



The Y-Distribution

See you in Toronto!!



From the Chair

The academic year of 03-04 has been busy with change and growth taking place in the department.

The year has been productive in research and teaching with several faculty receiving university recognition for their contributions. We hired three temporary faculty to help with increasing enrollments in both service and major courses. We signed a contract with W. H. Freeman Publishers to provide our Stat 221 computer-based teaching modules based on Moore's *Basic Practice of Statistics, 3rd Edition*. The complete set of 84 Quick Time movie lessons were submitted on June 1, 2004 and will be included in the distribution of the text for this fall's use. We are seeking applicants for three full-time permanent tenure-track positions with a start date of September 2005. For details see <https://jobs.byu.edu>

We are trying another approach to our annual open house for Friends and Alumni of BYU in Toronto by sponsoring a breakfast on Tuesday morning. We have also included information about LDS Church services and travel instructions for those interested in attending on Sunday, Aug. 8, 2004.

We also want to know the interest of alumni about Homecoming Week and its activities, scheduled for the week of October 11, 2004. Would you alert us to plans you might have to attend this year or in future years? Please share your plans with us by sending an email to statsec@statmail.byu.edu, by regular mail to Kathi Carter, Brigham Young University, Department of Statistics, 230 TMCB, Provo, UT 84602, or by phoning us at (801) 422-4505.

-Howard Christensen, Chair

E-mail Addresses

We would like to do more communicating by email. It would allow us to contact you on a more frequent basis concerning issues we hope you would be interested in. To join the list, send an email to statsec@statmail.byu.edu with the subject line: Newsletter Email List and we will put you on our email list for future communications.

ASA/JSM Toronto Open House

We invite you to join us Tuesday morning, August 10, 2004 from 7:30-9:00 a.m. for a **BYU Alumni and Friends Breakfast Social** sponsored by the department. We will meet in the Humber Room of the InterContinental Toronto Centre, located at 225 Front Street West. A light breakfast will be served. We look forward to seeing you early Tuesday!

Attending LDS Services in Toronto

Church services at the Toronto Ward, 851 Ossington Avenue, are held from 9:30a.m.-12:30 p.m. with Sacrament service first.



The chapel is accessible by subway by getting on the Yellow line at Union Station on 55 Front Street. Tickets can be purchased at the ticket counter starting at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday or with exact change at a cost of \$2.25 for a one-way ticket.

Since you will be switching lines it will be necessary that you get a free transfer when you buy your ticket. Catch the subway at Union station at 9:09 a.m., traveling north to 'Downsview'. Transfer at 'Spadina' to the Green line (Bloor/Danforth) traveling west to 'Kipling'. Get off at 'Ossington'. From the subway stop walk a block north and the Church will be on the corner. For additional information go to

<http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/ttc/>.

Summer Institute of Applied Statistics



The 29th Annual Summer Institute of Applied Statistics sponsored by Brigham Young University was held on June 16-18, 2004. Dr. David Higdon, Technical Staff Member in the Statistical Sciences Group at Los Alamos National Laboratory, presented a seminar on "Spatial Modeling." The workshop developed approaches for modeling processes with spatial dependence. The course was devoted to model development, estimation, and inference, with particular emphasis given to Bayesian approaches.

The attendees were drawn in equal parts from inside and outside the BYU community. For our Summer Institute in 2005 Dr. David Draper, chair of the Department of Applied Mathematics and Statistics at the University of California, Santa Cruz, will be presenting. Make your plans now to join us.

New Faculty

We are pleased to have three temporary faculty members (Paul Fields, Erin Galbraith, and Rebecca Nichols) and two part-time faculty (Dennis Maynes and Dan Williams) assisting primarily with our

service courses and the Stat 221 development. They have been a valuable addition to our department.

University Recognition



H. Dennis Tolley was given a Karl G. Maeser Research and Creative Arts Award in August of 2003. The award honors faculty for outstanding research and creative accomplishments. His peers describe him as "an outstanding example of what a university researcher should be and exemplary in his blending of intellect with spiritual insight."

Bruce J. Collings was named an Alcuin Fellow in August of 2003. The award recognizes outstanding teacher-scholars whose work at the university transcends the limits of their disciplines and who have made significant contributions to the general education and honors curriculum.



Chair's Outstanding Paper Award



The Department of Statistics Scholarship and Award Committee recognized as the Chair's Outstanding Paper Award "Hierarchical Models for Permutations: Analysis of Auto Racing Results." By Todd Graves, **C. Shane Reese**, and Mark Fitzgerald found in the June 2003 issue of the *JASA*. The paper was recognized for its outstanding contribution to Statistical Science and the Application of statistical rigor to sports. The paper proposes a Bayesian hierarchical model for the race finish order using a permutation model, which is an extension of the Bradley-Terry model for head-to-head comparisons. We congratulate Shane on receiving this award.

Faculty Special Recognitions

In a paper recently accepted by *Atmospheric Environment*, **William Christensen** describes a method he has developed that appears to help identify

with greater accuracy which pollutants are contributing to air pollution. He refers to it as a simple modification of "weighted least squares," and its aim is to help unravel the contribution of individual pollutants to total air pollution. The Daily Herald, Y-News, and KBYU News recently featured his new method.

Paul Fields was appointed Senior Research Fellow by the Windward Island Research and Education Foundation located at Saint George's University School of Medicine in Grenada.

Faculty Presentation

Patti Collings participated on an invited panel discussion with Bob Johnson from the Steering Committee of the Beyond the Formula 2003 Conference, July 24-25, at Monroe College in Rochester, New York. Also, Patti and **Lynne Nielsen**, joined to teach the statistics portion of a workshop at the Intermountain West AP Institute at the University of Utah on August 4-8.

Editorial Assignments

Bruce Schaalje is on the editorial board of the journal, *Biocontrol Science and Technology*. **Shane Reese** is serving as Associate Editor of *Communications in Statistics* and was just named as an associate Editor of *Technometrics*. **Patti Collings** is an editor of *STATS-The Magazine for Students of Statistics*.

Mission Call

Alvin C. Rencher and his wife, **LaRue**, are serving a full-time mission in the Mexico, Mexico City East Mission. Correspondence can be sent to them at the following address: Pouch, Mexico, Mexico City East Mission, POB 30150, Salt Lake City, UT 84130-0150.



Former Students Excel

James E. Duarte has been named a Fellow for the American Society for Quality. This is one of the highest honors ASQ can bestow on its members. He was recognized for inspiring and leading local sections to better serve their membership.

James (J.D.) Williams was awarded the Mary Natrella Scholarship because of service to the statistical profession through mentoring, teaching, professional service, leadership, and community service. Virginia Tech also named him most outstanding graduate student in the College of Sciences for 2003.

Undergraduate Mentoring Projects

In recent years BYU has encouraged faculty members to involve undergraduate students in research. The Statistics Department at BYU has supported this effort. Our goal has been to define and involve undergraduate students in projects that are realistic, important and instructive.

Homecoming Honored Alumni Lecture

This year the Department of Statistics nominated **Dr. Michael R. Kosorok** as the Honored Alumni Lecturer for the College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences. Dr. Kosorok will be speaking during Homecoming Week on October 14, 2004 at 11:00 a.m. in 1170 TMCB.

Internships

We continue to get positive feedback from many organizations that presently have our students working for them as interns. If you know of any internship opportunities in which our students can be involved, please e-mail the details to statsec@statmail.byu.edu.

Important Email and Web Pages

- Student Resumes: <http://statistics.byu.edu/resumes/>
- Address update: http://statweb.byu.edu/resources/address_change.html
- Faculty Positions: <http://yjobs.byu.edu>
- Department Web page: <http://statweb.byu.edu/>