



Honors Research Assistant Program

Title: Gender Differences in Collective Bargaining Outcomes

Description of the Research: This project involves the completion of an already existing/partial data base for use with the SPSS data analysis system and subsequent data analysis. The data base is approximately one-half (1/2) done and needs completion with data analyses performed on the finished file.

This is a data base, built over twenty plus years, on the outcomes of collective bargaining negotiations by teams of Carlson School students in MAHRIR, MBA, and undergraduate courses. Students were divided into teams at random—union and management—and given the task of negotiating collective bargaining agreements with two measures of outcomes; size of settlement in dollars and time needed to reach settlement in bargaining rounds. This study represents the first and only (insofar as we have been able to determine) study which looks at teams of varying sizes; all others look at dyads.

Responsibilities of the Student: The Student participating in this research project would, as a first step, enter data from a set of data forms into a fixed format SPSS data base which has already been started. When the data are entered, the student would then be involved in collecting comparable publicly available data to match with the data already collected internally for this study. The purpose of this data collection would be to assess the extent of reaction of the students participating in the research to the world outside the simulation with the hope that they responded to the “world” developed in the classroom and not to what was external to the case/class.

Subsequent analysis would involve measuring differences in outcomes/ results by gender and team size as conclusions to the collective bargaining process.

Approximate Number of Hours/Schedule: This should involve 2 – 3 hours per week for the coming academic year for a total of 75 hours.

Qualifications: The student could be of any major or concentration but needs expertise with the SPSS software system. Commonly available, this system/language has been used to initialize the construction of this data base and it seems most efficient to continue with this software.