Retirements:

At the end of the Spring 2000 semester two long-time faculty members will be retiring:

Richard Groeneveld has been with the Department of Statistics since Fall of 1970. During most of the last 30 years he has been the coordinator of undergraduate studies. He was responsible for undergraduate courses for both majors and non-majors. Although he could not teach the 3,000 undergraduates taking statistics courses each year, he had an impact on their courses by selecting the professor or teaching assistant assigned to the courses. In addition to administering the undergraduate program and teaching his own courses, Dr. Groeneveld maintained a steady research program.

Edward Pollak joined the ISU staff and the Department of Statistics in the Fall of 1964. He also held a partial appointment in the Department of Genetics throughout his career. Dr. Pollak specialized in Genetic Statistics through both his teaching and research. Fifteen students received M.S. degrees under his direction; five received Ph.D. degrees.

Searches:

A number of searches for new faculty have continued this year. There are two hirings to report:

Dan Nettleton, currently in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, has been hired to fill Paul Hinz's position. Dan received his Ph.D. in Statistics from the University of Iowa in 1996. His interests include: statistical genetics, order restricted inference, categorical data analysis and consulting. Dan will begin his appointment on July 1, 2000.

Amy Froelich has been hired to fill Richard Groeneveld's position. Amy is currently a graduate student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is scheduled to receive her Ph.D. in Statistics with a specialization in Educational Measurement this May. Amy will begin her appointment on August 16, 2000.

Reception for Alumni and Friends at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Indianapolis.

We will be holding a gathering, sponsored by Eli Lilly and the Department of Statistics, for all alums and friends at this year's Joint Statistical Meetings in Indianapolis (August 13-17, 2000). This year, instead of a dinner, we plan to hold a reception on Monday evening, August 14. The reception will be held

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On October 16, 1999, Iowa State University President Martin Jischke announced a combined $10 million endowment to the Department of Statistics and the Plant Sciences Institute. A portion of the endowment establishes the Laurence H. Baker Endowed Chair in Biological Statistics.

The donation came from Norma Baker in honor of her late husband, Laurence H. Baker, who was a 1954 graduate of Iowa State University. For many years he was an employee of Pioneer Hi-Bred International.

Conditions of the Endowment

Along with the creation of the Laurence H. Baker Endowed Chair in Biological Statistics, Baker's endowed gift will fund:

- The Laurence H. Baker Center for Bioinformatics and Biological Statistics, a center in the Plant Sciences Institute.
- In addition, a classroom in Snedecor Hall will be named in Baker's honor.

Endowed Chair Search

Now that the gift has been announced, the next step is to fill the new Laurence H. Baker Endowed Chair in Biological Statistics. “This new chair will be a faculty member with an outstanding research record in developing statistical methodology and collaborating with scientists in other disciplines,” Isaacson states. The chair will lead collaborative research in the area of biological or agricultural sciences, including bioinformatics.

The Laurence H. Baker Center of Bioinformatics and Biological Statistics

As a new area of specialization for the Department of Statistics, bioinformatics integrates the study of statistics with the biological sciences, such as agronomy, botany and genetics.

The Laurence H. Baker Center for Bioinformatics and Biological Statistics will be one of eight centers in the Plant Sciences Institute. Its focus will be to gather and interpret the mass amount of genetic information making up plants by using genetics, computer science, mathematics and statistics.

“Our Center for Bioinformatics and Biological Statistics will try to bring modern computing to the truly immense challenge of understanding plants at a genetic level,” Jischke said.

Jischke also stated that Ms. Baker's gift to endow the Center for Bioinformatics and Biological Statistics and to create a chair in Biological Statistics supports one of the most important scientific areas of our emerging Plant Sciences Institute—the merging of statistics and computer science with genetic research.

Colin Scanes, interim director of the Plant Sciences Institute and associate dean of the College of Agriculture, said this would help the college leave its mark in the plant sciences and genetics.

The Laurence H. Baker Center for Bioinformatics and Biological Statistics is the first endowed center in the Plant Sciences Institute. The Department of Statistics plans to be a major role player in the center’s future.

Baker Biography

Laurence Baker was born in Des Moines in 1933. He received a B.S. degree in genetics and a minor in statistics from Iowa State University.

After graduation, Baker went on to build a successful career focused on developing computer systems for Pioneer Hi-Bred International, the California State University system and many other businesses and institutions.

Baker died in December 1982 of injuries from a fall.
Giving Securities

Stocks and securities that have increased in value can allow you new opportunities to support the Statistics Department. By making a charitable gift of securities, you can strengthen the department’s educational programs and support the department’s growth while gaining significant tax benefits.

The Facts

A contribution of appreciated securities to the Iowa State University Foundation (ISUF) creates two important tax benefits for you if the securities have been held over one year. If you make an outright gift of the securities, you receive a federal income tax charitable deduction thus avoiding the capital gains tax on the transfer to a trust.

The remainder of the trust assets are then used after the life of the trust for any purpose you designate.

Designating How a Contribution is Used

Whether a securities gift is outright or part of a life income arrangement, you may designate how you wish the contribution used. You may choose to support a program or project of interest or allow the department to utilize the gift to meet department priorities.

Either way, you’ll assist the Department of Statistics.

Life Income Arrangements

Securities may also be used as assets for life income arrangements. Such arrangements may provide as much or more income than your securities were previously generating.

Additional benefits in using appreciated securities as assets for a life income arrangement include qualifying for a federal income tax charitable deduction thus avoiding the capital gains tax on the transfer to a trust.

Make sure you sign (not type) your signature. It’s that easy!

Donations by Credit Card

On a related topic, have you wanted to make a donation to the Statistics Department and charge it to your credit card? It is possible. The ISU Foundation accepts Mastercard, Visa and Discover cards. To use your credit card, send a memo to the ISUF:

The memo should state the following:

- credit card number
- expiration date
- name as it appears on credit card
- your name and address
- amount you wish to give
- the department or fund you’d like to receive your donation.

CONTACTS

For specific information on giving securities to the Department of Statistics, please contact one of the following:

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HONORS & AWARDS

At the 2000 Spring Convocation and Awards Ceremony, a number of our faculty and staff members were recognized for their outstanding work with the university:

W. Robert Stephenson was named University Professor, an honor bestowed on a senior faculty member who has had a significant impact on his or her department and the university in the areas of teaching, research and professional service. It was noted that Dr. Stephenson is an outstanding educator dedicated to student learning. His reputation on campus attests to his excellence in the classroom and as a mentor to graduate students and advisor to both undergraduate and campus organizations, such as Phi Beta Kappa. Dr. Stephenson has also played a key role in teaching high-quality statistics courses to industry, particularly General Motors.

Derrick K. Rollins received the Presidential Service Award which recognizes a member of the faculty or staff for exemplary service that benefits Iowa State University. Dr. Rollins has established an enviable record as a scholar, with an admirable record of external research support, many publications, and an active research group. Along with his outstanding record as a researcher, Dr. Rollins has helped students succeed. He has played a key role in helping Iowa State strengthen its commitment to recruiting and retaining minority students, faculty and staff.

Mack C. Shelley was a recipient of the Louis Thompson Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award. This award recognizes faculty members who have an outstanding teaching career with distinguished achievement in undergraduate education. Dr. Shelley is considered an innovative teacher who regularly adopts new techniques and technologies for instruction. Dr. Shelley's commitment to quality teaching is reflected in outstanding student evaluations and maximum enrollments, even in courses know for their technical demands.

Alicia L. Carriquiry was a recipient of the International Service Award which recognizes a faculty member for outstanding international service in teaching, research or administration, within the United States or abroad. Dr. Carriquiry has an outstanding track record as an international consultant, researcher and educator. Most noteworthy are her research and consulting activities in eight international projects for such diverse governments as Latvia, Ukraine, Lithuania, Zambia and Uruguay.
Norma Elwick, secretary, was honored for exceptional support recognition. Students were asked to name faculty or staff at the university who have been of significant help to them. Norma was recognized for her exceptional assistance to students through her work in the Statistics Department Reading Room.

**OTHER AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS:**

William Q. Meeker - Bill Meeker's paper which he co-authored with L.A. Escobar and C. J. Lu, Accelerated degredation tests: Modeling and analysis. *Technometrics*, 40, pp. 89-99 won the W. J. Youden prize for the best expository paper in *Technometrics* in 1998. Although this is a paper from 1998, the award was announced in October 1999.

John Stufken has been elected a Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. This honor is bestowed to persons who have demonstrated distinction in research in statistics and probability and by publication of independent works of merit. Dr. Stufken was cited for his fundamental contributions to research in design of experiments, including its connections to design issues in sampling; for outstanding teaching, including numerous graduate courses as part of the distance education program at Iowa State University, and for exemplary editorial services he's provided.

Alicia Carriquiry was named a Fellow of the American Statistical Association in a presentation ceremony at the August 1999 Joint Statistical Meetings of the American Statistical Association. She was recognized for service to the profession in North and South America; for innovative applications of statistical methodology in the analysis of dietary intake data; and for her collaborative research with others.

Dr. Carriquiry was also appointed to a half-time associate provost position. She will assist the provost in providing leadership for information technology projects, helping develop the Plant Sciences Institute and assisting in other administrative responsibilities.

On March 2, 2000 W. Robert Stephenson received a teaching award at General Motors. He received this award for teaching Stat 495 and 496 as part of the distance education program. This award is significant since about 150 instructors teach for General Motors each year and they give only one award annually.
“Flashback” - A Recap of Our Year

by Kari Rabe, President

When I was first approached about being the Stat-ers president by our previous prez John Gabrosek, I was pretty hesitant; afterall, we were losing so many members and officers to graduation. How would the Stat-ers tradition live on without the leadership of these individuals? I was skeptical. Then, as almost as if I was being beckoned by the Stat-ers spirit itself, I could almost hear the disco beat of “I Will Survive” resonating through the halls of Snedecor Hall. It was then I knew that the Stat-ers would continue to thrive in Snedecor Hall, so I agreed to take on the presidential responsibilities.

Being determined not to let the Stat-ers dwindle away to nothing, Sandip Sinharay (the almost ever-faithful vice president) and I, through a little “Jive Talkin’” were able to round up a group of terrific committee members as well as to recruit new members. And the result has been that the Stat-ers have been “Stayin’ Alive” in our “Funkytown” of Ames!

This has been a year of transition for the Stat-ers. We’ve come under new leadership with new ideas and goals for improving our organization. It has also been a year of organization and budgeting. My apologies to the executive committee members for being forced to organize their positions and to record every little event and detail related to the positions. I’ve been known to “Freak Out” and go a little overboard when it comes to organization, but I know that the efforts will be greatly appreciated by the officers who will benefit from your hard work in the years to come.

This year we wanted to bring back some of old traditions that were forgotten about, abandoned for lack of interest, or cancelled because they required too much effort. A partial list of events includes:

- Stat-er calendar
- Pizza parties; our first introduction meeting of the year was a success, probably due to the free Great Plains Pizza!
- FACs (Friday After Class); our chance to join friends for a friendly game of volleyball or basketball at the “YMCA”, enjoy some “Grease”-y food or “Hot Stuff” at a restaurant, or be a “Dancing Queen” and “Get Down Tonight”!
- Camping trip

Continuing in the typical Stat-er tradition, we held the following:

- International dinner; a wonderful “Celebration”
- Intramural sports
- Picture board
- Stat-ers seminars

And for our transition year, we accomplished some new goals and/or projects:

- Stat-ers web page, maintained by Julie Hansen.
- Organization of binders for each position
- Another 3rd-floor recycling bin
- Stat-ers constitution

Some exciting news for the grad students was in regards to the gift of money from the late David Belin, president of the Iowa Foundation for Education, Environment & the Arts. Dr. Belin’s foundation has agreed to donate $1,000 to the ISU statistics graduate students for each of 4 years, starting in 1998-1999. Last year, SAS manuals were purchased with some of the money, and we made it our priority to put more of the money to good use this year. The following is a list of ways that we spent some of the money:

- A LaTex manual
- A set of S-plus manuals (Windows version) and a set of S-plus manuals (Version 5)
- Travel money for grad students
- Printing costs for Snedecor 203

So it was a busy year, but “That’s the Way (uh-huh, uh-huh), I Like It”. And other than having to deal with the constant threat of revolt by the vice president, I feel that the year was a great success for Stat-ers.

Thanks to all of the committee members for their “Hopelessly Devoted To You” attitude toward Stat-ers.

Finally, thanks to the Stat-er spirit’s “Take a Chance on Me” plea, everyone enjoyed another exciting year filled with lots of activities and fun.

Stat-er’s website: http://www.iastate.edu/~stat/grad/staters/staters.html
Alumni News

Recently Business Week came to Pillsbury to interview Fred Hulting (Ph.D. '89); the result was a glowing article written about his work. Fred has created a tailored web-based statistical analysis program called NetStat. Many feel that NetStat has the potential to revolutionize the way that data analysis is performed at Pillsbury. The complete article can be found in Business Week, April 3, 2000, pp. 78-86 or from their website: http://www.businessweek.com/2000/00_14/b3675045.htm.

Adam Sales (M.S. ‘98) states that things are going well for him. After graduating he accepted an offer from Hoechst Marion Roussel (HMR) in Kansas City. About six months later the Kansas City research and development site of HMR where he was working was sold to Quintiles, a large pharmaceutical research organization. Hobby-wise he's participating in local theater and singing barbershop harmony with a local chorus. He's also participated in frisbee tournaments and unfortunately, suffered a rolled ankle--his first injury in his frisbee career. A few weeks later a collision on the playing field resulted in a broken rib. Both injuries have healed nicely!

Heidi Geheb Wagner (M.S. ‘92) is currently employed at Scudder Kemper Investments, an investment management company. Heidi works in the retail business, managing the Database Marketing area. The group's responsibilities include predictive modeling, customer profiling and analysis, and working as liaisons with technical partners. She has been there for nearly four years, starting out as a statistical analyst and moving into more managerial roles. On a more personal note, she's been married for five years and lives about 20 miles outside of Boston. Her husband is just finishing a masters degree in Transportation Engineering.

Since May 1999 Heather Smith (M.S. '97) has been with Dava-Farber Cancer Institute (Boston, MA) as a biostatistician. She enjoys the work as well as the location. In June 2000, she has plans to get married.

Congratulations for Danielle and David Hammelef (M.S. ‘98). Daughter Emma Mae was born in January 1999. David was one of the first General Motors graduates in Statistics.

Scott Kongable (B.S ‘89) is now the Director of Development for the Crystal Group, Incorporated in Hiawatha, a suburb of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Julia Wei Wu (M.S. ‘99) has accepted the position of statistician in Epsilon, a database consulting company in Boston. The group is working with clients from a diverse set of industries, such as telecommunications, technology, not-for-profit, financial services, health care and retail. She sees it as a good opportunity to learn lots of things and have a bigger picture of statistical applications in various industries.

Dennis Brandon (M.S. ‘82) received a Doctor of Public Health at the end of Summer 1999 from the Epidemiology and Biostatistics Department at the University of South Carolina. In addition he's teaching an elementary statistic class at Alcorn State University. This has given him an opportunity to meet some students and build a working relationship with faculty members.

Keeping up with the Joneses: Angela (M.S. ‘96) and Philip Jones (M.S. ‘95) are definitely proud parents; baby Noah has his own webpage. Take a peak when you have time. http://pages.ivillage.com/pp/ahjones.

Dominic Dousa (M.S. ‘98) sends his greetings from Central Michigan. He's going to be finishing his music master's in May and will apply for a doctoral degree in music composition.

A message from Kodak representative R. Craig VanNostrand states Terry Callanan, (Ph.D '85) Brian Lindstrom (M.S. ‘91) and Brandon Paris (M.S. ‘96) have done great work (here at Kodak) and we'd love to have more ISU Grads in the same vein.

Susan Ofner (M.S. ‘99) will be leaving Norwest Financial to take a position at Eli Lilly in Indianapolis.

IN MEMORIAM:

Clifford Maloney (Ph.D. '48) died in 1998.

Phyllis D. Carr, Experimental Design-Genetic Statistics Section secretary from 1973-'83, died September 1999.
Continued from Page 1

from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Omni Severin Hotel, 40 West Jackson Street, Indianapolis. The event will be held in their Severin Ballroom.

Hot and cold hors d’oeuvres, fruit, cheese and vegetable platters, munchies and non alcoholic drinks will be provided. There will be a cash bar for alcoholic drinks. No reservations are required; just show up and have fun. We hope that everyone will be able to stop by for at least a short time and then maybe arrange to have dinner with former classmates.

We realize this newsletter is coming out a little early for you to be thinking about the JSM Conference. If you would like to be reminded of the JSM Reception closer to the date, please e-mail Beth Weiser at weiser@iastate.edu. She will put together an alumni e-mail list so we can easily remind alums of events such as the JSM Reception. Thanks.

**Schedules for Future Annual Reports and Newsletters**

We’ve been playing catch up with the Annual Report and Newsletters this year. By now you should have received the 1997-1999 Biennial Report. We’ve streamlined the Annual Report; hopefully a lot of the day-to-day reporting we have had in past issues will soon end up on our website.

The plan for future mailings:

May/June—first newsletter of the year
September/October—second newsletter of the year
November/December—Annual Report