

Executive Committee/Business Meeting
Section on Statistics in Defense and National Security
August 8, 2006
JSM Seattle, WA

Called to order by chair Ron Fricker at 0700

ExecComm Attendance: Ron Fricker, Alyson Wilson, Lara Schmidt, Nancy Spruill, Lionel Galway, Dave Olwell, Wendy Martinez, David Banks

Welcome of Newly-elected Future SDNS Officers Ron Fricker

The 2005 elections results were:

- Program-chair elect (2007): David Marchette
- Publications (2007-2009): Barry Bodt
- Secretary/Treasurer (2007-2008): Lionel Galway
- COS Rep (2007-2009): Ron Fricker

Awards David Banks

First annual SDNS section awards were given to Ernest Sieglie and Nancy Spruill. Section needs to set up committee to make next year's selection. Exec Committee in agreement that awards committee should include broad selection of section members.

Student Papers Competition David Olwell

Made an award this year to Michael Porter, University of Virginia

As in previous years submissions were sparse. Section needs to consider ways to expand notification and get more interest.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report Lionel Galway

Current balance as of 7/1/06 \$1327.66

\$9622 profit from The First Annual Conference on Quantitative Methods & Statistical Applications in Defense and National Security, held at RAND Feb 15-16, 2006.

May be adjusted slightly (still some suspense). Need to have RAND send to ASA with note that it goes to SDNS treasury.

Membership 308, with 83 free

70 new members

20 ASA expired

23 membership expired

JSM 2006 Wendy Martinez

See Appendix 2 for complete report

JSM 2007 Plans Lara Schmidt

We have 4 sessions in the Invited Session mix: one will be designated as our Allocated session, and the other three will compete for a yet-to-be-determined number of additional sessions. The sessions are:

Biometrics: A Gold Standard? Organized by Sinjini Mitra

Robust Statistical Machine Learning organized by Yufeng Liu

Link Analysis for Counterterrorism Applications organized by David Marchette

Anomaly Detection Methods for Biosurveillance organized by Howard Burkom

Defense and Security Task Force Alyson Wilson

Alyson chairs this ASA-wide task force set up by ASA President Sally Keller-McNulty. (See attached scan of slides). It is exploring a number of areas in which statistics contributes to defense and security, as well as ways in which the public and policy makers can be educated about these contributions. One key emphasis is that the focus should be broadly international, and so areas such as policing and forensics are important.

David Banks brought up the issue of greater engagement with the Department of Homeland Security, perhaps by providing information in areas such as risk analysis and reliability. David Olwell noted the effectiveness of targeted invited sessions in generating interest and awareness. Don Gaver said that the section needed to focus on specific problems and situations, not abstract principles.

ENAR 2006 Lara Schmidt

SDNS sponsored two sessions, spatial surveillance and bioterrorism and microparticle remediation (see Appendix 1 for details). Sessions were not well-attended, but technical level was high and the topics were not of general biostatistical interest. However, there were interested attendees who thought the sessions were useful and interesting.

ENAR 2007 Atlanta. Larry Cox is responsible. There will be one session on anomaly detections, and we have proposed others on data confidentiality and spatial surveillance.

Annual Conference on Quantitative Methods in Defense and National Security

Wendy Martinez

The final numbers are in for the first annual conference at RAND in February 2006. There were 132 attendees.

Planning is underway for the second annual conference, February 7-8 at George Mason University in Metro DC area. Ed Wegman, Wendy Martinez and Jeff Solka are sharing the organizational duties. The belief is that the D.C. venue will attract more defense agency participation. Website is almost ready.

Finances. Want to take credit card payments, hope to get help from Interface Foundation for this. Discussion of registration fees and possible outside support. No student funding.

Contributed session will be refereed. Deadline is 11/15/06.

Publicity. Ads in Amstat News, Washington Statistical Society newsletter. Announcements to list from first conference, SDNS-L, MITRE, RAND, IDA, CNA, APL, DHS, DOD, DOJ, DARPA, MORS, INFORMS, AMS

Attendees said there was lots of networking at first conference. Lara indicated that proceedings are being prepared if authors submit their papers.

See Appendix 3 for complete report.

There was some discussion as to whether the section should keep funding, etc. for this conference in ASA or transfer it to the Interface Foundation (which also sponsors the Army Conference on Applied Statistics). The executive committee will consider the options.

Sally Keller-McNulty Visit

The task force on defense and security is a key initiative. ASA wants stronger interactions with the agencies involved. Noted that Savage had addressed the defense areas in his presidential address, to include international concerns and public policy issues. Mary Ellen Bock will continue this interest, especially the international collaboration on policy and security.

COS Rep Report David Banks

Main business of relevance to the section is the debate on posters vs. talks. Section was lukewarm to the idea of posters, particularly since there is seen to more prestige to a talk.

SPAIG award (Statistical Partnerships among Academe, Industry, and Government) nominations were encouraged by ASA and sections asked to consider activities that may qualify. Note that only requirement is partnership between organizations in any two of the three categories.

Other Business

Army Conference on Applied Statistics (ACAS) will be held Oct 18-20 at NISS. Pre-meeting course on Social Network Analysis by Ed Wegman. Ron F. will check with Barry Bodt about what ACAS would like SDNS to do about publicity, etc.

Committee noted that archival information is important, and we need to keep good records of section activities.

Nominating committees: Need one for officers, ASA fellows, charter (Alyson Wilson will chair), student paper, and awards. Email to SDNS-L for volunteers, nominations.

Continuing education for 2007. Will send email call out. Section needs to get the financial aspects sorted out.

Executive committee and members expressed the need to get students involved in the section activities.

Appendix 1: SDNS-sponsored sessions at ENAR 2006

Conference relocated from New Orleans to Tampa due to Hurricane Katrina
March 26-29 2006

**ASSESSING SPATIAL SURVEILLANCE FOR BIOTERRORISM: SIMULATING
ATTACKS**

Sponsor: ASA Section on Statistics in Defense and National Security

Organizer: Ken Kleinman, Harvard Medical School/Harvard Pilgrim Health Care

Chair: Ken Kleinman, Harvard Medical School/Harvard Pilgrim Health Care

- Detecting Simple Simulated Anthrax Attacks: Comparison of Cluster Identification Methods via New Assessment Metrics; Ken Kleinman* and Allyson Abrams, Harvard Medical School/Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
- A Simulation Model for Evaluating Outbreak Detection; David L. Buckeridge*, McGill University
- Protecting Public Health Through Advanced Spatio Temporal Epidemiological Modeling; James H. Kaufman* and Daniel A. Ford, IBM Research Division
- Discussant: Michael Stoto, Rand Corporation

**STATISTICAL MODELS IN MICROPARTICLE REMEDIATION /
DECONTAMINATION**

Sponsor: ASA Section on Statistics in Defense and National Security

Organizer: Myron Katzoff, National Center for Health Statistics

Chair: Joe Fred Gonzalez, Jr., National Center for Health Statistics

- Experimental Validation of Contaminant Concentrations Predicted by a Deterministic Model; Myron J. Katzoff* and Abera Wouhib, National Center for Health Statistics/CDC, Stanley A. Shulman, James S. Bennett and William K. Sieber, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
- Estimating Tracer Gas Distribution in a Ventilation Chamber; James S. Bennett, Stanley A. Shulman* and W. Karl Sieber, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Myron Katzoff and Abera Wouhib, National Center for Health Statistics, Brian Adams, South Dakota School of Mines
- A Comparison of Room Contamination Fields Estimated via Kriging and Deterministic Air Flow Models; James S. Bennett*, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Sean A. McKenna and Patrick D. Finley, Sandia National Laboratories, Stanley A. Shulman and W. Karl Sieber, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Myron Katzoff and Abera Wouhib, National Center for Health Statistics, John E. Brockman and Richard O. Griffith, Sandia National Laboratories
- Floor Discussion

Appendix 2: JSM Highlights for SDNS Members

The JSM is rapidly approaching, and we hope that many of you will attend. The program offers many opportunities and sessions for our members, and we outline them here for your convenience. Please check the program for other sessions that we are co-sponsoring with other sections.

We are the primary sponsor of two invited sessions:

- Monday at 2 PM, 'Forensic Statistics'
- Wednesday at 8:30 AM, 'Detecting Anomalies in Dynamic Multivariate Data'

We also have seven topic contributed sessions:

- Sunday at 2 PM, 'SAMSI Program'
- Monday at 8:30 AM, 'Prediction and Detection'
- Tuesday at 2 PM, 'Statistical Methods on Networks and Graphs'
- Wednesday at 10:30 AM, 'Statistics for Weather Forecasting, Part I'
- Wednesday at 2 PM, 'Statistics for Weather Forecasting, Part II'
- Thursday at 8:30 AM, 'Industry Applications'
- Thursday at 10:30 AM, 'Applications of Modeling and Simulation'

Please come and support our first contributed session at the JSM! This session promises to be very interesting and will start off with a paper describing Einstein as a master statistician.

- Monday, August 7, 10:30 AM, 'Contributions in National Security'

Finally, we have three roundtable luncheons:

- Monday, Nancy Spruill, Metrics for National Defense
- Tuesday, Henry Rolka, Epidemiology and Education
- Wednesday, John Crown, Defense-Related Consulting Projects

Appendix 3: Quantitative Methods and Statistical Applications to Defense and National Security

2nd Conference on Quantitative Methods and Statistical Applications to Defense and National Security
Report to the ASA Section - SDNS
August 8, 2006
JSM 2006

Dates: February 7 and 8, 2007

Location: George Mason University

Program Committee:

- Overall Program Chair is Edward Wegman
- Technical Program Chairs: Jeffrey Solka and Wendy Martinez
- Technical Program Committee: comprised of 20 people from various defense and national security government agencies, government labs, universities, and industry. These include NSA, Navy, Army, PNNL, FBI, CIA, DHS, CDC, MITRE, RAND, and others. The TPC will be responsible for setting up the program, as described below.

Local arrangements: Don Faxon and Liz Quigley will be helping with various logistical issues. We will need to provide some financial support for their time.

Food: Registration costs will include 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, and 1 reception.

Registration Fees: We are still working on this. We are waiting for some numbers from Don Faxon and Liz Quigley.

Website: A very preliminary website is up. It needs some work before it goes public. Target date for website is the week of August 21.

Proceedings: We are still working on this with the TPC.

Program So Far: The program will essentially follow the schedule of the first conference. However, we will have some important changes as outlined below.

- *Keynote Speaker:* Nancy Spruill will invite Dr. Delores Etter to be keynote speaker.
- *Invited Sessions:* We will 3 time slots for invited sessions. Two invited sessions will be given at the same time. Invited and contributed sessions will not be scheduled at the same time. The Technical Program Chairs have asked specific people to organize invited sessions. Our goal was to get sessions that encompass a variety of areas. So far, we have sessions being organized by the FBI and the DHS. Invited sessions will have one speaker who can discuss the user needs or application area. One or two researchers will then describe how statisticians or OR folks can help.
- *Contributed Sessions:* This will be new for this year. We will issue a call for papers – due by 15 November. The TPC will review the papers and decide which ones will be included in the program. We will likely keep the number of talks in each contributed session to 3, making the length similar to invited talks.
- *Contributed Poster Session:* We will have a poster session (referred) with reception on the first evening. The venue for this will be on the GMU campus, but at the Fine Arts facility, so it should be nice.

Advertisement:

- AMSTAT News
- SDNS Website
- SDNS email list
- 1st Conf Mailing List
- Washington Statistical Society
- Mitre and RAND websites

- Others?

Financial Questions:

- Ed Wegman said this could go through the Interface Foundation. This makes it easier to use Liz and Don for local arrangements.
- How does this work with the ASA SDNS funds?
- How much SDNS money can we work with?