

2005-2007 Report

Department of Statistical Science

Southern Methodist University

Dallas, Texas

Exciting Times

It has been an excellent three years since the previous "Annual Report" was mailed. In this report we describe several of the exciting events that are taking place. For example, Ron Butler joined us in January 2007 as the Frensey Chair in Mathematical Sciences, Monnie McGee received tenure and promotion to associate professor, and Lynne Stokes was named the winner of the 2005 Don Owen Award by the San Antonio chapter of the ASA. One of the most exciting developments has been the growth in grant support obtained by our faculty members, many of these involving interdisciplinary research efforts between members of our faculty and researchers at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas and the Reading Research Center within the newly formed School of Education here at SMU. A direct result of this type of interdisciplinary research activity has been a dramatic growth in the number of graduate students within the department. For many years we have had 20-25 graduate students most of whom were funded as Teaching Assistants. This year we have 36 graduate students! Of these, 17 are supported by the university as TA's, but a growing number of our students are being funded as RA's (7) on grants and through internships (5) at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. Two students receive full TA-level support as tutors at the Learning Enhancement Center, two are supported on Dissertation Fellowships given by the Dean of the Graduate School, two are supported by local industry, and one receives support from the Mexican government. Needless to say, all these graduate students and research activities keep us busy – but that's the way we like it.



Ron Butler joins department

We are pleased to announce that Ronald Butler joined our faculty as the C. F. Frensey Chair in Mathematical Sciences beginning the Spring 2007 semester. Ron comes to SMU from Colorado State University where he has been Professor of Statistics since 1992. He is a widely respected statistical scholar long recognized for his work on saddlepoint approximations. In this connection, he is the author of the new book *Saddlepoint Approximations with Applications* with Cambridge University Press. Dr. Butler's research has had continual funding since 1989 through the National Science Foundation and more recently his interests have branched into the areas of survival analysis and stochastic systems. His research background and current interests will enhance the department's growing expertise and reputation in biostatistics and bioinformatics. We're really glad to have Ron aboard!

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Noteworthy Items

Dick Gunst spent the 2006-2007 academic year on a well deserved administrative leave after serving as Department Chair from 2000-2006.

Wayne Woodward was honored at the Fall General Faculty Meeting by being named the 2006-2007 United Methodist Church Scholar/Teacher of the Year at SMU. He also received the Outstanding Presentation Award to Wayne Woodward, Southern Methodist University, for the SPES contributed paper "Time Transformation Methods for Analyzing Data with Time-Varying Frequencies, with Applications." The paper presented is joint work with Henry L. Gray, Southern Methodist University. Also one of Dr. Woodward's students received the Runner-up Outstanding Presentation Award to Stephen Robertson, Southern Methodist University, for the SPES contributed paper "Generalization and Applications of Linear Chirp Stationary Processes."

Tony Ng was married to the very lovely Sheron Ng on February 17, 2007. They spent their honeymoon on the island of Crete this past summer. Congratulations Tony!

Jing Cao's husband, Song Zhang, accepted a position in the Department of Clinical Sciences at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas in September 2007. This greatly simplifies their life since they were both doing a lot of commuting between Dallas and Houston where Song worked as a biostatistician at M.D. Anderson.

Ian Harris demonstrates his wide range of abilities by serving as coach of the Jets soccer team composed of 6 year olds. Rumor has it that two of the brightest stars on the team are Michael Harris and Luke Harper (Bill Schucany's grandson).

Narayan Bhat served as interim dean of the new School of Education at SMU while a permanent dean was being found. In his spare time he wrote a new book *Introduction to Queueing Theory: Modeling and Analysis*. Clearly, Narayan has not mastered the fine art of retirement.

Campbell Read is working on editing and correcting the newly published *Encyclopedia of Statistical Sciences* (3rd edition) published by Wiley in 2006.

Sheila Crain joined our department in 1980 and has now been "running things" for 27 years.

Buddy Gray retires from department

Buddy Gray retired December 31, 2005 after holding the C.F. Frensey Chair in Mathematical Sciences since 1973. Buddy's contributions to the department and to SMU have been absolutely tremendous. In addition to his research and teaching, he spent 12 years as Dean and Associate Dean of Dedman College.

Buddy's research accomplishments include major contributions in the areas of jackknifing and time series analysis. As a testament to his research and mentoring ability he has directed or co-directed 17 Ph.D. students since coming to SMU. The department honored Buddy with a retirement dinner on May 6, 2006 attended by over 80 people including faculty, former students, and friends.

A point of clarification needs to be added with regard to Buddy's "retirement." As any of you who know Buddy would guess, he is still actively involved in research. The only difference is that now it's a hobby (i.e. we don't pay him anymore). However, he still comes to campus about once a week and works with Wayne Woodward currently directing four students on their Ph.D. research.



Buddy with his Ph.D. students at retirement party.

Monnie McGee awarded tenure



We are very pleased to announce that Monnie McGee was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor effective September 1, 2007. Monnie received her undergraduate degree from Austin College, and her Masters and Ph.D. in Statistics from Rice University. After working as a consulting biostatistician for The Rockefeller University in New York City and an Assistant Professor at Hunter College, City University of New York, she joined the SMU faculty in 2002. Her research fields are gene expression microarray analysis, motif finding in genetic sequences with application to microRNAs, and categorical time series. She is the recipient of an NIH AREA (R15) grant to study methods for modeling and simulating data from Affymetrix Gene Expression arrays.

Sherry Wang visits NISS on sabbatical

Sherry Wang was selected from among a very strong set of applicants to receive a National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) New Researcher Fellowship for 2006-07. She was on research leave during the Spring semester of 2007 during which time she spent one and a half months in Research Triangle Park, NC working with the data confidentiality working group at NISS. She did collaborative research in several areas including preserving data utility using Bayesian treed methods, table verification servers and disclosure risk considerations, and statistical disclosure limitation methods. She found the experience very beneficial and was able to develop new areas of research that should lead to publications.



Departmental Responsibilities:

- Chair – **Wayne Woodward**
- Graduate Advisor – **Lynne Stokes**
- Undergraduate Advisor – **Ian Harris**
- Recruiting Coordinator – **Monnie McGee**
- International Recruiting – **Jing Cao**
- Seminar Chair – **Ron Butler**
- Director of Center for Statistical Research in the
Environmental, Earth, and Life Sciences – **Bill Schucany**
- Library Liaison – **Sherry Wang**
- Computer Room Coordinator – **Tony Ng**
- Website Coordinator – **Dick Gunst**

Lynne Stokes receives 2005 Don Owen Award

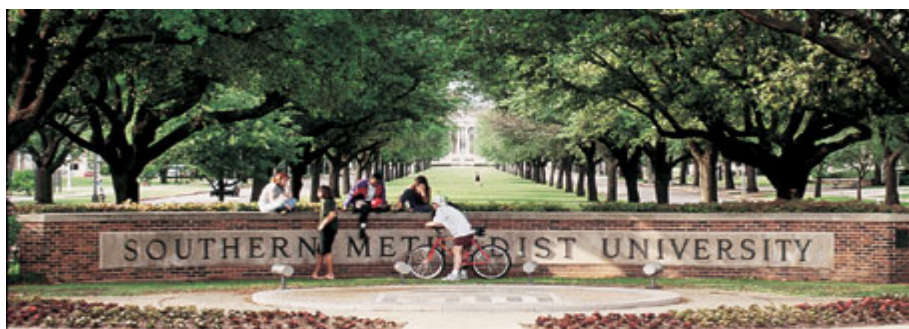


Lynne Stokes received the 2005 Don Owen Award, and was honored at the banquet dinner of the *Conference of Texas Statisticians*. This prestigious award, made in honor of one of the pioneering members of our department, is given annually by the *San Antonio Chapter of the American Statistical Association (ASA)* to a statistician who has excelled in research, statistical consulting, and service to the community. By any measure Lynne is deeply deserving of the award. Her stature as a scholar in statistical science is internationally acknowledged, she has excelled as a teacher and consultant, and she has a lengthy and highly meritorious record of service to the profession. She is world-renowned for her work in sampling, census measurement errors, and statistical issues related to privacy and confidentiality. The *American Statistical Association (ASA)* has acknowledged her scholarly activities by electing her a *Fellow* of the Association. Both as an excellent teacher and as a consultant, Lynne has transferred her knowledge of statistics in general and survey sampling in particular to much larger groups of users of statistical methods. Her service to the statistical community is extensive and includes being elected Chair of the ASA's *Section on Survey Research Methods* and being selected to serve on the *National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Design and Analysis Committee*, the *ASA Committee on Privacy and Confidentiality*, and the *National Academy Panel on Alternative Census Methodologies*. She also served as editor of *The American Statistician* and as associate editor of the *Journal of the American Statistical Association*.

Jing Cao joins faculty

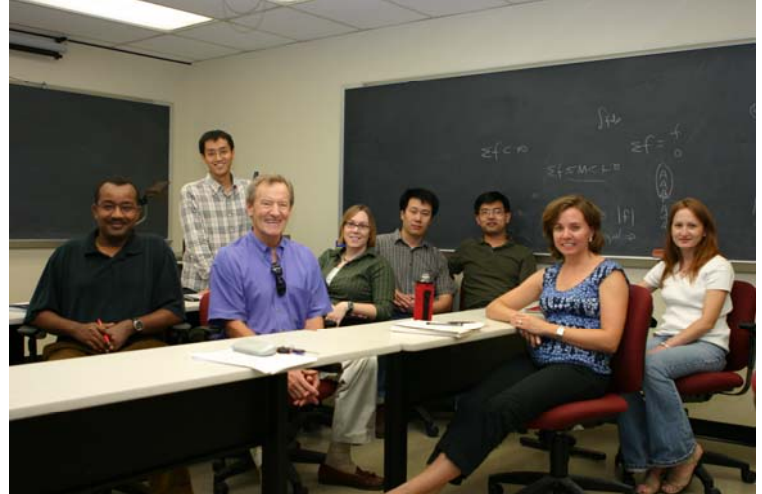


Following the completion of her doctoral degree at the University of Missouri, Jing Cao joined the faculty in the Fall of 2005 as an Assistant Professor. Jing has a Bachelor of Science degree in applied mathematics from Qingdao University and a Master of Science degree from Xiamen University, both in China. She also has a master's degree in statistics from the University of Missouri. Her research interests are in Bayesian hierarchical modeling, with applications in survival analysis, wildlife science, ecology, and epidemiology. We welcome her talents, enthusiasm, and infectious smile



Schucany Directs UTSW Statistical Interns

A valuable internship program has been developed through UTSW's Department of Clinical Sciences that is providing unique learning opportunities for our graduate students. Currently five, up from two at the beginning, of our students are being supported on this program which provides statistical expertise to researchers at UTSW. The student interns collaborate with researchers in strong departments at UTSW with stipend support generously provided through the Department of Clinical Sciences. These Graduate Research Internships (GRI) are twelve month assignments with the students working full time in the summer. The interns work under the knowledgeable supervision and leadership of **Bill Schucany** as director of our Center for Statistical Research in the Environment, Earth, and Life Sciences (CSREELS). **Monnie McGee** directed a dissertation on microarray analysis for one of the first interns, Zhongxue Chen. This program is providing excellent opportunities for our students to gain research experience in a medical environment. The five current interns and project descriptions are listed below.



Julia Kozlitina works with Dr. Helen Hobbs and other faculty in the Center for Human Genetics, McDermott Center for Human Growth and Development. Their project is based on data from the Dallas Heart Study and is designed to pinpoint ethnic differences and underlying genetic mechanisms associated with differences in the risk of cardiovascular disease. She is developing novel statistical methods for the analysis of genome-wide association data - that is, data including thousands, often hundreds of thousands, of genetic variants.

Elizabeth McClellan is collaborating with Dr. Richard Scheuermann and other scientists in the Division of Translational Pathology. Her research is in the area of bioinformatics and involves statistical analysis of microarray data for purposes of enabling medical research scientists to better investigate gene differences.

Getaneh Yismaw is collaborating with scientists in the Simmons Cancer Center where he is providing statistical support for Dr. Michael White and Dr. Yang Xie. He is assisting in the development and application of advanced biostatistical methods for the analysis of high-throughput screening of biomarkers for cancerous tumors and their suppressors.

Kun Zou is collaborating with Dr. Eric Nestler and other scientists in the Department of Psychiatry to provide statistical and database support. He is currently working on research projects relating to microarray data analysis and interpretation.

Frank Hu is working with Dr. Chul Ahn in the Department of Clinical Sciences on work related to sample size calculations in cluster randomization studies with varying cluster size. Methods exist for sample size calculation in the case of equal cluster size. Frank will be working with Dr. Ahn to develop cluster size formulas that allow for cluster randomization with varying cluster size.

Pictured above: (l-r) Getaneh Yismaw, Ohn Jo Koh (standing), Dr. Schucany, Elizabeth McClellan, Kun Zou, Frank Hu, Dr. McGee and Julia Kozlitinia.

Faculty Research Areas

Short summaries of current faculty research interests can be found at the following web site <http://www.smu.edu/statistics/faculty/fac-research.htm>.

Ron Butler, Ph.D. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 1977. Survival Analysis, Special Functions and Complex Variables, Systems Theory and Stochastic Networks, Likelihood and Bayesian Inference, Saddlepoint Methods, Multivariate Analysis, Reliability Theory, Bootstrap and Robustness, Electrical engineering applications, Ocean engineering applications

Jing Cao, Ph.D. University of Missouri (Columbia), 2005. Bayesian methods and applications, Generalized linear models, Spatial-temporal models, Model Selection

Richard F. Gunst, Ph.D. Southern Methodist University, 1972. Fellow ASA. Regression analysis, linear models, statistical design and analysis of industrial experiments, spatio-temporal statistical modeling, modeling and analysis of brain imaging data.

Ian R. Harris, Ph.D. University of Birmingham, U.K., 1989. Robust estimation, minimum divergence methods, nonparametric methods, variance components, mixed models, complex sampling designs

Monnie McGee, Ph.D. Rice University, 1994. Gene Expression microarray background correction, normalization and summarization, imputation methods, categorical time series, spectral analysis of time series

Hon Keung (Tony) Ng, Ph.D. McMaster University, 2002. Statistical inference, reliability theory, nonparametric statistics, operations research, lifetime data analysis, statistical methods in medical sciences

S. Lynne Stokes, Ph.D. University of North Carolina, 1976. Fellow ASA. Sampling, survey methods, methods of disclosure limitation, measurement error models

William R. Schucany, Ph.D. Southern Methodist University, 1970. Fellow ASA and Member ISI. Data analysis with applications in legal evidence, medical research, survey sampling of business records; nonparametric curve estimation, local linear and kernels, adaptive bandwidths; resampling methodology including jackknife, bootstrap, randomization tests, analysis of medical imaging data

Xinlei (Sherry) Wang, Ph.D. University of Texas (Austin), 2002. Bayesian methods and applications, sampling, parameter estimation with order constraints, Generalized linear models, capture-recapture models, and nonparametric mixed effects models

Wayne A. Woodward, Ph.D. Texas Tech University, 1974. Fellow ASA. Time series analysis, robust estimation, statistical analysis of data related to climate change, testing for trend, mixture models, directional multivariate testing.

Faculty Books

Bhat, U. Narayan, *Introduction to Queueing Theory: Modeling and Analysis*, Birkhauser.

Ng, N.K.T. *Precedence-Type Tests and Applications*, John Wiley & Sons
(Coauthored with N. Balakrishnan).

Read, C. *Encyclopedia of Statistical Sciences, 2nd Edition*. John Wiley & Sons
(Editor-in-Chief with N. Balakrishnan and B. Vidakovic).

Stokes, L. *Review of Recreational Fisheries Survey Methods*
Committee on the Review of Recreational Fisheries Survey Methods, National Research Council,
National Academies Press(presented before Congress 2006).

Woodward, W. *Statistical Analysis Quick Reference Guidebook*, Sage Publications
(Coauthored with A. Elliott).

Current Faculty Research Projects/Grants

- ◆ *Ron Butler* is funded by the National Science Foundation for his project *Saddlepoint and Bootstrap Methods in Stochastic Systems and Related Fields*. In this work bootstrap inference for complex stochastic systems is developed by implementing the bootstrap in the transform domain. Examples include: censored data from progressive diseases that are modeled as multi-state survival models, and ion-channel models for the transmission of pain in the nervous system. Further applications in ocean and electrical engineering are concerned with modeling the distributions for extreme wave heights in the sea and in transmission signals. In population genetics, inference about natural selection and genetic drift are addressed by developing saddlepoint approximations for Lauricella hypergeometric functions that are needed in likelihood computations.
- ◆ *Jing Cao* is collaborating with colleague *Lynne Stokes* on Bayesian application in educational data analysis. They are working on a *National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Second Analysis* grant entitled *Examination of Low Motivation in the 12th Grade NAEP*. This project is designed to explain why the 12th-graders failed to produce gains on the 2005 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), while they are earning better grades on average. *Jing Cao* has also teamed up with researchers from the UT Southwestern Medical Center to develop new methodology on high through-put screening.
- ◆ *Lynne Stokes* collaborates with *Dr. Patricia Mathis*, Director of SMU's *Institute for Reading Research*, on novel methods for teaching English to Spanish-speaking elementary and secondary school children. This five-year project, supported by graduate students from the *Department of Statistical Science*, is compiling a comprehensive database that will be used to assess the effects of various training programs in the Houston Independent School District.
- ◆ *Lynne Stokes* and *Ian Harris* are collaborating on a *National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Secondary Analysis* grant entitled *Use of Sampling Weights in Multilevel Models Fit to NAEP Data*. The grant is funded by the *Institute of Educational Sciences*, the research arm of the U.S. Department of Education. The project is designed to develop methodology for estimating parameters of multilevel models from data that have been collected according to complex sampling designs. NAEP data are collected using a multistage design and require the fitting of hierarchical statistical models. This research will develop methods for the proper fitting of NAEP data.
- ◆ *Ian Harris* also is conducting collaborative research activities with *Dr. Mathes* and *Dr. Jill Allor* of the *Institute for Reading Research*. Their *US Department of Education* grant, *Project Maximize*, is designed to determine whether reading methods taught to students with reading difficulties would be similarly beneficial to students who have mild or moderate mental retardation. The project is a 4-year randomized longitudinal study of approximately 150 children in the Fort Worth Independent School District, and will compare the effectiveness of different reading interventions on reading ability.
- ◆ *Monnie McGee* has recently been awarded a grant from the National Institutes of Health to develop a comprehensive model for background correction, normalization, and summarization of gene expression microarray data. She has begun a collaboration with faculty members in the computer science and biology departments at SMU to predict new microRNA transcripts and their targets. She continues to work with colleagues in the department at UTSW on the analysis of various types of high throughput medical data, in addition to her work with *Ian Harris* on categorical time series analysis.
- ◆ *Bill Schucany* is also moving into bioinformatics. He supervises our student interns at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas and collaborates on research projects in high-throughput screening, microarrays, and genetic association studies. This research should result in several Ph.D. dissertations.
- ◆ *Hon Keung (Tony) Ng* continues his research on nonparametric life testing procedures, optimization theory in reliability testing and statistical methods in medical sciences. He is developing statistical inference procedures for inverse sampling applications which can be applied to hematological, AIDS, and case-control studies for rare diseases. This work is funded by the Research Grants Council of Hong Kong Earmarked Grant. He is collaborating with *Dr. Giovanni Filardo* from Baylor Research Institute on analysis of coronary artery bypass graft surgery data and investigation of the relationship between isolated mitral valve surgery and mortality using statistical models. He also has research projects with *Dr. Gang Zheng* from National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute on genetic case-control association studies.

Current Faculty Research Projects/Grants

- ◆ Sherry Wang's major research projects includes theoretical investigations of concomitants of multivariate order statistics with applications in judgment post-stratification, Bayes treed models and their applications, parameter estimation under constraints via geometric programming, and developments of statistical disclosure limitation methods for data confidentiality. She is collaborating with Professor Suku Nair and Ph.D. student, Saeed Abu Nimeh, both from Computer Science, on Phishing detection techniques. She joined the data confidentiality working group at the National Institute of Statistical Sciences, where she did collaborative research developing new statistical methods to preserve both data confidentiality and utility.
- ◆ *Dick Gunst* and *Bill Schucany* are continuing their multi-year project with Dr. Robert Haley, world-renowned epidemiologist at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, who identified and substantiated the existence of the 1991 Gulf War Syndrome. Their work has confirmed differences between syndrome and control groups not only in areas of the deep brain that likely were affected by exposure to sarin gas and insect repellants used in the Gulf War but also in wide areas of the cerebral cortex. Current research, supported by the Veteran's Administration, concentrates on the design and both parametric and nonparametric methods for analyzing functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) data.
- ◆ *Wayne Woodward* continues his collaboration with *Buddy Gray* on the modeling and analysis of time series with time-varying frequencies. A new time series application for this group is the analysis of EEG data in collaboration with Tom Ferree at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. He is also working with *Bill Schucany* on a bootstrap-based method for wavelet analysis as a new methodology in fMRI time series. Four graduate students are currently working on dissertations under the direction of Woodward and Gray.



Our Friday Morning Tea Time
Students and Faculty

Faculty Publications

2006

- Gunst, R.** "A Spatiotemporal Model for Groundwater Tritium Concentrations," *Communications in Statistics, Theory and Methods*, 35, 489-497 (with E. Lee and M.-S. Moon).
- Gunst, R. , Schucany, W., and Woodward, W.** "Using a White Matter Reference to Remove the Dependency of Global Signal on Experimental Conditions in SPECT Analyses", *NeuroImage*, **32**, 49-53. (with J. Spence, P. Carmack, and R. Haley).
- McGee, M.** "A Distribution Free Summarization Method for Affymetrix GeneChip® Arrays." *Bioinformatics Advance* Access published on December 5, 2006. doi:10.1093/ bioinformatics/btl609 (with Z. Chen, Q. Liu, and R. Scheuermann).
- McGee, M.** "Parameter Estimation for the Exponential-Normal Convolution Model for Background Correction of Affymetrix GeneChip Data," *Statistical Applications in Genetics and Molecular Biology* 5, Article 24 (with Z. Chen).
- McGee, M.** "Analysis of a Pilot Study for Amelioration of Itching in Liver Disease: When is a Failed Trial not a Failure?" *The American Statistician* 60, 303 - 308 (with N.V. Bergasa).
- McGee, M.** "Gabapentin treatment for the Pruritus of Cholestasis: Results of a Double Blind Placebo Trial." *Hepatology* 44, 1317-1323 (with N. V. Bergasa, I. Ginsburg, D. Engler).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "A Nonparametric Procedure Based on Early Failures for Selecting the Best Population Using a Test for Equality", *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*, **136**, 2087-2111 (with N. Balakrishnan and S. Panchapakesan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "Assessment of Agreement under Nonstandard Conditions Using Regression Models for Mean and Variance, *Biometrics*, **62**, 288-296 (with P. K. Choudhary).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "Assessing the efficacy of a voluntary HIV counseling and testing intervention for pregnant women and male partners in Urumqi City, China", to appear in *AIDS and Behavior*, **10**, 671-681 (with K. Khoshnood, K. S. Wilson, G. Filardo and Z. Liu).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "Point and Interval Estimation for the Two-parameter Birnbaum-Saunders Distribution Based on Type-II Censored Samples," *Computational Statistics and Data Analysis*, **50**, 3222-3242 (with D. Kundu and N. Balakrishnan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "Exact Cochran-Armitage Trend Tests: Comparison under Different Models," *Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation*, **76**, 847-859 (with M. L. Tang, J. Guo, W. Chan and P. S. Chan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "A Comparative Study of Tests for Paired Lifetime Data," *Lifetime Data Analysis*, **12**, 505-522 (with Z. Wang).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "Parameter Estimation for a Modified Weibull Distribution for Progressively Type-II Censored Samples, *IEEE Transactions on Reliability*, **54**, 374-380.
- Schucany, W.** "A Note on the Asymptotic Distribution of the Minimum Density Power Divergence Estimator", *IMS Lecture Notes*, 2nd Lehman Symposium-Optimality, **49** (2006), 334-339 (with S. Juárez).
- Stokes, L.** "An Estimator of Number of Species from Quadrat Sampling," *Biometrics* 62, 135-141 , (with P. Haas and Y. Liu),

Faculty Publications (continued)

- Wang, X.** and **Stokes, L.** "Forming Post-Strata via Bayesian Treed Capture-Recapture Models". *Biometrika*, **93 (4)**, 861-876 (with J. Lim).
- Wang, X.** and **Stokes, L.** "Concomitants of Multivariate Order Statistics with Application to Judgment Post-stratification". *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, **101**, 1693-1704 (J. Lim and M. Chen).
- Wang, X.** "Significance Calculation and New Analysis Method in Searching for New Physics at LHC". *European Physical Journal C*, **45**, 659-667 (with Y. Gao and L. Lu).
- Woodward, W.** "Euler (p,q) Processes and their Application to Nonstationary Time Series with Time-Varying Frequencies," *Communications in Statistics A* 35, 2245-2262 (with Choi and **Gray**).
- Woodward, W.** "Time Frequency Analysis-- $G(\lambda)$ -Stationary Process," *Computational Statistics and Data Analysis* 51, 1997-2028 (with H. Jiang and **H. Gray**)
- ### 2005
- Cao, J.** "Bias adjustment in Bayesian estimation of bird nest age-specific survival rates," *Biometrics*, 61, 877-878 (with H. Chong)
- Gunst, R.** "Spreading the Word: Investigating Antecedents of Consumers' Positive Word-of-Mouth Intentions and Behaviors," *Journal of the Academy of Marketing Science*, **33**, 123-138 (with Brown, Barry and Dacin).
- Harris, I. R.** "Measuring relative importance of sources of variation without using variance," *The American Statistician*, 59, 217-222 (with B. Burch).
- Harris, I. R.** "Optimal one-way random effects designs for the Intraclass correlation based on confidence intervals," *Communications in Statistics, Theory and Methods*, 34, Issue 10, 2009- 2024 (with B. Burch).
- McGee, M.** "A Human T-Cell Lymphotropic Virus Type 1 Enhancer of Myc-Transforming Potential Stabilizes Myc-TIP60 Transcriptional Interactions," *Molecular and Cellular Biology* 25, 6178-6198 (with Awasthi, Sharma, Wong, Zhang, Matlock, Rogers, Motloch, Takemoto, Taguchi, Cole, Luscher, Dittrich, Tagami, Nakatani, Girard, Gaughan, Robson, Monnat, Jr., and Harrod).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "Weighted Precedence and Maximal Precedence Tests and an Extension to Progressive Censoring," *Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference*, **135**, 197-221 (with N. Balakrishnan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "Testing of equality of two Poisson Means Using Rate Ratio," *Statistics in Medicine*, **24**, 955-965 (with M. L. Tang).
- Stokes, L.** "Antecedents and consequences of residential choice and school transfer," *Education Policy Analysis Archives*, 13(29) (with T. Falbo, R. Glover & L. Holcombe),.
- Woodward, W.** "Nonstationary Data Analysis by Time Deformation", *Commnications in Statistics A34*, 163-192 (with **H. Gray** and C. Vijverberg).

Faculty Publications (continued)

2004

- Gunst, R. F.** "Measurement Error Models in Chemical Mass Balance Analysis of Air Quality Data," *Atmospheric Environment*, 38, 733-744 (with W. F. Christensen).
- Gunst, R. F. , W. R. Schucany, W. A. Woodward,** "Improved Agreement Between Talairach and MNI Coordinate Spaces in Deep Brain Regions," *Neuroimaging*, 22, 367-371 (with P.S. Carmack, J. Spence, and R. W. Haley).
- Gunst, R. F.** "Estimating Pollution Source Contributions from Temporally Correlated Air Quality Measurements," *Communications in Statistics*, 1039-1060 (with W. F. Christensen).
- Harris, I. R. and W. R. Schucany,** "Simulating Multivariate Distributions with Specific Correlations", *Journal of Statistical Computation and Simulation*, 74, 599-607 (with A. Minhajuddin).
- McGee, M.** "A Pilot Study of Mind-Body Changes in Adults with Asthma Who Use Mental Imagery", *Alternative Therapies in Health and Medicine*, 10(4), 66-71 (with Epstein, Halper, Barrett, Birdsall, Phillips, Lowenstein).
- McGee, M.** "The Level and Species of Plasma Non-Esterified Fatty Acids are not Related to Elevated Plasma Apolipoprotein B Levels in Familial Combined Hyperlipidemia", *Journal of Medicine*, 32: 349-63 (with Shamir, Williams, Cornter, Hudgins, Levine, and Fisher).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "Goodness-of-Fit Tests Based on Spacings for Progressively Type-II Censored Data from a General Location-Scale Distribution, *IEEE Transactions on Reliability*, 53, 349-356 (with N. Balakrishnan and N. Kannan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "Wilcoxon-type Rank-sum Precedence Tests", *Australia and New Zealand Journal of Statistics*, 46, 631 - 648 (with N. Balakrishnan).
- Ng, H. K. T.** "Optimal Progressive Censoring Plan for The Weibull Distribution", *Technometrics*, 46, 470 - 481 (with P.S. Chan and N. Balakrishnan)
- Schucany, W.R.** "Kernel Smoothers: An Overview of Curve Estimators," *Statistical Science*, 19, 663-675.
- Schucany, W.R.** "Robust and Efficient Estimation for the Generalized Pareto Distribution", *Extremes*, 7 (2004), 237-251. (with S.Juarez)
- Stokes, L.** "Disclosure Risk vs. Data Utility: The R-U Confidentiality Map as Applied to Topcoding, *Chance* 17, 16-20, (with G. Duncan).
- Stokes, L.** "Using Spreadsheet Solvers in Sample Design", *Computational Statistics and Data Analysis* 44, 527-546 (with Plummer).

Graduate Student Awards/Current Students

Student Awards and Honors

The **Scheuren Award** for Academic Excellence is given to first-year students for outstanding performance in the theory and applied portions of the first-year curriculum.

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.

Yue (Helena) Jia was awarded a dissertation fellowship from the American Education Research Association for her work on new methods for analyzing data from the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP). This survey, known as the Nation's Report Card, is sponsored by the US Department of Education for the purpose of monitoring what American students know and can do, and is an important source of information for policy makers. Yue received her Ph.D. in May 2007.

	Walsh Award	Minton Award	Scheuren Award
2007	Darcie Delzell	Yijie (EJ) Liao	Ke Wang
2006	James Haney	Fan (Frank) Hu	
2005	Kinfemichael Gedif	Darcie Delzell & James Haney	Luke Peterson & Lisa Cannon

Our present graduate students are:

Wenkai Bao
Cheryl Beeler
Sean Cagle
Dylan Chang
Darcie Delzell
B. Y. Deng
Fang Duan
Jean Foster
Kinfemichael Gedif
James Haney
Drew Hardin
Fan Hu

Yalan Hu
Rong Huan
Justin Jander
Seoweon Jin
Ohn Jo Koh
Julia Kozlitina
E. J. Liao
Heather Lin
Linjun Lin
Tim Liu
Elizabeth McClellan
Jason Minter

Darrio Nappa
Youfeng Nie
Joel O'Hair
Steve Robertson
Jon Sanders
Jing Shen
Holly Stovall
Sandy Sun
Ke Wang
Tracy Xu
Getaneh Yismaw
Zou Kun

Fall 2006 Departmental Seminars

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Title</i>
Aug 25	Richard Gunst, Southern Methodist University	Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant Roles within the Department of Statistical Science
Aug 29	Seminar at UT Southwestern	Dallas Area Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Workshop – 2006
Aug 30	Catherine Lin, Dissertation Defense	Spatiotemporal Modeling of fMRI Data
Sept 1	Alan R. Dabney, Statistics Dep, Texas A&M University	Functional ANOVA Normalization of Two- Channel Microarrays.
Sept 15	Tony Ng, SMU	Selecting the Best Population Using a Test for Equality based on Precedence-Type Statistics,
Sept 21**	Michael Schell, Moffitt Cancer Center at Univ of South Florida (ASA Chapter Mtg)	Screening Mammography and Best Ballparks for Home Runs: Using Flexible Regression Approaches to Obtain Improved Estimation
Sept 29	Stephen R. Wisniewski University Pittsburgh	Sample Size Issues Related to the Implementation of the Equipoise-Stratified Randomization Design
Oct 6	Xian-Jin Xie UT Southwestern Univ.	Logistic Regression: How Confident are we about the Model
Oct 13	Yuhang Wang, SMU, Computer Science & Engineering	A Novel Stationary Wavelet Denoising Algorithm for Array-Based DNA copy Number Data
Oct 20	Sam Efromovich, Univ of Texas at Dallas	Several Topics in Nonparametric Curve Estimation
Oct 27	Knifemichael Gedif, SMU	Functional Brain Imaging - Dissertation prospectus
Nov 3	Patrick Gerard, Mississippi State University	An Enhanced Sign Test for Dependent Binary Data with Small Numbers of Clusters
Nov 10	Faming Liang, Texas A&M University	Stochastic Approximation in Monte Carlo Computation
Nov 17	Song Zhang, UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center	From ODP to BDP, a Bayesian Nonparametric Perspective

Spring 2007 Departmental Seminars

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Title</i>
Jan. 19	Monnie McGee, SMU	Parameter Estimation for the Exponential Normal Convolution Model for Background Correction of Affymetrix Gene Chip Data
Jan 25	K C Sunjay, Guaranty Bank	Use of Statistics in Real Estate Market Research
Feb 2	R F Gunst, SMU	An Introduction to Survival Data Modeling
Feb 9	Julia Kozlitina, SMU	Statistical Analysis of Genetic Association Studies
Feb 28**	Sam Efromvich, Univ of Texas at Dallas	Univariate Nonparametric Regression in the Presence of Auxiliary Covariates
March 2	Sherry Wang, SMU	Mean Estimation for Judgement Post-Stratified Data with Multiple Concomitant Variables
March 9	Pat Carmack, UTSW	Far Casting Cross Validation
March 23	Matthew Martin, Rapp Collins	Predicting Churn for the Texas Residential Customer Base
March 30	Conference of Texas Statisticians at Baylor University, Waco, TX	http://www.baylor.edu/statistics/
April 6	Good Friday	
April 13	Jeff Spence, UTSW	Nonparametric Semivariogram Feature Extraction with Emphasis on the Nugget
April 20	Z. Chen, Statistical Science, SMU	Probe-level Data Analysis For High-density Oligonucleotide Array (dissertation defense)
April 27	John Semple, ITOM, SMU	<i>Robust Count Distributions with Application to Demand Modeling</i>
May 8	David Siegmund, Stanford University	<i>Do Complex Statistical Methods Help in Mapping Complex and Quantative Traits</i> , abstract

Alumni News

Retirements:

John Boddie (1974) from J C Penney and *William Frawley* (1972) from UTSW..

Moves:

David Welch (1989) has moved to Citigroup in the area; *Bill Parr* (1978) is on a one year leave at China Europe International Business School in Shanghai, China; *Michael Ernst* (1997) has moved to St. Cloud State University; *Mike Morton* (1981) has moved to Phillip Morris in Virginia. *Dan Bankson* (1987) is now with Capital One Auto Finance in Plano; *Pat Gerard* (1993) has moved from Mississippi State to Clemson; *George Lam* (1987) is now Vice Chairman with Hong Kong Biotechnology Company, Limited, in Hong Kong. *Zhu Wang* (2004) is now an Associate Research Scientists in the Yale University School of Medicine.

Honors:

Bryan Adams (1998) received a prestigious Excellence in Science award from Glaxo Smith Kline.

Carol Etzel (1999) received the 2007 Robert M. Chamberlain Distinguished Mentor Award at M. D. Anderson in Houston in November 2007

Jeff Hart (1981) received the *Don Owen Award* in 2007.

William C. Parr (1978), Professor of Statistics at the University of Tennessee, was named a 2005 ASA Fellow.

Miscellaneous Items:

Mike Conerly (1982) is the Head of the Department of Information Systems, Statistics and Management Science replacing Edd Mansfield (1975) in that position at the University of Alabama.

James L. Hess (1977) has been promoted to Vice President of Operations services at Leggett and Platt.

Nalin D. Perera (1993) is a Vice President for Consumer and Small Business Portfolio Management for Bank of America in Charlotte, NC.

Mani Lakshminarayanan (1984) and *Warren Bao* (1990) joined *Rebecca Rosenstein* (1986) this year at Pfizer Development Operations in New York.

Lori Thombs (1986) organized the Gertrude Cox race at the JSM. She took over from Monnie McGee who organized it the last few years. Ian Harris placed first in his age group ("over xx") and 6th overall.

PLEASE NOTE: We are sure that we just scratched the surface in terms of noteworthy alumni news items. Please keep Sheila informed when you know of newsworthy items about yourself or another alum.

Recent Graduates

Ph.D.

2005

Md. Jobayer Hossain, presently at HHI Clinical Research and Statistical Services, will be relocating to Columbia University as a Biostatistician.

Liangsheng Tang, Assistant Professor, George Mason University

2006

Katherine Lin, UTSWMC, Dept of Biostatistics and Clinical Studies, Dallas

Kangxia Gu, at home with baby

2007

Zhongxue Chen, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Helena Jia, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, NJ

M.S.

2006

Kim Williamson, Mary Kay Inc., Dallas

Adreana Julander, SMU Learning Enhancement Center

Lisa Cannon, Citi Mortgage, Dallas

Jerilyn Boykin, Neiman Marcus, Dallas

Luke Peterson, PPD, Austin

Ariful Islam, Eli Lilly, Indianapolis

2007

Rajan Lamichhane

Deaths — We were saddened by the recent deaths of three members of the SMU Statistics family.

Paul Minton



Paul Minton passed away on July 10, 2007. Paul was the founding chair of our department and we all are deeply indebted to him. After leaving SMU in 1978, he was Dean of Arts and Science at Virginia Commonwealth University. He was the recipient of numerous academic and professional awards in statistics and several national awards are named after him.

Jack Webster



Jack Webster passed away on October 9, 2006. He was instrumental in forming the fledgling Department of Statistics in 1960s and 1970s. He received a bachelor's degree from Ripon College, an MS from Purdue University and a Ph.D. in Statistics from North Carolina State University in 1960. He taught in the Department of Statistical Science at SMU for over 25 years. He directed 14 Ph.D. dissertations and retired as professor emeritus in 1987. He was a gentleman in every sense of the word and came across to his students as a 'regular guy' who genuinely cared about them.

William Lester



Bill Lester passed away on Feb. 7, after having served more than 20 years as Provost of Tuskegee Institute. He joined the faculty of Tuskegee in 1968 as a mathematics instructor. He later took a leave of absence in 1970 and earned his Ph.D. in Statistics at SMU in 1974. He returned to head the Mathematics Department at Tuskegee, and from there he served as Assistant Provost in the Academic Affairs Office, and he was named as Provost in 1984.

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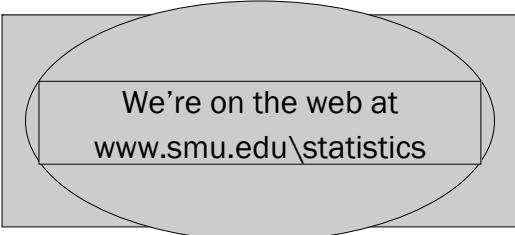
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This past summer we were able to make some renovations and moves in the department. With Dr Gray's retirement, Dr Woodward moved his office to part of Dr Gray's, and we were able to add a two-person graduate office and move departmental files. So this freed up space to create a 'break' room for the graduate students to congregate, eat lunch, talk, drink coffee, etc. This has been a very popular place with our students. We also purchased software not provided by the university for development of a special purpose package for the graduate time series course.
Any donations we receive from our alumni are used for our graduate students. **So we wish to thank our alumni for their generous donations.** We are always looking for more help! So don't forget us when you are considering donations in the future.
Sheila Crain
Admin Asst
=====

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