

**STANFORD UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS**  
**DEPARTMENTAL SEMINAR**

4:15 p.m., Tuesday, April 18, 2006  
Sequoia Hall Room 200  
(Cookies at 3:45 in 1st Floor Lounge)

*Cynthia Dwork*  
Microsoft Research, Silicon Valley

**A cryptographer's perspective on privacy-preserving  
data mining and statistical disclosure control**

We revisit the problem of statistical disclosure control – revealing accurate statistics about a population while preserving the privacy of individuals – from a cryptographic perspective.

We provide rigorous, well founded, definitions of privacy and explicit characterizations of the capabilities of the adversary. We then describe a powerful technique for achieving privacy while preserving utility of the data, together with impossibility results that guided its development.