignorable missing-data mechanisms using a novel hazard formulation. Maximum likelihood estimates and asymptotic standard errors are computed using software for composite linear models (Baker--1992, 1993a, and 1993b).

**\* \* \* Note from WSS NEWS Editors \* \* \***

Items for publication in the November 1993 WSS NEWS should be submitted no later than September 28, 1993. FAX items to:

Hattie Ramseur or Theresa Hallquist  
FAX: (202) 586-0018

## Program Abstracts (Cont'd)

**Topic:** Displaying Data for Decision Makers

**Speaker:** Brand Niemann, Environmental Protection Agency  
Herbert Lacayo, Environmental Protection Agency

**Chair:** Michael P. Cohen, National Center for Education Statistics

**Day/Time:** Wednesday, September 15, 1993, 12:30 - 2:00 PM

**Location:** BLS Cognitive Lab, Postal Square Building, Room 2990, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, DC (Red Line--Union Station) Enter at Massachusetts Ave. and North Capitol St. Federal government employees show ID; nongovernment employees call Ed Riddick at (202) 606-7376 to add name to visitors' list.

**Sponsor:** Methodology Section

**Abstract:** Problems faced by decision makers are increasingly multivariate-cross, media-cross disciplinary in nature. Data analysts are then forced to examine and display very costly data in a holistic manner not intended by the data originators. Further, the data must be displayed in a manner accessible to decision makers who may not be conversant with the subject matter science. Good ways of doing this are in short supply.

An interim framework for presenting the "facts and figures and the discipline" of environmental statistics using an innovated information system is described. The interim framework includes the following concepts/methods and products: (1) Metadata Standards: Guides and Databases Published; (2) Classification of indicators: Sourcebook of Indicator Fact Sheets for the Public; (3) Spatial Metadata and Statistics: Atlas of Selected Databases and Cross-Media Issues; (4) Data Integration: Annual Reports to the Public on Problem Areas and National and Regional Goals; (5) Information System: Infobases on Agency Servers and the Internet; and (6) Strategic Quality Planning: Master Data Infobase for EPA Planners and Managers. Applications of the interim framework are illustrated with sample products that have been produced or are being produced.



## Program Abstracts (Cont'd)

- Topic:** Handling Missing (or Bad) Data: The Application of Regression Weighting to the 1987-1988 Nationwide Food Consumption Survey (sixth in a series)
- Speaker:** Phillip S. Kott, National Agricultural Statistics Service
- Chair:** Michael P. Cohen, National Center for Education Statistics
- Day/Time:** Wednesday, September 22, 1993, 12:30 - 2:00 PM
- Location:** BLS Cognitive Lab, Postal Square Building, Room 2990, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, DC (Red Line--Union Station) Enter at Massachusetts Ave. and North Capitol St. Federal government employees show ID; nongovernment employees call Ed Riddick at (202) 606-7376 to add name to visitors' list.
- Sponsor:** Methodology Section
- Abstract:** Professor Wayne Fuller of Iowa State University and his colleagues Marie M. Logan and Harold D. Baker devised regression weights to compensate for the nonresponse in the 1987-1988 Nationwide Food Consumption Survey (about 63 percent at the household level). Their paper, which is the topic of this seminar, describes the 27 calibration equations that the regression weights satisfy and the Huang-Fuller algorithm used to produce them. This algorithm is a modification of original-sample-weighted least squares, which assures that no weight is negative.

The authors also compute measures of the gains and losses in accuracy caused by using their approach rather than a naive alternative--the sample mean (the survey was designed to be self-weighting). The source of accuracy gain is the presumed removal of nonresponse bias. The source of accuracy loss is the increased variance resulting from variability of the weights.

In addition to reviewing the substance of the paper, the presenter will offer his own comments.

## Program Abstracts (Cont'd)

- Topic:** GARCH or Sudden Changes in Variance? An Empirical Study
- Speaker:** Carla Inclan, Georgetown University
- Discussant:** Allan Burnner, Federal Reserve Board
- Chair:** Linda Atkinson, U.S. Department of Agriculture/Economic Research Service
- Day/Time:** Thursday, September 23, 1993, 12:30 - 2:00 PM
- Location:** 1301 New York Ave., NW, Washington, DC (13th & NY Avenue), Waugh Auditorium, in basement (Blue/Orange Line--between Metro Center and McPherson Square). Call Linda Atkinson on (202) 219-0505 to place your name on the guard's list for entry.
- Sponsor:** Economics Section
- Abstract:** Financial time series, like stock prices and exchange rates, have been modeled as random walks. However, it has been observed that the rates of change (differences of the logarithm of price) are not independent: there is a tendency to see large values followed by large values, not necessarily of the same sign, and small values followed by small values. There are periods of high volatility and periods of less volatility. A popular approach to model this type of series uses Autoregressive Conditional Heteroscedastic (ARCH) models (Engle, 1982) and GARCH models (Bollerslev, 1986) where the conditional variance changes over time as a function of the past, while the unconditional variance is constant. Another approach (Inclan, 1991) allows for sudden changes in the unconditional variance. This work compares these two approaches. In particular, when there is a GARCH model with unit roots, it is possible that the series be better described allowing for sudden changes in the unconditional variance. A simulation study is carried out to assess to what extent we can discriminate between the two structures with the tools that have been proposed in the literature. Then we study several observed exchange rate series to determine what model describes them better.

## Program Abstracts (Cont'd)

- Topic:** Should the American Statistical Association Certify Statisticians?
- Speakers:** Stuart J. Hunter, American Statistical Association  
Paul J. Smith, University of Maryland at College Park
- Chair:** Michael L. Cohen, U.S. Department of Energy
- Day/Time:** Tuesday, September 28, 1993, 2:30 - 4:00 PM (Note **Special Time**)
- Location:** BLS Training Center, Suite G-440, Postal Square Building, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, DC (Red Line--Union Station). Enter at First Street. Federal government employees show ID; nongovernment employees call Ed Riddick at (202) 606-7376 to add name to visitors' list.
- Sponsor:** Washington Statistical Society
- Abstract:** The ASA is considering a plan to certify statisticians. The most recent draft of the certification proposal was printed in the July 1993 issue of the *AmStat News*, pp. 22-27. If the ASA Board of Directors approves the plan, certification would begin July 1, 1994--less than a year away. Because this represents a major policy initiative, some ASA members have proposed that no certification plan be adopted until the entire membership has had an opportunity to vote on the issue. The speakers will briefly discuss the arguments for certification as well as some of the concerns about certification that have been raised by the ASA members such as: (1) What will certification accomplish? (2) Who wants to be certified? (3) Will certification become a requirement for federal government statisticians? (4) Is certification the best way to improve the quality and status of statisticians? (5) What will be the financial impact of certification on the membership? After the presentations, the meeting will be open for questions and extended floor discussion.

## Program Abstracts (Cont'd)

- Topic:** Quantum Statistical Inference
- Speaker:** James D. Malley, National Institutes of Health
- Chair:** Refik Soyer, George Washington University
- Day/Time:** Wednesday, September 29, 1993, 12:00 - 1:00 PM (Note Special Time)
- Location:** Staughton Hall, Room 301, George Washington University, 707 22nd St., NW, Washington, D.C. (Blue/Orange Lines--Foggy Bottom/GWU)
- Sponsors:** Physical Sciences and Engineering Section  
George Washington University, Department of Operations Research
- Abstract:** The three main topics of this talk are: (1) Quantum mechanical data differ from conventional data; for example, joint distributions usually cannot be defined; (2) Rigorous methods have been developed for analyzing such data, the methods often use quantum-consistent analogs of classical statistical procedures; and (3) With these procedures, both data analytic and more theoretically oriented statisticians can become active participants in many emerging areas of science and biotechnology.

In the physical realm described by quantum mechanics, many familiar statistical and probabilistic assumptions no longer hold. Probabilistic ideas are central to quantum theory, but the standard Kolmogorov axioms are not uniformly applicable. Studying such phenomena requires an altered model sample spaces, random variables, and for inference and decision making.

Moreover, parts of quantum theory are now more clearly apprehended in terms the quantum-consistent statistical decision theory. For example, the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle is now a consequence of the quantum version of the Cramer-Rao inequality. This places concepts of statistical estimation and decision theory, and thus the statistician, at the center of quantum measurement process. This talk provides a very brief tour of the structure and current applications of quantum-consistent statistical inference and decision theory. It presents examples, outlines the theory, and considers applications and open problems.

## Program Abstracts (Cont'd)

### Third Annual Morris Hansen Lecture

- Topic:** What Respondents Learn from Questionnaires:  
The Survey Interview and the Logic of Conversation
- Speaker:** Norbert Schwarz, University of Michigan
- Discussants:** Eleanor Singer, Columbia University and U. S. Census Bureau  
David Cantor, WESTAT, Inc.
- Chair:** Nancy Kirkendall, Department of Energy
- Date/Time:** Thursday, November 4, 1993, 3:30 p.m. (Note Special Time)
- Location:** Jefferson Auditorium, South USDA Building, 14th Street and Independence, NW  
Washington, DC (Blue/Orange Line--Smithsonian, Independence Ave. Exit)
- Co-Sponsor:** National Agricultural Statistics Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture
- Reception:** Following the lecture, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Abstract:** From a social-cognitive perspective, the survey interview is best considered as an ongoing conversation that includes the intertwined tasks of question comprehension, recall of information from memory, computation of an answer, and reporting of this answer to an interviewer. The contributions of the interviewer/researcher include apparently formal aspects of the questionnaire, such as the response alternatives provided to respondents, and respondents treat these contributions as they treat any other contribution to an ongoing conversation. That is, they proceed on the basis of the cooperativeness principle that governs the conduct of conversation in everyday life.

Conforming to these conversational norms requires a considerable degree of inference to determine which information is "informative" in the specific context given. In the survey interview, this context is, in part, constituted by the questionnaire. Apparently formal aspects of questionnaire design, therefore, influence respondents' interpretation of the question, determine which information they use in making a judgment, and which responses they consider appropriate to report.

Experimental research demonstrates that apparently minor changes of supposedly formal features of questionnaire design may strongly affect the obtained responses, resulting, for example, in differences of up to 30 percentage points in factual reports of behaviors or in correlations of .1 or of .7 between a behavioral report and related attitudes, depending on the choices made at the questionnaire construction stage.

## Announcements (Cont'd)

### **New Methodology Seminar Series on Small Domains**

The WSS Methodology Section will be starting a new seminar series on Small Domains. The topics will include estimation and design not only for small geographic areas but also for other small domains (e.g. less numerous racial or ethnic groups). The Section especially encourages papers providing a broad overview and papers that address actual methods used by government agencies and others. If you have an idea for a seminar in this series, please contact Michael P. Cohen (NCES) at (202) 219-1917. In addition to seminar speakers for the new series, the Section needs new speakers, discussants, and chairs to participate in any of the ongoing series on Variance Estimation and Research; the Analysis of Data from Complex Surveys; Editing, Imputation, and Other Methods of Handling Missing (or Bad) Data; and in sessions on other methodological topics. Please contact Michael P. Cohen or Phil Kott at (703) 235-5211, ext. 102, if you are interested.

### **BLS Statistical Seminars**

BLS will host three seminars this month:

■Topic--"Nonparametric Calibration of Multipurpose Sample Weights;" Speaker--Raymond L. Chambers, Australian National University; Date--Tuesday, September 7, 1993, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

■Topic--"Saddlepoint Methods in Finite Population Problems;" Speaker--Suojin Wang, Texas A&M University; Date--Monday, September 27, 1993, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

■Topic--"Bootstrap Confidence Intervals in Finite Populations;" Speaker--James Booth, University of Florida; Date--Tuesday, September 28, 1993, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Please note earlier time.)

Location: BLS Cognitive Lab, Room 2990, Conference Room 1 and 2, Postal Square Building, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Washington, DC (Red Line--Union Station). Enter at Massachusetts Ave. and North Capitol St. Federal government employees show ID; others should call Ed Riddick at (202) 606-7376 a week in advance to add name to visitors' list. For further information, call Alan Dorfman at (202) 606-7378.

### **New Seminar Series: Microsimulation**

WSS will offer a new seminar series on policy microsimulation beginning this fall. The series will be coordinated by Jack Rodgers, Director of Health Policy Analysis at Price Waterhouse and a microsimulation modeler at the Congressional Budget Office for nine years. Rodgers organized a conference on microsimulation last fall that attracted more than 150 participants.

Microsimulation, or policy analysis based on computer simulations, is getting more attention than it has at any time since 1980. The renewed interest in microsimulation began with the release of a 1991 National Academy study and has intensified with the arrival of a new President. Microsimulation is likely to play a key role in both health and welfare reform.

Although microsimulation has never been a core subject field in statistics, it is closely related to many familiar traditional topics

## Announcements (Cont'd)

including statistical imputation of missing data, selection of sample weights, variance estimation, and monte carlo techniques.

Rodgers, coordinator of the new series, is seeking papers, discussants, and chairs for microsimulation sessions. If you have suggestions for a topic or a paper to present, or if you would be willing to serve as a chair or discussant, write or call: Jack Rodgers, Price Waterhouse, Suite 700, 1801 K Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20006, Voice (202) 822-8529, Fax (202) 296-2785.

### **Joint University of Maryland - University of Michigan Program in Survey Methodology**

The Joint University of Maryland - University of Michigan Program in Survey Methodology (JPSM) announces four short courses to be held in the Fall, 1993 and Winter, 1994 in the Washington, D.C. area, including:

"Introduction to Questionnaire Design," November 17-18, 1993, at the Capital Hyatt taught by Nora Cate Schaeffer;

"Cognitive and Communicative Aspects of Survey Measurement," December 6-7, 1993, at the Capital Hyatt taught by Norbert Schwartz;

"Measurement Errors in Surveys," January 25-26, 1994, at the University of Maryland Conference Center taught by Paul Biemer;

"Self-Administered/Mail Surveys," February 23-24, 1994 at the Capital Hyatt taught by Don Dillman.

Call the JPSM at 1-800-937-9320 for more information about the courses and registration.

## Obituaries

### **Paul F. Krueger**

Paul F. Krueger, 85, a statistician who retired as acting chief of the statistical standards division of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), died of a cerebral hemorrhage June 9, 1993 at Arlington Hospital. He retired from OMB in 1973, after 27 years with that agency and its predecessors. In addition, Krueger was President of WSS in 1960-61. He was a member of the ASA, the National Economics Club, and the American Economics Association as well. A native of Kirksville, Mo., he was a graduate of the University of Missouri where he received a master's degree in economics.

### **Max Conklin**

Max Conklin, a leading authority of industrial statistics both nationally and internationally, died on June 30, 1993 at age 86. He received his degree from the University of California at Berkeley. Conklin was on the staff of the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, D.C. as Assistant Chief in the Division of Research and Statistics. In 1941, Conklin assumed responsibility as the Chief of the Industry Division of the Bureau of the Census. He made significant contributions to industrial statistics in international conferences and activities of the United Nations, Organizations for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the Inter-American Statistical Institute. During his career, he was recognized as a fellow of both the ASA and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Conklin completed his government career as Associate Director for Economic Fields of the Bureau of the Census from which he retired in 1968.

## Employment Column

As a service to local statisticians, *WSS News* provides notification of employment opportunities and description of those seeking employment here in the Washington, DC, area. Readers are encouraged to take advantage of this feature of the newsletter. The deadline for inserting notices is five (5) weeks before the publication date. Those interested should write or call: Bill Arends, USDA-NASS, Room 4133 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-2000, (202) 720-6812.

### Vacancies

#### Biostatisticians

The Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, a non-profit medical research and education foundation, is seeking a Ph.D. biostatistician to manage the Biostatistics Department of its HIV research project. Responsibilities include collaborating with civilian and military researchers studying HIV/AIDS as well as supervising four statisticians and two programmers in the design and analysis of epidemiological and clinical investigations. Individual must possess three years supervisory experience, have a familiarity with HIV infection/AIDS, and have five years experience in the design and analysis of medical research. Master's degree is required. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

The Foundation is also seeking a biostatistician. Duties of the incumbent will include identifying statistical methods, conducting analysis, and presenting findings of data sets analyzed; becoming familiar with new techniques of analysis and the ability to implement the same; and providing support to researchers with regards to statistical methods

applicable to study design such as power calculations, sample size, length of study, effect of drop outs, etc. The applicant will be required to have statistical analysis experience with psychometrics and social science (psychology and sociology) applications. Experience with survey data is desirable, but not necessary. Must have three to five years experience. Ph.D. desired, M.S. is required. Salary will be commensurate with experience.

Interested applicants for either position should send a resume and cover letter to: Human Resources Department, The Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine, 1401 Rockville Pike, Suite 600, Rockville, MD 20852 Attn: Biostatistician.

#### Statisticians/Mathematical Statisticians

The Office of Applied Studies, in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), is recruiting for statisticians to join its Division of Surveys and Analysis (GS 13/14). These positions will involve work on SAMHSA's national sample surveys of hospital emergency rooms, substance abuse treatment facilities, and related institutions. Positions are available for persons with expertise in one or more of the following areas: statistical programming (primarily SAS), analysis of complex survey data, sample selection and maintenance, development of weights, survey management, questionnaire design, design and conduct of methodological studies, and drug abuse epidemiology. Send SF-171 to Janie Dargan, Chief, Services Statistics Branch, Office of Applied Studies, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockwall II, Suite 615, Rockville, MD 20857.



## Employment Column (Cont'd)

### Research Scientists

The Survey Research Center (SRC) of the University of Michigan seeks applicants for research scientist positions to conduct research on survey methods, provide direction on the introduction of new methodological developments in the SRC surveys, and provide graduate and postgraduate teaching in survey methodology. It will be comprised of Director, several Ph.D. level research staff, and support staff. Most staff will be located in Ann Arbor, MI, however, three will be located at the Joint Program in Survey Methodology in College Park, MD. The SRC seeks applicants from persons with research interest in survey statistics, including sample design, variance estimation with complex sample designs, weighting and imputation, model-based vs. design-based inference, measurement error models, and small area estimation. The positions are tenured or tenure-track in the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research. Applicants for a tenured level appointment should have a strong record of funded research, publication, and proposal development in sampling and survey statistics. Applicants for tenure-track positions should have promise for leadership in survey methodology research indicated by initial accomplishment and future potential. Applicants should forward a curriculum vitae to: James M. Lepkowski, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106-1248.

### Job Applicant

Listed below is a brief description of the qualifications of an applicant seeking employment. Employers interested in interviewing an applicant should write or call: Bill Arends, USDA-NASS, Room 4133 South Building, Washington, DC 20250-2000; (202) 720-6812. All requests should include the code number from the applicant's ad and 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 kept confidential.

#### Applicant #93-01

**Experience:** Director of Research -- Oversaw subcommittee investigation and interpretation of domestic monetary policy and economic issues. Together with the staff director, managed subcommittee hearings. Provided background data and analysis for subcommittee and committee reports. Statistician -- Acted as an in-house consultant between the Data Processing Division and other Divisions regarding statistical data and their use of its analysis. Mathematical Statistician -- Analyzed and evaluated intelligence collection by military field representatives.

**Education:** B.S. in Economics at the University of Pennsylvania, M.S. in Statistics at Case-Western Reserve University.

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