

## Biographical Sketch — Lawrence M. Seiford



**Lawrence M. Seiford** currently serves as Program Director of the *Operations Research* and *Production Systems* programs at the National Science Foundation. He is on leave from the University of Massachusetts - Amherst where he is Professor of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering and Founder and Director of the Systems Quality and Productivity Laboratory. Prior to joining the University of Massachusetts, he was a member of the faculty at the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Kansas, and York University.

Professor Seiford's teaching and research interests are primarily in the areas of quality engineering, productivity analysis, process improvement, distributed-systems design issues, and performance measurement. In addition, he is recognized as one of the world's experts in the methodology of Data Envelopment Analysis. His current research involves the development of benchmarking models for identifying best-practice in manufacturing and service systems. He is presently engaged in multi-year studies examining best-practice in the financial services sector and health care delivery systems. Results of this research effort have been incorporated in academic course offerings and practitioner workshops on Benchmarking, Productivity, and Performance Measurement. He has written and co-authored three books and approximately one hundred articles in the areas of quality, productivity, operations management, process improvement, decision analysis, and decision support systems. Dr. Seiford coordinates the UMass Master's Program in Engineering Management, a video-based distance education program for professionals in industry. He has been a consultant to government and major corporations. His industrial experience spans a number of production processes and business settings in the private, public and non-profit sectors.

Professor Seiford is Editor of the *Journal of Productivity Analysis*, Area Editor of *Interfaces*, Associate Editor of *OR Letters* and *INFOR: Information Systems and Operational Research*, and a member of the editorial boards of *Health Care Management Science*, *OMEGA*, *the International Journal of Management Science*, and *The Mathematica Journal*. He also is the North American Coordinator for the Productivity Analysis Research Network (PARN), a worldwide network for researchers/research institutions in the field of productivity and frontier analysis. He is a senior member of the American Society for Quality (ASQ), serves on the Advisory Board of the Quality, Statistics and Reliability Subdivision of INFORMS, and is a member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE), Production and Operations Management Society (POMS), Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS), American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE), and the American Statistical Association (ASA).

Dr. Seiford has received the General Electric Outstanding Teaching Award and has received the CBA Foundation Award for Research Excellence. He also has been a Lily Endowment Teaching Fellow.