



WASHINGTON  
STATISTICAL  
SOCIETY

# WSS NEWS

September 1994

**\*\*\* 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 (1994-95)</b> Ron Fecso, National Agricultural Statistics Service</p> <p><b>Methodology Program Chair (1994-95)</b> Sandra West, Bureau of Labor Statistics</p> <p><b>Representatives-At-Large (1994-96)</b> Shail Butani, Bureau of Labor Statistics Howard Hogan, Bureau of the Census</p> <p><b>Treasurer (1994-96)</b> Carolyn Shettle, National Science Foundation</p>
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A round of applause also goes out to seven WSS members who were recently elected Fellows of the American Statistical Society (ASA). This honor goes to:

- Dennis O. Dixon, National Institutes of Health
- Raghu Kacker, National Institute of Standards and Technology
- Jay H. Lubin, National Cancer Institute
- Mary H. Mulry, Bureau of the Census
- Stanley Presser, Joint Program in Survey Methodology
- Robert D. Tortora, Bureau of the Census
- Margaret C. Wu, National Institutes of Health

<b>WSS Seminars</b>	
(All events are open to any interested persons)	
<p><b>September</b> 13    Tues.</p>	Measurement Error Analysis of the Effects of the Newly Redesigned Current Population Survey (First in the new series on Statistics with Non-Precise Data)
<p>20    Tues.</p>	Trading Day Effects Models for Flow Series and Stock Series
<p>21    Wed.</p>	A Hierarchy of List-Assisted Stratified Telephone Sample Design Options
<p>28    Wed.</p>	Designed Extension of Studies Based on Conditional Power
<p><b>October</b> 13    Thurs.</p>	W. Edwards Deming: Statistical Methodologist

## Announcements

### **1994 Julius Shiskin Award Given to Richard D. Allen and Joel Popkin**

The Washington Statistical Society and the National Association of Business Economists announced today that the 1994 Julius Shiskin Award has been jointly awarded to Richard D. Allen of the National Agricultural Statistics Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and Joel Popkin of Joel Popkin and Company.

The Julius Shiskin Award was established by the family of the late Julius Shiskin and is administered by the Washington Statistical Society and the National Association of Business Economists. The committee said that the award was intended to honor original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics and in their use in interpreting economic events. Mr. Shiskin's government career as an economic statistician spanned more than 30 years during which time he worked at the U.S. Bureau of the Census, the Office of Management and Budget and culminated at the U.S. Department of Labor as the Commissioner of Labor Statistics.

In recent years the award has also been received by Barbara Bailer of the American Statistical Association and formerly the Associate Director of the U.S. Bureau of the Census; Carol C. Carson, Director of the Bureau of Economic Analysis; and the late Stephen P. Taylor of the Federal Reserve Board.

In granting the 1994 award, the committee said that Joel Popkin was "instrumental in fostering and implementing the extensive program of research that lead to the modernization of the Consumer Price Index". Dr. Popkin developed an innovative "demand/supply ratio" that is now widely used as a gauge of current and perspective inflationary pressure. The committee also said that Dr. Popkin "has been a strong advocate for new and improved statistics, and.....he has fostered a broader public

understanding of the importance and value of economic statistics".

Richard D. Allen was awarded this year's prize for his original and outstanding contributions to the application of statistics to agricultural economics. The committee also said Dr. Allen played a "major role in guiding the annual farm cost and returns survey, which provided critical information on both production expenditures and costs of production".

Martin Fleming, Chairman of the Julius Shiskin Award Committee said "the award has taken on increased importance in recent years as the demands on the statistical system have increased and as funding and other resources have been constrained". Dr. Fleming said further "we need to encourage innovative research and development activity on the part of economists and statisticians at all levels of government. It is our hope that by recognizing the work of these senior members of the profession, younger researchers will be spurred on to new heights."

### **Symposium on Recent Developments in Experimental Design**

A symposium on recent developments in the design of experiments will be held at The George Washington University on Saturday, November 19, 1994. There will be two sessions, one on Bayesian experimental design and the other on adaptive designs, each with invited speakers and panel discussants. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. The symposium is jointly sponsored by The George Washington University, The American University, and the Washington Area Consortium of Universities. At press time, registration was anticipated to be between 50 and 75 dollars.

For more information and registration materials, call the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, The American University, (202) 885-3120.

## Program Abstracts

- Topic:** Measurement Error Analysis of the Effects of the Newly Redesigned Current Population Survey (First in the new series on Statistics with Non-Precise Data)
- Speaker:** Stephen Miller, Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Chair:** Sandra A. West, Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Date/Time:** Tuesday, September 13, 1994, 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 Avenue and North Capitol Street.
- Sponsor:** Methodology Section
- Abstract:** The official monthly labor-force estimates since January 1994 have been based on data from a comprehensively redesigned Current Population Survey (CPS). The redesign incorporates changes in the basic questionnaire and collection methodology. To better understand the effect of the CPS redesign on published estimates, a Parallel Survey was conducted from July 1992 to December 1993 using a separate monthly sample of households approximately one-fifth the size of the regular CPS sample. Because of the small sample size, monthly estimates from the Parallel Survey are highly variable. To help analysts interpret the 1994 monthly CPS estimates, measurement error models were used to estimate the effect of the redesign on published estimates. We present the results of that analysis, and discuss current work on estimating *comparable* historical series for CPS.

## Program Abstracts (Cont'd)

- Topic:** Trading Day Effects Models for Flow Series and Stock Series
- Speaker(s):** Bor-Chung Chen, Bureau of the Census  
David F. Findley, Bureau of the Census
- Chair:** William P. Cleveland, Federal Reserve Board
- Discussant:** Allan H. Young
- Date/Time:** Tuesday, September 20, 1994, 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 Avenue and North Capitol Street.
- Sponsor:** Economics Section
- Abstract:** In the literature, a variety of regression models for trading day effects have been presented, mostly for flow series. We shall show that some of these, including the model used by the X-11 seasonal adjustment program with an additive seasonal adjustment decomposition, are not compatible with a "first principles" model that yields the most widely used model, that of Young (1965). Some results will be presented from an evaluation study involving a number of TD models available in a test version of X-12-ARIMA which were fit, as regression models with ARIMA errors, to more than a hundred Census Bureau times series. The study demonstrates the versatility of Young's model in X-11 and the inadequacy of the F-statistic used in X-11 to determine the statistical significance of estimated multiplicative flow trading day effects. It also shows that one popular model, implemented in the BAYSEA seasonal adjustment program, has an unacceptably unstable estimate of leap-year effects. Another conclusion is that statistically significant trading day effects are present in many stock series, but in the majority of series we considered, the estimated effects are not practically significant.

## Program Abstracts (Cont'd)

- Topic:** A Hierarchy of List-Assisted Stratified Telephone Sample Design Options
- Speaker:** Clyde Tucker, Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Chair:** Michael P. Cohen, National Center for Education Statistics
- Date/Time:** Wednesday, September 21, 1994, 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 Avenue and North Capitol Street.
- Sponsor:** Methodology Section
- Abstract:** Only about 20 percent of the telephone numbers in the United States are assigned to residences, and the search for these residential numbers increases the cost of surveys. The most popular method for reducing the problem of locating households was first proposed by Mitofsky (1970) and fully developed by Waksberg (1978). Unfortunately, there are several disadvantages which become apparent when the Mitofsky-Waksberg technique is applied to standard, time-limited cross-sectional surveys. This paper, based on an approach developed by Casady and Lepkowski (1991), offers a number of alternative list-assisted designs for use in a variety of situations. These designs avoid most of the problems associated with the Mitofsky-Waksberg design.

### **\* \* \* Note from the WSS NEWS Editors \* \* \***

Items for publication in the November 1994 WSS NEWS should be submitted no later than September 27, 1994. FAX items to:

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

## Program Abstracts (Cont'd)

- Topic:** Designed Extension of Studies Based On Conditional Power
- Speaker:** Michael A. Proschan, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
- Chair:** Sally Hunsberger, National Cancer Institute
- Discussant:** Janet Wittes, Statistics Collaborative
- Date/Time:** Wednesday, September 28, 1994, 1:30-3:30 PM (Note special time)
- Location:** Conference Room H, Executive Plaza North, 6130 Executive Blvd., Rockville, MD
- Sponsor:** Public Health and Biostatistics
- Abstract:** A flexible method of extending a study based on conditional power is proposed. It is intended to be used when the p-value at the planned end is small but not statistically significant. The observed treatment difference at the first stage is used to determine the number of additional observations to take and the critical value to use at the last stage. Even though the observed treatment difference at stage 1 is used to make decisions, the Type I error rate is protected.

**Call (703) 803-8109**

*A New WSS Service*

To get timely updates on WSS scientific meetings, social events and other items of interest you can now call (703) 803-8109. WSS is instituting this telephone bulletin board as one of a series of steps to modernize the way it serves its members. The bulletin board is an experiment that should allow us to better communicate within the Washington Statistical Society. Remember, for late breaking information or when your newsletter has not arrived, call (703) 803-8109.

## **Program Abstracts (Cont'd)**

### **SPECIAL METHODOLOGY SESSION ON W. EDWARDS DEMING SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER**

(In honor of W. Edwards Deming's many contributions to statistical methodology and for the occasion of the 94th anniversary of his birth, Carl E. Pierchala (NHTSA), organizer.)

- Topic:** W. Edwards Deming: Statistical Methodologist
- Speaker(s):** Barbara A. Bailar, American Statistical Association  
Thomas W. Nolan, Associates in Process Improvement
- Chair:** Michael P. Cohen, National Center for Education Statistics
- Discussant(s):** (To be announced later)
- Date/Time:** Thursday, October 13, 1994, 12:30-2:30 PM (Please mark the date and time on your calendar.)
- Location:** BLS Training Center, Postal Square Building, Suite G-440, Room 1, 2 Massachusetts Avenue NE, Washington, DC (Red Line -- Union Station). Enter at First Street.
- Sponsor:** Methodology Section
- Abstract:** Ed Deming is best remembered today for his work in quality management but he was also a statistical methodologist. Indeed, he served as WSS Methodology Chairperson in the 1969-70 and 1970-71 program years. Our speakers, both accomplished statisticians, will each give 30-minute presentations focusing on Deming's uses of and contributions to statistical methodology. Barbara Bailar will emphasize sampling and surveys, and will also mention Deming's contributions to the American Statistical Association. Tom Nolan will focus on the statistical aspects of quality control, and will also discuss "enumerative vs. analytic studies", a concept championed by Deming.

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has become the custom for the incoming President to include a letter to the membership in the September newsletter. In keeping with that custom, I would like to begin by thanking you, the WSS membership, for your continuing support to our society. I hope that you will continue that support during the coming year by:

- renewing your WSS membership
- getting a colleague who is not currently a member to join WSS
- attending technical sessions
- joining with us in special sessions like the Morris Hansen lecture
- participating in social events like the Christmas party and the Annual Dinner
- volunteering your time if you are able.

All of these activities are great for you to see what's going on in the statistical community, to learn about some technical topic, and to keep in touch with or meet colleagues from other agencies, universities, and private industry. I would especially encourage new members, those who are new to the area, and those who are not new to the area but have not been involved with WSS to give it a try.

There are many areas where we can use help, both for Board activities and for special programs such as quantitative literacy. We are especially in need of one or more persons to take over the WSS Newsletter next year (July 95). Theresa Hallquist and Hattie Ramseur, who have done a great job this past year, are beginning their second and last year as editors. We would like to get someone on board soon so they can have some time to see what's required. If you might be interested, give Theresa (202-586-2051) or Hattie (202-586-1124) a call. I am also very interested in hearing from you with any suggestions you might have on how to improve WSS, new ideas for activities, or any other input you might like to provide to help us make WSS an even better society.

I would like to thank Mike Cohen for his dedicated efforts this past year as WSS president with several new activities such as "Reminiscences" in the newsletter, efforts towards increasing membership, planning of a session in memory of Mahalanobis, and a series of lectures on microsimulation.

The Board will begin the new year by examining a number of issues and setting priorities on what to emphasize this year. Among topics needing attention are the following:

- Ways to increase and maintain WSS membership
- Budget issues
- Possible use of e-mail for transmitting WSS Newsletters to members
- Establishment of an award program and an ASA special session in honor of Roger Herriot
- Establishing better linkage between the Jacobs Award and the Quantitative Literacy Program.

If you have suggestions or ideas related to these or other issues, please give me a call at 202-219-1781. I hope that this year will be as successful as the past several years have been. With your support, it can be!

Sue Ahmed  
President, WSS



## 1992 - 1993 Annual Report

The 1993-94 program year of the WSS was again a very active one. Some of the highlights of the past year are summarized below:

- A lecture on the proposal to certify statisticians was given by ASA President Stuart Hunter this past September. The presentation was greatly aided by the discussion of Paul Smith of the University of Maryland.
- The Third Annual Morris Hansen Memorial Lecture was held at the Jefferson Auditorium of the South USDA Building in November and featured Eleanor Singer of Columbia University speaking on "What Respondents Learn from Questionnaires: The Survey Interview and the Logic of Conversation." The discussant was David Cantor of WESTAT.
- The Short Course Committee sponsored three excellent short courses: Nonsampling Error in Surveys given by William Kalsbeek and Judith Lessler, Applied Bayesian Statistics given by Robert Kass and Larry Wasserman, and Multiple Imputation given by Don Rubin, assisted by Joe Schafer and NCHS.
- The Quantitative Literacy program continued its great work. Especially active were the chair Ron Fecso, and local quantitative literacy coordinators Shail Butani, Dwight Brock, and Gary Shapiro. Special recognition also goes to Lee Abramson for coordinating volunteers for the Science Fair. We presented awards to 41 students at 5 regional science fairs.
- The difficult job of newsletter editor was seamlessly undertaken by Theresa Hallquist and Hattie Ramseur.
- C.R. Rao presented a talk on the contributions of P.C. Mahalanobis to statistics as a commemoration of the centenary of Mahalanobis' birth.
- A very useful talk on "Improving Statistical Presentations" was given by Wendy Alvey, Beth Kilss, Nancy Kirkendall, and Nancy Spruill in June.
- An exemplary, very full year for the methodology team of Phil Kott and Michael P. Cohen was topped off by a session on reminiscences of the WSS Methodology Section. The speakers were: Sam Greenhouse, Joe Waksberg, Barbara Bailar, Fritz Scheuren, and Phil Kott. Rich Allen served as moderator.
- The WSS President's Award was presented at the annual dinner to Dwight Brock for his work with the Council of Chapters and on Quantitative Literacy, and Linda Atkinson and Art Kennickell for their work as program chairs of the economics section.
- There were 52 regular technical sessions which drew 1325 attendees-- an average of 25 per session. (See page 11 for a full summary of session attendance.)
- We continued to sponsor the Curtis Jacobs Award, which was presented to students from the Rocky Run Middle School in Fairfax, Virginia.

- In response to one of the stated goals for the year, Ed Goldfield prepared a note on reminiscences at the Census Bureau. Ed's note has now brought a contribution from Jim Bonner, which will be included in the next issue. In addition, the speaker at the annual dinner, W. Allen Wallis, focused his remarks, which were a delight, on reminiscences of Washington and Washington statistics from 1935 until the 1970s.
- The Shiskin award winners, presented at the annual dinner, were Rich Allen of the National Agricultural Statistics Service, and Joel Popkin of Joel Popkin and Company.
- The most remarkable occurrence during the past year was the work of Rich Allen and Mary Ann Higgs in producing two booklets that provided invaluable detail on the various officers, award winners, etc. of the WSS, and the speakers and their topics for all of our 100-year history.

It is evident that last year was a successful year, thanks again to the efforts of the Board and a variety of other volunteers. Obviously, the greatest thanks is reserved to the program chairs who organized the technical sessions, and the speakers and discussants who shared their time and expertise to help us stay on top of the latest developments in statistical methodology and application.

We have many challenges facing us in the coming year. The age of internet is upon us and we have to take advantage of this new technology. Further, WSS faces some choices concerning finances, recruitment of new members, and the purpose and frequency of the newsletter. We want WSS to continue its various wonderful traditions, yet be responsive to the dynamic world of Washington statistics. I am comforted that Sue Ahmed is already at work to help us accomplish this.

I have greatly enjoyed the past year, and I look forward to continued participation in WSS activities.

Michael L. Cohen  
Past President, WSS

**THE 1993-1994 YEAR IN REVIEW**  
**Washington Statistical Society**  
**Program Summary**

Program Section	Number of Sessions	Average Attendance	Total Attendance
Total	61	31	2017
Agriculture & Natural Resources (Carol House/John Herbert)	5	19	95
Economics (Linda Atkinson/Art Kennickell)	8	29	232
Methodology (Phil Kott/Michael P. Cohen)	16	31	486
Data Collection Methods (Jared Jobe/Theresa deMaio)	3	34	102
Physical Science and Engineering (Refik Soyer/Tom Mazzuchi)	2	25	50
Public Health and Biostatistics (Sally Hunsberger/Barry Graubard)	6	15	90
Quality Assurance (Amrut Champaneri/Phil Gbur)	2	24	48
Social & Demographic Statistics (Michael Greene/Michael Horrigan)	7	21	147
Statistical Computing (Dan Carr/Franklin Winters)	3	25	75
Short Courses (Glenn White/Jeri Mulrow)	3	74	222
Special Events (Kim Long - Social Events, Morris Hansen Committee - Hansen Lecture, Lecture on Certification, Rao Lecture, Giving Statistical Presentations)	6	78	470

\*Roster estimates, adjusted for incompleteness, and imputed for missing data.

## Announcements Cont'd

### **Curtis Jacobs Memorial Award 1993-94**

The Curtis Jacobs Memorial Award was established in 1991 by the Washington Statistical Society and the American Statistical Association (ASA). Mr. Jacobs, a long-time member of ASA and the Institute for Mathematical Statistics, was the chief mathematical statistician on the Consumer Price Index, the Producer Price Index, and several major economic statistics programs conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The award is given annually to secondary school students in the Washington, D.C. area to encourage them to become familiar with the conduct of sample surveys and the use of survey data. The winners of the 1993-94 Award were Ben Byer, Eric Kneisel, Ethan Sacks, David Maga who were seventh and eighth grade students at the Rocky Run Middle School in Fairfax County, VA. They were each awarded \$50 U.S. savings bonds and winners certificates at the 1994 WSS annual dinner in June. Their mathematics teacher, Rebecca Bartelt, also attended the dinner and was awarded a wall plaque.

The WSS and ASA are soliciting additional contributions to the Jacobs Memorial fund in order to maintain the program at its current level. Your tax deductible contribution may be sent to Penny Young, American Statistical Association, 1429 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3402.

### **New Methodology Seminar Series on Statistics with Non-Precise Data**

The WSS Methodology Section will be starting a new seminar series on Statistics with Non-Precise Data. Real data are often more or less non-precise. Therefore realistic statistical analysis has to take care of this imprecision of measurements. In order to obtain reasonable results, it is necessary to describe non-precise data quantitatively before statistical inference is carried out. Topics in this series can range from

estimation based on censored data, effects of measurement errors on observed least squares estimates to inferences based on such data which involve fuzzy sets or belief functions. 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 Sandra A. West (BLS) at (202) 606-7384.

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 Small Domains, Variance Estimation and Research, the Analysis of Data from Complex Surveys, and Editing, Imputation, and Other Methods of Handling Missing (or Bad) Data -- and in sessions on other methodological topics.

Please contact Sandra A. West or Michael P. Cohen at (202) 219-1917 if you are interested.

### **George Mason University Course Offerings for 1994-95 in the Federal Statistics Program**

The Department of Applied and Engineering Statistics at George Mason University offers a graduate certificate program and a Masters degree program in Federal Statistics. All courses are offered in late afternoon or evening. The following certificate courses will be offered in the fall of 1994. STAT 654 Applied Statistics, Wednesday 7:20-10:00 p.m.; STAT 663 Exploratory Data Analysis, Wed. 4:30-7:10 p.m.; STAT 670 Survey Sampling, Thur. 7:20-10:00 p.m.; STAT 672 Statistical Inference in Survey Sampling, Monday 7:20-10:00 p.m. At least one solid undergraduate course in probability and statistics at the third year level is prerequisite. STAT 672 has a prerequisite of STAT 670. For more information on these and other statistics courses and programs offered, call (703) 993-1680 or fax your request to (703) 993-1700.

## Announcements Cont'd

### **Mid-Atlantic Probability and Statistics Day at American University**

This year's Mid-Atlantic Probability and Statistics Day will be held Saturday, 22 October 1994 at the American University in northwest Washington, DC. This informal meeting provides an opportunity for professionals in academia, government and industry to meet and discuss common interests. Graduate students are encouraged to come and participate. (The registration fee will be waived for graduate students.)

The invited speakers will be Richard Durrett of Cornell University and E. Parzen of Texas A & M. In addition, there will be contributed paper sessions for those wishing to make a presentation. If you want to make a presentation, please send a short (less than 50 words) abstract along with your name and affiliation to the address below by 16 September. (E-mail submissions are preferred).

There will be a \$10 registration fee. For more information contact John Nolan, Mid-Atlantic Probability and Statistics Day, Math/Stat Department, American University, 4400 Mass. Ave NW, Washington, DC 20016. E-mail address: [jpnolan@american.edu](mailto:jpnolan@american.edu).

### **International Conference on Survey Measurement and Process Quality: Call for Papers**

The International Conference on Survey Measurement and Process Quality will be held April 1-4, 1995 at the Bristol Marriot in Bristol, U.K. The submission deadline for papers is September 15, 1994. Abstracts for contributed papers are sought on the following topics: design and specification (e.g., questionnaire design, scales, classification systems, confidentiality issues); data collection (e.g., respondent errors, interviewer errors, mode effects); post survey processing and

operations (e.g., manual coding errors, automated coding, data entry quality); quality assessment and control (e.g., measures of survey quality, evaluation methods, error models and error analysis); error effects on estimation, analysis, interpretation (e.g. analysis in the presence of errors, program evaluation, error effects on modeling).

Approximately 175 contributed papers will be accepted. Send two copies of a 1-2 page abstract with \$100 submission fee to arrive by September 15, 1994, to Lee Decker, Conference Planner, American Statistical Association, 1429 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3402, U.S.A. (703) 684-1221.

### **Visualizing Data: The New Frontier in Data Analysis**

The Joint Program in Survey Methodology (JPSM) is offering a short course, "Visualizing Data: A New Frontier of Data Analysis", on September 19-20, 1994 at the University of Maryland Conference Center. The instructor is William Cleveland who is a Department Head in the Mathematical Sciences Research Center at AT&T Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill, NJ. This course will present visualization tools that provide deep insight into the structure of data. This course will examine graphical tools such as coplots, brushing, and banking to 45 degrees, as well as fitting tools such as loess and bisquare.

Registration is \$325. For billing and registration, contact the JPSM at (800) 937-9320; fax (313) 764-8263; or E-mail [JPSM@UM.CC.UMICH.EDU](mailto:JPSM@UM.CC.UMICH.EDU).

Other courses which have been tentatively scheduled for the Fall include Cognitive and Communicative Aspects of Survey Measurement in November, 1994 and Introduction to Survey Sampling in December, 1994. Contact the JPSM at the above number for further information.

## 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

#### Biostatistician/Statistician

Biostatistical consulting company seeks Master's level (bio)statistician for design, SAS programming, and analysis for clinical studies. Ability to juggle several complex projects simultaneously is necessary. Send resume to Janet Wittes, Ph.D., Statistics Collaborative, 1710 Rhode Island Avenue NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20036.

#### Statisticians

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has positions available for Survey Statistician GS-1530-9/11/12, and Health Statistician GS-1530-13, at the Directorate for Epidemiology in Bethesda, MD. For details, interested applicants should contact: Bob Frye, Director, Division of Hazard Analysis, (301) 504-0470, Ext. 1264.

Duties of the Survey Statistician: plans, initiates, directs, and coordinates special studies of injuries attributable to certain consumer products. Duties of the Health Statistician: designs, initiates, monitors, and reviews surveys and special studies that are conducted for injury data analysis. Qualifications required: a bachelor's or higher degree which includes 15 semester hours in statistics (or in mathematics and statistics provided at least 6 semester hours are in statistics).

#### Data Resources Manager

The Survey Research Center, University of Maryland, College Park, MD seeks an individual to supervise data quality assurance and manage data for all telephone and mail surveys.

Candidates should have solid programming and organizational skills with a strong interest in survey research. Experience with Dbase, SAS, SPSSPC for moderately large datasets required. Mail resume to Johnny Blair, Associate Director, Survey Research Center, 1103 Art-Sociology Building, Campus Drive, College Park, MD 20742. No calls.

#### Statistician/Epidemiologist

The Center to Protect Workers' Rights seeks a statistician or epidemiologist to carry out analysis of health and medical data on workers in the construction industry. A master's degree in statistics, epidemiology, or related field and a minimum of two years of experience is desirable. Experience with particular computer packages, particularly SAS, essential. Contact Dr. Earl Pollack or Dr. Knut Ringen, Director, Center to Protect Workers' Rights, 111 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001. Telephone: (202) 962-8490.

#### Middle-to-Senior Level Statisticians

Employee-owned SAIC is hiring statisticians to DESIGN, DIRECT, and MANAGE statistical and analytical aspects of multi-disciplinary, public-sector projects in environmental and health program areas. Successful candidates will possess a master's degree or doctorate in statistics. Please forward a resume with salary history to SAIC, Dept\MAG-55, 1710 Goodridge Drive, McLean, VA 22102.

## Obituaries

### Roger Herriot

Roger Herriot, 52, associate commissioner of the National Center for Education Statistics at the US Department of Education, died April 20, 1994 at Georgetown Hospital of a pulmonary embolism resulting from an accidental fall at a vacation home in Edgewater April 17.

Mr. Herriot was a specialist in economic statistics who formerly was chief of the population division at the Bureau of the Census. He had been an associate commissioner for statistical standards and methodology at the Education Department for 3 years. His work there included development of a database on the nation's 15,000 school districts for use by educational researchers and policy makers. At Census, which he joined in 1969 after moving to the Washington area, Mr. Herriot devised methods to update data for federal revenue-sharing programs. He also worked on models for estimating after-tax incomes that are used for determining revisions in tax laws.

In 1988, he received the Julius Shiskin Award for Economic Statistics for his work in finding ways to measure and analyze the economic well-being of Americans.

Mr. Herriot was born in Huron, S.D. and raised in Colorado. After serving in the Army, he received a bachelor's degree from Colorado State University and a master's degree in economics from the University of Connecticut. He was a fellow of the American Statistical Association. His hobbies included the making of pottery and stained glass, photography and sailing.

### Harold Nisselson

Harold Nisselson, 75, a statistician who retired from the Census Bureau in 1979 as associate director for statistical standards and methodology, died of a lung ailment May 12, 1994 at Arlington Hospital. Mr. Nisselson worked at the Census

Bureau initially from 1940 to 1963. During that period, he designed and directed experiments that led to census taking by mail, used for the first time in 1970.

He was a senior scientist at Operations Research Inc. and assistant director for research at the National Center for Education Statistics before rejoining the Census Bureau in 1974. After his retirement, he was a senior statistician at Westat, Inc., a Rockville statistical survey company.

Mr. Nisselson was a graduate of the City College of New York. He was President of the Washington Statistical Society 1973-74 and a fellow of the International Statistical Institute.

### Churchill Eisenhart

Churchill Eisenhart, 81, a retired senior research fellow at the National Bureau of Standards and a past president of the American Statistical Association (1971), died of cancer June 25, 1994 at Suburban Hospital. Mr. Eisenhart joined the National Bureau of Standards, now the National Institute of Science and Technology, in 1947. Mr. Eisenhart founded its Statistical Engineering Laboratory and headed it until 1963, when he became a senior research fellow. He retired in 1983.

An authority on the use of statistics in research and manufacturing, Mr. Eisenhart espoused the principle that researchers not only should expect variable results from tests but also should know what causes the variability. This will determine the level of confidence placed in test results.

Mr. Eisenhart graduated from Princeton University, where he also received a master's degree in mathematics. In 1937, he received a doctorate in mathematical statistics from University College in London. For the next 10 years, he taught at the University of Wisconsin.

<b>President</b> Sue Ahmed (202) 219-1781	<b>Past President</b> Michael L. Cohen (202) 586-6782	<b>President-Elect</b> Ron Fecso (703) 235-5213
<b>Secretary</b> Ruth Ann Killion (301) 763-3807	<b>Treasurer</b> Carolyn Shettle (703) 306-1780	

### WSS Program Chairs

<b>Agriculture &amp; Natural Resources</b> Carol House (202) 720-3895 John Herbert (202) 586-4360	<b>Economics</b> Linda Atkinson (202) 219-0505 Art Kennickell (202) 452-2247	<b>Methodology</b> Phillip Kott (703) 235-5211 Michael P. Cohen (202) 219-1917
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