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James J. Cochran is Professor of Applied Statistics and the Rogers-Spivey Faculty Fellow in the Department of Information Systems, Statistics, and Management Science of The University of Alabama's Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration. He earned a PhD in Statistics from the University of Cincinnati and has been a Visiting Scholar with Stanford University, University of South Africa, Universidad de Talca, and Pôle Universitaire Léonard De Vinci.

Professor Cochran's research interests include sample based and Bayesian optimization, statistical methods (particularly general linear models), statistical learning, and applications to sports. He has published over 30 articles in peer-reviewed academic journals and five textbooks in statistics, operations research, and analytics. Professor Cochran has served as a consultant for many companies, government agencies, and NPOs.

Professor Cochran co-founded Statistics Without Borders, and he established and has organized INFORMS' Teaching Effectiveness Colloquium series and annual Case Competition. He established an International Education Workshop series and has organized workshops in Uruguay, South Africa, Colombia, India, Argentina, Kenya, Cameroon, and Croatia. He was the General Chair of the 2005 INFORMS Conference and organized and chaired the 2008 ORPA Conference on Using

Operations Research to Address Urban Transport and Water Resource Management Issues in Africa.

Professor Cochran is founding Editor-in-Chief of the *Wiley Encyclopedia of Operations Research and the Management Sciences* and the *Wiley Series in Operations Research and Management Science*. He was 2007-2012 Editor-in-Chief of *INFORMS Transactions on Education* and he currently serves on the editorial boards for several journals.

In 2006 Professor Cochran was elected to the International Statistics Institute, in 2008 he received the INFORMS Prize for the Teaching of OR/MS Practice, in 2010 he received the Mu Sigma Rho Statistical Education Award, and in 2011 he was named a Fellow of the American Statistical Association. In 2014 the American Statistical Association presented Professor Cochran with its Founders Award, the highest honor bestowed by the ASA.