



WASHINGTON  
STATISTICAL  
SOCIETY

September 1988

# NEWSLETTER

September 21

Wednesday

Workshop on Conducting Workshops

September 23

Friday

Stochastic Methods in Neurophysiology

**ASA-150**

September 26

Monday

The Effects of Technology on Statistics

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Waite and Herriot Awarded Shiskin Prize

Charles A. Waite and Roger A. Herriot, both from the Bureau of the Census, received the 9th Annual Julius Shiskin Award for Economic Statistics. Waite, Associate Director for Economic Programs, received the award for his original and important contributions to the Bureau of Economic Analysis and the Bureau of the Census. Herriot, Senior Demographic and Housing Analyst, received the honor for his innovative work in improving income statistics. The presentation was made at the Washington

Statistical Society Annual Dinner along with an honorarium of \$250.

The Award Program is designed to honor unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics or in the use of economic statistics in interpreting the economy. Participating organizations in the program are the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bureau of the Census, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Office of Management and Budget, National Bureau of Economic Research, National Association of Business Economists, and the Washington Statistical Society, all of which Mr. Shiskin was associated with in his long and fruitful career.

#### WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY PROGRAM CHAIRS

**Agriculture & Natural Resources**  
Ron Bosecker 447-3895  
W. Barnes Johnson 249-7388

**Social & Demographic Statistics**  
Harvey Schwartz 535-0634  
John Czajka 484-9220

**Short Courses**  
Glenn White 763-5248  
Donald Gantz 425-3931  
Brad Pafford 447-2129  
Sid Schwartz 268-3490  
Virginia deWolf 366-5372

**Economics**  
Francis X. Diebold 452-2461  
Gerald Schluter 786-1785

**Public Health & Biostatistics**  
Ed Lakatos 496-5905  
Jai Choi 436-7047

**Methodology**  
David Marker 251-4398  
Myron Katzoff 436-7047

**Employment**  
Evelyn R. Kay 331-1153

**Physical Sciences & Engineering**  
Thomas Mazzuchi 994-7514  
Refik Soyer 994-6794

**Statistical Computing**  
Khalid Aboura 994-7534  
Sylvia Leaver 272-2311

**Quality Assurance**  
Stanley R. Freedman 586-2038  
John M. Galvin 272-2385

**Newsletter Editor**  
Michael Cohen 454-6193

## PROGRAM ABSTRACTS

**TOPIC:** WORKSHOP ON CONDUCTING WORKSHOPS

**SPEAKERS:** Mike Guillory, Bill Iwig, Bob Bass, and Jack Nealon, all of USDA/NASS

**CHAIR:** Rich Allen

**DATE & TIME:** Wednesday, September 21; 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Downstairs Auditorium, 1301 New York Avenue, N.W.  
(Check in at desk in main entrance)

**SPONSOR:** Committee for the Lighter Side of Statistics

**ABSTRACT:** Traditional classroom lecturer-listener approaches are often ineffective in preparing individuals to apply statistical techniques or to conduct interviews. Studies of how adults learn indicate that well designed and conducted workshops can greatly improve learning and retention.

This session will present basic concepts to follow in planning and carrying out workshops. Example workshop exercises will be included. ATTENDANCE WILL BE LIMITED TO 35 PARTICIPANTS. CALL BESSIE JOHNSON 447-3895 TO REGISTER.

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**TOPIC:** STOCHASTIC METHODS IN NEUROPHYSIOLOGY

**SPEAKER:** Muhammad K. Habib, George Mason University

**CHAIR:** Dean Follmann, Biostatistics Research Branch, NHBLI

**DISCUSSANTS:** Grace Yang, University of Maryland  
Thomas McKenna, Office of Naval Research

**DATE & TIME:** Friday, September 23, 1:30 p.m. (Note special time.)

**LOCATION:** Federal Building, 7550 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Room B119, Bethesda, Maryland

**SPONSOR:** Biometrics

**ABSTRACT:** In this talk, we discuss recent developments in applications of stochastic modeling and statistical inference for stochastic processes to experimental studies of the electrical activity in the nervous system at the cellular and multicellular levels. In particular, the subthreshold behavior of the membrane potential of single neurons is modeled as a solution of stochastic differential equations that include parameters which reflect important neurophysiological properties. Statistical methods of estimating these parameters using experimentally recorded data will be discussed. We will also consider studies of temporal behavior of non-stationary trains of action potentials which are simultaneously recorded from two or more neurons using the method of cross-correlation surfaces which we have developed recently.

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## PROGRAM ABSTRACTS (continued)

- TOPIC:** THE EFFECTS OF TECHNOLOGY ON STATISTICS **ASA-150**
- SPEAKERS:** Edward J. Wegman, George Mason University  
Nancy Flournoy, American University  
Terence Ireland, National Security Agency
- DATE & TIME:** Monday, September 26, 1988; 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. (Note special time.)
- LOCATION:** Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., N.W., Rm. N3437 A-D, Washington, D.C.  
(Please call 523-1760 no later than September 23 to assure entrance.)
- ABSTRACT:** Dr. Wegman will speak on the effects of computing technology on statistics. Computing technology implies a qualitative as well as quantitative difference in approach to statistical problems. The increased computing power coupled with electronic instrumentation allows for a substantially different class of data to be addressed. Additionally, inexpensive graphic interfaces allow a much more intensive consideration of fundamental assumptions underpinning statistical models.
- Dr. Flournoy will speak on accessible information, statistics and the scientific method. A modern computation permits science to operate in more complex modes than the classical serial experimentation. The author will discuss the challenges and opportunities that come with having integrated on line data capabilities and retrieval capabilities for multiple disciplines that are involved in a network of experiments.
- Dr. Ireland will discuss the impact of computer science on statistics. His talk will address the following questions. What do we want for our statistical computing environment and what can we expect? Will there be new software environments which evolve as statisticians provide better statistical descriptions of process? Will new programming environments encourage statisticians to do their own software development? And what can statisticians learn from computer science about the functional description of process?
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## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **SIGSTAT Meetings**

SIGSTAT is the special interest group in statistics for the Capital PC User Group (CPCUG). CPCUG is the Washington area user group for IBM-type personal computers and has over 6000 members. SIGSTAT meets monthly in Room B-14, 1301 New York Avenue, N.W., from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. and has projection equipment available to demonstrate software. The June meeting was "Getting Started With PC/SAS 6.03" and covered the Help facility, Menu system and the new Tutorial included with 6.03. Coming attractions are:

- 9/14/88 Demo of Mystat, Public Domain Version of Systat
- 10/12/88 New Features in Base & Stat Modules of PC/SAS
- 11/09/88 Demo of PC SAS IML
- 12/14/88 Demo of PC SAS FSP
- 1/11/89 Demo of PC SASGRAPH

If you are a first-time attendee at a SIGSTAT meeting, please call Charlie Hallahan at 786-1507 and leave your name. Suggestions for future meetings are welcome.

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## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

### Wanted--Quality Improvement Case Studies

The Washington Statistical Society has recently started a new program committee on quality improvement case studies. This action was taken in response to suggestions received at the Quality Assurance in the Government symposium that WSS presented this Spring.

American companies and organizations are increasingly embracing a management methodology known as Total Quality Control (TQC). This approach to management generally can be defined as an integrated effort to continually assure and improve quality and cost performance at every level in all functions of the organization. As quality awareness expands beyond manufacturing production operations, quality professionals are developing a body of skills and techniques for improving product and process quality. While some of this quality technology is quite complex, relatively simple statistical and analytical tools remain the mainstay of quality control. Often the greatest challenge lies in conceptualizing the application of these methods to processes in non-manufacturing areas such as administration, information, and customer service.

Many attendees of the Spring conference expressed uncertainty as to the application of quality improvement methods to their organizations. Others were frustrated in their efforts to demonstrate their usefulness. Our purpose in forming this new WSS committee is to present case studies of interesting quality improvement efforts, both successes and failures, which can serve as examples for initiatives in WSS members' own organizations. Hopefully, these case studies can get WSS members quickly "out of the gate" in their own quality improvement efforts.

If you or your organization have quality improvement experiences you would like to share with WSS members, please contact Stan Freedman (586-2038) or Jack Galvin (272-2385). Case studies need not employ advanced statistical methods. Suggestions for full or panel presentations are welcome.

### APDU Plans Thirteenth Annual Conference

The Association of Public Data Users (APDU), an active network of data users, producers, and distributors concerned with the collection and dissemination of public data, has scheduled its thirteenth annual conference for October 19-21, 1988, in Washington, D.C.

ADPU88 will open with a Census Workshop at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon at which representatives from the Bureau of the Census and conference attendees will discuss changes in content from the 1980 to the 1990 decennial censuses, proposed census products, and current research and thinking on disclosure avoidance.

The Workshop is an excellent forum for the discussion of controversial issues in the past year or two concerning the decennial census, such as the Office of Management and Budget's eleventh hour decision to disapprove the questionnaire.

Sessions on Thursday will focus on the use of public data for election purposes, the archival function of the federal government, sources and uses of health statistics, and private sector activities and products of interest to data users.

Friday will open with a report on issues and policies affecting the collection and dissemination of public data by Katherine Wallman, Executive Director of the Council of Professional Associations on Federal Statistics. Concurrent sessions in the morning will bring attendees up to date on programs of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, applications of data collected in the Survey of Income and Program Participation, and data collections of the Veterans Administration and the Internal Revenue Service. Session moderator Janie Harris, of Cornell University, has promised to bring the conference to a close with a "fireworks session" on public policies that affect data availability.

Registration brochures for the Annual Conference will be available in August from the office of the Association of Public Data Users, 87 Prospect Avenue, Princeton, New Jersey 08544, 609/452-6025.

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## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

### Quality Assurance in the Government Symposium Evaluation

On May 24-25, 1988, the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) sponsored a two-day statistical quality control symposium entitled *Quality Assurance in the Government* at the DuPont Plaza Hotel in Washington. Each attendee received a questionnaire to help evaluate the symposium. Of the approximately 200 members attending the conference, 107 completed and returned their questionnaires. This report, by Robert C. Perkins, is a summary of their responses.

The symposium was geared toward statisticians and managers with less than two years of quality assurance experience. Approximately 68% of the attendees fell under this description. It was also designed primarily for government employees, which described 93% of the participants.

The symposium attracted professionals from a wide array of employment fields. Quality assurance employees made up 28% of the symposium audience. Statisticians, survey specialists, and management personnel composed 17.8%, 16.8%, and 13.1% of the conference-goers, respectively. Of the 13 "Other" responses, approximately 6 to 8 of the respondents were economists.

When asked about changes to improve the symposium, most attendees commented on the lack of meeting space and the audiovisual difficulties. Both problems occurred as a result of underestimating the attendance and overestimating the capacities of the rooms. Although a few participants complained that the information in the brochure did not adequately portray the symposium, there were no real complaints against either the outline or the content of the symposium in general.

Of those attendees that answered the question "Would you attend another WSS-sponsored quality assurance symposium?", an overwhelming 89.3% responded affirmatively.

When asked what they would like to see at a future symposium, there were many answers. The most popular responses are as follows:

- a. Practical applications of statistical quality control tools;
- b. A hands-on workshop -- a series of classes following the statistical quality control process from beginning to end with teams of individuals applying the lessons to a software process;
- c. More Quality Assurance examples; and
- d. More evaluations of government programs.

Other suggestions included graphical techniques, documentation outlines, error measurement methods, and managerial roles.

### Summary of WSS Board Meeting

The annual joint meeting of the outgoing and incoming Boards of Directors was held June 21. Although the meeting had been advertised as an "open" Board meeting, no members at large were present. Outgoing President Nancy Kirkendall thanked the 1987-88 Board for the excellent support she received the past year. She also announced that she would be coordinating the WSS committee which will work on publicity, restaurant guides, informational blurbs on Washington, D.C., and other needed local arrangements items for the ASA-150 meetings in 1989.

Incoming President Rich Allen commented that he did not expect many changes for the 1988-89 program year. There will be minimal changes in the makeup of program committees. The one significant change will be the trial of a program committee for Quality Assurance/Quality Control sessions. Program chairs were encouraged to search out new topics and new speakers for next year.

The dues for next year were set at the present level: \$6.00 for regular members, \$2.00 for regular student members, \$8.00 for local associate members, and \$2.00 for local associate student members.

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

### WSS Program Session Philosophy

At the Symposium on Quality Assurance this spring, some participants expressed the view that they did not attend many WSS program sessions because they were too technical. However, other individuals felt that most sessions were not technical enough for their interests. One program committee chairperson mentioned that he has been surprised at the relatively low attendance at some fairly nontechnical sessions which he thought would have wide appeal.

Perhaps it would be helpful to examine the basic philosophy that WSS is striving for in scheduling program sessions. The goal is to serve all WSS members and since that membership is quite varied, our sessions must be also.

Flexibility is perhaps the best keyword for WSS program sessions. In the past few years, WSS program sessions have included all of the following: young professionals having their first opportunity to make a technical presentation; well-known statisticians commenting on their career experiences; researchers presenting new breakthroughs in applications of methodology; survey designers discussing major new programs or program modifications; committee members outlining the findings from new Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology reports; leading experts presenting techniques to large groups of participants through short courses and other special sessions; individuals discussing social issues, such as ethics for statisticians, instead of technical statistical topics; WSS members pretesting material to be developed for ASA joint meetings or other scientific meetings; and members repeating sessions from the joint meetings which were of general interest.

The concept of flexibility also extends to the session formats themselves. While a chairperson, presenter, and discussant format is often used, it is not required and some sessions do not have a designated discussant. Most WSS sessions do not require a formal paper to be written so it is easy for someone to come and speak about "work in progress" without concerns about followup

letters to the editor or other reactions if final results depart from tentative conclusions.

Another aspect of the flexibility philosophy is that many different sizes of sessions are held. The Quality Assurance Symposium included over 200 people which was an extremely large session for WSS. Many of our program sessions are geared for 20-60 people with 30-45 participants being a quite common-sized crowd. While we do hope to have a good attendance at each session, having a favorable impact on the people who do attend is more important than the size of the crowd. One of the most successful WSS program sessions I ever attended had eight people. The presenter was attempting some very technical applications of a particular theory and was looking for new suggestions. All participants (except myself) were familiar with the particular techniques and the ensuing discussion was the most lively I have experienced at any of our sessions. (Perhaps we should check—they may still be in that room yet today.)

There is one more aspect of flexibility to comment on. All WSS members can participate. If you have suggestions for topics that you would like to hear (or present) contact one of the appropriate program chairs listed on the front of the newsletter. While it is often not possible to find the speakers and make the arrangements for every topic suggested, many of our sessions come about through the followup on someone's question or suggestion.

### GAUSS/Washington Meeting

GAUSS/Washington, the Washington area GAUSS users' group will meet Wednesday, September 21, from 12:30 to 1:30 in Room B-14 of the Economic Research Service building at 1301 New York Avenue, N.W. Dr. Ron Schoenberg, NIMH, will demonstrate the new version of GAUSS which can use up to 16M of RAM by solving large problems with his linear covariance structure analysis package, LINCS. ERS building security requires your name be on a list for entry. Call Jack Angle at 786-1505 to put your name on the list.

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## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

### Mid-Atlantic Regional Probability and Statistics Day

This year's Mid-Atlantic Regional Probability and Statistics Day will be held Saturday, October 22, 1988, at the Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory (located approximately midway between Washington and Baltimore). This informal meeting provides an opportunity for professionals in academia, government, and industry to meet and discuss common interests. Informal talks on all aspects of probability and statistics are invited, including discussions of preliminary and on-going work. Participation by graduate students is also encouraged. Dr. David Findley of the Census Bureau will present an invited talk on problems in statistical model building. Contact James C. Spall, The Johns Hopkins University, Applied Physics Laboratory, Room 8-171, Laurel, Maryland 20707, 301/953-5000, for further information. Abstracts are required by September 16 for those wishing to deliver a talk.

### JOS Call for Papers

#### *The 1989 Special Issue on Environmental Statistics*

Environmental statistics is a recent and growing branch of official statistics, stemming from the substantial changes in the environment due to pollution, acidification, etc. Describing and analyzing the state of the environment, with its complex biological systems, present new challenges for statistical methodology. In this special issue, we are interested in a broad range of methodology and applications, and in the policy issues of environmental statistics. The following are examples of suitable topic areas.

1. Sampling the environment, e.g., definition of population and frame, random and nonrandom samples.
2. Data collection and data sources, e.g., methods of measurement, remote sensing, etc.
3. Generalization from point measurements, e.g., Kriging, etc.
4. Analysis of environmental data, e.g., analysis of relations between variables, other multivariate methods, time series analysis, and nonrandom data.

5. Choice of variables, indicators, indices, e.g., comparability and classification. Planning for future data needs.
6. Harmonizing data of different character and quality, e.g., data obtained by different methods over time, hard and soft data, and case studies.
7. Presentation: choice of topics, forms (maps, tables), and regions (administrative, drainage areas), etc.
8. Use of official environmental statistics, e.g., instrumental use by government and local authorities, in research, or general information.
9. Evaluation of the environment in monetary terms, e.g., benefit-cost analysis.
10. Statistics, law, and environment.
11. International environmental issues, cooperation, etc.

Manuscripts for the special issue should be sent in five copies to the Chief Editor, Lars Lyberg, no later than November 30, 1988.

The *Journal of Official Statistics* is a refereed scholarly journal published quarterly. All inquiries should be directed to the Chief Editor at the address below.

### Profile Institute

As a follow-on to the seminar on "Optimizing Computer Simulations" Pro-file Computer Institute will be offering one-two day short courses carrying continuing education credits in the Fall and Spring of 1988-89. The full schedule includes: (a) a two-day short course on *Designing and Refining Computer Simulations* (September 29-30), (b) successive one-day seminars on *pre-processing for large-scale simulations, meta models, and post-processors* (September 22-23), and (c) *quality control monitoring* emphasizing feedback processes, early detection schemes in non-manufacturing settings (October 20-21). A special *study design workshop* limited to 12 registrants will also be offered on November 3-4, 1988. The fee averages \$370 for a one-day course; group discounts are allowed; limited partial scholarship is available. Courses will be held in Vienna, Virginia. For further information and registration please call 703/938-9239.

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

### Science Fairs 1988

The Washington Statistical Society presented special awards for excellence in investigation or application of statistical methods at six regional science fairs in the metropolitan D.C. area. Twenty-four volunteer judges spent a Saturday morning in March or April reviewing science projects and selecting the award winners. First award winners in each fair received copies of Statistics: A Guide to the Unknown, edited by Tanur, et al, or Statistics: Concepts and Controversies, by Moore. Certificates of Honorable Mention were also awarded. First award winners were invited to attend the Distinguished Speaker Lecture held at Lisner Auditorium, George Washington University, on April 20, and to display their projects to the WSS membership at that time. Six of the award winners were also able to attend. The opportunity for interaction between professional statisticians and interested secondary school students appeared to be enjoyed by all those involved.

This year's winners of WSS special awards are as follows:

#### ARLINGTON-ALEXANDRIA-FALLS CHURCH

##### First Awards:

Sylvie Cohen, 12th grade, Wakefield High School  
Amanda Qvester, 11th grade, Yorktown High School

##### Honorable Mention:

Bryce Edwards, 8th grade, Williamsburg Intermediate School  
Amy McFarland, 8th grade, Swanson Intermediate School  
Zakir Mahmood, 9th grade, Wakefield High School  
Geronimo Mulholland, 10th grade, Wakefield High School

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

##### First Awards:

Regina Abdal-Hagg, 8th grade, Takoma Elementary School  
Stephen Groening, 10th grade, Gonzaga College High School

Assata Lee, 11th grade, Wilson High School

##### Honorable Mention:

Ming Siu, 12th grade, Wilson High School  
Robert Williams, 7th grade, Roots Activity Learning Center  
Justice Wright, 4th grade, Amiden Elementary School

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY

##### First Awards:

Jean-Paul Chretien, Holy Cross Academy  
Shana Ellenberg, 7th grade, Hoover Junior High School

##### Honorable Mention:

Justin Bokelman, Walt Whitman High School  
Matthew Hertz, Tilden Intermediate School  
Mark Su, Montgomery Blair High School  
Kelly Wills, Holy Cross Academy

#### FAIRFAX COUNTY, GRADES 9-12

##### First Awards:

Tania Fauquet, 10th grade, Hayfield High School  
Aruna Sarma, 12th grade, Oakton High School  
Bradley Witzel, 10th grade, Lee High School

##### Honorable Mention:

Raheel Ahmed, 12th grade, West Potomac High School  
Kristin Breslin, 9th grade, Jefferson High School  
C. Mulbrandon, 11th grade, West Potomac High School  
Mark Nicholson, 11th grade, Robinson High School  
William Schaefer, 9th grade, Jefferson High School  
Eric Schierer, 11th grade, Jefferson High School

#### FAIRFAX COUNTY, GRADES 7-8

##### First Awards:

Christopher Belluzzo, 7th grade, Franklin Intermediate School  
Lara Estroff, 7th grade, Cooper Intermediate School  
Sabrina Sandusky, 8th grade, Twain Intermediate School

##### Honorable Mention:

Kerry Blount, 8th grade, Kilmer Intermediate School  
David Cole, 7th grade, Kilmer Intermediate School  
Mark Embree, 8th grade, St. Bernadette's School  
Ryan McDavit, 7th grade, Hayfield Intermediate School  
Justin Romberg, 7th grade, Longfellow Intermediate School

#### PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

##### First Awards:

Jackie Henry, 6th grade, Owens Road Elementary School  
Chris Smith, 8th grade, Milton M. Somers Middle School  
Jean Wang, 10th grade, Eleanor Roosevelt High School

##### Honorable Mention:

Ryan H. Hackett, 6th grade, Glenarden Woods Elementary School  
Silvia Sid, 12th grade, Oxon Hill High School  
Bryan Sivils, 9th grade, Suitland High School

Much appreciation is due to the WSS volunteer judges who gave up a springtime Saturday morning to review projects. This year's participants were Frank Dorsey, Wylie Wilson, Chip Denman, Rebecca Klemm, Marilyn McMillen, Sid Schwartz, Gene Heyman, Bill Cleveland, Susan Ellenberg, Chris Koprak, John Schwemberger, Pamela Getson, Lawrence Rudner, Jeff Miller, Mary Grace Kovar, Earl Pollack, Lee Abramson, Glenn White, Howard Hogan, Vince Matthews, Bob O'Neill, Brenda Edwards, Don Stablein and Mary Foulkes.



## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

### Spotlight on WSS Board Members

The WSS Board of Directors consists of about 40 members who plan the operating program of the Society, arrange for technical sessions, and carry out all of the other needed functions of a large volunteer organization. Usually about 12 of those members have been presented to the membership through the process of elections. All other members serve in appointed positions and they don't normally get recognized by the Society as a whole. This program year we plan to highlight these unsung volunteers by a series of profile articles.

**Ron Bosecker** has served as cochair of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee for the past three years. He is presently Chief of the Survey Sampling Branch of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), USDA. His Branch is responsible for the sample designs and sample allocation for all probability surveys. It is also responsible for the construction and maintenance of the national area sampling frame of NASS and for supervision and training to maintain an effective list sampling frame system for the Agency. Ron has a BS from Southern Illinois University and a MS from Ohio State University, both in agricultural economics. He completed a masters in statistics at Ohio State in the NASS sponsored training program. In addition to varied assignments in Washington, D.C., he served four years as the Deputy State Statistician in the California State office of NASS in Sacramento. He has done extensive work in the design, sampling, and analysis of NASS multiple-frame surveys utilizing list and area frames.

**Frank Diebold** is a returning cochair of the Economics Committee. He is an economist in the Monetary and Financial Studies Section of the Federal Reserve Board (FRB). His section conducts research in time-series econometrics, macroeconomics, business cycles and forecasting. Frank is also the current editor of the Finance and Economics Discussion Series of the FRB. He has a BS from the Wharton School and a PhD. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania. He held various instructor and research assistance positions at Penn and was a visiting professor this July at the Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey. Frank has presented papers and

chaired sessions at a number of United States and European statistical and economic conferences. He also has presented at an impressive number of university seminars the past four years. On top of all other activities, he has found time to author or coauthor two technical books.

**Brad Pafford** is a new member of the Short Course Committee this year. He is a Mathematical Statistician in the Nonsampling Errors Research Section of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). He is working with tests of new procedures and questionnaires and with applications of quality assurance procedures utilizing reconciliation data and control charting. Brad completed both a BS and MS in Forestry from Virginia Tech and worked for NASS as an Agricultural Statistician in the Virginia and North Carolina offices before completing an MS in Statistics at North Carolina State in the NASS sponsored training program. Brad has three recent papers on response errors and the effects of changing survey procedures. He has presented papers at the ASA annual meetings and the Census Research Conference. Brad is also a sought after player for NASS intramural basketball games.

**Stephanie Shipp** is, among other contributions, the Membership Chair for WSS. She is the one responsible for following up with non-WSS members who register at our sponsored sessions. She also assisted the Short Course Committee and served on the WSS/ASA-150 Program Planning Committee last year. She is the Chief of the Branch of Information and Analysis, Division of Consumer Expenditure Surveys at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Her unit analyzes and publishes consumer expenditure survey data and prepares microdata tapes for BLS. Stephanie was formerly in the Producer Price Index Division at BLS and was a research assistant at the Federal Reserve Board. She received her BA from Trinity and her MA from George Washington, both in Economics. Her major fields of statistical interest are consumer economics and social statistics. She has presented papers at the 1987 and 1988 annual ASA meetings and serves as the Editor for the Caucus for Women in Statistics Newsletter. Stephanie is an avid runner and triathlete and will be one of the organizers of a proposed race at the 1989 ASA-150 meetings.

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## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS (continued)

### Conference in Memory of Eugene Lukacs

The Mathematics Department at Catholic University is organizing a one-day conference on November 3, 1988 in honor

of Eugene Lukacs. The conference will consist of lectures by invited speakers. The names of the speakers will appear in the next issue of the Washington Statistical Society Newsletter.

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## EMPLOYMENT COLUMN

The Washington Statistical Society Newsletter provides a service of notification of employment opportunities and descriptions of those seeking employment here in Washington. Evelyn Kay, who is in charge of this service, has achieved a high success rate. Readers are encouraged to take advantage of this feature of the newsletter. Deadline for inserting notices is 5 (five) weeks before the publication date. Those interested should write to: Evelyn R. Kay, 2510 Virginia Avenue, N.W., #709, Washington, D.C. 20037, Phone 331-1153.

## JOB OPENINGS

### STATISTICIAN

Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., is an employee-owned social science research firm which specializes in evaluations of domestic public policy issues in the areas of health, labor, nutrition, taxation, and welfare programs. We provide clients with expertise in the design and evaluation of demonstration programs, sample design, data collection, statistical analysis, report preparation, and consulting.

A position is currently available in either our Princeton, NJ, or our Washington, D.C., office for a senior statistician with experience in sample design and inference from sample data. The position entails both methodological development and applications. A Ph.D. in statistics or equivalent qualifications and U.S. citizenship are required.

Send resume to: John Czajka, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., 600 Maryland Ave., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20024. EOE.



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