

Biostat conference call. 14 February 2006

On call: Laurel Beckett, Qian Weng, Danielle Harvey, John Kornak, Monica Hu, Karen Stokes. Monica and Karen will be covering for Sarah during her maternity leave.

Laurel reported that the executive committee says enrollment is proceeding, but not as fast as they had hoped. MCI enrollment is lagging behind. Sites will not be allowed to go beyond 4 normal and 4 AD until they have 8 MCI. Right now about 90 people have been randomized. Data from imaging are still in quarantine and we have no idea yet when they will be available. The linking process is still being smoothed out.

Projects proposed that would use tissue will be reviewed by RARC. The goal is to make ensure that reviews lead to valid science and that it is not limited to insiders.

John's group is working on what they can do with plans to look at effects of noise and conditions on voxel-based data. John will not have time for big simulations – new position, will still be somewhat involved at least in a transitional sense but will be at radiology instead. This was just decided so Mike has not yet initiated a search. John will not be on next two calls.

Danielle reports that the MRI call reemphasized that now is an ideal time to write up manuscripts using the prep phase data since we don't yet have access to current data. No one seemed to respond. Anders is doing something that has not yet been circulated but he does not seem to be seeking biostat help. Gene Alexander may also be doing something but didn't say much in detail. Danielle will look at papers and keep us posted; we may get involved if it looks as if our contributions will be useful. Karen Crawford was not on the call so there is no current information about file transfer process. In prep phase it didn't go through LONI, but straight from Mayo. Now LONI is taking on its real role of storage and file linking and transfer. We understand that there will be some testing of access soon. Karen will discuss this on the next call.

Danielle has a paper close to complete draft on her methodology. All simulations work and she has data to try out from Charlie's group. Qian will have her orals for proposal on 22 March for her dissertation, on some longitudinal measures of change.

We will have another call 28 February. We may skip 14 March because at least two people will be unable to make the call.