



*The Southern California*

# *Statistician*

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

## Recognizing Robert Newcomb's 30 Years of Continuing Contributions to Our Chapter

BAUER CENTER, CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE  
CLAREMONT, CALIFORNIA  
NOVEMBER 11, 2006

RALPH O'BRIEN, INVITED LECTURER

### Program

- 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. Check-in, Continental Breakfast, and Late Registration  
Founders Room, Bauer Center, Claremont McKenna College
- 9:45 - 11:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions, Bauer Forum, Claremont McKenna College
- Ralph O'Brien, Cleveland Clinic, *"Using Critical Type I and Type II Error Rates in Planning and Interpreting Tests of Hypotheses"*
- When performing statistical power analyses in study planning, we typically focus on setting a prudent Type I error rate ( $\alpha$ ) and then guesstimating the Type II error rates ( $\beta$ ) associated with various sample sizes and scenarios for the "infinite dataset." However, these *classical* rates may not be the most relevant ones to consider. Instead, a simple and natural Bayesian notion ("The March of Science") allows us to guesstimate *crucial* Type I and Type II error rates,  $\alpha^*$  and  $\beta^*$ : a process that clarifies and shapes our planning and improves how we interpret the results.
- 11:00 - 11:15 a.m. Break, Founders Room, Bauer Center
- 11:15 - 11:45 a.m. University of California, Riverside Presentations
- 12:00 - 1:15 p.m. Lunch, Business Meeting, Founders Room

- 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Ralph O'Brien, Cleveland Clinic, ***"The Completely Sufficient Statistician"***, Today's ideal statistical scientist develops and maintains a broad range of technical skills and personal qualities in at least four domains: (1) numeracy in mathematics and numerical computing; (2) articulacy and people skills; (3) literacy in technical writing and in programming; and (4) graphicacy. Yet, many of these components are given short shrift in college and university statistics programs. Can even the best statistician today really be "completely sufficient?"
- 2:30 - 2:45 p.m. Break, Founders Room, Bauer Center
- 2:45 - 3:15 p.m. UCLA Presentations, Bauer Center
- 3:15 - 4:00 p.m. Robert Newcomb's Contributions, Bauer Center
- 4:15 - 6:00 p.m. Cocktail Reception Honoring Robert Newcomb at Janet Myhre's home, 4239 Via Padova, Claremont
- 6:30 - No Host Dinner Honoring Robert Newcomb at Spaggi's (on Foothill Blvd.), private room