The Southern California STATISTICIAN

❖ Meeting Memo and Newsletter ❖

APRIL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

LOS ANGELES AREA MTG
CAREER DAYS

The panel will address the topic of the day.

PANEL

WILFRID DIXON - Professor
in Dept. of Biomathematics at UCLA
Moderator

ORVILLE ALLEN - Engineering specialist in
the Space Systems Group at Rockwell
Internat'l

JUDY FAUCETT - VP in the Actuarial Dept.
at Pacific Mutual

DOROTHY COREY - President of FACTS
CONSOLIDATED

TOPIC:	Careers in Statistics
WHERE:	UCLA Faculty Center
WHEN:	Tuesday, April 27
	6:00 Cocktails
	7:00 Dinner
	8:00 Panel Discussion
PRICE:	$9.00 - Regular members
	$7.00 - Students

For reservations call Bruce Hodge (213) 741-
4370 Bob Newcomb (714) 833-5979
BY FRIDAY APRIL 23rd

CAREER DAYS - A LAST MINUTE
INVITATION TO STUDENTS

Students who have not yet registered for site
visits during Career Day contact Janet
Williams (714) 833-5424 or 833-5503 or
Bob Newcomb (714) 833-5979 by Friday 23 April.

SAN DIEGO AREA MEETING

WHERE:	Copper Skillet, 877 Hornblend Street in Pacific Beach, CA.
WHEN:	Friday May 21st 1982
PRICE:	$6 to $10
TIME:	5:30 No host cocktails
	6:30 Dinner
	7:30 Speaker

For more information call Eugene Sibbald at
(714) 263-3216 (h)
       560-4921 X49 (w)

IAN ABRAMSON came to Berkeley from the Univer-
sity of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg in
1977, and received his Ph.D. under Peter Bickel
in 1981. He was appointed Assistant Professor
in Mathematics at U.C. San Diego, and his
primary area of interest in Statistics is
density estimation and nonparametric data
analysis. An abstract of his talk follows:

BANDWIDTH VARIATION AND METRIC DISTORTION
FOR ADAPTIVE DENSITY ESTIMATES

Bias problems are a headache in density esti-
mation and allied areas, particularly in high
dimensional problems. If mean squared error
is the criterion adopted, the need to balance
squared bias against variance puts a dis-
appointing ceiling on the quality available
from the estimate. Bandwidth variation is a
bias reducing technique, which in the context
of usual kernel estimates say, indicates a
dependence of bandwidths across the sample
on the local clustering of points near that
contribution in accordance with a certain
'square root law.' Metric distortion is the
analog of the idea for nearest neighbor methods
which appear to offer easier motivation and
a more natural setting for the problem. The
net effect in either case is to lower bias
to an asymptotically vanishing fraction of
what the classical Rosenblatt-Parzen type
estimators yield, without tampering with the
variance.