

Annual Report for Academic Year 2008-2009

ASSESSMENT REPORT: B.S. Statistics

General comments: With recent changes in the B.S. Mathematics (Statistics Option), there is now little difference between the B.S. Statistics and B.S. Mathematics (Statistics Option), so the Statistics faculty plan to discontinue the B.S. in Statistics. Only two students received a B.S. degree in Statistics in 2009, so we were not able to implement all of the assessment criteria:

Assessment Criteria and comments:

Omnibus test addressing students' analytical and SAS programming abilities:

Not administered.

Portfolio of SAS use from STAT401:

No portfolio was prepared.

Senior Project Presentation:

Two Senior Projects were submitted this year.

Alumni Survey:

We maintain informal contact with former students, however we did not administer an alumni survey.

COMMENT ON THE STATISTICS PROJECTS OF THE GRADUATING STUDENTS:

Rachel Krieg had a senior project under Dr. Allman that involved learning about the mathematical and statistical basis for phylogenetic trees along with the analysis of a specific case, the evolutionary relationships among strains of HPV virus. The research and report were very good, as was the defense. She absorbed quite a lot of knowledge in Molecular Biology and specifically with the various algorithms used to construct phylogenetic trees.

James from did his senior project research with Ron Barry: Geostatistics in Skagway, Alaska. This project involved learning the statistics behind several advanced techniques in spatial statistics, including kriging and cokriging. He applied these methods to mineral data from streams around Skagway, Alaska. His analysis was excellent, and he is planning to apply these methods to data from his work at the Fort Knox mine.

Both of these students are very talented. Rachel has gone on to a Ph.D. program at the University of Washington, while James has gone to work as an engineer at the Fort Knox gold mines, with plans to continue at the Masters level in statistics.