
Fall 2003 Meeting Notice
Northeastern Illinois Chapter
American Statistical Association

DATE: Thursday, October 23, 2003 (Luncheon at 11:30 a.m.)

LOCATION: Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel, 933 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, IL. 60062.
 (Telephone: 847-498-6500.)

RESERVATIONS: Advance reservations are required and must be received by 4 p.m., Thursday, October 16. Cancellations cannot be accepted after this date, and "no shows" will be billed. Registration is transferable except for the \$5 in membership dues (\$1 for students) that is included in the non-member fees. (Please circle in the following table the amount you are paying.)

FEES:	Luncheon & Sessions		Sessions Only		NIC
	Member	Non-Member	Member	Non-Member	Membership Only
Regular (Corp./Govt.)	\$50.00	\$55.00	\$25.00	\$30.00	\$5.00
Academic (Univ./H.S.)	\$40.00	\$45.00	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$5.00
Full-time Student	\$11.00	\$12.00	no charge	\$1.00	\$1.00

Since membership is held on a calendar year basis, if you have not expressly joined the Chapter this year, you should pay the non-member rate. Doing so will make you a member for 2003.

PAYMENT: Make checks payable to: Northeastern Illinois Chapter, ASA

REGISTRATION: Please mail, e-mail or fax (no call-ins please) the registration form (below) to:

Harold W. Frush
 D-07B2 AP5N Phone: (847) 937-5332
 Abbott Laboratories Fax: (847) 935-3320
 100 Abbott Park Road Email: harold.frush@abbott.com
 Abbott Park, IL 60064-6070

PROGRAM:

- 11:00 – 11:30 Registration
- 11:30 – 12:30 Luncheon
- 12:30 – 12:45 Business Meeting
- 12:45 – 13:40 Speaker: Sanjib Basu – Bayesian Analysis of Competing Risks
- 13:40 – 13:55 Break
- 13:55 – 14:50 Speaker: Brent Logan – Pairwise Multiple Comparison Adjustment in Survival Analysis
- 14:50 – 15:05 Break
- 15:05 – 16:00 Speaker: Domenic Reda – The Findings of the Persian Gulf War Health Examination Study

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS CHAPTER MEETING REGISTRATION/MEMBERSHIP DUES

Name _____

Company _____ Department _____

Street Address _____ Work ____ Home ____

Telephone (____) _____ Work ____ Home ____ E-mail address _____

I will be attending: ____ Luncheon and Sessions ____ Sessions only ____ Membership Dues Only

2003 NIC/ASA member prior to this registration? (See FEES for details) ____ Yes ____ No

Membership Type: (1) Regular (Corp./Govt.); (2) Academic (Univ./H.S.); (3) Full-Time Student

Tax Identification Number 52-1665956

20th Annual Fall 2003

Bayesian Analysis of Competing Risks

The Bayesian approach to statistical design and analysis is emerging as an increasingly effective and practical alternative. This presentation will consider Bayesian analysis of competing risks where two or more risks are acting simultaneously on a subject. This analysis can be further complicated by masking where only partial or no information is available in the data on the cause-of-fail.

Sanjib Basu, Ph.D.

**Division of Statistics Northern Illinois
University basu@niu.edu**

Sanjib Basu is an Associate Professor in the Division of Statistics at Northern Illinois University, De Kalb. He obtained his Ph.D. in Statistics from Purdue University and held positions at University of California, Santa Barbara and University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Dr. Basu was the Stanley Schor scholar at the Biostatistics and Research Data Sciences Department of Merck Research Laboratories during 2001-02. His research interests include Bayesian inference, model selection and multiple testing problems.

Pairwise Multiple Comparison Adjustment in Survival Analysis

When comparing the survival curves of several treatment or prognostic groups, the familywise error rate, or the chance of finding a false significance among all of the comparisons, is

inflated above the usual desired significance level. Simple Bonferroni multiplicity correction is conservative, because it does not account for correlation among the statistics and because it does not allow for situations where some treatments have clearly different survival curves so that less multiplicity adjustment is needed. To correct for correlation among the test statistics, we derive the joint asymptotic distribution of the pairwise weighted log-rank statistics, and show in simulation that multiplicity adjustment based on the maximum of these statistics is more powerful than the Bonferroni procedure. We also show that simulation of the martingale residuals may be used to estimate the limiting distribution of the maximum pairwise statistic and adjust the comparisons for multiplicity. This simulation-based correction may be useful in more complex situations where adjustment for covariates is necessary. Finally, we consider stepwise and closed test procedures, and compare several measures of power among the proposed methods of multiplicity adjustment through a simulation study. An example from bone marrow transplantation is used to illustrate the methods.

Brent Logan, Ph.D.

Medical College of Wisconsin

Dr. Brent Logan is an Assistant Professor in the Division of Biostatistics at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) in Milwaukee. He joined MCW in 2001 after completing his Ph.D. in Statistics at Northwestern University. His statistical research focuses on multiplicity issues in several areas, including multiple endpoints,

dose-finding, survival analysis, and large-scale multiplicity problems in fMRI data. He is heavily involved in collaborative efforts in bone marrow transplant research, including providing statistical support for the National Marrow Donor Program and designing clinical trials for the newly formed Blood and Marrow Transplant Clinical Trials Network.

The Findings of the Persian Gulf War Health Examination Study

A few years ago, Domenic Reda presented a talk at a NIC meeting about the background and design of the Persian Gulf War Health Examination Study, which was in the data collection phase. This study conducted comprehensive physical and neuropsychological exams on a stratified random sample of more than 2000 veterans from two cohorts, those who were deployed to the Persian Gulf during the 1990-1991 conflict in Kuwait and Iraq and those who served in the military during that time but were not deployed. Spouses and children of the veterans were also examined. The purpose of the study was to determine the health impacts on veterans who were deployed and their families. Now that the study is completed, he returns to share the preliminary findings

Domenic J. Reda, Ph.D.
Acting Director Cooperative Studies Program Coordinating Center
Hines VA Hospital

Dr. Reda is a biostatistician who has spent most of his career at the Hines VA Cooperative Studies Program Coordinating Center, serving as the Associate Director for 9 years and Acting Director since February 2002. He has been the lead statistician for at least 12 multi-center randomized clinical trials and a consulting statistician for at least 15 others, covering a diverse range of medical topics. Dr. Reda has co-authored more than 85 manuscripts which have been published in peer-reviewed journals, including four published in the New England Journal of Medicine and three in the Journal of the American Medical Association. He is a statistical reviewer for several journals as well as

a proposal reviewer for the National Institutes of Health. He has served on a Data and Safety Monitoring Board for a large VA study in ambulatory care and currently serves in a similar capacity for four NIH-funded multi-center clinical trials, three in the treatment of benign prostate disease and one in rheumatology. In addition to his VA studies, he has successfully competed, in collaboration with others, for NIH and AHRQ funded randomized clinical trials in inguinal hernia repair, symptomatic treatment of knee osteoarthritis and prevention of HIV. Dr. Reda is Past-President of the Northeastern Illinois Chapter of the American Statistical Association. Furthermore, Dr. Reda helped plan and is a faculty member for two courses in clinical research methods that are offered annually by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the American College of Surgeons. He directs the VA course. He has an adjunct academic appointment at the University of Illinois School of Public Health and teaches courses in biostatistical methods and clinical trials.

President's Report

As my tenure as President of the Northeastern Illinois Chapter of the American Statistical Association (NIC/ASA) comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the other members of the Executive Committee for their help and support during the past two years. I would especially like to thank Harold Frush (Treasurer), Donna Kowalski (Past-President [2002]) and Domenic Reda (Past-President [2003]) for their dedication to the Chapter and for their guidance with issues that were not necessarily covered in either a "job description" or the Chapter By-Laws.

At first glance, the Chapter bank balance appears to be somewhat lower than for a similar reporting period from last year, despite an increase in registration fees for the Spring/Fall Chapter Meetings and the Summer Workshop. However, it should be noted that the Chapter contributed money to the Conference on New Directions in Experimental Design earlier this year. If that

contribution is taken into account, the “adjusted” balance (\$4,831.17) is similar to that reported in the Fall 2002 Newsletter (\$5002.65). Also, given an apparent decline in membership from 2002 (n=158) to 2003 (n=123) this is not totally unexpected. With recent events at Pharmacia and Hines VA, the next few years may be extremely challenging for NIC/ASA from a membership perspective.

Next year will also see several changes in the make-up of the Executive Committee, as there is the potential to welcome at least four new members (President-elect and Program Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chapter Representative). Those individuals nominated as Chapter Officers for 2004 include Renee Alpern (President-elect and Program Chair), Coleen Hall (Secretary), and Jimmy Sun (Treasurer). If you would be interested in serving on the Executive Committee, please contact me via email at Richard.A.Rode@Abbott.com.

The Fall Chapter Meeting brings a close to our “scientific” program for 2003. At this time, I would like to thank all of the speakers from the Spring (Daniel Frobish, Kiang Liu & Art Roth), Summer (Dick De Veaux) and Fall (Sanjib Basu, Brent Logan & Domenic Reda) programs for sharing their knowledge and experience with NIC/ASA. In addition, I would encourage anyone interested in serving on the 2004 Program Committee to contact either Bala Hosmane (bala@math.niu.edu) or our soon to be elected 2004 President-elect and Program Chair.

~ Rick Rode

Fall Meeting

The fall meeting will be held on October 23, 2003, at the Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel, 933 Skokie Blvd., Northbrook, IL 60062. The telephone number is 847.498.6500. Directions to the hotel are available at www.mapquest.com. If you have any special needs, please contact either Peter Yu (847-236-2359; peter.yu@tappharma.com) or Renee Alpern

(708-202-4897; alpern@research.hines.med.va.gov).

~Renee Alpern

Nominees for 2003 Chapter Officers

At the business portion of the Fall Chapter Meeting, scheduled for 23 October 2003, we will elect officers for the 2004 calendar year (January 1 – December 31, 2004). Nominees for 2004 Chapter Officers are as follows:

President-Elect/Program Chair

Renee Alpern is a biostatistician for the Hines VA Cooperative Studies Program Coordinating Center and an adjunct mathematics instructor for Roosevelt University. She received an M.S. in biostatistics from the University of Illinois at Chicago and an M.S. in applied mathematics from Northeastern Illinois University. Since the fall of 2001, Renee has been a co-chair on the arrangements committee of the Northeastern Illinois Chapter.

Secretary

Coleen Hall is a Statistician in the Clinical Statistics department of Abbott Laboratories. She received an M.S. in Biostatistics from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Prior to joining Abbott, Coleen held positions at the Hines VA Cooperative Studies Program Coordinating Center and the University of Illinois Health Research Policy Center.

Treasurer

Jimmy Sun got his B.S. degree in Instrumentation Design Engineering from Shanghai University of China in 1984. He worked as a biomedical instrumentation design engineer at Shanghai Medical Equipment Research Institute for five years after that. In 1989, he attended the Graduate School of Louisiana State University and got his M.S. degree in Applied Statistics with minors in Chemistry and Quality Control. In 1994

he worked as a Quality Engineer/New Product Development Manager at Yaskawa Electric of America. In 1996 he formed his own consulting firm and worked as a statistical consultant at Abbott Labs. He became an Abbott Employee in 2002.

Jimmy Sun started getting involved in the NIC/ASA chapter activities in year 2000 by creating a database for chapter meeting registration and membership purposes. Since then he has also volunteered at the registration table for all the chapter meetings.

Jimmy Sun has a wide variety of interests and hobbies including music and golf. He has two sons, ages 15 and 7.

Community Activities

The recipient of the NIC *Best Use of Statistics* in a Science Fair Project at the Region 6 Science Fair last Spring was Britta Monson, a freshman at Adali Stevenson High School who did her project on the Statistics involving Student Backpacks.

We congratulate Britta on her accomplishments and also congratulate her on winning numerous awards in the State Fair last May. She hopes to continue on with her project for next year and we look forward to seeing her statistical additions in the next Region 6 Fair in March.

Before the next fair, we plan to send guidelines to interested schools in what our chapter judges are looking for in Science Fair projects to qualify for our Chapter's award.

Thanks also to Dorothy Dunlop for her continued work in setting up workshops for the AP Statistics Teachers. The Consortium for AP Statistics with the Chicago and Northeastern Illinois Chapters of the ASA are sponsoring a free half -day workshop for high school AP statistics teachers taught by Professor Stephen Stigler, Ernest DeWitt Burton Distinguished Service Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Chicago. The topic is the History of Statistics and will be held on Saturday

September 27, 2003. Teachers attending get 3 CPDU's. It will be held from 9 to noon at the University of Chicago Laboratory School.

~Carole Bernett

Treasurer's Report

BALANCE 01/01/2003	4,964.13
INCOME	
2003 Spring Meeting	2,644.00
2003 Summer Workshop	6,080.00
Bank Interest (thru 7/31/2003)	27.24
Total Income	8,751.24
TOTAL ASSETS	13,715.37
EXPENSES	
2003 Spring Meeting	(2,286.90)
Design Conf. Support	(500.00)
Workshop Hotel Deposit	(500.00)
Workshop Tuition Refund	(80.00)
Summer Workshop Hotel Bill	(3,857.19)
Summer Workshop	(1,500.00)
Honorarium Presenter Expenses	(654.11)
Bank Charges	(6.00)
Total Expenses	(9,384.20)
BALANCE 8/31/2003	4,331.17

~ Harold Frush

Chapter Website

Don't forget to visit our Chapter web page at <http://www.amstat.org/chapters/NortheasternIllinois>. The website can also be accessed by following links found on the main ASA web page (www.amstat.org). Select Chapters, then Chapter Links by District, then Northeastern Illinois (Under District 4), and finally, visit the Northeastern Illinois Chapter home page.

The Chapter website has lots of information about our Chapter, including events, program

information, and contact information for Chapter officers and committee members. You can also peruse PDF versions of current and past Chapter newsletters. Finally, if the speaker provides them, slides/notes from previous presentations are available to view or download.

~Paul Cernohous

Calendar

The following are some upcoming regional/national events that may be of interest to you. Check the ASA web site (www.amstat.org/dateline) for additional details.

- FDA/Industry Workshop (September 18-19, 2003; Bethesda, Maryland)
- International Conference on Health Policy Research (October 17-19, 2003; Chicago, Illinois)
- The Seventh Great Lakes Statistical Symposium (October 29-31, 2003; Kalamazoo, Michigan)
- 59th Annual Deming Conference on Applied Statistics (December 8-12, 2003; Atlantic City, New Jersey)
- 10th Annual Biopharmaceutical Applied Statistics Symposium (December 8-12, 2003; Savannah, Georgia)

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Statfax welcomes letters and material for articles from its readers. Address correspondence to: The Editor, Statfax, c/o Anita Ross, Ross Consulting, 4554 Main St., Skokie, IL, 60076.

The Chapter's purpose, as stated in its Constitution, is "to foster statistics and its applications and promote the interests of the statistical profession...". Accordingly, diverse views are presented. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the officers or the policies of the Chapter.
