1   Consulting

- **Aaron Rendahl (2010)**

  Essentially anything statistical that isn't sitting alone in your office doing research or teaching/taking a class is statistical consulting.

- **Hyams (Biometrics, 1971) described the ideal consultation:**

  ... The 'Ideal Consultation' is not a consultation. It is a working-together, a voluntary meeting of minds and union of energies whose prime aim is to seek a 'truth'. In such meetings both parties are familiar with each other's basic language. ...

- **Derr (2000) begins:**
  Statisticians often work with people in other professions and disciplines.

- **Cabrera and McDougall (2002) add:**

  Ultimately, [statistical consulting] is about communication . . .

- **From the ASA Section on Statistical Consulting:**

  Statistical consulting is the most challenging and most rewarding part of statistics. A consultant uses the art and science of statistics to solve a practical problem.

2   What does a statistical consultant do?

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

3 The ideal Consultant is . . .

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

- Scientific Interest: requires interest in the pursuits of science.

- Statistical Knowledge: training and education in statistics on a diverse range of statistical tools. Know what you don't know.

- Computer Proficiency: computer skills are essential, R and SPSS

- Interpersonal skills: communication is crucial (consider your audience)

- Self management: time management, priority system

- Ethics: client confidentiality and possible issues with data collection and use of results

- Curiosity: consulting is no fun without it