

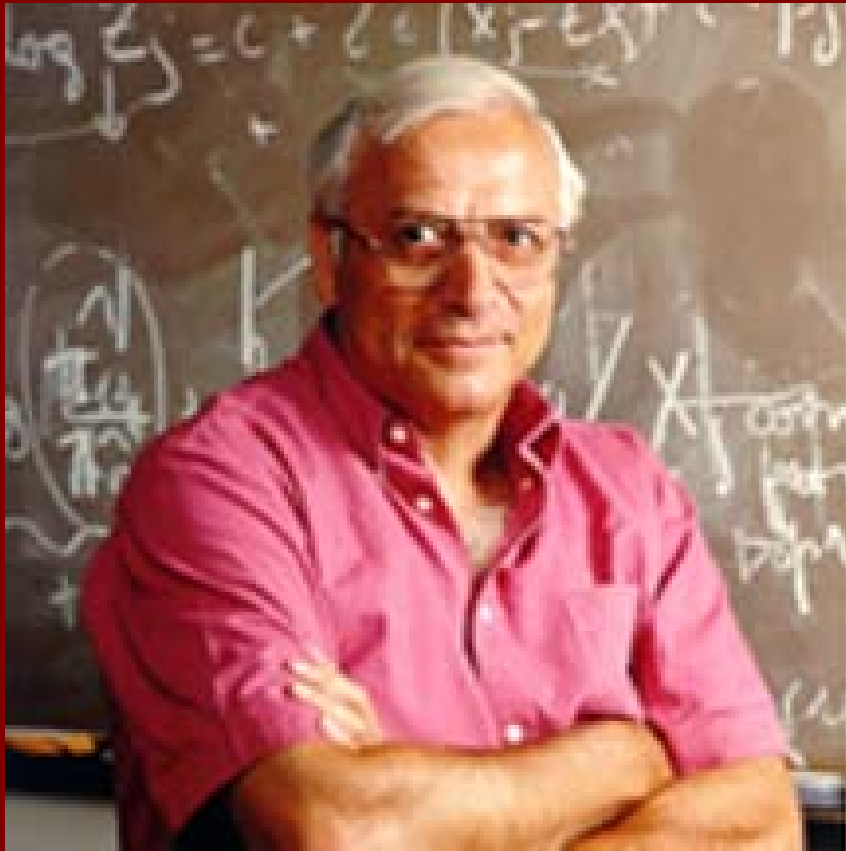
Reflections on 40 years

Sandy Weisberg

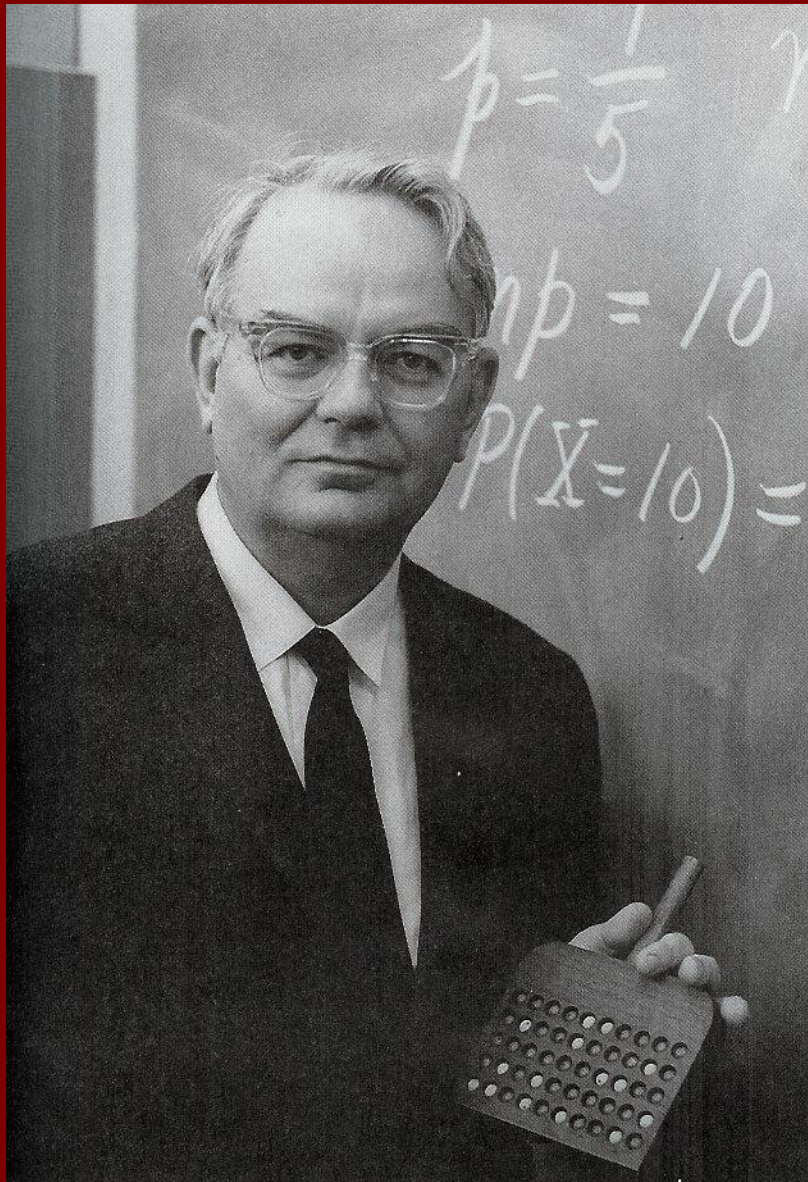
May 14, 2011

... more or less, I missed 1971-72





- Stephen Fienberg, Applied Stats founding chair (shown here)



- Frederick Mosteller
(1916 – 2006)

**STATISTICAL
THEORY**



Statistical Theory

B. W. LINDGREN

*Department of Mathematics
and Department of Statistics
University of Minnesota*

THE McGRAW-HILL COMPANY NEW YORK
GRAHAM & CO. LONDON

Adjusted for inflation,

$$\begin{aligned} \$12,000 (218.4/42.3) = \\ \$62,000 \end{aligned}$$

The Quiz

When was the School of Statistics founded?

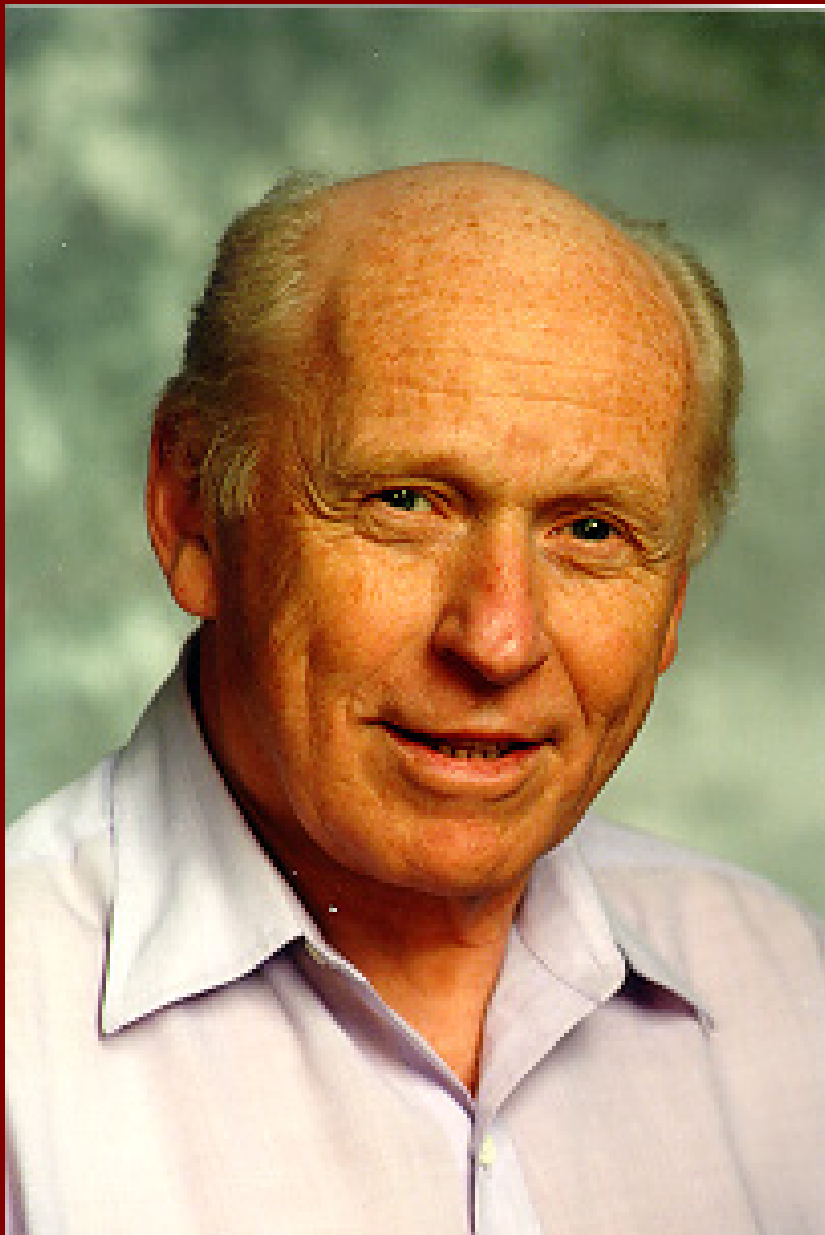
1. 1492
2. 1942
3. 1971
4. In the murky past

When was the Dept. of
Statistics founded?

- 1958
- First chairs:
 - Palmer Johnson
 - Ingram Olkin
 - Richard Savage
 - Leonid Hurwicz (2007 Nobel Prize Winner)
 - Bernard Lindgren (1963)

Why is statistics a School
and not a Department?

Who (regularly) said:
“Seminars are obligatory but
they are not mandatory”?



- Seymour Geisser
(1929-2004)
- Director 1971- 2001



“Don't put no constrictions on da people. Leave 'em ta hell alone.”

Name the second director of
the School of Statistics.



- Glen Meeden (not shown here), director since 2001.
- At Minnesota since 1989
- Formerly at our farm team, Iowa State

What was/is R. A. Fish?

Who is Murray Clayton?



- Professor Murray Clayton (shown here) is the outside analyst retained by Vice president Carol Carrier to evaluate U of M faculty salary-equity data
- School of stats Ph.D.

What were 13A and 13U?







Classroom Office Building St. Paul



RUTTAN HALL





- Vernon W. Ruttan (1924 – 2008), Agricultural Economist
- Worked on economic development, agricultural and resource economics, and science and technology policy

Name School students, alumni,
faculty for whom statistics is
the family business.

- Steve MacEchern and Don MacEchern
- William Pruitt and Ron Pruitt
- Gary Oehlert and Christie Oehlert
- Joe Eaton and Dennis Eaton
- Adam Rothman and Ed Rothman
- Wes Johnson and Jessica Utts
- Don Berry and Scott Berry

The puzzler

- The bus ride from St. Paul to West Bank is 25 minutes, and from West Bank to St. Paul is 20 minutes.
- How many busses are needed to keep a schedule of “every 15 minutes” in each direction?

The Program

- Fewer faculty
- Changes to courses, teaching and qualifying exams
- Internships for PhD students
- More undergraduates & MS students
- Smaller PhD program, more applicants

Degrees Awarded

	Bachelors	Masters	PhD	
Pre-1970	3	14	32	
1970-79	34	35	27	
1980-89	147	71	36	
1990-99	111	131	51	
2000s	145	133	67	
Total	440	384	213	1037

Consulting



Lemmings



- Project inherited from Dennis Cook (not shown here)

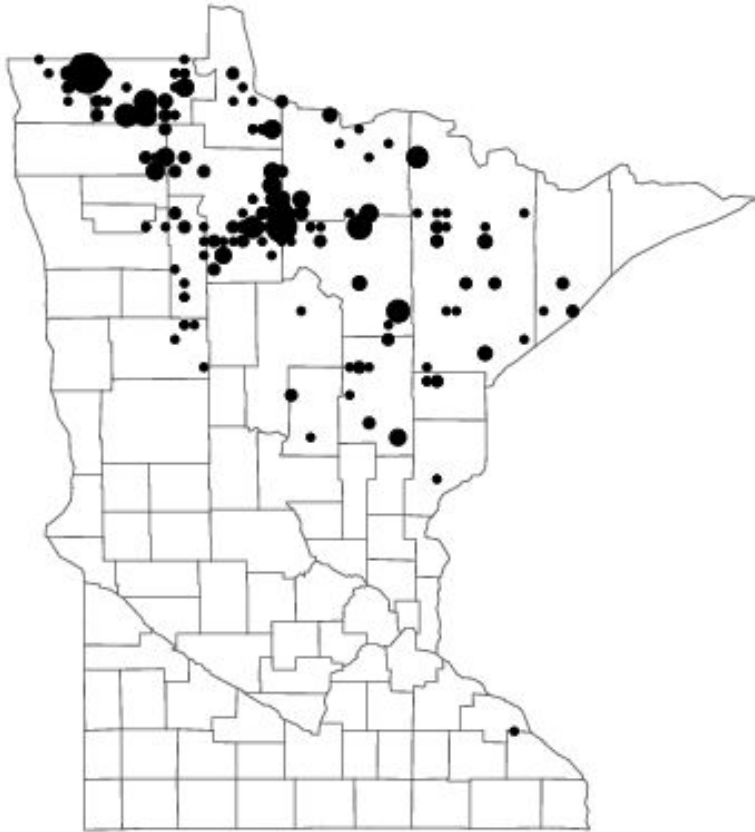
Chimpanzees



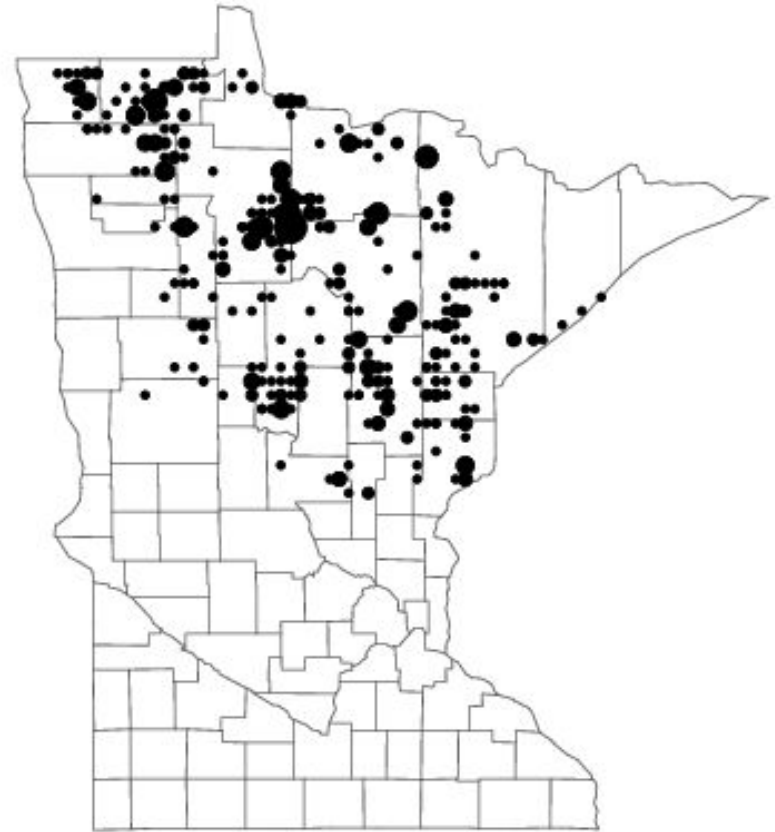
- Jane Goodall's data from Gombe inherited from Gary Oehlert (not shown here)
- Recent work with/by Ben Sherwood (also not shown here)

Wolf Depredations

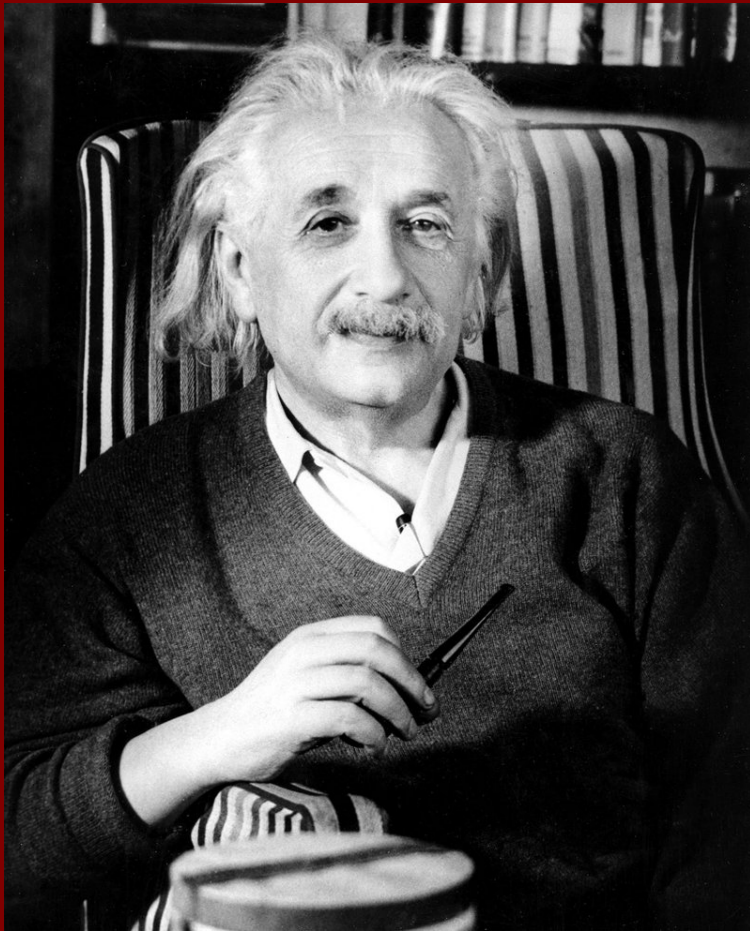
Depredations, 1976–1991



Depredations, 1992–1998



Consulting today!



- Aaron Rendahl (not shown here) manages consulting
- One RA

Where are we headed?

“I keep saying the sexy job in the next ten years will be statisticians. People think I'm joking, but who would've guessed that computer engineers would've been the sexy job of the 1990s?”

Hal Varian, chief economist at Google.

Immortality

1. Live forever
2. Children
3. Students who go off and do great things