SSC LIAISON

Volume 21 Number 4 October 2007

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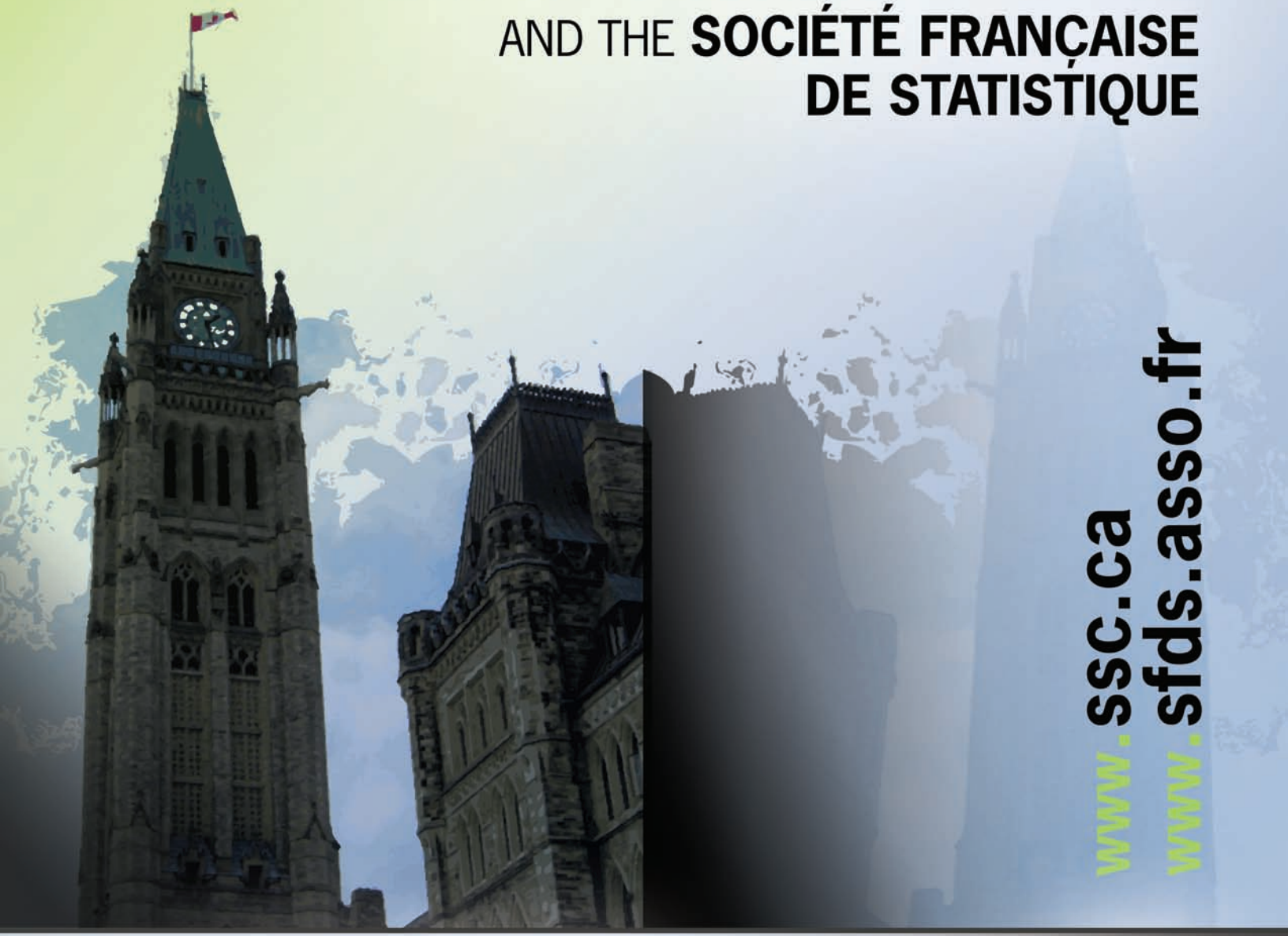
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE STATISTICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

ISSN 1489-5927

CONGRÈS CONJOINT DE LA
SOCIÉTÉ STATISTIQUE DU CANADA
ET DE LA **SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE DE STATISTIQUE**

JOINT MEETING OF THE
STATISTICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA
AND THE **SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE DE STATISTIQUE**



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MAY 25-29 2008
OTTAWA CONGRESS CENTRE (CANADA)

SOCIETE FRANÇAISE DE STATISTIQUE

MESSAGES

Message from the President

Christian Genest, Ph.D., P.Stat. (Université Laval)

Dear members,

As you can tell easily from this issue of *Liaison*, the preparations for our next Annual Meeting are coming along fine. Except for the contributed paper sessions, the scientific program is practically complete. Moreover, the main local arrangements have been finalized. The SSC and SFdS volunteers are striving to ensure the success of this enterprise. Despite substantial costs due to holding the event at the Ottawa Congress Centre, we expect to break even, so long as there are at least 850 participants; this scenario seems realistic, if not conservative. We count on you, of course, to ensure the largest possible attendance at this conference!

Christian Genest

In the last issue, I mentioned that the production of *The Canadian Journal of Statistics* (CJS) might be delegated to a commercial publisher starting from 2009. The Board of Directors supported this plan in principle at the meeting held on October 13, and we will soon begin a careful analysis of the three bids that have been submitted to the CJS task force. To insure a smooth transition, a decision will need to be made very early in 2008 and it will be announced in May, after confirmation by the Board. Whatever the final choice, we will ensure that the Editors keep full control on the content. We believe that in the long run, the distribution of the CJS will benefit from the bundling practices of commercial publishers.

At its October meeting, the Board also voted in favour of holding the Society's elections electronically as soon as feasible. It is too early to tell whether this objective can be achieved as early as next spring, but we would appreciate it if you would ensure that your e-mail address is correct when you renew your membership in December. An ambitious program of on-line services is also in the works, as well as a redesign of the Society's web site. To fund these new developments, and considering that the meeting to be held next May will generate little profit, the Board has approved an increase in membership fees for 2008: fees will rise from $100 to $110 for regular members but they will remain unchanged for other categories of membership. The last increase occurred in 2005.

Much progress has also been made in revising the Society's By-Laws. A set of changes has been approved by the Board. To become effective, however, these modifications will need to be sanctioned by Industry Canada after ratification by a two-thirds majority of members present at the Annual General Meeting to be held next May. According to the new By-Laws, the Program Secretary would be elected for a three-year term as a voting member of the Board and Executive Committee. Furthermore, the terms of office of the Secretary, Treasurer and Public Relations Officer would be extended to three years. However, the Board decided that the Chair of the Accreditation Committee should be appointed rather than elected; the appointment will be made by the Board in consultation with accredited members, and the appointee will need to be a P.Stat. member. In the new By-Laws, the titles of some key officers would also be changed to better reflect their responsibilities. Thus the SSC Secretary, the Program Secretary and the Public Relations Officer would be called the *Executive Secretary*, the *Meetings Coordinator*, and the *Publications Officer*, respectively. Moreover, the official French term for "CJS Managing Editor" would change from "rédacteur gérant" to *directeur de la production*. The details of the proposed reforms will be communicated to you in due course.

Finally, I am delighted to report that starting from 2008, the SSC will sponsor the electronic journal *Statistics Surveys* recently launched by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS). This publication, which provides open access to its content, is also sponsored by the American Statistical Association and the Bernoulli Society. Such a sponsorship requires any society to appoint an Executive Editor and an Editorial Board. This new initiative will provide increased visibility for our Society at a minimal cost. In accordance with the constitution of *Statistics Surveys*, the SSC will be charged approximately $50 for each paper accepted by its own Editorial Board, but it is expected that this cost will be passed on to the authors, as is currently the case for CJS. We will proceed as soon as an agreement has been signed with the IMS.

I would be happy to answer any query you have concerning the decisions of the Board and the actions undertaken by the Executive Committee. It is our pleasure to serve you.

Message from the Interim Editors

Angelo Canty and Román Viveros-Aguilera (McMaster University)

Welcome to the final issue of *Liaison* for 2007! Our incoming editor, Larry Weldon, has been busy traveling in Europe since his retirement from Simon Fraser University and so, we are continuing in our role as interim editors for this issue. Larry is taking over from here on and any communications regarding *Liaison* should now be sent to him. Larry's first issue will be in February 2008.

Our cover picture for this issue shows Jeffrey Rosenthal accepting the prestigious COPSS award for young researchers. A number of our members were also recently named Fellows of the ASA and Allan Donner was named a Fellow of

the Royal Society of Canada. This issue also contains calls for nomination for our own awards. A number of the new awards reported on last issue are now open for nominations so please consider nominating suitable individuals to be the first recipients of these new awards. The SSC is also asking for nominations to the 2008 elections to the Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Section Executives.

In this issue's Consultant's Forum, Janet MacDougall asked a non-statistician, Lynne C. Howarth, to write about metadata from the point of view of an information manager. This follows on from the article by Eric Woodsworth in our last issue and gives us an insight into the uses and structure of metadata. These matters can be rather important for consultants dealing with end-users. In other articles, Paul Gustafson gives us a summary of upcoming CJS articles. We also include a list of conferences and workshops which may be of interest to members over the coming months. In more detail, Pierre Lavallée and Bruno Rémillard give us a taste of what we can expect at the Ottawa 2008 joint meeting of the SSC and our French counterparts in the SFdS. This also serves as an initial call for contributed talks or posters for that meeting. Denis Larocque also writes about SSC participation at the 2008 JSM in Denver. Radu Theodorescu, an Honorary Member of the SSC since 2000, passed away in August and we end this issue with a thoughtful obituary written by his colleague and SSC President Christian Genest.

We hope that there is something in this issue for everyone and that you enjoy it. This will be our last issue and we want to thank everyone for their prompt responses to calls for articles and to all our readers for their patience with the problems that have arisen with the production of *Liaison* this year. We could not have done this alone and we want to take this opportunity to thank Torsten Bernhardt (composition) and Maryse Dansereau (translations) for their invaluable work as well as the associate editors who have helped out so much with the production of *Liaison*. Finally, on behalf of the entire SSC, we welcome Larry Weldon as editor and are sure that *Liaison* will only get better under his leadership.

REPORTS

Report from the Australia-Canada Scholar Committee

Jerry Lawless (University of Waterloo;
2007-2008 Chair of the Australia-Canada Scholar Committee)

The AusCan Scholar Program promotes interaction between the Australian and Canadian statistical communities by providing funding for young scholars from either country to spend an extended period in the other. Details of the program can be found on the SSC web site (***www.ssc.ca***).

Dr. Mu Zhu of University of Waterloo was the initial AusCan Scholar. He visited Australia from September 15 to November 12, 2006 and visited no fewer than 11 universities, 7 CSIRO offices and over 10 other groups. Mu gave 18 lectures and two one-day workshops during that period.

Melissa Dobbie

The next Canadian AusCan Scholar will visit Australia during 2009 and will be chosen in Fall, 2008. Details about applying are given on the SSC web site.

Dr. Melissa Dobbie (***www.cmis.csiro.au/melissa.dobbie/***) from Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) will be visiting Canada in January 11-February 15, 2008 as the second AusCan Scholar. Dr. Dobbie specializes in spatial-temporal modelling; environmental modelling; the analysis of ecological, biological and environmental data; the analysis of zero-inflated count data;

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and the design of aquatic monitoring programs. She received her PhD from the Australian National University (ANU) under the supervision of Professor Alan Welsh.

Dr. Dobbie will be touring in Canada for about 5 weeks. Professor Mu Zhu from the University of Waterloo is helping Dr. Dobbie organize her visit. Individuals or groups interested in hosting Dr. Dobbie or having her give a seminar should contact Professor Zhu (***m3zhu@math.uwaterloo.ca***) as soon as possible.

The 36th SSC Annual Meeting: SFdS-SSC 2008

Ottawa

The 36th Annual Meeting of the SSC, organized jointly with the SFdS (Société Française de Statistique) will be held at the Ottawa Congress Centre, from Sunday May 25th to Thursday May 28th, 2008. Pierre Lavallée (Local Arrangements Chair), Michel Delecroix (Assistant Local Arrangements Chair), Bruno Rémillard and Marc Hallin (Co- program Chairs) invite you to attend this first joint meeting with our French sister society. The latest information about the program can be obtained through the conference website: ***www.ssc.ca/2008/index_e.html***.

Preliminary Information on Local Arrangements

Pierre Lavallée (Statistics Canada)

The conference will take place in the Ottawa Congress Centre, which is located downtown, at a short distance from the Parliament of Canada, the historical centre (ByWard Market), and the Rideau Canal. Electronic registration will be available through the conference website. Arrangements have been made for 500 rooms in seven hotels located near the Congress Centre: *ARC Hotel, Cartier Place Suite Hotel, Fairmont Château Laurier, Lord Elgin, Quality Hotel, Novotel Ottawa*, and *Les Suites*. Details about booking information and the rates appear on the conference website, and will also be in the next issue of *SSC Liaison*. The Local Organizing Committee is also arranging three social events: a welcoming cocktail on Sunday, May 25, a reception on Monday night at the Tabaret Hall of the University of Ottawa, and a sumptuous banquet on Wednesday night. For more details on any aspect of the conference, please visit the site ***www.ssc.ca***.

Pierre Lavallée

See you in Ottawa next May!

Preliminary Information on the Scientific Programme

Bruno Rémillard (HEC Montréal)

Call for Contributed Papers

The Program Committee is calling for contributed 15-minute talks or poster presentations, either in statistics or in probability. To be considered, submissions must be made through the conference website on or before **Friday, February 8, 2008**. The website is not yet open to receive submissions; please consult the conference website later this Fall to see when it will be open for submissions.

Submissions must include the paper's title, the authors' names, affiliations, and an abstract in English or French

Future Annual Meetings of the Society

2008
Ottawa, Ontario
May 25-29
Program Chair:
Bruno Rémillard (HEC Montréal)
Local Arrangements Chair:
Pierre Lavallée (Statistics Canada)

2009
Vancouver, British Columbia
May 31-June 3
Program Chair:
Wendy Lou (University of Toronto)
Local Arrangements Chair:
Nancy Heckman (UBC)

2010
Quebec City, Quebec
May 23-26
Local Arrangements Chair:
Thierry Duchesne (Université Laval)

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Notice to Advertisers

***SSC** Liaison* is published four times per year in February, May, July, and October. Deadlines for material are 1 September, 1 January, 1 April and 1 June, respectively. Camera-ready material may be accepted up to 15 days later at the discretion of the Editor. Please send your material to the Liaison office at the address below

Size	Per Issue	Per Volume
Inside Cover (8"x10.5")	800$	2400$
Full Page (7.5"x9.5")	530$	1600$
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The above rates are for camera-ready copy and are given in Canadian funds. Typesetting is available at a charge of $40 per quarter page. French-English and English-French translation are available at $0.25 per word. The Position Vacant ad must not exceed a quarter page, and we reserve the right to edit it to ensure compliance with this restriction and as recognition of this constraint, the charge for typesetting this type of ad is included in the cost.

For an additional fee of $50, your Position Vacant ad will also appear on the **Job Ads** page of the SSC web site. For arrangements, please contact: ***mr.mesentery@gmail.com***

of 100 words or less. Authors who can provide abstracts in both languages are highly encouraged to do so as the Program Book is fully bilingual. The speaker and the preferred format (talk or poster) should also be identified, together with the presentation language and transparencies language. The latter two will be included in the Program Book. Tentative scheduling will be issued by March.

Bruno Rémillard

Special Call for Posters

This year the Program Committee is making a special call to everyone, but especially students and postdoctoral fellows, to display posters and present their recent results at the 36th SSC annual meeting. This gives a chance for media, professors, and students of all levels to gain an appreciation for the type of projects being undertaken in the field of probability and statistics. Special tips on how to make a poster presentation and other information will be presented on the meeting's website.

Scientific Program

Four workshops and 51 invited paper sessions are planned for the conference; these are listed below with titles and organizers. Please note that invited speakers must pay registration fees and submit their abstract electronically in the same manner as all other participants.

Workshops

1. Biostatistics Section: "**Regression Modelling Strategies**", Frank Harrell, Vanderbilt University.

2. Business and Industrial Statistics Section: "**Seductive Curves and Surfaces: Functional Data Analysis in Action**", Jim Ramsay, McGill University.

3. Probability Section: "**Rare Events and Applications in Telecommunications**", François Baccelli, INRIA Rocquencourt, and Vaidyanat Ramaswami, BellCore.

4. Survey Methods Section: "**Analysis of Complex Survey Data**". Presenter to be announced.

Plenary Sessions

· **SSC Presidential Invited Address** – Paul Embrechts, ETH Zurich

· **SFdS Presidential Invited Address** – Davy Paindaveine, Université Libre de Bruxelles

· **Gold Medal Award Address** – Don McLeish, University of Waterloo

· **Lucien Le Cam Address** – To be announced

Statutory Invited Paper Sessions (and Organizers)

· **CRM-SSC Prize in Statistics Address** (Louis-Paul Rivest, Université Laval)

· **Canadian Journal of Statistics Award Address** (Wayne Oldford, University of Waterloo)

· **Pierre Robillard Award Address** (Sudhir R. Paul, University of Windsor)

· **Marie-Jeanne-Laurent-Duhamel Award Address** (Jean-Jacques Droesbeke, Université Libre de Bruxelles)

Marc Hallin

Invited Paper Sessions Organized by SSC Sections and Committees and SFdS Groups (and Organizers)

· **Measurement Error Models** (Biostatistics Section, Grace Yi, University of Waterloo)

· **Data Integration for Genomic Data** (Biostatistics Section, Laurent Briollais, University of Toronto)

· **Round Table: Issues in Collaboration in Medical Research** (Biostatistics Section, Lehana Thabane, McMaster University)

· **Statistical Genomics** (Biostatistics Section, David Bickel, University of Ottawa & Raphael Gottardo, University of

British Columbia)

· **Isobel Loutit Invited Address on Business and Industrial Statistics** – Speaker: Vijay Nair, University of Michigan, (Business and Industrial Statistics Section, Román Viveros-Aguilera, McMaster University)

· **Predicting Modeling Applications in Customer Acquisition and Retention** (Business and Industrial Statistics Section, Patrick Turgeon, Figurs*| Analytics. Insights)

· **Design and Analysis of Industrial Experiments** (Business and Industrial Statistics Section, Rob McLeod, University of Winnipeg)

· **Statistical Process Control Methods in Health Care** (Business and Industrial Statistics Section jointly with Biostatistics Section, Richard Cook, University of Waterloo & Stefan Steiner, University of Waterloo).

· **Two Sessions in Memory of André Dabrowski** (Probability Section, David MacDonald, University of Ottawa)

· **Simulation of Rare Events** (Probability Section, Pierre Del Moral, INRIA Bordeaux)

· **Parametric Statistics on Varieties** (Probability Section jointly with Section Statistique mathématique (SFdS), Philippe Berthet, Université de Rennes)

· **Special Invited Session of the Survey Methods Section** – Speaker: David Binder (Jiahua Chen, University of British Columbia)

· **Fractional Imputation** (Survey Methods Section, Michael Larsen, Iowa State University)

· **Calibration and Variance Estimation in Surveys** (Survey Methods Section, David Haziza, Université de Montréal)

· **Combining Survey and Administrative Data** (Survey Methods Section, Lenka Mach, Statistics Canada)

· **Using Proxies for Reconstruction of Hydro-meteorological Data** (Section Environnement et statistique (SFdS), Erick Parent, ENGERF)

· **Markov Models** (Canadian Caucus for Women in Statistics and Committee on Women in Statistics, Julie Horrocks, University of Guelph)

·**Recent Advances in Time-to-event Analyses (Section Biopharmacie et santé** (SFDS), François Aubin, Agence de la Biomédecine)

·**Teaching of Statistics: Didactical and Pedagogical Problems** (Section Enseignement de la statistique (SFDS), Jean-Claude Régnier, Université de Lyon II)

Invited Sessions (and Organizers)

· **Bayesian Statistics** (Jean-François Angers, Université de Montréal)

· **History of Statistical Science** (David Bellhouse, University of Western Ontario)

· **Classification and Algorithms** (Gérard Biau, Université Paris VI)

· **Copulas** (Arthur Charpentier, ENSAE)

· **Mixtures Models in Statistical Finance** (Jiahua Chen, University of British Columbia)

· **Data Mining** (Hugh Chipman, Acadia University)

· **Session in Honour of Denis Bosq** (Michel Delecroix, CREST & ENSAI)

· **Censored Data** (Thierry Duchesne, Université Laval)

· **Statistical Models for Extreme Values** (Anne-Laure Fougères, Université Paris X)

· **Time Series** (Christian Francq, Université Lille-3)

· **Econometry** (Christian Gouriéroux, CREST & University of Toronto)

· **Empirical Likelihood** (Ingrid van Keilegom, Université Catholique de Louvain)

·**Model Assessment and Goodness-of-fit** (Richard Lockhart, Simon Fraser University)
· Model Selection (Pascal Massart, Université de Paris-Sud)

· **Rank-based Inference** (Davy Paindaveine, Université Libre de Bruxelles)

· **Actuarial Science** (Gary Parker, Simon Fraser University)

· **Likelihood Inference** (Nancy Reid, University of Toronto)

· **Monte Carlo Markov Chains** (Jeffrey Rosenthal, University of Toronto)

· **Environmental Statistics** (Bruce Smith, Dalhousie University)

· **Some New Perspectives on Longitudinal Data Analysis** (Peter Song, University of Waterloo)

· **Latent Variables** (Mary Thompson, University of Waterloo)

· **Robustness** (Doug Wiens, University of Alberta)

· **Statistics and the Climate Sciences** (Francis Zwiers, Environment Canada)

Case Studies (and Organizers)

·**Handling Item Nonresponse in Surveys** (David Haziza, Université de Montréal)

· **Theme to be determined** (Alison Gibbs, University of Toronto)

Information for Authors

The Editors of *SSC Liaison* invite all members of the statistical community to submit news, comments (in the form of Letters to the Editor) and articles of general interest to the profession. Items other than Letters to the Editor, may be submitted to the Editor or any Associate Editor. Letters to the Editor should be submitted only to the Editor.

The maximum number of words, in the original language, is: Mailbox: 375; Short article: 750; Feature article: 1750.

The Editors reserve the right not to publish any letter submitted or to publish an edited version.

SSC Participation at JSM 2008 in Denver

Denis Larocque (HEC Montréal; SSC Representative to the Program Committee of JSM 2008)

Plans are underway for the 2008 Joint Statistical Meetings, to be held in Denver, Colorado, on August 3 – August 7. The theme of JSM 2008 is "Communicating Statistics: Speaking Out and Reaching Out".

Denis Laroque

As one of the sponsoring statistical societies, the SSC is allocated three invited sessions at the Meetings. These sessions were selected from proposals submitted by SSC members earlier this year.

Jack Gambino (Statistics Canada) is organizing a session titled "Nutrition Surveys: Challenges in Design and Analysis", which will include an overview of the history of nutrition surveys in North America and a discussion about two specific issues, one from the U.S. and one from Canada, related to data on nutrition intake. The speakers in this session will be Clifford L. Johnson (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention), Didier Garriguet (Statistics Canada) and Kevin W. Dodd (National Cancer Institute).

The session on "Recent Development in Event History Data Analysis", organized by X. Joan Hu (Simon Fraser University), will bring three leading researchers in the area to present their recent work. The speakers will be Richard Cook (University of Waterloo), John D. Kalbfleisch (University of Michigan Ann Arbor) and Zhezhen Jin (Columbia University).

"Ridge Regression and Related Topics", the third SSC invited session, organized by B. M. Golam Kibria (Florida International University), will bring together researchers from around the world to discuss new developments in the area. These speakers are William Edward Strawderman (Rutgers University), M. Revan Özkale (Çukurova University) and Ghazi Shukur (Jonkoping University). Marvin Gruber (Rochester Institute of Technology) and A. K. Md. E. Saleh (Carleton University) will act as discussants in this session.

Thanks for your support. I will keep you up-to-date on SSC involvement in JSM 2008.

Email: ***denis.larocque@hec.ca***
Tel: 514-340-6488

News from the Fields Institute

Carl Riehm (McMaster University; Fields Managing Editor for Publications)

Distinguished Lecture Series in Statistical Science

The DLS in Statistical Science, established in 2000, takes place annually and consists of two lectures at the Fields Institute (one general, one specialized) by an internationally prominent statistical scientist. A nominating committee solicits nominations from the Canadian statistical community, and makes a recommendation to the Fields Scientific Advisory Panel which is responsible for the selection of speakers.

The most recent speaker was **Persi Diaconis**, the Mary V. Sunseri Professor of Statistics and Mathematics at Stanford. His lectures, entitled "Mathematics and Magic Tricks," took place on September 27-28, 2007.

Nominations for the next speaker in the DLSSS, including a letter of support and CV, should be sent to our Director:

Professor Barbara Lee Keyfitz, Director
Fields Institute
222 College Street
Toronto, Ontario M5T 3J1 CANADA
or e-mail to:
director@fields.utoronto.ca

The Nathan and Beatrice Keyfitz Lectures in Mathematics and the Social Sciences

The next lecture in **The Nathan and Beatrice Keyfitz Lectures in Mathematics and the Social Sciences** will be held on October 30, 2007. The speaker will be **Jon Kleinberg** of Cornell University, whose research interests center around issues at the interface of networks and information, with an emphasis on the social and information networks that underpin the Web and other on-line media. The purpose of this annual series is both to inform the public of some of the ways quantitative methods are being used to design solutions to societal problems, and to encourage dialogue between mathematical, statistical and social scientists.

See ***www.fields.utoronto.ca/programs/scientific/keyfitz_lectures/*** for more information.

Actuarial Science and Mathematical Finance

The **Actuarial Science and Mathematical Finance Group** holds regular informal meetings at the Fields Institute, on subjects which are often of interest in or involve statistics. See ***www.fields.utoronto.ca/programs/cim/07-08/actuarialmath/***.

Probability Seminar

Members of the SSC might also be interested in the **Toronto Probability Seminar** which is held at the Fields Institute. See ***www.fields.utoronto.ca/programs/scientific/07-08/to-probability*** for up-to-date information.

Workshop on Spread in Forests

On November 22-23 (note change in date!), there will be a workshop, at the University of Western Ontario, on **Spread in Forests**. Check ***www.fields.utoronto.ca/programs/scientific/07-08/spread/*** for details.

Symposium on Dependent Data Structures

On May 21-23, 2008, a **Symposium on Dependent Data Structures** will take place at Carleton University in Ottawa. It will feature the analysis and simulation of dependent responses, focusing on

the areas of longitudinal data analysis, mixed models, missing data analysis, spatial data analysis, ordinal categorical data analysis, the simulation of dependent random variates, along with various biostatistical and health applications. The invited speakers are **David Brillinger** (Berkeley), **Michel Chavance** (INSERM, France), **Richard Cook** (Waterloo), **Charmaine Dean** (Simon Fraser), **Jerald Lawless** (Waterloo), **Charles McCulloch** (UC San Francisco), **J.N.K. Rao** (Carleton), **Donald Rubin** (Harvard), and **Brajendra Sutradhar** (Memorial).

See ***www.fields.utoronto.ca/programs/scientific/07-08/dependent/***.

Fields Deadlines

Some **deadlines** for proposals:

Thematic programs: March 15.
Workshops, seminars, conferences, summer schools: October 15.
Distinguished Lecture Series in Statistical Sciences (nominations): October 1
The Distinguished Lecture Series (nominations): September 15.
CRM-Fields-PIMS Prize: November 1.
Postdoctoral Fellowships: December 6 (although late applications may be considered)
Visiting memberships: no special deadlines, but early application is advised.

Consult ***www.fields.utoronto.ca/proposals/*** for further information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2008 Election

In the next issue of *SSC Liaison*, the Election Committee will present a slate of candidates for the following positions:

Members of the Executive Committee

- President-Elect
- Secretary (two-year term)
- Public Relations Officer (two-year term)

Regional Representatives on the Board of Directors (two-year terms)

- One regional representative from the Atlantic Provinces
- Two regional representatives from Quebec
- Two regional representatives from Ontario
- One regional representative from Manitoba/Saskatchewan/North-West Territories/Nunavut
- One regional representative from Alberta/British Columbia/Yukon

Section Officers

Biostatistics Section
- President-Elect

Probability Section
- President-Elect
- Treasurer (three-year term)

Business and Industrial Statistics Section
- President-Elect
- Treasurer (one-year term)

Survey Methods Section
- President-Elect
- Treasurer (two-year term)

P.Stat and A.Stat. members in good standing on April 1, 2008 will elect (two-year terms):
6 members of the Accreditation Committee;
3 members of the Accreditation Appeals Committee.

Successful candidates will take office on July 1, 2008. A President-Elect serves for one year, then becomes President for one year, and then becomes Past-President for one year.
The Election Committee for 2007-2008 is:
Judy-Ann Chapman - ***JChapman@ctg.queensu.ca***
Gemai Chen - ***gchen@math.ucalgary.ca***
Charmaine Dean (Chair) – ***dean@stat.sfu.ca***
Paul Gustafson - ***gustaf@stat.ubc.ca***
Nancy Heckman - ***nancy@stat.ubc.ca***
Mirolad Kovacevic - ***Milorad.Kovacevic@statcan.ca***
Rhonda Rosychuk - ***rhonda.rosychuk@ualberta.ca***
Andrei Volodin - ***volodin@math.uregina.ca***

You may communicate your suggestions to any member of the election committee before ***November 30, 2007***. Nominating petitions may be sent before ***January 15, 2008*** to the chair of the committee:

Professor Charmaine Dean
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6
Phone: 778-782-4919

Call for Nominations for SSC Gold Medal

The **Gold Medal** is awarded to a Canadian, or someone residing in Canada, who is a member of the SSC and has made substantial contributions to statistics or probability theory, either to mathematical developments or in applied work. The Gold Medal is intended to honour current leaders in their field. Nominations, to be received by **January 31, 2008**, should consist of at least four letters of support, a recent curriculum vitae, and a suggested citation to accompany the award. A completed nomination is effective for three competitions and may be updated annually.

Please send your nominations before **January 31, 2008**, to the Chair of the SSC Awards Committee:

Dr. David Binder, Chair
SSC Awards Committee
49 Bertona Street
Nepean, ON
Canada K2G 4G7

Email: ***dbinder49@hotmail.com***

A list of **previous winners** can be found at ***www.ssc.ca/main/about/awards_e.html***.

Call for Nominations for SSC Award for Impact of Applied and Collaborative Work

The SSC has established a new award for recognizing the impact of a statistician in applied and collaborative work. This award will be given to a Canadian, or someone residing in Canada, who is a member of the SSC and who has made outstanding contributions in applied and collaborative work, the importance of which derives primarily from its relatively recent impact on a subject area outside of the statistical sciences, on an area of application, or on an organization.

Nominations, to be received by **January 31, 2008**, should consist of at least three letters of nomination and support, a curriculum vitae, a "layperson" description of the work and its impact expressed in terms that would be suitable for publicity purposes, and a citation suitable for public announcement of the award. The letters should address the criteria for the award, and include one from a non-statistician/collaborator representing the field or organization that has felt the impact of the work.

Please send your nominations before **January 31, 2008**, to the Chair of the SSC Awards Committee:

Dr. David Binder, Chair
SSC Awards Committee
49 Bertona Street
Nepean, ON
Canada K2G 4G7

Email: ***dbinder49@hotmail.com***

Call for Nominations for SSC Honorary Membership

Honorary Membership in the SSC may be awarded to statistical scientists, or in special circumstances to other individuals, of outstanding distinction who have made exceptional contributions to the development of the statistical sciences. The recipient should be someone whose work for which the Honorary Membership is awarded was substantially done in Canada or has had a major impact in Canada, and need not be a member of the SSC. Nominations, to be received by **January 31, 2008**, should consist of at least one letter of support, a recent curriculum vitae, and a suggested citation to accompany the award.

Please send your nominations before **January 31, 2008**, to the Chair of the SSC Awards Committee:

Dr. David Binder, Chair
SSC Awards Committee
49 Bertona Street
Nepean, ON
Canada K2G 4G7

Email: ***dbinder49@hotmail.com***

A list of **previous winners** can be found at ***www.ssc.ca/main/about/awards_e.html***.

Call for Nominations for SSC Distinguished Service Award

The **Distinguished Service Award** is intended to recognize substantial contributions to the operation or welfare of the SSC over a period of several years. Nominations, to be received by **January 31, 2008**, should consist of at least three letters of support (of which the nominator's letter may be one), a recent curriculum vitae, and a suggested citation to accompany the award.

Please send your nominations before **January 31, 2008**, to the Chair of the SSC Awards Committee:

Dr. David Binder, Chair
SSC Awards Committee
49 Bertona Street
Nepean, ON
Canada K2G 4G7

Email: ***dbinder49@hotmail.com***

A list of **previous winners** can be found at ***www.ssc.ca/main/about/awards_e.html***.

Call for Nominations for Pierre Robillard Award

The aim of the **Pierre Robillard Award** is to recognize the best Ph.D. thesis defended at a Canadian university in 2007 and written in the fields covered by *The Canadian Journal of Statistics*. Submitted theses will be evaluated by a committee whose members are appointed by the President of the Statistical Society of Canada; their decision will be final. Judging will take into account the originality of the ideas and techniques, the possible applications and their treatment, and the potential impact on the statistical sciences. The committee may arrive at the conclusion that none of the submitted theses merits the award.

The award consists of a certificate, a monetary prize, and a one year membership in the Statistical Society of Canada. The winner will be invited to give a talk based on the thesis at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Society; assistance with expenses to attend the meeting may be provided. The winner will also be invited to submit a paper to *The Canadian Journal of Statistics*. If accepted, the paper will be identified as being based on the thesis which won the 2007 Pierre Robillard Award; the names of the university and the thesis supervisor will be clearly indicated. The thesis supervisor could be co-author of the paper. The members of the Pierre Robillard Award Committee for 2007-2008 are:

Sudhir R. Paul, Chair (University of Windsor)
Jean-François Angers (Université de Montréal)
Mylène Bédard (Université de Montréal)
Reginald J. Kulperger (University of Western Ontario)
Robert W. Platt (McGill University)

The Pierre Robillard Award Committee Chair must receive the thesis and a nominating letter from the thesis supervisor by **February 15, 2008**. It is imperative that the supervisor address the three criteria below in their letter:

1. The originality of the ideas and techniques.
2. Possible applications and their treatment.
3. Potential impact on the statistical sciences.

In so doing, the supervisor may include excerpts of letters from external examiners. Complete letters from external examiners or referees will not be accepted. Official confirmation that the thesis has been defended in 2007 must also be provided. Electronic submission is strongly encouraged.

Submission Instructions

For electronic submission, the thesis should be in Postscript, Adobe Acrobat (.pdf), or Microsoft Word format. The thesis and covering letter can be e-mailed to the committee chair. Alternately, the covering letter can give a web site from which an electronic copy of the thesis can be downloaded.

If the thesis has to be submitted in another electronic format or on paper, the Pierre Robillard Award Committee Chair must be contacted before submission. Entries should include e-mail addresses and phone numbers of both the supervisor and the student, and be sent to:

Dr. Sudhir Paul
University of Windsor
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
1-109 Lambton Tower
Windsor, ON N9B 3P4
Tel: (519) 253-3000 Ext. 3035
Fax: (519) 971-3649

Email: ***smjp@uwindsor.ca***

Call for Nominations for Lise Manchester Award

The SSC has established an essay award to commemorate the late Dr. Lise Manchester's abiding interest in making use of statistical methods to provide insights into matters of relevance to society at large. This award is to recognize excellence in rendition of scholarly work, making use of 'state of the art' statistical methods to provide novel insights into situations that are of societal interest and potentially useful for formation of public policy in a Canadian context. The selection is to be made biennially, from material in either published or completed manuscript form, produced during the two years preceding the announced contest date, by single or joint authors, who are Canadian or who reside in Canada. For the 2008 contest, the article must have been produced during the calendar years 2006 and 2007.

Nominations for articles to be considered for the award may be made by anyone; nominees need not be members of the Society. The author(s) of the selected article will receive an award, which includes a $1,000 cash prize, to be assigned jointly in the case of multiple authorship.

Please send your nominations before **January 31, 2008**, to the Chair of the CJS Best Paper Award and Lise Manchester Award Committee:

Prof. Wayne Oldford
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
University of Waterloo
200 University Avenue West
Waterloo, ON N2L 3G1

Email: ***rwoldford@uwaterloo.ca***

COPSS Presidents' Award and Other Awards

The SSC Awards Committee has the mandate to make recommendations for awards offered by other societies or bodies, such as the **COPSS Presidents' Award**. The COPSS Presidents' Award is granted to an individual who either will be under age 41 throughout the award calendar year, or will be under age 46 throughout the award calendar year and will have received a terminal statistically-related degree no more than 12 years prior to that year. The candidate may be chosen for a single contribution of extraordinary merit, or an outstanding aggregate of contributions, to the profession of statistics.

Please send your suggestions before **January 31, 2008**, to the Chair of the SSC Awards Committee:

Dr. David Binder, Chair
SSC Awards Committee
49 Bertona Street
Nepean, ON
Canada K2G 4G7

Email: ***dbinder49@hotmail.com***

A list of previous winners of the COPSS Presidents' Award can be found at ***www.niss.org/copss/PastAwardsPresidents.pdf***.

CRM-SSC Prize in Statistics
Call for Nominations

The Centre de recherches mathématiques (CRM) and the Statistical Society of Canada (SSC) solicit nominations for the **CRM-SSC Prize**, which is awarded in recognition of a statistical scientist's professional accomplishments in research during the first fifteen years after earning a doctorate.

The award, which includes a $3000 cash prize, is bestowed at most once a year upon a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada whose research was carried out primarily in Canada. Recipients of the award, since its creation in 1999, have been Christian Genest, Robert J. Tibshirani, Colleen D. Cutler, Larry A. Wasserman, Charmaine B. Dean, Randy R. Sitter, Jiahua Chen, Jeffrey S. Rosenthal, and Richard J. Cook.

In 2008, eligibility will be limited to candidates who received their Ph. D. (or an equivalent degree) in the year 1993 or subsequently. Current membership in the SSC is not a prerequisite. The nominations will be examined by an Advisory Committee consisting of five members, three of whom are appointed by the SSC and two by the CRM. The committee is chaired by one of the two CRM representatives.

Nominations, including three letters of support and an up-to-date curriculum vitae (with a list of publications) should be submitted to the CRM before **February 1, 2008**. As files are not carried over from one year to the next, nominations must be renewed each year.

Submit files to:

Monsieur le Directeur
Centre de recherches mathématiques
Université de Montréal
C.P. 6128, Succursale Centre-ville
Montréal (Québec) Canada H3C 3J7

VOX: (514) 343-7501
FAX: (514) 343-2254

Email: ***directeur@CRM.UMontreal.ca***

Jeffrey Rosenthal is the COPSS Award Winner

Christian Genest (Université Laval; SSC President)

The Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS) announced on August 1 that the 2007 Presidents' Award is given to **Jeffrey S. Rosenthal**, from the University of Toronto. This announcement was made at the Joint Statistical Meetings, in Salt Lake City.

The Presidents' Award is the most prestigious honour bestowed by COPSS. It is presented annually to a member of one of the participating societies, in recognition of outstanding contributions to the statistics profession. It is typically granted to an individual who has not yet reached his or her 41st birthday in the year of the award. However, a nominee who has received his or her terminal degree in statistics less than 12 years prior to the nomination deadline is eligible provided that he or she is less than 46 years old in the year of the award.

The Presidents' Award was established in 1976; Jeffrey is the 27th recipient. The citation reads as follows: "*For fundamental contributions to probability theory, stochastic processes and MCMC algorithms with applications to statistics; for seminal contributions to the theoretical underpinnings of the convergence rates of MCMC algorithms; for his prolific record of collaboration, resulting in significant publications in economics, mathematical finance, artificial intelligence and survival analysis; and for outstanding mentoring and extraordinary skill at communicating some of the deeper ideas of our discipline through the media (print, radio, and TV) and through the publication of a general audience book on probability in real*

Jeffrey Rosenthal

life which, less than two years after publication is in its 6th printing."

Jeffrey Rosenthal was born in Scarborough (Ontario) in 1967. He studied mathematics and statistics at the University of Toronto (B.Sc., 1988) and at Harvard (Ph.D., 1992). He worked at the University of Minnesota for one year before joining the Department of Statistics at the University of Toronto, where he was promoted to the rank of Full Professor in 2000. Among other honours, Jeffrey became a fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics in 2005 and won the CRM-SSC Award in 2006.

For more details on Jeffrey's work and career, see ***probability.ca/jeff/***.

A list of the Presidents' Award winners (which includes six other Canadians) may be found at ***www.niss.org/copss/PastAwardsPresidents.pdf***.

Congratulations, Jeffrey!

New ASA Fellows

Christian Genest (Université Laval; SSC President)

The American Statistical Association announced on July 31 the election of 59 new ASA Fellows at the Joint Statistical Meetings that were held in Salt Lake City.

Among them were five people with obvious Canadian ties: **Charmaine B. Dean** (Simon Fraser University), **Nicolas W. Hengartner** (Los Alamos National Laboratory), **Michael A. Newton** (University of Wisconsin), **Therese A. Stukel** (Institute for Clinical Evaluative Sciences, Toronto) and **Yannis Yatracos** (National University of Singapore).

For the past 93 years, fellowship in the ASA has recognized outstanding contributions in the field of statistical science. A searchable list of ASA fellows is available at ***www.amstat.org/fellows/index.cfm?fuseaction=main***.

During the same ceremony, two Canadian statisticians also received certificates of appreciation for their recent work as Editors of ASA publications: **Randy R. Sitter** (*Technometrics*, 2005-2007) and **George P. H. Styan** (*Current Index to Statistics*, 2000-2007).

Congratulations to all award winners!

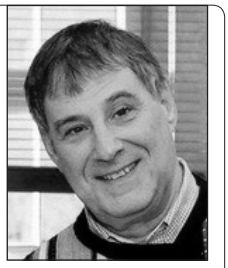
ASA President Mary Ellen Bock and Charmaine Dean

ASA President Mary Ellen Bock and Therese Stukel

Allan Donner Becomes Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada

John Koval (The University of Western Ontario)

Dr. **Allan Donner**, Professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Head of Biometry, Robarts Research Institute, University of Western Ontario, has been elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. Donner was cited for the development of methodology in two distinct areas: (i) the design and analysis of cluster randomization trials and (ii) the design and analysis of studies of interobserver agreement. Donner began his systematic development of methodology for cluster randomization trials in the early 1980's. The concept of randomizing intact social units was not new, but the statistical implications of this design had been largely ignored. Contributions by Donner and his graduate students have now dominated the literature in this area. Jointly with **Neil Klar**, he wrote the first textbook giving a systematic and unified treatment of this topic, titled *Design and Analysis of Cluster Randomization in Health Research*.



Allan Donner

Donner's interest in interobserver agreement evolved from his early contributions to research in genetics and familial aggregation, where he developed procedures for estimating the degree of resemblance among family members. This evolved into new methods for assessing interrater agreement. More recently Donner developed the goodness-of-fit approach to inference procedures for the kappa statistic. Donner has been involved in cluster randomization trials internationally in his role on the Steering Committee of the World Health Organization Antenatal Care Trial and also with the International Vaccine Institute(IVI).

Donner served as Statistical Editor of the *American Journal of Epidemiology* and Associate Editor of *The Canadian Journal of Statistics*.

NSERC Grant Selection Committee for Statistical Sciences

The Grant Selection Committee for the 2008 competition for NSERC Discovery Grants is made up of the following individuals:

Hugh Chipman, Acadia University (Chair)
Belkacem Abdous, Université Laval
Martin Barlow, University of British Columbia
François Bellavance, HEC Montréal
Fernando Camacho, DAMOS Inc.
Gemai Chen, University of Calgary
Karen Fung, University of Windsor
Bruce Jones, University of Western Ontario
Peter Kim, University of Guelph
Hélène Massam, York University

A Tip to SSC Members Who Hold NSERC Grants

As the time of the year approaches when SSC memberships are up for renewal, it may be of interest to NSERC grant holders that the agency's policy on when a membership is an eligible expense has changed recently.

The list of eligible expenses on the NSERC website now includes…

Costs of membership in professional associations or scientific societies if direct economic benefits to the research program.

Several SSC members have already been able to make good use of this new policy!

The SSC Executive Committee would also like to encourage members to renew early in the new year to ensure that they get a full year's subscription to publications to which they subscribe.

WCES: Workshop on Calibration and Estimation in Surveys

Oct. 31 – Nov. 1, 2007
Statistics Canada
Simon-Goldberg Room
Ottawa, ON

This conference organized by Statistics Canada will focus on conceptual, technical and practical aspects of calibration and more generally estimation in surveys. Topics included will cover inference, foundation of survey sampling, generalized regression estimation, dealing with nonresponse, imputation variance and small area estimation. The special invited keynote speaker will be **Carl-Erik Särndal**. The conference is sponsored by the Statistical Society of Canada.

For more information, contact:

Eric Rancourt
Business Survey Methods Division
Statistics Canada
R.H. Coats Building 11 A
100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1A 0T6

E-mail: ***wces2007@statcan.ca***

Telephone: +1 (613) 951-5046
Workshop Web site: ***www.statcan.ca/english/conferences/wces-acee/index-en.htm***.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

October 2007

October 31 – November 1, 2007
Workshop on Calibration and Estimation in Surveys
Location: Statistics Canada, Ottawa
Organizer: Eric Rancourt (***eric.rancourt.statcan.ca***)

October 31 – November 3, 2007
Design and Analysis of Experiments 2007
Location: University of Memphis, Tennessee, USA
Organizers: M. L. Aggarwal and L. Y. Deng
Website: ***www.msci.memphis.edu/DAE2007***

November 2007

November 7 – 9, 2007
Modern Challenges or Curve Modelling: Inverse Problems and Qualitative Constraints
Location: University of Bristol, UK
Website: ***www.sustain.bris.ac.uk/ws-curves.html***

December 2007

December 20 – 22, 2007
International Conference on Bioinformatics
Location: University of Hyderabad, India
Contact: A. Kondapi (***akondapi@yahoo.com***) or C. R. Rao (***crr1@psu.edu***)
Website: ***www.uohyd.ernet.in/sls/cbt/bif/Training/conf2007.htm***

January 2008

January 17 – 18, 2008
The 7th International Conference on Health Policy Statistics
Location: Philadelphia, PA, USA
Sponsors: Health Policy Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association
Website: ***www.amstat.org/meetings/ichps/2008***

January 21, 2008
Health Care 2008: Building Opportuni-

ties for Knowledge and Change
Location: Westin Harbour Castle, Toronto
Organizers: Institute for Clinical Evaluation Studies, Ontario Ministry for Long-Term Care and Canadian Institute for Health Information.
Website: ***www.ices.on.ca***

February 2008

February 22 – 23, 2008
1st Canada-Mexico Statistics Meeting
Location: Centro de Investigación en Matemáticas (CIMAT), Guanajuato, Mexico
Contact: Román Viveros-Aguilera, ***rviveros@math.mcmaster.ca***
Website: ***www.cimat.mx/eventos/canada-mexico-SM***

March 2008

March 4 – 7, 2008
German Open Conference on Probability and Statistics
Location: Aachen, Germany
Contact: Udo Kamps ***gocps2008@stochastik.rwth-aachen.de***
Website: ***gocps2008.rwth-aachen.de***

April 2008

April 21 – 25, 2008
LINSTAT-2008: International Conference on Trends and Perspectives in Linear Statistical Inference
Location: Bedlewo, Poland
Website: ***linstat08.au.poznan.pl***

April 28 – 30, 2008
Applied Linear Algebra: A Conference in Honour of Ivo Marek
Location: Novi Sad, Serbia
Website: ***www.im.ns.ac.yu/events/ala2008***

April 29 – May 1, 2008
Third Annual Canadian Genetic Epidemiology and Statistical Genetics Meeting
Location: The Fields Institute for Research in Mathematical Sciences, Toronto
Website: ***canadiangeneticepi.ccb.sickkids.ca/en/index.html***

May 2008

May 25 – 29, 2008
Joint Meeting of the Statistical Society of Canada and the Société Française de Statistique
Location: Ottawa Congress Centre, Ottawa
Website: ***www.ssc.ca/2008/index_e.html*** (English); ***www.ssc.ca/2008/index_f.html*** (Français)

June 2008

June 8 – 13, 2008
TIES 2008, The 19th Annual Conference of The International Environmetrics Society
Location: Univeristy of British Columbia Okanagan, Kelowna, BC
Co-chairs: David Brillinger and Sylvia Esterby
Website: ***web.ubc.ca/okanagan/msp/TIES2008.html***

June 30 – July 4, 2008
Statistics Education in School Mathematics: Challenges for Teaching and Teacher Training
Location: Monterrey, Mexico
Organizers: International Commission for Mathematics Instruction and International Association for Statistical Education
Website: ***www.stat.aukland.nz/~iase/temp/RoundTable2008Announce.htm***

July 2008

July 13 – 18, 2008
XXIVth International Biometric Conference
Location: University College Dublin, Ireland
Website: ***www.conferencepartners.ie/ibcdublin2008***

July 23 – 26, 2008
17th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics, in honour of T. W. Anderson's 90th Birthday
Location: Tomar, Portugal
Website: ***www.iwms.ipt.pt/index.html***

August 2008

August 3 – 7, 2008
2008 Joint Statistical Meetings
Location: Colarado Convention Center, Denver, Colorado, USA.
Organizers: American Statistical Association, International Biometric Society (ENAR and WNAR), Institute of Mathematical Statistics and Statistical Society of Canada
Contact: ***jsm@amstat.org***
Website: ***www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2008***

August 12 – 14, 2008
useR! 2008: The R User Conference
Location: Universität Dortmund, Germany
Website: ***www.statistik.uni-dortmund.de/useR-2008***

THE CANADIAN JOURNAL OF STATISTICS

CJS: Coming Attractions

Paul Gustafson (University of British Columbia; Editor of CJS)

The December line-up for *The Canadian Journal of Statistics* is comprised of ten articles illustrating the breadth of ideas and applications which characterizes our discipline.

Jorgensen and Song write on stationary state space models for longitudinal data. The set-up is quite general here, with a non-normal observation process, and a non-normal, autoregressive latent process. Buzkova and Lumley also write on longitudinal modelling, in the tricky but very plausible context of observation times depending on outcome, or on variables associated with outcome. The approach proposed is based on what the authors call "inverse-intensity rate ratio" weighting. In a related vein, Kim and Kim consider inverse-probability weighting to adjust for nonresponse in a sample survey. Amongst other things, they show that even when the nonresponse probabilities are known, more

efficient inferences arise from estimating these probabilities. This mimics similar results for other applications of inverse-probability weighting, and is one of those counterintuitive results that keeps us all from being complacent!

In other articles, You and Chen delve into inference for a partially linear model with serially correlated errors. De Leon and Carriere address the clearly important problem of multivariate analysis for a vector response having continuous components, nominal categorical components, and ordinal categorical components. Carota considers goodness of fit tests cast in a framework of a nonparametric Bayesian alternative. And Huang, Qin and Zou investigate empirical likelihood techniques applied to mixture models in genetics.

While the articles mentioned above were handled from submission to acceptance by my predecessor Doug Wiens, the final three articles for the issue came through `on my watch.' Tong, Zhu, and Sun consider current-status data. In this situation, one gets a single look at a study unit, and can only determine whether the event-time of interest occurred prior to this look or not. This puts it in the legion of common biostatistical scenarios where the data available are much less detailed than the data we wish we had. In addition to adding to the literature on the inherent issues arising from such a data structure, these authors use two hazard ratios (short-term and long-term, glued together smoothly), rather than one, in order to quantify a treatment effect. This relaxation of proportional hazards, which allows crossing hazards for instance, seems rather nice.

PETER MACDONALD

Paul Gustafson

Jesse Frey writes on ranked set sampling. While perhaps not widely known, such sampling is applicable in situations where ranking the values (exactly, or perhaps approximately) associated with a set of m units is cheap or free compared to obtaining the actual values. The one can choose which units to measure in a deliberate fashion, particularly a fixed number of units with values distributed as the 1st order statistic out of m, a fixed number as the 2nd order-statistic, and so on. There is a considerable literature on the efficiency gains that can be achieved via ranked-set sampling, and Frey complements this by proposing distribution-free interval estimation techniques.

Finally, I am pleased to report that CJS has been seeing a number of submissions in the general area of functional data analysis. In this issue, Heng Lian considers what a reproducing kernel Hilbert space perspective brings to problems where `$y$' and `x' are functions. In addition to theoretical contributions, Lian gives an illustrative application where temperature as a function of time is used to predict precipitation as a function of time. I could not help but notice that for one of the sites considered (Prince Rupert, B.C.), the method predicts better than a `less functional' approach, but still substantially under-predicts precipitation. Having spent much of my childhood in this city, this accords exactly with my recollection: an unexplainable amount of water tends to fall from the sky!

Happy reading!

CONSULTANTS' FORUM

A Metadata Primer

Lynne C. Howarth (University of Toronto)

Editor's Note: *This article was solicited as a follow-up to Eric Woodworth's article, in the last issue of Liaison Consultant's Forum, which discussed the transition of statistical responsibilities from creators/users of data to information managers. The basic understanding of metadata and its use is key to fully participating in some of these new activities. Therefore Lynne Howarth, a researcher with expertise in metadata standards and applications, was asked to contribute on this topic as a guest (i.e. non-statistician) author. (Janet Macdougall, Editor of the Cosultant's Forum, McDougall Scientific Ltd.)*

What are metadata and where can I find them?

Metadata – or simply, data about data – reside helpfully in our midst, facilitating our human requirement to sift, sort, collocate, and choose information based on common characteristics. One familiar, even daily example of metadata is the nutrition label that is now required on most packaged food products. Knowing the nature and quantity of ingredients, such as sugar, sodium, or fats (saturated? trans?), can influence, not only our choice of product, but also our personal health and well-being, as any diabetic, hypertensive, or cholesterol-monitoring individual can attest.

Are there different types of metadata?

Metadata are normally considered to be of two types, namely, structured and unstructured. The prevalence of unstructured metadata has increased with the proliferation of digital resources, and, in particular, those posted by participants on social networking sites, such as Flikr (***www.flickr.com***), del.icio.us (***del.icio.us***), YouTube (***www.youtube.com***), LibraryThing (***www.librarything.com***), or MySpace (***www.myspace.com***) – to name but a few. The "tags" or keywords or phrases that users create to label their photos (Flikr), to identify and link to their favourite websites (del.icio.us), to provide a thumbnail summary of their videos (YouTube), to describe ("catalogue") what they are currently reading (LibraryThing), or to self-identify to friends, family, or others signed on to MySpace, are largely based on the participant's own use of language, or "natural language vocabulary". The lists of words and phrases that accumulate on these "social tagging" sites, are also known as "folksonomies" – a word

formed by concatenating "folks" (those who create the tags), and "taxonomies" – the categories or terms.

Structured metadata, relying on syntactic rules, and well-formed "controlled vocabularies", pre-date the more recent phenomenon of social bookmarking and unstructured natural language tags. Based on a common "machine-readable" syntax, such as HTML (Hypertext Markup Language), SGML (Standard Generalized Markup Language), or XML (eXtensible Markup Language), metadata schemas – a set of elements and the rules for using them – have been developed either for general purposes (*e.g.*, digital libraries or collections of digital objects, data warehouses, etc.), or for specific domain applications (*e.g.*, drug labelling [Structured Product Labelling], digital geospatial datasets, profiling biological data, electronic healthcare information [HL7][i], clinical trials data [CDISC][ii], etc.). Metadata-enabled search engines can thus retrieve by precise metatags and values, those electronic resources in which a metadata record is embedded, or to which a separately housed metadata record points.

Why create structured metadata?

Objects or concepts can be represented in a variety of ways. For example, the number, "90" could be expressed as "9 X 10", or as "ninety", or as "four score and ten", or in a text message as "9tee". Each expression is a representation of the same thing or concept; deciding on a uniform manner in which to convey that "90" will not only facilitate common understanding and interpretation, but will also allow for all "90's" to be brought together in one place with a uniform naming device. Structuring data can likewise facilitate discovery and identification. As observed in "An Introduction to Ecological Metadata Language (EML)" [iii] : "Most of us have experienced the difficulty in using our own data after only a few months have passed since it was collected. Unless data are adequately documented, this difficulty only increases over time. Even the simplest analysis requires some level of metadata." While analyses of clinical trials may occur within a proprietary environment that precludes exchange of data external to the organization, the need to access discrete or aggregated values from an expanding number of datasets stored in individual or shared drives within the organization still remains. Formalizing how the content of datasets will be described and documented consistently can not only facilitate access to particular information, whether in one or multiple datasets from the same or different originators, but can also extend the usability and lifespan of information. Likewise, "Without standards or guidelines for metadata content, if the same individual were to document another dataset, the same or different information might be included, and the format might or might not be the same. In this way, if analyses require multiple datasets from different owners, locations or times, it is unlikely that all relevant datasets would have metadata with equivalent levels of detail, use consistent terminology, or use consistent formats for metadata. The potentially infinite formats and types of information in which to document data suggest the need for metadata to be standardized."[iv] Whatever is defined and structured uniformly now will be readily identifiable and interpretable across time.

How are metadata records structured?

Depending on what is included, and the intended purpose(s) or use of the specified repository of datasets, metadata records can be structured to include elements broadly categorized as follows:

· **Administrative metadata**: "housekeeping" information about the record itself – its creation (who? when? how?), modification, relationship to other records, etc.

· **Descriptive metadata**: information describing the properties or content of a digital object or dataset.

· **Analytical metadata**: information analysing and enhancing access to the content of the dataset. Sometimes referred to as "subject metadata", elements may include controlled subject terms, subject/topic keywords, codes derived from classification systems or categorization schemes, etc.

· **Rights management metadata**: information regarding restrictions (legal; financial; etc.) on access to, or use of, particular data, or full datasets. Included are such elements as restrictions on use, permission statements, subscriber/licensing/pay-per-use fees, retention schedules, etc.

· **Technical metadata**: particular hardware or software used in converting information to a digital format, or in storing, displaying, etc. May require the use of such elements as digitizing equipment specifications, camera positions, shooting conditions, coding parameters, optical scanner specifications, etc.

· **Preservation metadata**: information pertaining to the condition of a dataset, and actions (refreshing; migration; etc.) undertaken to preserve and manage and digital data. May include such elements as, audit trail of changes and decisions, authenticity information such as technical features or custody history (who owns the dataset), responsibilities and rights information applicable to preservation actions, version control specifications, retention periods mandated by a records management program or policy, etc.

· **Structural metadata**: information describing the types, versions, relationships and other characteristics of digital objects or data, and/or their component parts.

· **Use metadata**: information relating to the level and type of use of or digital objects or data.

· **Other metadata, as determined**: particular metadata elements based on local, regional, and/or organizational requirements, or in accordance with a nationally mandated metadata standard, and not subsumed within any metadata type above.

How much (structured) metadata is enough?

Determining what metadata to include, and whether or how to structure designated elements will depend on the level of detail required for finding and re-using the dataset, and the use to which those retrieved data will be put. Useful questions to consider include:

· Which metadata elements or fields would be most useful to those who are

creating, maintaining, and/or using the repository of dataset repositories? How much detail (granularity) should those fields support?

• Are there requirements to create or share datasets among a network of collaborators? Are (additional) metadata fields required to support such cooperation?

• If the use of more than one metadata standard is envisioned or required (sharing datasets across networks), are authoritative cross-schema mappings (crosswalks) readily and immediately available to facilitate and maintain interoperability?

• Can data represented in one metadata standard be exchanged with collaborators who are using a different standard?

• How readily can one migrate from this particular metadata record structure or standard to another should data conversion be required at some time?

Few would argue, for example, with the need to structure the element, "date", and to document the format in which it was recorded – yyyy-mm-dd (ISO 8601) – one representation of year-month-day authorized by the International Standards Organization. Would a statistician wanting to revisit a dataset, or to access a dataset created by a colleague find other types of structured metadata important for ready identification? Would a record linking to a dataset, and including such elements as <creator name>, <version number>, <data of modification>, <clinical site>, <sponsoring organization>, <related dataset>, and so on facilitate the speed and accuracy of dataset retrieval? It remains with the creators and users of datasets to determine the importance and appropriate application of metadata to long-term, highly valuable, data assets essential to the work of the individual, the organization, and perhaps to a broader community of practice.

For further information and examples of metadata applications:

• Dublin Core Metadata Initiative ***dublincore.org***; in particular, "Communities and groups" ***dublincore.org/groups*** and "Tools" ***dublincore.org/tools***.

• Metadata Open Forum ***metadataopenforum.org***.

• National Biological Information Infrastructure ***dublincore.org/groups*** see link to "Metadata" under "Toolkit" ***www.nbii.gov/portal/community/Communities/Toolkit/Metadata***.

Endnotes

[i] Health Level Seven (HL7), a Standards Developing Organization (SDO), comprises, "… an international community of healthcare subject matter experts and information scientists collaborating to create standards for the exchange, management and integration of electronic healthcare information." See ***www.hl7.org***.

[ii] CDISC, the Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium, "…is an open, multidisciplinary, non-profit organization that has established worldwide industry standards to support the electronic acquisition, exchange, submission and archiving of clinical trials data and metadata for medical and biopharmaceutical product development. See ***www.cdisc.org***.

[iii] The Knowledge Network for Biodiversity (KNB). 2005? "An Introduction to Ecological Metadata Language (EML)". In EML Metadata Guide. ***knb.ecoinformatics.org/eml_metadata_guide.html***. The author wishes to acknowledge Eric Woodsworth, Biometrician, Environment Canada, for an e-mail reference to the Ecological Metadata Language (EML), that subsequently led to this paper. Tables 1-4 provide useful visual examples ranging from data with no data to standardized and structured metadata created with EML.

[iv] Ibid.

About the Author

Lynne C. Howarth, PhD, is Professor in the Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto. Teaching and research foci include metadata standards for resource discovery, the design and management of knowledge-based systems, and knowledge management applications in public and private sector organizations. Howard chairs the IFLA Working Group on Metadata Schemes. She welcomes comments at ***lynne.howarth@utoronto.ca***.

Lynne Howarth

NEWS

JSM Session Honoring J.N.K. Rao

An invited paper session titled "Topics on Sample Survey Design and Inference" was held at the Joint Statistical Meetings 2007 in Salt Lake City in honor of Professor **J. N. K. Rao**'s 70th birthday and 50 years of contributions. Professor **Sharon Lohr**, Arizona State University, Professor **Alastair Scott**, University of Auckland and Dr. **Mike Hidiroglou**,

Alastair Scott, Leyla Mohadjer, Jon N.K. Rao, Sharon Lohr, Mike Hidiroglou and Wayne Fuller

Statistics Canada gave invited talks and Professor **Wayne Fuller** was the invited discussant at this session. Professor J.N.K. Rao is a Distinguished Research Professor at Carleton University. He is an Honorary Member of SSC and received the Gold Medal of the SSC in 1993.

Québec

SSM and ASSQ Held Joint Seminar in Montréal

The Statistical Society of Montréal (SSM) and the Association des statisticiennes et des statisticiens du Québec (ASSQ) held a joint seminar in Montréal on September 28. The speaker was Dr. **Stephen J. Blumberg**, from the U.S. National Center for Health Statistics. Dr. Blumberg gave a well received talk on new biases and challenges induced by cell-phone technology in telephone surveys. Participants had lunch together at the Indian buffet Samrat prior to the talk.

Université Laval

Two postdoctoral fellows have joined the Statistics Group at Université Laval this fall. Dr. **Mohammed Haddou** was invited for a one-year visit to Québec by **Louis-Paul Rivest**. As for Dr. **Aristidis K. Nikoloulopoulos**, he is visiting **Christian Genest** until the end of 2007; he will then move to Vancouver to work with **Harry Joe** for 6 months.

Nova Scotia

Acadia University

Acadia University hosted a 6-day workshop on "High Performance Computing in the Mathematical Sciences" on July 9-14, 2007. Over 60 students and researchers from as far away as Victoria gained hands-on experience on techniques for parallel computation, as well as participating in a two-day research showcase on HPC in large-scale math models, computer experiments, and other computationally intensive problems.

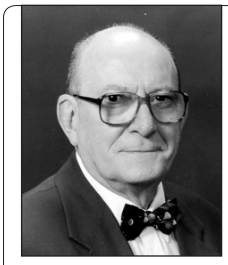
Dr. **Pritam Ranjan** has joined the Department of Mathematics and Statistics as an assistant professor on July 1, 2007. He recently completed his Ph.D. at Simon Fraser University under the supervision of Professor **Derek Bingham**.

OBITUARY

Radu Theodorescu
(1933-2007)

by Christian Genest (Université Laval; SSC President)

Professor Radu Theodorescu passed away in Québec on August 14, 2007, at the age of 74. A Professor Emeritus of Mathematics and Statistics at Université Laval, Radu was a long-standing member of the Statistical Society of Canada and an Honorary Member since 2000.



Radu Theodorescu

Radu was born in Bucharest (Romania) on April 12, 1933. The son of the famous physician Dan Theodorescu and his wife Ortensia Butoianu, Radu studied mathematics at the University of Bucharest (B.Sc., 1954; Ph.D., 1958; D.Sc., 1967). There he met Anca Florescu, whom he married. Their son Dan Jr, born in 1962, is a surgeon and a Professor of Urology at the University of Virginia. Radu divorced in 1982 and a few years later, he met Marie-José Michiels with whom he started a new life. They had two children: Paul, born in 1985, is currently a medical student at the Université de Sherbrooke; Anne, born in 1987, is studying veterinary medicine at the Université de Montréal.

After being associated for ten years with the Mathematical Institute of the Romanian Academy of Sciences, Radu became the first Director of the Industrial Statistics Section of the brand-new Mathematical Statistics Centre of the Academy in 1964. In 1968, he joined Université Laval, where he pursued a career in teaching and research until his retirement in 1999. The author or co-author of more than 160 scientific papers, Radu also wrote 13 monographs or textbooks, including *Random Processes and Learning* (1969, with Iosifescu), *Concentration Functions* (1973, with Hengartner) and *Unimodality of Probability Measures* (1997, with Bertin and Cuculescu). In addition to supervising or co-supervising many M.Sc. and Ph.D. students in Québec and elsewhere, he served the community in various capacities, notably as Vice-President of the Statistical Science Association of Canada (1972–1973) and Associate Editor for the following journals: *Optimization* (1970–2000), *Les Annales des Sciences Mathématiques du Québec* (1976–1999), *Statistics and Decisions* (1981–2003), *Revstat* (2002–2007).

Co-opted as a member of the International Statistical Institute in 1969, Radu became a fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics in 1986 and a fellow of the American Society for Quality in 1989. He was an Honorary Member of the Statistical Society of Canada and of the Statistical Society of Romania since 2000. He will be sorrowly missed.

For further details about Radu and his phenomenal career as a researcher in probability and statistics, the following are available online:

A new Honorary Member for the SSC (2000): *Liaison*, vol. 14, no 3, pp. 11-12: ***www.theodorescu.ca/Liaison1.pdf***.

Presentation of a new Professor Emeritus at Laval (2001): ***www.theodorescu.ca/Tavenas.pdf***.

A conversation with Radu Theodorescu (2004): *Liaison*, vol. 18, no 4, pp. 38-48: ***www.theodorescu.ca/Liaison2.pdf***.

Radu's academic curriculum vitae: ***www.theodorescu.ca/CV.pdf***.

Radu's list of publications: ***www.theodorescu.ca/Publications.pdf***.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA

www.careers.ualberta.ca

Tenure Track Position, Statistics and Probability

The Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences at the University of Alberta invites applications for a tenure-track position in the area of Statistics and Probability. We primarily seek candidates at the Assistant Professor level, but exceptional candidates at a more senior level will be considered.

The successful candidate will have established accomplishments and outstanding promise in research, as well as a strong commitment to graduate and undergraduate teaching. Candidates must hold a PhD degree. We offer an excellent research environment with a normal teaching load of three courses per year. A close fit with some of the existing research being presently conducted in the Department is an asset. Our Statistics and Probability group encompasses a broad spectrum of research interests, ranging from such interdisciplinary areas as Biostatistics and Environmetrics, through core research areas such as Regression, Design, Sampling and notions of Robustness and of Statistical Learning as applied to these and other areas, and on to theoretical investigations as embodied by Mathematical Statistics, Probability, and Stochastic Processes.

Alberta is one of the leading Mathematics Departments in Canada and has strong connections with other mathematical institutes, such as the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS), Mathematics of Information Technology and Complex Systems (MITACS), and the Banff International Research Station (BIRS). For more information about the Department, please visit our websites at http://www.mathstat.ualberta.ca/ and http://www.stat.ualberta.ca/.

Applications should include a curriculum vitae, a research statement, a teaching profile outlining experience and/or interests, and at least three confidential letters of reference.

The closing date for applications is November 16, 2007, or until a suitable candidate is found. Early applications are encouraged.

Interested applicants may apply to:

Arturo Pianzola, Chair
Department of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6G 2G1
Email: chairsec@mathstat.ualberta.ca

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. If suitable Canadian citizens and permanent residents cannot be found, other individuals will be considered. The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity in employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons.

University of Victoria
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Victoria invites applications for a tenure-track position in the area of Financial Mathematics, at the Assistant Professor level, to commence on 1 July, 2008.

Applicants must have a Ph.D. in Financial Mathematics, Actuarial Science, Stochastic Financial Modelling, or a related discipline, and have an outstanding research record. Excellence, or the demonstrated potential for excellence, in undergraduate and graduate teaching is required. The successful applicant must be able to interact in a research capacity with other members of Department and other interdisciplinary groups throughout the university. S/he must be able to supervise undergraduate students, graduate students and post-docs in Financial Mathematics, Actuarial Science or Stochastic Financial Modelling and be prepared to be involved with activities of the Department.

Information about the Department, including descriptions of courses offered and research areas, can be found at the website: ***http://www.math.uvic.ca/***

A completed application consists of a curriculum vitae, a teaching dossier or equivalent documentation that outlines teaching experience and effectiveness, and three confidential letters of reference. These may be submitted online at ***www.mathjobs.org*** (preferred), or by regular mail to:

Chair
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
University of Victoria
PO Box 3045 STN CSC
Victoria, B.C. V8W 3P4
CANADA
Telephone: (250) 721-7436 FAX: (250) 721-8962
E-mail: apldcomp@math.uvic.ca

The closing date for applications is **December 15, 2007**.

The University of Victoria is an equity employer and encourages applications from women, persons with disabilities, visible minorities, Aboriginal Peoples, people of all sexual orientations and genders, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of the University. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, in accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.

Bayesian Postdoc in Functional Genomics

uOttawa
L'Université canadienne
Canada's university

The new Statistical Machine Learning in Functional Genomics (Statomics) Lab of the Ottawa Institute of Systems Biology seeks a postdoctoral researcher who will, in collaboration with University of Ottawa faculty, develop and apply statistical methods to solve current problems in analyzing and integrating gene-expression, proteomics, metabolomics, SNP, ChIP-chip, and/or clinical data. At present, the lab is targeting the inference of regulatory networks from multiple sources of information and improvements in the repeatability of microarray results and will attack similar statistical challenges of importance to functional genomics. The researcher's background will complement that of any students and any postdoctoral researcher to be recruited to the Statomics Lab from the machine learning and bioinformatics communities, creating an interdisciplinary environment for high impact on the biological sciences as well as on statistics.

Scientific creativity and a thorough knowledge of Bayesian statistical theory and methods of posterior computation such as MCMC are essential, as is the demonstrated ability to quickly and accurately implement such methods in software. Strong initiative, excellent communication skills, and reception of a PhD in statistics or a closely related field within the four years prior to the start date are also absolutely necessary. The following qualities are desirable but not required: knowledge of biology; familiarly with BUGS, R, S-PLUS, C, Fortran, and/or LaTeX; experience in a UNIX or Linux environment.

To apply, send a PDF CV that has contact information of three references to ***dbickel0@uottawa.ca*** (without the zero), with "Bayesian postdoc" and the year of your graduation or anticipated graduation in the Subject line of the message; in the plaintext message body, concisely include evidence that you meet each requirement for the position and a description of your most significant papers and software packages with an explanation of your own contributions to them. Only those applicants selected for further consideration will receive a response.

Director *of the* Cryptologic Research Institute

Applications are invited for the position of **Director of the Cryptologic Research Institute (CRI)**, a new research institute of the Communications Security Establishment (CSE) to be located in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. The aim of the CRI is to bring together talented mathematicians from various disciplines to conduct fundamental research in areas of mathematics of interest to CSE.

The Director of the CRI will:

1. help recruit and then lead a team of about 25-50 academic and government staff;
2. provide a strong and innovative vision for the future growth of the CRI; and
3. liaise with other research organizations.

A successful candidate will have:

1. a proven ability to lead and inspire research groups;
2. a world renowned reputation in some aspect of mathematics, statistics, or data mining;
3. visibility within, and respect of, the mathematical community;
4. administrative experience at least equivalent to chairing a mathematical department; and
5. strong interpersonal skills.

The position is for a 3-year fixed term, running from September 2008 to September 2011, with some part time involvement from April 2008 to September 2008.

A detailed description of the Director position can be obtained by contacting Dr. Drew Vandeth at **Drew.Vandeth@cse-cst.gc.ca**.

Applicants must have Canadian, British, or American citizenship and be able to obtain a security clearance.

Please communicate interest in this position to Drew.Vandeth@cse-cst.gc.ca. Applications will receive fullest consideration if received by December 1st, 2007 and applications will remain open until the position is filled. The Communications Security Establishment subscribes to employment equity.

Directeur(trice) *de* l'Institut de recherche cryptologique

Nous acceptons les candidatures pour le poste de **directeur ou directrice de l'Institut de recherche cryptologique (IRC)**, le nouvel institut de recherche du Centre de la sécurité des télécommunications (CST) qui ouvrira ses portes à Ottawa, en Ontario (Canada). L'IRC a pour objectif de rassembler des mathématiciens de talent de diverses spécialités qui effectueront de la recherche fondamentale en mathématiques dans des domaines d'intérêt pour le CST.

Le directeur ou la directrice de l'IRC aura les tâches suivantes :

1. aider à recruter environ 25-50 universitaires ou employés du gouvernement, puis diriger cette équipe;
2. offrir une vision neuve et solide pour assurer la croissance de l'IRC dans l'avenir;
3. assurer la liaison avec d'autres organismes de recherche.

Le candidat ou la candidate idéal(e) aura les qualités suivantes :

1. capacité indiscutable de diriger et d'inspirer les groupes de recherche;
2. renommée internationale dans le domaine des mathématiques, des statistiques ou de l'exploration de données;
3. présence au sein de la communauté mathématique et respect de cette communauté;
4. expérience administrative équivalant au minimum à la direction d'un département de mathématiques;
5. grandes aptitudes interpersonnelles.

Ce poste est à durée déterminée pour trois ans ferme, allant de septembre 2008 à septembre 2011. Le candidat ou la candidate retenu(e) devra également commencer à temps partiel entre avril et septembre 2008.

Vous pouvez vous procurer une description plus détaillée de ce poste auprès de Drew Vandeth, Ph. D. à l'adresse suivante : **Drew.Vandeth@cse-cst.gc.ca**.

Les candidats et candidates doivent avoir la citoyenneté canadienne, britannique ou américaine et être admissible à une habilitation de sécurité.

Veuillez nous faire part de votre intérêt pour ce poste à l'adresse suivante : Drew.Vandeth@cse-cst.gc.ca. Les candidatures reçues avant le 1er décembre 2007 feront l'objet d'un examen approfondi. Le concours sera ouvert jusqu'à ce que le poste soit doté. Le Centre de la sécurité des télécommunications souscrit au principe d'équité en matière d'emploi.

Mathematics & Statistics Department at Queen's University

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics invites applications for two tenure-track appointments at the Assistant Professor level, one in Statistics, and the second in Probability or Statistics. The appointments will begin July 1, 2008.

Successful applicants must have a demonstrated commitment to excellence in research and the potential for research leadership. Candidates must also have the ability to excel in teaching a broad range of statistics courses and in supervising graduate students. Salary and level of appointment will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Exceptionally qualified candidates may be appointed at a higher rank. Candidates should have a Ph.D. in statistics or a related area. All areas of statistics or probability are welcome, though applicants will be assessed on the way their work will complement or enhance the existing research profile of the department. Research profiles are available at ***http://www.mast.queensu.ca/graduate/prob.php***.

Interested candidates should arrange for a curriculum vitae, a description of research interests, up to five publications or preprints, a statement on teaching or a teaching dossier, and at least four letters of reference, one of which should comment on the candidate's teaching, to be sent to the address below by **November 30, 2007**. Applications will be considered until the position is filled but priority will be given to those received before **November 30, 2007**. Further instructions are available at ***http://www.mast.queensu.ca/positions/index.php***

Leslie G. Roberts, Associate Head
Department of Mathematics and Statistics Queen's University,
Kingston Ontario K7L 3N6
e-mail: ***position@mast.queensu.ca*** ***http://www.mast.queensu.ca***
fax: (613) 533-2964

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however Canadian citizens and Permanent Residents will be given priority. The University invites applications from all qualified individuals. Queen's is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from women, visible minorities, aboriginal people, persons with disabilities and persons of any sexual orientation or gender identity. Academic staff at Queen's University are governed by a collective agreement, the details of which are posted at ***http://www.qufa.ca***.

The University of Western Ontario Department of Applied Mathematics

TENURE-STREAM FACULTY POSITION IN MATHEMATICAL FINANCE

Applications are invited for a probationary (tenure-track) faculty position at the rank of Assistant Professor in the research field of Financial Mathematics in the Department of Applied Mathematics at the University of Western Ontario (www.apmaths.uwo.ca). A researcher in any area of financial mathematics with demonstrated or potential excellence in research and teaching is sought to complement the existing strengths of the research group in financial mathematics, both within the Department and within our sister Department of Statistical & Actuarial Sciences. Industrial experience or contacts are an asset. The starting date will be July 1 2008 or thereafter.

The position will entail active participation in the activities and service of the Department of Applied Mathematics, including the supervision of graduate students and teaching at the graduate and undergraduate levels. To ensure full consideration, applications should be received prior to **January 15 2008**. Applications should include a curriculum vita or resume, a short research proposal, and names of three references. Address applications to:

Dr. David Jeffrey, Acting Chair
Department of Applied Mathematics
The University of Western Ontario
London, Ontario N6A 5B7, Canada
email: ***pmalone@uwo.ca***

This position is subject to budgetary approval. Applicants should have fluent writing and oral communication skills in English. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. However, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. The University of Western Ontario is committed to employment equity and welcomes applications from all qualified women and men including visible minorities, aboriginal people, and persons with disabilities.

Department of Mathematics & Statistics
College of Arts and Science
University of Saskatchewan
Tenure-Track Position in Statistics

The Department of Mathematics & Statistics in the College of Arts and Science at the University of Saskatchewan invites applications for a tenure-track position in the area of Statistics (code: ST08) at the Assistant Professor level effective July 1, 2008.

The department is seeking candidates with established accomplishments and outstanding promise of research in Genetic or Spatial Statistics (including specializations such as genomics, micro array analysis, genetic epidemiology, pedigree analysis, image analysis, spatial processes, and morphometrics). Applicants must have a doctoral degree in Statistics and demonstrate excellence or promise of excellence in teaching mathematical and applied statistics courses at all levels. Accreditation by a national statistical organization will be considered an asset. The successful candidate will be expected to develop a vigorous, externally-funded research program and to supervise graduate students. For more information on the Department of Mathematics and Statistics and its research activities, see URL ***http://math.usask.ca/***

Application material must include the candidate's Curriculum Vitae and list of publications. Applicants should also arrange for at least three letters of reference to be sent directly from their referees. At least one letter of reference should include a detailed comment on the teaching abilities of the applicant. Candidates are also encouraged to supply a research statement and a teaching statement. Candidates must include a cover letter specifying that they are applying for position code ST08 and indicate if they are a Canadian citizen/permanent resident.

Dr. Raj Srinivasan, Head
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
University of Saskatchewan
106 Wiggins Road
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E6
Email: ***mathstat_search@math.usask.ca***

Closing date for receipt of applications is **January 15, 2008**.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority. In accordance with the University's Employment Equity Policy, the department welcomes applications from all qualified candidates. Women, people of aboriginal descent, members of visible minorities, and people with disabilities are invited to identify themselves as members of these designated groups on their applications.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statistical Society of Canada

Financial Statements
December 31, 2006

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Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton

Raymond Chabot, Grant Thornton S.E.N.C. Comptables agréés

Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton LLP Chartered Accountants

Auditors' Report

To the Members of
Statistical Society of Canada

We have audited the statement of financial position of Statistical Society of Canada as at December 31, 2006 and the statements of operations and changes in fund balances for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Society's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, the Society derives revenue from memberships, subscriptions and donations, the completeness of which are not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Society and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to revenue, excess of revenue over expenses, current assets and fund balances.

In addition, the Society records short-term investments at market rather than at cost. Canadian generally accepted accounting principles require that such investments are recorded at cost less any permanent decline in value. The effects of this departure from Canadian generally accepted accounting principles on the accompanying financial statements have not been determined.

In our opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which we might have determined to be necessary concerning the completeness of revenue and the valuation of short-term investments referred to in the preceeding paragraphs, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Society as at December 31, 2006 and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in accordance with the Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton LLP

Chartered Accountants,
Licensed Public Accountants

Ottawa, Canada
June 18, 2007

2505 Saint-Laurent
Ottawa, ON K1G 6E7
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Fax: (613) 236-8041
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Statistical Society of Canada
Operations
Year ended December 31, 2006

	General Fund	Biostatistics Section	Business and Industry Section	Survey Methods Section	Canadian Journal of Statistics	Probability Section	2006 Total	2005 Total
	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
Revenue								
Annual meeting - general	184,571						184,571	110,778
Annual meeting - grants	10,000						10,000	15,000
Society memberships and subscriptions	14,227						14,227	11,248
Donations	444						444	952
Investment income	8,106	451		1			8,558	7,084
Liaison advertising	16,360						16,360	12,336
Other liaison revenue					18,113		18,113	
Membership fees	74,117	919	300	304		300	75,891	75,153
Workshop		5,905	550	1,110			7,465	8,125
Accreditation	5,795						5,795	11,795
Copyright fees					228		228	454
Page charges					12,614		12,614	10,947
SSC membership levy					9,081		9,081	9,078
Subscription					80,136		80,136	126,656
	291,620	7,166	910	1,585	120,172	300	429,440	379,777
Expenses								
Annual meeting - specialism	19,483			694			19,483	29,328
Annual meeting - other	122,540						122,540	75,173
Liaison and production costs	34,073				1,774		42,847	33,923
Workshop		3,366	850	545			4,761	7,659
Youth science fair	1,500	1,000					2,500	3,500
Administration (Note 5)	23,199				4,781		27,980	28,215
Committee and Board (Note 6)	6,324	444					6,768	8,517
Other expenses (Note 8)	21,582	3,600	560	1,972	1,804		29,518	29,560
Permanent staff (Note 6)	48,827	1,465			24,720		75,032	64,106
Subcontractors					50,722		50,722	55,809
Mailing service					11,795		11,795	8,494
	276,507	9,205	1,410	3,316	105,796		396,478	365,510
	15,113	(2,119)	(500)	(1,063)	14,376	300	31,067	3,487
Other revenues (Note 10)	8,525				1,695		12,860	6,393
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	23,638	(2,119)	(500)	(1,063)	21,071	300	43,927	9,880

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Statistical Society of Canada
Changes in Fund Balances
Year ended December 31, 2006

	General Fund	Biostatistics Section	Business and Industry Section	Survey Methods Section	Canadian Journal of Statistics	Probability Section	2006 Total	2005 Total
	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
Balance, beginning of year	158,791	32,865	3,959	14,561	71,316		281,494	271,914
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	23,638	(2,119)	(500)	(1,063)	23,071	300	43,827	9,580
Balance, end of year	182,429	30,746	3,459	13,498	94,389	300	325,021	281,494

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Statistical Society of Canada
Financial Position
December 31, 2006

	General Fund	Biostatistics Section	Business and Industry Section	Survey Methods Section	Canadian Journal of Statistics	Probability Section	2006 Total	2005 Total
	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
ASSETS								
Current assets								
Cash	85,422	19,522	4,054	13,091	82,335	250	204,684	180,740
Short-term investments	158,008	10,000					168,008	160,000
Accounts receivable	14,818				19,472		34,290	9,192
Prepaid expenses	1,070				4,007		5,127	3,577
	259,318	29,522	4,054	13,091	105,884	250	412,109	353,411
LIABILITIES								
Current liabilities								
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	35,113				14,248		49,361	40,606
Deferred revenue (Note 3)	23,544				14,183		37,727	21,311
Interfund balances	19,032	(1,224)	595	(407)	(16,356)	(40)		
	76,689	(1,224)	595	(407)	11,475	(40)	87,088	61,917
FUND BALANCES	182,629	30,746	3,459	13,498	94,389	300	325,021	291,494
	259,318	29,522	4,054	13,091	105,864	260	412,109	353,411

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

On behalf of the Board,

Director

Director

Statistical Society of Canada
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2006

1 - GOVERNING STATUTES AND PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Statistical Society of Canada is a not-for-profit organization incorporated without share capital pursuant to the provisions of the Canada Business Corporations Act on May 18, 1972, and is not subject to income tax. The purpose of the Society is to provide support in research and education relating to pure and applied statistics and includes the quarterly publication of its newsletter and journal, and conducting symposia and conferences on specific topics in statistical sciences.

2 - ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recorded in the financial statements and notes to financial statements. These estimates are based on management's best knowledge of current events and actions that the Society may undertake in the future. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Fund accounting

The Society follows the restricted fund method of accounting for all revenues.

Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses relating to daily operations are reported in the General Fund.

Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses related to the research and development of statistical biology are reported in the Biostatistics Section.

Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses related to the research and development of business and industry statistics are reported in the Business and Industry Section.

Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses related to the research and development of survey methodology are reported in the Survey Methods Section.

Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses related to the publication of the Canadian Journal of Statistics are reported in the Canadian Journal of Statistics.

Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses related to the research and development of probability theory are reported in the Probability Section.

Revenue recognition

The Society follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions and subscriptions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year which the related expenses are incurred. Investment income is recognized when it is earned.

Statistical Society of Canada
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2006

2 - ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Short-term investments

Short-term investments are recorded at market value.

Foreign currency translation

Revenues and expenses are translated at the rate of exchange in effect on the day of the transaction. Exchange gains or losses are included in the determination of the statement of revenues and expenses. Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency are translated at exchange rate in effect at the balance sheet date.

3 - DEFERRED REVENUE

	2006	2005
	$	$
Beginning balance	21,311	200
Less amount recognized as revenue in the year	(21,311)	(200)
Add amounts received related to next year	37,727	21,311
Ending balance	37,727	21,311

4 - STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

No statement of cash flows has been presented since principal operating, investing and financing activities may be readily apparent from the other financial statements and presenting such a statement would provide no additional information.

5 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The following methods and assumptions were used to determine the estimated fair value of each class of financial instruments.

Short-term financial instruments

The fair value of short-term financial assets and liabilities approximate their carrying amount given that they will mature shortly. It is management's opinion that the Society is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risk arising from these financial instruments.

Statistical Society of Canada
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2006

6 - SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

	General Fund	Biostatistics Section	Business and Industry Section	Survey Methods Section	Canadian Journal of Statistics	Probability Section	2006 Total	2005 Total
	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
OTHER REVENUES								
Foreign exchange gain (loss)	(434)				(104)		(538)	(1,183)
Goods and services tax recoverable	3,207				3,799		7,006	5,179
Joint statistical meeting	2,576						2,576	1,701
Miscellaneous	3,476						3,476	369
	8,825				3,695		12,520	6,063
ADMINISTRATION								
Bank charges and interest	1,521				153		1,674	2,430
COPSS dues	186						186	180
ISI dues								240
Insurance	2,387						2,387	2,335
Society memberships and subscriptions	14,227						14,227	11,248
Other dues	140						140	520
Professional fees	4,639				4,638		9,276	9,222
Legal fees								90
	23,100				4,791		27,909	26,213
COMMITTEE AND BOARD								
Board and executive meetings	3,730						3,730	3,495
Board and executive travel	2,310	444					2,754	5,486
Committee / President	284						284	514
	6,324	444					6,768	9,507

Statistical Society of Canada
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2006

6 - SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (Continued)

	General Fund	Biostatistics Section	Business and Industry Section	Survey Methods Section	Canadian Journal of Statistics	Probability Section	2006 Total	2005 Total
	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
OTHER EXPENSES								
Awards	3,425	3,000	500	1,000			7,925	7,579
Joint statistical meeting	2,710						2,710	2,924
Miscellaneous	2,071		60	2			2,133	4,242
Publicity and membership	1,885						1,885	2,633
Website	2,321						2,321	2,130
Electronic publishing					3,834		3,834	3,500
Accreditation - legal	1,752						1,752	1,197
Accreditation - office	1,406						1,406	1,475
Accreditation - other	3,443						3,443	1,359
Aus-Can Program	2,589						2,589	
	21,582	3,000	560	1,002	3,834		29,979	26,960
PERMANENT OFFICE								
Administrative services	44,459						44,459	54,956
Courier								129
Miscellaneous	30				139		169	614
Postage	119						119	292
Printing					24,581		24,581	35,130
SSC rentals	4,219	1,485					5,704	4,923
Telephone								22
	48,827	1,485			24,720		75,032	94,196

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