The Southern Regional Committee on Statistics met at the Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, on October 27-28, 1966. Sessions during the first day were held in the Umphrey Lee Memorial Student Center, and on the second day at the North Park Inn. The following members and observers were present:

Committee Members

Clayton V. Aucoin, Clemson University
Marion R. Bryson, Duke University
A. C. Cohen, Jr., University of Georgia
David B. Duncan, Johns Hopkins University
R. J. Freund, Texas A&M University
Donald A. Gardiner, Florida State University
Boyd Harshbarger, Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Carl E. Marshall, Oklahoma State University
David D. Mason, North Carolina State University
William Mendenhall, University of Florida
Paul D. Minton, Southern Methodist University
C. N. Moore, Mississippi State University
John R. Stockton, University of Texas
Charles C. Thigpen, The University of Tennessee
Malcolm E. Turner, Jr., Emory University
James W. Walker, Georgia Institute of Technology
J. W. Rollow, Southern Regional Education Board

Observers

Howard Balsley, Texas Technological College
Francis Doye, Louisiana State University
Edgar P. Hixson, University of South Carolina
S. J. Kilpatrick, Jr., Medical College of Virginia
Harold E. Klontz, Auburn University
L. T. Ratner, Vanderbilt University
Harry Smith, University of North Carolina

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Donald A. Gardiner of Oak Ridge at Florida State University, Committee Chairman, at 9:00 a.m. Committee members and observers were introduced.

Dr. Paul D. Minton, host and Chairman of the Southern Methodist University Department of Statistics, welcomed the committee to Dallas and the SMU campus. Dr. Minton introduced Dr. Le Van Griffis, Director of the Office of Research Support at SMU, who added his welcome and commented on the current activities of the University.

The agenda was reviewed by Dr. J. W. Rollow, Associate Director of Regional Programs, SRMB.

Chairman Gardiner called upon all members present and all observers to report on new developments in statistics at their respective institutions. Following this Chairman Gardiner introduced a vote of thanks to Paul Minton for the careful planning of the summer research conference at Brevard. A subcommittee on resolutions under the Chairmanship of Dr. Marion Bryson, Duke University, was appointed and was instructed to report during the final meeting. Dr. C. M. Moore and Dr. Malcolm E. Turner, Jr. were appointed to serve on the Invitation Committee.

Dr. A. C. Cohen, Jr. of the University of Georgia reported on the summer session of 1966. He pointed out that a full report had been submitted to all members of the Statistics Committee in printed form. He commented on the various features of the session, pointing out in particular that greater flexibility would be needed in future sessions as
many of the institute participants needed to take more elementary work than they had originally signed up for. He stated also that the student loads at the session at the University of Georgia had been rather too heavy, causing some participants difficulty in maintaining the pace. The number of seminars was probably excessive. Other committee members responded with particulars. Dr. Harry Smith, University of North Carolina, pointed out that participation in the summer session by students from industry was extremely desirable. However, students coming in from industry were anxious to receive degrees, but were not usually able to satisfy residence requirements for the Master's degree. This fact tends to limit the number of students who can be drawn to summer sessions from industry. Discussion followed concerning residence requirements. In most institutions students are required to put in two full semesters or three quarters of residence in order to qualify for the Master's degree, with the result that the student from industry would have to take a minimum of nine months off from his job.

Students already enrolled in regular statistical programs within the institutions signature to the Memorandum of Agreement have no problem in that they receive residence credit for all summer session work. Students from industry, however, do not have this advantage. An alternative is that the amount of residence be reduced to one semester or one quarter.

After further discussion of the summer session it was moved that the chairman of the subcommittee on the summer session be the committee member from the host institution for the next following session.
The summer session of 1971 came up for discussion. Dr. Charles Thigpen, Department of Statistics, School of Business, University of Tennessee, suggested that the session for 1971 be held at his institution. His offer was accepted by consensus.

The morning session was adjourned for lunch at 12:00 noon.

The session was reconvened by Chairman Gardiner at 2:00 p.m. At that time Dr. Minton reported on the Brevard Research Conference. Financially the conference was a success, and in terms of the aim it was highly successful. The stimulation of this meeting was highly useful, and the younger statisticians involved in it seemed to have profited highly. Various comments from the committee members indicated that it was generally felt that the summer research conference had enhanced professional development of members of the discipline.

It was moved by James W. Walker of the Georgia Institute of Technology that the Statistics Committee take the following action:

a. that the Southern Regional Education Board Committee on Statistics sponsor a second Summer Conference on Statistics in 1967;

b. that it be held at Brevard, North Carolina, or some appropriate alternate location at a convenient time in August after the conclusion of the summer session at Emory;

c. that the Conference be organized in general according to the format of the 1966 Conference, in particular with nine morning and evening sessions;

d. that eight of the nine sessions be subscribed by member institutions to be used to present some current research in statistics being conducted at said institution or of particular interest to said institution;

e. that participation in the Conference be by invitation and that the Committee adopt the same procedure for making nominations as in the 1966 Conference;
f. that funds left over from the last Conference be made available to the Summer Conference Subcommittee to be used at the discretion of the Subcommittee for contingencies and for covering some or all of the expenses of invited speakers;

g. that the Southern Regional Education Board lend its prestige to the endeavor and provide secretariat as needed.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Bryson and passed by the committee.

Dr. Malcolm Turner of Emory University reported on progress made for the summer session of 1967. The offerings were reviewed for all members of the committee, and the question of participation by students from the region was discussed. In that NSF funding had not become available, Dr. Turner pointed out that it would be necessary for tuition fees at Emory to be paid.

Dr. Turner reviewed the course offerings, the special conditions of the summer session at Emory, and the staff who would be in residence during the session.

Chairman Cardiner called for a discussion of a regional brochure on graduate offerings in statistics. He pointed out that the brochure which had been printed for 1966 had been fairly successful. Other members of the committee commented upon its usefulness, stating that it was handy to have available information concerning summer offerings in the several departments and the listing of faculties who were involved in statistics instruction was highly useful. After discussion as to such questions as number of copies, items of information to be included, Dr. Harshbarger moved and Dr. Bryson seconded that a brochure on the summer offerings of the institutions represented by the SREB Committee on Statistics be published.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.
Friday, October 28, the meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in the meeting room of the North Park Inn. Dr. Cardiner introduced the first item which had to do with financial aid.

The question of funding has been a serious matter for the Committee of Statistics almost since its founding. It was pointed out that the proposals by the individual institutions for summer institutes supported by the NSF caused crises in planning and staff recruitment rather often. Discussion suggested that the primary funding for the institute would continue to be federal and institutional. It was made clear that institutional support up to this time had been liberal, and that further support in the form of supplied staff or in stipends for students could be expected. In general the institutions really carry the bulk of the program. However, the funding from NSF is of very great importance, and other possibilities should be considered. It was pointed out in view of the medical applications of statistics that the National Center for Vital Statistics might well be a source of funds. In addition the National Highway Safety Council might have some funds to contribute to the summer sessions.

Dr. Rollow reported that in a visit to NSF on August 16, Dr. Alice Withrow had indicated that NSF will support very special programs for advanced students. It was also indicated that split funding might be available from various NSF offices. Further the SREB could hold the grants and agree to disburse funds to the regional institutions for summer sessions in consecutive years.

Chairman Cardiner called for the report of the Special Committee on Statistics Education in Schools of Business Administration. Dr. Charles C. Thigpen, University of Tennessee, submitted the attached report which was discussed and approved by the committee.
Dr. Gardiner introduced the need for a regional brochure on institutional visitation in statistics. Discussion indicated that such a brochure would be highly useful, and funds are available for publishing it. The committee agreed without vote that such a brochure would be prepared and circulated among the various members.

Possible activities of the committee were called for. It was suggested that a subcommittee be appointed by the chairman to prepare a proposal for funding the summer sessions for the next three years and investigate sources of funds for this and other activities of the Statistics Committee. Dr. Freund moved that such a subcommittee be appointed, that it investigate the possibilities of funding this and other activities of the committee, and that the chairman be the Chairman of the Statistics Committee. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mason and carried. Members are Drs. Gardiner (Chairman), Freund, Harshbarger, Minton, Mason, and Hollow, ex officio.

The report of the Resolutions Committee was called for and the following resolutions were offered:

Resolution #1

WHEREAS Southern Methodist University has graciously served as host to the Southern Regional Education Board’s Committee on Statistics and

WHEREAS Southern Methodist University has provided the members and observers of this committee with a most delicious luncheon and

WHEREAS Southern Methodist University has provided us with an atmosphere conducive to constructive thought and discussion, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the Southern Regional Education Board Committee on Statistics bestow upon Southern Methodist University its most sincere thanks and assurance that its visit here will be fondly remembered.
Resolution #2

WHEREAS Dr. Paul Minton has faithfully served the Southern Regional Education Board Committee on Statistics for many years and

WHEREAS Dr. Paul Minton has served as personal host to the 1966 meeting of the SREB Committee on Statistics and

WHEREAS as personal host Dr. Paul Minton has attended graciously to all of the comforts, conveniences and desires of the members and observers of the SREB Committee on Statistics and

WHEREAS Dr. Paul Minton has served as chairman of the first summer conference of statistics sponsored by the SREB Committee on Statistics and

WHEREAS said summer conference was adjudged by all to be eminently successful, be it therefore

RESOLVED that Dr. Paul Minton be declared the SREB "Statistician of the Year" for 1966 with all the honors, privileges and responsibilities thereto appertaining.

The Invitation Committee Chairman, Dr. C. N. Moore, Mississippi State University, reported that the University of Florida, through Dr. William Mendenhall, had invited the Committee on Statistics to hold its annual meeting at the University of Florida on Thursday and Friday, October 26-27 or November 2-3, 1967. The recommendation was accepted with gratitude by the full Statistics Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon, with a meeting of the Subcommittee on the Summer Session Proposal to meet at 1:30.
Report of the SREB Special Committee on Statistics Education in Schools of Business Administration

Committee Members: Charles Thigpen, Chairman, John Gill, Charles Moore, John Stockton, Harold Klontz

The Committee met February 14-15 and discussed the broad spectrum of problem areas related to quantitative methods in schools of business and reached a consensus on the following conclusions:

(1) Business faculties in the Southern Region are, in general, decidedly unprepared for integration into college coursework of the present state of knowledge of quantitative methods applicable to business problems, and, thus, appear to be seriously lacking in ability to fruitfully cope with the potential for realistic applications to business of the ever-growing body of research pertinent to the area. This criticism applies to business statistics faculties as well as to those in other areas of business instruction.

(2) Graduate programs in Regional business schools are not even now preparing doctoral students for meaningful contributions in the quantitative areas, and in most cases, current graduates are little better trained in quantitative methods than were their counterparts of five or ten years ago. At the same time, undergraduate requirements are definitely increasing, with the result that recent doctoral graduates from Regional schools who go into college teaching may, all too often, find that their students know as much or more than they do about mathematics and statistics. It seems almost that graduate programs are reluctantly upgrading quantitative requirements at a rate designed to merely keep up with undergraduate requirements. The Committee viewed this situation as critical, since it tends to perpetuate the quantitative lag on the part of business faculties.

The primary recommendation arrived at by the Committee relates to point (2), above. The Committee considered that it was of the utmost importance that Regional institutions be apprised of the potential seriousness of the lack of quantitative emphasis in graduate programs.

With regard to what might be done to reorient current business faculties toward greater quantitative emphasis in business administration education, there was some degree of pessimism apparent within the Committee, due in part to the prospect that need for such faculty education and reorientation appears not to be temporary but of a continuing nature, and in part to some feeling that colleges in the Region may not, in fact, be seriously concerned about the problem. However, there was unanimous Committee approval for the following recommendations:

(1) A cooperative summer session in quantitative methods for business should be considered on a "one-shot" basis if Regional schools demonstrate sufficient interest and if limited foundation support can be
obtained. Such a session, if held, should last for four weeks, and it should be administered by business people with proper quantitative credentials. The session might, but need not be, held in conjunction with the SRGB Summer Session in Statistics. The Committee was in disagreement concerning the extent of foundation support desirable for the session. Although I believe the majority view was that foundation support should be sought only for administrative costs and expenses for session instructors—participating schools to negotiate the entire cost of sending faculty members to attend—there was some feeling expressed that the session would not be successful unless foundation support could be obtained to cover all costs.

(2) A visiting lectureship program in quantitative methods for business should be considered. The objectives of such a program would be to attempt to acquaint faculties and students with the usefulness of quantitative methods as aids to solutions of real business problems, and thus to provide motivation for quantitative training.