

PREFACE

The manuscripts in this volume represent some of the research presented at *The Symposium in Honor of the 70th Birthday of W. Jackson Hall*. This conference was held on September 25-26, 1999, at the University of Rochester in Rochester, New York, in recognition of Jack's 30 years at the University at that time, including a total of 14 years as Chair of the Department of Statistics, almost half its existence.

Jack studied at Johns Hopkins, the University of Michigan and UNC Chapel Hill, where he received his doctorate in 1955, under the direction of Wassily Hoeffding. In 1953-4 he attended the Universities of Manchester and Cambridge as a Fulbright Scholar. After a spell at what is now the Center for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta (helping to track down the faulty batches of the Salk polio vaccine), he took a faculty position in the Department of Statistics at Chapel Hill, where he became full professor in 1966. He supervised seven PhD students during his tenure there; one eventually became associate director of the Statistical Bureau of India, another was the founding editor of ASA's *Journal of Educational and Behavioral Statistics*.

Joining the University of Rochester in 1969, Jack was instrumental in developing its doctoral program in Statistics, which although always small, has attained some distinction; 34 of the 65 PhD graduates now hold faculty positions, including several full professors and department chairs. He was a prime mover also in the founding of the Division (now Department) of Biostatistics in the Medical School and was Acting Director for several years.

Jack has held visiting positions at Stanford, Berkeley, Sheffield, Seattle, Sydney and Reading. He has had twelve PhD students at Rochester. One, at Bell Labs, has been co-editor of the most widely read journal in our field as well as a senior officer of IMS, another is a Vice President at Xerox Corporation, eight are in academic positions, including a full professor at Lehigh University, one is at AT&T and another at NIH. Jack is a Fellow of the AAAS, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and the American Statistical Association. His contributions to IMS include service as chair of the committee that created the *Annals of Probability* and the *Annals of Statistics*.

Jack has made deep contributions to many areas of mathematical statistics, including reliability, randomization tests, sequential analysis, large-sample theory, semiparametric inference, Bayesian methods and ROC curve analysis. The work encompasses fundamental foundational issues as well as important applications. His publications stand the test of time - even his early work is much cited today. Jack has also been involved in many clinical trials and other collaborative projects at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Notably, he worked on the design and analysis of innovative clinical trials which successfully demonstrated according to rigorous statistical criteria that use of an implantable cardio defibrillator could indeed save lives.

Jack remains actively involved at the University of Rochester Medical School, and continues to contribute to the doctoral program in Statistics.

The editors are grateful to Jack Hall for inspiring the manuscripts that comprise this volume, to Pattie Kolomic and Pat Sale for contributions to organizing the