

**Thanks (and some Apologies)
after
36 years in Statistics at the U.W.**

Thanks to the guys who brought me here in 1981



Michael

Doug



Galen

Peter



and the late Ron Pike

Apologies -- especially to the recent faculty and graduate students -- for my not organizing or engaging in many social activities since the 1990s, after I left the "Random Manor" to move to West Seattle, marry my wife Sandy, and commit more time to our four exchange students and then our adopted son Sasha.

I do wonder why I am retiring so early, but then looking back at how we looked and what we did back in the 80s, I think that perhaps it really is time to retire! Apologies too if you may be bored with an old guy's reminiscences from when the department was young.

We were an "outdoor department" with a list of shared interests and activities:

- Crystal Mt Summit Runs**
- Sailing (w/ Doug)**
- Hiking & climbing (w/ Doug & Jon)**
- Soccer (w/ Peter, June & others)**
- Bike trips**
- Ski trips to Whistler**

Crystal Mountain Summit Run -- 1982





Sailing with Doug



Department Hikes







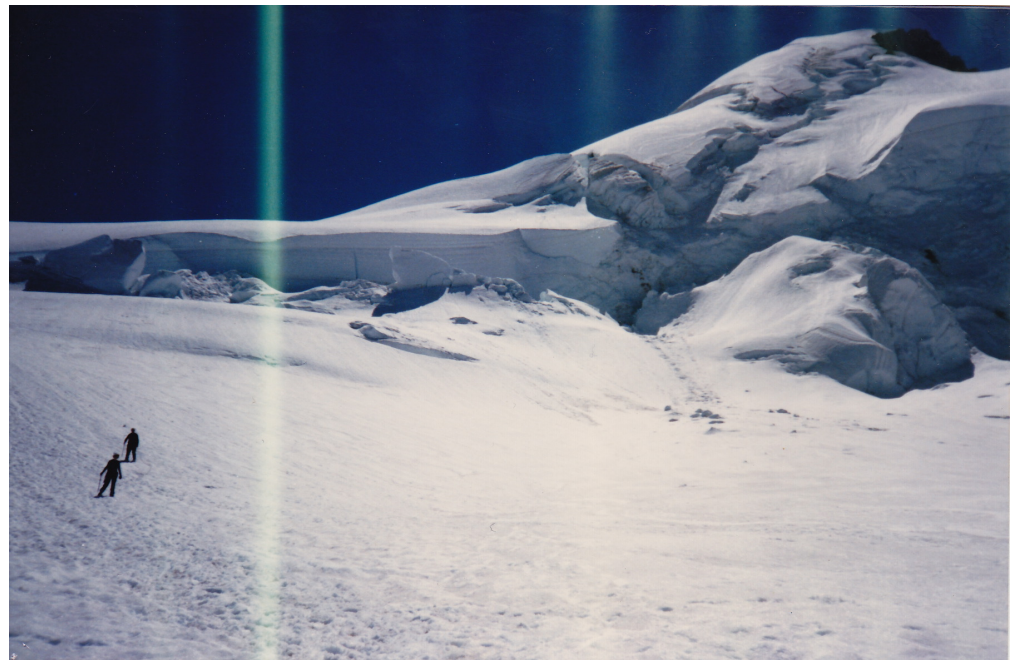
Camping w/ Michael





Spectacular climb of Mt Baker led by Jon and Doug







Seattle Sounders at the Kingdome



Soccer!

The Slugs of Mystery!



at Berkeley



Bike Trips



Ski trips to Whistler!





And just for fun, did you know how funny looking statisticians from ETH in Zurich can be?



I conclude with my deepest thanks to all the colleagues, students, and staff who have made my career at the UW so rewarding. I can't name everyone, but special thanks go ...

- To all our department chairs, beginning with **Michael** and finishing now with **Thomas**, who have done their best to manage my unique position.
- To **Vickie**, who has always managed to figure out my salary from 6 different budgets, **Kristine** who for many years has provided a warm greeting and overseen our consulting scheduling, **Ellen** and **Mee Ling** for handling all the unique registration challenges associated with consulting, and to **Holly** and all her predecessors who have scheduled our consulting clients with professionalism.
- To my many wonderful **Biostat consulting colleagues** from whom I have learned so much over the years, and to **all the graduate students** who have made the consulting class so much fun for me for so many years;
- To **Peter**: My guide in spatial and environmental statistics, for his work with me on the "famous" *Sampson-Guttorp Spatial Deformation* method, for his tireless work on our National Research Center for Statistics and the Environment, and for bringing me to places like Iceland, Ireland, and Brazil.
- To **Fred**, my mentor since my PhD studies at Michigan and to **Ann Streissguth** of the Fetal Alcohol and Drug Unit with whom we had a great 20-yr collaboration on studies of effects of fetal alcohol exposure.
- To **Lianne** and **Joel** who invited me to join the highly influential "MESA Air" project over 15 years ago. This project incorporated our developing methods for spatio-temporal modeling in the analysis of the environmental health effects of air pollution and has led to ongoing collaborations with a great group of colleagues in Biostatistics, Environmental Health, and Environmental Engineering.

And most importantly --- thanks to Sandy who has had to put up with my work schedule all these years, with me getting home almost always later than I said I would. In fact, the graduate students in the stat dept in 1998 played a big role in the success of our first real date, a ski trip to Crystal Mountain with a car full of stat graduate students---her thinking "What have I gotten myself into?! I agreed to go skiing with a bunch of nerdy statisticicans?". But she met a group of crazy and funny students --- Nuala Sheehan, Jens Praestgaard, and Michael Newton --- who kept her in stitches laughing, on and off the slopes. And she has continued to enjoy meeting colleagues and graduate students over the years, right up to the trio of fascinating grad students we took to the consulting BBQ at Nancy Temkin's farm just last Friday (Sheridan, David, and Stephen). Sandy will appreciate having more of my time now for travel (and, unfortunately, for working in the garden). But she is having trouble understanding how I can say I am retiring and yet also be teaching a class next fall quarter. What kind of retirement is that?