Spanish

The 2nd Spanish Biometric Conference, sponsored by the Spanish National Group, will take place from 20 – 22 September 1989, at the Domingo Soto College, Complutense University of Madrid at Segovia. The Conference provides an opportunity to exchange ideas in the application of mathematics and statistics to biology, agriculture, medicine, psychology, etc., within the framework of a National Group that is willing to share its research and general activities with others. Official languages will be those of the Biometric Society (English, French and German) and also Spanish, but simultaneous translation will not be offered.

Segovia is a predominately medieval town with origins in Roman times; it was founded c.700 BC. Located 85 km north of Madrid, it is famous for its 2000-year-old Roman aquaduct. This is 738 m long and 29 m above ground at its highest point. It also has a 12th century military castle and its cathedral, known as 'The Lady of the Spanish Cathedrals', is exceptionally elegant. Segovia has very good transport links with Madrid by train, bus or car, along highways or scenic roads. Eleven km from Segovia, on the road to Madrid, is 'La Granja', a summer palace for the kings of Spain since the 18th century. Its 26 monumental fountains and 40 groups of statues in its grounds makes 'La Granja' a sight comparable in beauty to Versailles in France.

Registration for the Conference for members of the Biometric Society is 5,000 pta, and for non-members 10,000 pta. There will be a 20% supplement for late registration. The tentative deadlines for the Conference are:

Submission of summaries of papers (maximum 3 pages long) ... 30 May
Acceptance of summaries by Organising Committee ..... 15 June
Registration .... 15 July

Further information is available from:
Dr E. A. Carbonell,
IVIA,
Apartado Oficial,
46113 Moncada, Valencia,
Spain.
Phone: 34-6-1391000
Fax: 34-6-1390240

See you in Segovia.

Emilio A. Carbonell
Spanish Correspondent

Western North American

The 1989 Regional Meeting of WNAR will be held jointly with the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS) on the campus of the University of California at Davis from 25 – 28 June. This meeting is in conjunction with the 10th anniversary of the Division of Statistics at UC Davis. Registration forms have been sent to all WNAR members. Nonmembers can obtain forms from: Dr G. Morris Southward, Department of Experimental Statistics, Box 3130, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003-0003; (505) 646-2936.

The Invited Paper Sessions will be:

Monday, 26 June
8:30 – 10:15 WNAR Invited Papers I, Statistical Problems in Biomechanical Engineering.
Organizer: Tom Santner, *Cornell Univ., Ithaca, NY*.
1:30 – 3:15pm WNAR/IMS Invited Papers,
Point Processes and Survival Analysis.
Organizer: Madeline Bauer, *Univ. of So. California, Los Angeles*.
3:30 – 5:15pm WNAR Invited Papers II, Applications of Design, Monitoring, and Survival Analysis in Agriculture and Natural Resources.
Organizer: Gary Richardson, *Colorado State Univ., Fort Collins*.

Tuesday, 27 June
9:00 – 10:15 WNAR Invited Papers III, ASA 150: Development of Biostatistics and Biometrics.
Organizer: Richard Alldredge, *Washington State Univ., Pullman, WA*.
10:30 – 11:30 WNAR — President's Invited Address.
Organizer: Loveday Conquest, *University of Washington, Seattle*.
Speaker: Ethel Gilbert, *Battelle Northwest, Richland, WA*.
1:30 – 3:15pm WNAR Invited Papers IV, Applications of Design.
4:30 – 5:30pm WNAR Business Meeting.

Wednesday, 28 June
8:30 – 10:15 WNAR Invited Papers V, Evaluation of Statisticians as Collaborative Researchers.
Organizer: G. Morris Southward, *New Mexico State University*.
10:30 – 12:15 IMS/WNAR Invited Papers,
Spatial Statistics: Theory and Applications.
Organizer: Michael Stein, *University of Chicago*.

WNAR will again have a Student Paper Competition. Dr Kirk Steinhorst is Chairman of the Student Paper Competition Committee. Awards will be given for the best paper, a runner-up award for the next-best paper, and an award for the best student presentation.

WNAR understands that many statisticians and libraries in different parts of the world are having financial problems in paying their membership dues to the Biometric Society. In an effort to alleviate this world-wide problem, WNAR has started a project to help statisticians in the Mexican Group, El Groupo Mexico (GMex) to meet their dues. WNAR has corresponded with the Secretary/ Treasurer of GMex and some statisticians throughout the region are being assisted with their membership to the Biometric Society. Also, a number of libraries in GMex have dropped their subscriptions to *Biometrics* in recent years. WNAR is examining this situation to see if some assistance can be provided to these libraries.

G. Morris Southward
Western North American Correspondent

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Quotes of the Month

From the ISO Bulletin, *newsletter of the International Organization for Standardization:*

Differing forms for the numeric representation of dates and times in various regions of the world result in confusion and errors. The new International Standard ISO 8601 eliminates the risk of misinterpretation. The universal system proceeds from larger to smaller elements, first the year, then the month, then the day. Thus 1989-12-05 clearly signifies 5 December 1989. It is possible to continue the larger-to-smaller order by adding digits to indicate hour-minute-second based on the 24-hour system, using the letter T: 1989-12-05T23-59-45 thus designates 15 seconds before midnight on 5 December 1989. For commerical purposes, Monday has been found the most useful first day of the week. In the universal system, weeks are designated by the letter W. Thus, the calendar week and day of Tuesday 5 December 1989 is written 1989-W49-2.

Editor's note: for the time being, we shall continue to use our current convention for dates in Biometric Bulletin.