

ASA Journal Honors Career and Life of UNC Statistician Gary Koch

Festschrift issue for Dr. Koch features articles written by colleagues and students; the special issue also will be the subject of a session at the Joint Statistical Meetings

ALEXANDRIA, VA (PRWEB) JULY 11, 2011 -- The latest issue of *Statistics in Biopharmaceutical Research* is a *Festschrift* celebration of the career and life of University of North Carolina (UNC) statistician Gary Grove Koch. The special issue features original articles written in honor of Koch, who received his doctorate at UNC in 1968 and has taught there ever since, by many of his colleagues.

Koch is a professor of biostatistics and director of the Biometric Consulting Laboratory in the Gillings School of Global Public Health at UNC. He has been an ASA member since 1963 and was named an ASA Fellow in 1972. Koch served as chair of the Biometrics Section of the ASA in 1980, and program chair for the ASA annual meeting in 1977. He also has served as editor and assistant editor of several ASA journals.

The tribute issue grew out of a celebration of the 60th anniversary of UNC's Department of Biostatistics in October 2009. It has taken a year and a half to publish the current issue, while papers were submitted, refereed, accepted and produced. The *Festschrift* issue, which reflects Koch's broad research interests and contributions, will be the topic of a session at JSM in Miami Beach on Wednesday, August 3. Koch and John Preisser, editor of this special issue, will be discussants at this session.

[Note: A *Festschrift* is a book or volume published to honor a person respected in his/her field, usually an academic, and containing original articles by the honoree's close colleagues and, possibly, former doctoral students.]

Two of the articles in the current issue are available for free on the SBR web site:

- A preface to the special issue by John Preisser

<http://pubs.amstat.org/doi/pdf/10.1198/sbr.2011.PREFACE>

- "A Conversation With Gary Grove Koch" by Lisa M. LaVange and John Preisser

<http://pubs.amstat.org/doi/pdf/10.1198/sbr.2011.KOCHINTER>

About the Joint Statistical Meetings

JSM, which has been held annually since 1974, is conducted jointly with the American Statistical Association (ASA), the International Biometric Society (ENAR and WNAR), the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS), the Statistical Society of Canada (SSC), the International Chinese Statistical Association, and the International Indian Statistical Association. JSM activities include oral presentations, panel sessions, poster presentations, continuing education courses, exhibit hall (with state-of-the-art statistical products and opportunities), career placement service, society and section business meetings, committee meetings, social activities, and networking opportunities. JSM is open to members of all participating associations, as well as non-members and has special pricing for students, seniors, K-12 teachers; one-day registrations also are available. Complete JSM program information is available at <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2010/index.cfm>.

About the American Statistical Association

Headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, the American Statistical Association is the world's largest community of statisticians and the second oldest continuously operating professional society in the United States. For 170 years, the ASA has supported excellence in the development, application, and dissemination of statistical science through meetings, publications, membership services, education, accreditation, and advocacy. Its members serve in industry, government, and academia in more than 90 countries, advancing research and promoting sound statistical practice to inform public policy and

improve human welfare. For additional information about the American Statistical Association, please visit the ASA web site at <http://www.amstat.org> or call 703.684.1221.

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