



# The Southern California Statistician

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

Volume 37, No. 1

February 1999

## Careers Day to Feature Ronald Iman Saturday, March 6

### CHAPTER NEWS

by Andy Dagis

Careers Day will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 6, 1999, at City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, CA. Careers Day is directed at students interested in statistics who want to learn about the many opportunities open to them. This event is a career fair, not a jobs fair. Many area employers and academic programs will sponsor booths. Dr. Ronald Iman, currently President of Southwest Technology Consultants, will speak on "Opportunities and Challenges of a Career in the Statistics Profession." Afternoon sessions will consist of breakout groups led by statisticians in various fields. There will also be sessions on interviewing techniques and resume preparation. In addition, video presentations will occur throughout the day. There is no fee for this event. Lunch will be available for a small charge, if desired, and should be reserved in advance. Further information may be obtained by contacting Anita Iannucci, of UC Irvine, phone (949) 824-1682, email aiannucc@uci.edu, or look for the enclosed flyer.

The Southern California Chapter will be a co-sponsor of Health Policy Statistical Section's third biennial International Conference on Health Policy (ICHPR). Focus will be on "Methodologic Issues in Health Services and Outcomes Research." The conference will be held in December, 1999 in Los Angeles/Santa Monica California. Information can be obtained from the ASA website, clicking on "sections."

This year's Fall Kickoff meeting was a great success. Leland Wilkinson of SPSS, Inc. and Northwestern University spoke on "The Grammar of Graphics." Chapter officers whose terms begin in Fall, 1998 were installed: Harold Dyck, president-elect; Nancy Berman, treasurer; and Andy Dagis, secretary.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Events that are of immediate interest for you to act upon:

- ◆ Careers Day with Ron Iman (Past ASA President) is at City of Hope on March 6 -- ATTEND !!!
- ◆ Roxy Peck of Cal Poly/San Luis Obispo is running for Chair-Elect of the ASA Council of Chapters-VOTE!!!

Events that should be of interest for you to put on your calendar:

- ◆ ASA LEARNSTAT Course on Power and Sample Size with Janet Elashoff at Allergan on April 24<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ Applied Statistics Workshop for Spatial Statistics with Paul Spitzer at CSULB on May 21.
- ◆ Workshop on Effective Consulting at Claremont late in September or perhaps early in October.
- ◆ Our Kickoff Meeting at Pomona later in Fall.

Our support for AP Statistics is gaining some momentum:

- ◆ Our presentation to the California Mathematics Council in Palm Springs was well received.
- ◆ An Advisory Committee of SCASA members and some high school teachers is being formed.

--Arnold Goodman

**RAND STATISTICS SEMINAR SERIES**

Sponsored by the Statistics Group

**Al Madansky, University of Chicago**

Topic: TBD

Thursday, March 11, 1999. Main Conference Room  
 Light refreshments will be served from 3:30 p.m.;  
 seminar begins at 4 p.m.

**Steven Scott, University of Southern California**

Topic: TBD

Thursday, April 15, 1999. Main Conference Room  
 Light refreshments will be served from 3:30 p.m.;  
 seminar begins at 4 p.m.

**Douglas C. Montgomery, Arizona State University**

Topic: "Some Recent Developments in Statistical Methods For Process Monitoring and Control"

Thursday, May 6, 1999. Main Conference Room  
 Light refreshments will be served from 3:30 p.m.;  
 seminar begins at 4 p.m.

**Rob Easterling, Sandia National Laboratories**

Topic: "Statistical Perspective on Model Validation"

Thursday, July 15, 1999. Main Conference Room  
 Light refreshments will be served from 3:30 p.m.;  
 seminar begins at 4 p.m.

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**"International Conference on Health Policy Statistics:  
 Methodologic Issues in Health Services and Outcomes  
 Research"**

**Santa Monica, CA December 3-5, 1999**

The ASA Section on Health Policy Statistics will be sponsoring its third biennial International Conference on Health Policy Statistics: Methodologic Issues in Health Services and Outcomes Research. Conference organizers would like to encourage presentations on topics from a broad spectrum of Health Services and Outcomes Research including: analysis of expenditure and utilization data, cost-effectiveness and decision analysis, measurement issues in quality of life and patient satisfaction, health provider profiling, quality assessment, long-term and geriatric care, mental health services and outcomes, medical technology assessment, and medical informatics. Conference co-sponsors include the Society for Medical Decision Making, American Public Health Association Statistics Section, and the Southern California Chapter of the American Statistical Association. Abstracts for contributed papers are due May 1, 1999. See web page at: <http://www.stat.duke.edu/~dse/hpss/ichpr99.html> for information about registration and instructions on abstract submissions.

Of Interest: Rob Gould found an interesting article, "The Cancer-Cluster Myth," in the Feb. 8th New Yorker.

**New LearnSTAT Course**

Sample Size and Power Determination for Study Planning and Equivalence Testing: Planning and Analyzing Non-Inferiority and Bioequivalence Trials sponsored by ASA's LearnSTAT

**When/Where:** April 24, 1999 in Irvine CA at the R&D Conference Room at Allergan, 2525 Dupont Drive, Irvine CA 92623-9534

**Who should attend?** Biomedical and biopharmacological research statisticians involved in study planning and analysis who have a working knowledge of basic applied statistics

**What will you learn?** The morning session provides an introduction to sample size and power determination, and the afternoon to the newly developing field of equivalence and bio-equivalence testing.

**Who will teach?** Janet D. Elashoff Director, Biostatistics Division, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center and Professor of Biomathematics, UCLA and a Fellow of the ASA and Fiona O'Callaghan, Customer Support Manager, Statistical Solutions.

To register see the ASA website [www.amstat.org/education](http://www.amstat.org/education) or contact [suc@amstat.org](mailto:suc@amstat.org) or consult the ASA FAX-On-Demand at 1-888-AMSTAT-5 or dial: 1-888-267-8285

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**Advanced Placement Statistics Summer Study for  
 Teachers and Future Teachers in AP Statistics**

**Date:** July 5-9, 1999 (8 am - 4 pm)

**Sponsored by:** Cal State Univ, Long Beach University College and Extension Services in conjunction with the Department of Mathematics. Registration fee for the course will be \$390.

**Purpose:** The AP Statistics Program is designed to enhance the professional development of current and future secondary AP Statistics teachers. This class is designed to help AP teachers implement a more effective AP Statistics program in their schools. The program will include writing and grading free response questions and an analysis of multiple choice questions.

**Teaching Method:** The program faculty encourage interaction and dialogue among AP teachers. This relaxed, yet challenging approach enables AP teachers to discuss similar concerns with their peers and with experienced Institute faculty. New and experienced AP teachers will meet together as well as separately with faculty in order to address their special needs. We will do experiments in class. Contact: Yonghee Kim at [ykim10@csulb.edu](mailto:ykim10@csulb.edu).

CSULB is also planning an AP stat workshop on April 30 (tentative) With June Moritaas the presenter. Contact: Dan Martinez at [Dang1199@aol.com](mailto:Dang1199@aol.com).

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### Interest in South Bay Dinner Meetings?

Michael Chernick would like to start a local monthly dinner meeting in the South Bay area if there is enough interest. The plan is to meet one day a month (day of the week is open) for dinner and a technical talk. It will be held in **Torrance**. Anyone interested in attending or volunteering speakers should contact Michael. The theme is to provide a social get together for chapter members and to present technical talks particularly related to applications especially in industry. We would also like to encourage attendance of high school and college (graduate and undergraduate) students who might be interested in what is involved in a career in statistics. Industrial and academic statisticians are encouraged to participate and we are particularly interested in getting some involvement from high school mathematics teachers who teach or are interested in teaching AP statistics. Michael can be reached at work at 626-939-8597 or at home at 310-327-9913. His email addresses are [mchernic@crdusba.jnj.com](mailto:mchernic@crdusba.jnj.com) and [mchernic@yahoo.com](mailto:mchernic@yahoo.com). He would like to start in March if there is sufficient interest.

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE

### Programmer Analyst/Biostatistician City of Hope

Programmer/Analyst - Biostatistician position is open in the Department of Biostatistics at City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte, California, 25 miles northeast of Los Angeles. This person will be involved with programming and summarizing statistical analyses of clinical trials data, relating statistical methods to medical or biological sciences. He or she also will assist in the conduct of methodological research projects. Qualified candidates with either a bachelor's or master's degree in statistics or biostatistics will be considered. Two to three years experience in biomedical research consultation and analysis would be preferred. Knowledge of statistical software packages including SAS and SPlus is important. Please send resume to Dr. Joyce C. Niland, Director, Department of Biostatistics, City of Hope National Medical Center, 1500 E. Duarte Rd., Duarte, CA 91010, FAX: 626-301-8802, e-mail: [jniland@coh.org](mailto:jniland@coh.org).

### CARGILL, INC. Senior Statistician Position

The position of Senior Statistician is a replacement position within Cargill, Inc. This position reports directly to the Math and Modeling Program Manager - Central Research & Development, Glenn Dissinger in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The primary responsibilities of this position are to: 1) provide leadership in the integration and growth of statistical thinking and statistical analysis methods into the decision-making process at all levels of the organization, and 2) provide statistical analysis support and consulting services to Plant Operations and Research scientists and engineers in the areas of process/product development and improvement of process operations/control.

The principal accountabilities of this position include the following, in order of priority:

- Provide leadership in the identification, development, deployment and training of the use of statistical analysis tools within Cargill's plant operations and business units
- Provide empirical modeling for parameter estimation in chemical kinetic systems and first principal-based parameters for effective unit operations/process design.
- Develop empirical models for variation assessment and control in processing operations in order to develop an understanding of the control opportunities.
- Provide support for experimental design and analysis for research product and process development, particularly as it relates to the development of research plans, in order to improve the effectiveness of the research and project decision-making.

The position will be located at Cargill's Central Research and Development Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota

Qualified candidates will have a PhD in the Physical Sciences and/or a Masters of Science Degree in Applied Mathematics/Statistics. A minimum of five years of experience in the application of statistics and applied mathematics in a research and process environment is required

In addition to the above requirements, individuals should possess the following traits and/or skills:

- ❖ Strong business acumen
- ❖ Experience in developing training materials
- ❖ Familiarity with SAS/MatLab software
- ❖ Excellent interpersonal and leadership skills
- ❖ Strong analytical skills and attention to detail
- ❖ Able to effectively manage and prioritize multiple projects
- ❖ Excellent technical presentation skills

Cargill, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer

If you are interested please e-mail resume to: Byron Haigh at [Byronh@conceptc.com](mailto:Byronh@conceptc.com) or fax at 415-7811212

### FORTUNE Personnel Consultants Quality Leader

The position is a leadership role. It is an exceptional opportunity for the right person. The position requires someone with experience leading and/or facilitating problem solving teams. The position also involves working with the site management and the upper management at headquarters to identify and select the appropriate problems or processes for the teams to work.

The person must have a TQM perspective and very strong statistical skills; using and applying advanced statistical tools. They must have three to five years of experience, applying statistical tools to problem solving in a facilitation role with small teams (5-10 members). Please call me at 800 431-7307

or e-mail me at [rick@fortunepalmbeach.com](mailto:rick@fortunepalmbeach.com) or send a fax to 561 624-7551. You can also visit our Website at: [www.fortunepalmbeach.com](http://www.fortunepalmbeach.com). Or use Snail mail at: FORTUNE Personnel Consultants of Palm Beach, ATTN: Rick Dmytrow, 11211 Prosperity Farms Road, Suite B-205, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410.

**BIostatistician wanted at BAXTER HEALTHCARE, Irvine CA (Orange County)**

Baxter Cardiovascular Group (CVG) is a global leader in the development, manufacture, and supply of cardiovascular products and services. The selected candidate will provide statistical support for clinical research and other areas of CVG. Perform experimental design for clinical trials. Design, code, test, and run SAS programs for analyzing clinical data; coordinate with database personnel in design and maintenance of clinical databases. Prepare statistical portions of regulatory submissions, manuscripts, and presentations.

The position requires a BS degree in statistics, mathematics, or computer science (MS degree preferred); knowledge of

biostatistics, SAS, a relational database, and PC applications software; ability to design experiments, select statistical methods, analyze results, prepare written and oral reports. Experience in a medical device or pharmaceutical environment is a plus. Experience in a UNIX environment is a plus.

For consideration, please submit your resume to:

E-Mail: [akiko\\_chai@baxter.com](mailto:akiko_chai@baxter.com)  
 Mail: Ms. Akiko Chai,  
 Senior Biostatistician  
 Baxter Healthcare Corporation  
 M/S 47  
 17221 Red Hill Avenue  
 Irvine CA 92614  
 Fax: (949) 250-5080

**SCASA Career Day 1999 Lunch Reservation form**

Name (as you'd like it on badge): \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation (as you'd like it on badge): \_\_\_\_\_

Lasagna Choice(check one):  Meat  
 Vegetarian

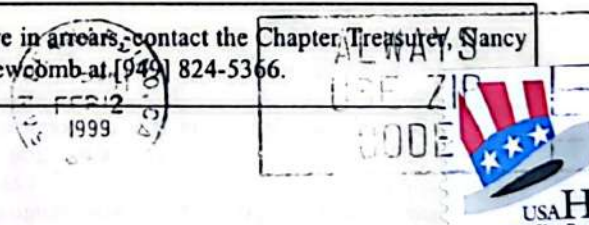
Contact information (preferably e-mail address, phone OK too): \_\_\_\_\_

Lunch reservations must be postmarked by Feb 26, 1999. Please enclose a check made out to SCASA (\$5.25 for students, \$7.00 for all others) and send to Anita Iannucci at the UCI Center for Statistical Consulting, Social Sciences Plaza, Irvine, CA 92697-5105.

If you require confirmation that your reservation was received, please send e-mail to [iannucci@uci.edu](mailto:iannucci@uci.edu) four days after you mail your check or enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Refund requests must include self-addressed, stamped envelope and cannot be honored after February 26.

Have you paid your chapter dues? Please check the mailing label. If you are in arrears, contact the Chapter Treasurer, Nancy Berman, at [310] 222-1874. If you have a change of address, notify Bob Newcomb at [949] 824-5366.

American Statistical Association, Southern California Chapter  
 c/o Harold Dyck, Editor  
 Cal State University, San Bernardino  
 5500 University Parkway  
 San Bernardino, CA 92407



ROBERT L. NEWCOMB [9810]  
 Statistical Consulting Ctr  
 University of California  
 Irvine, CA 92697-5105



*The Southern California*  
**Statistician**

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

Volume 37, No. 2

April 1999

The Southern California Chapter of the American Statistical Association  
Eighteenth Annual Workshop in Applied Statistics presents:

**DR. PAUL SWITZER**

Speaking on:

**SPATIAL STATISTICS  
FRIDAY, MAY 21**

On Friday, May 21, 1999, from 8:30 am to 4:00 p.m., the Southern California Chapter of the American Statistical Association will present The Eighteenth Annual Workshop in Applied Statistics.

**The Topic:** SPATIAL STATISTICS

**The Speaker:** Professor Paul Switzer, Department of Statistics, Stanford University

**The Location:** The Student Center California State University at Long Beach

Paul Switzer is Professor of Statistics in the Department Statistics at Stanford University. For many years Professor Switzer has held a joint appointment in the Geology Department (now called the Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences) and he also holds the title of Professor of Geological and

Environmental Sciences. He got his doctorate in Statistics from Harvard University in 1965. His dissertation was on the topic of spatial statistics. He has served as the chairman of the Statistics Department at Stanford as the editor of the Theory and Methods section of JASA as editor of the IMS journal Statistical Science. He has supervised a number of graduate students and done research primarily in the area of environmental problems. Much of his research involved applications of spatial statistical methods. Professor Switzer is also a fellow of the American Statistical Association.

**ABSTRACT**

Spatial data arise in diverse fields such as remote sensing, rainfall monitoring, air quality, acid deposition, image processing, epidemiology, geographic information systems, oceanography, natural resources, astronomy, ecology, and cellular biology. A variety of specialized

statistical procedures to describe spatial data and draw inferences from them have evolved within separate areas of application. These specialized procedures are slowly being unified, with standard tools of spatial statistics being applied across many application areas and new software being developed for their implementation.

The workshop will begin by illustrating the diversity of spatial data and the questions that these data need to address. Next, an introduction to spatial probability models will present the main features of such models in the context of applications ranging from the location of stars in the sky, to crop surveys, to maps of air pollution. The application of probability models to the analysis of spatial data then leads us to problems of spatial interpolation including kriging, areal averaging, spatial classification, and related topics. Next, a discussion of model-based error estimates provides a framework for problems of sampling design for spatial fields.

The workshop concludes with an introduction to multivariate spatial statistics where multiple attributes are measured at the same spatial locations, and temporal-spatial statistics where spatial fields are evolving in time.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If your registration is postmarked by May 10<sup>th</sup> we will send you a parking permit, otherwise, you will have to pay \$2 at a yellow box! You should park in the concrete parking structure next to the pyramid.

For further information about this Workshop contact Connie Vadheim, Phone [310] 222-3842 or email to [vadheim@humc.edu](mailto:vadheim@humc.edu), or visit the Chapter Web site <http://orion.oac.uci.edu/~rnewcomb/statistics/scasa/chapterwide/asw/1999> for additional registration forms.

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## SCASA NEWS

by Andy Dagis

Careers Day, which took place at City of Hope in Duarte, CA on March 6, was a great success. Ron Iman spoke to an enthusiastic crowd. A number of local employers were represented.

Our support for classes and testing in Advanced Placement Statistics is gaining momentum: Arnie Goodman (UC Irvine and Chapter President) and Yonghee Kim (Cal. State Univ. Long Beach) presented to the California Mathematics Council in Palm Springs. An

Advisory Committee of SCASA members and some high school teachers is being formed.

Janet Elashoff and Fiona O'Callaghan will be giving a LearnStat course on "Sample Size and Power Determination for Study Planning and Equivalence Testing: Planning and Analyzing Non-Inferiority and Bioequivalence Trials" on Saturday, April 24, 1999, at Allergan Pharmaceuticals in Irvine, California. Information and enrollment materials are posted on the ASA web page. Southern California chapter members receive a \$25 discount!

The chapter's annual Applied Statistics Workshop will take place on Friday, May 21, 1999, at California State University, Long Beach. Paul Switzer will deliver a course on Spatial Statistics.

Michael Chernick is organizing a monthly dinner meeting to be held in Torrance. The theme is to provide a social get-together for chapter members and to present technical talks particularly related to applications especially in industry. Anyone interested in attending or in volunteering, as a speaker should contact Michael at [mchernic@crdusba.jnj.com](mailto:mchernic@crdusba.jnj.com) or [mchernic@yahoo.com](mailto:mchernic@yahoo.com).

Looking on to next fall: A workshop on Effective Consulting will be held at Claremont Colleges in late September or early October. Our annual Fall Kickoff will be held approximately one month later. In December, the Southern California Chapter will be co-sponsor of Health Policy Statistical Section's third biennial International Conference on Health Policy (ICHPR). Focus will be on "Methodological issues in Health Services and Outcomes Research." Please refer to the ASA Web site for further information.

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## SAN DIEGO CHAPTER TO FORM

A Charter group has met to form a San Diego chapter. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 4, 1999, at Isis Pharmaceuticals, Carlsbad, beginning at 7 p.m. Please RSVP to Gail Butler ([760] 603-3803) or James Frane ([760] 603-2382 at Isis Pharmaceuticals, Inc.'s main building at 2292 Fairway in Carlsbad. All San Diego area statisticians are invited to attend. Your input is both needed and appreciated. The objective is to get the new constitution approved at the 1999 Joint Statistical Meetings in Baltimore.

## Quantitative Literacy for All

Sponsored by SCASA and the Department of Mathematics at California State University, Long Beach, the *Quantitative Literacy for All* workshop is adapted from week-long Quantitative Literacy workshops developed jointly by the ASA and National Council of Teachers of Mathematics with funding from NSF. In this workshop, you will participate in captivating activities in statistics, probability, and data analysis, which can readily be used in K-12 classrooms. You will make human graphs, throw trashballs, drip water, stick dots, go fishing, have fun, and learn.

The presenter, June Morita, University of Washington, Dept. of Statistics, and ASA Council of Chapters Governing Board 1999 Chair-Elect, has extensive experience leading Quantitative Literacy Workshops. Dr. Morita received the 1999 UW Distinguished Teaching Award.

When: Friday, April 30. Registration at 8:30  
Where: Cal State Univ. Long Beach LA5-355  
Contact: Dan Martinez at [Dang1199@aol.com](mailto:Dang1199@aol.com) or:  
Yonghee Kim at [yhkim@csulb.edu](mailto:yhkim@csulb.edu).

## Advanced Placement Statistics Summer Study for Teachers and Future Teachers in AP Statistics

Date: July 5-9, 1999 (8 a.m. - 4 p.m.)  
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Teaching Method: The program faculty encourages interaction and dialogue among AP teachers. This relaxed, yet challenging approach enables AP teachers to discuss similar concerns with their peers and with experienced Institute faculty. New and experienced AP teachers will meet together as well as separately with faculty in order to address their special needs. We will do experiments in class. Contact: Yonghee Kim at [yhkim@csulb.edu](mailto:yhkim@csulb.edu).

## ASA's LearnSTAT TO OFFER TWO COURSES

Southern California Chapter members can request a \$25 per day discount on the cost of tuition to these two courses: Biomedical and biopharmacological research statisticians involved in study planning and analysis who have a working knowledge of basic applied statistics will want to take **Sample Size and Power Determination for Study Planning and Equivalence Testing: Planning and Analyzing Non-Inferiority and Bioequivalence Trials**.  
When/Where: April 24, 1999 in Irvine CA at the R&D Conference Room at Allergan, 2525 Dupont Drive, Irvine CA 92623-9534.

Participants will have an introduction to sample size and power determination in the morning, and in the afternoon they will learn more about the newly developing field of equivalence and bio-equivalence testing.

**Tools for Discovering Patterns in Data: A Survey of Modern Data Mining Algorithms** is for those who work with data and wish to understand recent developments in pattern discovery, data mining, and inductive modeling. Statisticians will want to attend this course Thursday, June 24 and Friday, June 25, 1999 at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego, California. Key inner workings of data mining algorithms will be described, along with the leading commercial and academic tools implementing them. Few equations, but many concepts from interconnected disciplines, will be covered. Those with computing and applied statistical experience will get the most out of this intensive overview and it helps, as well, to have a motivating application you want to solve. At the conclusion of this course, participants should be able to discern the basic strengths of competing methods and select the appropriate tools for their applications.

John Elder is chief scientist of Elder Research ([www.datamininglab.com](http://www.datamininglab.com)), a data mining consulting firm.

For registration information for either or both courses, see the ASA Web site, [www.amstat.org/education](http://www.amstat.org/education); contact [sue@amstat.org](mailto:sue@amstat.org); or consult the ASA FAX-On-Demand at 1-888-AMSTAT-5 or dial: 1-888-267-8285.

## Rand Statistics Seminar Series

**Douglas C. Montgomery**, Arizona State University  
Topic: "Some Recent Developments in Statistical Methods for Process Monitoring and Control"  
Thursday, May 6, 1999.  
**Rob Easterling**, Sandia National Laboratories  
Topic: "Statistical Perspective on Model Validation"  
Thursday, July 15, 1999.  
Seminars are in the Main Conference Room. Light refreshments will be served from 3:30 p.m.; seminars begin at 4 p.m.

## — JOB OPPORTUNITIES —

**RESEARCH DATA ANALYSIS MANAGER** for market research firm in Carlsbad to perform Data analysis and oversee data collection; 3 years in multivariate statistical analysis including supervisory experience; knowledge of mail and phone surveys, research methods, database management and SPSS. Degree in marketing or social sciences preferred. Fax cover letter, salary history, and resume to Chuck Flacks, project manager, Analytique, (760) 603-7604.

**ANALYST** with Kaiser Permanente. Must have Bachelor's degree or equiv. in Statistics, Public Health, Business or related area. Prefer Master's degree. Must have 2 years exp. as an analyst in health-related area. Knowledge of clinical/health data systems. Skills with Access, Excel, and Word. Prefer skills with SAS and FOCUS.

**Duties:** Provide analytic support in all aspects of the development and production of physician performance indicator reports. Maintain thorough understanding of the best data sources available to meet information needs. Manipulate databases using tools such as SAS and FOCUS to produce data extracts for reporting. Interact with physicians and other staff to develop and maintain report specifications. Use Excel and Access to design and produce reports.

**Minimum Salary:** \$38,000 (negotiable depending upon experience and qualifications).

**Location:** Kaiser Permanente Regional Headquarters, 393 E. Walnut St., Pasadena. Contact: Ms. Freda Melnick at (626) 405-3623.

**BIostatistician** Alpha Therapeutic Corporation, a leader in the manufacture and worldwide distribution of plasma derivatives and pharmaceutical products, has a position open for Biostatistician in Los Angeles Corporate Headquarters.

**Responsibilities:** Will work in an interdisciplinary environment providing statistical expertise in the design, conduct, analysis, and reporting of pivotal clinical studies to support regulatory filings.

**Qualifications:** M.S. or Ph.D. in biostatistics or statistics; proficiency in SAS; excellent verbal/written communication skills; strong problem-solving and interpersonal skills; relevant working experience preferred; experiences in pharmaceutical industry is a plus.

Alpha provides outstanding benefits and competitive salary. Please mail or FAX resume with salary requirement to: Jenny Jiao, Alpha Therapeutic Corporation, 2410 Lillyvale Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90032. FAX: 323-441-7996, or e-mail to: Jenny.Jiao@Alphather.com

We are an equal opportunity employer.

**DEMOGRAPHER** at Medirisk in San Diego. Medirisk, is the leading provider of proprietary databases, related decision-support software and analytical services to the healthcare industry. Contact Adrian Yokley, HR Assistant, at (800) 955-2542 x.2957. Web site is at [www.medirisk.com](http://www.medirisk.com). Reference job number D-991.

Have you paid your chapter dues? Please check the four digits in brackets next to your name on this Newsletter's mailing label which show when you last paid (for example [9806] is June of 98). If you are in arrears, contact the Chapter Treasurer, Nancy Berman, at [310] 222-1874. If you have a change of address, notify Bob Newcomb at [949] 824-5366.

American Statistical Association, Southern California Chapter  
c/o Harold Dyck, Editor  
Cal State University, San Bernardino  
5500 University Parkway  
San Bernardino, CA 92407



# The Southern California *Statistician*

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

Volume 37, No. 3

September 1999

Annual SCASA Fall "Kick-Off" presents:

**Dr. Richard L. Scheaffer**

Speaking on:

**STATISTICS EDUCATION**

Saturday, October 16

Seaver Auditorium, SW Corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Street and  
College Ave., Claremont Pomona College

**Program Schedule:**

9:30-10:30 am  
Registration

10:30-12:00 noon  
Morning Session

12:15-1:15 pm Lunch  
and Business Meeting  
Seaver House

1:30-3:00pm  
Afternoon Session

3:00 pm Reception,  
Math Lounge, Millikan Lab

Professor Richard L. Scheaffer, received his Ph.D. in statistics from Florida State University, whereupon he joined the faculty of the University of Florida and has remained there ever since. Now Professor Emeritus of Statistics, he was chairman of the Department for 12 years. His research interests are in the areas of applications of sampling and probability to industrial processes. He has published numerous papers and co-authored four textbooks. In recent years, much of his effort has been directed toward statistics education throughout the school and college curriculum. He was

one of the developers of the Quantitative Literacy Project in the United States that formed the basis of the data analysis emphasis in the mathematics curriculum standards recommended by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. He continues to work on educational projects at the elementary, secondary and college levels, and served as the Chief Faculty Consultant for the Advanced Placement Statistics Program for the 1997 and 1998 exams. Dr. Scheaffer is ASA Fellow and President-Elect, and he received ASA Founder's Award.

**Morning: The Statistics Education: Perusing the Past, Embracing the Present, and Charting the Future**

**Abstract:** Statistics began its emergence over 200 years ago to meet needs of science and government, and has enjoyed considerable success in guiding quantitative studies for 100 years. Why, then, is it not considered part of everyone's basic education? Why is it still among the most despised of college courses? Why has its use not become epidemic in business, industry, and government? Is progress being made to remedy these situations? The answer to the last question is a qualified 'yes', but much work remains if statistics is to move to the forefront of quantitative education and practice. Opportunities abound, however, and the future could be bright!

**Afternoon: Enhancing Undergraduate Opportunities in Statistics**

**Abstract:** With the increased emphasis on statistics in the K-12 curriculum, the strong interest in the AP Statistics program, and the increased need for statistics in a wide

range of occupations, the ASA, in conjunction with other statistical societies, is launching an effort to increase and improve the opportunities for students to study statistics at the undergraduate level. An organizing committee for this effort has drafted vision and mission statements, and has proposed an initial set of position papers to focus discussion on this issue. A symposium is planned for the 2000 JSM at which these position papers will be presented and discussed. Position papers are proposed for the following areas: creatively marketing undergraduate statistical science to a broad base of constituencies, developing a set of recommended topics to be included in a modern bachelor's degree program in statistical science, developing a set of recommended topics to be included in modern undergraduate programs/tracks in statistical science as a part of the requirements for degrees in other disciplines, and identifying those competencies needed by business, industry and government in a bachelor's level employee engaged in statistical activities. All plans are still open to discussion, and input is encouraged from anyone interested in undergraduate statistics education.

#### Directions to Pomona College:

Major highway routes to Pomona College are the San Bernardino Freeway I-10, the Orange Freeway 57, the Pomona Freeway U.S. 60, and the Foothill Freeway I-210. To reach Claremont, take the I-10 to exit 47 (Indian Hill Boulevard), and drive north. It is one mile to 1<sup>st</sup> Street in the village. Turn right, go three blocks to College Ave. Make left to 7<sup>th</sup> St. Seaver Auditorium is at the SW corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and College. To reach I-10 from Orange County and the south, take 57, from Long Beach, take I-605. From the west and southwest Los Angeles, take US 60 to 57 and 57 to I-10. From Pasadena and San Fernando Valley, take I-210 east until it terminates at Foothill Blvd. Drive 3 miles further and turn right on College. Park in the street.

For further information on the meeting, please call Kathy Sheldon <ksheldon@pomona.edu> at 909-621-8409.

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### President's Message PROGRESS AND OPPORTUNITY

The past two years have been productive for the chapter. Bringing the Symposia on the Interface of Computing and Statistics back to where we started it in 1967, perhaps in conjunction with the annual data mining (KDD) meeting, presents good opportunities for professional enrichment. Interested in contributing? Contact [agoodman@uci.edu](mailto:agoodman@uci.edu).

We hope that Critical Success Factors for Consulting and

Collaborating with Luncheon Remarks by Peter F. Drucker will begin our series of career development workshops. Interested in contributing? Contact [hdyck@csusb.edu](mailto:hdyck@csusb.edu).

Our June Morita seminar on statistics in K-12 inspired a program with California State University at Long Beach to increase statistics in the classrooms of the Long Beach Unified School District. We have also been asked to prepare testimony before the Los Angeles Unified School District Curriculum Committee and then Board on K-12 statistics. Interested in contributing? Contact [yhkim@csulb.edu](mailto:yhkim@csulb.edu).

With our support, a core of involved members in San Diego has formed ASA's newest chapter -- we are its oldest one. Interested in affiliating? Contact [steffey@math.sdsu.edu](mailto:steffey@math.sdsu.edu).

In addition, Roxy Peck has become a leader within the ASA Section on Statistical Education and Bob Newcomb is in the process of becoming a leader within the Council of Chapters.

Since change has revolutionized the practice of statistics, ASA needs to become more responsive to the new demands of:

- Our customers as well as our profession
- Our chapters as well as our sections
- Our members in career development

We now have the opportunity to make a significant choice: do we want to re-establish this chapter as an active leader within ASA or do we want to remain just a submissive follower? I challenge both the membership and the leadership to be active!

Arnold Goodman

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### SCASA NEWS

by Michael Chernick

June Morita from the Statistics Department at the University of Washington gave an all day workshop on quantitative literacy at Cal State Long Beach on April 30. It was directed toward elementary and high school teachers who want to integrate statistical methods in their mathematics classes. Some of the exercises might also be helpful to teachers of Advanced Placement Statistics courses in the high schools. We were introduced to a number of classroom activities that make statistics "activity-based" and interesting for students and teachers

alike. Among many, the most interesting experiment was the use of Pepperidge Farm Goldfish to do a marked capture-recapture experiment to estimate the total number of goldfish in a large bowl. Many local schools were represented and a few statisticians from academia and industry also attended. At the end we formed groups to discuss where we go from here. Some industrial statisticians offered to go to their children's schools to help present some of the activities. It was agreed that volunteerism from the local ASA statisticians could help.

On May 21 at Cal. State Long Beach, Professor Paul Switzer from Stanford University gave this year's Applied Statistics workshop on spatial statistics. He provided us with a chronological list of references and explained a wide variety of applications of spatial statistical methods in the first session. The second and third sessions dealt with the techniques including the various useful spatial models (beginning with the stationary Gaussian isotropic models) and interpolation techniques such as kriging. Many of the resulting surfaces were displayed and modified interactively using Statistica software with his own special programmed routines. Wiley and Springer-Verlag offered many statistics books. ESRI displayed their spatial analysis software and SAS demonstrated their GIS and data mining software. About a dozen valuable prizes were won during the raffle.

Michael Chernick was invited to give a three-hour tutorial on bootstrap methods at the Deming Conference in Atlantic City this December. The tutorial will be based on his book "Bootstrap Methods: A Practitioner's Guide" published by John Wiley in September 1999. On the Deming conference web site it is offered at a discount from the list price of \$74.95.

#### **Congratulations to Harold Dyck!!!**

Harold has received the 1999 ASA Service Award. He is also becoming SCASA President (Jeff Vaks took over the Newsletter Editor's responsibilities from Harold).

Best wishes, Harold!

## **SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES**

**September 25, Saturday: Critical Success Factors for Consulting and Collaborating.** Seminar at Claremont McKenna College. For information see the web site: <http://stats.uci.edu/upcoming/CWinfo.html>

**October 21, 4 pm: RAND Statistics Seminar.** Robert Koyak, Naval Postgraduate School, "How Should Measurement Error Be Accounted For In Assessing the Performance of X-Ray Fluorescence Instruments". Place: Main Conference Room, RAND, 1700 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Refreshments will be served from 3:30 to 4 pm. To register and for further information, please contact Ron Fricker at (310) 393-0411 (x6102).

**October 23: "Interim analysis in clinical trials" course** is offered in Irvine, CA. The instructor is Gordon Lan from Pfizer Inc. The deadline for registration is September 30. Please see details at [www.amstat.org/education/clinical.html](http://www.amstat.org/education/clinical.html)

**December 3-5: "International Conference on Health Policy Statistics: Methodological Issues in Health Services and Outcomes Research",** Santa Monica, CA. Presentations are encouraged on topics from a broad spectrum of Health Services and Outcomes Research. Conference co-sponsors include the Society for Medical Decision Making, American Public Health Association Statistics Section, and the Southern California Chapter of the American Statistical Association. For information about registration please see web page at: <http://www.stat.duke.edu/~ds6e/hpss/ichpr99.html>

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Please send items for the next issue of The Southern California Statistician to Jeff Vaks ([jevaks@beckman.com](mailto:jevaks@beckman.com))

Chapter Web page : <http://orion.oac.uci.edu/~mewcomb/statistics/scasa/scasa.html>

## **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

Manager, Decision Support for a major financial services corporation. Require 3-4 years supervisory experience, database management and high level statistical modeling background. The position is in San Diego California. Also looking for several entry level and intermediate statisticians. Phone: 215-489-9339, Fax: 215-489-9334, e-mail: [drwbiz@aol.com](mailto:drwbiz@aol.com).

Health Services Research and Development unit on the La Jolla campus of the UCSD School of Medicine is seeking entry or mid-career statistician to work with clinical and health services researchers, economists, and others in designing and implementing research on use, cost, and quality of health care-- as well as conducting own research. Require Ph.D. in statistics or related field.

Submit a letter and resume to: Dr. Samuel Bozzette,  
Director, HSR&D (111N-1), 3350 La Jolla Village Drive,  
San Diego CA 92161t

Baxter Cardiovascular Group, Biostatistician. The position requires a BS in Statistics, Mathematics or Computer Science (MS preferred); knowledge of biostatistics, SAS, a relational database and PC applications software; ability to design experiments, select statistical methods, analyze results, prepare written and oral reports. Experience in a medical device or pharmaceutical environment is a plus. Please send your resume and salary history to: Ms. Akiko Chai, Baxter Healthcare Corporation, 17221 Red Hill Avenue, M/S 47, Irvine, CA 92614, Phone: (949) 250-2648, Fax: (949) 250-5080, e-mail: [akiko\\_chai@baxter.com](mailto:akiko_chai@baxter.com).

The City of Hope National Medical Center is seeking a Senior Biostatistician. The requirements include a Ph.D.

in biostatistics or a related field and a minimum of 3-5 years of clinical research experience. If you are interested in the position listed above, please send your CV or request for more information to: David N. Iklé, Ph.D., Associate Director, Department of Biostatistics, City of Hope National Medical Center, 1500 East Duarte Road, Duarte, CA 91010-3000, or by email at [dikle@coh.org](mailto:dikle@coh.org), or by fax at 626-301-8802.

Programmer/Analyst position available immediately in the Clinical Analysis Dept. at Kaiser Permanente in Pasadena. This position involves updating the Coronary Artery Disease and Congestive Heart Failure patient Registries, and requires strong SAS programming skills. Experience in health care data analysis and/or master's degree in a quantitative field is a plus. Contact: Elissa San Juan at (626) 405-6479.

## Registration Form for SCASA Annual Fall "Kickoff" Meeting, Saturday, October 16, 1999

Name and Affiliation (as you'd like it on the badge): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_ SCASA Members (\$15.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Students (\$10.00) \_\_\_\_\_

Consider inviting your local high school AP teacher to this event.

Please return this form (or a copy thereof), together with your check payable to SCASA, to Kathy Sheldon,  
Department of Mathematics, Pomona College, 610 N. College Ave., Claremont, CA 91711-6348

*Reservations should be received by October 13, 1999*

Have you paid your chapter dues? Please check the mailing label (for example, 9906 is June of 99). If you are in arrears, contact the Chapter Treasurer, Nancy Berman at (310) 222-1874. If you have a change of address, notify Bob Newcomb at [949] 824-5366.

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