

Life in statistics – Muni S. Srivastava 75

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On 20 January 2011 Muni Shanker Srivastava turned 75. His magnificent career in statistics started in India. Muni was born in Gonda, Uttar Pradesh and graduated from Lucknow University in India with Bachelor degree in 1955 and Master Degree in 1957. He got his PhD from Stanford University in 1964 under the supervision of Professor Charles Stein. In 1963 he joined the University of Toronto where he found his academic home; from 1972 to 2001 he worked as a full professor and from 2001 he is Professor Emeritus. After the first monographs on multivariate statistics in late 1950-ies there was a long break in publishing new books on Multivariate Analysis. A big step forward was made in 1979 when the monograph "An Introduction to Multivariate Statistics" by M. S. Srivastava and C. G. Khatri came out from North Holland. This book and the following ones: Srivastava & Carter (1983), Sen & Srivastava (1990) and Srivastava (2002) are on desks of any statistician working in multivariate statistics. But these books do not cover wide range of Muni's research activities at all.

Sequential analysis became his first attraction after PhD studies but in early seventies he turned his interests to the multivariate analysis. This fortunate turn resulted in the aforementioned book in 1979. Beside development of asymptotic methods robustness became another important issue in his research. In late eighties quality control theory attracted him. Research in this area gave several principal new analytic results. In 2002 his achievements in multivariate statistics were crowned with the Gold Medal by the Statistical Society of Canada.

What has kept Muni's mind busy in last years? High-dimensional analysis, where the number of variables can exceed the sample size and where most of the classical test statistics are not applicable, has become his new field of interest.

Nineteen supervised PhD dissertations, 177 published papers – these lists are still open.

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