



**Morris Hansen  
Memorial Lecture Series**

Morris Howard Hansen has been described as the most influential statistician in the development of survey methodology in the twentieth century. Early in his Census Bureau career he put together a staff to define the principal problems in the conduct of surveys, investigate these problems, and develop statistical methods to address them. Morris and his staff then widely distributed the results of their efforts, thus influencing statistical agencies all over the world. Generations of statistical students have learned from and been influenced by *Sample Survey Methods and Theory, Volumes I and II* by Hansen, Hurwitz, and Madow, which are commonly referred to by the authors' names instead of the title, and Hansen's other publications.

Morris was also known as a procedures innovator and was a leader in adapting electronic tools, such as computers and mark-reading sensors, to statistics. After his outstanding Census Bureau career, Morris joined Westat which was at the time a fairly small statistical research company. Morris again assembled a strong staff and expanded Westat's scope to take on large Federal government statistical problems.

Morris also made outstanding contributions to professional organizations, serving as the President of both the American Statistical Association and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and as the first president of the International Association of Survey Statisticians. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1976 and was an important member of many Academy committees and panels.

There have been many tributes to Morris since his death in 1990, such as memorial issues of both the *Journal of Official Statistics* and *Survey Methodology*. Westat issued a grant to the Washington Statistical Society to honor Morris with an annual lecture series. The series has been so successful in attracting top quality presentations on a wide variety of topics—in keeping with Morris' broad interests—that Westat has added to the original grant.

**Sponsors**  
The Washington Statistical Society  
Westat  
The National Agricultural Statistics Service

19<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MORRIS HANSEN LECTURE



**The Care, Feeding, and  
Training of Survey Statisticians**

**Sharon L. Lohr**

**Thompson Industries Dean's  
Distinguished Professor of Statistics  
Arizona State University**

**Tuesday, October 13, 2009  
3:30 p.m.–6:30 p.m.**

Jefferson Auditorium  
USDA South Building  
Independence Ave. (between 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Streets)  
Smithsonian Metro Station (Blue/Orange Lines)  
For expedited entry to USDA, pre-register at  
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/morrishansen/>



**Sharon Lohr** is the Thompson Industries Dean's Distinguished Professor of Statistics in the School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences at Arizona State University. She obtained her Ph.D. in statistics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1987 and has been at ASU since 1990. Professor Lohr's research focuses on survey sampling, design of experiments, and applications of statistics in the social sciences and education. She is the author of the book *Sampling: Design and Analysis*, and has published numerous articles in a wide variety of journals including *The Annals of Statistics*, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society*, *Biometrika*, *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, *Wisconsin Law Review*, and *The American Statistician*. She has served as chair of the Survey Research Methods Section of the American Statistical Association, member of the Census Advisory Committee of Professional Associations, member of the Statistics Canada Advisory Board on Statistical Methodology, and president of the Arizona Chapter of the American Statistical Association. She is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association, an Elected Member of the International Statistical Institute, and was selected to receive the inaugural Gertrude M. Cox Award from the Washington Statistical Society in 2003 for contributions to statistical practice.

**Lecture Abstract** The two volumes of *Sample Survey Methods and Theory* by Hansen, Hurwitz, and Madow (1953) have had great influence on the training and practice of survey statisticians. We examine current themes in survey sampling research and relate them to topics taught in classes on survey sampling. We discuss other aspects of university training and background that may help the survey statistician thrive in and adapt to a variety of environments.

## Program

Jefferson Auditorium  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
South Building

Tuesday, October 13, 2009  
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

## Opening Remarks

Tommy Wright  
Chair, Hansen Lecture Committee

## Chair

Richard Valliant  
University of Maryland

## Keynote Speaker

Sharon L. Lohr  
Thompson Industries Dean's  
Distinguished Professor of Statistics  
Arizona State University

## Discussants

James M. Lepkowski, University of Michigan  
Donsig Jang, Mathematica  
David Morganstein, Westat

## Program Committee

Tommy Wright (Chair)  
Norman M. Bradburn  
Ron Fecso  
Carol House  
Keith Rust  
Richard Valliant

## Reception

Patio, Department of Agriculture  
Jamie L. Whitten Building  
(Across Independence Avenue)  
5:30–6:30 p.m.