MINUTES OF MEETING OF REGIONAL COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS

Student Union, Oklahoma State University
June 23-24, 1958

Members present:

Dr. Broadus Browne, University of Georgia
Dr. Dana Card, University of Kentucky
Dr. H. H. Chapman, University of Alabama
Dr. Boyd Marshbarger, Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Chairman)
Dr. Herbert A. Meyer, University of Florida
Dr. Carl Marshall, Oklahoma State University
Miss Gertrude Cox, North Carolina State College (for Dr. J. A. Rigney)
Dr. C. T. Fike, Oak Ridge Institute for Nuclear Studies
Dr. James W. Walker, Georgia Institute of Technology
Mr. Lloyd W. Chapin, Southern Regional Education Board (Secretary)

Members absent:

Dr. G. E. Albert, University of Tennessee
Dr. George E. Nicholson, University of North Carolina
Dr. J. A. Rigney, North Carolina State College
Dr. John R. Stockton, University of Texas
Dr. Rutledge Vining, University of Virginia

1. The minutes of the previous meeting held at Mountain Lake, Virginia,
   August 26-27, 1957, were approved.

2. In view of the favorable reaction to the 1957 retreat at Mountain Lake there
   was consideration of the feasibility of holding another. It was voted that
   plans be made for a retreat to be held at Mountain Lake in the summer of 1959.
   It was suggested that fewer topics be scheduled for presentation than was the
   case in 1957. The possibility of getting financial support will be explored.

3. It was voted that the next annual meeting of the Regional Committee be held
   at N C State during the 1959 Graduate Summer Session in Statistics.
4. Ted Fike reported that mimeographed copies of the index of ORACLE programs are available for distribution. The Committee asked him to send copies of the index to members of the Committee along with such other information about ORACLE as he deems appropriate and useful. He will mail information on a continuing basis as it becomes available for distribution, along with revisions of the index.

5. Members of the Committee expressed the desirability and need of a means for pooling and exchanging information concerning available 650 computer programs in Southern universities. In answer to a question from the chairman, Dr. Fike said that it would be possible for him in his present capacity at ORINS to maintain an informal clearing house service for compiling and circulating a list of titles of special purpose statistical programs available at institutions with 650 installations. The Committee voted to write to Dr. W.C. Pollard asking that such a clearing house be maintained through ORINS.

6. Carl Marshall reported informally upon the successful start of the graduate summer session which had just opened at Oklahoma State. He will submit a written report to the Committee at a later date. A general discussion of the summer session included the following observations:

a. Dr. Marshall recommended that matrix algebra always be included in the course offerings.

b. Doctoral courtesy in regard to fees was extended to staff members of educational institutions only. Staff members from industry paid full fees. (All students taking courses for credit paid full fees.)

c. SRSC's sending of announcements to the journals has proved most helpful and the practice should be continued.

d. Further thought should be given to the usefulness and availability of mailing lists for announcements; former
students, professional associations, heads of departments, etc. The secretary was asked to look into what SREB mailing lists might be used for this purpose. It was further suggested that a letter of inquiry to each Southern college and university would be a means for compiling a list of teachers of courses in statistics.

e. It was voted to ask SREB to send a representative to the annual meeting of Southern graduate deans to discuss the matter of graduate credit for students enrolled in the graduate summer session in statistics.

f. The possibility was raised of the summer session's extending for nine weeks instead of six.

7. Gertrude Cox reported concerning requests for foundation support. Two applications have been submitted to the National Science Foundation for support of programs:

   a. 1959 summer session for college teachers of elementary statistics.

   b. 1959 summer program in statistics for teachers of graduate courses in the physical sciences. Carl Marshall announced that Oklahoma State University has in preparation a request to the National Science Foundation for support of an eight-week summer institute (1959) for teachers of mathematics from four-year colleges.

8. With reference to the announced Summer Session for 1959 to be held at North Carolina State College, Miss Cox stated that a tentative schedule of courses had been arranged to include Methods I, Methods II, Theory of Sampling (NC State ST 631 instead of Methods III), Theory I, Theory II, Theory III, Advanced Topics in Statistical Methods, Stochastic Processes and Their Applications, Methods of Operations Research, Matrix Algebra, Advanced Calculus.

   The chairman suggested that a planning meeting for the 1959 Summer Session be held in October or November in order that announcements to the journals can go out in December.
9. Herb Meyer stated that staff changes and additions are in prospect at the University of Florida and that he believes it may be possible for Florida to hold the summer session in 1960. He suggested the possibility of a program in the field of medicine. In the discussion which followed, there was pointed out the desirability of holding the summer session at a site where there is a good nucleus of graduate students.

10. The Committee considered some of the ways in which the total program of the Committee can be more useful to those institutions not participating in the Graduate Summer Session. The following suggestions were offered:

   a. Appointment of a committee of statistical consultants available to institutional administrators on request.

   b. Conferences or institutes in such fields as medicine, biostatistics, engineering, physical sciences.

Committee members were asked to consider and suggest other means.

11. Dr. James W. Walker of Georgia Tech was welcomed as a new member of the Committee. He described the statistics offerings at Georgia Tech, and was assured of the interest and cooperation of the Committee in the further development of Tech's program.

12. In the absence of a representative from the University of North Carolina, it was voted to table consideration of the invitation to that institution to participate in the Graduate Summer Session. In this connection, Carl Marshall suggested that the Committee may have to consider what would be the optimum number of institutions offering summer sessions in the present pattern.
13. Upon the recommendation of the nominating committee (Gertrude Cox, Chairman) the following officers were duly elected for the coming year:

   Chairman: Boyd Marshbarger

   Secretary: Lloyd Chapin

14. The Committee adjourned at twelve noon, June 24, in order to have luncheon with the administrative officers of Oklahoma State University.