



WASHINGTON
STATISTICAL
SOCIETY

WSS NEWS

February 1995

Modern Data Analysis *WSS Short Course*

On Wednesday and Thursday, March 1 & 2, 1995, from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, the Washington Statistical Society Short Course Committee will sponsor a two-day short course on Modern Data Analysis. The course will be held in the Old Georgetown/Congressional Room of the Hyatt Regency Bethesda. The instructor is Dr. Brant Deppa from Winona State University in Winona, MN.

The goal of this short-course is to demonstrate how to use S-Plus as a powerful and graphical system for the analysis of real data sets. The importance of interactive analysis and visualization will also be stressed. Topics covered will include methods for the visualization of data; linear, non-linear, robust, and smooth regression methods, multivariate analysis, and tree-based methods. Course materials will provide all of S-Plus commands used in the examples as well as code for additional functions that are not part of the standard S-Plus function library.

Course Outline

- I. Methods for the Visualization of Data
- II. Regression Methods
- III. Modern Regression
- IV. Tree-Based Models
- V. Multivariate Methods
- VI. Resampling Methods

For further information, see the enclosed flyer.

WSS Seminars	
(All events are open to any interested persons)	
February 10 Fri.	Problems In Estimating Usual Dietary Intakes
March 10 Fri.	Graphical User Interface Tools in Data Editing/Analysis
March 1 Wed. 2 Thurs.	Short Course: Modern Data Analysis

Call (703) 803-8109 for up-to-date information.

Announcements

Electronic Distribution of Newsletter

WSS is considering distributing the monthly newsletter and schedule via electronic means. Electronic distribution offers several advantages to the present surface mail procedures, primarily much improved timeliness of delivery at significantly lower postal and administrative cost. Participation in the electronic delivery would be voluntary, and should lead to reduced cost and lower member dues.

Those interested in electronic delivery could choose between receiving the newsletter via electronic mail (in a text format), or could retrieve the newsletter via an Internet Gopher or Mosaic utility. No surface mailing would be sent to those who choose to receive the newsletter electronically.

If you are interested in receiving the WSS Newsletter and schedule via electronic means, please send a note to Vince Massimini, svm@mitre.org. If you wish to receive the newsletter via email, include your Internet mail address. (Recall that this may be different than your address internal to your organization. The Internet address is what is required.) If you would prefer to retrieve the newsletter via Gopher or Mosaic, then indicate so. Any general comments or suggestions would be welcome. If you submitted your name/address last month, there is no need to submit again.

Thanks for your support. We believe that this initiative will result in much better service to WSS members at a lower cost to the Society.

Cognitive Laboratory Methods in Survey Research and Design

The Joint Program in Survey Methodology (JPSM) is currently accepting registrations for a short course entitled "Cognitive Laboratory Methods in Survey Research and Design" presented by Judith

Lessler and Barbara Forsyth on March 28-29, 1995. *The registration deadline for this course is March 15, 1995.*

The instructors will present an introduction to cognitive aspects of survey measurement and cognitive measurement issues in the context of total survey design. Participants will learn research methods adapted from cognitive sciences that are used to study survey response errors. They will also gain experience in using cognitive laboratory methods to review questionnaire materials and to identify potential problems in question and response wordings, question formats, and question-answering tasks.

The course will be presented at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, VA. Registration is \$350 for nonstudents and \$200 for full-time students (with supervising faculty member signature). Early registration is encouraged because JPSM courses tend to fill up quickly. To request a registration form, call (800) 937-9320 or send E-Mail to JPSM@UMICH.EDU.

Census Bureau's Annual Research Conference

The Census Bureau's Annual Research Conference (ARC 1995) will be held March 19-23, 1995 at the Key Bridge Marriott in Arlington, VA, only 5 miles from National Airport and two blocks from Metro. ARC 1995 will comprise a mix of topics such as address registers, determining census content, census questionnaire response research, defining households, ethnicity, sampling in census taking, small area estimation, measuring international trade, data quality in longitudinal surveys, agriculture, and census evaluation. For further information, contact Ms. Maxine Anderson-Brown, ARC Conference Coordinator, Office of the Director, Bureau of the Census, Washington, DC 20233, (301) 456-2308.

Program Abstracts

- Topic:** Problems In Estimating Usual Dietary Intakes
- Speaker:** Patricia M. Guenther, U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Chair:** Sally Hunsberger, National Heart Lung and Blood Institute
- Date/Time:** Friday, February 10, 1995 1:30 - 3:00 PM (Note special time)
- Location:** Conference Room H, Executive Plaza North, 6130 Executive Blvd., Rockville, MD
- Sponsor:** Public Health and Biostatistics
- Abstract:** Dietary data are collected in surveys that monitor the dietary and health status of the population, in epidemiologic research, and in clinical trials. They are used to judge nutritional adequacy, to evaluate the effectiveness of food assistance programs, and in food safety risk assessments. Many important questions require an estimate of the "usual" intake distribution of a food, nutrient, or other dietary component, where "usual" is defined as the long-run average intake for an individual.
- Practical problems arise when collecting data for estimating usual intake distributions, when coding the data for use with a nutrient database, and when constructing the nutrient database. Data collection issues include subjects' ability to provide the desired level of detail for food descriptions and amounts, the length and number of observations needed to estimate the parameters of interest, the temporal aspects of dietary intake such as weekday-weekend and seasonal variation, and the cultural appropriateness of the data collection instrument and method.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) surveys have approached the estimation of usual intake distributions by collecting multiple days of food intake data, which are linked to a nutrient database. An estimation strategy for estimating usual intake distributions, developed at Iowa State University using USDA survey data, is described conceptually.

Program Abstracts (Cont'd)

- Topic:** Graphical User Interface Tools in Data Editing/Analysis
- Speakers:** Sharon Mowry, Federal Reserve Board
Alan Estes, Federal Reserve Board
- Chair:** Po Kim, Federal Reserve Board
- Date/Time:** Friday, March 10, 1995, 12:30 - 2:00 PM
- Location:** Dining Room E, Terrace Level, Martin Building (Federal Reserve Board Annex, next to the State Department), C Street between 20th and 21st Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20551. Allow 15 minutes to walk from Farragut West or Foggy Bottom Metro stations. (Note: The security guard at the "C" Street Entrance will direct you to Dining Room E.)
- Sponsor:** Statistical Computing Section
- Abstract:** In November 1994, David A. Pierce and Laura Bauer Gillis from the Federal Reserve Board presented a paper on "Utilizing Time Series and Cross Section Methods In EDDS (Edited Deposits Data System) Editing." The EDDS data are a key resource supporting the monetary policy-making and open market operations of the Federal Reserve and it represents the daily balances of deposits, borrowings, and reserves for the largest 7,700 depository institutions in the United States. The data require a high level of confidence, and identifying and resolving errors in quality must be done under increasingly stringent deadlines. The Distributed EDDS Editing Project (DEEP) was initiated with the objective to improve the data analysis effort through the utilization of graphical user interface tools in conjunction with the presentation of statistically significant data edits. The DEEP system is a Windows-based client/server application designed to provide analysts with a sophisticated tool to access both raw data and data that have fallen outside of the data model forecasts based upon five different types of data edits or forecasts. This presentation will detail major features of the DEEP application and their uses for the editing and analysis of these critical data.

*** * * Note from the WSS NEWS Editors * * ***

Items for publication in the April 1995 WSS NEWS should be submitted no later than February 28, 1995. FAX items to:

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

Reflections on the 1978-80 White House "Federal Statistical Reorganization Project" Part II.

The following is reminiscence written by James Bonnen. James Bonnen is a member of the faculty of the Department of Agricultural Economics at Michigan State University. From February 1978 through March 1979 he was the Executive Director of The President's Reorganization Project for the Federal Statistical System. WSS is interested in printing similar material, either histories, anecdotes, or reminiscences from other members of our federal statistical community. Possibly, this will motivate other federal agencies to initiate similar projects so that the history of statistics in Washington, DC, that is our rich heritage, is preserved. Part I appeared in the last issue. Part III will appear next month.

The Battle In OMB. In January 1979, Wayne Granquist, my boss, started looking at other locations in a search for some way to avoid a brutal battle with his own management troops and with the budget side of OMB, which also opposed any new Executive Office (EOP) unit. Wayne was not himself convinced this was the best or most practical location. Proposals for new EOP units are common but always suspect. The Project found most of these new alternatives seriously flawed. Wayne had us explore putting the statistical policy and coordination unit in the General Services Administration (GSA), and was especially interested in the idea of lodging this statistical unit outside the Executive Office in the Administrative Conference of the U.S. (ACUS), an independent government-supported regulatory research and advisory body that OMB considered moribund. It was, he said to the Project (and to the statistical community), an empty shell we could have. While this organization was "free-standing," it was a *regulatory* advisory group and even moribund was not perceived by statisticians and statistics users as a "highly reputable" place for statistical policy. The Project staff and I did not support either idea, since statistical policy would have been isolated from budget and policy decisions and easy to ignore. Pat Caddell was interested in what he called a "two-hat" solution that left the statistical policy unit in Commerce but gave the Chief Statistician a role (hat) in OMB for participation in statistical policy and budget priorities. The staff called this the "head in OMB, tail in Commerce" option. These alternatives were circulated to the statistical community, which, since they knew of our initial recommendation, was amazed and distressed especially with the GSA and ACUS locations. I can understand how some may have thought the ACUS location was being promoted by the Project, since we were lodged in OMB and reported to Wayne Granquist.

After these ingenious alternatives were picked apart by our Advisory Committee and later soundly rejected by the statistical community, Wayne threw himself and the Project into a half-year battle in which we responded to all of the internal OMB criticisms. This culminated in a memo to the Director of OMB (by then James McIntyre, Jr.) summarizing our recommendations, the various OMB criticisms and our responses. Granquist, Caddell and I then met with Director McIntyre in mid December 1979. McIntyre put us through a thorough defense of our ideas and agreed to sign and send a Presidential Decision Memorandum (PDM) to President Carter for his approval. We then drafted the PDM, which went to President Carter on December 31, 1979. He approved our recommendations January 14, 1980. It had taken a year to battle our way through OMB and two weeks to get through the White House!

While our confidentiality legislation had been through two OMB clearance reviews by Summer 1979, it still could not be sent to Congress for lack of any place to lodge it, since we had no agreement in OMB on the location and authority for a Statistical Policy Office. To be politically acceptable, such strong confidentiality legislation had to be vested in a strong, highly accountable unit. By this time Granquist supported our recommendations, including the location of statistical policy in the Executive Office as an independent unit. The still nervous statistical communities were generally supportive of our recommendations. Several OMB divisions had just begun to fight. By July 1979 all of the Project staff except Larry Roberson had returned to their agencies. Fellegi had gone back to Canada by March 1979, and from April on I was on a consulting arrangement commuting from Michigan 5 days a week. Roberson kept our Project office functioning until September 1979. However, the staff, even Fellegi in Canada, continued to provide advice and drafting into early 1980.

I believe our confidentiality legislation was the first time a "completely" conceptualized confidentiality statute had been developed and put in legislative form. Fellegi did the research, conceptualized it and composed a first draft. Jabine and Fellegi then collaborated in adapting it to specific problems of individual agencies in a very decentralized statistical system. It was extensively reviewed by Project staff, OMB and the statistical community. This is a product of lasting intellectual value. It has remained available as a starting point (in OMB's Statistical Policy Office files and soon the National Archives) for the day when we have to face the problems of a decentralized system with an inadequate legal basis for confidentiality that varies by agency. There have been at least two subsequent efforts to address this problem that have made use of the Project's efforts.

The Project's year-long battle in OMB involved several substantive issues. Location of the Statistical Policy Office (SPO) as a separate unit in the Executive Office (EOP) was opposed strongly in OMB, where the position was if it came back to the EOP it belonged in OMB, and where, of course, it could be controlled and not be as competitive. We did a careful analysis of staffing needs, but the resulting idea of a large number of personnel added to the EOP was a defacto loser in OMB. The strengthened functions and authority of the SPO made some statistical agency leadership nervous and distressed OMB budget divisions since it injected an external EOP unit into OMB's forms clearance process and budget review, and forced crosscutting statistical policy issues into OMB Director's annual budget review. After the OMB Director approved our recommendations, Dale McOmber, head of OMB budget review, and I negotiated a step-by-step process that was acceptable to OMB (for details see the final report of the Project, "Improving the Federal Statistical System," in the Statistical Reporter, May 1980, pp. 193-212).

The Broader Context of The Battle. Getting our Project recommendations to the oval office was complicated by having to fight on three or four fronts at once. We had to persuade the Federal statistical community to accept and help refine our conclusions, while doing the same with external actors ranging from the National Academy of Sciences' Committee on National Statistics (known as CNSTAT) to major corporate and academic players. We were simultaneously dealing with substantive objections as well as bureaucratic turf plays in OMB. Also, before much of anything was settled in OMB, we had to start negotiating with the Congress in the Fall of 1979, since development of the closely related regulatory and paperwork reform underway in the Executive Branch had also begun in some of the same committees that would be considering our legislation. Thus, all of 1979 was for the Project a long complex war fought on many fronts.

Regulatory reform was one of the most important 1977-80 White House goals. The central problem was one of gaining executive oversight control over the rule-making activities of the independent regulatory agencies, which are outside of the Executive Branch. For a major tool to achieve regulatory oversight, leadership in OMB seized on the 1942 Federal Reports Act powerful clearance authority involving approval (disapproval) of all reporting plans and information collection forms. This authority for clearance of forms was lodged in the Statistical Policy Division of OMB until statistical policy was transferred to the Commerce Department in 1977 without that authority leaving the coordination of statistical policy weak and isolated. The White House regulatory reform effort was a nearly irresistible force shaping the political and bureaucratic landscape in OMB when the statistical reorganization project began its odyssey through OMB. Federal statistical policy, I was to learn, has never had any significant political clout and in OMB the role of the statistical policy unit historically was misunderstood and more often viewed as a special pleader and a nuisance rather than an asset.

Thus, the substantive statistical issues were fought out in a swamp of political-bureaucratic problems then unique to OMB and the Carter White House. For example, the Director of the Regulatory Policy and Reports Management Division in OMB also reported to Wayne Granquist and was very competitive and protective of his turf. Regulatory reform was adding important functions to his division. He had already acquired the forms clearance function when it was stripped from the Statistical Policy Division (SPD) before its transfer to Commerce to become the Office of Federal Statistical Policy and Standards. Regulatory reform was in the process of making this Division into a powerful tool of regulatory

oversight (i.e., today's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs). The Division Director probably rightly saw the Project's recommendations as more of a threat to his fiefdom than he had SPD before its transfer. The other management divisions were more focused on substantive issues.

The battle over our recommendations in early 1979 became a struggle for the "heart and mind" of Wayne Granquist, who had to let us fight it out. Wayne not only had to preside over an internal fight, but he had to justify our recommendations to the OMB Director, so he first had to decide who most nearly knew what they were talking about. A guerrilla war went on over our recommendations as well as over clearance of White House sponsored privacy and statistically related legislation that the Project was asked to review by OMB Legislative Reference (headed, I was amazed to discover, by Jim Frey, a Harvard graduate I had once taught in an Economics I class in 1952). Our Project staff eventually established a high level of credibility on statistical matters and by Fall 1979 Granquist's support of the Project was consistent and strong.

Most of the OMB management folks were aware that the Project (with Granquist) had a direct line to the White House via Pat Caddell (including to Mrs. Carter who was viewed as influential, tough minded and astute). We were also working closely with Stu Eizenstat's Domestic Policy Staff in the White House on statistical matters, including service on his Privacy Policy Coordinating Committee reviewing all policy memoranda proposing privacy legislation. I also had been asked by Special Assistant to the President Richard Neustadt, Jr. to join the White House Privacy Review Task Force (drafting and reviewing draft legislation). Either I or one of the staff always attended. We drafted the statistical portions of the legislation on Privacy of Research Records, Banking Privacy as well as other privacy legislation.

Perhaps the most important piece of conceptualizing for Eizenstat and drafting for Neustadt was an operating definition of the concept of "functional separation" developed by Fellegi and Jabine. This educated a number of actors who also had to pass on our confidentiality legislation where the concept was critical to an understanding of the idea of a statistical enclave. In getting the "functional separation" idea through the Privacy Policy Coordinating Committee we were faced with an Assistant Secretary of Treasury who doggedly insisted on indefensibly broad language to give the Secret Service access to individual statistical records and to enumerators in order "to protect the safety of the President and others." Ivan Fellegi slowly pressed him meeting by meeting, memo by memo, to put in writing and to define and defend what he wanted. In a final confrontation, Fellegi demonstrated such gross inconsistencies in the logic of his position that the embarrassed man never attended another meeting of the Committee. A more impressive bureaucratic "slam dunk" I have never seen.

In effect, with OMB's Statistical Policy Division exiled to Commerce, the Project had become the OMB-White House in-house consultant on new or non-routine statistical policy matters. This absorbed a lot of time, but gave us credibility when the Project's recommendations finally did get to the White House.

I knew that when our recommendations reached the White House they would be reviewed by Charles Schultze, the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers, so I went to sell him on our ideas before the OMB Director's memorandum went to the President. I had worked closely with Charlie on agricultural policy issues in 1963-65 when he was Assistant Director of OMB and I was on the staff of the Council of Economic Advisers. Charlie objected to a large, new independent unit in the Executive Office (EOP). I laughed and agreed that this was the ubiquitous "idiots solution" to every problem in Washington, D.C. The alternatives, I argued, were worse and ours was the least worse of all the reasonable options. There was no perfect solution. Charlie eventually wrote a strong supporting memo to the President. By then Granquist had reduced the recommended personnel numbers to 40 from 195 knowing that President Carter was not about to allow a large increase in personnel in the EOP. The decision memorandum to the President also included the one-hat Commerce Department option and a third option of putting these statistical functions back in OMB or in the General Services Administration. We provided reasons why we did not recommend these alternatives, but one has to give a president more than one option. The President approved our recommendation in mid January 1980 for an independent Statistical Policy Office located in the Executive Office of the President. (Next Month - Part III.)

Announcements

Science Fair 1995

Volunteers are now being solicited to represent the Washington Statistical Society as judges in local area Science Fairs next spring. Since 1986, WSS has provided special awards at these fairs to students whose projects demonstrate excellence in statistical theory or applications.

The WSS sponsors awards at fairs in Northern Virginia, suburban Maryland and the District of Columbia. The fairs are held on a Saturday morning in mid-March to mid-April. The only time required is one Saturday morning, plus one weekday lunchtime meeting to discuss judging strategy and to distribute the awards to be given out at each fair. If you would like to be a WSS science fair judge, or if you would like additional information about this activity, please contact Lee Abramson at (301) 415-6180.

SIGSTAT Meetings

SIGSTAT, the Special Interest Group in Statistics for the Capital PC User Group and the Washington Operations Research and Management Science Council (WORMSC), will be sponsoring the following meetings. On February 8, 1995, the topic will be Statistica, a Windows statistics package with controversial advertising techniques. On March 8, 1995, the topic will be PC Macsyma, symbolic mathematics with graphics under Windows.

All meetings are scheduled from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM in Room B-14, 1301 New York Avenue, NW. The building is located midway between the Metro Center and McPherson Square Metro stops. If this is your first SIGSTAT meeting, call Charlie Hallahan at (202) 219-0507 or e-mail to hallahan@ers and leave your name in order to gain entry into the building.

The George Washington University Announces Graduate Programs in Biostatistics and in Epidemiology

The Department of Statistics and its research facility, the Biostatistics Center, have joined with the Public Health Program of the School of Medicine and Health Sciences to establish graduate programs leading to the degrees of M.S. and Ph.D. in Biostatistics and in Epidemiology at The George Washington University, Washington, D.C., beginning in September 1995.

The Department of Statistics has offered Masters and Doctoral training in statistics for over fifty years. Biostatistics has long been one of the Department's areas of research interest. In 1972, the Department established the Biostatistics Center as a research facility which serves as the coordinating center for multi-center clinical trials and epidemiological studies. The research interests of the Center faculty include methods for the assessment of sample size and power of statistical tests and procedures, longitudinal data analysis, analysis of survival and time-to-event data, sequential methods for interim analysis, and treatment assignment procedures.

The Public Health Program has established curricula in the general principles of public health and epidemiology. The program is accredited by the Council on Accreditation for Public Health. The research interest of the Public Health faculty include decision analysis and risk-taking, evaluation of diagnostic techniques, and occupational and environmental epidemiology.

Students will be admitted to these programs starting in September of 1995. Inquiries should be addressed to: Biostatistics/ Epidemiology Program (202-994-6356), Department of Statistics, The George Washington University, Washington, D.C., 20052.

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

Study Director and Program Officer

The National Research Council is seeking a Study Director and Program Officer for advisory studies on how to improve statistical methods and information for public policy decisions. Topics of current and potential studies include statistics on transportation, immigration, and disabilities and statistical methodology related to testing and evaluation of defense systems, the year 2000 census, and estimates of poverty for small geographic areas.

Positions require a Ph.D. or equivalent, preferably in Statistics, Economics, Demography, Sociology, Policy Analysis, Epidemiology, Biostatistics, or a related field with training in quantitative methods; at least 4 years relevant experience for the Study Director and 2 years relevant experience for the Program Officer in methodology (design or analysis), survey research, demographic research, national statistics, policy analysis with large databases, or administration of a data collection or other statistical program for public or private decision making. Other attributes sought are the ability to interact productively with senior scientists and staff in a team effort; demonstrated skills in effective written and oral communication, and skills in organization, analysis, and research.

Study directors require project management skills. A broad experience relevant to national statistics or to statistical methodology and its applications is preferred.

Please send resume with names of three references and salary requirement to: NRC/CNSTAT, HA 192, 2101 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20418

Programmer/Data Analyst

The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine seeks a programmer/data analyst for a large pediatric AIDS clinical trial in Kampala, Uganda. This collaboration involves Makerere University and Case Western Reserve University. Your duties will be the overall data management for a clinical trial: to ensure the accurate and timely collection of data, to supervise data entry, to audit and clean data, and to perform interval analyses for a data and safety monitoring committee. The position is available immediately.

Qualifications include a Master's degree in epidemiology or a statistical science. Previous experience in programming for clinical trials and SAS are preferred. The individual should have the desire to live in Kampala, Uganda, for a minimum of three and a maximum of five years. Fluency in English is required. Salary range is \$32,000 to \$38,000 (tax free) based upon training and work experience. The position offers the opportunity to work with a group of Ugandan and expatriate scientists involved with many aspects of HIV/AIDS research as well as to live in a region of great wildlife parks and scenic beauty.

Candidates should send a curriculum vitae and other applicable material and/or contact: Dr. Richard Semba, Suite 700, 550 North Broadway, Baltimore, MD 21205. Tel. (410) 955-3572.

Employment Column

Director of Biostatistics Unit

The Children's National Medical Center's Research Institute is recruiting a Senior Biostatistician to serve as the Director of the Biostatistics Unit to support the activities of a growing research institute presently funded at \$17 million per year. The Children's National Medical Center serves as the Department of Pediatrics for the School of Medicine and Health Sciences of The George Washington University. The Director will be appointed to the rank of Associate Professor of Pediatrics with an adjunct appointment in The George Washington University Department of Statistics. The Director will collaborate with medical center investigators in the development and conduct of a wide variety of medical research projects, and will supervise the statistical staff in the support of these research activities. The Director will also participate as a member of the faculty in a proposed graduate program in Biostatistics and in Epidemiology, which is anticipated to be jointly launched by the Department of Statistics, the Biostatistics Center, and the Public Health Program of The George Washington University starting in September 1995. Excellent communication and administrative skills are essential. Collaborative and consultative experience in the conduct of a variety of medical research activities is required. Please address inquiries to the Search Committee, c/o Dr. John M. Lachin, Professor of Statistics and Director, The George Washington University Biostatistics Center, 6110 Executive Boulevard, Suite 750, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Medical Center Biostatistician

Assistant or Associate Research Professor of Statistics and Biostatistics to join a newly established Biostatistics Unit within the Medical Center of The George Washington University.

Collaborate with medical investigators in the design, conduct and analysis of medical research projects, including clinical trials, epidemiologic studies, health services research and basic sciences research. Doctorate in biostatistics/statistics, 3 or more years experience in medical research, and excellent communications skills required. Supervisory experience helpful. PC-SAS, some VM-CMS, Unix helpful. Rank and salary dependent on qualifications. CV and 3 letters of reference to Dr. John M. Lachin, The Biostatistics Center, 6110 Executive Blvd., Suite 750, Rockville, MD 20852.

Statisticians

The National Center for Education Statistics expects to have four openings for Statisticians in February or March. The requirements for Statistician are 6 semester hours in statistics and 15 semester hours in mathematics and statistics which can include courses with a substantial math or statistics content such as research methods courses. However, the job primarily requires a person with the interest and skills for developing, interpreting, and presenting statistical information on important issues in education and education policy. The job includes ample opportunity for review, analysis, and writing.

If you are interested, please send your resume to Nabeel Alsalam, U.S. Department of Education, 555 New Jersey Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20208-5650. The official announcement and requirements will be sent to you when they become available. If you would like more information, call Nabeel Alsalam at (202) 219-2252 or e-mail to Nabeel_Alsalam@ed.gov. The application package will require a completed SF-171 and a copy of one's college transcripts. A short writing sample, at most 10 to 15 pages, involving interpretation of statistical information would also be helpful.

Employment Column

Statistician

The American Petroleum Institute is looking for a statistician for the following essential functions: to perform original research on various areas of interest to the petroleum industry using sophisticated statistical concepts and analytical approaches; identify potential areas throughout API which could benefit from the application of advanced statistical techniques; review statistical methodology in research and analysis performed by others; conduct seminars on the application of various statistical methodologies. Please submit resume with salary history to: Robert Cunningham, Human Resources Manager, American Petroleum Institute, 1220 L Street NW, Washington, DC 20005.

Director of Medical Center Biostatistics Unit

The Department of Statistics and the Biostatistics Center of The George Washington University, jointly with the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, are recruiting for an Associate or Full Professor of Statistics and Biostatistics, tenure-accruing, to serve as the Director of a newly established Biostatistics Unit within the Medical Center of The George Washington University. The Director will participate as a senior faculty

member in a new graduate program in Biostatistics and in Epidemiology, which will be jointly launched by the Department of Statistics and the Public Health Program of The George Washington University in September of 1995. The Director of the Medical Center Biostatistics Unit will collaborate with Medical Center investigators in the development and conduct of medical research projects, including clinical trials, epidemiologic studies, health services research and basic sciences research. Medical Center collaborators include programs of research in emergency medicine, intensive care, and health care services and policy, among others. Excellent communication and administrative skills are required. Experience in the management of a biostatistics unit and the conduct of a wide variety of medical research activities is also required. A track record of methodological research in biostatistical theory, methods and applications is essential. Academic responsibilities will include teaching a doctoral graduate seminar annually and supervision of doctoral thesis research. Review of applications will begin on January 30, 1995, and will continue until the position is filled. Interested inquiries should be addressed to Dr. John M. Lachin, Professor of Statistics and Director, The Biostatistics Center, 6110 Executive Boulevard, Suite 750, Rockville, Maryland 20852.

Help Wanted

WSS is searching for several people who would like to be newsletter editors. This is a position for anyone who would like to be up-to-date about the statistics community in Washington. This will be an exciting time for WSS News since many new efforts are underway including electronic distribution of the newsletter. Please contact Theresa Hallquist at (202) 586-2051 for more information.

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