Remembering Robert Bartoszynski

Robert Bartoszynski, Professor in the Department of Statistics at The Ohio State University since 1983, died on January 17, 1998 after suffering complications from diabetes and heart disease. Robert will be remembered by the statistical community as a world class scientist, devoted teacher, advisor, and mentor.

Robert's scientific contributions included fundamental research in the theory of stochastic processes and the probabilistic modeling of biological phenomena. This included important work in the theory of epidemics, prey-predation models, the development of cancer and the metastasis of tumors. The stochastic process he developed for modeling rabies has been extensively studied in the literature and is called “the Bartoszynski Process” in his honor. Robert's contributions were recognized by his peers through his service on the Editorial Boards of several professional journals, and his election as a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and a member of the International Statistical Institute. He was a member of the American Statistical Association, Bernoulli Society and Polish Mathematical Society. In total, he published about 80 scientific articles, books, and book chapters. Most recently, he co-authored a textbook, “Probability and Statistical Inference,” which reflects his philosophy of teaching probability. The preparation of this text was one of the great joys of the last years of his life.

Robert always enjoyed an interesting problem and there were many blackboards in faculty offices and the lounge filled with problems initially posed by Robert.

Plan Now to Join Us For the 25th Anniversary Celebration

October 7, 8 and 9, 1999!

On Thursday, October 7 and Friday, October 8, 1999, we will host a two-day conference to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Department of Statistics at The Ohio State University. We have much to celebrate!

The Department of Statistics formally began as a small graduate program in the 1974-75 academic year. Since that autumn quarter in 1974, the department and graduate program have grown and matured. We are fortunate to have been associated with hundreds of quality faculty and graduate students over the years and we look forward to hosting as many of you as possible for this conference celebration.

The activities on Thursday, October 7, will be devoted explicitly to our Department and its faculty and graduates, while the activities on Friday, October 8, will likely include components of the annual Ohio Statistics Conference. For those of you who might be interested in staying, Saturday, October 9 is the home football game between Ohio State University and Purdue University. We are planning a tailgate party before the game and will let you know of the availability of tickets to attend the game. Tailgaters are welcome at the party — whether you attend the game or not!

The morning of October 7 will be devoted to a plenary session directed toward topics related to broad aspects of the statistics profession. In the afternoon, we intend to offer sessions of contributed/invited papers organized around topical areas. We want these sessions geared toward what is most relevant to you, our alumni. For this reason, we highly encourage any of you who might be interested in organizing and/or participating in such a session to write directly to Professor H. N. Nagaraja, or to contact him via e-mail at hnn@stat.ohio-state.edu. More details (housing, registration arrangements and costs, speakers and topics for both days, etc.) will be provided through a specific conference mailing in Autumn Quarter 1998.

It will be wonderful if you are able to join us. We hope that you will mark these October 1999 dates on your calendar and join us in celebrating 25 years of excellence!
Robert Bartoszynski (continued from page 1)

He had a style all his own. A multiple choice test he once gave to a class of undergraduate students contained a question which had the following four possible answers: choice A - the answer is 3, choice B - “none of the above”, choice C - “none of the above”, choice D - “none of the above.” What made the problem decidedly Robert’s was that the only correct answer was B. On another exam, he asked if there were any distributions which had the same mean and variance, for which the Poisson seems like the natural answer. Of course, the answer is that there are no distributions with this property since the mean and variance are in different units.

Robert was not interested in the details of administrative matters. So, it was probably inevitable that he would become entangled with the most bureaucratic of agencies — The Immigration and Naturalization Service. One day he had an appointment to finally get things cleared up. He drove up to the district office in Cleveland and looked around town for an hour searching for the address. What made this episode decidedly Robert’s style was that the appointment was in Cincinnati!

Robert was born in Warsaw, Poland, July 9, 1933. He came to the United States in 1958 as a graduate student at the University of California at Berkeley. He obtained his Ph.D. in mathematics from The Institute of Mathematics of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, Poland in 1959 where he was employed from 1955 to 1985. He served as Head of the Department of Applied Probability from 1972 to 1985. During his tenure in the Polish Academy of Sciences, he held visiting appointments at Warsaw University, Tulane University, University of California at Berkeley, Sydney University and University of New South Wales, Australia, University of Kentucky, Rice University, Indiana University, University of Florida and Purdue University. In 1983, he became a Professor in the Department of Statistics at The Ohio State University.

Robert is survived by his wife, Sonia, two children, Tomek (a set theorist at Boise State University) and Janina, and a grandchild, Kasia. To those of us who worked with him, we will always remember his sense of humor, gentle manner and his joy in posing and solving problems.

Academic Enrichment

This year the Department of Statistics received funding for two Academic Enrichment Proposals. The Academic Enrichment Program is a University wide competition for a pool of funds provided by the Office of Academic Affairs. The proposals are initiatives which involve academic program enhancements or are designed to enrich student experiences. The first proposal to receive funding was submitted jointly with the Department of Mathematics for the development of Computer Based Learning and Testing through the Mathematics and Statistics Learning Center (MSLC). The second proposal was for a new initiative in the Modeling and Analysis of Space-Time Phenomenon.

The proposal for the development of Computer Based Learning and Testing through the MSLC addresses a University-wide initiative to enhance the undergraduate educational experience. This past year, Bill Notz served on the advisory committee of the new MSLC.

Mathematics and Statistics Learning Center

The Center is supported by Academic Enrichment funds through a proposal submitted in 1997 by the Department of Mathematics. Initially it was designed to provide and coordinate tutoring for undergraduate Math and Statistics courses; provide group study rooms, examination rooms, and rooms for practice teaching; serve as a repository for course information and materials; and assist in TA training.

MSLC had a wildly successful first year. Located on the first floor of Cockins in space formally occupied by the Department of Statistics, rooms are designated by course number to allow students to seek tutoring assistance by class. Last year, hundreds of students sought assistance and were tutored. Their comments indicated they appreciate the help and enjoy the structure of the program. Many students found themselves acting as tutor, giving help as well as receiving it, when they came to the rooms for practice.

Ultimately, the MSLC will provide distance learning services, computer labs for students in Math and Statistics courses, computerized placement exams, computerized tutorial material, lab materials, and teacher resources. It is hoped that the Center will become a national model for the teaching of Mathematics and Statistics. Recently, the Department of Mathematics hired Tony Nance to serve as acting director for next year. Tony received his Ph.D. in Mathematics from Ohio State in June ‘97. He is a life-long resident of Columbus except for his time as a student at John Carroll University where he received his B.S. and M.S. He is currently half-time director of the MSLC until September 1st, when it becomes full-time (and the last three hairs on his head fall out, according to Tony).
Interdisciplinary program brings Professor Noel Cressie to our statistics faculty

The Modeling and Analysis of Space-Time Phenomenon features an interdisciplinary approach designed to create an outstanding nationally and internationally recognized academic program in space-time statistical analysis and its applications, centered in the Statistics Department. The program will incorporate a full gamut of activities: (i) fundamental and methodological research in the statistics of space-time, (ii) extensive collaborations with scientists at Ohio State and the broader U.S. science community, and (iii) educational contributions, including new graduate-level courses, described below.

The cornerstone of this program was to attract Professor Noel Cressie, Distinguished Professor in Liberal Arts and Sciences at Iowa State University, to become a Professor of Statistics at OSU. Professor Cressie was born in Fremantle, Australia in 1950. He received his B.S. with First Class Honors from the University of Western Australia, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Princeton University. Professor Cressie is an elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and was awarded the Distinguished Achievement Medal from the Section on Statistics and the Environment of the American Statistical Association in 1993. Professor Cressie will be joining the Statistics Department in the Autumn of 1998. As an internationally known expert in the application and development of Spatial Statistics, his leadership will allow Ohio State to consolidate its campus efforts in this area. His presence on campus will immediately raise the level of international recognition and excellence of Ohio State.

Professor Cressie will develop a new, major initiative as the director of the new program for Environmental and Spatial Statistics at Ohio State. His efforts will be coordinated with Professor Mark Berliner’s work in climate and weather science (featured in the last newsletter), thereby creating a timely synergism currently not present at other academic institutions. A second coordination is the hiring of a new Assistant Professor focusing on statistics and the environment. This new member is to be appointed in both the Department of Statistics and the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Geodetic Science.

New graduate courses

The educational enhancements to our graduate programs include the development of two new graduate courses which will further stimulate research in these areas. The first is a new Ph.D. level course in spatial statistics for students who wish to perform research in this field. The second course is a new master’s level course in environmental statistics which will serve the campus community needs. Professor Cressie currently teaches an environmental statistics course at Iowa State University that attracts students from many departments. The Department of Statistics is looking forward to the arrival of Dr. Cressie and hopefully many of you can meet him at the Department’s 25th Anniversary Celebration.

Welcome from the Chair

This past year saw a number of important changes in the Department of Statistics. After many years of planning, we have moved the offices from the basement and first floor of Cockins Hall to the 3rd and 4th floors of Cockins. At this point we also still have space on one end of the 2nd floor of Cockins. This is the first time that we have faculty, graduate students, and staff together in contiguous space. Please stop by the new Department Office in room 404 Cockins when you visit the campus.

There have been a number of personnel changes this past year. On the staff side, long time technical typist and Graduate Studies secretary, Peg Stiegerwald took a position in the Fisher College of Business. We have added Diane Spinazzola as Graduate Studies secretary, and we welcome Paul Brower as our new fiscal officer and general office manager. These two new positions added to Susan Haught (Human Resources) and Myrtle Pfouts (everything else!) bring us to four full time staff, a first in the Department’s history.

On the faculty side, I am very sorry to write you that Robert Bartoszynski died in January following surgery. Robert had not been well for some time but we were expecting him to resume teaching following surgery. The newsletter contains a tribute to Robert that you will find interesting.

Noel Cressie will be joining Ohio State this coming Autumn. Noel is well known for his work in spatial statistics, and in particular, for his book on the subject. Look for more details about Noel in the article “Academic Enrichment.” The campus-wide effort in Genetic Statistics was enhanced with the hiring of Fred Wright. He is part of a human cancer genetics team that was brought to campus this past year. Fred earned his...
Editors note: The Statistics Newsletter has a tradition of featuring profiles of our fine graduate students. Joan received her doctorate in June of 1998 and moved to Phoenix to take a position as a statistical consultant for American Express. Her husband, Shen Zhang whom she met and married while attending OSU, (although she “claims” this was not her plan!) received his Ph.D. in Statistics in June of 1998 and is also working for American Express. The Statistics Department wishes them both the best of luck in their lives and their careers.

Joan writes:
I was born in Taiwan where I first learned statistics. In Taiwan I earned a Bachelor’s and a Master’s degree. After working for a few years, I decided to come to the United States to continue my education. I can still remember the day that I first came here. I was so excited about everything. My friends in Taiwan who had gone to graduate school in the U.S. suggested that I go to OSU to work on my Ph.D. They told me the professors were great and the Statistics Department had a good program. With hard work they told me I could get a Ph.D. along with a husband too! I got both even though I treated it as a joke at that time.

During my Ph.D. study, I took full advantage of the facilities and resources from the Statistics Department to develop my statistical analytic ability and to accumulate both teaching and consulting experience. I have worked as a Teaching Assistant (TA) for four years. My duties included leading recitation sections and computer labs, reviewing course material and developing and grading course homework assignments. I have always treated teaching as a learning process. The need to precisely articulate basic concepts in the classroom has often forced me to rethink and clarify my own ideas. I have also enjoyed the interactions with the students.

I have also had the opportunity to do some consulting and collaborative research in the department’s Statistical Consulting Service. I am proud of my involvement in several large projects, and I learned a lot in the process. These experiences also helped me to broaden my computing skills. I also worked as a Research Assistant (RA) under the direction of Dr. Douglas A. Wolfe, who not only gave me the opportunity to further my education, but also provided me with great assistance and kindly suggestions, both personal and professional, since the day I began my
advertisements hitting the streets.

On May 28, the Statistics Department and the Biostatistics Program hosted the fifth annual Cleveland Clinic/Case Western/Ohio State Biostatistics Symposium. The keynote speaker was Kathryn Roeder of Carnegie Mellon University who spoke on graphical methods to map disease genes. Jennifer Gassman (Cleveland Clinic), Robert Elston (Case Western), and Hani Doss all gave excellent talks to round out the program.

You can learn more about activities at the Biostatistics Program by checking out our web site linked to the Statistics Department home page. Find it at http://www.stat.osu.edu. You can also subscribe to our quarterly newsletter.

New Computer Lab

In the past year there have been many changes to the computing environment. Just before fall quarter the student lab Macintoshes were upgraded from Macintosh IIci computers to Power Computing PowerCenter 604/150 machines. Soon these machines will be upgraded from 32mb of memory to 64mb.

In the fall of 1997 we hired Justin Slauson full time as a second computer support person. Also during fall quarter, the Department network was upgraded increasing effective capacity.

Over Christmas break the computer labs in 012 and 131 moved to room 340, putting all our graduate student computer labs in one place. The lab in 340 provides a much nicer environment. The room is larger, has been freshly renovated with new chairs and furniture, and has large windows with a view! A keycard reader was installed in room 340 allowing all graduate students 24-hour access to the lab with their student ID’s, and keeping non-statistics students out.

In the future we will be expanding the computing platforms we support from Macintosh and HP Unix to include IBM PC compatible machines running Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 and some Windows 95/98.

Hearts, Horses and Help With Driving: Here’s What’s Happening In Biostatistics

A great expansion of the consulting activities at the Biostatistics Program office has occurred this past year. We have collaborated on dozens of exciting projects from studies of drugs to treat heart arrhythmia, to studies of a hypertension drug on racehorse performance, to studies of the competency of elderly drivers. You might think much of the University goes on vacation during the summer, but it’s a busy time at the Biostatistics Program. Many researchers associated with the program are working toward the traditional October 1 deadline for grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

After two years with the Biostatistics Program, our senior research consultant, Peihua Qiu, will be leaving us this autumn to take an Assistant Professor position at the University of Minnesota. Peihua has done a terrific job for us, and we wish him all the best. If you know of someone who is interested in a challenging consulting position, tell them to contact Dennis Pearl at 614-292-2866.

The Biostatistics Program sponsors two series of short courses: a ten-hour course in basic biostatistics for biomedical researchers and a series of five two-hour topics courses: 1) Design of clinical trials; 2) Multiple regression; 3) ANOVA; 4) Logistic regression; and 5) Survival analysis. The response to our educational efforts has been overwhelming. Registration in both series has filled to the maximum every quarter within a day or two of our graduate study at Ohio State.

My primary research interest is in the area of the analysis of missing data. My dissertation focuses on the development of statistical methodology for the analysis of missing data, especially in logistic regression models. In preparing for my dissertation I have received great help from my advisor, Dr. Elizabeth A. Stasny, who taught me by her example to take pride in my work and to do my best no matter what I worked on or who I worked with. With her guidance and valuable assistance, I have become more interested in my research and received the University Presidential Fellowship in 1997 to work on my dissertation. There is no way to measure the support and kindness that she has shown me over the years.

My years in the Department of Statistics were enriched by so many people. They helped me grow both as a person and as a statistician. I want to use this opportunity to express my most sincere appreciation to the faculty of this department for their support during the various stages of my studies.
From Recycling to Cooking Ham, The Consulting Service Keeps Busy

The Statistical Consulting Service had another busy year in 1997-98. We had the opportunity to work on several interesting projects. The students who have been appointed to the SCS practiced their knowledge of statistical methods, plus learned about lots of other things, including birds, fish, roses, trade, snakes, ham and cakes, just to name a few.

In one study, Shanggang Zhou helped researchers in the School of Natural Resources find ways to turn trash into fertile topsoil. Despite that we admittedly have not thoroughly understood the nature of all the raw ingredients, with the help of linear optimization techniques Shanggang managed to turn data on chemical composition and availability of recycling materials into winning, mixing recipes for topsoil.

In another study, Joan Hu helped scientists in the Department of Food Sciences and Technology to devise cooking recipes for ham. Under a contract with the U.S. Army, these scientists have been studying the change in the dielectric properties of ham as a function of the cooking temperature and a few other factors. What at first seemed to be a straightforward regression problem, turned into an interesting and challenging shifting regimes modeling effort. As the cooking temperature increases, protein breakdown occurs at some random temperature level, depending on the moisture and salt content of the ham. In turn, the functional relationship between mean dielectric loss and temperature shifts from quadratic to negative exponential.

In a third study, Greg Stark joined forces with researchers in Plant Pathology to save clover from extinction. The objective of this study was to identify the reason for potential systematic changes in the probability distributions of seeds per floret and florets per clover head. With conditioning plots and other powerful exploratory analysis tools in hand, Greg arrived to the recommendation of a mixed effects Poisson regression model.

In addition to working with the fine personnel at OSU, we have also had considerable success with several industrial projects. Under a contract with LCI International we helped their accounting office carry out a seasonal analysis and develop a forecasting model for the volume of their residential and commercial lines. Under a contract with the Scott’s Company we helped obtain tolerance bands for fertilizer release curves, which they needed for quality assurance purposes. In a third project we helped Resource International, under a contract with the Ohio Department of Transportation, to revise the Pavement Condition Rating system, which plays an important role in the inspection and maintenance of the state’s highway system. Finally, we have successfully finished a multi-year, small-area estimation study, under a contract with the Ohio Department of Health, identifying counties in the state with large numbers of uninsured people.

Congratulations to our Award Winners!

PSYCHOMETRIC SOCIETY DISSERTATION PRIZE

Peggy Hwang was awarded the 1998 Psychometric Society Dissertation Prize for her Ph. D. dissertation entitled “Factor Analysis of Time Series”. Peggy completed her dissertation under the direction of Michael Browne who holds a joint appointment in the Statistics and Psychology departments. The award was presented to Peggy at the Joint Meeting of the Psychometric Society and the Classification Society of America held at the University of Illinois, June 17-21, where she gave an invited talk on her work.

Peggy entered the department in 1990 under a multiple year University Fellowship, and completed her dissertation in 1997. She is currently working with the Quantitative Analysis Group in the Marketing Services Department of the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C. Specifically, Peggy is a “database marketer.” This means that after a test mail is completed on a product (e.g. a book, magazine, video, calendar, etc.) she helps to develop a model based on the results of the test to pinpoint the people most likely to be interested in it. Aside from this day to day production related job, Peggy is also helping to update and clean the database as well as developing ways they can better utilize all the data they have. The department congratulates Peggy on her prize and wishes her the best of luck in her career.

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH FORUM AWARD

The Council of Graduate Students organizes a Graduate Research Forum each Spring quarter. Graduate students from across campus present their research in a forum divided into 10 disciplines, roughly by colleges. The presentations are judged by a
Consultant in the Statistical Consulting Service was shared, and for Ph.D. research. In 1998 the winner of the best Consulting, performance as a Graduate Research Associate for graduate students. These awards are for Statistical Statistics Development Fund to institute three new awards for outstanding contributions to the teaching mission of the Department. Mulik recitation instructor awards were presented to Elizabeth Stasny, MacEachern, and Critchlow runners-up for the award. In 1998, the award for best "the" best instructor is never an easy task, and there are excellent Graduate Teaching Associates. The selection of winners which include Elizabeth Stasny, MacEachern, and Critchlow.

POWERS TEACHING AWARDS

Tom and Jean Powers made a donation to the Statistics Development Fund by Tom and Jean Powers. Other Past award winners include Ransom Whitney, and his wife Marian Whitney made a generous donation to the Statistics Development Department. In 1992, Professor Emeritus Ransom Whitney was presented with a Teaching Award. In 1998, the faculty award was presented to Margaret Burke. Other Past award winners include H. N. Nagaraja, Bill Notz, and Jeff Lehman. Each of these TA’s made an excellent contribution to the Department, (ii) an excellent graduate student lecturer (with sole responsibility for a class), and (iii) an excellent lecturer was presented to David Hoffman. The best research leading to the Ph.D. was presented to Brian Williams. The award for the Craig Cooley Memorial Prize was presented to Shanggang Zhou. Craig Cooley was killed in a tragic hit-and-run auto mobile accident on June 14, 1996, just before receiving his Ph.D. To honor his memory the department has created the Craig Cooley Memorial Prize.

Thank you for your support of the Statistics Department. Your donations to the Statistics Support Fund will enhance the educational experience and rich the student experience in the classroom and in the lab. Your gifts to the Statistics Development Fund will provide for faculty development, student travel and research, and will support the Statistics Department’s student support program. Your generosity, together with the contributions of our alumni, students, faculty, and friends, enables the Department to offer a broad curriculum, promote research, and engage in service to the community. The Department is lucky to have a large number of excellent doctoral students and PhD’s who are contributing to the growth of statistical and probability research. Our Department is fortunate to have outstanding students and we wish to say a special thank you to all of you who have contributed to the development of our students.

THANK YOU!!
Successful Intramural Season Demonstrates New “Recruiting” Strategy

After several years of losses sustained by all Statistics intramural teams, the graduate chair has obviously been convinced of the importance of athletic ability when recruiting new graduate students. This change in policy led to our most successful intramural season in recent memory.

The fall began on an excellent note. Golf was finally added to the list of intramural sports attempted by Statistics. The department put up a two-man golf team which included two of our top 1997 recruits Jeff Lehman and Craig Shirk. They proved worthy of their sports “bonuses” and came back with a tournament win.

Our four-man flag football team including Jeff, Craig, Dave Hoffman and Vivek Venkatachalam made it into the playoffs. The intramural basketball team also entered the playoffs, but suffered defeat in the first round. To keep in shape, Friday night basketball has been instituted. Unlike Monday night football, this is a participation sport. The department has been reserving a court in Jesse Owens North every Friday night, and the turnout has been between 8 and 15 participants. Students have even been limiting their pizza and beverage intake at the Friday pizza parties so they can be ready to run up and down the basketball court.

After two years of defeats, all estimates of our probability of winning a men’s softball game, Bayesian as well as frequentist, were zero. But proving once again the unpredictability of human behavior, the season started with the first win in over two years. Not content with just one win, the men’s softball team fought their way into the playoffs. Sadly, they lost in the first round. The coed softball team made it into the championship game also, where they finally went down in extra innings. Soccer, never a strong Statistics sport, had an estimated probability of winning a game right about equal to men’s softball. But, after winning their first game, the team went 2 -1 -1 for the season, and lost to the “Indian 9” in the playoffs.

Congratulations to all participants. The department is building a trophy case for the main office since expectations run high for the 1998 -99 season.

Annual Spring Picnic, Park of Roses 1998

Jim Rogers and Greg Stark fire up the grill for the Spring picnic (left). Despite the dismal weather, the turnout and food were excellent.
Faculty Updates

After a year's "vacation" from formal administrative duties, Bill Notz has agreed to serve as an Associate Dean in the College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences starting September 1, 1998. It is not clear whether the appointment is in recognition of or punishment for the job he did as Acting Chair during the 1996 - 97 academic year while Tom Santner was on a much needed sabbatical. In any event, the job will be a chance for Bill to learn more about how the university runs and a change of pace from the usual faculty duties.

The NSF grant supporting the EESEE (Electronic Encyclopedia of Statistical Examples and Exercises) project ended June, 1998. Bill Notz, Dennis Pearl and Elizabeth Stasny were the faculty members supervising the project. Graduate students Greg Elfring and Doug Mooney did a marvelous job developing final versions of EESEE for both Macintoshes and Windows. Freeman will be publishing EESEE on a CD-ROM which will be packaged with the next edition of the text, Introduction to the Practice of Statistics by Moore and McCabe. Also on the CD, are Question and Answer Quizzes for each chapter.

Your Comments Are Important

Alumni Reply Form

Name _______________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Home Address ________________________________________________________________________________________________________

City _____________________________________________________________ State __________ Zip ________________________________

Home Phone ________________________ Degree(s) and year(s) _______________________________________________________________

Current Professional Title _______________________________________________________________________________________________

Institution/Company ___________________________________________________________________________________________________

Business Address ______________________________________________________________________________________________________

City _____________________________________________________________ State __________ Zip ________________________________

Business Phone ____________________________________________ Fax Number ________________________________________________

E-mail Address ________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Personal and/or Professional News

Please share some information about yourself with us. (unless you request otherwise, we will assume it may be mentioned in future Newsletters).

____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

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____________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please complete this form for our files and return to:

Mike Fligner
Department of Statistics
The Ohio State University
1958 Neil Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210-1247

(continued on page 10)
Faculty Updates (continued from page 10)

was being imaged. The new methodology is not invasive and so time series of the blood flow in the brain can be gathered without risk to the subject. The data sets are typically large (128 by 128 by 7) voxels by 70 serial observations. The data is also highly spatially and temporally correlated. The models for such activity require substantial computer and software resources in addition to knowledge of mathematical models.

After a two year tour as Associate Dean, Doug Wolfe is back in the department teaching a full load and actively engaged in research. His proposal “Optimal Judgment Sample Sizes for Distribution-Free Ranked-Set Sampling Procedures, Effects of Imperfect Judgment Rankings, and Extensions to K-Sample and Correlation Problems,” has been funded by the National Science Foundation for three years. The Department is delighted to have Doug back in the “ranks” (no pun intended).

Elizabeth Stasny is continuing to work 20% of her time for the Survey Research Unit which is funded by an Academic Enrichment grant. This year Elizabeth was made a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and promoted to Full Professor. Congratulations on a great year!

Steven MacEachern spent the 1997 - 98 academic year on sabbatical at Carnegie Mellon University working with Larry Wasserman and Jay Kadane. Steve is also the proud dad of Katie, born on March 3, 1998 and weighing in at 8 pounds and 2 ounces.

Mario Peruggia spent the 1977 - 98 academic year on leave at the University of Virginia. We’re happy that he has returned and rumor has it he will be tying the knot with Amy Ferketich, a graduate student at OSU this August. Congratulations!

Nandini Raghavan will be on leave for the 1998 - 99 academic year doing research at NISS.
Stewart Moss (M.A.S., 1983) is working for Florida Power and Light as a Statistical Specialist, doing reliability analysis and simulation studies. Stewart is still single with no kids and living in sunny Juno Beach, FL. I have no word on the guest bedroom situation but you can send him e-mail at stewart_moss@email.fpl.com.

Ignacio Alarcon (M.A.S., 1992) is currently teaching on a tenure track position at Santa Barbara City College. Ignacio was a recent winner in the developmental category in the national competition: "Innovative Programs Using Technology in Mathematics Service Courses" , organized by Central Michigan University, Annenberg CPB and the National Science Foundation. Congratulations! (alarcon@sbcc.net)

Lawrence Altmayer (M.A.S., 1979) has been working with the Bureau of the Census for the last 19 years. Larry has recently switched from his position as a Mathematical Statistician to a Computer Specialist. He presented SUGI21 poster on SAS programs used to estimate households touched by crime for the National Crime Victimization survey and is scheduled to give a paper on Hot-Deck Imputation. We could use certainly use some of his SAS expertise for our newly developed SAS workshop in the department. (laltmaye@census.gov)

Jim Wirtley (M.A.S., 1990) was married in August, 1995 to Karen Pelfrey and had his first child Lauryn Ann on June 4, 1997. Congratulations! Jim has been working for the Mead Corporation in Dayton for the past year where he is involved in ensuring that outside vendors are providing quality service for corporate benefits. He is also works on their 401(K) plans. Just send your checks to the "Wirtley Corporation" and your money will be well taken care of.

Dave Cameron (M.A.S., 1987) is living in Arlington Heights, IL and has taken a new job as Manager, Target Marketing for Ameritech. He claims that when you get a call asking if you want Caller ID, it's his model that picked you. Thanks a lot, Dave! Could you get them to stop calling during dinner?

Jeff Wright (M.A.S., 1983) is a Manufacturing Process Statistician at Chiron Diagnostics Corp. in Oberlin, OH. (jeff.wright@chirondiag.com)

John Felix (M.A.S., 1984) is now at Moen Corp. in North Olmsted, OH.

Nancy (Baxter) Belunis (M.A.S., 1984) is working at Merck.

Dan Cotton (M.S., 1993) was married to Kristine Tompkins in August, 1997. Congratulations! They are living in Newtown, CT and where Dan is working as a statistician at Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals (Ridgefield, CT). His experience includes working on a drug currently being marketed to help HIV patients, as well as therapies for depression and stroke patients.

Cathie Hannon Leister (M.S., 1993) is working at Wyeth-Ayerst and is expecting a baby during the summer of '98. Congratulations!

Tricia Bennett Myers (M.A.S., 1993) is working at Rodale Press in Allentown, PA and is expecting a baby during the summer of '98. Congratulations!

Eric Eastmo (M.A.S., 1993) is attending medical school at Creighton.

Theresa (Papa) Stern (Ph.D., 1993) is now working for Parke-Davis in Ann Arbor.

Mike Bowcutt (M.A.S., 1993) is working at Lands End in Wisconsin. When it's time to order your winter clothes, just give Mike a call for the special statistics alumni discount!

John Lawrence (Ph.D., 1996) and Peiling Yang (Ph.D., 1997) were married in December. Congratulations!

Abhaya Indrayan (Ph.D., 1977) has been appointed head of the Department of Preventive and Social Medicine at the University of Delhi. He is also an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. Congratulations!

Deb Rumsey (Ph.D., 1993), an Assistant Professor with the Statistics Department at Kansas State University, won a KSU Presidential Teaching Award! There are only 4 awards given out per year at the University. Congratulations!
# CONGRATULATIONS

To the following students Earning degrees in 1997-98!

## M.A.S.

**Autumn 1997**
- Qun Liu
- Mary Ellen Smircich

**Winter 1998**
- Chiraz Ben El Hadj

**Spring 1998**
- Joseph Chatlos
- Yao-chuen Fang
- David Hoffman
- Justin Kubatko
- Pi-yeh Liu
- Kati Maharry
- Catherine Mayhew
- James Mulik
- Amy Stai
- Lance Stoudt

## M.S.

**Summer 1997**
- Zheng Zhou

**Winter 1998**
- Parthena Katsaounis
- Chun Li
- Loraine Sinnott
- Brent Worden
- Xin Ye

**Spring 1998**
- Sanjeev Chaudhuri
- James Colton
- Donald Duvall
- Yuqun Luo
- Jill Santana

## Ph.D.

**Summer 1997**
- Kathleen Fritsch
- Theresa Papa Stern
- Peiling Yang

**Winter 1998**
- Glenn Hofmann
- Yongdai Kim

**Spring 1998**
- Roger Bilisoly
- Jim Clark
- Chung-Lynn Hu
- Xiong Hu
- Shen Zhang