Spring 2006 Meeting Notice
Northeastern Illinois Chapter
American Statistical Association

DATE: Thursday, March 9, 2006 (Luncheon at 11:30 a.m.)

LOCATION: Glenview Suites, 1400 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, IL 60025  (847) 803-9800.

RESERVATIONS: Advance reservations are required and must be received by 4 p.m., Thursday, March 2, 2006. Cancellations cannot be accepted after this date, and "no shows" will be billed. Registration is transferable except for the $5 in membership dues ($1 for students) that is included in the non-member fees.

FEES:

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Since membership is held on a calendar year basis, if you have not expressly joined the Chapter this year, you should pay the non-member rate. Doing so will make you a member for 2005.

PAYMENT: Make checks payable to: Northeastern Illinois Chapter, ASA

REGISTRATION: Please mail, e-mail or fax (no call-ins please) the registration form (below) to:

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Abbott Laboratories
100 Abbott Park Road
Abbott Park, IL 60064-3500

Phone: (847) 937-9776
Fax: (847) 935-3320
Email: jimmy.sun@abbott.com

PROGRAM:

9:45 – 10:30 Registration
10:30 – 11:30 Speaker: Roberto Gutierrez – Modern Statistical Analysis Using Stata
11:30 – 12:30 Luncheon
13:30 – 13:45 Break
13:45 – 14:45 Speaker: Ming-Long Lam – Statistical Analysis Using SPSS
14:45 – 15:00 Break
15:00 – 16:00 Speakers: William T. Winand and Ross Bettinger – SAS Enterprise Miner, SAS Forecast Server, and Other SAS Statistically Based Solutions

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS CHAPTER MEETING REGISTRATION/MEMBERSHIP DUES

Name _________________________________________________________________________________
Company ________________________________  Department __________________________________
Street Address  __________________________________________  Work   ____  Home  ____
Telephone (_____)_________Work ___ Home ___ E-mail address ________________________
I will be attending: ___ Luncheon and Sessions  ___ Sessions only  ___ Membership Dues Only
2005 NIC/ASA member prior to this registration?  (See FEES for details) ___ Yes  ___ No
Membership Type: (1) Regular (Corp./Govt.); (2) Academic (Univ./H.S.); (3) Full-Time Student
Tax Identification Number 52-1665956
Statistical Analysis Software

There is a wide selection of statistical software, both commercial and noncommercial available for performing various statistical analyses. Some of the software focuses on specific analyses, whereas others are geared for addressing a wide range of analyses, with some software having data management capabilities. In this workshop, there will be four presentations from four of some of the most widely used statistical software in industry and academia. The speakers will discuss each of the software with a focus on statistical analysis and functionality. The abstracts of the talks to be presented, including the bios of each of the speakers, are provide below.

Modern Statistical Analysis Using Stata

Stata is a widely-used general purpose statistical software package for data management, statistical analysis, and graphics. Currently at version 9.1, Stata is particularly suited for biostatisticians and epidemiologists. Besides the standard statistical routines such as linear regression, ANOVA, and regression models for limited dependent variables, included in Stata are tools for fitting linear mixed models, analyzing epidemiological tables, and survival analysis. Stata also possesses an easy-to-use GUI interface, the ability to produce publication-quality graphics, and is based upon a fully-integrated programming environment that includes Mata, a matrix programming language. This discussion will look at some of the Stata capabilities for modern statistical analysis.

Roberto Gutierrez, PhD
StataCorp LP

Dr. Roberto Gutierrez received his PhD in Statistics in 1995 from Texas A&M University. He is StataCorp's Director of Statistics. His area of specialization is in survival analysis and mixed models.

Statistical and Graphical Analysis of Clinical and Observational Data Using Splus

Prospective, randomized, double-blind clinical trials enable inference on causality. Retrospective observational studies, e.g. using medical claims data, have a number of limitations compared with randomized prospective clinical trials, most notably with respect to balance in known and unknown prognostic factors which may cause a preference for one treatment over another. This talk provides examples of statistical and graphical analysis of clinical trial and observational data. The clinical examples include interactive graphical review of results with end-users, graphics in formal clinical study reports, and comparisons of adverse event data using Bayesian hierarchical models. The observational examples include comparison of length of stay for patients receiving new and standard therapy for treatment of a variety of infection conditions using medical claims data from over 500 hospitals. This analysis uses logistic
regression and propensity scoring; and includes 2-sample and survival curve comparisons, combined with graphical analysis before and after the matching, assessing covariate balance and treatment effects on length of stay.

The examples feature the use of S-PLUS Trellis graphics using multiple sources of data and metadata; and the S+Graphlet® technology with S-PLUS Server for interactive graphical analysis and data browsing. S-PLUS provides an extensive set of tools for statistical and graphical analysis of clinical and observational data.

Tom Michael O’Connell, Ph.D.
Insightful Corporation

Dr. Michael O’Connell has been working in the medical device, diagnostics, pharmaceutical, and biotech arena for the past 15 years. He has recently concentrated his efforts in two areas: statistical analysis of safety data and statistical analysis of microarray data. In both of these areas, O’Connell is involved in the design and development of tools for analysis and reporting of clinical and discovery data from S-PLUS. Dr. O’Connell, Director of Life Science Solutions for Insightful Corporation, has been also named one of the “100 Most Inspiring People in the Life Sciences Industry” by the readers of PharmaVOICE magazine. Dr. O’Connell holds a Bachelors degree in Science from the University of Sydney, a Masters degree in Statistics from the University of New South Wales and a Ph.D. in Statistics from North Carolina State University.

Statistical Analysis Using SPSS
Recent versions of SPSS were released with a significant improvement in features that enhance the process of performing statistical analyses, enrich the presentation of results, and provide new or improved analytical procedures. This discussion will highlight features that may impact the work of statisticians in enhancing various statistical analyses, both simple and complex. Some examples and applications will be drawn from mixed models, multinomial logistic models, and programmability feature. A sneak preview of the forthcoming generalized linear model will be given too.

Ming-Long Lam, Ph.D.
SPSS Inc.

Dr. Ming-Long Lam is currently the manager of Statistics Research and Master Statistician at SPSS Inc. in Chicago. Ever since he joined SPSS in 1992, he led development of many statistical procedures for analyzing the General Linear Models, the Variance Component Models, the Mixed Effects Models, the Multinomial Logistic Models, the Ordinal Regression Models, the Two-Step Cluster Model, the Complex Samples module, and the forthcoming Generalized Linear Model. Besides his work at SPSS Inc, he and a co-author will publish the book "Using Data Analysis to Improve Student Learning: Toward 100% Proficiency". This book will be available in September 2006. He received his Ph.D. degree in Statistics from the University of Chicago.

SAS Enterprise Miner, SAS Forecast Server, and Other SAS Statistically Based Solutions
Data mining is the process of data selection, exploration and building models using vast data stores to uncover previously unknown patterns. What does this mean to you, and what is its value your organization? With organizational data growing exponentially, data mining is now a necessary tool to shorten time to discovery and to provide new insights. SAS Enterprise Miner, the industry leading data mining solution, streamlines the
data mining process to create highly accurate predictive and descriptive models based on analysis of vast amounts of data from across an enterprise. Examples from different areas of the Health and Life Sciences organizations will be used to demonstrate the capabilities and value of SAS Enterprise Miner.

Mr. William T. Winand is a Senior Systems Engineer at SAS. William is Spearhead for Analytical Intelligence within SAS’ Health & Life Sciences Organization. In this role, William consults with pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medical device, and health insurance companies to identify areas where analytics can provide significant business value and to demonstrate the capabilities of SAS Enterprise Miner, SAS Forecast Server and other SAS statistically based solutions to deliver that value. William has worked for SAS since 1995. William also holds a Masters of Management degree from the Kellogg Graduate School of Management, Northwestern University.

Mr. Ross Bettinger is an Analytical Consultant at SAS Institute. He obtained his B.A. degree in Mathematics from UCLA, and Master’s degrees in Systems Engineering from UCLA, Business/Statistics from University of Wisconsin, Madison, and Electrical Engineering from Northeastern University. He has over twenty-plus years of SAS® experience and eleven years of statistical modeling experience. His area of expertise is in statistical analysis, forecasting, data mining, and text mining. Mr. Bettinger has been involved in various consulting projects including credit card risk management, modeling in direct marketing, financial analysis and forecasting, text mining for customer retention modeling in banking, and warranty analysis. Some specific research questions that Mr. Bettinger has been involved include work in credit card risk management settings to identify key events that signal a card member’s likelihood to default on the card’s remaining balance and bad debt, developing neural network models for cross-sell and up-sell modeling for a credit card issuer, writing specialized software that substantially reduced the scoring time required for very large volumes of records, modeling card members’ spending patterns and propensity to run up a high balance, building time series models of future levels of bad debt, and analyzing call center data to determine if there were specific words associated with accountholder attrition. Prior to joining SAS, Mr. Bettinger worked as an Analytical Consultant for Epsilon Data Management, Sears, Roebuck & Co., and Magnify, Inc. where he built models for up-sell and cross-sell campaigns, catalog sales, insurance underwriting, and credit card risk management.

~ Melvin Munsaka

President’s Report

As we look forward to another year of programs provided by our Northeastern Illinois Chapter of the American Statistical Association (NIC-ASA) I would like to thank Melvin Munsaka for accepting the position of President Elect/Program Chair for 2006. In addition, I would like to recognize Bala Hosmane for his contributions to the Chapter over the last 3 years and to Chris Sullivan for handling arrangements for the past 2 years. The Chapter acknowledges the generous donation of time and effort from our returning Executive Committee members Renee Alpern (Past-President), Bala Hosmane (Chapter Representative), Coleen Hall (Secretary), Sam Hedayat (Awards and Recognition), Anita Ross (Newsletter Editor), Carole Bernett and Paul Coe (Community Activities), Jimmy Sun (Treasurer) and Richard Rode (Workshop Publicity). Many thanks to the following new members for...
volunteering their time and energy: Carolyn Firszt (Arrangements), Michele Olds (Webmaster), and Melvin Munsaka (President Elect/Program Chair).

Due to excellent attendance at the three meetings last year and Chris Sullivan’s work with the arrangements; it appears that the budget is in good shape for 2006. Therefore, the Executive Committee decided that there would not be an increase in either membership dues or meeting registration fees for 2006.

I would like to extend another special thanks to the individuals who served on the Program Committee for 2006. The Spring meeting will be held on March 9th this year and will consist of presentations from the major statistical software companies, including SAS, S-Plus, SPSS, and STATA. The presentations will include overviews of the new statistical methodology that has been added to the most recent versions of the software.

Scott Berry has agreed to conduct the 22nd Annual Summer Workshop for the NIC-ASA. He will present some examples and methodology regarding Bayesian clinical trial design.

We welcome and encourage both your active participation and your ideas. The Chapter is always in need of volunteers so please don’t hesitate to contact a member of the Executive Committee if you are able to help out. Participating in the Chapter’s activities is an excellent way to keep current with statistics and to network with other statisticians.

I hope everyone has a happy and healthy 2006, and I look forward to seeing many of you at the meetings.

~ Jeff Isaacson

Spring Meeting

The fall meeting will be held on March 9, 2006 Wyndham Glenview Suites, 1400 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview, IL 60025. The telephone number is (847) 803-9800. Directions to the hotel are available at www.mapquest.com.

If you have special needs, please contact:

Carolyn Firszt
(847) 937-5816
carolyn.firszt@abbott.com

~ Carolyn Firszt

Community Activities

The region 6 Science Fair at which we normally give our Chapter Awards is on March 18th from 8:30 till noon for judging at Christian Liberty High School in Arlington Heights.

We have also given awards in the past at the Chicago and Region 2 Fair. The Chicago Fair is Friday, March 31st from 8:30 till noon at the Museum of Science and Industry, and the Region 2 Fair is also at the Museum of Science and Industry on March 11th from 8:30 till noon.

The Region 6 Fair expects us also, so I would like to know if any of you can join me there. Also let me know if you can do either of the other fairs.

~ Carole Bernett

Getting Involved

Volunteers are needed to help with registration at each of the Chapter’s meetings. Registration volunteers will be expected to come about a half-hour before the start of the registration period and will work at the registration desk as directed by the Chapter Treasurer, Jimmy Sun. This is a great way to connect faces with names and to offer a quick
“hello” to friends and colleagues who are attending. If you are interested in being a registration volunteer or in getting more involved in the Chapter’s activities, please contact the Chapter Secretary, Coleen Hall, at coleen.hall@abbott.com.

~ Colleen Hall

Chapter Website

Don’t forget to visit our Chapter web page at http://www.amstat.org/chapters/NortheasternIllinois. The website has lots of information about our Chapter, including events, program information, and contact information for Chapter officers and committee members. You can also peruse PDF versions of current and past Chapter newsletters. Finally, if the speaker provides them, slides/notes from previous presentations are available to view or download.

~ Michelle Olds

Employment Opportunities

SENIOR STATISTICIANS
Excellent opportunity for Senior Statisticians with relevant clinical trials experience. Openings available in Lincolnshire, IL and London, UK. You will provide input to all phases of Clinical Development projects. Candidates must have a post graduate qualification in Statistics or related discipline plus a minimum of 5 years experience, ideally within Pharmaceutical R&D/CRO. Applications from candidates with experience in clinical trial simulation, PK/PD modeling, or adaptive designs would be particularly welcome.

STATISTICS MANAGER
A wonderful opportunity for a Statistics Manager with a Pharmaceutical R&D/CRO background, to lead a team of statisticians collaborating on clinical trials while being based in the heart of London. Successful candidates must have a post graduate qualification in Statistics or related discipline plus a minimum of 8 years of statistical experience in the pharmaceutical industry and a wide knowledge of the drug development process.

CONTRACT STATISTICAL SAS PROGRAMMERS
Experience clinical statistical SAS programmers required on a 6 months contract, based in Central London to start immediately. Successful candidates will be primarily responsible for ensuring quality and accuracy of programming deliverables, and for adhering to all company policies, SOPs and other controlled documents. Must be Statistics/Computer Science graduate with minimum 5 years experience in the pharma/boitech industry.

The above positions are available in London, UK, or Chicago. To discuss the roles in confidence, contact Robert Dillard on 011 44 20 7759 5195 or 847-383-7301, e-mail rdillard@tgrd.com.

~ Melvin Munsaka

Calendar

May 22-24 — Twenty-Ninth Annual Midwest Biopharmaceutical Statistics Workshop (MBSW)

The workshop will be held on the campus of Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. It is co-sponsored by Ball State University and the Biopharmaceutical Section of ASA. A ½-
day short course will be taught by Brenda Gillespie (University of Michigan) on Survival Analysis Using Cox Regression. The plenary speaker will be Raymond Carroll (Texas A&M) on Genetic Epidemiology. Invited talks will be presented in three parallel tracks: Clinical, Discovery, and Safety. Clinical will focus on multiple testing, time-to-event analysis, and efficacy accounting for post-randomization. Discovery will focus on assay validation and optimization, high throughput screening of drug candidates, and statistical issues in combination drug discovery. Safety will focus on safety in discovery, issues in traditional drug safety studies, and safety in post marketing. There will also be a contributed Poster Session. Poster abstracts must be submitted by April 28, 2006. Students may submit posters for the Charlie Sampson Award. More information: A preliminary program, registration form, and other information are located at www.mbswonline.com. Or, contact the Publicity Chair Melvin Munsaka, Takeda Global Research & Development Center, Inc., email mmunsaka@tgrd.com, phone (847) 383-7390.

The following are some additional upcoming meetings/conferences that may be of interest:

- 2006 ENAR Spring Meetings (March 26-29, 2006; Tampa, Florida)
- 18th Annual Kansas State University Conference on Applied Statistics in Agriculture (April 30 – May 2, 2006; Manhattan, Kansas)
- Annual 2006 Meeting of Classification Society of North America (May 10-13, 2006; Piscataway, New Jersey)
- Statistical Analysis of Neuronal Data (May 11-13, 2006; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania)
- 29th Annual Midwest Biopharmaceutical Statistics Workshop (May 22-24, 2006; Muncie, Indiana)
- Second NASA Data Mining Workshop: Issues and Applications in Earth Science (May 23-24, 2006; Pasadena, California)
- Interface 2006 (May 24-27, 2006; Pasadena, California)
- Southern Regional Council on Statistics/American Statistical Association Summer Research Conference (June 4-7, 2006; Kerrville, Texas)
- Joint Research Conference 2006 on Statistics in Quality, Industry, and Technology (June 7-9, 2006; Knoxville, Tennessee)
- 42nd DIA Annual Meeting (June 18-22, 2006; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

For additional meetings or information, visit Calendar of Events on the ASA website (www.amstat.org).

~Richard Rode

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The Chapter's purpose, as stated in its Constitution, is “to foster statistics and its applications and promote the interests of the statistical profession…” Accordingly, diverse views are presented. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the officers or the policies of the Chapter.