

The

MU SIGMA RHO Over

Volume 6

1988

Charleston, SC

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NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS...

Alabama Alpha Chapter - University of Alabama

- . The Chi Alpha Phi Chapter of Mu Sigma Rho inducted eight new members during Honors Day ceremonies at the University of Alabama on April 10, 1986. Those initiated were Julia Ballew, Subhabrata Chakraborti, Ph.D., Prince Collins Orf. Chukabarah, Nancy Freeman, Marcia O'Neal, Gail Stautamayer, Rose Marie Stutts, and Phillip J. Ward.

In addition to the new inductees, the chapter recognized the accomplishments of other students. Mark West was presented the award for being the outstanding Statistics major at the graduate level. Mark is a Ph.D. student in the Applied Statistics program. The award for outstanding undergraduate major in Statistics went to Julia Ballew. After her graduation in May 1986, Julia enrolled in the graduate program and is currently a teaching assistant for the Department of Management Science and Statistics. An award for outstanding accomplishment for a Ph.D. student minoring in Statistics was given to Ching-Chin Hsu. Mr. Hsu excelled in each of his seven graduate statistics courses. He has since completed his Ph.D. in finance.

- . The Spring Picnic, held April 12, at Bowers Park in Tuscaloosa, was attended by thirty-seven members and guests.
- . Chapter officers for the 1986-87 year were Britt Shirley, President/Treasurer, and Mark West, Vice-President/Secretary.
- . The 1987 Honor's Day ceremonies were held on April 9, 1987. The new initiates were Arthur Allen, Jr., Kevin Borie, Susan R. Cockrell, Chris Ernesto, Richard R. Ittenback, Geanie Margavio, Thomas Margavio, Andy Marcus, Karen McCarron, David Shyu, and Michelle Watters.

Mr. Po-Huang Chyou was selected as the outstanding graduate statistics major; Ms. Claudia Kelley received the award for outstanding student minoring in statistics. Claudia is receiving her Ph.D. in Accounting.

- . The officers for 1987-88 are Mark West, President/Treasurer and Tom Margavio, Vice-President/Secretary. The faculty advisor is Dr. Edd Mansfield.

Iowa Alpha Chapter - Iowa State University

- . The annual initiation banquet was held on March 26, 1987. Fifteen graduate students, seven undergraduates and the guest speaker accepted the invitation to join Mu Sigma Rho. Joining the new initiates were approximately 50 current members of Mu Sigma Rho, spouses and friends. Entertainment was provided by the Snedecorian Singers (H.T. David, Roy Hickman, Don Hotchkiss, Bob Stephenson and Harold Baker) accompanied on the piano by Sue Wettstein.

Following the banquet, Dr. William S. Cleveland of AT&T Bell Laboratories presented the annual Mu Sigma Rho lecture. His talk, "Dynamic Graphics for Data Analysis", was well received by the overflow crowd. Besides appealing to the statisticians, the application of dynamic graphics proved to be of interest to computer scientists, industrial engineers, students from the design college and many individuals on campus with a need to analyze data. During his visit to Iowa State, Dr. Cleveland met with faculty, staff and students on an informal basis. He also participated in the Statistical Laboratory seminar series with a presentation on locally-weighted regression.

- . The Iowa Alpha Chapter of Mu Sigma Rho acknowledges academic excellence and outstanding contributions to the activities of the Department of Statistics at Iowa State University through the Mu Sigma Rho Award. This year the award was presented jointly to two graduate students, Alicia Carriquiry from Montevideo, Uruguay and B. Keith Cranford from Vidiala, Louisiana. Both Alicia and Keith helped revitalize the statistics graduate student organization, the IOWA STAT-ers. As Vice President and Seminar Chair, Alicia reorganized and improved the seminar series aimed at graduate and undergraduate students. Keith, serving as President and Treasurer, got the organization back on its feet financially. The IOWA-STAT-ers have been able to donate books to the Department Reading Room, publish an annual picture directory, and help sponsor the Mu Sigma Rho lecture. Both Alicia and Keith are working towards their PhDs in statistics.
- . Most of the recent graduates from Iowa State University with a B.S. in Statistics found employment or continued their education. Three students went on to graduate school; one went to the University of West Virginia to study mathematics and two stayed at ISU to continue in statistics. Among the companies and agencies hiring our students were A.C. Nielsen in Northbrook, IL; STSC, Inc. in Rockville, MD; Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN; Midwest Research institute in Kansas City, MO; U.S. Census Bureau in Suitland, MD; and NOK Corp in LaGrange, GA. Starting salaries ranged from \$18,000 to \$25,000 per year.

Virginia Alpha Chapter - Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

- . Fourteen students were initiated into Mu Sigma Rho in 1987. New undergraduate members are Susan Bruce, Cora Ann Buckley, Tammy D. Coffey, Robert L. Dainton, Jr., Gregory T. Fulton, Joan M. Johnson, and Carol L. Miller. Initiates at the graduate level are Jai Wook Baik, Diane Blumenfield, Alfred DeMaris, David A. Krupa, Barbara Kuzmak, Philip J.

Ramsey, and Thomas O. Vinson, Jr. Two honorary memberships were extended to Dr. Charles A. McGilchrist of the University of New South Wales, Australia, and Dr. Robert Hooke of Pinehurst, North Carolina.

- Chapter activities included several presentations. On November 20, 1986, Dr. William H. Woodall of the Department of Statistics, University of Southwestern Louisiana presented a lecture entitled "The Design of Quality Control Charts." Dr. Randall K. Spoeri, Associate Executive Director of the American Statistical Association, spoke on "The American Statistical Association: In Service to You and The Profession" on April 7, 1987. A talk on "How to Tell the Liars from The Statisticians" was given by author Dr. Robert Hooke of Pinehurst, North Carolina on June 1, 1987.
- Nineteen B.S. degrees were awarded in June, 1987. Prospective employers included Mitre Corporation, DuPont, National Security Agency, Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Labor. Salaries ranged from \$15000 to \$29000. Five students opted to attend graduate school at Virginia Tech (three), Penn State, or University of North Carolina.
- Fourteen students earned MS degrees and went to work for companies such as Morton-Thiokol Co.; Logistics, Inc; IMS America, Ltd.; Quantire Co., R.J. Reynolds Co. and Hoffman-LaRoche Co. Salaries ranged from \$24000 to \$34000. Five PhD graduate accepted positions with Virginia Tech (Department of Statistics), Minnesota (Department of Mathematics), Akron (Department of Math Sciences), Abbott Laboratories, and Agency of Defense Development (Korea).

Report on 1987 Annual Meeting of Mu Sigma Rho

David White, President of Mu Sigma Rho, conducted the annual meeting of Mu Sigma Rho held on August 18, 1987 in San Francisco, California. In attendance were Robert Stephenson, IA and Mu Sigma Rho National Director; George Milliken and Lisa Petty (student representative), KS; Charles McCulloch, NY; William Warde, OK and Mu Sigma Rho Past President; Bonnie Dumas, SC; Larry Ringer, TX; David Turner, UT; Klaus Hinkelmann, VA; David White, Mu Sigma Rho National President; Cynthia Clark, Mu Sigma Rho National Secretary-Treasurer; and Carol Lancaster, Mu Sigma Rho National Director. The minutes from the 1986 meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was presented.

David White welcomed George Milliken, the Head and Director of the Department of Statistics and the Statistics Laboratory at Kansas State University and Lisa Petty, a student representative of the Statistics Club at Kansas State. During the past year, the Statistics Club at Kansas State University petitioned Mu Sigma Rho to establish a chapter at Kansas State. Their petition was approved by a majority of chapters. David White presented the chapter charter certificate to Dr. Milliken. Cynthia Clark reported that 6 out of 14 Mu Sigma Rho chapters initiated members in 1986-87 for a total of 80 new members. The national organization had not made any efforts to recruit new chapters during the year other than respond to the inquiry from Kansas State University, and pursue the establishment of its chapter.

The national organization is compiling a national list of Mu Sigma Rho members. Lists have been received from Alabama, Colorado, Iowa, and South Carolina. Klaus Hinkelmann indicated that a Virginia list is in the process of being compiled. In lieu of information from the individual chapters, national Mu Sigma Rho records will be used for compiling and maintaining the list. Database software will be used that permits the creation of an ASCII file.

Under new business, David White mentioned that the Statistics Department at Utah State University had recently been merged with the Department of Mathematics. David asked for a sense as to how this change affected the status of the Utah Mu Sigma Rho Chapter. Those present felt that chapter status could be maintained if the Department of Mathematics wrote a letter to the national organization indicating its support for the chapter. (Secretary's Note: A letter was written August 25 to David White from E. Robert Heal, Associate Department Head of the Department of Mathematics at Utah State University, stating the department's support for the chapter.)

One of the traditional functions of Mu Sigma Rho has been to sponsor an ASA session, usually jointly with the Section on Statistical Education. David noted that no session was organized for 1987. Bill Warde said that he had already made preliminary arrangements for 1988. It was noted that if we wanted to arrange for a special session during the ASA Sesquicentennial in 1989, we needed to begin to make arrangements now.

David White stated that the ASA student publication has been approved. John Hewett has been designated as the editor. The publication will be issued twice a year and mailed to all universities with a statistics department. David suggested that Mu Sigma Rho could use this publication as a forum to

advertise Mu Sigma Rho. George Milliken suggested that Mu Sigma Rho could provide information on chapter functions in this publication. The group consensus was that Mu Sigma Rho request a regular column in the publication. Bob Stephenson volunteered to discuss this request with John Hewett. It was suggested that the first issue each year could contain general information on Mu Sigma Rho as the publication is expected to reach different people each year. The other issue could contain information on chapter activities, new initiates, etc.

David White appointed himself, Bob Stephenson, and Cynthia Clark as the nominating committee for the national elections to be held in 1988.

Under other business, a request was made to change the national business meeting from Tuesday of the 1988 ASA meeting week back to Wednesday so that the meeting does not conflict with the ASA Council of Chapters Meeting. David White said that he would make this request to ASA. Cynthia asked whether the group would like to have a continental breakfast as was arranged this year. Since the meeting will again be scheduled at 7:30 a.m., the group requested that such arrangements be made. To avoid uncertainty concerning the attendance, reservations will be taken in advance of the meeting.

Letter from the President

During the past year, we have had yeoman service from Cynthia Clark and Bob Stephenson who have helped us in instituting efforts to encourage departments to consider chapters of Mu Sigma Rho at their institutions. Their work is much appreciated; we are sorry to lose Cynthia, who has been appointed chair for the A.S.A. committee on women in statistics. We wish her well in her new assignment, and know she will be effective there.

With this newsletter comes the ballot for officers to be elected for the coming three year term. We are asking that you return your chapter vote to Cynthia by the end of April so that the new slate of officers can be announced before the end of the academic year.

One of the functions of Mu Sigma Rho can - and, in my opinion, should - be that of encouraging more interaction between the quantitative sciences and the humanities. I have personally had a "pet theory" to explain why the image of statistics on many campuses leaves something to be desired. In my opinion there is almost no other discipline at the college level which is required of so many people with little or no related previous background.

Many of us are not particularly worried about this problem - as a matter of fact, do not consider this as a problem. The difficulty with this attitude is that many of these people who have been soured on mathematics become our children's teachers and our own administrators. We then find ourselves lamenting the lack of understanding on the part of students and administration of the great potential which quantitative methods can have for them.

In my opinion Mu Sigma Rho can have an impact on this issue, but only when faculty and students are permitted to spend more time in effective communication with other disciplines. Currently, both students and faculty are under the gun to produce in other areas, and such an approach is not really possible.

Meantime, I earnestly hope that the number of chapters of Mu Sigma Rho will grow. Certainly the thrust of this organization is in the direction of good teaching; and many of us have a strong feeling that the future of statistics is related to this matter. Best wishes to the new officers, with the hope that they will see real growth in Mu Sigma Rho.



Mu Sigma Rho

National Statistical Honor Fraternity

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 4, 1987

Balance on Hand (August 6, 1986) \$395.32

Income

Membership Fees

Alabama	11	\$ 55.00
Louisiana	6	30.00
Iowa *		
84-85	23	46.00
85-86	36	72.00
86-87	29	29.90
North Carolina		
85-86	9	45.00
86-87	4	20.00
Utah	5	25.00
Virginia	16	80.00

Other Sources 1.00

Total Receipts \$403.90

Expenses

Printing of Constitution and Bylaws	\$ 70.00
Lettering of Certificates	156.00
Postage	33.28
Check Printing Order	2.40
Iowa Nonprofit Corporation Filing Fee	5.00

Total Expenses \$266.68

Balance on Hand (August 4, 1987) \$532.54

* Membership fees for Iowa were adjusted to account for differences in what the National Mu Sigma Rho organization provided. In 84-85 and 85-86, the National Organization provided copies of the Constitution and Bylaws and an unlettered certificate. In 86-87, the National organization provided only an unlettered certificate. All other chapters have been provided with a lettered certificate and a copy of the Constitution and Bylaws for a \$5.00 membership fee.

The MU SIGMA RHOver

Volume 7

Fall, 1988

Charleston, SC

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G. Milliken	KA		

NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS...

Iowa Alpha Chapter - Iowa State University

- The Iowa Alpha Chapter of Mu Sigma Rho initiated 24 new members on April 12, 1988. Fifteen graduate students, eight undergraduates, and one honorary member, Professor David Moore of Purdue University, accepted the invitation of the chapter. In addition to the new members, approximately 50 students, faculty and staff attended the initiation banquet. Following the banquet Professor Moore presented the Mu Sigma Rho Lecture entitled "Statistics Among the Liberal Arts". Professor Moore argued that despite a widespread reputation as the least liberal of subjects, statistics is an independent and fundamental intellectual discipline that should be a part of any broad educational experience. The lecture was videotaped and a copy is available for loan to other Mu Sigma Rho chapters. Contact W. Robert Stephenson, Department of Statistics, 327 Snedecor Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011.
- During the year 13 students graduated with B.S. degrees in statistics. A majority took jobs with industry and government. Employers include the Bureau of the Census, Washington, D.C.; Central Life Assurance Company, Des Moines, IA; Lincoln National Life Insurance, Fort Wayne, IN; Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN; and Garst Seed Company, Slater, IA. Starting salaries ranged from \$19,000 to \$30,000. Additionally, three students went to graduate school. They selected Iowa State University, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, and Purdue University.
- Twenty-four M.S. degrees were awarded. Several students are continuing their graduate studies. Others have found employment with IBM, Rochester, MN; Rosemount Corporation, Eden Prairie, MN; City Corp, Stamford, CT; GTE Labs, Waltham, MA; Process Management Institute, Minneapolis, MN; Fingerhut, Minnetonka, MN; Dow Chemical, Midland, MI; Rockwell International, Culver City, CO; and A.C. Nielsen, Northbrook, IL.
- There were also seven students who finished their Ph.D. degrees. Two took jobs with industry: Upjohn, Kalamazoo, MI; and Syntex Laboratories Inc., Palo Alto, CA. Three took academic positions in the United States at the University of Iowa, University of Florida, and Iowa State University. The other two took positions in Taiwan and Egypt.

North Carolina Alpha Chapter - North Carolina State University

- . The annual banquet to recognize initiates was held at the Brownstone Hotel in Raleigh on April, 12, 1988. Dr. Dan Solomon, head of the Department of Statistics at North Carolina State University, gave a short talk entitled "The Importance of Graduate Education for Statisticians". New undergraduate members are Barbara Anne Beard, Amanda Beth Haas, Spencer Vance Muse, Barbara Suzanne Simmons, and Annette Marie Turner.
- . Officers for 1988-89 are Mr. Richard Bynum, President; and Ms. Amanda Beth Haas, Secretary-Treasurer.
- . Mr. Richard Bynum, Chapter President, was recognized for outstanding academic work by being awarded the Mary Gertrude Cox Fellowship for Graduate Study in Statistics at North Carolina State University.

South Carolina Alpha Chapter - Medical University of South Carolina

- . The officers elected for 1988-89 are Derek Janszen, President; Qulu Chen, Vice President; and Judy Cooper, Secretary-Treasurer.
- . A part was held on November 11 to initiate and welcome the newest members of Mu Sigma Rho. The inductees are Debbie Berrier, John Peters and Joni Torsella.
- . The chapter plans to sponsor a distinguished guest to present a talk as part of the weekly Biometry seminar series. An oyster roast is being organized for spring semester.

South Carolina Beta Chapter - University of South Carolina

- . The S.C. Beta Chapter was founded on August 12, 1988. One faculty member, seven graduate and three undergraduate students were initiated into the society. The officers for the 1988-89 year are: Kari Richardson, President; Balgopal Ramaswamy, Vice President; Sneh Gulati; Secretary; Carla Padgett, Treasurer; and Don Edwards, Faculty Advisor. The "initiation pot-luck dinner" was scheduled for November 11, 1988.
- . The Department of Statistics at U.S.C. is relatively new. Formed from the statistics program developed within the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, the Department of Statistics began operation on July 1, 1985. The Department emphasizes excellence in all aspects of its research and educational programs. It has a commitment to serve the needs of the University, state and region with a wide range of service courses, research, consulting and degree programs. The M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in statistics were begun in 1980. The B.S. degree in statistics has been offered since 1982.
- . There are currently nine full-time faculty members and one joint faculty

member with the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research. Fields of specialization among the faculty include: statistical computing, linear models, regression analysis, statistical quality control, reliability and life testing, survival analysis, nonparametric and parametric inference, time series analysis, resampling procedures, stochastic processes, stochastic modeling, finite probability, probability, multiple comparisons, ranking and selection, and tests of fit.

- Graduates from the Department have found employment with companies such as Hughes Aircraft, Royal Insurance, American Express, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Siecor Corporation, Michelin Tire, Rockwell International, IMSL, SAS Institute, S.C. Electric and Gas Company, Bell Laboratories, IBM, Campbell Soup and Savannah River Plant. Bachelor's and masters graduates have continued graduate study at universities such as Iowa State, Wisconsin, Washington, Ohio State, North Carolina, Virginia Tech, Princeton, and Harvard. Approximately 25 graduate students and 40 undergraduate majors in statistics are enrolled each semester.

Utah Beta Chapter - Brigham Young University

- On September 8, 1988, the Utah Beta Chapter of Mu Sigma Rho was organized at Brigham Young University. Charter members consisted of fourteen students: Alexandra Brandt, Cherene Giles, Scott Horton, Mark Martin, Mark McBride (all in the graduate program) and Sterling Adams, Corbin Coombs, Dawn Marie Grubbs, Kent Hendrix, Fernando Santos, Kyle Merrill, Allison Rigby, and Trevar Withers from the undergraduate statistics program.
- The new chapter plans to sponsor two seminars each semester. All students and faculty will be invited. Each seminar is intended to acquaint students and faculty with special interest topics in statistics. For 1988-1989 the special topic is statistical consulting. The first activity, held on October 13, focused on the lighter side of consulting experience. Three professors from the department participated in a panel discussion about their consulting experiences. The purpose of this seminar was to inform students of the spectrum of problems for which a statistician may be contacted. The seminar exposed students and faculty to the good and sometimes frustrating aspects of consulting.

The second seminar was held November 17, with a faculty member discussing the history of statistics and the development of the discipline.

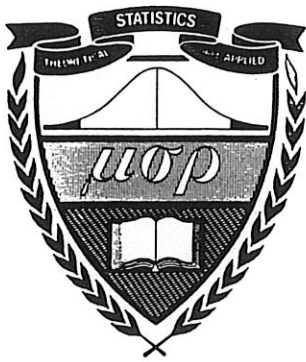
During the Winter semester the focus will be on consulting in the biological and social sciences. Tentative emphasis planned for the 1989-1990 year is the area of statistical process control.

Virginia Alpha Chapter - Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

- Dr. William F. Eddy from the Department of Statistics, Carnegie-Mellon University presented a lecture entitled "Statistical Animation" at the initiation of new members on May 11, 1988. Seventeen new members were

inducted into Mu Sigma Rho. The eight undergraduates are Amanda M. Abdy, Wendy J. Barboza, Susan L. Brock, Helena H. Keady, Michelle A. Miller, Suzanne B. Reichard, Ellen P. Schaefer and Vanessa K. Sherlock. The graduate students are Gyo-Young Cho, Carl E. Fritz, Sang Ik Kim, Bruce K. Koons, Russell L. Reeve, Sungsue Rheem, Paul T. Savarese, Ujjwala Sawalapurkar, and Laura L. Voshell. Two honorary initiates are Dr. Madan L. Puri, Indiana University in Bloomington and Dr. Eddy.

- Current Officers are Barbara R. Kuzmak, President; Phillip J. Ramsey, Vice President; and Donald E. Mercarte, Secretary-Treasurer. The faculty advisor is Dr. Klaus Hinkelmann.
- Twenty-eight students were awarded B.S. degrees in June, 1988. Some of their employers are the Bureau of the Census and Bureau of Labor. Five of the students opted to attend graduate school with one going to Carnegie-Mellon and the others to Virginia Tech.
- Twenty-one students earned Master's degrees. Employers include Berlex Pharmaceuticals, Morton-Thiokol, Tennessee-Eastman, Merck, Sharp and Dohme Pharmaceuticals, Donnelly Marketing, Price-Waterhouse, Burroughs-Wellcome, and Hoffman-LaRoche Company. Starting salaries range from \$24,000 to \$36,000.
- Eight Ph.D. degrees were awarded. Students choosing academic positions went to Virginia Tech, West Florida, Louisiana State, and Yonsei in Korea. Other students selected Merrell-Dow Pharmaceutical, E.I. du Pont de Nemours, and the Federal Reserve System.



Mu Sigma Rho

National Statistical Honor Fraternity

TREASURER'S REPORT
August 12, 1988

Balance on Hand (August 4, 1987) \$532.54

Income

Membership Fees		
Kansas	21	105.00
Virginia	19	95.00
Iowa*	24	48.00
Alabama	11	55.00
New York	8	40.00
North Carolina	5	25.00
Utah Beta (BYU)	14	70.00
South Carolina Beta (USC)	10	50.00

Breakfast in San Francisco 103.00

Total Receipts \$591.00

Expenses

Lettering of Certificates	\$273.00
Postage and Envelopes	122.38
Chapter Recruitment Mailing	53.69
Breakfast	184.12

Total Expenses \$633.19

Balance on Hand (August 12, 1988) \$490.35

* Membership fees for Iowa were adjusted to account for a difference in what the National Mu Sigma Rho organization provided to the Iowa chapter from that provided to the other chapters. The Iowa chapter received an unlettered certificate and a copy of the Constitution for each new initiates; the other chapters received a lettered certificate and a copy of the Constitution for each new initiate. The \$5.00 membership fee was reduced to \$2.00 for Iowa chapter initiates.

September 19, 1988

REPORT ON 1988 ANNUAL MEETING OF MU SIGMA RHO

David White, President of Mu Sigma Rho, conducted the annual meeting of Mu Sigma Rho held on August 24, 1988 in New Orleans, Louisiana. In attendance were John Wasik, NC; Robert Stephenson, IA; Don Edwards, SC Beta; George Milliken, KS; Lee Hendrix, UT Beta; Klaus Hinkelmann, VA; Bill Warde, OK; Edd Mansfield, AL; Carol Lancaster, Director at Large; Bonnie Dumas, SC Alpha; David Turner, UT Alpha; David Dickey; Cynthia Clark, Secretary-Treasurer; and David White, President. David especially welcomed Don Edwards and Lee Hendrix, the representatives for the two new Mu Sigma Rho chapters at the University of South Carolina and Brigham Young University, respectively. Later in the meeting David presented the chapter charters to Don and Lee for their chapters. David began the meeting by introducing the new Mu Sigma Rho National Officers: President, Robert Stephenson; Vice President, Bill Warde; Secretary-Treasurer, John Wasik; and Directors at Large David Dickey, Carol Lancaster, and Klaus Hinkelman.

Cynthia Clark provided minutes of the 1987 Annual Meeting of Mu Sigma Rho on August 18 in San Francisco to the national officers and the chapter representatives prior to this meeting. Cynthia presented the treasurer's report for the past year (attached), indicating that the balance on August 4 was \$490.35. Cynthia also summarized the activities of National Mu Sigma Rho described in a report she distributed (attached). She indicated that 8 of the 17 Mu Sigma Rho chapters initiated new members in 1988. Mu Sigma Rho underwent a chapter recruiting program in early 1988 through the efforts of David, Bob, and Cynthia, resulting in indications of interest in establishing Mu Sigma Rho chapters at 12 institutions. The two new chapters resulted from this effort. Carol Lancaster prepared and mailed the yearly issue of the Mu Sigma Rhoer in early 1988. Names for a national list of Mu Sigma Rho are available since 1982 and for the period from 1974-1977. No efforts have yet been made to put these names onto a database. Cynthia mentioned that the Mu Sigma Rho session organized by Bill Warde would occur Thursday at 8:30 a.m.

David thanked Carol for her efforts on the newsletter, and when he inquired if she would be willing to continue, Carol indicated that she would do so. Edd Mansfield suggested that the newsletter focus on the previous year's activities and come out early in the academic year. He felt that the chapter's contribution to the newsletter could best be made when they are preparing for the initiation of new members at the end of the academic year. Carol asked for articles in early October for the next newsletter.

Plans have begun for a session jointly sponsored by Mu Sigma Rho and the Section on Statistical Education for the 1989 ASA meetings. Bob Stephenson has been in contact with Jim Calvin to organize a session on undergraduate statistical education. John Neter and David Moore were mentioned as potential contributors. Also the idea of a special poster session time for a Mu Sigma Rho sponsored statistical competition with a standard data set was suggested as was done in earlier years with a baseball data set and a metropolitan area data set. If this is to be done, it would be desirable to advertise this in AmStat News.

David brought up the topic of Mu Sigma Rho participation in the new ASA student publication, STATS. Edd Mansfield, the Mu Sigma Rho chapter representative from Alabama, is on the editorial board. Edd indicated that the publication is being geared to undergraduate and graduate students in mathematics and statistics. Student articles are presently being solicited with plans for the first issue to appear in March 1989. Bob Stephenson indicated that he had been in contact with John Hewett to request a column for Mu Sigma Rho in each issue of the publication. Bob has written a column for the first issue on the history and function of Mu Sigma Rho.

Several other topics were mentioned. Bob stated that the Iowa State Chapter had made a video of the talk presented by David Moore on Statistics Among the Liberal Arts at the 1988 Iowa State Mu Sigma Rho Initiation, and that the video was available for use by other chapters. It was mentioned that David Moore was putting together a college course on statistics on video that would be available in the fall of 1989 that should be purchased by university libraries. The question was raised as to whether the ASA film videos could be requested by Mu Sigma Rho Chapters. (They are available to ASA chapters at a nominal fee of approximately \$10.) The representatives requested that an official request be made to the ASA board so that these videos could be made more available to students. Bob Stephenson suggested that he contact those Mu Sigma Rho chapters that had not initiated any students this past year and offer assistance in chapter activation. Minimally the representatives felt that chapters should annually initiate new members so that qualified students are not denied the honor of Mu Sigma Rho membership where a chapter exists.

August 16, 1988

1987-88 NATIONAL MU SIGMA RHO REPORT

Eight chapters initiated a total of 112 new members during the 1987-88 academic year. This includes charter members for two new chapters at University of South Carolina and at Brigham Young University. This compares with 6 chapters and a total of 71 initiates in the 1986-87 academic year.

The two new chapters are the result of an extensive chapter recruitment program during this year. Using the November 1987 Amstat News, 129 departments awarding a total of 7 or more degrees in statistics during the 1986-87 academic year were identified. The attached letter and description of Mu Sigma Rho were mailed to the department chairman. Twelve interested institutions wrote either David White or Robert Stephenson for more information. Cynthia Clark sent a second letter to those institutions providing instructions for petitioning for a chapter with a copy of the Mu Sigma Rho Constitution and By Laws. Two of the statistics departments endorsed petitions of a statistics club at their institution, the institutions satisfied the chapter qualifications, and these two proposed new chapters received the endorsement of a majority of the existing chapters. We are happy to welcome these two chapters. We expect to receive more petitions during the next year. The institutions that expressed interest in Mu Sigma Rho from this recruitment letter included:

- University of Northern Colorado
- University of Southern Alabama
- Northern Illinois University
- Harvard (Massachusetts)
- Winona State University (Minnesota)
- Rochester Institute of Technology (New York)
- State University College (New York)
- Miami University (Ohio)
- Oregon State University
- University of Texas at San Antonio

Carol Lancaster, a representative at large and the editor of the Mu Sigma prepared and mailed the yearly edition in early 1988. It included reports from the Alabama, Iowa, and Virginia chapters, the 1987 Mu Sigma Rho annual meeting report, the 1986-87 treasurer's report, and a letter from David White, the president.

No formal list of Mu Sigma Rho Members has been compiled yet. However, four chapters have submitted complete lists of their members: Alabama, Colorado, Iowa, and South Carolina. Records of initiates since 1982 are available as well as some records from 1974 - 1977. The next step is to identify an appropriate data base software, a format, and find someone to do the data entry.

William D. Warde organized a technical session for the 1988 ASA meetings with joint sponsorship by Mu Sigma Rho and the Section on Statistical Education. The session is entitled "Statistics in the Public Schools" and will occur Thursday, August 25 at 8:30 a.m. David White will chair the session. Papers will be presented by William D. Warde (Oklahoma State University), Richard L. Scheaffer (University of Florida), and Gail F. Burrill (Whitnall High School, Wisconsin), with a discussion by Kenneth T. Wallenius (Clemson University).

David White and Robert Stephenson have begun discussions with the editor of the new ASA student publication for a column devoted to Mu Sigma Rho. Bob has prepared a description and history for the first issue.

President's Column

It seems that one of the first duties of any new president is to write a column for the organization's newsletter. I look forward to this opportunity as I see a great many things that have happened in the past year that make me optimistic about the future of Mu Sigma Rho. I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of those events and to indicate what I hope will be the future of the national statistics honor fraternity.

This year marks the twentieth anniversary of Mu Sigma Rho, the national statistics honor fraternity. This year also marks a resurgence in interest in this organization and an expansion that I hope will be carried into the next twenty years. Acting on the perception that our organization was not highly visible but was of interest to many, the national officers instituted a campaign to inform statistics departments across the country about Mu Sigma Rho. A mailing, containing information about Mu Sigma Rho, forming local chapters, and eligibility requirements for new members, was sent to over 100 departments listed in the November 1987 issue of Amstat News. Twelve institutions expressed interest in forming local chapters of Mu Sigma Rho. Two institutions, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC and Brigham Young University, Provo, UT, have been granted local chapters. We hope several of the other interested institutions will follow suit.

One of my goals as president is to increase the number of chapters and to encourage the active involvement of these chapters in the statistical profession. To this end Mu Sigma Rho will contribute to the new student journal, STATS. The first issue, to appear early next year, will contain an article on Mu Sigma Rho and its history. There will also be a call for students to get involved in establishing new chapters at their institutions. Future issues of STATS will contain news from local chapters and the national organization.

With the sesquicentennial year of the American Statistical Association approaching, local chapters of Mu Sigma Rho should use this opportunity to gain greater exposure. This is an excellent opportunity to gain recognition for your local chapter through association with ASA Chapter and District functions in 1988 and 1989. Mu Sigma Rho will sponsor an invited session at the Washington meetings next summer. I am also looking into making information about Mu Sigma Rho available to registrants at the meetings.

The future of Mu Sigma Rho looks bright. The addition of new chapters and the revitalization of older chapters will strengthen our organization. The publicity from mailings, a regular column in STATS and involvement in sesquicentennial activities can only help us gain recognition within the statistical community. From this position of increased awareness and strength, we can better fulfill our charge to promote and encourage scholarly activity in statistics.

