

## Japanese

The Annual Meeting for the 1988 fiscal year of the Japanese Region was held on 22 April in Tokyo. The meeting consisted of the General Assembly for business matters and a scientific meeting. At the scientific meeting, nine contributed papers, whose summaries are published in this issue, were presented and a special session titled 'Epidemiological Methods for Evaluating the Health Effect of Tobacco Smoking' was held. The following three epidemiologists were invited to the special session and gave expository lectures on the health effect of tobacco smoking, especially that of passive smoking:

**Masumi Minowa** (*The Institute of Public Health*), Usefulness and limitation of epidemiologic methods for evaluating the health effect of tobacco smoking.

**Takeshi Hirayama** (*The Institute of Preventive Oncology*), Biometric considerations on the relationship between smoking and lung cancer on the large scale cohort study.

**Tukasa Namekata** (*Batelle Memorial Institute*), Some problems in epidemiology of smoking and future studies.

**Yasuo Ohashi**

*Japanese Correspondent*

## Spanish

The Spanish National Group is an expanding and active Group. In 1982, after the Toulouse Conference, a group of four or five diverse and unconnected members got to know each other. We decided to try to increase the number of members of the Society and to unite, under a Group, those of us that were working in the application of Mathematics and Statistics to life sciences in Spain. Less than eight years later we have over 50 members and the Spanish National Group has been formed. Indeed, a Spanish Region might be around the corner. In May 1986, we organized the 1st Spanish Biometric Conference (SBC) in Granada and, quite unexpectedly, we had more than 60 contributed papers from Spanish scientists. We plan to hold this meeting every other year after 1989, to avoid conflicting with the IBCs. In summer 1989 we will have our 2nd SBC in Madrid. We invite all members of the Society to submit contributions and enjoy Spain (even more sunny in summer!). For information: Prof Carmen Santisteban, Facultad de Psicología, Campus de Somosaguas, Universidad Complutense, 28023 Madrid, Spain.

The Spanish National Group has been publishing twice a year, since 1985, an informal newsletter, edited by C. Santisteban and E. A. Carbonell, entitled '*Biometria*', that is distributed to members as part of their annual dues. It provides general information about activities; it is a forum for open discussions and views; and it includes two regular sections. One is called '*Biometry in . . .*', devoted to present the recent activities of research groups in Spain and abroad. Up to now, the groups presented have belonged to INIA (National Institute for Agricultural Research), Madrid; Laboratoire

## Biometric Society Region Meetings

**British, December 6, 1988, London, England**

156th Ordinary Meeting. Information: Byron J.T. Morgan, Mathematical Institute, Cornwallis Building, University of Kent at Canterbury, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NF, England.

**British, February 14, 1989, London, England**

157th Ordinary Meeting. Information: as above.

**British, May 14, 1989, London, England.**

158th Ordinary Meeting. Information: as above.

**ENAR, March 19-22, 1989, Lexington, Kentucky, USA**

Spring Regional Meeting.

**ENAR/WNAR, August 6-10, 1989, Washington D.C., USA**

Joint Annual Statistical Meeting with ASA. Information: ASA, 1429 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA. 22314, USA.

**ENAR/WNAR, August 6-9, 1990, Anaheim, California, USA**

Joint Annual Statistical Meeting with ASA. Information: as above.

**German/Nordic, February 27-March 2, 1989, Celle, near Hannover, FRG**

Biometrisches Kolloquium. Information: Frau H. Schmeetz, Institut für Biometrie, Medizinische Hochschule Hannover, PO Box 61 01 80, D-3000 Hannover 61, FRG.

**Nordic, August 21-23, 1989, Laugarvatn, Iceland**

Information: Holmgeir Björnsson, Agricultural Research Institute, Keldna Holti, IS-112 Reykjavik, Iceland.

**WNAR, June 25-28, 1989, Davis, California, USA**

1989 Annual Meeting. Information: G. Morris Southward, Secretary/Treasurer WNAR, Dept. of Experimental Statistics, Box 3130, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM. 88002, USA.

de Biometrie du C.N.R.Z., Jouy en Josas, France (including their annual publication lists); Statistical Services Centre, Department of Applied Statistics, University of Reading, England; and the Unit of Biostatistics, Barcelona University. Another section, that we are trying to publish on a regular basis, is dedicated to abstracts of papers published in journals not specifically biometrical, and accessible only to a limited group of members. The name and address of the member who provided the reference is included for all those interested to obtain a copy of the full paper. We encourage all members of the Biometric Society to submit information, abstracts, news and views, etc. to be published in *Biometria*, and to collaborate in our section '*Biometry in . . .*'. We accept collaborations in any official language of the Biometric Society and, of course, in Spanish. Send them to Prof Carmen Santisteban (see above for address). Deadlines are November and March. In return, we will send you a copy of a recent issue of *Biometria*.

Last but by no means least, here is an announcement for all those of us who speak Cervantes' language. Son mis noticias que el Editor de *Biometrics*, Dan Solomon, anima y esta preparado para recibir articulos en Espanol ademas de en Ingles, Frances o Aleman. Ahora, el idioma ya no es excusa para no enviar articulos a *Biometrics*.

**Emilio A. Carbonell**  
*Spanish Correspondent*

## Western North American

### Message from the WNAR President

The past twelve months have been a truly exciting and rewarding time for me. Opportunities for travel allowed me to attend meetings

of the Australasian Region in Melbourne last November and the Eastern North American Region in Boston during March. I also was able to visit the Waikato Centre for Applied Statistics in Hamilton, New Zealand, while on leave at Auckland University, and the Statistics Group at Los Alamos National Laboratory, while on leave in New Mexico. It is both disconcerting and comforting to realise that the problems and challenges facing biometricians are common to so many locations.

One highlight of the year was the successful WNAR meeting in Honolulu in June. I would like to thank Carl Yoshizawa, Cancer Research Center of Hawaii, Roxy Peck and John Rogers, California Polytechnic State University, for making local arrangements; Maxwell Layard, Failure Analysis Associates, for serving as program chair; Nicholas Jewell, University of California, Berkeley, for chairing the student paper competition committee; and Michael Stephens, Simon Fraser University, for presenting an excellent President's Invited Address.

Finally, I would like to thank John Crowley, WNAR Past President for his help and cheerful support this past year.

**J. Richard Alldredge**  
*WNAR President*

Activities for 1989 include the Annual Regional Meeting to be held at the University of California, Davis, CA., 25-28 June, where WNAR will help the Department of Statistics celebrate their 10th Anniversary. Madeline Bauer, Children's Cancer Center, University of Southern California, 199 N. Lake Ave., Pasadena, CA. 91101-1859, will serve as program chair. She welcomes your suggestions for the program. Jessica Utts, University of California, Davis, is the local arrangements chair