

RTI International

American Statistical Association Fellows

These RTI statisticians have been recognized by their peers as having made outstanding contributions to the field of statistics. We are proud to have them as members of our team.

Paul P. Biemer, PhD, is a Distinguished Fellow, Statistics, at RTI and Associate Director for Survey Research and Development for the Odum Institute at the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Chapel Hill. His research has examined the relationships between survey design and survey error; statistical methods for assessing survey errors, particularly measurement errors; and methods for the analysis of survey data. He co-developed computer audio-recorded interviewing and pioneered the field of latent class analysis for survey evaluation. At UNC, he established the Certificate Program in Survey Methodology, which he directs. Dr. Biemer is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association as well as the American Association for the Advancement of Science; he is also an Elected Member of the International Statistical Institute.

Steven B. Cohen, PhD, is vice president of RTI's Division of Statistical and Data Sciences. He has been working in the fields of biostatistics, survey design, sampling, survey methods, and health services research for more than 30 years. He has expertise in management, health services research, health policy, biostatistics, sampling theory, modeling, complex survey design, multivariate analysis, demographic techniques, and applied statistical methods. Prior to joining RTI, he was Director of the Center for Financing, Access and Cost Trends at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. He is co-author of the text "Methodological Issues for Health Care Surveys." He has served as an associate professor at Johns Hopkins University and at George Washington University. He is also an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

Paul P. Biemer



"For significant contributions to the theory and measurement of non-sampling errors in surveys and censuses, for creative organization of conferences on important topics in survey statistics, and for dissemination of the technical proceedings of those conferences to the survey research profession"

Steven B. Cohen



"For contributions to the design of national health care surveys and to statistics on medical expenditures, and for research on sampling and non-sampling errors in surveys"

Jill A. Dever, PhD, a Senior Statistician, has worked in survey research for more than 20 years and is known nationally for creating software for optimizing complex sample designs; constructing linearization and replicate analysis weights using calibration techniques; variance estimation with calibrated analysis weights for multistage and multiphase survey designs; and statistical issues related to samples drawn without a defined probabilistic structure. Dr. Dever served as Treasurer, Washington Statistical Society (2015–2016) and is an active member of the American Association for Public Opinion Research.

Ralph E. Folsom, PhD, a Chief Scientist at RTI, is an expert in the design and analysis of complex probability samples. For the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), Dr. Folsom initiated innovative weight adjustment methods based on his logistic response propensity and exponential poststratification models. This pioneering work led to the sophisticated GEM weight adjustment methods currently employed for NSDUH. Dr. Folsom has also been an influential collaborator in the development of NSDUH's current predictive mean neighborhoods imputation methodology. Dr. Folsom recently led RTI's innovative work in small area estimation research and has made significant contributions to the development of SUDAAN®, RTI's computer software for survey data analysis.

Rachel M. Harter, PhD, is a Senior Research Statistician at RTI. She is an expert in area probability survey designs and has led sampling, weighting, and imputation procedures for complex survey designs for household and establishment surveys. She is the Program Manager for the Behavioral Statistics Program within the Division for Statistical and Data Sciences at RTI. Before joining RTI, Dr. Harter served as vice president, department head, and senior fellow within the social science research industry. She held elected offices in the Survey Research Methods Section of the American Statistical Association, and served as the leader of the AAPOR Task Force on address-based sampling. Dr. Harter was also a member of the National Academy of Science panel on Group Quarters in the American Community Survey.

Jill A. Dever



"For development and dissemination of statistical tools for survey researchers, for skillful management of large-scale surveys for federal agencies, for dedicated mentoring of survey statisticians and other researchers, and for service to the profession"

Ralph E. Folsom



"For outstanding contributions to probability sampling-based inference, particularly in variance estimation and in weight adjustments for missing data, and for excellence in the design and analysis of important national surveys in education, health, and drug abuse"

Rachel M. Harter



"For accomplishments in the advancement of sample design protocols, survey statistics, and small area estimation in support of research for the public good; for outstanding managerial leadership, mentoring, and collaboration; for effective communication of statistical developments; and for service to the profession"

Alan F. Karr, PhD, is Director of the Center of Excellence for Complex Data Analysis and the Social Statistics Program at RTI. His research centers on cross-disciplinary and cross-sector collaborations involving statistics and other fields such as data confidentiality, data integration, data quality, data availability, survey methodology, education statistics, health care, transportation, aging, the scientific workforce, software engineering, materials science, and disease surveillance. Dr. Karr holds one patent; is the author of three books and more than 150 scientific papers, the majority of which have co-authors from disciplines other than statistics; and has mentored more than 40 postdoctoral fellows. Before joining RTI, he was Director of the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (2000–2014), Professor of Statistics and Operations Research and Biostatistics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (1993–2014), Associate Director of the Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (2002–2007; 2011–2014), and Professor and Associate Dean at Johns Hopkins University (1973–1992). He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute.

Phillip S. Kott, PhD, a Senior Research Statistician, is an expert in survey sampling theory and practice, including calibration weighting, multiphase sampling, the analysis of survey data, and variance estimation. Dr. Kott is a Member of the International Statistical Institute and a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society. He is active as a journal associate editor and served as the President of the Washington Statistical Society and the Chair of ASA's Council of Chapters. He taught survey sampling at George Mason University and the Joint Program in Survey Methodology. He received a Presidential Rank Award in 2007 and an ASA Section of Statistics and the Environment Distinguished Achievement Medal in 1997. Prior to joining RTI, Dr. Kott was the Chief Research Statistician at the National Agricultural Statistical Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Karol Krotki, PhD, a Senior Statistician, is known nationally for his work in survey research, random digit dialing sampling, and weighting. He has over 30 years of experience in various areas of specialization, including survey statistics, survey research, social science data analysis, and international studies. Dr. Krotki served as President (2008–2009) of the Washington Statistical Society and is an active member of the American Association for Public Opinion Research. Prior to joining RTI, Dr. Krotki was Chief Statistician and served as head of survey operations at NuStats of Austin, Texas.

Alan F. Karr



"For outstanding contributions to the development and management of cross-disciplinary statistical research and for excellence in research and development of statistical inference for stochastic processes"

Phillip S. Kott



"For significant contributions to survey sampling theory and practice and for consulting, teaching, and service to the profession"

Karol Krotki



"For his outstanding contributions to survey research in design and methodology for web-based surveys, for his leadership in the management and establishment of statistical units, for his exemplary teaching and promotion of high-quality statistical methods, as well as his international consulting"

Rick L. Williams, PhD, a Senior Statistician, routinely leads large health research studies in such areas as maternal and infant health, obstetrical pharmacology, toxicology, health services utilization, and epidemiological investigations. For more than 30 years, he has made significant contributions to the development of SUDAAN® and was its development leader for 5 years. He has developed statistical methods for survey research and the analysis of correlated data. Dr. Williams frequently conducts workshops and training classes on the use of appropriate statistical analysis methods for cluster-correlated, longitudinal, or repeated measures data.

James R. Chromy, PhD, Senior Fellow (Emeritus) at RTI, is an expert in sampling theory and application, survey design, and statistical analysis. At RTI, he has led many large-scale surveys. He helped design the sample and data collection methodology for the National Assessment of Educational Progress. He has experience in all aspects of area probability sampling and household interview surveys. Dr. Chromy developed the theory and computational algorithm for selecting samples sequentially with probability proportional to size and with minimum replacement, and he developed a computer algorithm for efficient sample allocation that minimizes total survey cost subject to satisfying multiple variance constraints.

RTI 5796 R5 0716

Rick L. Williams



"For outstanding contributions to the innovative design and management of important federal national surveys and studies, for creative development of cutting-edge statistical software, for excellence in teaching methods for analyzing survey data, and for creative scientific contributions in the development and application of statistical methodologies"

James R. Chromy



"For innovative contributions to the design and selection of complex survey samples, for research in survey methods, and for outstanding leadership and administration of a large survey research program"



RTI International is one of the world's leading research institutes, dedicated to improving the human condition by turning knowledge into practice. Our staff of more than 3,700 provides research and technical services to governments and businesses in more than 75 countries in the areas of health and pharmaceuticals, education and training, surveys and statistics, advanced technology, international development, economic and social policy, energy and the environment, and laboratory testing and chemical analysis. For more information, visit www.rti.org.

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