



# American Statistical Association

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHAPTER

## JUNE 1987 Calendar

JUNE 18 THURSDAY Messy Data Ubiquity - Observations & Implications  
(Joint Gen Applic and Biostat Programs)  
Annual Business Meeting

## JOINT GENERAL APPLICATIONS AND BIOSTATISTICAL PROGRAMS

SPEAKER: Michael Tarter, Ph.D.  
University of California at Berkeley

TOPIC: "MESSY DATA UBIQUITY - OBSERVATIONS AND IMPLICATIONS"

The blending of computer science and statistical curve estimation theory has yielded a variety of new and powerful data analysis tools. When these tools are brought to bear on seemingly uncomplicated sets of data, in many instances they disclose patterns of hitherto unsuspected complexity. This gives rise to the following question: Are populations and universes of data far more complex than has been previously suspected or, are apparent anomalous patterns artifacts of the media and not harbingers of a message?

DATE: June 18, 1987 (Thursday)  
3:30 - 4:00 Coffee and cookies  
4:00 - 5:00 Presentation  
5:00 - Annual Business Meeting

PLACE: Golden Gate University  
Room 404  
536 Mission Street (Between 1st and 2nd Street)  
San Francisco, CA

## ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Annual Business Meeting will be held immediately after the joint meeting of the General Applications and Biostatistical Programs. The agenda of the meeting will include the election of officers for 1987-88, the President's farewell remarks, the Treasurer's report, and any other business which needs to be addressed. This will be the last meeting until September.

PRESIDENT  
Elizabeth S. King  
(415) 938-9417

PRESIDENT-ELECT  
Alvin D. Wiggins  
(916) 752-7623

VICE-PRESIDENT  
GENERAL APPLICATIONS  
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(415) 271-5987

VICE-PRESIDENT  
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Abraham Silvers  
(415) 855-2615

SECRETARY  
Kelvin K. Lee  
(415) 493-5000 x2181

TREASURER  
Anna Bagniewska  
(415) 855-5289

COUNCIL of CHAPTERS  
REPRESENTATIVE  
Barbara Kamm  
(415) 855-6163

According to the Constitution of the S.F. Bay Area Chapter of the ASA, this year's President-Elect, Alvin Wiggins, University of California at Davis, automatically succeeds to the office of President for 1987-88; the Representative to the Association's Council of Chapters, Barbara Kamm, Syntex Labs, is in the midst of a two-year term. A nominating committee comprised of Nicholas Jewell (Chairman), Arlene Frazier, and Karen Jones has recommended the following slate of candidates for Chapter officers during 1987-88:

President-Elect	Abraham Silvers, Electric Power Research Institute
Vice President- General Applications	Loren Schoof, Pacific Bell
Vice President- Biostatistical	Kelvin Lee, Veterans Administration
Secretary	Arlene Frazier, Bank of America
Treasurer	Anna Bagniewska, Syntex Laboratories

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#### Happy Retirement

Chin Long Chiang, Ph.D., Professor of Biostatistics at the University of California at Berkeley, will retire at the end of June, 1987. He joined the School of Public Health faculty in 1953 after receiving his degree from UC Berkeley and served as head of the Biostatistics Program from 1975-1986 and as co-chair of the group in Biostatistics from 1971 to 1986. A Fellow of the American Statistical Association, Dr. Chiang has served as a consultant to many local, national, and international agencies.

Dr. Chiang was one of the original organizers of the S.F. Bay Area Biostatistics Colloquia. The idea of the colloquia was for statisticians and biostatisticians to keep each other informed about research performed in the Bay Area; they quickly evolved to serve a social as well as an educational function. In 1981, the membership of the Colloquia merged into the S.F. Bay Area Chapter of ASA.

The Chapter is pleased to send sincere best wishes to Professor Chiang for a happy retirement along with the hope that he will continue to participate in Chapter activities and to contribute with presentations and counsel.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - 1987 JOINT STATISTICAL MEETINGS

The Chapter is issuing a plea for members to volunteer to man the INFORMATION BOOTH or the PRESS ROOM at the Joint Statistical Meetings, to be held August 17-20, 1987 at the San Francisco Civic Auditorium. Members will be needed at the INFORMATION BOOTH (to answer questions about transportation, dining, how to get to tourist sites, etc.) from Sunday, August 16 through Thursday noon, August 20.

Please contact Dr. Dean Fearn at California State University, Hayward [(415) 881-3447] if you can volunteer some time or Elizabeth King [(415) 938-9417] if you have any questions. Some books from the Publishers' Exhibits will be available to students who work.

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## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Veterans Administration Cooperative Studies Program Coordinating Center at the Palo Alto VA Medical Center (Menlo Park Division) has the following vacancy:

### STATISTICAL PROGRAMMER

Responsibilities include performing data management and statistical analyses of multi-center clinical trial data using PL/I, FORTRAN, or other high level language and statistical computing packages such as SAS and BMDP.

This position requires a Master's degree in statistics, biostatistics, or related field with programming experience; or a Master's degree in computer science or equivalent with experience in biostatistical applications. Knowledge of JCL, text editors such as WYLBUR or TSO, and microcomputer software is a plus. Experience may be substituted for graduate education. Starting salary range is \$22,400 - \$27,100.

Applicants must be United States citizens. If interested, send resume to:

Dr. Kenneth E. James  
CSPCC (151-K)  
VA Medical Center  
3801 Miranda Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94304

or call (415) 493-5000, x2181.

### Syntex Laboratories has the following job openings:

### 1. BIostatistician I/II

Design, analyze and report Phase IV clinical trials; determine appropriate experimental designs, statistical analysis techniques, and report formats; perform statistical analyses using micro and mainframe computers, and write statistical reports. Must be able to work independently, under pressure, and with medical and other non-statistical staff.

Requirements: MS in biostatistics with 5-10 years of clinical trials experience, or Ph.D with 1-10 years experience.

2. BIOANALYST II

Perform data manipulation and analysis under the direction of a biostatistician; prepare summary tables for statistical reports; must be able to understand and interpret statistical analyses. Assist biostatisticians and other staff by solving microcomputer problems related to package software, local area networks, printers, and plotters.

Requirements: MS in biostatistics with 1-3 years of experience in data analysis. Must be familiar with SAS and micro and mainframe computers.

If interested, contact:

Laurie Peltier  
Syntex Laboratories  
3401 Hillview Ave.  
Palo Alto, CA 94303  
(415) 855-5914

Lucho Bravo  
Syntex Laboratories L-1108  
3401 Hillview Ave.  
Palo Alto, CA 94303  
(415) 855-6297

### Syva, the medical diagnostics division of Syntex, is currently seeking:

1. BIOSTATISTICS SUPERVISOR

Assess statistics requirements throughout the company, defining timeliness and resource needs; supervise the programming staff, develop R&D projects, coordinate biostatistics activities for Syva and be involved with experimental design.

Requirements: a strong statistical background and excellent interpersonal skills. MS or equivalent experience in biostatistics and 7 years job related experience in statistics required, with 3-5 years of supervisory experience. A diagnostic industrial background preferred.

2. BIOSTATISTICIAN

Develop, document, implement and review new statistical procedures concerning all aspects of product development, clinical trials, production, quality control and quality assurance. This position has the overall responsibility to ensure that appropriate statistical procedures are being used to collect and analyze data throughout Syva.

Requirements: MS in statistics, biostatistics or biometry, or equivalent training; 3-5 years related job experience, knowledge of SAS and/or RSE, and excellent verbal and written communication skills.

Syva's excellent benefits package includes generous relocation assistance. Please send your resume to: Syva, Dept FS2, Professional Staffing, P.O. Box 10058, Palo Alto, CA 94303.