



# WSS NEWS

November 2006

WASHINGTON  
STATISTICAL  
SOCIETY

## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Morris Hansen Lecture

Michael F. Goodchild, Professor of Geography (University of California, Santa Barbara) will give the 16th Annual Morris Hansen Lecture on Monday November 6 at 3:30p.m. in the Jefferson Auditorium of the Department of Agriculture's South Building (Independence Avenue SW, between 12th and 14th Street).

Dr. Goodchild will speak on "Statistical Perspectives on Spatial Social Science." Sarah Nusser (Iowa State University) and Linda Pickle (National Cancer Institute) will be the discussants. A reception will follow the lecture. The Hansen Lecture Series is sponsored by the Washington Statistical Society, Westat, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service.

The USDA's South Building is between 12th and 14th Streets at the Smithsonian Metro Stop (Blue Line). Enter through Wing 5 or Wing 7 from Independence Ave. (The handicapped entrance is at 12th & Independence). A photo ID is required.

Please pre-register for this event to help facilitate access to the building. Pre-register on line at <http://www.nass.usda.gov/morrishansen/>

### HERRIOT AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

Nominations are sought for the 2007 Roger Herriot Award for Innovation in Federal Statistics. The award is intended to reflect the special characteristics that marked Roger Herriot's career:

- Dedication to the issues of measurement;
- Improvements in the efficiency of data collection programs; and
- Improvements and use of statistical data for policy analysis.

The award is not limited to senior members of an organization, nor is it to be considered as a culmination of a long period of service. Individuals at all levels within Federal statistical agencies, other government organizations, nonprofit organizations, the private sector, and the academic community may be nominated on the basis of their contributions.

The recipient of the 2007 Roger Herriot Award will be chosen by a committee comprising representatives of the Social Statistics and Government Statistics Sections of the American Statistical Association, and of the Washington Statistical Society. Roger Herriot was associated with and strongly supportive of these organizations during his career. The award consists of a \$1000 honorarium and a framed citation, which will be presented at a ceremony at the Joint Statistical Meetings in August 2007. The Washington Statistical Society will also host a seminar given by the winner on a subject of his or her own choosing.

The previous recipients of the Roger Herriot Award are Joseph Waksberg (Westat), Monroe Sirken (NCHS), Constance Citro (CNStat), Roderick Harrison (Census Bureau), Clyde Tucker (BLS), Thomas Jabine (SSA, EIA, CNStat), Donald Dillman (Washington State University), Jeanne Griffith

(OMB, NCES, NSF), Daniel Weinberg (Census Bureau), David Banks (FDA, BTS, NIST), Paula Schneider (Census Bureau), Robert E. Fay III (Census Bureau), and Nathaniel Schenker (NCHS).

Nominations for the 2007 award will be accepted beginning in February 2007. Nomination packages should contain:

1. A cover letter from the nominator that should include references to specific examples of the nominee's contributions to innovation in Federal statistics. These contributions can be to methodology, procedure, organization, administration, or other areas of Federal statistics, and need not have been made by or while a Federal employee.
2. Up to six additional letters in support that demonstrate the innovativeness of each contribution.
3. A current vita for the nominee, including contact information.

Both individual and group nominations may be submitted. The committee may consider nominations made for the 2006 award, but it encourages resubmission of those nominations with updated information.

For more information, contact Daniel Weinberg, Chair, 2007 Roger Herriot Award Committee, at 301.763.5791 or <Daniel.H.Weinberg@census.gov>. Completed packages must be received by April 1, 2007. Electronic submissions in MS-Word or as a "pdf" file are encouraged.

Alternately, nominations may be mailed to:

Dr. Daniel H. Weinberg  
Chief, Center for Economic Statistics  
U.S. Census Bureau  
Washington, DC 20233-6300

## **Federal Committee On Statistical Methodology Statistical Policy Seminar**

**Keeping Current: What We Know – What We Need To Learn  
November 28-29, 2006**

**The Eighth in a Series of Seminars Hosted by COPAFS  
(The Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics)**

Participants will include Statisticians, Economists, and Managers, as well as Other Professionals in the Broader Statistical Community who Share an Interest in Keeping Current on Issues Related to Federal Data

### **Support Provided by:**

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality \* Bureau of Economic Analysis \* Bureau of Justice Statistics \* Bureau of Labor Statistics \* Bureau of Transportation Statistics \* Energy Information Administration \* Environmental Protection Agency \* National Agricultural Statistics Service \* National Center for Education Statistics \* National Center for Health Statistics \* Office of Research, Evaluation, and Statistics of the Social Security Administration \* Statistics of Income Division of the Internal Revenue Service \* U.S. Census Bureau

**Topics:**

- \* The Quality of Administrative Records for Statistical Uses
- \* Longitudinal Survey Designs: Current Best Practices and Continuing Challenges
- \* Providing Researchers Access to Federal Data
- \* The Future of Telephone Surveys
- \* Positioning the Federal Statistical System to Quickly Respond to Data Needs in Times of Crisis or Catastrophe
- \* Nonresponse Bias Analyses in Federal Surveys
- \* Incentives – New Results on the Effects of Incentives
- \* Total Survey Error in Economic Statistics
- \* How to Encourage Innovation
- \* Using Internet Panels For National Data
- \* Modeling Survey Costs: Towards a Research Agenda
- \* Establishing Archival Data Systems for Agency Historical Information

**Keynote Address:** Kenneth Prewitt, Columbia University

**Location and Cost:**

L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, 480 L'Enfant Plaza, S.W., Washington D.C. 20024  
To Reserve a Room Call: 202-484-1000

Seminar Registration Cost: \$195.00 per person  
A Registration Form Can Be Downloaded  
From Our Site At: [www.copafs.org](http://www.copafs.org)  
For Further Information, Contact the COPAFS  
Office at:  
Phone: 703-836-0404                      Email: [copafs@aol.com](mailto:copafs@aol.com)

## **Quantitative Methods in Defense and National Security Conference**

Date: February 7 – 8, 2007  
Place: George Mason University, Fairfax Campus

Abstract Submissions Due: November 15, 2006

Website: <http://www.galaxy.gmu.edu/QMDNS2007/>

The second annual Quantitative Methods in Defense and National Security conference (QMDNS-07) will be held at George Mason University at the Fairfax Virginia Campus. The goal of the conference is to promote collaboration between those with quantitative national security problems (e.g., defense and homeland security practitioners) and those who solve quantitative problems (e.g., statisticians, mathematicians, operations researchers, engineers, and others).

In many aspects, the problems in defense and national security that we must address today are different from those of the past. In part, this is due to our having a more sophisticated understanding of the circumstances under which a national problem should be classified as a defense or security problem. For example, there is a need for effective measures to counter the consequences of asymmetric warfare and terrorism in whatever form they may take and affect our civilian or military populations. (It should be noted that there could be instances in which the distinctions between those populations are, for practical purposes, irrelevant.)

In addition, those who would perpetrate such threats have greater access than ever before to rapid communications and information via the internet on, for example, public health, economic and

border-access data and resources, which could enable them to enhance the effectiveness of their efforts. This conference strives to promote collaboration and networking by focusing on challenges, data, and solutions in the defense and national security arenas.

The conference program will consist of invited sessions, contributed talks, and contributed posters. Contributed talks and posters will be refereed based on extended abstracts. We are looking for contributed talks and posters that

Describe quantitative methods from Operations Research, Statistics, Probability, Machine Learning, and others that can be used to solve problems in defense and national security.

Describe problems in defense and national security that researchers can address.

Please go to the conference website (<http://www.galaxy.gmu.edu/QMDNS2007/>) for information on abstract submission and other details. The last day to submit abstracts for the contributed program is November 15, 2006. Please contact Jeffrey Solka ([jeffrey.solka@navy.mil](mailto:jeffrey.solka@navy.mil)) if you have questions.

**Analyzing and Mapping Health Inequities to Impact Policies for Eliminating Disparities  
Eleventh Biennial CDC & ATSDR Symposium on Statistical Methods**

**April 17-18, 2007**

**Call for Abstracts**

Statisticians, social and behavioral scientists, epidemiologists, economists, policy analysts, and others are invited to participate in the Eleventh Biennial Symposium on Statistical Methods, sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention & Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC & ATSDR), the American Statistical Association (ASA) and the Biostatistics Department at Emory University Rollins School of Public Health. The Symposium will be held in Atlanta, GA. The theme for the 2007 Symposium is “Analyzing and Mapping Health Inequities to Impact Policies for Eliminating Disparities.” Two short courses (Bayesian Small Area Estimation and Statistical Analysis Using GIS Data Measuring Disparities) will be offered on April 16, 2007 in conjunction with the Symposium.

Authors are encouraged to submit abstracts for contributed papers related to one of the following session topics:

- Racial and ethnic minorities
- Statistical and cost methodologies, including systematic reviews
- At risk populations with characteristics related to age, low income, sexual orientation, language barriers, disability and geographic locations
- Underrepresented or “invisible” populations: institutionalized populations, the homeless, immigrants, and others
- Disparities in occupational employment
- Environmental justice: cancer clusters, location of brownfields, hazardous facilities and socioeconomic class
- Access to and quality of care
- Emergency and program planning
- Health behavior and promotion

Abstracts will be considered for either oral or poster presentation and must be submitted no later than November 20, 2006. Authors of accepted presentation will be notified by January 5, 2007. For more information, please visit the Symposium website at <http://www.cdc.gov/ods/ads/sag/index.htm> or contact

**Mark Stevens**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
4770 Buford Hwy NE (MS K-10)  
Atlanta, GA 30341-3717  
(770) 488-5673  
MStevens@cdc.gov

**WSS and Other Seminars**

(All events are open to any interested persons)

November

- 2 Thurs. Partially Synthetic Data for Disclosure Avoidance: An Application to the American Community Survey Group Quarters Data
- 3 Fri. Data-Driven Systems Biology: Direct Paths From Measurements to Biomedical Insight and Personalized Medicine
- 6 Mon. Hansen Lecture  
Statistical Perspectives on Spatial Social Science
- 14 Tues. Working with the American Community Survey: Findings from the National Academies Panel
- 15 Wed. The Advanced Technology Program: Evaluating a Public-Private Partnership
- 17 Fri. Current Proteome Profiling Methods and Applications
- 29 Wed. Empirical Likelihood Methods for Complex Surveys

December

- 7 Thur. Ephedra: A Case Study of Statistics, Policy, and Politics

Also available on the Web at the following URL: <http://www.scs.gmu.edu/~wss/>

**Announcement**

**Holiday Party**

The Holiday Party will be held at Gordon Biersch which is located at 900 F Street, NW, Washington, DC on December 13, 2006 at 6:00 p.m.

**SIGSTAT Topics for November 2006 – December 2006**

November 15, 2006: Using SAS PROC MIXED to Fit Multilevel & Hierarchical Models

This talk will follow the paper, “Using SAS PROC MIXED to Fit Multilevel Models, Hierarchical Models, and Individual Growth Models” by Judith Singer (1998) which can be downloaded from her website, <http://gseweb.harvard.edu/~faculty/singer/>.

In the November meeting we’ll use a school effects model, designed for data nested within naturally occurring hierarchies (e.g., students within classes). Charlie Hallahan will be the speaker.

December 20, 2006: Using SAS PROC MIXED to Fit Individual Growth Models

This talk will follow the paper, “Using SAS PROC MIXED to Fit Multilevel Models, Hierarchical Models, and Individual Growth Models” by Judith Singer (1998) which can be downloaded from her website, <http://gseweb.harvard.edu/~faculty/singer/>.

In the December meeting we’ll use an individual growth model designed for exploring longitudinal data (on individuals) over time. Charlie Hallahan will be the speaker.

SIGSTAT is the Special Interest Group in Statistics for the CPCUG, the Capital PC User Group, and WINFORMS, the Washington Institute for Operations Research Service and Management Science.

All meetings are in Room S3031, 1800 M St, NW from 12:00 to 1:00. Enter the South Tower & take the elevator to the 3rd floor to check in at the guard’s desk.

First-time attendees should contact Charlie Hallahan, 202-694-5051, [hallahan@ers.usda.gov](mailto:hallahan@ers.usda.gov), and leave their name. Directions to the building & many links of statistical interest can be found at the SIGSTAT website, <http://www.cpcug.org/user/sigstat/>.

**Note from the WSS NEWS Editor**

Items for publication in the January issue of the WSS NEWS should be submitted no later than November 28, 2006. E-mail items to Michael Feil at [michael.feil@usda.gov](mailto:michael.feil@usda.gov).

## **Program Announcement**

- Title:** **Partially Synthetic Data for Disclosure Avoidance: An Application to the American Community Survey Group Quarters Data**
- Chair:** Yves Thibaudeau, U.S. Census Bureau
- Speakers:** Sam Hawala, U.S. Census Bureau  
Rolando Rodríguez, U.S. Census Bureau
- Discussant:** Jerry Reiter, Duke University Institute of Statistics and Decision Sciences
- Date/time:** Thursday, November, 2, 2006 / 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center in G440. To be placed on the seminar list attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** Methodology Section, WSS
- Abstract:** We investigate the disclosure avoidance approach of releasing to the public partially synthetic microdata. Partially synthetic data are data constructed by keeping some of the actual observations and substituting others with modeled values. This form of data release has the advantage of reflecting the loss of information incurred for confidentiality protection so that inferences are correct. The approach works by selecting variables and records for which we produce synthetic values through models chosen conveniently to satisfy disclosure avoidance but still providing data analysis conclusions comparable to those based on the original data. We assess the method by providing an estimate of disclosure risk and some analytic validity comparisons between estimates of statistics produced from the synthetic and original data.

## Program Announcement

**Title:** **Data-Driven Systems Biology: Direct Paths From Measurements to Biomedical Insight and Personalized Medicine**

**Speaker:** Roland Somogyi, Ph.D.  
Biosystemix Ltd, 1090 Cliffside La. RR1PO,  
Sydenham, ON, K0H2T0, Canada  
[www.biosystemix.com](http://www.biosystemix.com)

**Date/Time:** Friday, November 3, 2006 / 10:00 to -11:00 a.m. (refreshments will be served at 9:45)

**Location:** Georgetown University  
Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center  
3800 Reservoir Road, NW  
Research Building, E501 Conference Room  
Washington, DC 20057

For any questions, please contact Marina Vacaru at 202-687-4114 or [emv6@georgetown.edu](mailto:emv6@georgetown.edu)

**Sponsor:** Department of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics and Biomathematics, Georgetown University

**Abstract:** Detailed information on a person's and organism's state can be measured today using novel, high-throughput genomic molecular activity profiling methods, and established cellular, physiological and clinical assays. Given the complexity of living systems and human disease, there is a growing need for powerful and effective computational approaches to inferring and generating predictive models for personalized medicine and mechanistic discovery from the now available large-scale molecular and clinical information. The deeper insight provided by such models promises breakthroughs in evidence-based personalized medicine and bioengineering. Several challenges must be met to generate effective, systems levels computational models, i.e. data organization and management, advanced analysis algorithm development, judicious statistical validation, and visual and conceptual representations that are meaningful to life scientists and clinical practitioners. Successfully meeting these challenges will require scientific and technological development through public and private sector collaborations, and the training of new scientists with interdisciplinary competence in computational, quantitative, and biomedical sciences.



## **Program Announcement**

- Title:** Working with the American Community Survey: Findings from the National Academies Panel
- Chair:** Susan Schechter, U.S. Census Bureau
- Speaker:** Graham Kalton, Westat; Connie Citro, Committee on National Statistics, the National Academies
- Discussant:** Andrew Reamer, The Brookings Institution
- Date/Time:** Tuesday, November 14, 2006 / 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center in Room 1. To be placed on the seminar list attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** Methodology Section, WSS
- Abstract:** The American Community Survey (ACS) has just issued data products for states and large counties and cities for 2005--the first year of full implementation for the survey, which has been in testing and development since 1996. The speakers, who are, respectively, the chair and co-study director of a CNSTAT/NAS Panel on the Functionality and Usability of Information from the ACS, will discuss two topics under review by the panel. The first topic concerns the ways in which the ACS replaces and is different from the decennial census long-form sample and some of the implications for data users. The second topic concerns estimation issues for the ACS, including the weighting for 1-year, 3-year, and 5-year period estimates and the effects of population controls.

## **Program Announcement**

- Title:**           **The Advanced Technology Program: Evaluating a Public-Private Partnership**
- Speaker:**       Stephanie Shipp, Director, Economic Assessment Office, Advanced Technology Program, NIST
- Chair:**           Nancy Donovan, GAO
- Discussant:**   Lynda Carlson, NSF
- Date/time:**     Wednesday, November 15, 2006 / 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
- Location:**      Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Room 9. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after `wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:**       WSS Social and Demographic Statistics Section
- Abstract:**      The Advanced Technology Program challenges industry to accelerate the development of high-risk technologies that are unlikely to be developed at all or in time to compete in rapidly changing markets. The innovative technologies that ATP funds have the potential to generate significant commercial payoffs and widespread benefits to the U.S. economy, which is the ultimate goal of the program. ATP tracks the progress of these funded projects during the life of the project funding (3 to 5 years) and for up six years after ATP funding ends. ATP tracks projects even longer if the project is successful. This overview will highlight ATP's evaluation best practices that assess the success of individual projects and the portfolio of all projects.

## Program Announcement

- Title:** Current Proteome Profiling Methods and Applications
- Speaker:** Yetrib Hathout, Ph.D.  
Children's National Medical Center  
Center for Genetic Medicine  
111 Michigan Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20010
- Date/Time:** Friday, November 17, 2006 / 10:00 to -11:00 a.m. (refreshments will be served at 9:45)
- Location:** Georgetown University  
Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center  
3800 Reservoir Road, NW  
Research Building, E501 Conference Room  
Washington, DC 20057
- For any questions, please contact Marina Vacaru at 202-687-4114 or emv6@georgetown.edu
- Sponsor:** Department of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics and Biomathematics, Georgetown University
- Abstract:** The overarching goal of many proteomics applications is to measure protein abundance between samples representing different biological and physiological states. Two dimensional gel electrophoresis is still the golden standard method used by several researchers. However, the technique has a limited dynamic range, MW/PI ranges and throughput. As a result, considerable efforts were devoted to develop new technical strategies for comprehensive comparative proteomics such as ICAT, 18O labeling and metabolic labeling. In all methods mass spectrometry plays a crucial role for both identification and quantification of proteins. While each technique has its advantages and disadvantages, we found stable isotope labeling by amino acids (SILAC) to be the most promising strategy for accurate comparative proteomics when dealing with cell culture. Because labeled and unlabeled cells can be mixed before protein extraction, variations that would result from sample processing and handling are extremely minimized. Special interest will be focused on the use of the SILAC strategy to accurately monitor changes in protein expression and protein translocation in mammalian cells and the use of current bioinformatics tools for data processing and analysis.

## **Program Announcement**

- Title:** **Empirical Likelihood Methods for Complex Surveys**
- Chair:** Phillip S. Kott, National Agricultural Statistics Service
- Speaker:** Changbao Wu, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, University of Waterloo
- Discussant:** James Gentle, Department of Computational and Data Sciences, George Mason University
- Date/Time:** Wednesday, November 29, 2006 / 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center in G440. To be placed on the seminar list attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** Methodology Section, WSS
- Abstract:** In this talk we provide an overview on recent development of the empirical likelihood (EL) methods for analyses of complex survey data. Major features of the approach include (1) likelihood-based motivations; (2) the flexibility in using known auxiliary information; (3) data-driven and range respecting confidence intervals; (4) the power for combining information from multiple surveys and multiple frame surveys; and (5) stable and efficient computational algorithms. The EL method can also be viewed as a general approach to calibration and raking and is practically appealing due to its computational advantages. A bootstrap procedure for the pseudo EL ratio confidence intervals with some limited simulation results will be presented.

## Program Announcement

- Title:** Ephedra: A Case Study of Statistics, Policy, and Politics
- Chair:** Dwight Brock, Westat
- Speaker:** Sally C. Morton, RTI International
- Date/Time:** Thursday, December 7, 2006 / 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Room 9. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave., NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** Washington Statistical Society's Section on Public Policy
- Abstract:** In February 2004, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) prohibited the sale of dietary supplements containing ephedrine alkaloids (ephedra), stating that such supplements present an unreasonable risk of illness or injury. The Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act (DSHEA) of 1994 governs dietary supplement regulation in the United States. DSHEA places the burden of proof for safety on the government rather than on the manufacturer, and thus differs significantly from regulations that govern the marketing of drugs. Part of the evidence the FDA used in reaching its decision was a systematic review of the efficacy and safety of ephedra conducted by the Southern California Evidence-Based Practice Center. In addition to a meta-analysis of controlled trial data, the review contained an evaluation of observational case report data, a study design that has limited inferential abilities regarding cause and effect.
- How did the FDA decide what data were relevant to its decision? How did the FDA argument for the ban differ from a decision based solely on statistical hypothesis testing? This talk will address these questions by describing the systematic review approach, the evidence presented, the interpretation of that evidence by those on both sides of the argument, and the process by which the decision was made.

## Employment

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 email or call Anne Peterson, at [apeterson@insightpolicyresearch.com](mailto:apeterson@insightpolicyresearch.com) or (703) 373-6645.

### WESTAT

#### AN EMPLOYEE-OWNED RESEARCH CORPORATION

Westat is an employee-owned corporation headquartered in the suburbs of Washington, DC (Rockville, Maryland). We provide statistical consulting and survey research to the agencies of the U.S. Government and to a broad range of business and institutional clients. With a strong technical and managerial staff and a long record of quality research, Westat has become one of the leading survey research and statistical consulting organizations in the United States.

Our company was founded in 1961 by three statisticians. The current staff of more than 1,800 includes over 60 statisticians, as well as research, technical, and administrative staff. In addition, our professional staff is supported by data collection and processing personnel situated locally and in field sites around the country. The work atmosphere is open, progressive, and highly conducive to professional growth.

Our statistical efforts continue to expand in areas such as the environment, energy, health, education, and human resources. Westat statisticians are actively involved in teaching graduate-level courses in statistical methods and survey methodology in collaborative arrangements with area colleges and universities.

We are currently recruiting for the following statistical position:

#### **Survey Sampling Statistician (Job Code WSS/DRM/6001)**

Three or more years of relevant experience in sample design and selection, frames development, weighting, imputation, and variance estimation. Must have a master's or doctoral degree in statistics and have excellent writing skills. Coursework in sample survey design is highly desirable.

Westat offers excellent growth opportunities and an outstanding benefits package including life and health insurance, an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP), a 401(k) plan, flexible spending accounts, professional development, and tuition assistance. For immediate consideration, please send your cover letter, indicating the Westat Job Code, and resume by one of the following methods to:

Job Code is REQUIRED to apply.

Westat • Attn: Resume System • 1650 Research Boulevard • Rockville, MD 20850-3195

**Email: [resume@westat.com](mailto:resume@westat.com) • FAX: (888) 201-1452**

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[www.westat.com](http://www.westat.com)

**The George Washington University  
School of Public Health & Health Services**

**Faculty Member in Biostatistics**

The Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics is recruiting for a full time faculty member at the Assistant or Associate Professor level with expertise in biostatistics.

The successful candidate will have the opportunity to join a growing Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the nation's capital that has a highly respected and energetic teaching and research faculty and the opportunity to conduct clinical trials research at The Biostatistics Center.

Under the leadership of its new Chairman, Alan E. Greenberg, MD, MPH, the Department has expertise in HIV/AIDS, cancer, behavioral, and aging epidemiology, geographical health information systems, and biostatistical methods. In addition, the Department has established collaborative opportunities with other Departments in the GWU School of Public Health and Health Services, the GWU Medical Center, the Veterans Administration Hospital, Children's National Medical Center, the National Cancer Institute, the Department of Defense, and the DC Department of Health.

The Biostatistics Center is a leader in the statistical coordination of clinical trials conducted by the National Institute of Health. The center is renowned for its leadership in multi-center trials in diabetes, cardiovascular disease, maternal/fetal clinical medicine, osteoporosis, and urology, and the genetic basis for a series of diseases.

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics is involved in the MS and PhD degree programs in biostatistics and in epidemiology, among other graduate degree programs. The MS and PhD degree programs in biostatistics and in epidemiology admitted its first class in 1995. There are currently 15 doctoral students matriculated in the PhD degree in biostatistics and 10 students matriculated in the MS degree in biostatistics. More than half of the doctoral students in biostatistics are working on their dissertation research.

Responsibilities of the position will include teaching upper level courses in theoretical and applied biostatistics, mentoring masters and doctoral students in biostatistics, participating in clinical trials research at the GWU Biostatistics Center (<http://biostat.bsc.gwu.edu>), and developing an externally-funded research program.

Faculty rank and compensation will be commensurate with experience. Review of applications will begin on March 1, 2006, and will continue until the position is filled. Send letter of application, CV, and a list of 3 references, preferably electronically, to:

**Dr. Dante A. Verme**

Chair, Search Committee, Biostatistics

E-mail: [sphdav@gwumc.edu](mailto:sphdav@gwumc.edu) (electronic submissions strongly preferred)

Vice Chair for Educational Activities

Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics

The George Washington University

School of Public Health & Health Services

2300 Eye St., NW, Ross Hall 125

Washington, DC 20037

GWU SPHHS Webpage: <http://www.gwumc.edu/sphhs>

The Biostatistics Center Webpage: <http://biostat.bsc.gwu.edu>

The George Washington University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

## **The Biostatistics Center**

### **CLINICAL TRIAL BIOSTATISTICIANS**

#### **M.S. and Ph.D. Level Positions**

With an opportunity for substantial leadership responsibility in studies of international public health import.

The Biostatistics Center of The George Washington University, founded in 1972, is a leader in the statistical coordination of clinical trials conducted by the National Institutes of Health. We enjoy over \$45 million per year of NIH research funding for major studies in cardiovascular disease, diabetes, maternal/fetal medicine, osteoporosis, urology, and the genetic basis for various diseases. The center has a staff of over 100 with 27 biostatisticians/epidemiologists, including 10 faculty. We are recruiting M.S. and Ph.D. level staff to participate in these and future studies. Please visit our web site (below).

**Master's Level Research Positions:** These positions require a Master's in Biostatistics or Statistics and 1-5 years experience in analysis, supervision of data management and study design for biomedical applications. Good written and oral communication skills, and detailed knowledge of SAS required. Send CV to address below.

**Assistant to Full Research Professorial Positions** are available immediately to serve as Co-Investigator or Principal Investigator (Project Director) and to provide statistical direction of the design, conduct and analysis of studies and the conduct of methodologic research to meet the projects needs. We are seeking individuals who want to join a highly competent team of academic biostatisticians and epidemiologists; who desire to contribute to the design and analysis of major medical studies, seek substantive scientific and statistical responsibility, enjoy interacting with medical investigators; take pride contributing to the publication of major papers in leading medical journals, and desire to make an impact on the public health. Our faculty also participate in graduate programs in biostatistics, epidemiology and statistics which afford opportunities for teaching at the graduate level. The research projects also provide an environment rich in methodological problems, with opportunities for collaboration with research active Center faculty and graduate students.

**Minimum Position Requirements:** Doctorate in Biostatistics, Statistics or Epidemiology, or alternatively an M.D. or Ph.D. in Biological Science, Physical Science or Computer Science with a Masters in Biostatistics or Statistics, 1-5 years' experience with clinical trials, especially study design and statistical analysis of study results using SAS, excellent oral and written English communication skills, and supervisory experience.

**Application Procedures:** Applicants must send a Curriculum Vitae and three letters of reference; a letter to include a synopsis of their role in collaborative medical research that has led to medical scientific presentation or publication and a statement of career purpose indicating their career goals and how this position can help you achieve those goals; and applicants for Assistant Research Professor positions must send an Official Transcript of graduate coursework leading to the doctoral degree to: Sarah Fowler, Research Professor and Director, The George Washington University Biostatistics Center, 6110 Executive Blvd., Suite 750, Rockville, MD 20852. [HTTP://WWW.BSC.GWU.EDU](http://www.bsc.gwu.edu)

Review of applications is ongoing until the positions are filled. Rank/position title and salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Tuition benefits for employees (including Ph.D. in Statistics, Biostatistics and Epidemiology) and for spouse and dependent children.

All research and regular faculty at the rank of Assistant Professor in Biostatistics or Statistics may be apply for the Samuel W. Greenhouse Biostatistics Research Enhancement Award. For a period of 1 year, the award will provide 20% effort for methodological research and a discretionary fund to support professional activities, travel to professional meetings, supplies and equipment.



Applicants for the research faculty position may also apply for the Greenhouse Award while their faculty application is being considered. For complete information including Award Application Materials Requirements, please visit our website at: [www.bsc.gwu.edu](http://www.bsc.gwu.edu).

The George Washington University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer

### **US Army Evaluation Center**

The Army Evaluation Center (AEC) evaluates the capability (effectiveness, suitability, and survivability) of Army and Joint materiel acquisitions. Organized into directorates assigned a specific mission area, AEC evaluators and analysts plan and conduct evaluations while partnered with tailored contingents of developmental and operational testers. The evaluations rendered by AEC personnel ensure that America's soldiers are the finest equipped in the world.

AEC is currently recruiting for the following position:

### **Operations Research Analyst / Mathematical Statistician**

Senior analyst and lead member of interdisciplinary teams engaged in full spectrum of statistical and intelligence analysis. This position supports multi-service evaluations regarding materiel acquisition programs of national security scope and interest. The analyst contributes technical and analytical input to products prepared by Army and multi-service working groups. The analyst formulates evaluation strategies that derive informational and data requirements for technical and operational test designs and modeling efforts, as well as monitors test execution and data collection activities.

Candidates for this position must have strong backgrounds in statistical analysis, modeling, and communication skills. Candidates must possess one year of specialized experience and training equivalent to the former GS-11 level in Federal service that included comprehensive analysis and integrated evaluations of weapons systems and/or automated information systems. Candidates must be able to obtain and maintain a TOP SECRET/SCI clearance. The US Army Evaluation Center became part of an alternative personnel system known as the Acquisition Demonstration Project on February 28, 1999. The Demonstration replaces GS grade levels with occupational families and pay bands. The salary range of the position being filled (NH-III) will not be decreased with the change to pay bands. This position incorporates former GS-12 step 1 through GS-13 step 10 grade levels and salary levels. Finally, due to the Base Realignment Commission (BRAC), this position will relocate to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, prior to 2010.

For more information, interested parties should contact the AEC website:

[http://www.atec.army.mil/aec/HRD/career\\_tech.asp](http://www.atec.army.mil/aec/HRD/career_tech.asp)

### **Seeking Part-Time Faculty**

The Department of Statistics at George Mason University is seeking to expand its part-time teaching pool for the Fall 2007 semester. Responsibilities include teaching undergraduate courses in applied statistics or probability theory. Teaching slots may be available for both daytime and evening classes taught either one or two days a week at our Fairfax, Prince William, or Loudoun campus. Applicants should have a Ph.D. in statistics or a related field.

If interested, please call or email for further information.

Linda Davis  
[ldavisc@gmu.edu](mailto:ldavisc@gmu.edu)  
(703) 993-4835

## Statistical Software Training Specialist

### Summary

MSD is an employee-owned company of over 600 professionals who support the diverse technical, scientific, and administrative needs of the Federal government. We are currently searching for an experienced Training Specialist with expertise in statistics and statistical software to support the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This opportunity is a permanent, full-time position with MSD and it is on-site at the NIH in Bethesda/Rockville, MD.

This position includes providing one-on-one and classroom training and troubleshooting for NIH scientists on the use of statistical services and applications; researching, planning, developing, and delivering training programs and materials; facilitating groups of all sizes with various levels of experience; and collaborating with NIH scientists on specific projects.

### Major Duties and Responsibilities

- Provide both classroom and on-site, on-demand training to NIH scientists on the use of statistical methods, software, and relevant tools.
- Research, design, and deliver training materials, courses, presentations, workshops and demonstrations to effectively address and solve scientific applications usage issues and problems raised by the scientific research personnel.
- Collaborate with NIH scientists to determine training needs, provide technical advice to solving statistical software problems, and participate in troubleshooting and optimization.
- Remain abreast on current and emerging statistical technologies and relevant tools.
- Plan training procedures, coordinate scheduling, and develop course evaluations to ensure customer satisfaction with training materials.

### Position Requirements

- M.S. or Ph.D. in statistics or the life sciences required.
- Experience providing direct user support in the field of statistical analysis required.
- Ability to communicate statistical concepts to non-specialists in a clear and precise manner and advise on relevant statistical software and tools required.
- Strong background in microarray analysis using applications such as SAS, GeneSpring, Partek Genomics Solutions, Stratagene ArrayAssist, Spotfire.
- Strong knowledge of most or all statistical applications such as SAS, JMP, SPSS, S-PLUS, Prism, and MATLAB required.
- Strong interpersonal, written and oral communication skills required.
- Excellent presentation and problem-solving skills required.
- Experience in molecular biology, virology, immunology, structural biology or genomics/proteomics highly desired.
- Evidence of previous work in a basic research laboratory setting strongly preferred.
- Expert use of personal computers running on the Microsoft Windows and Macintosh OS X operating systems required.
- Attention to detail, time management skills and ability to work independently with a high level of personal and professional drive and initiative required.
- Ability to use innovative and creative approaches to developing training materials and classes required.

Contact:

David Dowling, Sr. Recruiter  
NIH Contract Recruiter/ Management Systems Designers, Inc  
2677 Prosperity Ave, Ste 700  
Fairfax , VA 22031  
(301) 442-5566 (O)

for additional information.



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