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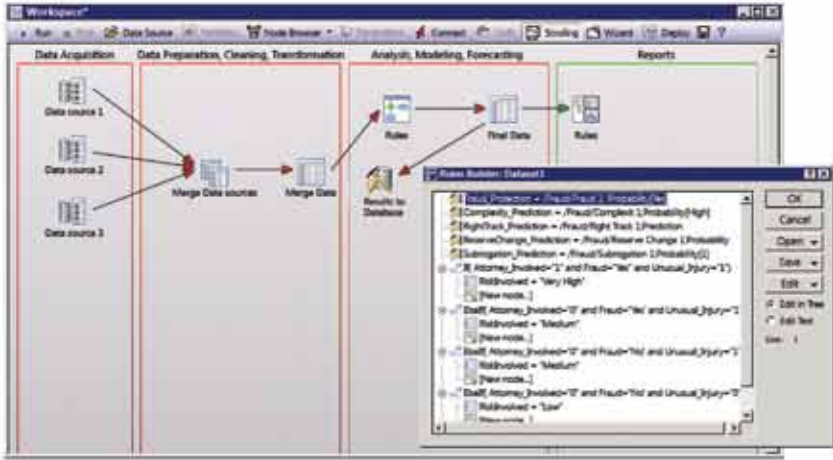
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American Statistical Association



The American Statistical Association is the world's largest community of statisticians. The ASA supports excellence in the development, application, and dissemination of statistical science through meetings, publications, membership services, education, accreditation, and advocacy. Our members serve in industry, government, and academia in more than 90 countries, advancing research and promoting sound statistical practice to inform public policy and improve human welfare.

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- 18 **SCIENCE POLICY**
Making the Case for the National Science Foundation
ASA joins with 31 organizations in poster exhibit and day of meetings on the Hill

This column is written to inform ASA members about what the ASA is doing to promote the inclusion of statistics in policymaking and the funding of statistics research. To suggest science policy topics for the ASA to address, contact ASA Director of Science Policy Steve Pierson at pierson@amstat.org.



Pierson

Contributing Editor

Steve Pierson earned his PhD in physics from the University of Minnesota. He spent eight years in the physics department of Worcester Polytechnic Institute before becoming head of government relations at the American Physical Society.

- 19 **175**
At the Joint Statistical Meetings, One Year Later

The ASA will celebrate its 175th anniversary in 2014. In preparation, column "175"—written by members of the ASA's 175th Anniversary Steering Committee and other ASA members—will chronicle the theme chosen for the celebration, status of preparations, activities to take place, and, best yet, how you can get involved in propelling the ASA toward its bicentennial.



Chuang-Stein

Contributing Editor

Christy Chuang-Stein is the chair of the 175th Anniversary Steering Committee and head of the Statistical Research and Consulting Center at Pfizer. She served as an ASA vice president from 2009–2011.

columns

20 MASTER'S NOTEBOOK Going to JSM? Check Out These Offerings

This column is written for statisticians with master's degrees and highlights areas of employment that will benefit statisticians at the master's level. Comments and suggestions should be sent to Megan Murphy, *Amstat News* managing editor, at megan@amstat.org.



Goodwin

Contributing Editor
Greg Goodwin earned both his bachelor's in mathematics and statistics and his master's in statistics from the University of Vermont. He works as an analytics software tester in the Advanced Analytics Division at SAS.

23 STATtr@k What Is a Transportation Statistician?

STATtr@k is a column in *Amstat News* and a website geared toward people who are in a statistics program, recently graduated from a statistics program, or recently entered the job world. To read more articles like this one, visit the website at <http://stattrak.amstat.org>. If you have suggestions for future articles, or would like to submit an article, please email Megan Murphy, *Amstat News* managing editor, at megan@amstat.org.



Leung

Contributing Editor
Li Leung serves as a survey statistician within the Office of Survey Programs at the Bureau of Transportation Statistics. She is a key team member of the Commodity Flow Survey and National Census of Ferry Operators. Leung earned her MS in civil and environmental engineering with an emphasis in transportation engineering and a BS in applied computational mathematical sciences with an emphasis in statistics from the University of Washington.

Online Articles

The following articles in this issue can be found online at <http://magazine.amstat.org>.

Three best paper prizes were awarded by the **Journal of Nonparametric Statistics** and the ASA Section on Nonparametric Statistics for the 2011 volume. Read the journal highlights and view a list of winners at <http://magazine.amstat.org>. You also may view the journal's 2011 Editor's Report at www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10485252.2012.651897.

Visit the **ASA Calendar of Events**, an online database of statistical happenings across the globe. Announcements are accepted from educational and not-for-profit organizations. To view the complete list of statistics meetings and workshops, visit www.amstat.org/datetime.

Many of the **sections and committees** sponsor events and host workshops and meetings. For details about these events and other news, make sure you visit our section, chapter, and committee pages online at <http://magazine.amstat.org>.



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Continuing Professional Development: New Kinds of Learning for Statisticians



JSM attendees absorb new methodology at a course offered by the ASA's Continuing Education program. Additional types of learning are needed in emerging areas of statistical practice.

This month, thousands of our members are looking forward to the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) in San Diego. For many, the most valuable activities at JSM will be the 26 short courses and 13 computer technology workshops available on topics from ordinal categorical data to data mining. This column explains the success of the ASA's Continuing Education (CE) program and describes other kinds of continuing professional development our association should support.

Why Is the CE Program So Popular?

For answers to this question, I turned to members who regularly attend courses at JSM. David Ipe, a statistician at Genentech, often finds that the methods he learns are directly applicable to his projects. He cites courses in randomization methods, survival analysis, and meta-analysis that have benefited his work since the 1990s.

During most of his career, Bob Yaffee, a research professor at New York University, has used the CE program to explore areas of interest. He is currently analyzing data about Chernobyl survivors with techniques gained from courses on multiple imputation, bootstrapping, and multilevel modeling.

Bill Kahn, head of science for Chartis Commercial Insurance, says, "CE classes are a blast because they are taught by the world's best statistical professionals, they provide the breadth

and depth you need as practicing statisticians, and they are a great way to meet others and build your professional network."

Behind the Scenes of the CE Program

A major factor in the success of the CE program is the thoughtful planning of the Advisory Committee on Continuing Education (ACCE) and others who review course proposals submitted in September and select those that will be presented at JSM the following year.

Most proposals come from authors of recently published books, and two-thirds of the proposals are sponsored by sections. Overall, CE courses generate revenue for our association, and this is shared with the sponsoring sections.

The ACCE also evaluates feedback collected from attendees. Mary Christman, chair of the committee, explains, "We use that information to ensure we have highly qualified instructors and topics that are of interest." Outstanding courses are recognized with the Excellence in Continuing Education Award.

Serving on the ACCE is a major time commitment, but Christman adds, "We are, by nature, teachers who feel motivated to improve the training and knowledge of ASA members. We want the courses to be current, useful, and even inspiring for attendees."



Robert Rodriguez

Courses Throughout the Year

ASA-supported training does not end at JSM. Through the Council of Chapters, CE instructors can be invited to present traveling courses to ASA chapters.

Webinars organized by sections are another learning opportunity, and they are gaining popularity because they are accessible and cost effective. During the past year, 20 webinars have been scheduled, including one on Bayesian computational methods offered by the Section on Bayesian Statistical Sciences and one on interview strategies offered by the Section for Statistical Programmers and Analysts.

In addition, the next ASA Conference on Statistical Practice, which will take place February 21–23, 2013, will again feature short courses and tutorials; see www.amstat.org/meetings/csp/2013/courses.

New Areas of Learning

To equip statisticians for future success, we must build on the success of our CE offerings—which focus on methodology—and expand into other areas of training. These areas include computational techniques for big data, domain knowledge required for interdisciplinary research, and career development skills.

Big data presents us with novel learning requirements driven by the question, “What would you do with all this data?” (see www.mathaware.org). Increasingly, the answer depends on our ability to work with data from social media sites, website logs, and medical records—and so we must learn how to access and incorporate textual data into our analyses.

Moreover, because so much big data is stored across clusters or grids of multiple computers, we also must learn about distributed computing. Expertise in manipulation of large data sets and the ability to analyze distributed data are already critical for statistical scientists in fields such as drug discovery and statistical genetics; see www.nature.com/naturejobs/science/articles/10.1038/nj7384-263a.

Along with learning to employ new computational tools, statisticians must become knowledgeable about problem domains in research, business, and government organizations where the demand for data analysts is surging. For statisticians in corporate environments, Bill Kahn reinforces the importance of learning about the business, pointing out that “if all we know is statistics, we will always be outsiders rather than influencers.”

In any statistical endeavor, our contributions will be valued far more if we learn to write and present in ways that clearly explain the relevance of what we do to the goals of our collaborators and our organizations. Likewise, the visibility and effect of our contributions will be amplified if we learn how to lead and

influence others. New ASA training in these areas is being developed by the 2012 Career Success Factors Workgroup, led by Robert Starbuck, who will report on their progress in a future column.

Continuing Professional Development

To provide the various types of ongoing learning that statisticians will need, the ASA Board of Directors is developing a long-term plan. The board has adopted the term “Continuing Professional Development (CPD)” for the process of improving and broadening the knowledge and skills required for successful statistical practice. In all, the board has identified four areas of CPD:

1. In methodology and practice, by keeping abreast of new techniques and theory, staying connected with best practice, growing in areas not previously studied (or refreshing forgotten material), and gathering ideas and direction for research
2. In technology, by learning about new computational techniques and software tools, as well as trends in technology and new sources of data that are creating major new opportunities for statisticians
3. In subject matter necessary for successful collaboration with other scientific disciplines and for working in teams in business and government
4. In career success factors such as communication, leadership, and influence skills

Clearly, statisticians already pursue CPD through a variety of existing ASA activities, including our journals, meetings, and CE program. The preceding list is a framework for understanding where we should expand our efforts. By doing so, we will not only respond to emerging needs within our membership, but we will also retain as members more of our students who graduate and then encounter these needs in their workplaces. We also will make the ASA an attractive professional home for data scientists, business analysts, and other statistical problemsolvers.

When Do We Stop Learning?

It is vitally important for our association to support continuing professional development. Bob Yaffee summarizes it perfectly: “Statisticians must keep current if we are to remain relevant and educated. This kind of learning is a way of life in which we are forever students. We don’t stop until we drop.”

Robert W. Rodríguez



Election Results for 2013

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Diversity Workshop, Mentoring Program to Be Held at JSM

The ASA Committee on Minorities in Statistics (CMS) will host a diversity workshop and mentoring program at JSM from July 29 to August 1. Students, faculty, and professional statisticians from government and industry are encouraged to participate.

The program includes a full-day workshop on July 29, followed by brief formal and informal mentoring opportunities throughout JSM. The objectives of the program are the following:

1. Establishing critical mentoring and networking relationships for under-represented minority statisticians at early to mid-career levels (e.g., undergraduate students, graduate students, early statistics professionals)
2. Motivating students to pursue graduate study and careers in statistics

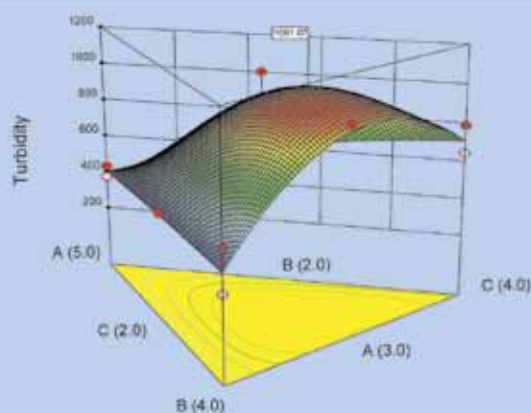
3. Sharing best practices for recruiting and mentoring under-represented minority students and faculty

4. Increasing the active participation of under-represented minorities in the American Statistical Association

This program is unique in that it focuses on serving the career development needs of statisticians ranging from student level (undergraduates and graduate students) to early to mid-career professionals in academia, government, and industry, facilitating creation of broad and diverse networks of support.

Registration is free, but space is limited. To register or get detailed information, visit <http://jsmdiversity.statfest.com>. Limited funds are available to provide partial travel support for students. ■

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Statistical Thinking in Policymaking

Amstat News is inviting articles for a new series called “Statistics for Policymakers” based on the broad interest in a January blog entry on the ASA Community called “Statistics for Future Presidents.” The blog entry, inspired by the book Physics for Future Presidents, invited ASA members to share what they think policymakers should know about statistics. Please send your column ideas to ASA Director of Science Policy Steve Pierson at pierson@amstat.org.

Guy Caruso, Mary Foulkes, Mary Gray, David Salsburg, Milo Schield, and Ronald Snee

Statistical thinking and methods are an integral part of modern scientific activity and problemsolving. Going beyond scientific investigations, statistical thinking has been successfully applied to problems in military tactics, manufacturing, economic analyses, and marketing. Statistical thinking provides the strategy needed to guide the tactics of statistical modeling. The power of statistical concepts, methods, and tools lies in their ability to identify problems in clear, unambiguous ways and determine what is known, what needs to be known, and what can and cannot be known. Identification and structuring of problems is critical to successful problemsolving.

Can statistical thinking be applied more effectively to policy decisions in government? Those of us who have engaged in using statistical thinking and developing new methods to solve problems frequently meet individuals who are arguing over unimportant or unknowable aspects of a problem. A little statistical modeling, guided by statistical thinking, is often able to clarify these problems and lead to solutions.

Much of the current political discussion over immigration, the national debt, health care, regulation of banks, etc. often sounds like such a situation. Policymaking and decisions lead to problems that are large, complex, and unstructured. Statistical engineering as discussed by Roger Hoerl in “The World Is Calling; Should We Answer?” published in the May issue of *Amstat News*, provides guidance for using statistical thinking to address such problems.

The statistical approach leads one to first identify and structure the questions that need to be answered. Are they answerable? Are there data available to answer them? How can new data be derived if needed? What is a reasonable range of uncertainty that we can expect or afford with those answers? What is the maximum level of uncertainty that can be accepted before acting on those answers?

We, thus, challenge the statistical community and those involved in policymaking: How can statistical thinking and modeling be used to aid in

We, thus, challenge the statistical community and those involved in policymaking: How can statistical thinking and modeling be used to aid in policy decisions in government?

policy decisions in government? Are there specific problems that can be addressed with this approach? Send us your proposal for an article in *Amstat News* about this topic. ■

C-SPAN Features Federal Statistical System

C-SPAN's Washington Journal has been running a segment called “America by the Numbers” that features information from the federal statistical system. The program airs every Friday in either the 8 a.m. or 9 a.m. slot and highlights data from the U.S. Census Bureau and other federal statistical agencies.

Focusing on topics in the news—women in the work force, the status of education, manufacturing and trade, the prison population, unemployment, and child care—each program features a government analyst presenting the trends and an outside expert who provides interpretation. Viewers can call to ask questions of both guests and submit inquiries via email and Twitter @cspanwj, allowing for a dialogue about the statistics behind news.

Visit the Census Bureau's website at www.census.gov/newsroom/cspan for links to the archived broadcasts and all the graphs discussed in the programs.

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Funding Opportunities for Statisticians to Be Discussed at JSM

Michelle C. Dunn, National Cancer Institute

Representatives from the National Science Foundation (NSF), National Institutes of Health (NIH), and National Security Agency will be available for a dialogue at JSM on July 30 from 10 a.m. until noon in Room Aqua 304 of the Hilton Bayfront Hotel. Officials from each funding organization will describe their programs in presentations from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. From 11 a.m. to noon, the program directors will be available to shed light on processes, answer questions, and hear concerns.

The focus of this opportunity is to discuss grant funding opportunities for statisticians. Both statistical methodology development and applications of statistics are supported by the programs represented. Program directors will briefly describe new initiatives and areas of emphasis, as well as any special mechanisms for new investigators and investigators at primarily undergraduate institutions.

This event, organized by the ASA Committee for Federally Funded Research (CFFR), is listed in the JSM Program as Funding Opportunities—Presentations and Q&A. CFRF is soliciting your feedback about how it can best facilitate communication between funding agencies and ASA members. Please either leave suggestions in the comments area of *Amstat News* online or bring them to this event at JSM, where committee members will be present.

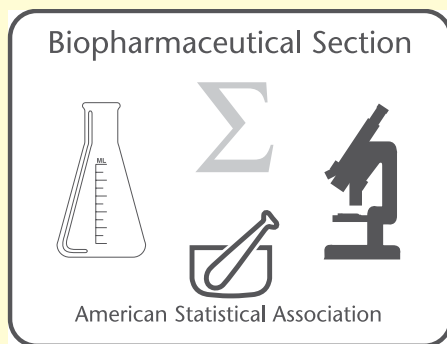
Big Data Work Force Development

The NSF and NIH also invite you to a discussion about preparing a work force able to handle the challenges brought about by “big data.” The discussion will take place in Room Cobalt 500 of the Hilton Bayfront Hotel on July 31 at 3 p.m. Several institutions, which have existing or planned programs that address aspects of big data, will have prepared comments, but the focus of the meeting will be on open discussion. Particular issues include the following:

1. What are the main technical challenges for statisticians arising from big data?
2. Are there gaps between the skills of recent graduates and what they need to know to handle big data?
3. Is there room for innovation or partnerships between academia, industry, or government?

Employers and graduate program directors are encouraged to attend, as well as researchers who work with big data (whether from industry, government, or academia) and those interested in training the next generation of scientists. ■

Complete Survey by August 15 to Win Prizes!



Does the Biopharmaceutical Section meet your expectations? Let us know more about you, your preferences, and your needs.

The 2012 membership survey will be administered between July 1 and August 15. Everyone who completes the survey before August 15 will win free access to an online training course presented by Alex Dmitrienko of Quintiles about key multiplicity issues in clinical trials (see <http://sprmm.com/biostatistical-training>).

Complete the survey before July 25 and pick up an additional prize at the Biopharmaceutical Section business meeting during JSM on July 31 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Hilton Bayfront Hotel, Room Sapphire A.



Gender Balance in ASA Activities

Bonnie Ghosh-Dastidar, Senior Statistician, The RAND Corporation; Pam Craven, ASA Executive Secretary; and Dalene Stangl, Professor, Duke University, and Chair, Committee on Women in Statistics

This report explores the gender balance in a variety of activities supported by the American Statistical Association. It highlights areas in which gender disparities have subsided and in which they persist. Results on the latter suggest that ASA sections in which women are proportionately represented are not well represented in the ASA awards structure. It suggests that offering awards related to statistics in the life and social sciences may improve the gender balance in awards given by the ASA.

Overall Membership

Presently, the ASA database contains records for 17,873 members. Of these, 3,202 declined to report their gender. Among the 14,671 remaining, 4,694—or 32.0%—are women. This compares to just below 30% in 2005 and 33.5% in 2008. The percentage of members who are women has not changed much in the last seven years. According to a survey of earned doctorates (NSF/NIH/USED/

NEH), the percentage of women among those earning PhDs in statistics/biostatistics from 1997 to 2006 was 41%. According to the most recent published table from the same survey, that percentage is up (44.7%).

The percentage of members who are women differs considerably by age and highest degree status. Women members tend to be younger and are less likely to hold doctoral degrees. Overall, among 14,416 ASA members who reported degree status and gender, 56.6% hold a doctoral degree and 32.8% hold a master's as their highest degree. Among women, the corresponding percentages are 43.4% and 38.9%. Conversely, 40.5% of members with a master's degree are women, and 26% of members with a PhD degree are women.

Among men, 57% of ASA members are 45 years or older, while only 33.7% of women are. Overall, this indicates a slight aging overall as compared to 2008, as then 54% of all members were 45 or older compared to the present 57%. Table 1 shows the percentage of women in different groups defined by age and degree.

The percentage of women among ASA members age <45 with doctoral degrees at 39.2% is similar to the percentage (41%) of women among PhD recipients between 1997–2006.

The percentages of women also vary by place of employment. Of members employed in academia, 27.4% are women; in business and industry, 28.4%;

Table 1— Percentage of ASA Members Who Are Women Within Degree and Age Categories

	Age <45	Age >= 45
Associate's or Bachelor's Degree	41.0%	23.9%
Master's Degree	46.0%	26.3%
Doctoral Degree	39.2%	18.8%



and in federal government, 31.6%. The lowest percentage of women (24%) is found among those self-employed, and the highest (38.6%) is among retired members.

Some indication of women's interest areas can be gleaned from membership in ASA sections. Table 2 indicates the percentages who are women in each section together with the total number of members belonging to the section. There is a tendency for the percentage of women to be higher in sections with more members. The sections rank similarly in terms of percent women among those 45 and above with doctoral degrees.

Participation in ASA Activities

Women are well represented in the ASA organizational leadership. Presently, one-third of the ASA Executive Committee is made up of women, and the ASA Board of Directors is 38% women (6 out of 16).

Women have less representation in ASA publishing activities. The Committee on Publications has four women (out of 23), amounting to about 17%. The ASA's flagship journal, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, has 23% (14 out of 60) women on the editorial board (including editors and associate editors) for Theory and Methods, 18% (7 out of 40) for Application and Case Studies, and 60% (9 out of 15) for Reviews. In August 2010, these percentages were 18%, 21%, and 33%, respectively. There may be considerable variation in editorial boards from year to year. It appears both older and younger statisticians have the opportunity to participate on editorial boards and the expected percentage of women would be close to the 25% of women among members with doctoral degrees.

Another indicator of ASA activity is participation in JSM. In 2012, 24% of the program committee members (9 out of 37) were women. In 2013, that percentage will be 45. Another indicator of both professional regard and involvement is giving an invited talk or chairing an invited session. Counting women chairs and speakers in all invited sessions on the Monday of JSM 2012 yields about 30% women, indicating a participation that corresponds well with overall membership percent. On the other hand, not a single one of seven keynote speakers listed in the 2012 program is a woman. This is not the first year this has happened (also happened in 2010); the 2011 JSM program included a woman as keynote speaker as in other years.

Table 2—Total Number of Members and Percentage of Women in ASA Sections

	% Who Are Women	Total Number
Statistics in Epidemiology	38.0%, 558	1,470
Teaching of Stats in the Health Sciences	38.1%, 265	695
Health Policy Statistics	38.7%, 250	646
Government Statistics	34.5%, 141	409
Statistical Consulting	33.0%, 513	1,554
Social Statistics	31.7%, 167	526
Biopharmaceutical	30.3%, 694	2,142
Joint Government & Social Statistics	35.6%, 140	393
Biometrics	32.6%, 714	2,189
Statistical Education	33.3%, 386	1,159
Survey Research Methods	33.4%, 462	1,382
Statistics and the Environment	28.5%, 196	688
Statistical Programmers and Analysts	31.5%, 218	692
Nonparametric Statistics	27.0%, 157	581
Risk Analysis	25.7%, 185	719
Bayesian Statistical Science	24.4%, 354	1,449
Statistical Learning and Data Mining	26.6%, 283	1,064
Defense and National Security	20.2%, 59	292
Statistics in Marketing	27.1%, 174	643
Statistical Graphics	27.7%, 130	469
Statistical Computing	22.9%, 208	907
Quality and Productivity	23.7%, 68	287
Business and Economic Statistics	20.4%, 203	996
Physical and Engineering Sciences	18.3%, 63	344
Statistics in Sports	14.3%, 78	546



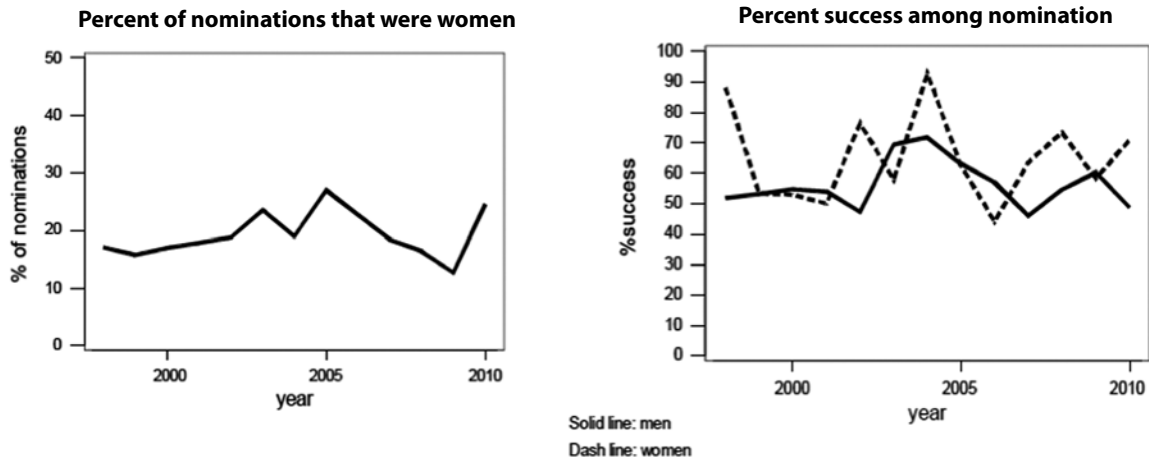


Figure 1. Percentage of nominations and selections of women as ASA fellows since 1998

Table 3—Percentages of Women and Men Who Are Fellows in Age Groups 45 Years and Older

Age Group	% of Women	% of Men	Number of Women in Group	Number of Men in Group
45–49, (1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967) 1,317	1.4%	4.3%	19	57
50–54 (1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962) 1,206	1.9%	6.6%	23	80
55–59 (1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957) 1,354	2.5%	8.2%	34	111
60–64 (1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952) 1,356	2.8%	12.2%	38	165
65–69 (1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947) 1,015	3.0%	16.7%	30	170
70–74 (1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942) 598	2.0%	23.1%	12	138
75+ (1937 and earlier) 544	3.8%	31.0%	20	169

ASA Fellow Selection

There has been recent interest in how many women receive recognition through society awards. The Committee on Women in Statistics (COWIS) has long tracked the percentage of nominations and selections of women as ASA fellows. The two graphs in Figure 1 present these results since 1998. Importantly, the years with high percentages of women among total nominations were those when ASA leadership or COWIS members exerted special effort to nominate women. In the years between 2005 and 2009, the percentage slipped as efforts waned. The second panel demonstrates that women, once nominated, had similar or slightly higher rates of success.

The overall percentage of ASA members who are fellows is 1.2% for women and 5.5% for men. Although there are 58 members with associate's, bachelor's, master's, or other degrees who are fellows, the majority (1,098) hold doctoral degrees. Among doctoral degree holders, 15.2% of men and 9.3% of women are fellows. Among doctoral degree holders younger than 45, 4.0% are fellows among both men and women. At age 45 and older, 19.8% of men and 16.6% of women are fellows. Table 3 shows the percentage, by five-year age groups above 45, of men and women who are fellows among members with doctorate degrees.

Table 4—ASA Awards with Number and Percent Recipients Who Were Women Obtained by AWIS AWARDS Project

Award	1991–2000			2001–2011		
	All	Women	%W	All	Women	%W
Deming Lecturer	5	0	0%	11	0	0%
Founders	38	10	26%	37	12	32%
Gottfried E. Noether (junior)				11	4	36%
Gottfried E. Noether (senior)	1	0	0%	11	1	9%
Outstanding Statistical Application	28	6	21%	30	4	13%
Samuel S. Wilks Memorial	10	1	10%	11	1	9%
Statistics in Chemistry	24	1	4%	24	4	16%
W. J. Dixon for Excellence in Statistical Consulting				3	0	0%
W. J. Youden on Interlaboratory Testing	17	5	29%	42	7	17%
Waller Education Award				4	2	50%

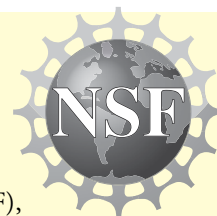
We see that percentages are quite similar for ages 50–65. It must be borne in mind, however, that data from older ages reflect not only the fellow selection process, but also the decision to remain a member.

Other ASA Awards

The ASA grants several other prestigious awards. Gender data on awardees from a number of societies including the ASA were collected by the AWIS AWARDS project in collaboration with ASA staff. ASA awards and percentages of awardees who were women are reproduced in Table 4. We see that the percentage of women among recipients of ASA awards is quite low and has not increased since the last decade. The numbers also reflect a general finding of the AWIS study that women are more likely to receive awards recognizing service than scientific achievement. It was noted by the study that ASA award committee members are presently 44.4% women. Extensive research on implicit stereotyping cited in the AWIS AWARD workshop does indicate that just including women on award selection committees is necessary, but not sufficient, to ensure unbiased consideration, free of subconscious gender expectations. Perhaps even more importantly, comparing the list of awards to the list of sections

indicates that predominant present interest areas of both men and women in the ASA, such as biometrics and social statistics, are not well captured by awards. ■

Inform New Activities, Programs to Support K–16 Mathematics, Statistics Education



The National Science Foundation (NSF), in cooperation with the U.S Department of Education (ED), is interested in input that can inform new activities and programs to support and improve K–16 mathematics education. The working group is viewing mathematics to broadly include pure and applied math, statistics, and the computational sciences. For more information and to provide input regarding K–16 mathematics and statistics education, see the NSF Dear Colleague letter at www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf12080 and survey link at www.surveymonkey.com/s/k_16_initiative.

Where Are the Women in the JSM Registration Guide?

Amanda L. Golbeck, University of Montana



Women make an appearance in the 2012 JSM Registration Guide, but they are not among the most visible performers. The guide contains no pictures of women. Seven keynote speakers are pictured, but there are no women among them. Three speakers with lunch are pictured. Likewise, there are no women among them. Looking beyond the pictures and at the overview up front on Page 2, there are no women among the four introductory overview lecturers, and there are no women among the eight meet and mingle well-known statisticians.

Women had more, but still disproportional, visibility in last year's JSM registration guide. Women comprise about 30% of the ASA membership.

Last year's guide did contain some pictures of women and did list some women on the overview page, but only 2 of 12 (16.7%) keynote speakers were women. None (0%) of the three

speakers with lunch was a woman. One of the four (25%) introductory overview lecturers was a woman, and only one of the five (20%) meet and mingle well-known statisticians was a woman.

It is desirable for women to be engaged as prominent speakers at JSM. Prominent speakerships, such as those in the guide mentioned here, are similar to professional awards. They are markers of individual achievement. They are important for job satisfaction and career advancement. They influence career trajectories. Prominent speakers provide inspiration for other professionals. At an organizational level, visibility of women is a good reflection of the values of the professional statistical community. Visibility of women is an important contributor to the strength and vitality of the organization.

Indeed, a recent column in *Amstat News* (Price et. al., 2012) advanced the idea of the ASA as a "big tent" organization. The authors asserted the diverse membership of the ASA in terms of professional and personal backgrounds. They also asserted the inclusiveness of the organization. Their primary message was that "there is more room in the tent," as well as more room for engaging current members.

One significant dimension of the ASA's diverse membership is gender. A productive way to help recruit, retain, and nourish women professionals is to provide strong role models for them. A productive way to make the big tent as welcoming for women as possible and to demonstrative gender-inclusiveness is for women to appear regularly among the most visible performers under the big tent.

How can this be accomplished? Selection of prominent speakers for JSM is currently a complicated and uncoordinated collection of individual processes. For keynote speakers alone, there are five selection processes that are administered by three organizations (ASA, COPSS, IMS) and three committees. The ASA president selects the person to give the ASA President's Invited Address. A nine-member ASA Deming Lectureship Committee selects the ASA Deming Lecturer. The 18,000 or so ASA members elect the president, who gives the ASA Presidential Address. A six-member COPSS Fisher Lecture Selection Committee selects the COPSS Fisher Lecturer. A 16-member IMS Committee on Special Lectures selects the IMS Medallion lecturers.

When the other prominent speakers are considered along with the keynote speakers, there is addi-

Islamic Countries Conference on Statistical Sciences Planned

The 12th Biennial Islamic Countries Conference on Statistical Sciences (ICCS-12) will be held in Doha, the capital of Qatar, from December 19–22. The theme is "Recent Advances in Statistics for Good Governance."

Organized by the Islamic Countries Society of Statistical Sciences (ISOSS), the conference was established in 1988 and brings together statisticians from around the world, regardless of gender, race, religion, or nationality. One of its objectives is to provide a forum for researchers and practitioners in statistical sciences, particularly from Islamic countries, to engage in professional development activities and programs.

To organize an invited session (with four or five speakers) on an area of expertise or contribute a paper, contact the scientific program committee at iccs12@isoss.net. For details about the conference, visit www.iccs12.isoss.net.

tional complication to the selection process. The ASA on Statistics in Sports, Business and Economic Statistics, and Health Policy Statistics sections each select one speaker with lunch. The JSM Program Committee chair selects the introductory overview lecturers and the meet and mingle well-known statisticians.

Of the many things that can be done short of coordinating the prominent speakership selection processes, here are six:

(1) Individual members of the statistical community: Consider expanding the pool of nominees for prominent speakerships by nominating individuals who have strong qualifications. This year, all proposals for the introductory overview lectures were accepted. None of the proposals were from women.

(2) Selection committee members: Consider how the guidelines the ASA recently established for awards committees may apply to the selection of prominent speakers. These guidelines provide practices to ensure fairness in award selection processes. Details are at <http://amstat.org/awards/acguidelines.cfm>.

(3) Leaders: Consider the gender of past selection committee chairs and that it might be time for a woman to take a turn as chair. A diverse group of chairs is likely critical to produce a diverse group of

prominent speakers. This year, there were women on each of the selection committees for the JSM prominent speakerships, but there were no women chairs.

(4) ASA Council on Awards members: Consider expanding the Award Council's charge to include oversight of prominent speakerships. Then, the Awards Council could educate and encourage both award committee chairs and prominent speakership committee chairs. Invite COPSS and IMS selection chairs to attend the orientation meeting for incoming selection committee chairs at JSM.

(5) ASA staff: Consider finding new ways to highlight the diversity of the ASA membership. For example, staff could announce and picture in the guide the featured speaker for the JSM First-Time Attendee Orientation and Reception. This year, the speaker is 2011 ASA President Nancy Geller, and last year it was 2009 ASA President Sally Morton.

(6) ASA: Consider developing a stated set of shared core organizational values that include diversity. These common core values can ground and inspire organizational efforts toward various strategic goals in areas such as recruitment and retention. The process of developing a set of core values would further the conversation toward helping to ensure that the ASA can truly serve as every statistician's professional home. ■



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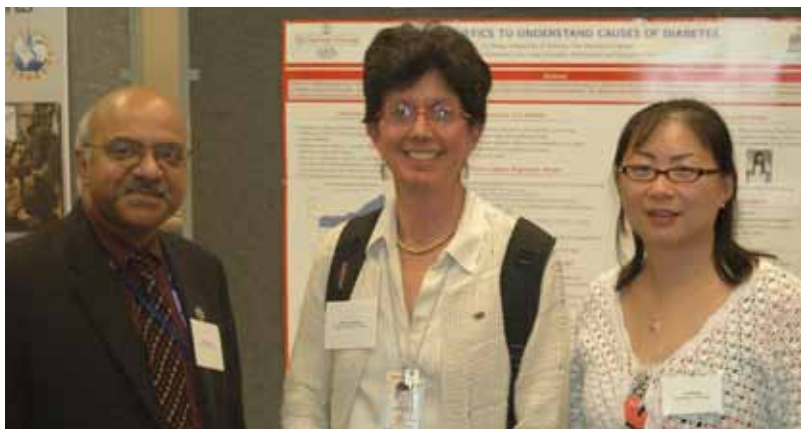
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SCIENCE POLICY

Making the Case for the National Science Foundation

ASA joins with 31 organizations in poster exhibit and day of meetings on the Hill

Steve Pierson, ASA Director of Science Policy



University of Georgia statistics professor Lily Wang (right) with NSF Division of Mathematical Science director Sastry Pantula (left) and Sharon Hessney (center). Hessney is a staffer for Sen. Al Franken (D-MN) and ASA member.

The ASA participated in the annual Coalition for National Science Funding Exhibition and Reception for the third straight year on May 15 and featured the National Science Foundation (NSF)-supported work of University of Georgia professor Lily Wang. The evening reception attracted 270 people, including five members of Congress. The purpose of the event, now in its 18th year, is to highlight to congressional members and staff some of the research the NSF funds.

Prior to the reception, Wang spent the day with me, visiting the offices of Georgia senators and representatives and explaining how her NSF funding is important to the country, Georgia, and her students and research. Wang could speak first-hand to the international competition to attract top scientific talent and also emphasized the many dividends research pays to the economy and U.S. competitiveness. Wang and I also discussed why funding research is an important federal function.

In all, Wang met with staff for two Georgia senators and five of the 13 U.S. House representatives

from Georgia. In addition to her own congressional representative, Paul Broun (R-GA)—who chairs a house science, space, and technology subcommittee—she met with staff for two freshmen and two members of the House Appropriations Committee.

Consistent with the House's extraordinary support of NSF this year and last—supporting budget increases for NSF in this challenging fiscal environment—the staffers Wang and I met with understood the importance of NSF to our nation's economy and economic competitiveness.

In reflecting on her day on the Hill and the evening exhibit and reception, Wang called this experience “one of the most meaningful” of her career. She added, “I came back convinced of the need and impact of communicating the importance of federal support for research funding to Congress by individual scientists like me.”

For each office, Wang provided material specific to Georgia, including the amount of research funded in Georgia in FY11—\$110 million—and how much individual institutions received. She also provided a document with examples of the benefits of NSF funding to Georgia (www.cnsfweb.org/statesheets.html) and the ASA Statistical Significance pieces (www.amstat.org/outreach/statsig.cfm).

For her poster at the ASA booth, Wang highlighted her research on causes of diabetes, but also told staffers about her NSF-supported work on economic forecasting, survey response, and environmental modeling.

With input from the ASA Committee for Federally Funded Research, the ASA focused on inviting an ASA member from Georgia because of Georgia's representation on the House panel that determines the NSF budget. Other such states include Alabama, Kansas, Ohio, Texas, and Virginia.

The ASA urges its members to contact their elected officials in Washington, DC, about the importance of NSF and National Institutes of Health research. Contact me at pierson@amstat.org for further guidance and materials. ■

At the Joint Statistical Meetings, One Year Later

Christy Chuang-Stein, Chair, 175th Anniversary Steering Committee

It was one year ago at the 2011 Joint Statistical Meetings that the 175th Anniversary Steering Committee held its first meeting. Since then, the committee has met monthly, and often twice a month, to brainstorm ideas for celebrating the association's 175th anniversary with a theme of "Celebrate Our Past, Energize Our Future." The guiding principles are simple. The celebrations should be with all, for all, and by all members of the association.

Beginning in January, committee members have used this column to chronicle their collective thoughts about our journeys to the festive milestone in 2014. In February, Stephen Stigler wrote about the ASA's longevity. He largely attributed the ASA's success to its ability to adapt and change. In March, Fred Hulting described emerging opportunities for statistics professionals brought on by rapid changes in our environment. The latter include the rise of big data and globalization of the business world. In April, Dionne Price, George Williams, and Monica Johnston identified the ASA as a "big tent" organization and discussed approaches to bring more diverse yet scientifically connected professionals to the association's big tent. The April article was followed by an ambitious 20k membership goal elaborated upon in the May column by Monica Johnston. Last month, Amy Herring and Narayanaswamy Balakrishnan highlighted contributions made by statisticians in advancing science and informing policy, and reflected on the ASA's ongoing efforts to improve statistical literacy.

Over the past 11 months, our committee has consolidated our ideas for energizing the future into

three broad categories. We are calling them StatSharp, StatGrowth, and StatImpact. As you can tell by their names, StatSharp will focus on expanding statistical education and raising the awareness among the next generation that statistics is an attractive career choice; StatGrowth will focus on growing our association, not only in depth and breadth, but also in membership numbers; and StatImpact will focus on the influence of statistics by demonstrating the benefit of statistical thinking in making evidence-based decisions and policies. All three categories exemplify the ASA's mantra of "Promoting the Practice and Profession of Statistics."

Preliminary planning has begun for activities in these categories. For example, committee members, in collaboration with the ASA's education department, have asked the board for funds to help develop the curriculum for a virtual summer camp for secondary education teachers (StatSharp). Discussions have taken place with the Council of Chapters Governing Board to take advantage of the geographic proximity of chapters to reach out locally to quantitative scientists and practitioners who may be interested in finding a professional home (StatGrowth). We have brainstormed for possible venues to highlight examples of past statistical contributions and alert to opportunities in the future (StatImpact).

The operating principle is to collaborate with existing groups within the association (committees, sections, chapters, and outreach groups), relying on them for implementation and execution. If the participation of our committee can contribute to the overall effectiveness of the execution, we will

certainly assist. We plan to meet with several partner groups at the upcoming JSM to seek input and solidify preliminary ideas. It is also our hope that, with our partners, we can start formulating a path forward.

As we prepare to celebrate this milestone anniversary, we are more convinced than ever of the importance of articulating the value of a professional society like the ASA to our members and potential members. Many of us have benefited from a strong statistical society, even though some of us may not realize it.

Any profession that wants to be recognized as such will form a professional society early in its growth, a society that affirms the profession's identity and serves as its voice. Yet, as General Colin Powell once said, "Organization doesn't really accomplish anything. ... Endeavors succeed or fail because of the people involved." The most valuable asset of an association is its members. Past generations of statisticians have built the ASA to what it is today. It is up to the current generation to ensure our association continues to grow, to be strong and relevant for the next 175 years.

Planning the future is important. It is equally important that we take time to enjoy the present and celebrate the roads traveled. Our committee will soon begin to address the "celebrating our past" part of the theme. We'd love to hear from you about your ideas for celebrations, which, though reflecting on the past and pointing to the future, are very much rooted in the present. For those who will attend JSM in San Diego, we invite you to stop by the ASA booth and share your creative ideas with us. It will take all of us to plan a successful and memorable party. ■



MASTER'S NOTEBOOK

Going to JSM? Check Out These Offerings

Greg Goodwin, Committee on Applied Statisticians

Attending JSM provides opportunities to broaden your knowledge through Continuing Education courses, panel discussions, poster sessions, invited talks, roundtables, and more. With such a wide array of choices, it will benefit you to spend some time reviewing the online program and mapping out a plan to attend the sessions that interest you. However, members of the Committee on Applied Statisticians think the following offerings will benefit statisticians at the master's level.

Topic-Contributed Panel

Strategic Career Planning for the Academic Statistical Scientist: Another Kind of 'Survival Analysis'

August 1, 10:30 a.m., CC-Room 31A

Panelists: *Shari Messinger, Motomi Mori, Ralph O'Brien, and James Grady*

Many MS and PhD biostatisticians are recruited by academic institutions to be involved primarily in consulting and collaborating. They become instrumental in enhancing the ability of various research teams to write successful grant proposals and produce excellent publications that will have a strong effect in science and/or on public policy. Yet, while

such statistical scientists are greatly valued by their collaborators and institutions, all of them—even the very best—face the same question: What about my career development? The effective leader of a biostatistics unit in academia faces the same question, but from a different perspective: Given the limited resources I have today, how do I best promote such career development so that my whole unit thrives? This panel and discussion will focus on how collaborating biostatisticians can survive and thrive in academia today. The panel members cover two perspectives, that of the individual biostatistician and that of the leader of the biostatistics unit. Issues to be addressed include expectations of both the institution and the individual, documentation of collaborative success, and criteria for promotion and tenure.

Topic-Contributed Session

Simulations to Aid Novel Clinical Trials Designs and Analyses

July 31, 2:00 p.m., HQ-Sapphire B
Speakers: *Devan Mehrotra, James Bolognese, Elizabeth Krachey, and Neal Thomas*

The area of clinical trial simulation has evolved over the past decade, and its utility is rising as the need to make drug development more efficient and informative is ever increasing. It is well recognized by researchers and regulators that trial planning can be improved by using quantitative models in clinical trial simulations that incorporate available information from different aspects of drug development such as drug exposure-response, placebo effects, and disease progression. Clinical trial simulations offer an attractive tool in making decisions to improve the probability of success at the end of the trial. The goal of this session is to discuss current practices and application of clinical trial simulation for informing decisions during drug development and regulatory review. Experts in this area will discuss how clinical trial simulations are being applied in various therapeutic areas and provide case studies (both successful and not so successful) based on their experiences.

Topic-Contributed Panel

The Human Side of Statistical Engineering

July 30, 2:00 p.m., HQ-Sapphire D
Panelists: *Erin Tannenbaum, Doug Zahn, Ronald Snee, and Christine Anderson-Cook*

We believe statistical engineering will help statistics grow to serve our data-dependent society better. This growth could be stimulated if statisticians develop a deeper understanding of the applications they work on and improve their interactions with others. This session will be of value to statisticians in all areas and students. Speakers will address situations in which they have encountered nontechnical barriers to effective problemsolving. They will examine how these barriers occur, why they are powerful, and how to overcome them effectively. Examples of barriers may include group dynamics, grasping client's ground rules,

recovering from mistakes, identifying how clients will use results in the future, dealing with naysayers, providing or receiving advice, and solutions that require a fundamental change to one of the participants' job description. Statistical engineering is still in its formative stages. Now is the time to include the human side of statistical engineering in the curriculum so the practitioner will have a complete set of tools to succeed and overcome technical and nontechnical barriers.

Invited Session

Challenges and Opportunities in Remote Statistical Consulting

July 30, 10:30 a.m., CC-Room 29D
Speakers: *Christy Chuang-Stein, Mary Batcher, Jim Rutherford, and George Milliken*

The statistical discipline is growing in many ways, not the least of which is geographically. As our world becomes more global and virtual, we often consult with clients geographically removed from

Biopharmaceutical Applied Statistics Symposium

The 19th annual biopharmaceutical applied statistics symposium, BASS XIX, will be held November 5–9 at the Mulberry Inn Suites in historic Savannah, Georgia. At least 16 one-hour tutorials on diverse topics pertinent to the research, clinical development, and regulation of pharmaceuticals will be presented from November 5–7 by speakers from academia, the pharmaceutical industry, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Four parallel two-day short courses will be presented November 7–9. Highlights of the symposium include the keynote address and reception on November 5 and the FDA biometrics session on November 7.

BASS is a nonprofit entity, sponsored by the department of biostatistics at Virginia Commonwealth University and the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health at Georgia Southern University. Its purpose is to raise funds for graduate fellowships in biostatistics.

Registration is now open at www.bassconference.org.

For more information, contact Karl Peace at bassxix2012@gmail.com or peacekarl@frontier.com.

Any statistician who consults, or is thinking about consulting ... will benefit from the experiences shared in this session.

us, sometimes with people we have never met face-to-face. This type of relationship introduces challenges beyond those of traditional consulting, yet it allows the statistical consultant to grow our discipline in ways not previously possible. We will explore these challenges and propose solutions based on the experiences of senior statistical consultants. They will share their stories and recommendations from various industries and diverse consulting relationships, covering such topics as the changing world of work that makes remote statistical consulting possible and necessary; the soft side of consulting, which is more difficult to do successfully when remote; tools and techniques for communication and collaboration; processes and procedures for new aspects of consulting, such as travel; and new aspects of traditional consulting, such as contracts. Any statistician who consults, or is thinking about consulting, with distant clients will benefit from the experiences shared in this session.

Roundtable Luncheon

Minding the Gap

July 31, 12:30 p.m.

Discussion leaders: *Barbara Hanusa* and *Marlene Egger*

Critical roles for many applied statisticians are translating statistical methods and appropriate research designs into something nonstatisticians can use (and tolerate) and translating the concerns content area specialists have into something statisticians who focus on evolving methods and theory can expand. It is these statisticians who effectively increase the quality of the research in many content areas, but often are outside the box when it comes to recognition of their work in statistical or content areas. This roundtable is designed to bring this group of statisticians together to identify ways the ASA might support and recognize them and increase their presence within the ASA.

View your JSM online program at www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012/onlineprogram for many more interesting sessions. See you at JSM 2012 in San Diego! ■

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What Is a Transportation Statistician?

Li Leung, Survey Statistician, Bureau of Transportation Statistics



Have you ever heard that it is safer to fly than to drive? That factoid—based on data and statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and National Transportation Safety Board—is provided to you by a transportation statistician.

The wonderful thing about transportation is that it touches almost everything we do—how we get to work, how goods get to market, and how we travel for fun. A lot of information is collected for some of the transportation modes, such as aviation, highway, marine, mass transit, pipeline, and rail. Other modes are inspiring transportation statisticians to think of new ways to measure movement such as using smart phones to measure pedestrian activity or GPS devices to track bicycle trips.

A transportation statistician can be involved in devising new ways to capture information and may use some of the data available to measure or project safety risks and fatalities, improve logistics for freight delivery, or help develop plans and policies that can change the way the world moves. Let's highlight four professionals who apply their statistical skills to transportation.



Linda Ng Boyle is an associate professor at the University of Washington. She directs the Human Factors and Statistical Modeling Laboratory (www.depts.washington.edu/hfsm),

which emphasizes the use of appropriate analytical tools to solve problems related to human factors and transportation.

Linda and her researchers examine the influence of driver behavior on crashes, injuries, and other unsafe events. This research relies heavily on statistics to quantify the complex nature of drivers. Driver behavior data can be collected in near real-time, retrospectively, in controlled laboratory settings, and longitudinally. The combination of data sources provides a comprehensive picture of issues related to driver safety, but requires appropriate statistical techniques to assimilate different sources.

“Some of my current projects include quantifying the impacts of distractions, fatigue, and high workload on teenage drivers, commercial drivers, or those with cognitive impairments,” explained Linda. She says that differences in drivers include many factors and systems designed for safety, but which may have unintended consequences with prolonged use. Statistics provide the opportunity to examine these factors and provide insights for automobile designers, policymakers, and education.

Looking into the future, Linda sees that data collected on a more connected environment with the driver, vehicle, and road—often called vehicle infrastructure integration—would provide statisticians with data sets that can help home in on unsafe driving situations. Some of the challenges include the exponential explosion in the data available, which could make correlations and trends more obvious. However, this fine-grained data may be quite noisy and require new tools for data abstraction to avoid misleading outcomes.



William C. Davie Jr. is the assistant division chief for research and methodology for the Service Sector Statistics Division at the U.S. Census Bureau. He

has worked at the Census Bureau for nearly 20 years and on several surveys related to transportation industries such as the Service Annual Survey (SAS), Quarterly Services Survey (QSS), and Commodity Flow Survey (CFS).

The SAS and QSS provide national estimates of revenue and expenses for many service industries, including transportation of passengers and cargo, warehousing and storage of goods, scenic and sight-seeing transportation, and support activities such as freight transportation arrangement. The CFS, conducted every five years as part of the economic census and in partnership with the Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics, measures the value and weight of shipments by manufacturing, mining, wholesale, select retail and

service, and auxiliary establishments by mode, commodity, origin, and destination at the national and subnational geographic levels.

To conduct these surveys, statistics are used to design and select representative samples; determine methods to edit data and adjust for nonresponse; develop weighting, estimation, and variance estimation methods; apply disclosure avoidance techniques; and ensure data products meet Census Bureau quality standards. Each survey presents different statistical problems.

Bill said, “I like my job because there is always something new to explore, whether it is to expand the SAS and QSS to include more industries or developing and testing the use of Internet response for the 2012 CFS. The mathematical statistician at the Census Bureau must continue to research new ways of collecting, processing, and disseminating the survey results as the demand increases for more detailed, timely, and useful measures of the transportation industry.”



Tanya Rodríguez is an analyst at Abt SRBI's Transportation and Regional Planning Practice. She recently completed a master's degree in urban

planning; now her job marries this field with survey research. She has been responsible for numerous transportation projects, including customer satisfaction, service evaluations, household travel diaries, and commercial trucking practices. These studies involve sampling and inferential/multivariate statistics. For example, on a commuter rail customer satisfaction survey, she implemented the sampling strategy to selected trains/cars to yield a representative sample of passengers. She also prepared the final report that, along with other data, was used to determine resource allocation for future capital improvements. These types of reports use a variety of inferential and multivariate techniques.

Tanya has always wanted to work in the public realm and contribute to policy decisions that improve communities and urban life. This job has given her the opportunity to do just that. She enjoys interacting with transit and other government agencies on understanding the needs of different transportation markets. She is particularly interested in making sure under-represented populations are not misrepresented or completely omitted in policy decisions.

Tanya said, “The survey industry is changing rapidly—we are working with computers, smartphones, and GPS units to collect public opinion and travel data. Twenty and 30 years from now, transportation surveys will be using even more unique and innovative ways of using less financial capital while still ‘getting the job done’ without sacrificing quality.” She is looking forward to exploring new survey methods that incorporate nonobtrusive digital measurement and the traditional survey approach using personal interviews that rely on recall.



Tom Krenzke is an associate director in the statistical group at Westat. He has developed expertise in methods for statistical

disclosure control (SDC)—an important and evolving area—through applications involving transportation data. In a highly collaborative effort that included transportation planners and U.S. Census Bureau staff, Tom led tasks to apply SDC treatments to American Community Survey (ACS) data to reduce disclosure risk to a level that met standards for disseminating the Census Transportation Planning Products while limiting the effect on data utility. The SDC approaches maximize the amount of data to be released to the public. Tom likes to work on transportation data to help ensure quality data is released and found it rewarding to work collaboratively with several teams.



Tom sees the amount of transportation data escalating through automated data collection approaches and the use of GPS devices for transportation studies. With so much data, he believes “graphical data analyses, which provide a clear and concise message, are going to be important tools for the statistician in the near future.” However, statistical standards for accounting for propagated error in the reporting of precision estimates (i.e., the margin of error) will be necessary.

Another area for the near future is the development and maintenance of centralized online research data centers that allow transportation data to remain safe from disclosure concerns while research statisticians explore them as they relate to our health and our need to strive for new efficient use of energy.

Being a transportation statistician offers opportunities to promote many people’s lifestyles and movement of goods and services, thus playing an indirect, but key, role in society. Statistics on all aspects of transportation are important, as they are used to help determine how to allocate funds to improve the roads, bridges, waterways, railways, and airports used around the clock to transport people and goods throughout the United States. Both transportation and statistics are interdisciplinary; hence they intertwine with urban planning, economics, business, engineering, computer science, politics, and research. There are opportunities in the private and public sector, as well as in academia.

Linda, Bill, Tanya, and Tom have careers that mix various disciplines. A career as a transportation statistician can be rewarding, with challenges that incorporate new policy objectives, foster new discoveries, and generate new knowledge extension. The transportation statistician provides reliable data-driven information to decisionmakers and can make a difference in improving our world. ■

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7/12

International Conference on Methods for Surveying and Enumerating Hard-to-Reach Populations

October 31–November 3, 2012 • New Orleans Marriott at the Convention Center, New Orleans, LA
www.amstat.org/meetings/h2r/2012

INSTRUCTIONS

1) Print or type all information and retain a copy for your records. 2) Use a separate form for each registrant. 3) Mail form with payment to H2R 2012 Registration, 732 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 or fax form (credit card payment only) to (703) 684-2037. 4) Registration form must be received by August 15, 2012 to be processed at the early bird rate. **Forms received without payment will not be processed.**

Purchase orders will not be accepted. ASA Federal ID #53-0204661.

MEETING REGISTRATION FEES

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Meeting Registration	<input type="checkbox"/> \$495	<input type="checkbox"/> \$625	\$ _____
Lunch and the Thursday evening reception are included with your registration; however, you must indicate here if you wish to attend.			
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Wednesday, October 31			
SC1 – Social Media Research Methods	<input type="checkbox"/> \$180	<input type="checkbox"/> \$210	\$ _____
SC2 – Designing and Developing Instruments Across Cultures and Languages	<input type="checkbox"/> \$180	<input type="checkbox"/> \$210	\$ _____
Saturday, November 3			
SC3 – Respondent-Driven Sampling	<input type="checkbox"/> \$180	<input type="checkbox"/> \$210	\$ _____

Guests (includes Thursday Opening Reception only)

	Number of Guests		
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Saturday Lunch*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	_____	\$ _____
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JSM 2013 Invited Session Proposals Sought

Bhramar Mukherjee, 2013 JSM Program Chair



Palais des congrès de Montréal

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The 2013 Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) will take place in Montréal, Québec, Canada, and the program committee is soliciting proposals for invited sessions, a highlight of the program featuring cutting-edge work and attracting sizeable crowds. Most invited sessions originate from proposals put together by members of the sponsoring societies—that includes you!

The theme for JSM 2013 is “Celebrating the International Year of Statistics.” Leading statistical societies have joined forces to declare 2013 the International Year of Statistics (<http://statistics2013.org>) to promote the importance of our discipline to the broader scientific community, business and government data users, media, policymakers, employers, students, and the general public. As the largest gathering of statisticians in the world, JSM embodies the spirit of the International Year, showcasing both fundamental contributions of statistical research and applications of statistics. The theme emphasizes the unique opportunity presented by the JSM program to highlight the power and impact of statistics on all aspects of science and society worldwide.

The sessions can be posters, panel discussions, or talks. An invited paper session consists of two to six people, including speakers and discussants. For

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an invited panel, the session consists of three to six people who provide commentary, discussion, and engaging debate on a particular topic. An invited poster session typically consists of 10 to 12 participants whose work addresses a common theme; these sessions give presenters an opportunity for extended one-on-one discussion of their work and have been great community-builders.

The ideal invited session is about fresh, important work that many JSM attendees will find interesting. Many of the most stimulating sessions discuss divergent views on a topic, with speakers coming from different institutions and taking different approaches toward similar problems.

To organize a session, you should first set a theme of broad interest and choose the participants. Once these are arranged, you should write a proposal consisting of the title, a brief abstract/



Mukherjee

rationale for the session as a whole, the list of participants, and tentative titles of talks. (With JSM a year off, it is expected that some titles may change.) When planning an invited session, please note that JSM continues to have strict rules for participation, which can be viewed at www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2013/guidelines.cfm. Talk to potential speakers to ensure they are not committing to more than one invited proposal.

With your proposal written, you need to contact a member of the 2013 JSM Program Committee, www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2013/program.cfm, to see if they are willing to sponsor the session. They

may accept the session outright for one of their allocated slots, or they may enter it into a competition in which selection is decided by a vote of the entire program committee.

The program committee includes the program chairs for the ASA sections and representatives of the partner societies: International Biometric Society (ENAR and WNAR), Institute of Mathematical Statistics, Statistical Society of Canada, International Chinese Statistical Association, International Indian Statistical Association, Korean Statistical Society, and International Society for Bayesian Analysis. ASA committees and outside organizations also may sponsor invited sessions. A complete list can be found at www.amstat.org/committees/committeelist.cfm.

If you have ideas that don't fit these sponsors, you may approach the general methodology chairs or send your proposals to me at bhramar@umich.edu. Although I have little discretion to accept a session, I can discuss your proposal with program committee members and try to locate a place for it in the JSM program. If you don't find success with your proposal, you can convert it to a topic-contributed session or try again in the future, as there are always more sessions proposed than can fit into the program.

I am especially looking for ideas for introductory overview lectures on topics of interest to a large number of JSM attendees. If you have an idea for such a session, want to organize one, or have suggestions for speakers, please send them to me. The invited session proposals can be submitted online at www.amstat.org/jsm/2013/invitedprogram.cfm from July 19 to September 6.

A particular highlight of recent JSMs has been the high quality and visibility of the poster sessions, where presenters have an opportunity for more extended one-on-one discussion of their work. Poster sessions come in two flavors—contributed and invited. Ideas for invited poster sessions should be sent to Joyee Ghosh (joyee-ghosh@uiowa.edu). Again for 2013, invited poster presenters will have the option to present electronic posters on monitors, rather than the traditional poster board. This new format of presenting posters has been popular at various ASA conferences this year, and we look forward to increased participation at JSM 2013.

I appreciate the participation and effort from the worldwide statistical community in putting together a diverse and engaging invited session program for JSM 2013. Thank you in advance! ■

H2R|2012

Survey Methods for Hard to Reach Populations

Registration Open for H2R 2012

2012 International Conference on Methods for Surveying and Enumerating Hard-to-Reach Populations

The H2R 2012 conference will bring together survey methodologists, sociologists, statisticians, demographers, ethnographers, and other professionals from around the world to present new and innovative techniques for surveying hard-to-reach populations. Included are the following short courses:

October 31, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Short Course 1: Social Media Research Methods

Short Course 2: Designing and Developing Instruments Across Cultures and Languages

November 3, 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Short Course 3: Respondent-Driven Sampling

All take place at the New Orleans Downtown Marriott at the Convention Center.

See Page 27 in this issue for the H2R registration form or visit www.amstat.org/meetings/h2r/2012.

North Carolina State University Inducts 27 into Mu Sigma Rho



Alpha Chapter of Mu Sigma Rho, North Carolina State University

The alpha chapter of Mu Sigma Rho at North Carolina State University inducted 27 new members on March 27. While the five undergraduate and 22 graduate students didn't make up as large a group as the 18 undergrads and 23 graduate students in 2011, the quality of their records was stellar. They joined a list of about 600 new inductees at NCSU since 1993. The NCSU chapter was established in 1985.

Students and faculty enjoyed a dinner buffet and talk by Stan Young, assistant director of bio-informatics at the National Institute of Statistical Sciences, titled "Voodoo Statistics, Trust Me Science: A Systems Problem." Young presented evidence of a false discovery rate for observational studies of $> 95\%$. He described the current observational studies study paradigm as "no correction for multiple testing and no sharing of data sets" (i.e., "voodoo statistics" and "trust me science"). He also referred to the following two points made by W. Edwards Deming:

1. A system that is out of control is not the fault of the workers; it is the fault of the managers that designed the system.

2. It is the responsibility of managers to fix the system.

Young asserted that researchers analyzing observational studies are responding to current incentives, publications, and grants and said managers, funding agencies, and journal editors need to redesign the system.

The new Mu Sigma Rho lapel pins provided by the National Mu Sigma Rho president, George McCabe, were a hit. Roger Woodard, director of undergraduate programs; John Monahan, co-director of graduate programs; and Charlie Smith, faculty advisor for Mu Sigma Rho, passed out the pins and certificates. ■

Read about your colleagues and friends in the news. Go to www.amstat.org and click on "Statisticians in the News."

Chapters Team to Award Science Fair Projects in Michigan



From left: Chapter members Bob Peterson, education committee co-chair, Detroit Chapter; Lance Heilbrun, chapter representative, Detroit Chapter; Anamaria Kazanis, president and chapter representative, Ann Arbor Chapter; George Divine, past president, Detroit Chapter; Kathy Peterson, education committee co-chair, Detroit Chapter; Karry Roberts, secretary, Detroit Chapter; John Gillespie, Ann Arbor Chapter; Huiyong (Thomas) Zheng, Ann Arbor Chapter; Rob Kushler, treasurer, Detroit Chapter

Continuing a two-decades-long tradition as a joint special awards team at the Southeast Michigan Science Fair, nine members of the Detroit and Ann Arbor ASA chapters judged projects on March 9. The team gave out three levels of special awards for projects exhibiting varying levels of use of statistics: certificates of recognition, certificates of merit, and awards of excellence.

Initially, judges individually reviewed the 203 middle-school projects and the 176 high-school projects on display at the fair and gave out recognition and merit

certificates. From these reviews, a select few projects were nominated by individual judges for further consideration by the entire panel. By consensus decisions about the nominated projects, the awards team chose which would be given the awards of excellence. This year, four projects received awards of excellence, each with a certificate and a statistical book.

At the high-school level, excellence awards went to a Hillsdale Academy student for “The Effects of the Hormone Mimics Zeranol and Bisphenol A on the Rate of Flatworm

Regeneration” and an H & M Skyline student for a project on lung capacity.

Excellence awards at the middle-school level went to a student from St. Francis of Assisi for “How Does Changing the Launch Angle and the Pull-Back Angle on a Ping Pong Catapult Affect How Far the Ping Pong Ball Travels?” and a South Arbor Charter student for “Strong Cookies.”

The team also gave out 65 certificates of recognition and four certificates of merit for use of statistics among the 379 projects on display. ■

Chris Barker, president of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the American Statistical Association is now an adjunct associate professor of biostatistics at his alma mater, the University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health.

The Washington Statistical Society (WSS) and RTI International recently announced that **Amy Herring**, associate professor in the department of biostatistics at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was chosen as this year's recipient of the Gertrude M. Cox Award.

Since earning her ScD in statistics from Harvard University in 2000, Herring has made many contributions to biostatistical analysis, specifically in the use of Bayesian methods to shed light on health issues such as the relationship between prenatal indicators and birth outcomes. She accepted the award at the WSS annual dinner meeting on June 5 and gave the keynote address, "Beyond Age at First Sex: Modeling Patterns of Emerging Sexual Behavior in Adolescents and Young Adults."

Established in 2003 through a joint agreement between WSS and RTI, the award recognizes statisticians in early to mid-career who have made significant contributions to statistical practice. It consists of a \$1,000 honorarium, travel expenses to attend the WSS dinner, and a commemorative plaque.

The award is in memory of Gertrude M. Cox (1900–1978), who played a key role in establishing mathematical statistics and biostatistics departments at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a statistical division at RTI. She also served as president of the ASA in 1957.

The department of biostatistics in the Harvard School of Public Health named **Rafael Irizarry** the 2012 Myrto Lefkopoulou Distinguished Lecturer. Irizarry, a professor at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, will present a lecture on September 13 at the Harvard School of Public Health.

The lectureship was established in perpetuity in memory of Myrto Lefkopoulou, a faculty member and graduate of Harvard School of Public Health. Lefkopoulou died of cancer in 1992 after a courageous two-year battle.

Each year, the lectureship is awarded to a promising statistician who has made contributions to either collaborative or methodologic research in the applications of statistical

methods to biology or medicine and/or has shown excellence in the teaching of biostatistics. Ordinarily, the lectureship is given to a statistician within 15 years of earning a doctorate.

Previous recipients of the lectureship have been Geert Molenberghs, Mark van der Laan, Jianqing Fan, Francesca Dominici, Heping Zhang, Xihong Lin, David Dunson, and Jeffrey Morris.

Nominations for next year's lectureship are welcome and should be sent to the Myrto Lefkopoulou Lecture Committee, Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health, 655 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115. Nominations should include a letter of nomination and a CV. The nomination deadline is March 31, 2013.

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Obituaries

David Binder



David Binder, a Fellow of the ASA, passed away June 3, 2012, at the age of 62.

Binder earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics at the University of Toronto and started his career at Statistics Canada. He earned his PhD at Imperial College, London, and taught full time at the University of Ottawa until 1981.

Binder was a past president of the Statistical Society of Canada and also served as its executive director.

Devoted to his career, he served as chair of the Statistical Society of Ottawa, chair of the Survey Research Methods Section of the ASA, and scientific secretary and vice president for the International Association of Survey Statisticians.

He was co-editor of the Wiley monograph on business survey methods and a keynote speaker at the IASS/IAOS Satellite Meeting on Longitudinal Studies.

To read a full memorial, visit the Statistical Society of Canada's website at http://www.ssc.ca/about/david_binder_1949_2012. ■

Margaret Martin



Margaret Martin, both an economist and statistician by professional and academic training, passed away in May, a week after she celebrated her 100th birthday.

In 1933, Martin graduated from Barnard College with a bachelor's degree in economics. She earned her master's and PhD degrees in economics from Columbia University.

In late 1942, Martin was recommended for a position at the U.S. Bureau of Budget's (now the Office of Management and Budget) Division of Statistical Standards (DSS) (now the Office of Statistical Policy). At DSS, she was responsible for the improvement and coordination of statistics and the review and approval of forms. After accepting the position, Martin moved from Albany, New York, to Washington, DC, and began her career with the federal government.

During her years of service, Martin was involved in the early development of the Current Population Survey, and in 1961, she was assigned to the President's Committee to Appraise Employment and Unemployment Statistics—to review the statistics, define what the problems were, and make a public report. In 1962, a full report was delivered

to John F. Kennedy, and six years later, she received the Director's Exceptional Service Award, Bureau of the Budget, for her efforts.

After 30 years of service, Martin retired from the Office of Management and Budget and was honored by the heads of numerous agencies for her long-term and significant contributions to data-collection systems concerning labor and income statistics.

In addition to her career responsibilities, Martin volunteered her time to several ASA posts. She was a Fellow of the ASA and president of the Washington Chapter in 1957 and 1958 and served as the 75th president of the ASA in 1980. Martin was also a co-chair of the ASA Building and Development Fund campaign, which helped raise enough money to purchase the first ASA headquarters building in Alexandria, Virginia. She also helped develop a manual of policies and procedures—pulling together the constitution; bylaws; and various recommendations, policies, and actions the board had taken over the preceding 20 years—to hand to new ASA officers each year. In 1989, she received the first-ever Founders Award.

To read more about Martin's life, visit the *Amstat News* website at <http://magazine.amstat.org/blog/2011/09/01/margaretmartin>. ■

Patricia Ramsey

Patricia Ramsey, professor of management systems in the school of business at Fordham University, passed away on April 27. Read more about Ramsey's life at www.fordham.edu/Campus_Resources/newsroom/topstories_2100.asp. ■

sectionnews

Biometrics

The Biometrics Section will hold its annual business meeting and mixer and announce the winners of several section awards at this year's Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) in San Diego, California, on July 30 from 5:30 p.m. –7:00 p.m. The meeting is open to everyone.

The section also is sponsoring four Continuing Education courses and six invited sessions. Following is a list of sponsored courses:

- Smoothing Splines: Methods and Applications, taught by Yuecong Wang
- Statistical Methods for Genome-Wide Association, Copy Number Variants, and Rare Variants Analysis, taught by Hongzhe Li and Wei Pan
- Statistics Analysis with Missing Data, taught by Rod Little and Trivellore Raghunath
- Design and Analysis of Biomarker Studies for Risk Prediction, taught by Tianxi Cai and Yingye Zheng

Invited sessions include the following:

- Recent Methodology Developed for the Design of Early-Phase Clinical Trials
- Statistical Challenges and Innovative Solutions for Correlated Data
- Statistical Methods for High-Dimensional, Complex-Structured Object Data
- Biomarkers for Risk Prediction, Disease Detection, and Treatment Effect Estimation: Statistical Issues
- Shrinkage Estimation: Unifying Different Perspectives
- New Methodological Advances in Network-Based Analysis of Omics Data

Check the online program at www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012/index.cfm for updates on locations and times.

The section also is preparing for next year's JSM in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, from August 3–8. Anyone interested in organizing an invited session or who has ideas for one should contact the 2013 program chair, Wei Sun, at wsun@bios.unc.edu. Also, submit ideas for short courses to our 2013–2014 Continuing Education chair, Donglin Zeng, at dzeng@email.unc.edu.

For detailed section news, visit <http://magazine.amstat.org/?cat=17>.

Physical and Engineering Sciences

The Section on Physical and Engineering Sciences will be busy in the coming months with several sponsored courses and one conference.

On July 31, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., the section will host a one-day short course at JSM in San Diego, California. The course, “Generalized Additive Models and Their Extensions: The Penalized Regression Spline,” is designed for statisticians and experimenters who need methods for analyzing generalized additive models as a tool to analyze a variety of complex models. It will be taught by Simon N. Wood of the University of Bath, UK.

Participants should bring a laptop with the latest version of R installed. The course material will be based on the book *Generalized Additive Models: An Introduction with R*, by S. N. Wood.

The section is also sponsoring a course in conjunction with this year's Fall Technical Conference. The course, “Optimal Design of Experiments: A Case Study Approach,” will be presented by Peter Goos and Bradley Jones on October 3 in St. Louis, Missouri. The fee is \$300 and includes coffee breaks and lunch. Registration is limited.

The 56th Annual Fall Technical Conference will be held October 4–5 at the Millennium Hotel in downtown St. Louis. The goal of the conference is to engage researchers and practitioners in a dialogue that leads to more effective use of statistics to improve quality. Program, short course, registration, and accommodation details can be found at <http://cba.ua.edu/ftc2012>.

Statistical Computing and Statistical Graphics

The Statistical Computing and Statistical Graphics sections will sponsor two Continuing Education (CE) courses during JSM 2012 in San Diego, California. The first, taught by Thomas Lumley, focuses on the analysis of data from complex surveys using R. The second, taught by Hadley Wickham and Jay Emerson, provides an introduction to data visualization and analysis with R.

More information on these courses will be available at <http://stat-computing.org/>.

In addition to these CE courses, the sections are sponsoring several invited sessions and roundtables. View the JSM 2012 online program or register for a course. <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012>

As usual, the annual business meeting and reception will take place on July 30 at 7:30 p.m. The sections also welcome ideas for JSM 2013 invited sessions. Anyone interested in organizing a session or who has ideas for one should contact Jay Emerson (john.emerson@yale.edu) or Kary Myers (karymyers@gmail.com).

Statistics and the Environment

Jun Zhu, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The Section on Statistics and the Environment (ENVR) will offer two short courses, three roundtables, five invited sessions, 10 contributed sessions, 12 topic-contributed sessions, and a dozen co-sponsored sessions at JSM 2012 in San Diego, California. The two short courses are “Introduction to Analysis of Extremes: Univariate and Multivariate Cases,” to be taught by Dan Cooley from Colorado State University, and “Statistical Methodologies for Exposure Data Analysis,” to be co-taught by Thomas Mathew of the University of Maryland and K. Krishnamoorthy of the University of Louisiana.

Also at JSM, the section’s annual open business meeting/mixer is tentatively scheduled for July 30. This year’s distinguished achievement medals, young investigator awards, JSM student paper awards, and JSM presentation award will be presented

Read the remainder of the chair’s notes and “Meet ENVR Members” at <http://magazine.amstat.org/blog/category/membernews/amstatsections>.

Statistics in Epidemiology

The Statistics in Epidemiology (SIE) Section will serve as primary sponsor of five invited sessions, seven topic-contributed sessions, seven contributed sessions, four roundtable discussions, and one short course at the 2012 Joint Statistical Meetings in San Diego, California.

Members and other interested persons are encouraged to attend these sessions and the SIE Awards Reception, where we will present the young investigator awards. Following are the JSM events the section has scheduled:

SIE Awards Reception: Presentation of Young Investigator Awards at JSM 2012

July 31, 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Invited Sessions

Innovations in Latent Variable Modeling with Epidemiological Applications

July 29, 4:00 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.

Advances in Causal Inference with Complex Data

July 30, 2:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

Do Psychotropic Drugs Cause Suicide? Propensity Score Matching Strategies

July 31, 8:30 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.

New Developments in Mediation Analysis

August 1, 10:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Challenges in the Evaluation of Emerging Infectious Diseases

August 2, 10:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Topic-Contributed Sessions

Latent Variable Models In Epidemiology Studies

July 29, 2:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

Organized by Tanzy Love, University of Rochester

New Developments in Neuroscience and Neuroepidemiology Statistics

July 30, 8:30 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.

Organized by Xi Luo, Brown University

Methods Advancement in Complex Association Analysis

July 30, 10:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Organized by Jung-Ying Tzeng, North Carolina State University

Recent Developments in Causal Inference with Longitudinal Data

July 31, 10:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.

Organized by Jessica G. Young

Methods for Improving Causal Analysis in Observational Studies

July 31, 2:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

Organized by Mike Baiocchi, Stanford University

Recent Advances in Spatial Modeling for Epidemiology and Health

August 2, 8:30 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.

Organized by Sarat C. Dass, Michigan State University

Analysis of Complex Survey Data in Epidemiology

August 1, 2:00 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.

Organized by Babette A. Brumback

Contributed Sessions

Applications to Cancer

Infectious Diseases Methodology and Applications

Causal Inference, Case Control, and Case Cohort Studies

Survival Analysis

Longitudinal Data Methodology and Applications

Epidemiologic Applications Involving Children

Women’s Health and Smoking

To view section news in its entirety, visit <http://magazine.amstat.org>.

Roundtable Discussions

Educational Epidemiology and Statistical Modeling: Who Is Involved, and Who Really Should Be?

July 30, 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.

Madhu Mazumdar, Weill Medical College of Cornell University

Dynamic Treatment Regime Development

July 30, 12:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.

Susan Murphy, University of Michigan

Challenges and Opportunities in Next-Generation Genetic Epidemiologic Studies

July 30, 12:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m., Nilanjan

Chatterjee, National Cancer Institute

Gerontologic Biostatistics: Merging Aging Research and Analytic Methods

July 30, 7:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.

Heather Allore, Yale University

Short Course

Propensity Score Matching in R

July 30, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Instructor: Ben Hansen, University of Michigan

For details and more information about JSM 2012, visit www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012.

Members of the section are also gearing up for next year's JSM in Montréal, Québec, Canada, from August 3–8. Invited session proposals are being accepted. Please send your ideas to the 2013 JSM program chair, Jing Cheng, at jing.cheng@ucsf.edu.

Finally, the section congratulates its newly elected officers: John Neuhaus of the University of California, San Francisco, chair-elect; Madhu Mazumdar of Weill Cornell Medical College, program chair for the JSM 2014; and Susan Shortreed of Group Health Research Institute, secretary/treasurer.

Survey Research Methods

This year's SRMS annual business meeting will be held at the Joint Statistical Meetings in San Diego, California, at 6:00 p.m. on August 1. The meeting will be held in Room L of the Sapphire Ballroom in the Hilton Bayfront Hotel; all SRMS members are encouraged to attend.

While the details of the agenda are being developed, the meeting is shaping up to be one you will not want to miss. For those of you who have attended past SRMS business meetings, you should expect the same jolly good time you have experienced in the past. For those first-time SRMS business meeting attendees, here are some topics you can expect to be included on the agenda:

- Introduction of current and incoming officers

- Update on current SRMS activities
- Announcement of student paper and student travel award winners
- Updates from SRMS officers including the treasurer, publications officer, and education officer
- Overview of SRMS involvement at the 2012 JSM including the sponsored sessions, roundtables, and Continuing Education courses
- Preliminary discussions of JSM 2013 plans
- Updates and requests for input from the Council of Sections representatives
- New business

In addition, beverages and light refreshments will be provided. Questions about the SRMS annual business meeting may be directed to SRMS Chair, John Czajka, at JCzajka@Mathematica-Mpr.com.

chapternews

Kansas-Western Missouri

The ASA's Kansas-Western Missouri Chapter recently cooperated with area universities to induct 35 students into Mu Sigma Rho, the national honor society for statistics.

Any group of statisticians at a nonacademic institution or comprising a chapter or section of a statistical society may apply to be an affiliate chapter of Mu Sigma Rho. Since most of the universities in the Kansas-Western Missouri Chapter's area do not have enough students to establish their own chapters and all ASA chapters are automatically affiliate chapters, the Kansas-Western Missouri Chapter asked universities in the area to appoint a faculty member to serve on a nominating committee, which then selected eligible students for society membership.

Visit the ASA's Kansas-Western Missouri Chapter website at <http://community.amstat.org/KWMChapter/AboutUs/MuSigmaRhoHonorSociety> for more information and a list of the 2012 student inductees.

San Francisco Bay Area

AP Statistics teachers at Menlo Atherton High School recently invited several San Francisco Bay Area Chapter members to speak to students about careers in statistics. Chapter volunteers visited the school for the first time in 2011 and were invited back to offer a broader perspective.

To view photos or learn more about the event, visit the chapter website at www.sfasa.org/APreport2012.htm. ■

The following events are the latest additions to the ASA's online calendar of events. Announcements are accepted from education and not-for-profit organizations only. To view the complete list of statistics meetings and workshops, visit www.amstat.org/dateline.

* Indicates events sponsored by the ASA or one of its sections, chapters, or committees

» Indicates events posted since the previous issue

2012

August

5–8—IEEE Statistical Signal Processing Workshop 2012, Ann Arbor, Michigan

For more information, visit www.ssp2012.org or contact Clayton Scott, 1301 Beal Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48109; contact@ssp2012.org.

»5–10—Gordon Research Conference on Science and Technology Policy, Waterville Valley, New Hampshire

For details, visit www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2012&program=scipolicy or contact Susan Cozzens, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA 30332-0345; (404) 385-0397; susan.cozzens@iac.gatech.edu.

»6–8—2012 National Conference on Health Statistics, Washington, DC

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/nchs/events/2012nchs or contact Chally Tate, 3311 Toledo Road, Room 5419, Hyattsville, MD 20782; (301) 458-4351; chally.tate@cdc.hhs.gov.

6–10—Ten Lectures on Statistical Climatology, Seattle, Washington

For more information, visit www.statmos.washington.edu/wp/?p=42 or contact Peter Guttorp, Box 354322, Seattle, WA 98195-4322; peter@stat.washington.edu.

6–17—Summer Program on Computational Advertising, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina

For details, visit www.samsi.info/workshop/computational-advertising-august-6-17-2012 or contact Karem Jackson, 19 T.W. Alexander Drive, RTP, NC 27709; (919) 685-9324; admin@samsi.info.

*19–23—33rd Annual Conference of the International Society for Clinical Biostatistics, Bergen, Norway

For details, visit www.iscb2012.info or contact Inger Lise Ravnanger, Torgalmenning 1a, P.O. Box 947 Sentrum, Bergen, International N-5808, Norway; +47 55553655; mail@kongress.no.

20–22—Measurement, Design, and Analysis Methods for Health Outcomes Research, Boston, Massachusetts

For more information, visit ccpe.sph.harvard.edu/MDA or contact Anabel Cordero, Landmark Center, Park Street, Boston, MA 02115; (617) 384-8692; contedu@hsph.harvard.edu.

26–31—XXVIth International Biometric Conference, Kobe, Japan

For more information, visit www.secretariat.ne.jp/ibc2012 or contact Toshiro Tango, Secretariat of IBC2012 C/O Convention Linkage, Inc., 11F PIAS TOWER 3-19-3 Toyosaki Kita-ku, Osaka, International 531-0072, Japan; tango@medstat.jp.

September

3–7—Summer School ABS12 on Stochastic Modelling for Systems Biology, Pavia, Italy

For details, visit www.mi.imati.cnr.it/conferences/abs12.html or contact Fabrizio Ruggeri, Via Bassini 15, Milano, International 20133, Italy; +39 0223699532; abs12@mi.imati.cnr.it.

9–12—SAMSI: Statistical and Computational Methodology for Massive Data Sets Opening Workshop, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina

For more information, visit www.samsi.info/workshop/program-statistical-and-computational-methodology-massive-datasets-opening-workshop-septemb or contact Karem Jackson, 19 T.W. Alexander Drive, RTP, NC 27709; (919) 685-9324; admin@samsi.info.

9–13—ENBIS-12, Ljubljana, Slovenia

For more information, visit www.enbis.org or contact Irena Ograjensek, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Economics, Kardeljeva pl. 17, Ljubljana, International 1000, Slovenia; +386 1 5892 505; irena.ograjensek@ef.uni-lj.si.

19–21—WCBF's Using Lean Six Sigma to Prevent Avoidable Readmissions, Boston, Massachusetts

For details, visit www.wcbf.com/quality/5112 or contact Selina Mirpuri, 30 S. Wacker Drive, 22nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60606; (800) 959-6549; selina.mirpuri@wcbf.com.

24–27—Structure and Uncertainty, Bristol, United Kingdom

For more information, visit www.sustain.bris.ac.uk/ws-structure or contact Andrieu C, University Walk, Bristol, International BS8 1TW, UK; c.andrieu@bristol.ac.uk.

27—19th Federal Forecasters Conference, Washington, DC

For details, visit <http://ffc2012.eventbrite.com> or contact Jeff Busse, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS987, Reston, VA 20192; (703) 648-4914; jbusse@usgs.gov.

28—Lagakos Alumni Award Lecture, Boston, Massachusetts

For details, visit www.hsph.harvard.edu/departments/biostatistics/announcements/the-lagakos-distinguished-alumni-award-established.html or contact

To view the entire list of statistics meetings and workshops, visit www.amstat.org/dateline.

Shaina Andelman, 655 Huntington Ave., Building 2, 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02115; (617) 432-7449, sandelma@hsph.harvard.edu.

October

*4–5—Fall Technical Conference Student Grants Competition, St. Louis, Missouri

For more information, visit cba.ua.edu/ftc2012 or contact Timothy Robinson, Department of Statistics, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY 82071-3332; (307) 766-5108; tjrobin@uwyo.edu.

*5–7—International Conference on Advances in Interdisciplinary Statistics and Combinatorics, Greensboro, North Carolina

For more information, visit www.uncg.edu/mat/aisc or contact Sat Gupta, 317 College Ave., Petty Building, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Greensboro, NC 27412; (336) 334-6285; sngupta@uncg.edu.

17–19—WCBF's Using Lean Six Sigma to Improve Patient Safety, Miami, Florida

For details, visit www.wcbf.com/quality/5115 or contact Selina Mirpuri, 30 S. Wacker Drive, 22nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60606; (800) 959-6549; selina.mirpuri@wcbf.com.

18–20—Carthage Meeting on Statistics, Hammamet, Tunisia

For more information, visit <http://rsc2012.atistat.com> or contact Hlel Yemen, Institut of Statistic and Information Analysis, Ariana, International 2037, Tunisia; +216 55 313 452; rsc2012@atistat.com.

24–26—World Congress on Engineering and Computer Science 2012, San Francisco, California

For more information, visit www.iaeng.org/WCECS2012 or contact IAENG Secretariat, Unit 1, 1/F, 37-39 Hung To Road, Hong Kong, International HK, Hong Kong; (852) 3169-3427; wcecs@iaeng.org.

*31–11/3—2012 International Conference on Methods for Surveying and Enumerating Hard-to-Reach Populations, New Orleans, Louisiana

For details, visit www.amstat.org/meetings/h2r/2012 or contact Kathleen Wert, 732 N. Washington St., Alexandria, VA 22314; (703) 684-1221; h2r2012@amstat.org.

November

7–9—WCBF's Using Lean to Improve Hospital Bed Management and Patient Flow, Orlando, Florida

For details, visit www.wcbf.com/quality/5114 or contact Selina Mirpuri, 30 S. Wacker Drive, 22nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60606; (800) 959-6549; selina.mirpuri@wcbf.com.

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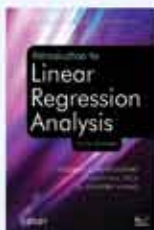
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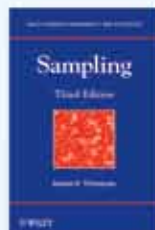


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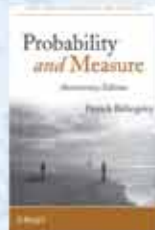


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17—Info-Metrics and Nonparametric Inference, Riverside, California

For details, visit www.american.edu/cas/economics/info-metrics/workshop/workshop-2012-november.cfm or contact Amos Golan, American University, 4400 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Kreeger 104, Washington, DC 20016; (202) 885-3770; info-metrics@american.edu.

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For more information, visit imsct2012.puchd.ac.in or contact Kalpana Mahajan, Department of Statistics, Panjab University, Chandigarh, International 160014, India; 91-172-2541776; stat.puchd@gmail.com.

»21–23—6th International Conference of IMBIC Kolkata, West Bengal, India

For details, visit www.imbic.org/forthcoming.html or contact Avishek Adhikari, AH 317, Salt Lake City, Sector 2, Kolkata, WB, International 700091, India; 00913323598617; msast.paper@gmail.com.

27—Eighth International Triennial Calcutta Symposium on Probability and Statistics, Kolkata, India

For more information, visit <http://triennial.calcuttastatisticalassociation.org> or contact Arindam Sengupta, 35 Ballygunge Circular Road, Department of Statistics, University of Calcutta, Kolkata, International 700019, India; +91-9433590336; caltri8@gmail.com.

2013**January****»2–5—IISA Conference: Statistics, Science, and Society: New Challenges and Opportunities, Chennai, India**

For more information, visit www.iisaconference.info or contact Subrata Kundu, Rome Hall 557, 801 22nd St. NW, Washington, DC 20052; (202) 994-6355; kundu@gwu.edu.

6–10—ISBA Regional Meeting and International Workshop/Conference on Bayesian Theory and Applications (IWCFTA), Varanasi, India

For details, visit www.bhu.ac.in/isba or contact Satyanshu Upadhyay, Department of Statistics, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, International 221005, India; +91-9918922333; iwcfta.sku@gmail.com.

March**»5–7—New Techniques and Technologies for Statistics (NTTS 2013), Brussels, Belgium**

For details, visit www.ntts2013.eu or contact NTTS 2013 Secretariat, Unit B1, Luxembourg, International L-2920, Luxembourg, 00352430138327; ESTAT-NTTS@ec.europa.eu.

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For details, visit www.iaeng.org/IMECS2013/ICDMA2013.html or contact IAENG Secretariat, Unit 1, 1/F, 37-39 Hung To Road, Hong Kong, International HK, Hong Kong; (852) 3169-3427; imecs@iaeng.org.

July**20–25—29th European Meeting of Statisticians (EMS2013), Budapest, Hungary**

For more information, visit www.ems2013.eu or contact Eszter Zsigmond, Szilágyi E. fs. 79., Budapest, International 1026, Hungary; +36 1 212 00 56; Ems2013@congress.hu. ■

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Arkansas

■ Staff Fellow. Division of Bioinformatics and Biostatistics, National Center for Toxicological Research, FDA, seeks PhD biostatisticians to develop statistical methodologies for risk assessment and biological/toxicological data analysis. This position requires a PhD in statistics or equivalent. The selected candidate will be hired with the salary range of \$57,408–\$96,690. Send CV and future research interests to: James J. Chen, Email: James.Chen@fda.hhs.gov. EOE.

Georgia

■ University of Georgia, department of epidemiology and biostatistics, invites applications for assistant professor of biostatistics (tenure track). For details, see www.publichealth.uga.edu/epibio. PhD in biostatistics or statistics is required. Send CV, statements of research interests and

teaching philosophy, academic transcripts, and three reference letters to Stephen Rathbun, 206 B.S. Miller Hall, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-7397. Email: rathbun@uga.edu. Review begins August 15, 2012. UGA is an EO/AA employer.

Massachusetts

■ The University of Massachusetts, Amherst has a research associate/full professor position in biostatistics starting January 2013. Minimum requirements are terminal degree (PhD, DrPH) and strong evidence of independent and collaborative research. Review of applications begins September 1. Send curriculum vitae, research and teaching statements, and three letters to Carol Bigelow, #R41199, 402 Arnold House, 715 North Pleasant St., University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003-9304. cbigelow@schoolph.umass.edu. EOE.

Missouri

■ Department of statistics/division of biological sciences at University of Missouri invites applications for a joint mid-level tenured position in stochastic modeling. We're interested in candidates who use Bayesian approaches to model biological problems. A PhD in statistics/biostatistics is required. Apply online at <http://hrs.missouri.edu/find-a-job/academic>. Include cover letter, vita, statement of research/teaching interests, and contact information for three references. August 27, 2012, deadline. MU is an Equal Opportunity-Affirmative Action Employer.

New York

■ Position available for master's-level biostatistician. The successful applicant will engage in wide variety of collaborative projects with medical investigators and statisticians. Projects involve the design and analysis and publication of clinical, laboratory, or cancer prevention research. Qualifications include a master's degree in biostatistics/statistics, excellent programming skills, proficiency in database manipulation, and good verbal

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North Carolina

■ MS statistician. Honestat, a consulting company in Raleigh, NC, needs one or more MS statisticians, full or part-time, temporary or permanent. Summer appointments are possible. The project involves sophisticated predictive modeling of emissions of pollutants from large animal feeding operations, writing for a lay audience, and presenting to clients. Ability to compute in SAS or R is necessary. Contact AmyNailStat@gmail.com for more information. EOE.

■ PhD statistician. Honestat, a consulting company in Raleigh, NC, needs a PhD-level statistician, full or part-time, temporary or permanent. The project involves sophisticated predictive modeling of emissions of pollutants from large animal feeding operations, writing for a lay audience, and presenting to clients. Ability to compute in SAS or R is necessary. Project planning and management may be needed. Contact AmyNailStat@gmail.com for more information. EOE.

■ Department of biostatistics and bioinformatics at Duke University seeks senior faculty member for director of biostatistics at the Duke Clinical Research Institute to work in partnership with the DCRI director and senior scientific leaders. A PhD or equivalent degree in biostatistics, statistics, or bioinformatics required. Prior clinical trials experience, both government and industry, and relevant management experience required. Application and complete description found at academicjobsonline.org/ajol/jobs/1464. Duke University is an AA/EOE employer.

Director of Educational Research

Healthcare Simulation South Carolina (HCSSC), educational and research collaborative of ten healthcare simulation centers across the state of South Carolina, is seeking a Director of Educational Research. The Director of Educational Research will be responsible for coordinating the research efforts among the collaborative partners to meet the HCSSC overall research mission—to evaluate the impact of healthcare simulation on the efficiency and efficacy of training healthcare students and providers, implementing established healthcare best practices, and improving patient safety. The Director of Educational Research will work with an experienced team of simulation experts in a dynamic environment with secure funding and proven track record of accomplishments.

This position requires an advanced degree (PhD or EdD) and experience in educational research. Candidates should have skills related to educational research design, the development of valid and reliable performance evaluations and surveys, and statistical analysis. A track record of publications related to educational research is preferred. The position will be based on the campus of the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, South Carolina with an academic appointment in the College of Medicine and/or College of Nursing, depending on the expertise of the candidate. The level of education and experience of the candidate will determine academic rank and salary.

Not only does this position offer an exciting opportunity in a growing field of educational research, but also it is located in Charleston, South Carolina, a city that is consistently voted one of the most desirable places in the country. Both the historical downtown and beautiful coastline attract new residents and visitors from all over the world. Interested applicants should apply at www.jobs.musc.edu with a curriculum vita and three professional references. Please reference the job identification number 047659. Please contact Jacqueline Gaines, Administrative Director, at gainesj@muscc.edu with any questions or concerns.

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Healthcare Simulation South Carolina
Harborview Tower, 19 Hagood Avenue, Suite 706
PO Box 250812
Charleston, South Carolina 29425

Ohio

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The IIS team is transforming and growing its statistical team in a way that provides multiple career tracks for those focused on providing industry leading statistical/strategic consultation to drug development teams (Statistical Scientist), and those focused on modern statistical computing (Biometrician).

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Your role

- Determine the strategic statistical direction at Novartis. Openings exist for Early and Full Development Programs.
- Lead and optimize the contribution from drug development scientists by consulting and mentoring with R&D partners.
- Strongly influence the internal and external environment as a thought leader and is a key contributor to strategic long-term decision-making by Novartis Senior Management.
- Ensure innovative designs and analyses are conducted as appropriate and ensures quantitative decision making.

Qualifications

PhD or MS in Statistics and 5+ years in the Pharmaceutical industry. Outstanding knowledge of applied statistics with experience in clinical/medical statistics and its application in clinical trials. Pharmaceutical experience required. Strong communication and consulting skills. Natural modern leadership style building partnerships and creating a collaborative environment.

Biometrician Job ID 90962

Your role

- Provide expert statistical analytic solutions across multiple disease areas at Novartis. Openings exist within Early or Full Development.
- Responsible for statistical analytic support to clinical development programs.
- Lead and drive the IIS statistical analytic contributions to the clinical development program.
- Drive strategic quantitative contributions to regulatory/submission and key drug development decision points.

Qualifications

MS in Statistics with 5+ years relevant work experience. Proven up to date statistical knowledge / applications and expert in analytic aspects. Excellent knowledge of / experience with SAS/R/SPSS or other business or research analytic software. Strong communication skills and a solution oriented, pro-active style.

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Tenured Faculty

Operations Research & Information Engineering – Cornell University

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To ensure full consideration, applications should be received by September 1, 2012, but we will begin reviewing and interviewing candidates before this date and continue until the positions are filled. Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae, brief statements of research and teaching interests, and the names and contact information of at least three references on-line at <https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/1516>.

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in business analytics, statistics, or closely related discipline or dissertation in process (degree completion by December 31, 2013). Prefer: Graduate degree from a business school or business experience; previous success in teaching. Cover letter, CV, evidence of teaching effectiveness/potential to: www.fsb.muohio.edu/employment/BA_AsstProf. Miami University is an AA/EOE.

■ Senior Applied Statistician. Candidate will provide applied statistics problem-solving leadership on a wide range of data analysis efforts and initiatives. In this role, you will use applied statistical techniques to solve internal and external customer engineering/business problems. <http://tinyurl.com/7e7w5tg>. EOE.

■ The Department of Quantitative Health Sciences at Cleveland Clinic is recruiting for faculty, postdoctoral, and master's-level positions. Many areas are being sought, including biostatistics, data mining, health economics, health status



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Rhode Island

■ The Center for Statistical Sciences at Brown University has immediate openings for staff biostatisticians. Candidates should have a master's or doctoral degree in biostatistics, statistics, biometry or a combination of extensive statistical training and clinical trials experience. Excellent verbal and written communication skills, programming experience with statistical packages required. Interested applicants should apply online for positions #M02443, #M02453, #M02625, #M02657 at <http://careers.brown.edu>. Brown University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and actively seeks applications from qualified minorities and protected groups.

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Survey Sampling Statistician

Job Code 4621BR

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The successful candidate will be part of multidisciplinary scientific teams and will be a core member of the Samuel Oschin Comprehensive Cancer Institute, Biostatistics and Bioinformatics Research Center. The candidate will be responsible for designing and executing a wide range of computational and analytical tasks, including developing novel algorithms for the analysis of -omic data, coupling pharmacologic response to genetic and clinical background, and integrating publicly or commercially available data with novel experimental data. Responsibilities will also include assessing and meeting project scope, and designing schedules and budgets for sponsored research grants.

The ideal candidate will have interdisciplinary training in human biology and bioinformatics/computational biology, particularly in the analysis and interpretation of microarray and/or proteomics data, statistical routines, reconstruction of signaling networks, computational network inference from experimental expression data, and the integration of public data sources/biological ontology to facilitate systems biology research. Working knowledge of modern biomedical research technologies and excellent communication skills are required.

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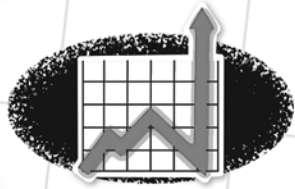
- Manage, mentor and provide vision in bioinformatics and statistics.
- Collaborate and assist with biomarker discovery and validation efforts.
- Facilitate migration of diagnostic, prognostic and predictive projects from discovery to development and manufacturing as approved commercial products.
- Prepare study designs and/or research plans for collaborative and/or independent diagnostic and hypothesis testing projects.
- Review manuscripts and reports and ensure that activities performed are conducted appropriately using correct methods and software.
- Communicate clearly and authoritatively with researchers in the area of molecular diagnostics.

Position Requirements & Experience:

- PhD in Bioinformatics, Physics, Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Science or comparable technical and quantitative field.
- Minimum of (3) years in medical/biotechnology industry and/or post-doctoral experience.
- Demonstrated accomplishments through publications in peer-reviewed journals.
- Experience in statistical analysis of data from high throughput genomic technologies such as mRNA expression, miRNA expression, CGH, deep sequencing and/or Taqman arrays strongly preferred.
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International

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■ The Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology (Skolkovo Tech) seeks candidates for tenured and tenure-track faculty positions in science, technology, and innovation to begin September 1, 2012, or thereafter. Skolkovo Tech is an innovative, new, private university located just outside of Moscow, Russia. Please visit <http://web.mit.edu/sktech/faculty-positions> for more information and submit application materials to <https://sktech-search.mit.edu> by July 31, 2012. EOE. ■

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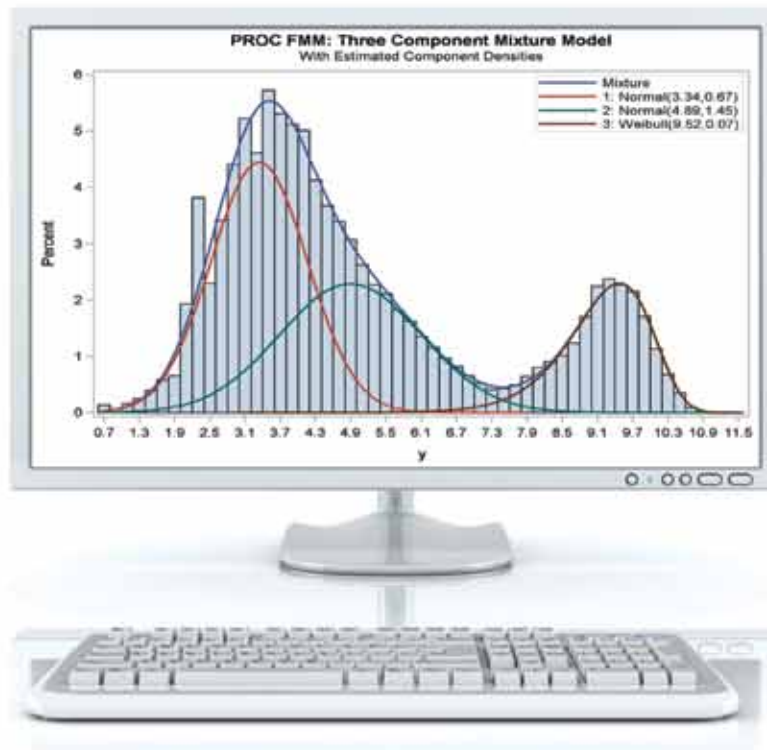
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