

**Chicago Chapter of the American Statistical Association
Luncheon Announcement
Noon - 1:00 PM
September 26, 2006
The East Bank Club**

Please join us for the beginning of the Chicago Chapter's Tuesday Luncheon program.

Our first speaker is Mike Schoeny, UIC. His topic is *Using Spatial Statistics in Social Research: Issues in Modeling Community and Neighborhood Characteristics*.

Abstract

Ecological models of development emphasize the importance of environmental influences on human development. In addition to family and school, the neighborhood is a critical context for understanding youth development. In recent years, there has become increasing access to archival data that describe neighborhood contexts (e.g., online census and police data). The focus of this presentation will be to highlight some of the issues with using archival data to study individual development. Topics to be covered include defining neighborhoods, integrating data that use different geographic units (e.g., census tracts vs. police districts/beats), and combining geographic data with data from other ecological units such as schools and families.

Next month, on October 24, we are having two speakers from STATCOM, Gayla Olbright and Amy Watkins to give a talk on volunteer work for statisticians—so save the date of that luncheon as well. Although most luncheons will be at the East Bank Club, the October luncheon will not be. This luncheon will be at Costa's at Halsted and Van Buren. Please check our website (www.chicagoasa.org) for the latest information.

Plans for our future luncheons will be included in our upcoming announcements. Contact Lou Fogg, VP for Luncheons—phone 312-942-6239, email: louis_fogg@rush.edu.

2006 Statistician of the Year Award

6:00 PM, November 14, 2006
The East Bank Club
500 N Kingsbury, Chicago, Illinois

The Chicago Chapter of the American Statistical Association is pleased to announce William Q. Meeker as the 2006 Statistician of the Year. The Chapter's Statistician of the Year is selected by a vote of past honorees, all of whom are internationally renowned members of the statistical community. Selection as a Chicago Chapter Statistician of the Year is a very significant honor.

Please help us welcome William Meeker into this select community at our Chapter dinner, November 14, 2006, at the East Bank Club, at which he will accept the award and make a presentation to the Chapter on "Reliability Data Analysis Examples."

William Meeker is a Professor of Statistics and Distinguished Professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Iowa State University. He is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association, an elected member of the International Statistical Institute, and a past Editor of *Technometrics*. He is co-author of the books *Statistical Methods for Reliability Data* with Luis Escobar (1998), and *Statistical Intervals: A Guide for Practitioners* with Gerald Hahn (1991), four book chapters, and of numerous publications in the engineering and statistical literature. He and his co-authors have won the American

Society for Quality (ASQ) Youden prize four times and the ASQ Wilcoxon Prize three times. In 2001, he and his co-author were recognized by the American Statistical Association for the Best Practical Application Award. He has consulted extensively on problems in reliability data analysis, reliability test planning, accelerated testing, nondestructive evaluation, and statistical computing.

Reliability assurance processes in manufacturing industries require data-driven information for making product-development decisions. Life tests, accelerated life tests, and accelerated degradation tests are commonly used to collect reliability data. Data from products in the field provide another important source of useful reliability information. Due to complications like censoring, these reliability studies typically yield data that require special statistical methods. This presentation will describe graphical outputs of the analyses of five different applications in the area of product reliability. Methods used in the analyses include Weibull and lognormal analysis, analysis of data with multiple failure modes, and the analysis of accelerated test data.

The dinner will be held at the East Bank Club, 500 N Kingsbury, Chicago. Registration will begin at 6 p.m.; dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. To make reservations, please complete the form below and mail with payment as directed. The cost of the dinner is \$55 for ASA Chicago Chapter members and \$60 for non-members.

Students who want to attend the dinner, but who have limited financial resources may apply for a Lucille Derrick fund subsidy of their registration fee. Please contact Jerry Enenstein if you would like to file for the student subsidy.

Reservations for November 14, 2006 Statistician of the Year Dinner

Name _____ Title _____

Business/ School Affiliation _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone # _____

email address _____

Number of Reservations:

- _____ @ \$55: for Chicago ASA Members
_____ @ \$60: for non-Chicago ASA Members

Send a check for the appropriate registration fee payable to
"Chicago Chapter ASA" to
Chicago ASA SOY Dinner
c/o Jerry Enenstein
222 Main Street
Evanston, IL 60602

If you would like to pay by Visa or MasterCard, please contact Jerry Enenstein at (847) 475-4403
or via e-mail at JEResearch@ameritech.net

Statistical Computing and Statistical Graphics Sections American Statistical Association Student Paper Competition 2007

The Statistical Computing and Statistical Graphics Sections of the ASA are co-sponsoring a student paper competition on the topics of Statistical Computing and Statistical Graphics. Students are encouraged to submit a paper in one of these areas, which might be original methodological research, some novel computing or graphical application in statistics, or any other suitable contribution (for example, a software-related project). The selected winners will present their papers in a topic-contributed session at the 2007 Joint Statistical Meetings. The Sections will pay registration fees for the winners as well as a substantial allowance for transportation to the meetings and lodging (which in most cases covers these expenses completely).

Anyone who is a student (graduate or undergraduate) on or after September 1, 2006 is eligible to participate. An entry must include an abstract, a six page manuscript (including figures, tables and references), a blinded version of the manuscript (with no authors and no references that easily lead to identifying the authors), a C.V., and a letter from a faculty member familiar with the student's work. The applicant must be the first author of the paper. The faculty letter must include a verification of the applicant's student status and, in the case of joint authorship, should indicate what fraction of the contribution is attributable to the applicant. We prefer that electronic submissions of papers be in Postscript or PDF. All materials must be in English.

All application materials **MUST BE RECEIVED** by 5:00 PM EST, Monday, December 18, 2006 at the address below. They will be reviewed by the Student Paper Competition Award committee of the Statistical Computing and Graphics Sections. The selection criteria used by the committee will include innovation and significance of the contribution. Award announcements will be made in late January, 2007.

Additional important information on the competition can be accessed on the website of the Statistical Computing Section, www.statcomputing.org. A current pointer to the website is available from the ASA website at www.amstat.org. Inquiries and application materials should be emailed or mailed to:

Student Paper Competition
c/o J.R. Lockwood
The RAND Corporation
4570 Fifth Avenue, Suite 600
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
lockwood@rand.org

Parameter to be distributed electronically

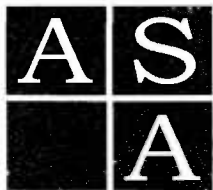
This is the last year that we will distribute our newsletter *Parameter* to all members. We will transition this year to an electronic newsletter to communicate with friends and members. Please help us with this effort.

Visit us at www.chicagoasa.org and enter your email address in the top right. This will place your address in our records for an electronic version of the *Parameter* and other pertinent announcements. Email notices have already been sent regarding the September Luncheon. Although we will distribute the paper

version of the *Parameter* through May, an electronic version will be also issued soon.

If you wish to receive our communications by mail beyond May 2007, we will print and mail a copy to you each month. Send your name and address, with a note saying you wish a paper copy of the *Parameter* to:

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P.O. Box 7529
Chicago, IL 60680



**AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION
CHICAGO CHAPTER**

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PARAMETER, newsletter of the Chicago Chapter of the American Statistical Association, is published 10 times a year as a service to its members. To submit material for publication, contact the Editor, Steve Maguire, email: communications@chicagoasa.org

PARAMETER provides a job listing service by publishing Positions Available and Positions Wanted, the latter being free to Chapter members. Contact the Editor for more information.

For additional information about Chicago Chapter ASA, please visit our World Wide Web site www.ChicagoASA.org. Also, visit the National ASA web site www.amstat.org.

Email change of address to:
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