WELCOME!

Welcome to the first issue of *The Annals of Applied Statistics*. Modern scientific technology has invigorated the world of statistical applications, and produced a burst of exciting new methodologies, algorithms and novel analyses. The IMS, the international leader in mathematical statistics for 75 years, has founded AOAS in recognition of our new environment. As you can see from the first table of contents, it is a journal devoted to all areas of statistical application.

We have not tried to define "applied statistics." Our field has an inside and an outside, both important to the health of the discipline—AOAS looks to the outside, but with recognition that some of the most important papers speak to both sides of the field. Professor David Cox, whose work exemplifies the unity of application and theory, begins our series with an essay on the relation of statistics to science and the scientists we serve.

We hope that you will welcome *The Annals of Applied Statistics* into your office, either in its printed or electronic form, and that you will also consider us for the publication of your own applied work. Information on subscription and submission, as well as access to papers in the queue for future issues, is available at our website,

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