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NISS Affiliates Update: April 2007

1. 2007 Affiliates Annual Meeting was held at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) in Washington on Thursday and Friday, April 26–27, with more than 20 affiliates present. Highlights were the Thursday afternoon new researchers session, Lee Wilkinson’s discussion of the “Analytical Computing Platforms for the Future” initiative and the Friday afternoon problem session.

Materials from the meeting—agenda, all presentations and a list of attendees—will be on the affiliates web site next week.

2. ITSEW. As announced at the April 26–27 meeting, the International Workshops on Total Survey Error (ITSEW) are now reality. The first workshop, focusing on multiple sources of error, will be in RTP on June 2–4, 2008. It will be co-hosted by NISS and RTI International. Details will appear on the affiliates web site in due course.

3. Analytical Computing Platforms for the Future. Lee Wilkinson outlined this very exciting initiative at the April 26–27 meeting. The first workshop will be held in Austin, TX on June 28–29. It is nearly full, so those interested in becoming involved should contact Lee as soon as possible, at leland.wilkinson@gmail.com.

4. SAMSI. We have just heard from NSF that SAMSI will receive \$2.7 million per year for each of the next five years. This 35% budget increase is a strong recognition from DMS of SAMSI’s success to date. The “new” SAMSI directorate of Jim Berger, Ralph Smith, Chris Jones and Nell Sedransk deserves congratulations from all of us.

I believe that this award to SAMSI will enable us to proceed with the building expansion, although budgetary and timing uncertainties remain.

5. SAMSI Spring Event

May 14–16: Transition Workshop for the 2006–07 Program on Development, Assessment and Utilization of Complex Computer Models, held at the Radisson Hotel RTP. *Details:* <http://www.samsi.info/workshops/2006compmod-closing200705.shtml>.

6. 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 (SAMS). *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>.

7. SAMSI Fall Events. There have been significant changes in expected emphases and working groups for the three 2007–08 programs. Even though there are time lags in updating them, the relevant SAMSI web pages should be consulted.

September 16–19: Opening Workshop, Program on Risk Analysis, Extreme Events and Decision Theory (Radisson Hotel RTP). *Details:* forthcoming

September 23–26: Opening Workshop, Program on Random Media (Radisson Hotel RTP). *Details:* forthcoming

8. SAMSI Student Programs

May 21–25: SAMSI/CRSC Undergraduate Workshop (NC State University).

Details: <http://www.samsi.info/workshops/2006ug-workshop200705.shtml>.

July 23–31: CRSC/SAMSI Workshop for Graduate Students (NC State University). *Details:* <http://www.ncsu.edu/crsc/events/imsm07/index.php>