

A National Perspective on Statistical Literacy

Presented by
Dr. Milo Schield

TUESDAY OCTOBER 28

9:30 a.m. -Noon
Student Center Room 230

9:30 AM. **Statistical Illiteracy**

A general presentation showing student problems in reading charts, graphs and tables and in using ordinary English to describe rates and percentages .

Of interest to anyone concerned about statistical illiteracy.

- Student problems reading summary data: Two case studies
- Statistical Literacy: Skills Survey Results
- Requiring and Assessing Quantitative Literacy (Q/L) as a part of General Education
- The National Numeracy Network (NNN) and the W. M. Keck Statistical Literacy Project

10:30 AM **The W. M. Keck Statistical Literacy Course**

A field-tested course for students in non-quantitative majors.

For details, see www.StatLit.org/pdf/2008StatLit2a.pdf

For those interested in course details, approach and textbook.

- Take CARE approach: Context, Assembly, Randomness and Error/bias.
- Statistical Literacy textbook and essay analysis template
- Web-based software that reads ordinary English
- Moodle Exercises (over 1,000) and on-line teacher training

11:30 AM **Discussion**



Dr. Milo Schield is the Director of the W. M. Keck Statistical Literacy Project and Vice President of the National Numeracy Network (NNN). He is a professor at Augsburg College where he is currently teaching critical thinking, statistical literacy and traditional statistics.

Dr. Schield received his Ph.D. from Rice University. He has written 40 papers on Statistical Literacy and given talks on statistical literacy in 14 countries. His articles have appeared in the AACU's Peer Review, in the ASA's STATS magazine and in the MAA's book: Context vs. Calculation. His paper on graphs in USA Today has been downloaded over 20,000 times.

Joel Best, author of *Damned Lies and Statistics*, said that Dr. Schield is the "leading voice" of the Statistical Literacy movement.

Dr. Schield is the webmaster of www.StatLit.org. In the last twelve months, this site has had over 100,000 visitors and 100,000 downloads of papers on statistical literacy. This site presents information on statistical literacy from multiple disciplines including statistics, mathematics, adult numeracy and library science.