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**CSU Social Science Research and Instructional Council**

**Fall, 1992 Meeting**

**CSU Northridge -- October 15, 1992**

*Present:* Margaret Blue (DH), Ed Nelson (FR), Jim Ross (BA), Jon Eveling (CH), Don Carder (LA SSDBA), Carole Barnes (SAC), Chuck Wilmot (CSU CO), Phil Garcia (CSU CO), John Kramer (SO), Don Dixon (SO), Rich DeLeon (SFSU), Penny Crane (CSU CO IRT = = > L&AIS), Bob Roberts (SM), John Korey (PO), Jay Emenhiser (HU), Tom Harris CSU CO Library & Academic Information Services), Rich Taketa (SJSU), Richard Serpe FU) Chair, Gene Turner (NO), Ted Anagnoson (LA), Dave Decker (SB) Jimmy Hwang SB), Bob Clover (SLO), Frank Gossette (LB) -- 17 campuses were represented

*Absent:* Only Hayward, Stanislaus and SDSU were absent. [Guilt is hereby inflicted....]

The business meeting was called to order by chair Richard Serpe at 10:05 a.m.

1. *Approval of the minutes* from the previous meeting -- m/s/p.
2. *Membership changes --* Dick Shaffer from SLO has resigned, replaced by Bob Clover. Bob Roberts, Sociology, is the new San Marcos representative, replacing Terry Baker. Rich Taketa, Geography, is the new San Jose representative, replacing Peter Haas, who is away this year.
3. Ted Anagnoson announced:
4. *Stata Technical Bulletin #9* is available and being circulated; strongly recommended for Stata users. **If** anyone needs an up to date copy of the STB #9 files, send Ted a HD disk of either size. The files do not work without a copy of Stata version 3.0. STB9 has a copy of a Stat/Transfer like program that reads in ASCII files without the creation of a dictionary if the files have free field data (old SPSS term) and the variable name at the top of each column.
5. Ted, along with Joe Hilbe, editor of the Stata Technical Bulletin, did a *two day workshop at the intermediate level for Stata users* this summer at CSU Fullerton. The topics were: Expiratory Data .Analysis (3 Hrs), data managcmcnt (1 hr), Stata programming /by Bill Gould, 3 hrs), logistic regression (3 hrs), and regression diagnostics (3 hrs). Handouts are available from these, but since Ted and his department are both broke, there is a Xeroxing cost in the $5 to $10 range, depending on how much you want. Also, Hilbe's files are available (just send a disk, any size).
6. Ted, Rich and Richard have a *NSF Faculty Enhancement Program summer one week workshop on EDA using Stata pending* at this point. No information on whether it will be funded. Also Ted has recommended to Bill Gould at Stata that Stata have workshops next summer with a format of one 3 day workshop at the beginning level and one 2 day workshop at the intermediate level. No feedback on that as yet.
7. *Judgelt --* Ted circulated copies of two papers by Gary King on a new computer program to evaluate reapportionments. It uses Gauss files (but StatTransfer can take a SPSS or SAS or Stata or 123 file and transform it into a Gauss file). Copies are available free from Prof. Gary King, Department of Government, Littauer Center, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138.

2

1. Larry Hamilton's Statistics with Stata, version 3.0, as brilliantly reviewed by Rich DeLeon and Ted Anagnoson, will be out soon by Brooks/Cole. Copies of Regression and Graphics, by Larry Hamilton, were circulated. It is available from the publisher (Brooks/Cole) or the Stata people.
2. *Data Management --* Ted is looking for interesting data management problems. What kind of data set have you had trouble reading in, trouble transforming, trouble understanding? etc. Send the ideas or actual data sets, any format, to him at the Department of Political Science, Cal State LA, LA, 90032-8226. Or [tanagno@csula.edu](mailto:tanagno@csula.edu)
3. *Tom Harris of the Chancellor's office Library and Academic Information Services* is interested in knowing what we want and what we are willing to pay. Re: data, information, bibliographic citations and sources, etc. His phone: (310) 985-9595.
4. *Social Science Data Base Center --* Don Carder.
5. Don's people have moved the *SSDBA* to a new machine, with an estimated 10 fold increase in power, 2 weeks ago. There is more disk space. They have purchased a SAS module to use for subsetting and are creating an interface under which you would select what you want, and it will (eventually) automatically run and FTP to your campus machine. The new menu system on the SSDBA is rudimentary, but it can be easily changed for the future. They have an editor on this machine and are trying to get it to work like a normal DOS keyboard editor, with HOME, END, PGUP, PGDN, etc.
6. The *full catalog of the ICPSR* is now up and can be searched with FOCUS.
7. Most campuses have *subscribed.* Pomona has not at this point.
8. Jon Ebeling appealed for the possible purchase of a "California Data Base" from an economist in San Diego. This is an historical data base which used to belong to the Security Pacific Bank and can be used for forecasting purposes.
9. *Census --* no data from Sonoma. Some question of whether to get it at all. Some of the older materials may not be in good shape from a data integrity standpoint. The SSDBA has applied to the Census Bureau to be the data center for the CSU, which will give us all Census data free. There is a new Census person coming to work at the SSDBA on October 21st. Question at this point is whether a bigger machine is needed to manage the Census data or whether these funds could be spent on more mass storage.

Some discussion of CD-ROM Census data in Libraries which is OK for finding characteristics of specific tracts or blocks but is very unsatisfactory from the standpoint of putting together a Social Science data base for analytic purposes.

Ebeling recommended a 1 day workshop that the Census puts on at $99 on how to use the Census on a PC. Excellent.

1. m/s/p to have a *Census Advisory Group from within the SSRIC.* This will consist of Carole Barnes, Gene Turner, and John Korey. They will report to the SSRIC at the February meeting, and there will be a workshop on Census data at that meeting.
2. *Travel --* SSDBA will pay travel for SSRIC members for one meeting per year.
3. Penny is to send Ted a list of campuses participating in the Census Center to include in the minutes.

Participating in the Census Center: [Did not arrive after one month]   
Not Participating: [ditto]

1. Gene Turner requested for an easy way to get out of submenus. Carder response: send all requests like that to Janet or Colin with a copy to him on e-mail.

3

1. *Chancellor's Office Reorganization --* Penny Crane. Information Resources and Technology is now Library and Academic Information Services. Discussion ensued over the subject of the size of the renamed Committee of the Whole, now the Academic Information Resources Council, chaired by the COW chair, Fred Dorer of CSU Bakersfield.

For 1992-93 and 1993-94, both Field and ICPSR will be paid out of central funds. The money has been found under "systemwide provisions' and will be sought in 1993/94 under that title also. Both Tom West and Tony Moye have supported these expenditures. In the future beyond that point, there are no guarantees, and the outcome of the present evolution of the budget process in the CSU is unknown, adding another degree of uncertainty.

Considerable discussion of *the Delta project* ensued, with much uncertainty over the real meaning of the project and the meaning of distance learning. Attached article on "Reordering Educational Priorities," however, from the *Los Angeles Times* on 11/9/92, indicates the seriousness of this effort. Strongly recommended reading.

Software situation -- *BMDP* is on its way out (Bill Gould told me that the organization is down to one programmer and staff person in this country and another in Europe -­apparently it is dying).

SAS and SPSS are basically charging the Chancellor's Office the same amount that they would charge each campus individually, meaning that there is no real reason to keep the systemwide negotiating for site licenses.

PC software vendors are much more difficult to deal with.

1. *Field Report --* Ed Nelson.

*Not much to report.* He has sent out RFPs re the Field internship, the faculty fellowship, and the question credits. Field wanted to run Nadine Koch's question credits from last year this year and not have any question credits for this year; consensus of the Council was that this was not acceptable. There is a student presently at Field now. He had a copy of Barbara Mori's report from last year's faculty fellowship, which was circulated among Council members.

Discussion of whether we should try to produce a longitudinal codebook, like NORC's for the GSS, for the Field Polls.

1. *Academic Information Resource Council (AIRC) and Committee of Systemwide Council Chairs (CSCC)*

Membership in these "august" bodies was reviewed. Discussion of the need to get our message "up the line." Serpe emphasized that Council members should find out who the campus representatives are and get our message to them. Crane emphasized that the systemwide councils belong to the faculty, not to IRT, and enjoy a certain independence and freedom of action because of that fact.

Discussion ensued concerning the needs of social science quantitative teachers/researchers:

\*\*Lack of funds for new activities in specialty centers.   
\*\*lack of travel money.

1 Secretary's comment -- should we say anything about the pathology of an organization -- not to mention the

stability of its mission and goals -- that reorganizes and renames itself this often? No why point out the obvious

4

\*\*Lack of faculty development funds to train faculty in how to use new systems, bring skills up to date, produce more quantitative social scientists, produce software documentation, etc.

\*\*Problems in that support for some student labs in Departments is being withdrawn on some campuses, meaning that Departments must now staff these labs, pay for machine repairs and software upgrades, and the like.

\*\*Charging students for the use of the printers in the microcomputer labs. Charges for paper and printing.

\*\*Dollar based budgeting.

Do formulas in fact cut political conflict? More discussion ensued.

Suggestion from Phil Garcia -- do a touch and show on Stata and social science statistical computing? More than talking heads.

1. *Winter and Spring meeting arrangements.*

Winter -- 2/18-19/93 at Dominguez Hills -- discussion of whether to have Kent Jennings and Heinz Eulau from the Council of the big SSRIC in the Sky in Ann Arbor.

Spring -- 5/6-7/93 -- Sacramento. But this is the same day as the CSU statewide meeting. The statewide conference is at CSU Fullerton on Friday, May 7, 1993.

NEW DATE FOR THE SSRIC STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE: [This was also not received "in time" for the minutes. FOR SHAME!!!]

Frank Gossette had received a letter from a student objecting to the fact that two of last year's conference winners were from CSU Fullerton. Anagnoson answered it in his own inimitable style (copies sent to C. Barnes, R. Serpe, F. Gossette).

*Winners of the Student Research Conference Awards for May, 1992:*

Teresa Laughlin -- CSU Fullerton   
Lori Ballway CSU Fullerton   
Melisa Riba CSU Fresno

1. *SSRIC Brochure --* Rich and Ted will work on text.
2. Idea for having *our own WASC Standards* to meet the minimum criteria for quantitative social scientific instruction and research. No decision on this that the secretary got for the minutes.

[Secretary's thoughts and comments -- well, OK, we could have standards, let's say, 5 or 6. But we have no one to do a self-study (certainly we could not ask SSRIC members to write a 5 page self study of their campuses and quantitative social science), and if we were to do the investigation during the quarterly meetings of the SSRIC, it would take a team of three probably a good portion of a day to interview the right people, and that is assuming that all the interviews have been set up. On the other hand, we could get some sense from the SSRIC Reps as to the extent to which campuses meet the standards and publish perhaps campus summaries prepared by the local reps and compiled by the SSRIC chair. These would be useful for submitting upstairs. Secretary recommends the following standards, thought of as the minutes are being typed, and reflecting the problems expressed at the meeting.

Note: Standards are attached at the end of the minutes.

5

**12. Price of Stata Lab Packs (by popular request):**

Stata regular (non-lab pack) price: $695. Stata academic price: $165 (76% discount). Add for Intercooled Stata $100/$100 (Regular Price/Academic Price). Add for Stata Graphics Editor: $195/$95. Add for Stat/Transfer: $129/$60.

Stata Lab Packs: $400 for up to 8 computers, $50 for each additional computer. $160 for 8 computers, +$20 ea over 8 computers, extra for 386/486 intercooled Stata. Upgrades from 2.1, up to 8 computers, $95; $5 ea for additional computers. $60 ea for manual sets.

Price of the STB $100 for six issues per year, including disks.

Price of the STB $30 without disks. These are both regular and academic prices.

Upgrades of individually owned Stata: To **3.0** with manuals: $195/$95. From 2.05 or earlier: $250/$125.

All available from: Computing Resource Center, 1640 Fifth St., Santa Monica, CA 90401. 1-800-STATAPC OR 1-800-8272 OR 1-310-393-9893. FAX 1-310-393-7551. Mention Ted Anagnoson's or Rich DeLeon's name to receive especially nice service from Pat Branton or Bill Gould.

If you send Ted six self-addressed 9x12 stamped envelopes, I will send you STBs as they come out (Iget 10 copies as a member of the editorial board and distribute 4 on campus). So Ican do this for two or three people. I have a couple of copies of the book reprinting all of volume I of the STB, which I could send you free.

If you send Ted a HDdisk, Iwill duplicate my [**C:\ADO**](file:///C:/ADO)subdirectory, which has virtually all the STB files in it (some 450 plus). But you should be a v. 3.0 user.

If you are a regular Stata user and don't get the STB (Stata Technical Bulletin), you are being very, very foolish. It has terrific suggestions at all levels, beginning, intermediate and advanced, not to mention periodic articles by the eminent social scientists Rich DeLeon, Ted Anagnoson and Larry Giventer.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Theodore Anagnoson

6

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| *California State University*  **Standards for the Instructional and Professional Needs of CSU Faculty, Students and  Admnistrators in the Quantitative Aspects of the Social Sciences**  *CSU Social Science Research and Instructional Council  Winter, 1993*   1. *Hardware --* modern social science quantitative research chiefly involves computerized data analysis and statistical work with data sets that vary from those which are small (10 variables and 200 cases) to exceptionally large (10,000 to 100,000 cases). 386 machines with math coprocessors, 486s, or Macintoshes with math coprocessors are typically adequate. 8088 based machines at this point have been inadequate for several years, as are Mac Plus machines with 512K of memory. 2. *Software --* Access to the latest versions of at least two or three modern software packages is a prerequisite for modern social scientific instruction and professional activities. In general, most campuses have a base of SPSS users both on mainframes and minicomputers and on personal computers. Other popular packages include SAS, Stata and others. The mention of particular packages in this paragraph does not preclude a campus' faculty from deciding that packages not herewith mentioned should be the local standard. 3. *Data --* modern social science instruction and research requires access to local, state, national and international data sets. As of 1992, these data are being provided from the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan, to which CSU has a group membership paid for centrally. Another major source of data on the state level is the Field Institute (Field Polls) in San Francisco, to which there is also a groupmembership paid for centrally through a budget category called "systemwide provisions." The data are distributed to each campus through Cal State LA's Social Science Data Base Archive (SSDBA). Funding for the SSDBA and access to the SSDBA from PCs and terminals, preferably from faculty offices, is a prerequisite to obtaining data for instruction and professional activities.   It is typical for faculty to need data not provided by the SSDBA, ICPSR, FieldInstitute or other central sources. Institutions need a program under which faculty needs are examined and met to the extent of available funds.   1. Modern quantitative social science instruction requires student and faculty access to both modern software and up to date data sets, some of which will be substantial in size. **The** provision of one or more labs with both software and data is important to access. Labs assistants should have appropriate training and backgrounds to help social science students. Instruction should be provided, both orally and in written form, on how to use the data bases and software provided. |