



Stat Happenings #8: Statistics News You Can Use Cornell Statistical Consulting Unit

Fall 2006

- 1. Cornell Statistical Consulting Unit (CSCU)**
- 2. Workshops offered this semester**
- 3. CSCU provides contract services**
- 4. Projects for graduate students in the Master of Professional Studies in Applied Statistics program**
- 5. Statistics in the Community (STATCOM)**
- 6. STATA 9 documentation available at Mann Library**

1) Cornell Statistical Consulting Unit (CSCU):

The **Cornell Statistical Consulting Unit** grew out of a merger between the Office of Statistical Consulting and the statistical consulting services offered through the departments of Biological Statistics and Computational Biology (BSCB-CALS), and Social Statistics (ILR). Through CSCU, statistical consulting will be provided by faculty from the Department of Statistical Science (which includes BSCB and Social Statistics), and staff statisticians, assisted by graduate students from the Department of Statistical Science. These three tiers of expertise are designed to meet the various consulting demands across Cornell University. CSCU staff statisticians will direct clients to the most appropriate consultant, taking into account each client's needs and the expertise of the various consultants. In addition, CSCU will offer training and other resources to improve efficiency in the use of CSCU service by clients.

CSCU offers to the Cornell Community an initial consulting meeting, and more intensive follow-up consulting. The initial meeting with a client is provided at no cost. All subsequent follow-up visits will require financial support. Individual colleges, departments and/or programs may choose to make annual contributions to CSCU to provide their faculty with further access to all CSCU consultants. Units which have provided support to allow their researchers unlimited access are the Division of Nutritional Sciences, the College of Human Ecology and the School of Industrial and Labor Relations. The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences has provided support that will allow CALS researchers up to 2 hours of consultation, with the cost of further consultation being partly subsidized by the CALS administration. Clients who are not affiliated with a unit that provides statistical support to their researchers can still arrange subsequent and follow-up visits for a fee.

For more information see the web page at www.cscu.cornell.edu or contact one of the staff statisticians: Simona Despa (sd249) at 4-7278 or Francoise Vermeulen (fmv1) at 5-8211.

2) Workshops:

CSCU has so far scheduled the following workshops for this semester:

Basic Data Analysis (October 17 and 19)

Introduction to Logistic Regression (November 2)

Refresher on Interpreting Linear Regression Parameters (November 7)

Introduction to Multilevel Analysis workshop (during the January break)

All workshops are free, but due to limited space, we require pre-registration. For complete information please see our web site, <http://www.cscu.cornell.edu/admin/statcons/workshop.htm>.

Check also CISER.s webpage for the statistical computing workshops they offer which will help you master SAS, SPSS, STATA or Matlab: http://www.ciser.cornell.edu/workshops/workshop_downloads.shtml

3) Contract Work:

Do you have some data that need to be analyzed but lack the time or expertise? CSCU also provides contract services, including performing statistical analysis for clients. Needs, availability and costs of this service are discussed on a project-by-project basis. For further information contact Françoise Vermeulen (fmv1) at 5-8211.

4) Final Projects:

Graduate students enrolled in the Master of Professional Studies in Applied statistics are required to carry out an in-depth statistical data analysis project. MPS students typically team up with a researcher to perform, under supervision of a statistician, the statistical analysis of the researcher's data. The student will have to submit a final report at the conclusion of the project. If you have data that would be suitable for such a project and would like to have an MPS student perform the statistical analysis for you please contact: the Director of the MPS program, John Bunge, at jab18@cornell.edu.

5) Statistics in the Community (STATCOM):

Statistics in the Community at Cornell is a new student organization dedicated to providing free statistical advice and assistance for nonprofit and governmental organizations in Ithaca. STATCOM can provide assistance with planning of data collection, providing data management assistance, and data analysis. For more information e-mail statcom@cornell.edu or call 255-2326

6) Stata 9

A complete set of documentation for STATA version 9 is now available in Mann Library's reference department. It is on the computing reference shelf and each title is also appearing in the Library Catalog.