EDITORIAL POLICY

As editors of *The Annals of Statistics*, it is our policy to publish research of the highest quality reflecting the many facets of contemporary statistics. Primary emphasis is placed on importance and originality.

The discipline of statistics has deep roots in classical mathematical analysis, from which it derives rigor, coherence and clarity, and is also dependent on roots in substantive scientific areas for its historical foundation and continued vitality. In the last twenty years, computational developments have had profound consequences which should also be reflected in the *Annals*. Consequently, our policy is to continue to play a special role in presenting research at the forefront of mathematical statistics, especially the more important and deep advances in the theory underlying statistical science. At the same time, we also intend to publish papers relating to the role of statistics in interdisciplinary investigations of the major scientific and social problems of our time and to emphasize developments in computational methodology. Mathematical depth and difficulty will not be the principal criteria with respect to which submissions in the latter categories are evaluated. Fundamentally, we seek a broad spectrum of papers which intellectually enriches our profession.

Most papers should contain an introduction which presents a discussion of the context and importance of the issues they address and a clear, nontechnical description of the main results. The introduction should be accessible to a wide range of readers. Thus, for example, it may be appropriate in some papers to present special cases or examples prior to general, abstract formulations, while in other papers discussion of the general scientific context of a problem might be a helpful prelude to the body of the paper.

Manuscripts submitted to *The Annals of Statistics* should be sent to:

Lawrence D. Brown and John A. Rice
Editors
Department of Statistics
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6302