



Washington Statistical Society

Area Meetings and Courses for October 2008

2 Thursday. **Estimation of Death Rates in US States with Small Subpopulations.** *Anastasia Voulgaraki, University of Maryland.* 3:30 pm. Room 1313 Math Bldg, University of Maryland, College Park. For information see www.math.umd.edu/statistics/seminar.shtml. University of Maryland, Department of Mathematics, Statistics Seminar.

3 Friday. **Using Negative Binomial Models for the Analysis of Counts.** *Instructor: Joseph Hilbe, University of Hawaii.* LearnSTAT short course. 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. ASA Office, 732 North Washington Street Alexandria, VA. Fees: \$245 students, \$295 ASA members, \$345 others. For information see [//www.amstat.org/education/learnstat/index.cfm?fuseaction=unbmac](http://www.amstat.org/education/learnstat/index.cfm?fuseaction=unbmac).

3 Friday. **Information-Theoretic and Entropy Methods of Estimation.** *Speaker: Amos Golan, American University.* 11:00 am -12:00 noon, refreshments at 10:30 am. Duques 652, (2201 G Street, NW). George Washington University. For information see www.gwu.edu/~stat/seminar.htm. The Institute for Integrating Statistics in Decision Sciences and Department of Statistics Seminar Series.

7 Tuesday. **Statistical Policy Issues Arising in Carrying out the Requirements of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003.** *Speaker: Allen Beck, Bureau of Justice Statistics.* Discussant: Hermann Habermann, former Director, U.N. Statistics Division and former Deputy Director, U.S. Census Bureau. Chair: Shelly Wilkie Martinez, U.S. Office of Management and Budget. 12:30 - 2:00 pm. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Conference Center. See BLS notice below. Sponsor: WSS Public Policy Section.

8 Wednesday. **An Introduction to Using GIS for Geostatistical Analysis.** *Speaker: Kathleen Hancock, Virginia Tech.* 12:30 to 2:00 pm. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Training Center, Room 10. See BLS notice below. Sponsor: Interagency Council on Statistical Policy.

9,10 Thursday, Friday. **The Concept of Validity: Revisions, New Directions and Applications.** Ninth Annual Maryland Assessment Conference. *Various Speakers.* 7:30 am – 5:30 pm. Grand Ballroom, Stamp Student Union, University of Maryland, College Park. Registration: \$125. For information see <http://marces.org/conference/validity/08main.htm>. Sponsors: Maryland State Department of Education and Maryland Assessment Research Center for Education Success.

10 Friday. **Statistical Modelling in Trans-study Projection of Genomic Signatures.** *Speaker: Mike West, Duke University.* 10:00 am (refreshments at 9:45 am), Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, 3900 Reservoir Rd., NW, Research Building, Conference Room E501. For information see dbbb.georgetown.edu/seminar/fall2008/. Department of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics, and Biomathematics Seminar Series.

Notice about Seminars at the Bureau of Labor Statistics

To be placed on the visitors list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to godbolt.stella@bls.gov at least 2 days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-6782. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.

15 Wednesday. **Survival Models in SAS: PROC PHREG Part 4.** *Speaker: Charlie Hallahan.* SIGSTAT Meeting. 12:00 to 1:00 pm. Room S3031, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 1800 M St, NW. First-time attendees contact Charlie Hallahan, 202-694-5051, hallahan@ers.usda.gov. For details see www.pcug.org/user/sig.

15 Wednesday. **Greenhouse, White House, and Statistics: The Use of Statistics in Environmental Decision Making.** *Speaker: Barry D. Nussbaum, EPA.* Chair: Mel Kollander. 12:30 - 1:30 pm. Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center. See BLS notice below. Sponsor: WSS Agriculture and Natural Resources Section.

16 Thursday. **Efficient Parameterization of PDE-Based Dynamics for Spatio-Temporal Processes.** *Speaker: Ali Arab, Georgetown University.* 3:30 pm. Room 1313 Math Bldg, University of Maryland, College Park. For information see www.math.umd.edu/statistics/seminar.shtml. University of Maryland, Department of Mathematics, Statistics Seminar.

22 Wednesday. **NORC Data Enclave.** *Speakers: Chet Bowie and Tim Mulcahy, National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago.* Chair: Jeri M. Mulrow, National Science Foundation. 12:30 - 2:00 pm. Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center. See BLS notice below. Sponsor: ICSP Innovation Working Group.

23, 24 Thursday, Friday. **Introduction to Survey Management.** *Instructor: Michael F. Weeks, RTI International.* Joint Program in Survey Methodology Short Course. 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. The Inn and Conference Center, Adelphi, MD. Fees: \$600 staff at sponsoring agencies or affiliates and full time students, \$810 others. For

information see http://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=102308.

23 Thursday. **The Increasing Difficulty of Obtaining Personal Interviews in the United States Ever Changing Social Environment.** *Speaker: William Wayne Hatcher, U. S. Bureau of the Census.* Discussant: Terry P. O'Connor, National Agricultural Statistics Service/USDA. Chair: Marilyn Worthy, Energy Information Administration. 12:30 - 2:00 pm. Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Room 7. See BLS notice below. Sponsors: WSS Data Collection Methods and DC-AAPOR.

24 Friday. **H-CLAP: Hierarchical Clustering within a Linear Array with an application in Genetics.** *Speaker: Samiran Ghosh, Indiana University.* 10:00 am (refreshments at 9:45 am), Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center, 3900 Reservoir Rd., NW, Research Building, Conference Room E501. For information see dbbb.georgetown.edu/seminar/fall2008/. Department of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics, and Biomathematics Seminar Series.

24 Friday. **Usability of Electronic Voting and Public Opinion about the New Technology.** *Speakers: Frederick Conrad and Michael Traugott, University of Michigan.* Chair: Brian Meekins, Bureau of Labor Statistics. 2:00 - 3:30 pm. Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center. See BLS notice below. Sponsor: Methodology Program, WSS and D.C. AAPOR.

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28 Tuesday. **The Federal Statistical System: Is It Stronger Now Than It Was Eight Years Ago?**

Speaker: Louis Kincannon, former director of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Discussants: Janet Norwood and Robert Parker. 18th Annual Morris Hansen Lecture. 3:30 pm. Jefferson Auditorium, Department of Agriculture South Building, Independence Avenue SW, between 12th and 14th Street. Pre-register on line at www.nass.usda.gov/morrishansen/. Sponsors: Washington Statistical Society, Westat, and the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

28, 29 Tuesday, Wednesday. **Fifth Symposium on Frontiers of Statistical, Mathematical and Computational Science.** *Various Speakers.* 9:00 – 4:30 pm. Room 651 Duques Hall, The George Washington University, 2201 G St, Washington, DC. No charge for registration. E-mail

jchandra@gwu.edu for information or see www.gwu.edu/~stat/smcs5.htm. Partially sponsored by the Army Research Office, and hosted by the Institute for Reliability and Risk Analysis (IRRA) in the Statistics Department, and the Institute for Integrating Statistics in Decision Sciences, the Department of Decision Sciences, the George Washington University.

30 Thursday. **Mixture Models for Document Clustering.** *Speaker: Edward J. Wegman, George Mason University.* 3:30 pm. Room 1313 Math Bldg, University of Maryland, College Park. For information see www.math.umd.edu/statistics/seminar.shtml. University of Maryland, Department of Mathematics, Statistics Seminar.

17, 18 Monday, Tuesday. **Creating and Updating Price Indexes: Theory and Practice.** *Instructors: Dennis Fixler, Bureau of Economic Analysis and Richard Valliant, University of Maryland.* Joint Program in Survey Methodology Short Course. 8:00 am – 4:30 pm. The Inn and Conference Center, Adelphi, MD. Fees: \$600 staff at sponsoring agencies or affiliates and full time students, \$810 others. For information see http://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/html_content.cfm?CourseID=111708.

18 Tuesday. **Introduction to Bayesian Methods for Data Analysis.** *Instructor: Brad Carlin, University of Minnesota.* Washington Statistical Society Short Course. 9:00 am – 4:30 pm. Hilton Crystal City at Washington Reagan National Airport, 2399 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia. Fees: \$30 full time students, \$165 others. Registration by November 10 available online at www.123signup.com/register?id=zgqyf. For information see www.123signup.com/event?id=zgqyf or contact Sylvia Dohrmann, SylviaDohrmann@westat.com.

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