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NISS Affiliates Update: January 2007

1. 2007 Affiliates Annual Meeting will be held at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in Washington on April 26–27.

2. Upcoming Affiliates Workshops

February 23–24: Workshop on Nonnegative Matrix Factorization, in RTP. Related web page:
<http://www.niss.org/irMF/>.

March 15–16: Workshop on Modifying Surveys in Response to Disruptions, at the BLS. Anyone interested in attending should contact Alan Karr ASAP.

March 26–29: “Introduction to Rasch Measurement: Theory and Application” led by David Andrich, in RTP, co-sponsored by MetaMetrics and NISS. *Details:*
<http://www.lexile.com/DesktopDefault.aspx?view=re&tabindex=3&tabid=92>.

2. ITSEW. NISS is establishing an ongoing series of international workshops on total survey error, to be known as International Total Survey Error Workshops (ITSEW, or It-So) . The purpose of ITSEW is to enable researchers interested in total survey error to meet on a regular basis, in order to review progress on important problems; define pressing current problems in detail; identify emerging research needs at an early stage; articulate a research agenda to address current and emerging problems; and form research collaborations to carry out needed research. ITSEW explicitly seeks to attract and engage problem owners (for example, from official statistics agencies) as well as researchers.

ITSEW will be held annually, in summer (June or July), starting in 2008, when the planned focus is *multiple sources of error* and the planned location is RTP, with NISS and RTI International (RTI) as co-hosts.

ITSEW will be overseen by a management committee, to consist initially of Roeland Beerten (Office of National Statistics, UK), Paul Biemer (RTI International), Lilli Japac (Statistics Sweden), Alan Karr (NISS; chair), Jerome Reiter (Duke) and Clyde Tucker (BLS). Each year’s ITSEW will have its own organizing committee tied to the location, and an identified problem area focus that reflects current research needs and the interests of the organizing committee.

3. SAMSI Events

March 5–7: Biosystems Modeling Workshop (2006–07 Program on Development, Assessment and Utilization of Complex Computer Models), at the Radisson Hotel RTP. *Details:*
<http://www.samsi.info/workshops/2006compmod-biosystems200703.shtml>.

April 2–3: Joint Engineering and Methodology Subprograms Workshop (2006–07 Program on Development, Assessment and Utilization of Complex Computer Models), at SAMSI. Details: forthcoming.

April 10–13: Transition Workshop (2006–07 Program on High Dimensional Inference and Random Matrices), at the American Institute of Mathematics, Palo Alto, CA. Details: forthcoming.

May 14–16: Transition Workshop (2006–07 Program on Development, Assessment and Utilization of Complex Computer Models), at the Radisson Hotel RTP. Details: forthcoming.

4. SAMSI Summer Programs

Challenges in Dynamic Treatment Regimes and Multistage Decision–Making. Tutorials on June 18–19 (Radisson Hotel RTP), Opening Workshop on June 21–22 (Radisson Hotel RTP), and Working Groups and Transition Workshop on June 23–29 (SAMSI). *Details:* <http://www.samsi.info/programs/2007adaptivetreatmentprogram.shtml>.

Geometry and Statistics of Shape Spaces. Tutorials on July 7–8 (Radisson Hotel RTP), Workshop on July 9–11, 2007 (Radisson Hotel RTP), and Working Groups on July 12–13 (SAMSI). *Details:* <http://www.samsi.info/programs/2007shapeprogram.shtml>.