

# VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA 24450-0304

AUGUST 31, 2008

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

Phone 540-464-7335

Fax 540-464-7214

Voice/TDD 540-464-7616

Dear ACAS Participant:

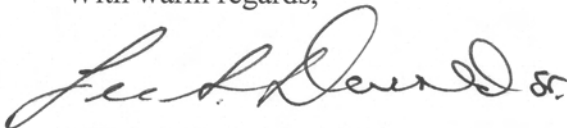
Welcome participants of the 2008 U.S. Army Conference on Applied Statistics (ACAS) to the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) in Lexington, Virginia! The Department of Mathematics & Computer Science is pleased and honored to host this event in 2008. This is the first time that VMI has been the location for this conference. Lexington is a charming city, steeped in Civil War history, located in the Shenandoah Valley at the base of the Blue Ridge Mountains. It is the final resting place of General Stonewall Jackson, former Physics Professor at VMI, and General Robert E. Lee, former President of Washington College (now Washington & Lee University). The natural beauty of the Lexington area should be at its peak with splendid views of the brilliant autumn foliage. The faculty and cadets of the department hope that your visit to Lexington is both productive and enjoyable.

Established in 1839, VMI is the oldest state military college in the nation. General Francis Smith, the first Superintendent from 1839 to 1890 and a West Point graduate in the Class of 1833, was the first Professor and Head of the Department of Mathematics. There are many parallels between West Point and VMI from location to architecture to methods of learning. I hope you will take advantage of an opportunity for a cadet-led tour of the campus, a visit to the VMI museum, or the Headquarters of the George Marshall Foundation. George C. Marshall is the best known graduate of the Institute.

The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science is located in the newly renovated Mallory Hall where all of the sessions of ACAS will be held. The department has twelve full-time faculty with doctorates in mathematics, computer science, or related fields; six adjunct faculty; and approximately 50 majors in applied mathematics or computer science. Over 70% of our graduates are commissioned in the military. Many others are hired by analytical agencies of the US government such as the Center for Army Analysis or defense contractors such as S.A.I.C. Others have gone directly to graduate schooling in computer science, mathematics, operations research, or statistics.

On behalf of General J. H. Binford Peay III, the 14<sup>th</sup> Superintendent of VMI, and Colonel William J. Stockwell, Acting Dean of the Faculty, I am pleased to welcome the participants of the 2008 U.S. Army Conference on Applied Statistics to our campus.

With warm regards,



LEE S. DEWALD, SR.

Colonel, Professor and Head

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

