

DEPT OF STATISTICAL SCIENCE AT SMU

2011 REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2011

This is an exciting time at SMU. On the university level we are beginning the Second Centennial Celebration which is a five year celebration of SMU's centennial. SMU was founded in 1911 and opened in 1915. The university is in the midst of a \$750 million capital campaign, which I am guessing you have heard about. Also the Bush Library is beginning to take shape. At the Dedman College level, we have had 5 deans in the past 6 years (it's a long story – don't get me started). However, the new dean, William Tsutui, seems like a keeper. Bill is a Japanese historian, and one of his claims to fame is his book *Godzilla on my Mind*. We're looking forward to new initiatives ... that involve statistics. We (except for Bill and Carol) are saddened to see Bill Schucany's retirement after 41 years on the faculty. He will certainly be missed and will be impossible to replace. (see pages 3-4 for more on this). Of the 10 faculty members in 1991 (20 years ago) only Dick Gunst and Wayne Woodward remain.

The quality of the department (except for the aforementioned Gunst and Woodward) remains high. As mentioned in the previous report, Ron Butler is the new holder of the C.F. Frensley Chair (previously held by Buddy Gray), and we are very pleased that he is here. In 2006 our department had four untenured assistant professors: Monnie McGee, Tony Ng, Sherry Wang, and Jing Cao. At that time we believed that this was a talented group, and we have been proven to be correct. As was reported in the 2005-2007 report, Monnie received tenure and was promoted to associate professor in 2007. We are excited to let you know that Tony, Sherry, and Jing have each received tenure and been promoted to Associate professor since 2007. This group makes the future of statistics at SMU look bright!

Our faculty members continue to be involved in high quality research activities. We are expanding our interaction with UT Southwestern Medical Center, and 26 joint articles written by UTSW faculty and SMU Stat departmental members have been published since 2007. Other exciting research application areas include educational research, engineering, and econometrics. For a more detailed discussion of research activities, see pages 10-11 of this report.

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TONY, SHERRY, AND JING AWARDED TENURE

Tony Ng

Tony received undergraduate BSc. (Hon.) and M.Phil. degrees in statistics from The Chinese University of Hong Kong. He received an MS degree in statistics and Ph.D. degree in mathematics from McMaster University in Hamilton, Canada. He is a Senior Member of IEEE, an Elected member of International Statistical Institute, and is currently an Associate Editor of *Communications in Statistics*. His research interests include reliability, censoring methodology, nonparametric methods and statistical inference.



Sherry Wang

Sherry obtained an undergraduate degree in automatic control from the University of Science and Technology of China, her MA in statistics from The University of Pittsburgh, and her Ph.D. in Decision Science and Statistics from the McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas. Sherry's research is in the areas of Bayesian analysis, preprocessing methods for high-throughput data, constrained parameter estimation, and ranked set sampling.



Jing Cao

Jing received her undergraduate degree in applied mathematics from Qingdao University in China and received her MS and Ph.D. degrees in statistics from the University of Missouri. Her main research interest is Bayesian methodology and its application. Most of her work falls into four interrelated categories: latent variable methods in educational and behavioral science, high throughput data analysis, Bayesian survival analysis, and sample size determination in clinical trials.



BILL SCHUCANY RECEIVES PAUL MINTON SERVICE AWARD

There's another Minton award. The Southern Regional Council on Statistics (SRCOS), an organization of statistics departments in the southern region of the US, gives an annual Paul Minton Service Award to recognize outstanding service to the statistics profession. The award was established to honor Paul Minton (SMU's founding chair). The award is designed to honor someone who has made important contributions to statistical education, has been active in service to the profession, and has actively promoted the use of statistics.

If you think this award has Bill Schucany's name written all over it, then you are not alone. Bill was honored with the 2009 Paul Minton Service Award (and was presented with the globe below) at the Summer Research Conference at Jekyll Island, Georgia. His citation reads, "In recognition of furthering graduate education in statistics, making significant contributions to nonparametric statistics and for excellent service to the Council of Texas Statisticians, SRCOS, and the statistical profession at large". Well said!



BILL'S RETIREMENT



While it had to happen eventually, it's still a shock to all of us to realize that Bill Schucany is retiring. Bill has been on a half-time appointment for the past two years and officially retired as of May 31, 2011. Bill has had an especially distinguished career and I think everyone would agree that he is "Mr. Statistics SMU" (make that "Mr. Statistical Science SMU"). In recognition of his career, the department hosted the "Seminar Celebrating Bill Schucany's 40 Years in Statistical Science at Southern Methodist University" on September 17, 2010.

Pictures below of former students who made presentations, and some group pictures.



Pat Carmack



Mike Ernst



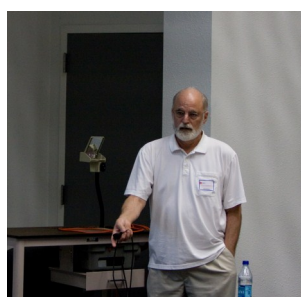
Julia Kozlinitia



Alan Polansky



Larry Tang



John Michael



A Clarification Regarding Bill's retirement: Knowing Bill as we all do, we expect Bill's retirement to be similar to those of Narayan Bhat, Buddy Gray, and Campbell Read. These guys come to the campus on a regular basis and are still actively working in the subject they love—statistics. The only difference is that we no longer pay them!!



BILL'S RETIREMENT DINNER—SEPTEMBER 17, 2010



Bill's Students:

Back Row: Al Palacheck, Bryan Adams, Jeff Pitblado, David Welch, Mike Ernst, Ohad Amit, Pat Gerard, Larry Tang

Front Row: Jim Beckett, Lori Thombs, Bill, John Michael, Bill Parr, An Jia, Julia Kozlitina, Knife Gedif, Ohn Jo, Alan Polansky



FACULTY AWARDS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Wine Eco prize – Jing Cao and Lynne Stokes

Judge performance is a critical component of a wine competition's success. A number of studies have shown that wine judges may differ considerably in their opinions. (see the article in Wall Street Journal <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748703683804574533840282653628.html>). **Dr. Stokes** and **Dr. Cao** have conducted an in-depth examination of wine judge performance at California State Fair Wine Competition. Three characteristics of judge's performance are examined: bias, discrimination ability, and variation. Based on the analysis, researchers can identify the judges who had discrepant scoring patterns, and for the first time, they can gain insight into which of the three characteristics cause particular judges to disagree. Dr. Stokes and Dr. Cao presented the paper at the 4th annual conference of American Association of Wine Economists (AAWE) and won the Christophe Baron Prize for the Best Presentation (the prize was a bottle of Cayuse Syrah wine).

Editor's Note: We understand that Jing and Lynne, like all good statisticians, would never undertake a project such as this without obtaining first-hand knowledge of the processes involved.

Altshuler Teaching Award — Ian Harris

We are very pleased to report that in 2008 Ian Harris was named an Altshuler Distinguished Teaching Professor here at SMU. Since 2001, *The Altshuler Distinguished Teaching Professor Award* annually recognizes four SMU faculty from across the university for their ability in the classroom. Recipients receive a \$10,000 award and membership in *SMU's Academy of Distinguished Teachers*. For two years following the award, they participate actively with other members of the Academy in faculty forums on pedagogical issues. Ian is richly deserving of this award. He consistently does an outstanding job of teaching at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. As an example of the esteem with which he is held, the following are quotes from recent undergraduate students: "He is a fantastic professor who obviously loves to teach this class," "Professor Harris is a wonderful professor with a passion for helping his students succeed," "Enthusiastic teaching," and "I just really love the way this professor explains the material." Another interesting comment was "Hot accent." Possibly with exception of this last comment, a common thread that comes through is his ability to convey his passion and excitement for statistics to his students. Great job Ian and thanks!!

Tony Ng Receives Recognitions

Tony was honored by the IEEE by being named a senior member of the IEEE. This is the highest professional grade of the IEEE for which an application can be made and requires experience reflecting professional accomplishments and maturity. Tony was also elected to membership in the International Statistical Institute.

Current Faculty Responsibilities:

Chair: Wayne Woodward

Graduate Advisor: Lynne Stokes

Undergraduate Advisor: Ian Harris

Recruiting Coordinator: Jing Cao

Seminar Chair: Dick Gunst

Website Coordinator: Sherry Wang

Computing Coordinator: Tony Ng

Library Liaison: Ron Butler

Chair, Undergraduate Major Study Committee: Monnie McGee

Sheila

Everyone who has been involved with the Department of Statistical Science since 1980 knows our ace Administrative Assistant, Sheila Crain. She is the glue that makes everything work around here. In 2010 Sheila celebrated her 30th Anniversary here in the department, (she obviously has a high pain tolerance), and she also received the 2010 SMU Staff Award given by the Faculty Senate. It's an award she richly deserves!!

All of her contributions could not possibly be listed. However, here are some of them:

Sheila was originally hired to be a technical typist (on an IBM Selectric Typewriter). Sheila has kept up with the times and is proficient in both Word and TeX. She has served as principal typist on at least 4 books and has served as editorial assistant for the *Encyclopedia of Statistical Science* with Campbell Read for 6 years and was the editorial assistant for *The American Statistician* during the editorships of Bill Schucany and Lynne Stokes.

Sheila is the administrator of the department office which includes such functions as purchasing supplies and computers, scheduling maintenance, supervising student workers, preparing financial aid documents for the graduate students as well as pay papers required by payroll, handling the student health insurance process, locating rooms for the courses each semester and entering them into the scheduling system, dealing with class limits and add/drops,

She inputs information into the departmental website and maintains the departmental alumni database. Keeps up with graduates (and recently has been using FaceBook for this purpose – so be careful).

Supports the faculty and chair. (A very difficult task!!)

Sheila makes local arrangements for conferences and departmental events. She is a pro at arranging for meals, lodging, communicating with attendees, etc.

She serves as the departmental “Mother” for graduate students (and faculty members). She has a positive, caring attitude for all, and is always willing to listen and give advice when needed.

Serves as mentor and sounding board to other administrative assistants across the campus.

She helps put together this (and every other) Annual Report (although she's not too happy about this page).

Lots of stuff I can't think of.

And -- all this is done by ONE PERSON! And -- she does it all without complaining and often seemingly without “breaking a sweat.” I (Wayne) spent 6 years as chair from 1990-1996 and am now in my second stint as chair. During both of these tenures as chair, I have depended heavily on Sheila to “know the ropes” and keep me on track in terms of meeting deadlines, etc. She is extremely capable, and she knows more about SMU policies and procedures than anyone I know. I have no idea how many times I have responded to a question with the answer, “Ask Sheila.” But -- it's a large number. The following is a good example of the way Sheila knows how to handle things, takes the initiative to do them, and greatly simplifies the life of a department chair. A couple of years ago I had a conversation with another chair who was talking about a paperwork issue that tended to regularly fall through the cracks in his department. I mentioned that this particular issue had never been a problem for me (and in fact that I wasn't even sure what he was talking about) because Sheila always handled such matters. His response was, “Yes, but you're lucky – you've got Sheila.” He's correct!!

Sheila – we all love you!!



FACULTY TIDBITS

Lynne Stokes teaches at SMU in Taos, NM

An introductory undergraduate statistics course was offered at SMU's Taos campus for the first time in Fall 2009. Students took one class at a time each 3 week period during the semester, so the course was very intensive, meeting 2 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the afternoon in the campus's well-equipped computer lab. The students completed a course project analyzing data for the Taos Pueblo environmental services department for whom they evaluated changes in water quality from data collected following a fire several years before. Lynne's husband, Dan Molton, accompanied her and taught environmental science, a course tailor-made for the SMU-in-Taos campus.

Ron Butler spends Fall 2010 at the University of Nottingham

During the Fall 2010 semester, Ronald Butler was on leave visiting his longtime collaborator Andrew Wood in the Department of Mathematics at the University of Nottingham, U.K. He also visited the Swiss Banking Institute at the University of Zurich, CH to work with a former student on research topics concerned with applications to mathematical finance.

Monnie and Lynne – Committee Members Extraordinaire

Service on university committees is one of the responsibilities that goes with being a faculty member. While this work typically goes unrecognized, it is nonetheless important. Monnie and Lynne have done yeoman's work in this regard. In addition to their teaching, active research activities, and departmental responsibilities, they have served on an unusual number of key university committees. For example within the last few years Monnie has served on the Dedman College Dean Search Committee, the General Education Task Force, the Benefits Committee, and she has served as a mentor in two of the residence halls.

Lynne has served on the Division III Promotion and Tenure Committee, the University Research Council, the Ford Fellowship Review Panel, the Provost's Promotion and Tenure Committee, a Dean's Search Committee, the Faculty Council, and the Clements Chair in Mathematics selection Committee.

Editor's Note: It appears that the department chair is doing a poor job of protecting these gifted faculty members from excessive committee assignments. The best solution to such poor job performance is to replace the chair. My suggestion at least.

More Faculty Tidbits

Tony and his wife, Sheron are the proud parents of a young statistician, Brighten, 2 years old, and they just welcomed Silan, the new baby girl in August..

Sherry's husband, Min is a biostatistician in the Department of Clinical Sciences at UT Southwestern. He spent two years on a post-doc at Yale University. Sherry and their daughter, Stacy, are very pleased to have Min home.

Jing's husband, Song is also a biostatistician at UT Southwestern. Jing lives close to work as she and Song bought a home in the M-Street neighborhood. There must be a lot of serious statistical discussions around the supper tables in these two households.

Bill and Wayne have been having a grandchildren contest. Wayne is winning with 6 grandkids while Bill has 3. However, Bill is also a great grandfather which he claims to be worth extra points. For those wondering how this could be, Greg and his wife adopted a teenage daughter several years ago. ...

The Gunst family has had an eventful few years. Mark and Ron have each served in the military in Iraq and Afghanistan, Mark as an Air Force Trauma Surgeon and Ron in the Marines. Karen married Chris Lauer, an environmental geologist, in 2009, and Ann has retired from her teaching career.

Monnie and her family have moved to a new home in University Park that is within (fairly serious) walking distance from campus—but Monnie is a fairly serious walker. Her husband, Stephen Harper (not the prime minister of Canada) is a senior financial analyst at Frito Lay, Inc. He has had numerous interactions with Don Strickert (Ph.D. 1988), and also humorous discussions with Monnie about regression analysis and time series after the kids have gone to bed.

Ron continues to impress us all with his intelligence since joining our faculty. The fact that he spends his summers in Ft. Collins rather than in Dallas is simply further evidence.

Ian coaches two youth soccer teams (his 10 year old son plays on one) and in addition manages a men's over 40 soccer team. His wife continues to teach psychology at SMU. His oldest daughter is in middle school and is 12 going on 20, and his youngest is starting at kindergarten.

Lynne just returned from a trip to Bolzano Italy, where she attended the American Wine Economics Conference. She says those economists put on much more stimulating conferences than the ASA.




DEPARTMENTAL HISTORY

While we appropriately spend most of our time focusing on current projects and those in the planning stages, we have recently had cause to look back to the department's past. Dick, Bill, and Wayne just finished writing a chapter that will appear in *Strength in Numbers: The Rising of Academic Statistics Departments in the U.S.* which is to be published by Springer. The book is a collection of histories of about 35 statistics departments that have been in existence since the 1960's. The following is a very brief summary of that material.

Paul Minton began his academic career at SMU as an Assistant Professor of Mathematics. He founded the university's Computing Laboratory in 1957 and remained its head until 1962. SMU approved the *Department of Mathematical and Experimental Statistics* and a master's degree program in statistics in 1961. The program grew out of a buildup of courses and services in statistics offered by the Mathematics Department and by the Computing Laboratory. Minton chaired the new department which initially consisted of two faculty members, himself and Vanamamalai Seshadri, and fifteen graduate students. The first graduate of the department was Vann Parr who was awarded a Master of Science degree in 1963. The department was renamed the *Department of Statistics* in 1966 and became one of the first at SMU to offer a doctoral program. The first Ph.D. graduate of the department was Lowell Gregory in 1968. In 1969, the department moved to the new Heroy Science Hall where we remain today. The department's faculty voted in 1986 to change the department's name to the *Department of Statistical Science*. Through calendar year 2010, 159 Master of Science and 157 Ph.D. degrees have been awarded to graduates of the department. We are proud of all of our graduates! The following is a list of our alums who have been elected as fellows of the American Statistical Association. If we have left anyone out, please let us know.

SMU Alums who are ASA Fellows

Dwight Brock	Bob Mason
Dennis Dixon	Bill Parr
Stephen George	Paula Roberson
Dick Gunst	Bill Schucany
Jeff Hart	Donald Wheeler
Mani Lakshminarayan	Lori Thombs (2011)

 **DEPARTMENT HISTORY PAGE:** We have a new history page located on our department website (www.smu.edu/statistics) in the Research area under Tech Reports. Here is the website to see the article and pictures: <http://smu.edu/statistics/TechReports/tech-rpts.asp>.

DEPARTMENTAL HISTORY — CONTINUED

The following are some other statistics that people like us might find interesting. Since the beginning of the program we have had 40 tenured or tenure track faculty members serve on the department faculty. The faculty members with longest terms of service on the faculty are shown below.

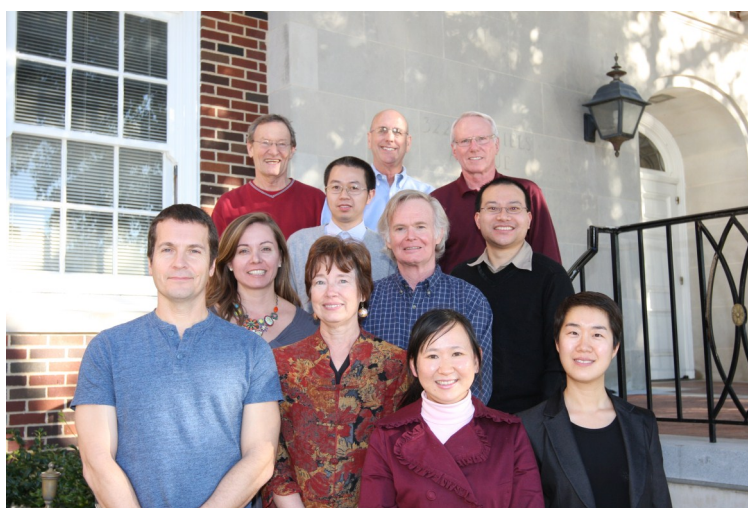
Years Served on the Stat Faculty at SMU

Schucany	41 years	Gray	31.5
Gunst	38+	Read	30
Kapadia	38	Webster	25
Bhat	35	Owen	25
Woodward	34+	Bland	24

The position of Department Chair has been held by several faculty members through the years. The following is a list of chairs and years served.

Department Chairs and Years Served

Paul Minton	1961-1972
Don Owen	1972-1979
Narayan Bhat	1979-1980; 1987-1989
Dick Gunst	1980-1984; 2000-2006
Bill Schucany	1984-1987; 1989-1990; 1997-2000
Wayne Woodward	1990-1996; 2006-2011+
C. H. Kapadia	1996 (Fall)
Buddy Gray	1997 (Spring)



Current Faculty are: Ian Harris, Lynne Stokes, Sherry Wang, Jing Cao, Sherry Wang, Monnie McGee, Ron Butler, Wenhao Gui, Tony Ng, Bill Schucany, Wayne Woodward, Dick Gunst

Department History — Pictures of the Department Faculty



1977 Faculty—Richard Bland, Buddy Gray, Campbell Read, Don Owen, Wayne Woodward, Jack Webster, Bill Schucany, C. H. Kapadia, John Boyer, Dick Gunst, Wanzer Drane and Hal Hietala



1984 Faculty — Richard Bland, Robert Mee, Dick Gunst, Narayan Bhat, Randy Eubank, Wanzer Drane, Bill Schucany, Campbell Read, C. H. Kapadia, Don Owen (Wayne Woodward — not shown)

Department History — Pictures of the Faculty



1996 Faculty — Bill Frawley, Buddy Gray, Shobbo Basu, Rudy Guerra, Campbell Read, Dick Gunst, C. H. Kapadia, Bill Schucany, Wayne Woodward, Yuly Koshevnik, Steve Sain



2000 Faculty — Campbell Read, Buddy Gray, Bill Schucany, C. H. Kapadia, Wayne Woodward, Narayan Bhat, Raji Natarajan, Dick Gunst, William Christensen, Rudy Guerra, Steve Sain

FACULTY RESEARCH

Ron Butler has ongoing funding from the National Science foundation for his project “Saddlepoint and Bootstrap Accuracy with Applications to General Systems.” The first part of this work considers some novel approaches devised to explain the accuracy of saddlepoint approximations. This addresses a long standing problem that has defied mathematical explanation by researchers. The second part of this work considers applications of saddlepoint approximations in complex stochastic systems which are also used to implement bootstrap inference for various performance criteria in such systems. Practical examples of such systems range from: modeling chronic diseases in multi-state survival models to the computation of gauge functions in physics. He has ongoing work in applied mathematics which develops saddlepoint approximations for various types of matrix- and vector-argument hypergeometric functions that commonly arise in the physical sciences.



Jing Cao's main research interest is Bayesian methodologies and their applications. She has collaborated with Lynne Stokes to detect low motivation in low-stakes tests using IRT models and to rank items and evaluate judge performance in competitions using ordinal data models. She has begun collaborating with faculty members at UTSW on the analysis microarray data, and she conducting gene set enrichment research by incorporating pathway information. She has also teamed up with researchers at UTSW to design more efficient clinical trials by utilizing historical data.



Dick Gunst continues to work with a group of SMU graduate students (the Brain Imaging Group, *BIG*) on spatiotemporal modeling and analysis of brain imaging data. They are continuing the collaborative work that began over a decade ago with Bill Schucany, Wayne Woodward, and former students and colleagues at UTSW on substantiating the existence of the 1991 Gulf War Syndrome. He also just completed a multiyear project with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory on the statistical modeling and analysis of data from a major study of the effects of ethanol fuels on tailpipe emissions from new-technology, low-emissions vehicles.



Ian Harris is conducting joint research with Ron Butler on saddlepoint and Laplace approximations to special functions. These functions are important in multivariate applications, and accurate approximations are needed to be able to calculate p-values in a reasonable amount of time. In addition Ian is continuing to do research with Lynne Stokes and others on sampling issues in educational research.



Monnie McGee continues to work with collaborators at UTSW on the analysis of various types of high throughput biological assays, including Gene Expression Microarray Data and Next Generation Sequencing data. Recently she has added biological pathway analysis, the determination of over or under-expression of genes within a biological pathway, to her research area. She is also working with colleagues in SMU's computer science and engineering department on taxonomic classification of meta-genomic data, and has recently received a NIH grant with these collaborators to study the subject in depth.



Faculty Research continued

Tony Ng continues his collaboration with researchers in Asia, Europe and North America to work on statistical problems in reliability theory, optimal experimental designs, and analysis of censored lifetime experiments. These areas of research have numerous applications in both industrial and medical studies. The research projects “Optimal Allocation of Sample and Regression Models for Accelerated Life-testing Experiments” and “Adaptive Progressive Censoring Schemes” are funded by The Research Grants Council of Hong Kong (RGC) Earmarked Grant. He is also developing statistical methodologies for epidemiological as well as genetic association studies.



Bill Schucany has broadened his reach from brain-imaging analysis through UTSW with Wayne Woodward and Dick Gunst, improving the methodology for fMRI experiments, and supervising two dissertations on that topic. His other biostatistical interests are general improvements in cross-validation for dependent spatial processes, false discovery rates on selected subsets of correlated tests, and nonparametric methods for clustered data.



Lynne Stokes collaborates with Jill Allor, in the Institute for Reading Research, on methods for using measurements of teacher compliance to improve power in educational intervention studies. This work is supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. She also works on methods for mitigating non-sampling errors in dual frame surveys. This work is in support of NOAA's on-going data collection program for U.S. marine fisheries. The two projects are related in that they both address issues of measurement error in data collection.



Sherry Wang's research currently focuses on development of Bayesian hierarchical methods, Bayesian spatial modeling, integrative Bayesian analysis, and development of preprocessing methods for high-throughput data. She also has strong interests in constrained parameter estimation and in ranked set sampling with applications in Education Sciences. She has been collaborating with faculty members at the Quantitative Biomedical Research Center (QBRC), Department of Clinical Sciences, on statistical methodological development in Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, involving an NSF funded project, titled “Bayesian Hierarchical Methods for Modeling Chromosomal Spatial Correlation” and an NIH grant, titled “Integrated Analysis to Explore Molecular Mechanisms of Cocaine Addiction” (as the PI/subcontract PI). Meanwhile, she has been supervising three Ph.D. dissertations and generated publications in various journals.



Wayne Woodward works in time series analysis. A recent major project was the writing of a book *Applied Time Series Analysis* (Woodward, Gray, and Elliott). A “must have” for anyone who has taken time series from either Buddy or Wayne. It comes with a new windows version of the GW program. He continues to work on the development of time deformation models for analyzing data exhibiting time varying frequency behavior. Current work involves generalizing the time deformation methods to model data sets that, in addition to time-varying frequency behavior, also exhibit volatility (conditional heteroskedasticity). He is also working on the development of models for data with long memory time varying frequency behavior. An additional research interest involves the use of 3-dimensional wavelet analysis for detecting regions of activation in fMRI brain images. He is working with current and former students on these projects.



FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

2011

Butler, R. W. “Exact distributional computations for Roy's statistic and the largest eigenvalue of a Wishart distribution”. To appear in *Statistics and Computing* (with Paige).

Butler, R.W. “Tests for symmetry with right censoring”. To appear in *Journal of Applied Statistics* (with Abd-Elfattah).

Butler, R.W. “Small sample LD-50 confidence intervals using saddlepoint approximations”. To appear in *Journal of the American Statistical Association* (with Chapman and Paige).

Gunst, R. , Schucany, W. and Woodward, W. “Department of Statistical Science, Southern Methodist University,” *Strength in Numbers: The Rising of Academic Statistics Departments in the U.S.* Springer.

Gunst, R., Schucany, W. and Woodward, W. “Detecting Brain Activations in Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) Experiments with a Maximum Cross-Correlation Statistic,” *Journal of Data Science* (with Gedif, Carmack, and Haley).

Harris, I. “The minimum L2 distance estimator for Poisson mixture models”. *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*, 141, 1088-1101 (with Shen).

Ng, H. K. T. “Bivariate Beta Distribution”, *Journal of Multivariate Analysis* (with Arnold).

Ng, H. K.T. “Inference for Type-II Censored System Lifetime Data with Signatures Available”, to appear in *IEEE Transactions on Reliability* (with Balakrishnan and Navarro)

Ng, H. K. T. “Optimal Sample Size Allocation for Multi-level Stress Testing with Extreme Value Regression under Type-II Censoring”, *Statistics*, 45, 257 – 279 (with Ka, Chan and Blakrishnan).

Ng, H. K. T. “Parameter estimation of three-parameter Weibull distribution based on progressively Type-II censored samples”, to appear in *Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation* (with Luo, Hu and Duan).

Ng, H. K. T., “Parametric Inference for System Lifetime Data with Signatures Available under a Proportional Hazard Rate Model”, to appear in *Metrika* (with Navarro and Balakrishnan).

Ng, H. K. T. “Nonparametric Test for Homogeneity of Overall Variability”, to appear in *Journal of Applied Statistics* (with SenGupta)

Ng, H. K. T. “Peakedness for weighted sums of symmetric random variables”, to appear in *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference* (with Zhao and Chan).

Schucany, W. “Sample size calculation for clustered binary data with nonparametric method using different weight schemes,” *Statistics in Biopharmaceutical Research*, 3, 65-72 (with Ahn and Hu).

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED

2011 (continued)

- Stokes, L.** “Stranger at the Gate: the Effect of the Plaintiff’s use of an Interpreter on Juror Decision-Making,” *Behavioral Sciences and the Law*, in press (2011) (DOI: 10.1002/bsl) (with Shuman and Martinez).
- Stokes, L. and Harris, I.** “Performance of random effects model estimators under complex sampling designs”. *J. of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, 36: 6-32 (with Jia).
- Wang, X.**, “Modeling Three-dimensional Chromosome Structures Using Gene Expression Data”. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*. 106, 61-72. (with Xiao and Khodursky; this paper was highlighted in the May 2011 issue of *Amstat News*).
- Wang, X.** “Approximate Predictive Densities and Their Applications in Generalized Linear Models”. *Computational Statistics and Data Analysis*. 55 (4), 1570-1580 (with Chen).
- Wang, X.** “Isotonized CDF Estimation from Judgment Post-stratification Data with Empty Strata”, Accepted by *Biometrics* (with Wang and Lim).
- Woodward, W. A.** “Epidemiological Similarities between Appendicitis and Diverticulitis a Common Underlying Pathogenesis,” *Archives of Surgery* 146, 308-314 (with Livingston, Fomby and Haley).

2010

- Cao, J.** “GO-Bayes: Gene Ontology-based over-representation analysis using a Bayesian approach.” *Bioinformatics*, 26, 905-911 (with Zhang, Kong and Scheuermann).
- Cao, J.** “A Bayesian goodness-of-fit test for censored data”. *Biometrics*, 66, 426-434 (with Moosman and Johnson).
- Cao, J. and Stokes, L.** “A Bayesian approach to ranking and rater evaluation: an application to grant reviews”. *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*, 35, 194-214 (with Zhang).
- Cao, J.** “Calculating sample size in trials using historical controls. *Clinical Trials*, 7, 343-353 (with Zhang and Ahn).
- Cao, J. and Stokes, L.** “Evaluation of wine judge performance through three characteristics: bias, discrimination, and variation”. *Journal of Wine Economics*, 5(2), 132-142.
- Cao, J.** “Measuring statistical significance for full Bayesian methods in microarray analysis.” *Bayesian Analysis*, 5, 413-428 (with Zhang).
- Cao, J.** “Procedure volume as a predictor of surgical outcomes. “ *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 304, 95-97 (with Livingston)
- Cao, J.** “Tread Carefully With Stepwise Regression.” *Clinical Trials, Archives of Surgery*, 145, 1039-1040 (with Livingston and Dimick).

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

2010 (continued)

- Ng, H. K. T.** “Some nonparametric precedence-type tests based on progressively censored samples and evaluation of power”, *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*, 140, 559-573 (with Balakrishnan, Tripathi, Kannan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** “Statistical Methods in Epidemiology”, In *International Encyclopedia of Statistical Science* (Eds., M. Lovric), Springer (with Filardo and Adams)
- Ng, H. K. T.** “A validation study of Type 2 Diabetes related variants of TCF7L2, HHEX, KCNJ11, and ADIPOQ genes in one Endogamous Ethnic group of North India”, *Annals of Human genetics*, 74, 361-368 (with Gupta, Khadgawat, Kumar, Rao and Sachdeva).
- Ng, H. K. T.** “Censoring Methodology”, In *International Encyclopedia of Statistical Science* (Eds., M. Lovric), Springer.
- Ng, H. K. T.** “Precedence-Type Test Based on Kaplan-Meier Estimator of Cumulative Distribution Function”, *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*, 140, 2295-2311 (with Balakrishnan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** “Inverse Sampling”, In *International Encyclopedia of Statistical Science* (Eds., M. Lovric), Springer (with Tang).
- McGee, M.** “Identifying Differentially Expressed Genes based on probe level data for GeneChip arrays”. *International Journal of Computational Biology and Drug Design (IJCBD)*, 3(3), DOI: 10.1504/IJCBD.2010.038028 (with Chen, Liu, Kong, Huang, Yang and Scheuermann).
- McGee, M.** “Analyzing taxonomic classification using extensible Markov models”. *Bioinformatics*, 26(18): 2235-41. Epub 2010 Jul 12 (with Kotamarti, Hahsler, Raiford, Dunham).
- McGee, M.** “Statistical Approaches to Gene Expression Microarray Data Preprocessing”, in *Biological Data Mining* (2009). Jake Chen and Stefano Lonardi, editors (with E. McClellan, M. Kong and R.H. Scheuermann), Chapman & Hall/CRC Press.
- Schucany, W.** “Nonparametric sample size estimation for diagnostic tests with multiple observations per subject,” *Drug Information Journal*, 44, 609-616 (with Hu and Ahn).
- Schucany, W.** “Power of Genetic Association Studies with Fixed and Random Genotype Frequencies”, *Annals of Human Genetics*, 74, 429-438 (with Kozlitina, Xing, Pertsemlidis).
- Wang, X.** “Managing Supply Uncertainties Through Bayesian Information Update”. *IEEE, Robotics and Automation Society*, 7 (1), 24-36 (with Chen and Xia).
- Wang, X.** “Preserving Data Utility via BART”. *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*. 140 (9), 2551-2561 (with Karr).

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED

2010 (continued)

- Woodward, W.** "Association of Viral Infection and Appendicitis," *Archives of Surgery* 145 63-71 (with Alder, Fomby, Haley, Sarosi and Livingston).
- Woodward, W.** "Impact of 11 September 2001 Terrorist Attacks in the USA on Suicide in Areas Surrounding the Crash Sites", *British Journal of Psychiatry* 196 (2010), 359-364 (with Classen, Carmody, Stewart, Bossarte, Larkin and Trivedi).
- Woodward, W.** "The Generalized Linear Chirp Process," *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference* 140, 3676-3687 (with Robertson and Gray).

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- Butler, R. W.** "Distribution of wave crests in non-Gaussian sea". *Applied Ocean Research* 31 57-64 (with Machado).
- Butler, R.W.** "Log-rank permutation tests for trend: Saddlepoint p-values and survival rate confidence intervals," *Canadian Journal of Statistics* (with Abd-Elfattah).
- Cao, J.** "Bayesian optimal discovery procedure for simultaneous significance testing", *BMC Bioinformatics*, 10:5 (with Xie, Zhang, Whitehurst, and White).
- Cao, J.** "A close examination of double filtering with fold change and t test in microarray analysis", *BMC Bioinformatics*, 10:402 (with Zhang).
- Cao, J.** "Effect size estimation: necessary component of statistical analysis", *Archives of Surgery*, 144, 706-712 (with Livingston, Elliott, and Hynan).
- Cao, J.** "Comparison of Bayesian sample size determination criteria: ACC, ALC, and WOC", *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*, 139, 4111-4122 (with Lee and Albert).
- Cao, J.** "Modeling age and nest-specific survival using a hierarchical Bayesian approach", *Biometrics*, 65, 1052-1062 (with He, Wells, Millspaugh, and Ryan) .
- Gunst, R.** "Abnormal Response to Cholinergic Challenge in Chronic Encephalopathy from the 1991 Gulf War," *Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging*, 171 (2009), 207-220. (with Haley, Spence, Carmack, Schucany, Petty, Devous Sr., Bonte, and Trivedi)
- Gunst, R. and Schucany, W.** "Far Casting Cross Validation," *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*, 18 (2009), 879-893. (with Carmack, Spence, Haley, and Lin)
- Gunst, R.** "Fractional Factorial Designs," *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Computational Statistics*, 1 (2009), 234-244. (with R.L. Mason).
- McGee, Monnie.** "A Distribution-Free Convolution Model for Background Correction of Oligonucleotide Microarray Data" (2009). *BMC Genomics*, 10(Suppl 1):S19 (with Chen, Liu, Kong, Deng, and Scheuermann).

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- Ng, H. K. T.** “Statistical Inference of Type-II Progressively Hybrid Censored Data with Weibull Life times”, *Communications in Statistics – Theory and Methods*, 38, 1710-1729 (with Lin and Chang).
- Ng, H. K. T.** “Statistical Analysis of Exponential Lifetimes under an Adaptive Type-II Progressive Censoring Scheme”, *Naval Research Logistics*, 56, 687-698 (with Kundu and Chan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** “Statistical Estimation for the Parameters of Weibull Distribution based on progressively Type-I interval censored sample”, *Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation*, 79, 145-159 (with Wang).
- Ng, H. K. T.** “A comparative study of confidence intervals for negative binomial proportion”, *Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation*, 79, 241-249 (with Tian, Tang and Chan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** “Precedence-Type Tests for the Comparison of Treatments with a Control”, in *Scan Statistics: Methods and Applications* (J. Glaz, V. Pozdnyakov and S. Wallenstein, etc.), pp. 27-54, Birkhäuser, Boston, (with Balakrishnan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** “On Robustness of Optimal Adaptive Design for Censored Exponential Response Trials”, *International Journal of Intelligent Technologies and Applied Statistics*, 2, 153-172 (with Chan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** “Design and Analysis of Analgesic Trials with Paired Time-to-Event Endpoints”, in *Design, Summarization, Analysis & Interpretation of Clinical Trials with Time-to-Event Endpoints* (K. E. Peace, eds.), pp. 269-291, Taylor & Francis (with Z.Wang).
- Stokes, L.** “Data Masking for Disclosure Limitation,” *Wiley Interdisciplinary Reviews: Computational Statistics* 1, 1–10 (with Duncan).
- Wang, X.** “Statistical Methods of Background Correction for Illumina Beadarray Data”. *Bioinformatics*, 25, 751-757 (with Xie and Story).
- Wang, X.** “Maximum Likelihood Estimation of Ordered Multinomial Probabilities by Geometric Programming”. *Computational Statistics and Data Analysis*, 53(4), 889-893 (with Lim and Choi).
- Wang, X.** “Estimation of Stochastically Ordered Survival Functions by Geometric Programming”. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*, 18, 978-994 (with Lim and Kim).
- Wang, X.** "Hardening Email Security using Bayesian Additive Regression Trees", in *Machine Learning*, Mellouk, A. and Chebira, A., editors, I-Tech Education and Publishing, Ch. 9 (with Abu-Nimeh, Nappa and Nair).
- Wang, X.** “Distributed Phishing Detection by Applying Variable Selection using Bayesian Additive Regression Trees”. *IEEE International Conference on Communications*, 14(18), 1-5 (with Abu-Nimeh, Nappa and Nair).

Woodward, W.A.. (2009). "The Application of the Kalman Filter to Nonstationary Time Series through Time Deformation," *Journal of Time Series Analysis*, 30 (2009), 559-574 (with Wang and **Gray**).

Woodward, W.A. (2009). "Examining Factors to Better Understand Autoregressive Models," *The American Statistician* 63 (2009), 335-342 (with **Gray**, Haney and Elliott).

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Butler, R. *Saddlepoint Approximations with Applications*, Cambridge Press, 2007.

Woodward, W. *SAS Essentials: A Guide to Mastering SAS for Research* (with Elliott) Wiley (Jossey-Bass), 2010.

Woodward, W. *Applied Time Series Analysis* (with Gray and Elliott), Chapman and Hall/CRC, 2011.

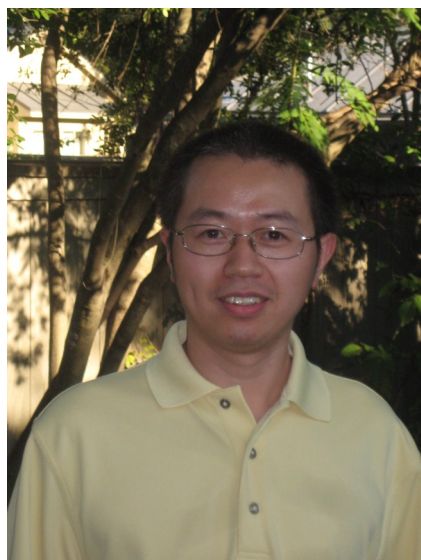
Visiting Assistant Professor

For the past few years we have been pleased to have visiting assistant professors serve on our faculty. During the 2009/2010 academic year, the assistant professor position was held by James Haney, who received his Ph.D. in May, 2011 from our department. During the 2010/2011 academic year the assistant professor was Wenhao Gui. Wenhao received his Ph.D. in 2009 from Florida State and spent the year before joining us as a postdoctoral associate at Cornell. These visiting faculty members have helped out with the undergraduate teaching and have collaborated with our faculty in research projects.

We're also pleased that during the 2011/2012 year the visiting assistant professor will be Ananda Majumdar, who recently moved to Dallas with her family from Tempe, Arizona where she was an Assistant Professor of Statistics at Arizona State. Ananda received her Ph.D. in Statistics from the University of Connecticut in 2004 and taught for us as an adjunct in the spring 2011 semester.



James Haney



Wenhao Gui



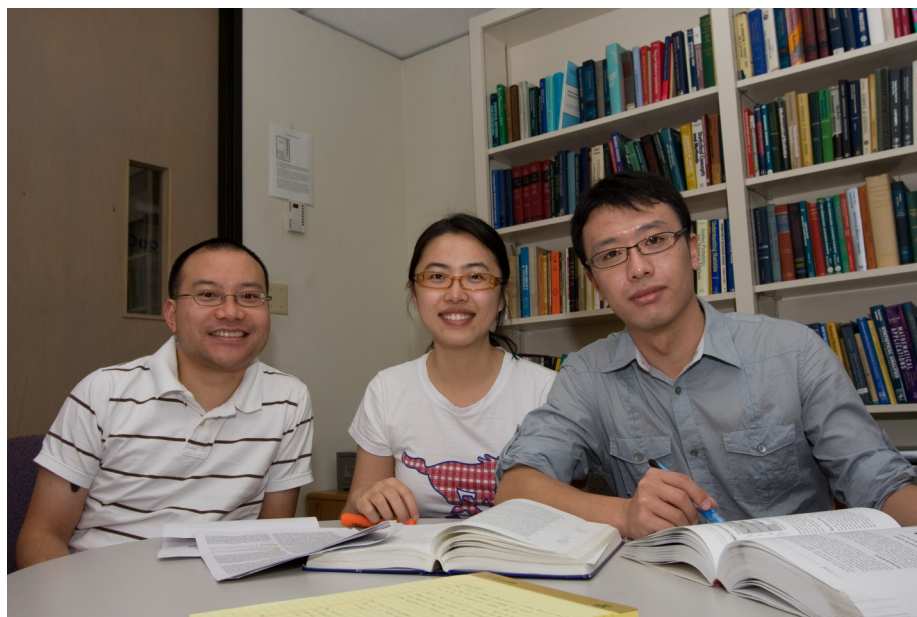
Ananda Majumdar

SMU TEAM WINS QUALITY COMPETITION

The team of graduate students Long Luo and Yalan Hu (Ph.D. students in Statistical Science at SMU) and He Yang (Ph.D. student in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Mississippi State) and faculty member Tony Ng won the 2011 Quality & Productivity Student Competition! The contest, open to student teams worldwide, took place early in 2011 and was sponsored by the Quality and Productivity section of the American Statistical Association. The goal of the contest is to use statistical methods to determine how to reduce variation in the final output of a simulated virtual manufacturing process called *Watfactory* with the limitation of a tight budget. Using sampling techniques, experimental designs, regression analysis, etc., our team found a feasible and cost-effective solution to reducing variation in the final output while keeping well within the budget. Yalan, Long and He are invited to present their results and methods during a special topic-contributed session at the 2011 Joint Statistical Meetings in Miami Beach, Florida. There is a \$500 prize, plus up to \$1,000 per student for travel expenses to attend the meeting.

Congratulations to our team!

In the following link you can find the original announcement of the contest: <http://magazine.amstat.org/blog/2010/10/01/qandpoc10/>



Tony, Yalan, and Michael

Student Awards

The ***John Walsh Award*** is given to the student with the most outstanding performance on the Ph.D. written exam.

The ***Paul Minton Award*** is given to the first year student with the best overall performance in class and the basic exam.

	Walsh Award	Minton Award
2011	Bivin Sadler	
2010	Aymen Al-Rawashdeh	Mengya Liu
2009	Peng Xie	Long Luo
2008	Ke Wang, Yiao Liao and Getaneh Yismah	Fang Duan
2007	Darcie Delzell	E J Liao
2006	James Haney	Fan (Frank) Hu
2005	Kinfemichael Gedif	Darcie Delzell and James Haney
2004	Katherine Lin	Yan Wang
2003		Qihua (Katherine) Lin
2002	Huiping Jiang	
2001	Karla Genter	Shuyi Shen
2000	Jian Han	Eun-Ha Choi Yan Zhong

The ***Scheuren Award*** for Academic Excellence is given to two first-year students for outstanding performance in the theory and applied portions, respectively, of the first-year curriculum. The first recipients of this award were ***Tracy Xu*** and ***Kinfemichael Gedif*** (2004). ***Luke Peterson*** and ***Lisa Cannon*** were the winners of this award in 2005. ***Getaneh Yismah*** was the 2006 winner of the ***Scheuren Award***; ***Ke Wang*** was the 2007 winner; 2008 winner was ***Heather Lin***; 2009 winner was ***Xiaowen Hu***; 2010 winners were ***Jacob Turner*** and ***Kalanka Jayalath***.

Current Students in Statistical Science

2010 — 2011 Academic Year

Aymen Al-Rawashdeh	Ying Lou
Ou (Chris) Bai	Long (Michael) Luo
Wenkai Bao	Youfeng Nie
Changxing (Paul) Chen	Ranil Samaratunga
Fang Duan	Bivin Sadler
Yalan Hu	Holly Stovall
Xiaowen Hu	Xin Sun
Ohn Jo Koh	Jacob Turner
Kalanka Jayalath	Ke Wang
E. J. Liao	Yin Xi
Runqi (Heather) Lin	Miao Zang
Dong Lin	Jian Zhang
Mengya Liu	Huijuan (Sunny) Zhu
Ari Loiben	Xiujun (Sylvia) Zhu

New Students entering the program for 2011-2012

Priyangi Bulathsinhala

Sha Li

Amu Nussbaum

Yandan Yang

Yixun Xing

Xinzhu Yang

Chenguang Zhu

Mingjie Shi

Wenqi Wu

Yifan Huang

Jenifer Rodgers

Yuhang Liu

Graduates of the Department 2008-2011

<u>ALUMNUS</u>	<u>Employer</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Degree</u>
Darcie Delzell	Wheaton College	2008	Ph.D.
Jon Sanders		2008	Ph.D.
Dylan Chang	Consumer Reports	2008	M.S.
Kinfemichael Gedif	PPD	2008	Ph.D.
Julia Kozlitina	UTSW Medical School	2008	Ph.D.
Darrio Nappa	Texas Instruments	2008	Ph.D.
Steve Robertson	Shelton School	2008	Ph.D.
Yan Wang	Educational Testing Service	2008	Ph.D.
Mengyuan Xu	National Health Institute	2008	Ph.D.
Justin Jander	PROS Recovery Management	2009	M.S.
Jason Minter	University of Alabama - Huntsville	2009	M.S.
Peng Xie	Sabre Holdings	2009	M.S.
Andrew Hardin	Solarc Inc.	2010	Ph.D.
Fan Hu	PayPal - Ebay	2010	Ph.D.
Kun Zou	Citigroup	2010	Ph.D.
Elizabeth McClellan	Erasmus MC	2010	Ph.D.
Joel O'Hair	Epsilon	2010	Ph.D.
James Haney	JP Morgan Chase	2011	Ph.D.



Graduate students during 2009-2010 Academic Year

STAT BOWL COMPETITION

During the Spring semester each year we have a departmental lunch during which student award winners (Minton, Walsh, and Scheuren) are recognized. Since 2008 the highlight of the luncheon each year (besides the food) is the Annual Stat Bowl. Two or more teams of 3 graduate students each compete in a format similar to the old College Bowl. The Master of Ceremonies each year is the talented and personable Ian Harris who asks statistical questions (some historical, some computational, etc.). The lovely Monnie (Vanna) McGee serves as the official score keeper. Below are pictures of winning teams and luncheon “crowd shots.”



2009 Stat Bowl Team—Justin Jander, Peng Xie and Jason Minter



2009 Stat Bowl Team — Michael Luo, Yalan Hu and Peggy Zhai



Jing Shen, Ohn Jo Koh, EJ Liao, Joel O'Hair, Ron Butler, Monnie McGee (at table)



2011 Stat Bowl teams



2011 Stat Bowl—team and audience



STAT BOWL WINNERS

2008

Bernoulli Three (Justin Jander, Jason Minter, Paula Borrego)

2009

Bernoulli Three (Justin Jander, Jason Minter, Ping Xie)

2010

Miao Zang, Michael Luo, Yalan Hu

2011

Sylvia Zhu, Yin Xi, Paul Chen

ALUMNI NEWS

Alan Polansky (Ph.D. 1995) has recently published the book *Introduction to Statistical Limit Theory* published by Chapman and Hall/CRC Press. You will also want to check out Alan's previous book, *Observed Confidence Levels*, by the same publisher.

Yue Jia (Ph.D. 2007) has been promoted to Psychometrician at ETS in New Jersey. She has a 3 year old daughter and a baby boy born in May 2011.

Rebecca Rosenstein (Ph.D. 1986) is still with Pfizer and has three grandchildren now.

Euikyoo Lee (Ph.D. 2001) is the Deputy Director of Methodology Division at the Statistical Research Institute in South Korea. He has a daughter born in 2010.

Justin Jander (M.S. 2009) is now Product Manager with PROS Recovery Management - Airline Solutions and has been traveling all over the world with this new project.

Carol Etzel (Ph.D. 1999) was promoted to Associate Professor and awarded tenure and also won the Faculty Scholar Award in the Department of Epidemiology at UT MD Anderson Cancer Center. She was also elected Chair-Elect of the Faculty Senate there. Most important of all, she is the proud Mom of Adam, age 4!

Karyn Lentz (M.S. 1989) is Senior Consumer Analytics Manager at OneTechnologies here in Dallas.

Ron Dearing (M.S. 1987) finally returned to SMU and completed his Ph.D. The only problem is that the degree is in Operations Research. Congratulations anyway, Ron! He also he received the Frederick E. Terman Award for outstanding graduate student achievement.

Cindy Ford (Ph.D. 1991) is now working for Rook Solutions, a global advanced analytics firm which specializes in providing consulting to marketing and marketing research companies. She has one son at Rice and expects the next son to attend SMU next year.

Gary Jones (M.S. 1966) had both his daughters marry within two months of each other and is expecting his first grandchild later this year.

Darcie Delzell (Ph.D. 2008) is an assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics at Wheaton College. She recently had her third daughter!

Zhu Wang (Ph.D. 2004) is currently at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center in the Department of Research.

Jason Minter (M.S. 2009) has taken a position as Research Scientist at the University of Alabama in Huntsville and bought his first house.

Steve Robertson (Ph. D. 2008) returned to SMU after several years (M.S. 1999) to complete his Ph.D. Steve first met his wife, Aimee, while she was taking STAT 1301 and Steve was the TA. They are expecting their first child, a daughter in November. He is an Assistant Professor at UT Southwestern Medical School in the Clinical Psychology department and also Senior Research Statistician at The Shelton School.

Krista Cohlmlia (Ph.D. 2003) is Chair of the Department of Engineering and Mathematics at Odessa College and has two sons, Jace and Kip.

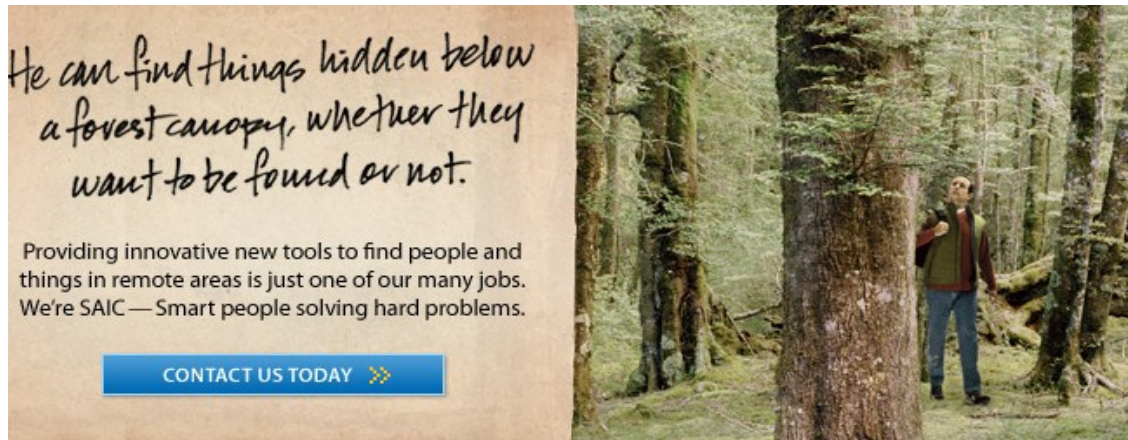
Drew Hardin (Ph.D. 2010) is working for Solarc, Inc.

Kun Zou (Ph.D. 2011) has recently begun a job at Citibank here in the Dallas area.

Lori Thombs (Ph.D. 1985) was elected a Fellow of the ASA (2011 JSM Meetings).

ALUMNI NEWS CONTINUED

Stephen Wiechecki (Ph.D, 1998) is a senior scientist at Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) in Melbourne, Florida. Stephen (Pretty Boy) was selected by SAIC to pose for the picture shown below that appears on their website.



Joel O'Hair (Ph.D. 2010) placed 17th in the 2007 White Rock Marathon and 10th in 2009 while he was a student in our program. Not sure when he found time to train, but surely it gave him plenty of time to think statistical thoughts. Also, Joel and his wife Kim just had their first son in August. They named him Logan O'Hair. Joel is still considering our suggestion for a middle name - DFW.

James Haney (Ph.D. 2011) was a TA for many years and a Visiting Assistant Professor in the department for one year while finishing up his dissertation. Seems he was attempting to become the first graduate student to receive tenure before finishing his dissertation. He is now working in Columbus for Chase.

Huiping Jiang (Ph.D. 2003) has returned to China to run the family business.

Yan Wang (Ph.D. 2008) has recently moved to Washington, DC, where she works for Fannie Mae.

Getanah Yismah (M.S. 2007) works in Washington DC for the Internal Revenue Service and lives in nearby suburban Virginia.

Elizabeth McClellan (Ph.D. 2010) defended her thesis, was married, and moved out of the country within 30 days. She is a biostatistician at Erasmus Medical Center in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

Nalin Perera (Ph.D. 1993) is the Assistant General Manager of Consumer Banking at the National Bank of Kuwait and has three sons!

Jena Foster (M. S. 2009) is starting in the M. Arch program at Texas A&M University this Fall semester.

Mani Lakshminyan (Ph. D. 1984) is in Investigative Research, Late Development Statistics at Merck Research Laboratories and is also an Adjunct Faculty, Department of Statistics and Biostatistics, Rutgers University. Mani and family live in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. He has two daughters, Divya and Nithya. Divya is currently majoring in Statistics at the North Carolina State University. Nithya is a sophomore in high school. Radha, Mani's wife of 29 years, an actuary, is currently working for ING North America. Mani received his ASA Fellowship in 2009.

Dr. Erwin Hearne III

Dr. Erwin (Scooter) Hearne, III passed away on March 2, 2008 after a sudden illness. He received his PhD in our department in 1975 after receiving his BA in Mathematics from Baylor University in 1970. Scooter was an outstanding statistician in the pharmaceutical industry for many years. At the time of his death he was a Director of Biostatistics at i3 Statprobe. Previously, he was Vice President at Red River Statistics, Inc, and Director at Boots Pharmaceuticals. He also held statistical positions at Clements Associates, Marion Laboratories, Kansas State Tumor Registry, and Ciba-Geigy Pharmaceuticals. From 1980-1985, he was Assistant Professor at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

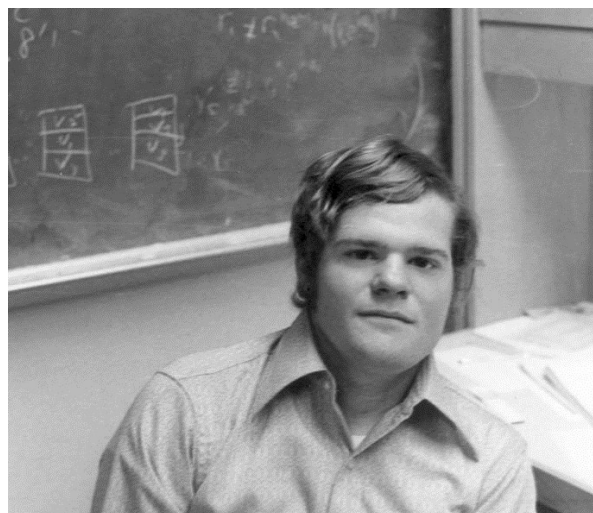
Scooter loved sports and was an original Stat Jock while in graduate school. He served as playing coach on all departmental teams, including touch football, basketball, softball, and soccer. He was exceptionally good on the golf course. His dream was to play Torrey Pines outside of San Diego. During the 1978 JSM in San Diego, Scooter walked on the Torrey Pines golf course with a small group of friends. He convinced himself that someday he would play this magnificent golf course. On Tuesday, February 26, 2008 he played Torrey Pines in the rain. The following Sunday he passed away.

His premature death has shocked us all, and he will surely be missed.

Several of Scooter's colleagues have provided initial seed money for the Erwin Hearne III Statistics Graduate Research Fund here at SMU. Donations can be sent to Department of Statistical Science, Southern Methodist University, P O Box 750332, Dallas TX 75275-0332.



STAT JOCKS — Front Row: Bill Schucany (and Susan), Dick Gunst, **Scooter Hearne**, Bill Frawley (with Beth and Michael). Back Row: Jim Minor, John Boddie, Arlon Anthony, Jim Beckett, Nathan Lewis, Edd Mansfield.



Scooter - while a student at SMU

LISTING OF ALUMNI

Bryan Adams, *Ph.D. 1998*
GlaxoSmithKline
bryan.e.adams@gmail.com

Roberto Alanis, *M.S. 1968*

Mohammad Alassaf, *Ph.D. 1984*

Amber Aldrete Adams, *M.S. 1997*
agadams1@yahoo.com

Michael Ames, *Ph.D. 1987*
GlaxoSmithKline

Ohad Amit, *M.S. 1989*
GlaxoSmithKline
Ohad.Amit@gsk.com

E. Dwane Anderson, *Ph.D. 1968*
(Deceased - 1989)

Charles Anderson, *Ph.D. 1969*
Univ of Southwest Louisiana
cla6357@usi.edu

Arlon Anthony, *M.S. 1972*

Kathleen Arthur, *M.S. 1984*

James Baird, *Ph.D. 1978*
(Deceased 1997)

Joe Ballas, *M.S. 1965*

Dan Bankson, *M.S. 1987*

Warren Bao, *Ph.D. 1990*
Pfizer Inc.
Warren.Bao@pfizer.com

Richard Barham, *Ph.D. 1971*

Kevin Barry, *M.S. 1969*

Robert Bassett, *M.S. 1977*

David Bean, *M.S. 1978*

Jim Beckett, *Ph.D. 1975*
Beckett Interests, Inc.
jim@beckettinterests.com

Christine Berry, *B.S. 1978*

Ronald Boase, *Ph.D. 1971*

John Boddie, *Ph.D. 1974*
Retired – JC Penney
weldon_b@sbcglobal.net

Robert Bodwell, *M.S. 1975*

Kimberly Bolin, *M.S. 2006*
Mary Kay Corporation
kimberly.williamson@mkcorp.com

Peter Bonner, *M.S. 1976*

Salvador Borrego, *Ph.D. 1984*
sabaconsult@infosel.net.mx

N. J Bosmia, *Ph.D. 1982*
(Deceased 2003)

David Bourland, *M.S. 1987*
david.bourland@gmail.com

Jerilyn Boykin, *M.S. 2006*
jerilyn.boykin@gmail.com

James Branscome, *M.S. 1978*
jbranscro@ahcpr.gov

Tom Bratcher, *Ph.D. 1969*
Baylor University
Tom_Bratcher@baylor.edu

James Brennan, *M.S. 1971*

Chuck Broadnax, *Ph.D. 1971*

Dwight Brock, *Ph.D. 1971*
(retired)
dwightbrock@westat.com

Lisa Burdick, *M.S. 1987*
Harvard University

Aaron Camp, *M.S. 2004*
PPD - Austin
aaron.camp@austin.ppd.com

Nancy Plummer Campbell, *M.S. 1982*
Campbell & Chadwick
mmcklc@hotmail.com

Cathy Campbell, *Ph.D. 1977*

Lisa Cannon, *M.S. 2006*
PROS Revenue Management
lisacannon@yahoo.com

Patrick Carmack, *Ph.D. 2004*
University of Central Arkansas
patrickc@uca.edu

Tom Carmody, *Ph.D. 1985*
UTSW -- Dallas
Thomas.Carmody@utsouthwestern.edu

Olivia Carrillo, *Ph.D. 1989*
University of Monterrey, Mexico
ocarrillo@itesm.mx

Frederick Carter, *M.S. 1990*

Janis Carter-Stone, *M.S. 1978*
jcart4@pop.uky.edu

Kyung Joon Cha, *Ph.D. 1990*
Hanyang University
kjcha@email.hanyang.ac.kr

Kwong Shing Chan, *M.S. 1986*

Satish Chandra Misra, *Ph.D. 1971*
U.S. Food and Drug Admin.

DylanChang, *M.S. 2008*
Consumer Reports
cyunxuan@hotmail.com

Hui-Min Chang, *M.S. 1997*
Hchang@cps-satx.com

Sudanong Charuthus, *M.S. 1971*
Maritime Promotion Commission
sudanong@yahoo.com

Zhongxue Chen, *Ph.D. 2007*
Zhongxue.Chen@uth.tmc.edu

Qin-Chang Cheng, *Ph.D. 1993*
Wells Fargo Bank
chengg@wellsfargo.com

Eun-Hai Choi, *Ph.D. 2004*
Nation Highway Traffic Safety Admin.
Eun-Ha.Choi@dot.gov

Youn-Min Chou, *Ph.D. 1980*
(retired) UTSA
ychou@runner.utsa.edu

Ling-Shua Chow, *Ph.D. 1983*

Adeline V. Clarke, *M.S. 1971*

James Clarke, *MAS 1978*

Krista Cohlma, *Ph.D. 2003*
Odessa College
kcohlma@odessa.edu

Michael Conerly, *Ph.D. 1982*
University of Alabama
mconerly@cba.ua.edu

Laura Grounds Conerly, *M.S. 1983*
(Deceased June 1990)

Jim Craig, *Ph.D. 1971*

Roy Cranley, *Ph.D. 1971*
The Queens University

Alfred Crofts, *Ph.D. 1969*
(Deceased 1987)

Michelle Cronkleton, *M.S. 1995*
ICMINC
michelle.cronkleton@ICMINC.com

J. Kelly Cunningham, *Ph.D. 1987*
Stephen F. Austin University
jcunningham@sfasau.edu

David L. Daniel, *Ph.D. 1992*
New Mexico State University
ddaniel@nmsu.edu

James Davenport, *Ph.D. 1971*
(retired)
jim4292@bellsouth.net

Paula Carter Davis, *M.S. 1969*
National Semiconductor Corp.

Ron Dearing, *M.S. 1987*
rdearing@smu.edu

Robert Decker, *M.S. 1973*

Darcie Delzell, *Ph.D. 2008*
Wheaton College
darcie.delzell@wheaton.edu

Dennis Dixon, *M.S. 1968*
NIH, NIAID
DDIXON@niaid.nih.gov

Dovalee Dorsett, *Ph.D. 1982*
(retired) Baylor University
dovalee_dorsett@baylor.edu

Steve Dossin, *Ph.D. 1981*
Dossin Business Solutions

Stacy Duhon, *M.S. 1992*

Fred Durling, *Ph.D. 1969*
Gypsy Data Management
gypsydm@ozemail.com.au

Danny Dyer, *Ph.D. 1970*

Jeff Easterling, *M.S. 1995*
jeff-easterling@noellelevitz.com

Alan Elliott, *MAS 1976*
UTSW Medical School
Alan.Elliott@utsouthwestern.edu

William Elwood, *M.S. 1967*

Shahrokh Erfani, *MAS 1978*

Michael Ernst, *Ph.D. 1997*
St Cloud State University
mdernst@stcloudstate.edu

Paul Eslinger, *Ph.D. 1983*
paul.w.eslinger@pnl.gov

Carol Etzel, *Ph.D. 1999*
M.D. Anderson Cancer Center
cetzel@mdanderson.com

Priscilla Fajardo, *B.S. 1979*

Huchen Fei, *Ph.D. 1994*
First USA Bank, NA
Huchenfei@firstusa.com

Miguel Flores, *M.S. 1976*
National Parks Service
miguel_flores@nps.gov

Wenden Foran, *B.S. 1979*

Cindy R. Ford, *Ph.D. 1991*
Rook Solutions
cindyrford@gmail.com

Virginia Foster, *M.S. 2009*
vfoster@twu.edu

William Frawley, *Ph.D. 1972*
wfrawley@netportusa.com

L. J. Freeman, *M.S. 1979*

Tommy (Lei) Fu, *Ph.D. 1995*
The Medicines Company
tommy1fu@yahoo.com

Rose Gaines, *M.S. 1966*

Cecily Hines Gallagher, *M.S. 1981*

James (Chip) Galloway, *M.S. 1984*

Kinfemichael Gedif, *Ph.D. 2008*
PPD - Austin
Kinfemichael.Gedif@austin.ppd.com

Stephen George, *Ph.D. 1969*
Duke University Medical Center
georg001@mc.duke.edu

Patrick D. Gerard, *Ph.D. 1993*
Clemson University
pgerard@clemson.edu

Roger D. Gilbert, *M.S. 1966*

Carita Glynn, *M.S. 1979*
Donna Glynn, *M.S. 1990*

Stan Gordon, *M.S. 1974*

Virgil B. Graves, *M.S. 1965*

Martha Graybill, *M.S. 1977*

Charlotte Gregg Hase, *M.S. 1991*
Citigroup
Charlotte.m.gregghase@citigroup.com

Lowell Gregory, *Ph.D. 1968*
(Deceased)

Gavin Gregory, *M.S. 1967*

Kangxia Gu, *Ph.D. 2006*

Richard F. Gunst, *Ph.D. 1972*
Southern Methodist University
rgunst@mail.smu.edu

Yesvy Gustasp, *M.S. 1980*

Roy Haas, *Ph.D. 1979*

Barbara Hagerman, *M.S. 1978*

Suk-ki Hahn, *Ph.D. 1982*

Alemayehu Haile, *Ph.D. 1972*

George Hair, *M.S. 1967*

Kwanghee Han, *M.S. 1993*

Joonghee (John) Han, *Ph.D. 1993*
Johnson & Johnson
JHan9@its.jnj.com

Jian Han, *Ph.D. 2001*
Bristol-Myers Squibb Company
jian.han@bms.com

James Haney, *Ph.D. 2011*
JP Morgan Chase
jamesreuben@gmail.com

Andrew Hardin, *Ph.D. 2010*
Solarc Inc.
ahardin@solarc.com

Ron Harrist, *Ph.D. 1971*
UT at Houston Health Center
rharrist@utsph.sph.uth.tmc.edu

Jeff Hart, *Ph.D. 1981*
Texas A&M University
hart@stat.tamu.edu

Molly Hartfield, *Ph.D. 1997*
mhartfield@signaturescience.com

Yu He, *M.S. 1998*

Erwin Hearne, *Ph.D. 1975*
(Deceased March 2008)

Katherine Heizer Stern, *M.S. 1985*
Allergan
stern_katherine@allergan.com

Robert Henderson, *Ph.D. 1982*
Stephen F Austin University
rkhenderson51@yahoo.com

Claudia I. Henschke, *M.S. 1966*
Weill Cornell Medical College
chensch@mail.med.cornell.edu

James Hess, *Ph.D. 1977*
Leggett
jim.hess@leggett.com

John R. Hoelzel, *M.S. 1969*

Pat Holmgren, *M.S. 1973*

Sunho Hong, *Ph.D. 1992*

Md. Jobayer Hossain, *Ph.D. 2005*
Nemours
jhossain@nemours.org

A. Glen Houston, *Ph.D. 1976*
University of Houston at Clear Lake
houston@cl.uh.edu

Yueh-ling (Sherry) Hsiao, *Ph.D. 1976*

Chi-Lin Hsu, *M.S. 1980*

Fan Hu, *Ph.D. 2010*
PayPal
Fan.Hu@billmelater.com

Tsushung Hua, *Ph.D. 1980*
DuPont Merck Pharmaceuticals

Beverley Adams Huet, *M.S. 1984*
UTSW Dallas
Beverley.Huet@UTSouthwestern.edu

Moon-Yul Huh, *Ph.D. 1978*

Don Hutcherson, *M.S. 1967*

Molly Isbell Lewis, *Ph.D. 1998*
mollyilewis@yahoo.com

Ariful Islam, *M.S. 2006*
arif_bsu@yahoo.com

Justin Jander, *M.S. 2009*
PROS Revenue Management
justin.jander@gmail.com

An Jia, *Ph.D. 2004*
anjiaus@yahoo.com

Yilan Jia, *M.S. 2008*

Yue Jia, *Ph.D. 2007*
Educational Testing Service
yjia@ets.org

Huiping Jiang, *Ph.D. 2003*

Robert A. Johnson, *M.S. 1978*

Charles Johnson, *Ph.D. 1970*

Jennifer Johnston Allison, *M.S. 1985*

Gary Jones, *M.S. 1966*
GJONES333@aol.com

Sergio Juarez, *Ph.D. 2003*
Universidad Veracruzana
sejuarez@uv.mx

Adreana Julander, *M.S. 2006*
Southern Methodist University
julander@smu.edu

Brent Juusola, *M.S. 1998*

Cindy Kalkomey, *Ph.D. 1991*
kalk@anet-dfw.com

Mahinda Karunaratne, *M.S. 1986*
PPD Pharmaco
Mahinda.Karunaratne@wilm.ppdi.com

Paul Kavanaugh, *M.S. 2003*
Stephens & Associates
pkavanaugh@stephens-associates.com

Judy Kelley, *M.S. 1975*
West Texas A&M Univ.
jkelley@mail.wtamu.edu

Gary Kelley, *Ph.D. 1977*
West Texas A&M University
gkelley@mail.wtamu.edu

Chansoo Kim, *M.S. 1993*

Beth Knippel, *M.S. 1987*

Joanna Kolson, *M.S. 1979*

Julia Kozlitina, *Ph.D. 2008*
UTSW Medical School
Julia.Kozlitina@UTSouthwestern.edu

R. E. Kromer, *M.S. 1966*

Jo Kang Kuo, *Ph.D. 1999*
One Technologies
jkuo@onetechnologies.net

Alan Kvanli, *Ph.D. 1973*
University of North Texas
kvanli@cobaf.unt.edu

Mani Lakshminarayanan, *Ph.D. 1984*
Merck Pharmaceuticals
mani.lakshminarayanan@merck.com

George Lam, *M.S. 1987*
Mini Company, Limited
george.lam@recruit.com.hk

Rajan Lamichhane, *M.S. 2007*

Beaufort Lancaster, *M.S. 1995*
Frito-Lay Inc.
Beaufort.Lancaster@fritolay.com

Andreas Lawson, *M.S. 1992*
Stephens & Associates
AndyLawson@swbell.net

Kwan-Rim Lee, *Ph.D. 1981*
SmithKline Beecham

Sun-Kwok Lee, *M.S. 1974*

Euikyoo Lee, *Ph.D. 2001*
Ewha Woman's University
ekyoolee@nso.go.kr

Young Ha Lee, *Ph.D. 1983*

Shelly Y. Lensing, *M.S. 1992*
University of Arkansas
lensingshelly@uams.edu

Karyn Ferrell Lentz, *M.S. 1989*
One Technologies
klentz@onetechnologies.net

William Lester, *Ph.D. 1974*
(Deceased 2006)

Chao-Shyuan Li, *M.S. 1979*

Ping Li, *Ph.D. 1994*
Harvard School of Public Health
pingli@sdac.harvard.edu

Loretta Li, *Ph.D. 1973*

- Huaixiang Li, *Ph.D. 1988*
Schering Plough Research Institute
- Alois Liebold, *M.S. 1968*
- T. P. Lin, *Ph.D. 1974*
(retired - IBM)
- Qihua (Katherine) Lin, *Ph.D. 2006*
UTSW Medical Center
Catherine.Lin@UTSouthwestern.edu
- Hildy Lindsey, *M.S. 1980*
- Chung-Ai (Joanna) Ling, *M.S. 1974*
- G. Jun Liu, *M.S. 1971*
- Yushan (Alex) Liu, *Ph.D. 2004*
i3Statprobe, Inc.
yliustat@yahoo.com
- Liangang Liu, *Ph.D. 2004*
Celgene Corp
lliu@celgene.com
- Tao Liu, *M.S. 2008*
- Ari Loiben, *M.S. 2011*
- Marilyn Lookadoo, *MAS 1977*
mlookadoo@aol.com
- Dan Lurie, *M.S. 1965*
- Prabir Majumder, *Ph.D. 1996*
Game Stop
majumder_prabir@hotmail.com
- Edward Mansfield, *Ph.D. 1975*
University of Alabama
edmansfie@cba.ua.edu
- Robert Mason, *Ph.D. 1971*
Southwest Research Institute
rmason@swri.edu
- Douglas Matlock, *M.S. 1985*
(Deceased - Sept. 1990)
- Gibb Matlock, *Ph.D. 1970*
Jana McCaulley, *B.S. 1979*
- Elizabeth McClellan, *Ph.D. 2010*
elizabethmcclellan@gmail.com
- Mellisa McCollum Medler, *M.S. 1987*
- William McCrary, *M.S. 1979*
- Donald McIntire, *Ph.D. 1977*
UTSW - Dallas
Donald.McIntire@UTSouthwestern.edu
- Joe McWilliams, *M.S. 1976*
Stephen F. Austin University
jmcwilliams@sfasu.edu
- Stephen Meeks, *Ph.D. 1978*
- Lisa Mesh, *M.S. 1993*
- John Michael, *Ph.D. 1977*
john@wefigure.com
- Gregory K. Miller, *Ph.D. 1996*
Stephen F Austin University
miller@math.sfasu.edu
- James W. Miller, *Ph.D. 1994*
James.W.Miller@home.com
- John A. Miller, *MAS 1979*
- Abu Minhajuddin, *Ph.D. 2003*
UT Southwestern Medical Center
Abu.Minhajuddin@UTSouthwestern.edu
- Jim Minor, *Ph.D. 1973*
- Jason Minter, *M.S. 2009*
University of Alabama at Huntsville
jtm0020@uah.edu
- Jorge Montemayor, *M.S. 1998*
- Sukanya Mookerjee Misra, *Ph.D. 1996*
- Myung-Sang Moon, *Ph.D. 1991*
Yonsei University
statmoon@hanmail.net
- Frederick Morgan, *Ph.D. 1975*
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
fwmorgan@grove.iup.edu
- Elizabeth Morgan, *M.S. 1989*
- Mike Morton, *Ph.D. 1981*
Phillip Morris
Michael.J.Morton@pmusa.com
- Stewart Musket, *Ph.D. 1971*
- Darrio Nappa, *Ph.D. 2008*
- Lizzie Nayeem, *M.S. 2003*
- C. J. Nelson, *M.S. 1967*
- Laura Noriega, *M.S. 1985*
- Joel O'Hair, *Ph.D. 2010*
Crescat Capital LLC
joelohair@gmail.com
- Linda O'Neal, *M.S. 1978*
- Mark Olsen, *M.S. 1977*
- Ibrahim Abdel Osman, *MAS 1979*
- Mehmet Emin Ozturk, *M.S. 1986*
- Albert Palachek, *Ph.D. 1981*
Epsilon
Al.Palacheck@epsilon.com
- Elinor Pape, *Ph.D. 1971*
- Sherry Parker, *M.S. 1998*
- Van Parr, *M.S. 1963*
(Deceased - Aug 1999)
- William Parr, *Ph.D. 1978*
w.parr@att.net
- Robin Pearl, *M.S. 1977*
- N. Shirlene Pearson, *Ph.D. 1979*
Southern Methodist University
spearson@smu.edu
- Nalin Perera, *Ph.D. 1993*
CRO-Consumer/AGM
NalinP@nbk.com
- Benjamin Luke Peterson, *M.S. 2006*
PPD - Austin
Luke.Peterson@ppdi.com
- Robert Pierce, *M.S. 1976*
- Jeff Pitblado, *Ph.D. 2000*
STATA
jeffrey.pitblado@gmail.com
- Diane Podhrasky, *M.S. 1996*
- Alan Polansky, *Ph.D. 1995*
Northern Iowa University
polansky@math.niu.edu
- Paul Terry Pope, *Ph.D. 1969*
- Eric Powell, *M.S. 1990*
- Ralph Price, *B.S. 1975*
- Howard Prier, *M.S. 1971*
- Wenzi Qiu, *Ph.D. 1993*
Abbott Laboratories
Wenzi.Qiu@RossNutrition.com
- Ahang Rabbani, *B.S. 1977*
- Charles Ratliff, *M.S. 1969*

Jackie Carol Reeves, *M.S.* 1973

Miriam Reilman Daunis, *Ph.D.* 1986
University of New Orleans
mdaunis@miltie.math.uno.edu

Joan Reisch, *Ph.D.* 1974
UTSW Medical School

Francis Roark, *M.S.* 1979

Paula K. Roberson, *B.S.* 1974
University of Arkansas
robersonpaulak@uams.edu

Steve Robertson, *Ph.D.* 2008

Rebecca Rosenstein, *Ph.D.* 1986
Pfizer Inc.
rosenr1@pfizer.com

Jonathan Sanders, *Ph.D.* 2009

Raymond Sansing, *Ph.D.* 1971

Giovanna Saracino, *M.S.* 1998
GiovannS@BaylorHealth.edu

William R. Schucany, *Ph.D.* 1970
Southern Methodist University
schucany@mail.smu.edu

Burton Seibert, *Ph.D.* 1970

Edward Sepulveda, *M.S.* 2000

Edward Seymour, *M.S.* 1975
Texas Transportation Institute
eseymour@tamu.edu

Stanley Shannon, *M.S.* 1963

D'anna Shaver, *M.S.* 1971

Jing Shen, *M.S.* 2010
Frito-Lay

Shyui Shen, *Ph.D.* 2004
Genetech, Inc.
shen.shuyi@gene.com

Yu Shu, *M.S.* 2003

J. C. Shyu, *Ph.D.* 1984

Doris Simmons, *M.S.* 1974

Katherine Sisk, *M.S.* 2010
Raytheon
ksisk@raytheon.com

Mark Smith, *Ph.D.* 1969

John Sommers, *Ph.D.* 1972

Jeffrey Spence, *Ph.D.* 2004
UTSW - Dallas
Jeff.Spence@utsouthwestern.edu

Kay M. Statyon, *B.S.* 1973

Jana I Steinmetz, *M.S.* 1980
KV Pharmaceutical Company
jsteinmetz@KVPharamaceutical.com

Susan Jan Stevens Scott, *MAS* 1978

David Stevenson, *Ph.D.* 1973
General Electric Co.

Marcia Stoesz, *M.S.* 1992

Jerrell Stracener, *Ph.D.* 1973
Southern Methodist University
jerells@mail.seas.smu.edu

Don Strickert, *Ph.D.* 1988
Frito-Lay Inc.
Don.Strickert@fritolay.com

George Suiter, *M.S.* 1965

Glenna Taite, *M.S.* 1976

Liansheng Tang, *Ph.D.* 2005
George Mason University
ltang1@gmu.edu

Liangjun Tang, *Ph.D.* 1997

Mark Tapee, *M.S.* 1981

John Telford, *M.S.* 1970
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission
JLT@NRC.gov

An-Ling (Annie) Terng, *M.S.* 1975

B. C. Thomas, *M.S.* 1966
(retired)

Jeannie Thomas, *M.S.* 1973

Richard L. Thomasson, *M.S.* 1963

Lori Thombs, *Ph.D.* 1985
University of Missouri-Columbia
thombsl@missouri.edu

William Tucker, *M.S.* 1963
(Deceased 2008)

Gary Ulrich, *Ph.D.* 1980
AT&T Bell Labs
gulrich@att.com

William Vaughn, *M.S.* 1965
Vanderbilt University

Chu-Ping Vijverberg, *Ph.D.* 2002
Wichita State University
Chuping.Vijverberg@wichita.edu

Ying Wan, *Ph.D.* 1996
ywan99@yahoo.com

Zhu Wang, *Ph.D.* 2004
Connecticut Children's Medical Center
Zwang@ccmckids.org

Yan Wang, *Ph.D.* 2008

Eugene Y. Wang, *Ph.D.* 1995

Jinping Wang, *Ph.D.* 1996
jinpingswang@yahoo.com

W. Fred Webber, *Ph.D.* 1971
(retired)
fred_webber@sbcglobal.net

David Cherry Welch, *M.S.* 1989
CitiCards/NAIT
david.cherry.welch@citigroup.com

Joyce Wellman, *Ph.D.* 1991
Equilon Enterprises LLC
jmwelldman@equilon.com

Don Wheeler, *Ph.D.* 1970
Stat Process Controls Inc.

John White, *Ph.D.* 1976
(Deceased 1992)

Sandra Jeanne Whitehead, *M.S.* 1990

Stephen Wiechecki Vergara, *Ph.D.* 1998
Science Applications International Cop.
wiecheckives@saic.com

Wayne Williams, *M.S.* 1967

Wayne Wilson, *M.S.* 1977

Virginia Wing, *MAS* 1976

George Woodward, *M.S.* 1976
PsychSpring
gwoodward15@suddenlink.net

Robert Wysocki, *Ph.D.* 1969
University of Wisconsin

Peng Xie, *M.S.* 2009
Sabre Holdings
Peng.Xie@sabre-holdings.com

Mengyuan Xu, *Ph.D.* 2008
sum2@niehs.nih.gov

Hon Yeh, *Ph.D.* 1981

Chiuerh (Rita) Yu, *M.S.* 1987

Hsiang-Ling Yin, *M.S.* 1983

Han Yuan, *M.S.* 1997

Tony Ying, *M.S.* 1999

Yan Zhong, *Ph.D.* 2004

Getaneh Yismaw, *M.S.* 2007

GlaxoSmithKline
yzhong2005@yahoo.com

John Young, *Ph.D.* 1971
(retired) McNeese State University

Kun Zou, *Ph.D.* 2011
Citigroup – Las Colinas
kzou1974@gmail.com

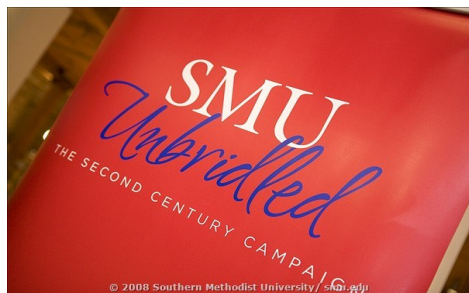
If you have information on any alumnus with a new address, retirement, new email, anything on anyone listed in our Alumni List, please let me know. Also if you see I have left anyone out of our Alumni List, please let me know.

If you have updates on yourself, please send it to me so I can include it in our next report. It is always good to hear from our alumni!



Send to scrain@smu.edu. Thank you.





Department of Statistical Science
P O Box 750332
Dallas TX 75275-0332

214-768-2441
214-768-4035

WWW.SMU.EDU\STATISTICS

