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AMSTATNEWS

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A ROADMAP

for ASA Chapter Rejuvenation





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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.

features

- 3 President's Corner
- 5 Empower Progress: Donate on ASA Giving Day
- 6 ASA Journals Need New Editors
- Nominate Colleagues for ASA President, Vice President
- 8 Early-Career Women Share Journeys from Student to Biostatistician
- 9 ICSA Panel Discusses Real-World Statistics, Data Science Skills
- 12 My ASA Story: Amarjot Kaur, Statistician
- 14 NSF Corner: Awardees Suggest Applying Widely When Looking for NSF Grant
- 17 JEDI Corner: JSM Session Touches on Equity
- 20 A Roadmap for ASA Chapter Rejuvenation
- 25 Staff Spotlight: Christina Bonner



Learn how Amarjot Kaur's ASA journey has been shaped by serendipity and active involvement. **Page 12**

columns

26 STATtr@k

Discover the Benefits of Joining an ASA Student Chapter

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.

28 STATS4GOOD

UCS's Science for Public Good Fund Targets Projects with Local Impact

This column is written for those interested in learning about the world of Data for Good, where statistical analysis is dedicated to good causes that benefit our lives, our communities, and our world. If you would like to know more or have ideas for articles, contact David Corliss at davidjcorliss@peace-work.org.



ASA ISSUES STATEMENT ON ROLE OF STATISTICS IN DATA SCIENCE AND AI

The ASA Board released a statement on the role statistics plays in data science and artificial intelligence, especially machine learning and deep learning. Where do you fit in? Find out at https://bit.ly/3Fn84Fc.

DONATE TO THE ASA

There are numerous benefits of attending ASA meetings, especially for student and early-career members; however, travel costs can make it impossible for some. That's why the ASA established the Student and Early Career Travel Fund, which helps members like Xaioxia Champon attend ASA meetings. Read her story in the fall *GiveASA Newsletter* and consider a donation today, 100 percent of which will fund travel scholarships. secure.qgiv.com/for/amestaass



departments

30 meetings

SDSS to Bridge Gap Between Statistics, Data Science in June



BEYOND BIG DATA: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN THEORY AND PRACTICE RICHMOND, VA • JUNE 4-7, 2024

member news

- 31 People News
- 34 Awards and Deadlines
- 38 Section News
- 41 Professional Opportunities



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Thanks for and Gratitude to the ASA Community

live on the East Coast of the United States, where the seasons are generally welcomed by temperature changes. The fall brings cooler temperatures; changing colors of the tree foliage; football games; and pumpkins, pumpkins, and more pumpkins. Speaking of pumpkins, I have decorated my home for the fall and am preparing for my family celebration of Thanksgiving. The fall and coming of Thanksgiving is also a wonderful time to reflect. I have so much gratitude for the members of our ASA community. Capturing this in a column was daunting, so I decided to look back at past editions of Amstat *News* for inspiration.

January 2023

I am grateful for our impact on policy and decisionmaking and our significant history exemplified by the celebration of 10 years of forensic science outlined in https://bit.ly/3tzkffp.

February 2023

I am grateful for colleagues who take the time to submit nominations and to the colleagues who are recognized for their contributions to the profession. In the February issue, the Annie T. Randall Award, established by the Biometrics Section in 2020, was highlighted. The award was named in honor of path-breaking Black female statistician Annie T. Randall for her pioneering career in government amid pervasive racial discrimination. The most recent winner was Felicia Simpson, associate professor of statistics and chair of the department of mathematics at Winston-Salem State University. Read about her at https://bit.ly/45tuLC5.

March 2023

I am grateful for our colleagues who are willing to serve the ASA. My sincere thanks to all the candidates (https://bit.ly/479VFR1), and I look forward to the contributions of our leaders as we move forward.



Dionne Price

April 2023

I am grateful for our community's commitment to ethical statistical practice and the work we do to ensure all statistical practitioners understand and are able to use the guidelines found at https://bit. ly/46wAMiS.

May 2023

I am grateful for the research done by our community, which can be seen in a new series highlighting the connection between the ASA and National Science Foundation at https://bit. ly/3Q19ydj. Our research is an example of the incredible science we do.

I have only highlighted a few items here, but truly there are so many events, awards, people, and accomplishments for which I am grateful.

June 2023

I am grateful for the students and early-career members of our community who will be the future leaders of the ASA and are committed to learning and growing their knowledge. One example is Lucy Tu, who spent 10 weeks as a science journalist with *Scientific American* during the summer as the ASA's 2023 AAAS Mass Media Fellow. Read about her at https://bit.ly/3Fl8jRg.

July 2023

I am grateful for dedicated educators such as Golde Holtzman, who you can read about at https://bit. ly/46Q9SIF.

August 2023

I am grateful and hopeful about the future because of the wonderful work done by K–12 students as exemplified in the ASA Data Visualization Poster and Statistics Project competitions. Of course, I am also grateful for all who volunteer to make the competition possible. Read about these competitions and volunteers at https://bit.ly/45yRhJK.

September 2023

I am grateful for the opportunities to come together, to learn, to collaborate, to celebrate our successes, and to make new friends and rekindle established friendships. I talk about that in my September column, which you can read at https://bit.ly/3Fk0ECt.

October 2023

I am grateful for the talented next generation, exemplified by the winners of the ASA Scientific and Public Affairs Advisory Committee's annual Statistical Significance competition. Two competitors took first place with projects inspired by the COVID-19 pandemic: Shinpei Nakamura-Sakai, a PhD student in statistics from Yale University, and Madeline Ward, a PhD student in biostatistics from the University of Calgary. Read about them at https://bit.ly/45AafzZ.

I have only highlighted a few items here, but truly there are so many events, awards, people, and accomplishments for which I am grateful. Thank you to our amazing professional community. I am so grateful for all you do. For those who celebrate, I wish you a Happy Thanksgiving.

EMPOWER PROGRESS:

Donate on ASA Giving Day

ach year, the ASA takes a significant step toward promoting the practice and profession of statistics by hosting Giving Day. It's a day when members and friends of the ASA come together to make a lasting impact. This Giving Day, we invite you to contribute so the ASA can continue to provide programs leading to a world that relies on data and statistical thinking to drive discovery and inform decisions.

Why the ASA Deserves Your Support

Statistics and data science play an essential role in shaping our understanding of the world, help us make informed decisions, and drive innovation across various industries. The ASA is at the forefront of advancing these efforts, and here's why your support matters:

- Nurturing Talent: Your contribution helps the ASA provide scholarships, mentoring, and educational programs to aspiring statisticians and data scientists. By doing so, you contribute to the growth of a talented and diverse pool of professionals ready to tackle complex challenges.
- Promoting Statistical Literacy: In today's data-driven world, statistical literacy is a necessity. The ASA actively engages in outreach programs that promote statistical and data literacy among students, the media, and the public.
- Supporting Diversity and Inclusion: The ASA is committed to creating a more inclusive and diverse statistical community. Your donations assist in funding initiatives that break down barriers and promote equity in the field.
- Informing Public Policy: The ASA's advocacy efforts are essential to supporting the federal statistical agencies, which provide the data needed to inform decisions that affect everyone.
- Enhancing Statistics and Data Science Education: The ASA provides support and resources for K–12 educators, empowering them with the tools and knowledge to effectively teach statistics and data science in their classrooms. From free lesson plans to

Amanda Malloy, ASA Director of Development



hands-on workshops to engaging contests, your donations help students in schools across the country.

How You Can Make a Difference

- Donate: Every dollar you donate goes toward supporting ASA programs that promote the practice and profession of statistics and benefit everyone. We have several prize drawings lined up for Giving Day for added incentive.
- Spread the Word: Share the importance of Giving Day on your social media platforms and among your professional networks. Use #ASAGivingDay or tag @AmstatNews and be entered into the Donate and Share prize drawing.
- Volunteer: Consider volunteering your time and skills to help the ASA in its various initiatives.

In a world reliant on data, the importance of the ASA's work cannot be overstated. ASA Giving Day is a unique opportunity for us to unite our passion for statistics and data science with the power of generosity. Your contribution, no matter how big or small, has the potential to make a significant impact on our shared mission. Join us on ASA Giving Day and, together, we will promote the practice and profession statistics.

Learn more about the impact of giving, how to participate in the 2023 Chapter Challenge, and how to enter prize drawings by visiting *ww2. amstat.org/givingday.*



Amanda Malloy

ASA Journals Need New Editors

ournals are vital to the ASA's mission of promoting the practice and profession of statistics, and editors are at the heart of ensuring our publications continue to be world leaders in statistics research and application.

If you or someone you know would be a great fit for one of the following editorships, send your application or nomination to ASA Journals Manager Eric Sampson at eric@amstat.org by January 16, 2024.

Editor, Journal of the American Statistical Association, Applications and Case Studies

Term: 2025–2027, with the transition beginning in 2024

The Journal of the American Statistical Association (JASA) has long been considered the premier journal of statistical science. The Applications and Case Studies section publishes original articles focusing on statistically innovative and scientifically and practically relevant analyses of real data sets.

The editor, working with the editorial coordinator, reviews new submissions and selects papers for review by associate editors. They also select papers for discussion in the section, including the annual Joint Statistical Meetings Applications and Case Studies paper, and invite discussants for these papers.

For more information about *JASA*, visit *www.tandfonline.com/toc/uasa20/current*.

Co-Editors, Journal of Business & Economic Statistics

Term: 2025–2027, with the transition beginning July–September of 2024

JBES primarily publishes applied statistical analyses of



Technometrics, the Journal of the American Statistical Association, the Journal of Business & Economic Statistics, and the Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics are in need of editors, as are Statistics and Public Policy, the Journal of Statistics and Data Science Education, the Journal of Nonparametric Statistics, the Journal on Uncertainty Quantification, and the Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology.

microeconomic, macroeconomic, forecasting, business, and finance-related topics. Articles contain significant results, high-quality methodological content, excellent exposition, and (usually) a substantive empirical application.

Due to a heavy submission load, *JBES* typically has two editors who serve a concurrent term. They, working with the editorial coordinator, review new submissions and select papers for review by referees. They also work with the production editor to create each issue and ensure timely publication.

For more information about *JBES*, see *www.tandfonline.com/toc/ubes20/current*.

Co-Editors, Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics

Term: 2025–2027, with the transition beginning July or August of 2024

JCGS presents the very latest techniques on improving and extending the use of computational and graphical methods in statistics and data analysis. Articles are written for readers who have a strong background in statistics but are not necessarily experts in computing.

The co-editors, working with the editorial coordinator, review new submissions and select papers for review by referees. They also work with the production editor to create each issue and ensure timely publication.

For more information about *JCGS*, see *www.tandfonline.com/toc/ucgs20/current*.

Editor, Journal of Nonparametric Statistics

Term: 2025–2027, with the transition beginning July or August of 2024

JNPS includes research and survey work in nonparametric statistics and related areas. Research applying nonparametric methods to medicine, engineering, technology, science, and humanities is welcome, provided the novelty and quality level are of the highest order.

For more information about *JNPS*, see *www.tandfonline.com/toc/gnst20/current*.

Editor, Journal of Statistics and **Data Science Education**

Term: 2025-2027, with the transition beginning July or August of 2024

JSDSE is an open-access, peerreviewed journal that disseminates accessible knowledge for the improvement of data science and statistics education at all levels.

ISDSE editors must be active members of the ASA during their terms. Working with the editorial coordinator, the editor will review new submissions and select papers for review by referees. The editor will also prepare new issues and write decision letters.

For more information about ISDSE, see https://amstat.tandf online.com/toc/ujse21/current.

Editor, Statistics and Public Policy Term: 2025-2027, with the transition beginning July or August of 2024

SPP is an open-access journal publishing papers that apply strong statistical methodology to problems in public policy and/or relevant political science. Articles may address international, national, or local policy questions, and the emphasis is on application, rather than methodological novelty.

SPP editors must be active members of the ASA during their terms.

For more information about SPP, see https://amstat.tandfonline.com/toc/uspp20/current#.

Editor, Technometrics

Term: 2026-2028, with a full year's transition beginning in 2025

Technometrics contributes to the development and use of statistical methods in physical, chemical, and engineering sciences, as well as information sciences and technology. These include developments at the interface of statistics and computer science

such as data mining, machine learning, and large databases.

The editor reviews new submissions and makes the final decision about which papers to accept for publication. The editor also appoints the editorial board and works with its members to handle the journal's peer-review process.

For more information about Technometrics, see www.tandfonline.com/toc/utch20/current.

Editor, Journal on Uncertainty **Ouantification**

Term: 2025-2027, with the transition beginning in 2024

JUQ publishes research articles presenting significant mathematical, statistical, algorithmic, and application advances in uncertainty quantification. The journal also focuses on related fields such as sensitivity analysis, model validation, model calibration, data assimilation. and code verification.

For more information about IUQ, see www.siam.org/publications/journals/siam-asa-journalon-uncertainty-quantificationjug#Visualizer.

Editor, *Journal of Survey* **Statistics and Methodology**

Term: 2025-2027, with the transition beginning in July of 2024

ISSAM publishes cutting-edge theoretical and applied articles about statistical and methodological issues for sample surveys, censuses, administrative record systems, and related data.

The editor determines the contents of the four regular issues, overseeing the review process, and serves as a consultant on special issues.

For more information about JSSAM, see https://aapor.org/publications-resources/journal-editors.

For full job descriptions for these positions, visit https://bit. ly/3LSOwME. ■

Nominate Colleagues for ASA President, Vice President

Nominations are being sought for ASA president-elect and vice president candidates for the 2025 election. While the 2024 elections have vet to be held, the Committee on Nominations needs time to evaluate recommendations to propose the best possible slate of candidates for these critical positions.

As a member of the ASA, you recognize the importance of leadership in our diverse, complex, and multidisciplinary field. You and all fellow ASA members deserve visionary leaders who can ensure our discipline has a voice at the table when appropriate, whether it be in academe; industry; federal, state, or local government; or nonprofit organizations. This is why we need your input.

For this election cycle, the president-elect will be selected from industry and the vice president will be selected from government. Think about your colleagues and associates who are members of the ASA and would make good candidates for these positions. Think about members who have helped run a conference or are active in your section or chapter. Think about people who have demonstrated leadership skills. Then, nominate your choices for the 2026 president-elect and vice president (to run for office in 2025) by email to elections@amstat.org. The deadline for nominations is February 1, 2024.

Nominees are also wanted for the position of international representative to the board of directors. Qualified individuals must be ASA members who reside outside the United States.

Please supply as much information about your nominee as possible to assist the committee in researching them thoroughly.

Early-Career Women Share Journeys from Student to Biostatistician

The Caucus for Women in Statistics Hosted a Virtual Conference for The International Day Of Women in Statistics And Data Science

The Caucus for Women in Statistics and Data Science organized a virtual conference to celebrate the International Day of Women in Statistics and Data Science on October 10, which was also World Mental

Health Day. The following four women were invited to speak about their experiences in a session titled "Journey of Early Career Women in Pharmaceutical Industry and Their Paths Forward."

Hiya Banerjee is a biostatistician at Eli Lilly who has worked in the pharmaceutical industry for more than a decade. Her talk, "Wearing Many Hats in Career Development: Navigating Challenges and Maximizing Growth," focused on how wearing many hats in the workplace is a dynamic and multifaceted experience that often leads to personal and professional growth, but also comes with its fair share of challenges.

Ultimately, her journey juggling multiple roles and responsibilities has been rewarding and allowed her to expand her skill set and gain a broader understanding of the business landscape.

Bhramori Banerjee has been at Merck for a little more than two years, but she has worked for other pharmaceutical companies and contract research organizations in different capacities for 11 years. She spoke about how working as a statistician in the pharmaceutical industry during her early-career years was challenging and gave a few examples of how to solve problems in the industry as a statistician.

Dooti Roy is an adjunct professor at the University of Connecticut and director of global biostatistics and data sciences at Boehringer Ingelheim, where she leads a team of statisticians and data scientists who develop and implement



Hiya Banerjee Dooti Roy



Bhramori Banerjee



Arinjita Bhattacharyya

clinical research and statistical visualization tools. She has more than eight years of experience in the biopharmaceutical industry. Her talk, titled "Chasing Science, Passion, and Heart: A Statistician's Journey into Drug Development," was about her journey pursuing her scientific interests and career goals—from earning a PhD in statistics to becoming a methodology statistician and global product owner to growing into her current position as a leader at Boehringer Ingelheim. Roy also spoke about her teaching experience at UConn, where she designed a summer program that introduces students to

off-the-books biostatistics skills needed to be a clinical trialist.

Arinjita Bhattacharyya is a senior scientist at Merck, where she supports phase 1 clinical trials and is involved in designing clinical trials and writing study protocols and reports. Her primary research interests are clinical trials, COVID-19, HIV, mental health, oncology, shrinkage priors, prediction, methods for omics data, subgroup analysis, and doseresponse models. Her talk, titled "Life in Pharma Through the Eyes of an Early Career Professional," provided a snapshot of a day in the life of an earlycareer statistician in the pharmaceutical industry.

ICSA Panel Discusses Real-World Statistics, Data Science Skills

Panelists from Industry Offer Advice at the Chinese Statistical Association's 2023 Statistics Symposium

uring the 2023 International Chinese Statistical Association's Applied Statistics Symposium, several panelists from industry discussed key statistics and data science skills. Here, panel moderator Kelly Zou summarizes their advice.

What are useful skills in quantitative disciplines?

Thomas Edison once said, "There is a way to do it better. Find it!" And Steve Jobs said, "Stay hungry, stay foolish." Among individuals engaged in quantitative and scientific disciplines, cultivating a keen sense of curiosity and an unwavering commitment to constant (self) improvement are critical.

Technical (hard) skills are necessary and must be kept sharp through continuous educational opportunities. There may not be so-called "pure" statisticians since our field interacts with so many disciplines; however, in terms of the industry sector, for example, it is heavily regulated. Therefore, adapting to new knowledge and understanding compliance requirements are critical.

We need to be nimble and agile in terms of new tools. After three or four years, classroom knowledge may be obsolete, although it tends to set a solid foundation in terms of statistical thinking. We may consider keeping the habit of exploring through the latest literature.

In addition to being proficient in data science and mathematical and applied statistics courses offered by colleges as part of standard curricula for all students, it is useful to be proficient in specialized topics such as Bayesian statistics, categorical data analysis, computational methods, cost-effectiveness

Panelists

Joseph C. Cappelleri, Pfizer

Sisi Guo, AstraZeneca

Franklin Sun, Lexicon Pharmaceuticals

Jie Tang, Calico Life Sciences

Li Wang, AbbVie

Kelly H. Zou, Viatris (moderator)

analysis, decision analysis, econometrics, longitudinal data analysis, network and text data analysis, and survey statistics.

Besides clinical trials and real-world data, what are emerging trends?

Statisticians can be innovators and entrepreneurs. New trends can be data science, artificial intelligence, machine learning, deep learning, and natural language processing. Particularly in the health care field, new trends are drug discovery, drug development, precision medicine, health data, and health economics and outcomes research.

Statisticians learn fast and are used to adapting to new challenges. Moreover, statisticians are collaborators who can lead but also work with experts with various backgrounds. Problems can be complex and multi-dimensional, but they can also be exploratory.

Editor's Note: The views expressed here are the panelists' own and do not necessarily represent those of their employers.



From left: Kelly H. Zou, Sisi Guo, Joseph C. Cappelleri, Franklin Sun, Jie Tang, and Li Wang

MORE ONLINE Check out the symposium at https:// symposium2023. icsa.org.

The rapidly evolving methodologies in machine learning/deep learning and its applications are revolutionizing the entire spectrum of drug development. These advancements have already made a huge impact on drug discovery, manufacturing, trial design, precision medicine, patient identification and enrollment, safety monitoring, risk-based monitoring, novel endpoint development, and efficacy event prediction. They are poised to fundamentally reshape the landscape of drug development.

There are also the top 10 emerging trends in health economics and outcomes research published by the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research. In varying degrees, statistical principles and reasoning are applicable to each of them:

- Real-world evidence
- Value assessment
- Health equity
- Health care financing
- Patient engagement
- Drug and health care pricing
- Public health

- · Health technology assessment
- Health data
- Artificial intelligence

How do students prepare for the industry sector beyond academic education?

First and foremost, students must be proactive while contemplating their first job. For example, participate in networking events to understand the types of industry opportunities and possible day-to-day activities.

If there are postdoctoral fellowship positions, PhD students may consider them as a first step toward the business world. For students who aspire to become statisticians, data scientists, and informaticians, they might explore entry-level jobs in which they use these skills. Mid-career researchers in academia might have methodological strengths that prepare them for industry. In addition to academic conferences, there are certificates and industry-academic partnerships or forums.

Students have spent most of their energy learning. Now it's time for them to go from a learner to a contributor. Instead of trying to learn from their new job, they might ask how they can contribute. What can they do to improve the project or help the team. Of course, they should never stop learning. But now is the time to learn through gaining experience and contributing their knowledge and technical skills. And while technical skills are important, it is also important to present well and get along with colleagues.

One way to prepare for a job in industry is by attending conferences, seminars, and meetings sponsored by a professional society such as the American Statistical Association. For example, the ASA Biopharmaceutical Section offers rich opportunities for engagement. Another way is to become acquainted with and even contribute to the methodological and content research literature in areas sponsored by industry.

Finally, finding the right mentor can accelerate a student's acclimation.

Students have spent most of their energy learning. Now it's time for them to go from a learner to a contributor. Instead of trying to learn from their new job, they might ask how they can contribute.

Any advice on soft skills, mentorship, and professional networking?

Communication and leadership skills are the most important soft skills. Knowing how to tell a story so laymen can understand complex problems and setting up collaborations are areas statisticians can work on.

Professional networking is extremely important, not only in our own organizations but also in industry. We must be courageous and proactively reach out to get to know new people. Don't be afraid to schedule a 30-minute introductory meeting with senior leaders. Engaging with professionals who have diverse functions can also provide a wealth of perspectives that will help build long-term (collaborative) relationships.

As a newcomer in a chosen organization or field, we may also look for senior or peer mentors, as well as friendly and trusting coworkers. Don't hesitate to engage in confidential but straight talks with them. Mentorship is not one-directional.

MY ASA STORY

Amarjot Kaur, Statistician

Serendipitous chance encounters and active involvement in the ASA shaped her career

y ASA journey has been incredibly enriching and continues to be, shaped by the serendipity of chance encounters and the deliberate choice to stay actively involved.

Early Years

My educational journey began early, making me one of the youngest kids in my grade for most of my educational career. I was always

> drawn to quantitative sciences and studied physics, chemistry, and mathematics during my undergraduate studies. Statistics was introduced briefly in mathematics class, but I had no idea of statistics as a standalone discipline at that time. While I thoroughly enjoyed physics and thought of it as my post-graduate studies, an interesting moment came when my sister's teacher suggested in passing that I should think of statistics due to its growing demand in the job market. That

casual remark stayed with



Amarjot Kaur

me and led me to enroll in the master's program in statistics, instead of physics, at the Panjab University in Chandigarh. Statistical courses

quickly captured my interest, leading me to pursue MPhil and PhD degrees.

My research work on order-restricted statistical inference and reliability was under the supervision of my late professor Harshinder Singh, whom I respected immensely. I have nothing but the utmost gratitude for his rigorous guidance and sage advice. While working on my thesis, I started teaching undergraduate and postgraduate statistical courses and became a full-time, tenure-track faculty member soon after submitting my dissertation. So, the prophecy of good career jobs in statistics came true!

North American Journey

Right around the time I thought I was settled with a nice-paying, respectable university job in Chandigarh—a beautiful city—my parents immigrated to Canada to be close to my brother and cajoled me to join them. That led me to my North American journey starting at Penn State, where I pursued post-doctoral research in innovative sampling techniques for various EPAfunded topics at the Center of Environmental Statistics. I am forever indebted to professor G.P. Patil for placing his confidence in me and giving me this fantastic opportunity that not only opened many career doors but also introduced me to the ASA.

A Chance Encounter

My introduction to the ASA came through attending a JSM in Toronto to present my

It was serendipity that I attended my first JSM in Toronto more than two decades ago and received the ASA Founders Award in Toronto this year. My journey has gone full circle.

research work on ranked set sampling. There, I first heard of Merck, my current employer, from a colleague with whom I shared a room. She had the invitation card and asked if I wanted to join her at the Merck mixer event. Not having the invitation or any knowledge of the company, I was not sure if I should go but went anyway. At the mixer, I met Jim Bolognese and attended a presentation that taught me a lot about the company and clinical trials research. It made me enthusiastic about working for a company like Merck. In my naïveté, I assumed Jim giving me his business card was a sign of his interest in my candidacy. I found out later that many others had received the same business card. Nonetheless, my innocent presumption came true, and I did get the job and have enjoyed working at Merck ever since. Thanks to the ASA for the networking opportunities to make it all happen.

My ASA Journey

After joining Merck, I started attending JSM quite regularly. Each time I returned from the conference, I felt enthusiastic about new ideas I learned at the meeting. I also came to benefit from the ASA's continuing education programs and immense networking opportunities. I slowly started learning about various committees and sections but was still not sure how to get involved. When I was asked to join the ASA Committee on Applied Statisticians, I immediately agreed.

That turned out to be a wonderful experience for me, as I worked alongside statisticians with different backgrounds and learned from their diverse perspectives and backgrounds.

Volunteering my time for this committee became a source of personal growth and learning. I had the honor of chairing the committee eventually. During that period, the committee created a sustainable mentoring program that became a blueprint for various other ASA committees and sections. After six years of serving on this committee, my journey continued on many other committees, within the Biopharmaceutical Section, and on the ASA Board as its treasurer.

The ASA has been the bridge that connected me to a network of wonderful statisticians, where I found my mentors and many lifelong friends. I am deeply grateful for the support, collaboration, and guidance of Ron Wasserstein, Lisa LaVange, Kathy Ensor, Barry Nussbaum, David Morganstein, Cyrus Mehta, Sastry Pantula, and Donna Lalonde, among many others.

It was serendipity that I attended my first JSM in Toronto more than two decades ago and received the ASA Founders Award in Toronto this year. My journey has gone full circle.

The ASA has been my professional home and provided me with many opportunities to learn, grow, and diversify my worldview. I am proud to be part of the ASA community. Thank you, ASA! ■

NSF CORNER

Awardees Suggest Applying Widely When Looking for NSF Grant

Steve Pierson, ASA Director of Science Policy

To strengthen the connection between the statistical community and National Science Foundation, we continue the series introduced in the May 2023 issue that poses questions to NSF program officers and awardees. If you have questions or comments for the program officers, send them to ASA Director of Science Policy Steve Pierson at pierson@amstat.org.

Program Director

Jun Zhu responded to the following questions. On leave from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Zhu is in her second year as a rotator program director of the statistics program of the Division of Mathematical Sciences in the NSF Directorate for Physical and Mathematical Sciences.

What kind of funding opportunities are there at the NSF for graduate students?

The Graduate Research Fellowship Program is an NSF agency-wide program that ensures the quality, vitality, and diversity of the US scientific and engineering workforce. Visit www.nsfgrfp.org for eligibility information, the application process, and frequently asked questions.

What kind of funding opportunities are there at the NSF for postdocs?

There are two postdoctoral fellowship programs available: the Mathematical Sciences Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (MSPRF) and the Mathematical and Physical Sciences Ascending Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (MPS-Ascend). MSPRF supports postdoctoral fellows pursuing research and training in mathematics and statistics, including their applications to other disciplines (https://bit. ly/3ZTA/Lu). MPS-Ascend supports postdoctoral fellows performing impactful research in mathematical and physical sciences fields while broadening the participation of underrepresented groups in the mathematical and physical sciences (https://bit.ly/3rNVT0S).

You may apply for both postdoctoral programs; however, the MPS-Ascend solicitation states you "may not submit a research plan duplicated in another NSF proposal currently under consideration."

Awardees

Mine Dogucu, Amy Herring, and Jingchen (Monika) Hu were recently awarded NSF funding to advance Bayesian thinking in STEM. Prior to this project, which they refer to as Bayes BATS, they did not have extensive experience with the NSF proposal process. Herring was mostly experienced with other federal agencies. Dogucu had one project successfully funded through the NSF's Data Science Corps program, and Hu had an ASA/NSF/BLS fellowship earlier in her career. Throughout the proposal writing process, they supported each other and relied on staff support. Dogucu, Herring, and Hu collectively responded to the following questions.

What NSF non-DMS entity funded or contributed, and how will funding be used?

Bayes BATS is funded through the NSF's Directorate for STEM Education (EDU), specifically the Improving Undergraduate STEM Education (IUSE) program. The University of California at Irvine, Vassar College, and Duke University are the three collaborating institutions. The funding mostly supports STEM instructors from a wide range of disciplines in learning how to use and teach Bayesian methods.

In Tier 1 of the program, we host a one-week, inperson bootcamp. In Tier 2, we mentor instructors

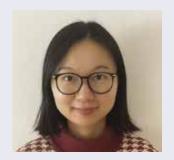
Meet the NSF Grant Awardees



Mine Dogucu is assistant professor of teaching in the department of statistics at the University of California at Irvine. She is the co-author of Bayes Rules! An Introduction to Applied Bayesian Modeling and her goal is to make statistics and data science physically and cognitively accessible.



Amy Herring is Sara and Charles **Ayres Distinguished Professor** of Statistical Science at Duke University and president of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis. Her research interests include Bayesian methods, complex data structures, dimension reduction methods, and applications in health science.



Jingchen (Monika) Hu is associate professor of mathematics and statistics at Vassar College. She teaches an undergraduate Bayesian course there and is co-author of Probability and Bayesian Modeling. In her research, she works on statistical data privacy.

as they develop instructional materials for their own STEM courses, and in Tier 3, we support instructors in disseminating their instructional materials through national conferences and open-access publications.

What will this proposal accomplish?

The BATS project objectives are the following:

- Increase the number of undergraduate students exposed to Bayesian methods
- Enhance the capacity of STEM instructors in Bayesian methods through training and community building
- Develop and enrich teaching and learning materials that showcase the use of Bayesian methods in STEM fields

What was your approach to the **Directorate for STEM Education?**

There are many opportunities for statisticians outside of DMS. There is a suggestion about grant writing that goes "write the project you want to see in the world and then find funding for it." This was true in our case. Through our

project, we want to see Bayesian methods more widely used in scientific practice, and we believe that is possible through curricular change. We want STEM curricula to include Bayesian methods. EDU's IUSE program was a perfect fit for the type of impact we wanted to create in the scientific community. Once we identified the program, we were able to work on the details of the proposal through in-depth reading of the solicitation and looking at examples of what had been previously funded by the program.

What advice do you have for others applying for NSF funding?

- Apply 'widely.' DMS is not the only source of funding for statisticians and data scientists within NSF.
- Work closely with your grants office staff. They know the process and are up to date on new forms and regulations.
- Talk to program officers. Program officers provide a wealth of information that can go beyond online resources.

MORE ONLINE To learn about Baves BATS, visit www.stat.uci. edu/bayes-bats.

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

And see how your gifts add up!



\$5 A MONTH

can fund prizes and materials for a K–12 poster competition or pay for a teacher to attend Meeting Within a Meeting.



\$15 A MONTH

can help pay for food and materials for an ASA StatFest or Diversity Mentoring Program event.



\$40 A MONTH

can help a student or early-career statistician attend an ASA meeting (ASA Student and Early Career Travel Fund).

What's So Great About Monthly Giving?

- You don't have to remember to donate! Your credit or debit card is charged once a month for the amount you choose. You can increase, decrease, pause, or stop your donation any time.
- You will stay up to date with specialized communication and announcements.
- A modest monthly donation like what you might spend on coffee can add up and make a BIG impact.
- Monthly donations enable and sustain immediate and long-range ASA activities.

Dollar amounts are based on program costs over the span of one year.

Just choose the monthly gift option on the donation page at ww2.amstat.org/giving!
Contact Amanda Malloy at amstat.org to learn more.

JEDI CORNER

JSM Session Touches on Equity

The Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Outreach Group Corner is a regular component of Amstat News in which statisticians write about and educate our community about JEDI-related matters. If you have an idea or article for the column, email the JEDI Corner manager at jedicorner@datascijedi.org.

liter bubbles. Echo chambers. Groupthink. All things we are told to watch out for, steer clear of, or break out from. Nowadays, though, we hear less about the dangers of 'vicious circles'-yet the dangers have not receded. In a session at the 2023 Joint Statistical Meetings, Sunghee Lee of the University of Michigan showed how incomplete data on Asian-American populations risks fueling a vicious circle of inaction and growing inequality.

Lee's work was presented in the session "Statistically Significant: Equity Concerns in Algorithmic Bias, Privacy, and Survey Representation." The research done by Lee and presented by her University of Michigan colleague Raphael Nishimura compared the sociodemographics of Asian-American respondents reported by four large-scale sample surveys against the same characteristics collected by the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS).

What Lee found was that the surveys often differed in important respects. For example, Asian Americans accounted for seven percent of adults aged 18 and over in the ACS, but in the General Social Survey (GSS) and Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS), they accounted for only four percent and two percent, respectively. And while 27 percent of Asian-American respondents to the ACS were educated to high-school level or below, the equivalent grouping in the BRFSS accounted for 18 percent.

More concerning was that none of the surveys, except the ACS, collected data on Asian Americans' proficiency with spoken English. According to the ACS, 31 percent of Asian-American adults have "limited English proficiency," yet Lee found that none of her four selected surveys (GSS and BRFSS, plus the Current Population Survey and National Health Interview Survey) offered questionnaires in Asian languages.

In summary, Lee found the geographic and ethnic heterogeneity of the Asian American

Panelists



Claire McKay Bowen Urban Institute



Amanda Coston Microsoft Research



Susan Gregurick National Institutes of Health



Sunghee Lee University of Michigan



Raphael Nishimura University of Michigan

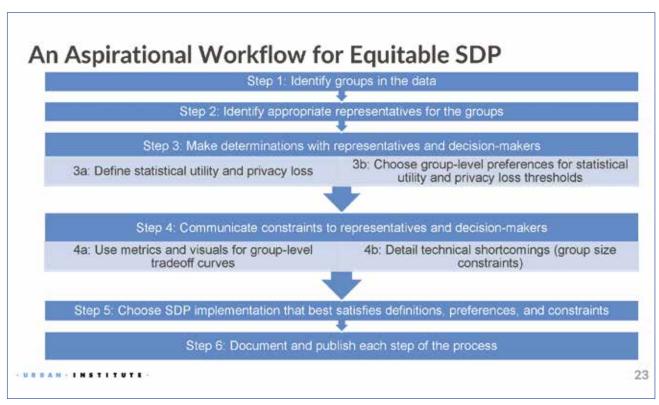


Joshua Snoke **RAND Corporation**



science platform at the Royal Statistical Society and editor of realworlddatascience.net. He was previously the editor of Significance magazine.

population is not reflected in the data-collection efforts she focused on and current data likely over-represents Asian Americans who are born in the US and/or who have high levels of English



Claire McKay Bowen presented an "aspirational workflow" for creating equitable statistical data privacy during the session "Statistically Significant: Equity Concerns in Algorithmic Bias, Privacy, and Survey Representation" at JSM 2023 in Toronto, Canada.

proficiency. It is this underrepresentation of certain Asian-American subgroups that gives rise to a potential vicious circle—data is not collected, so issues affecting certain population groups are not identified, meaning no action needs to be taken, so no data is collected ... and so on.

Data Equity in Data Privacy

Following up on Lee's work was a talk by Claire McKay Bowen of the Urban Institute, offering an overview of *Do No Harm Guide: Applying Equity Awareness in Data Privacy Methods.* Bowen, who co-authored the guide with Snoke, walked delegates through key concepts distilled from conversations with experts about privacy-preserving methods and data sharing.

As Bowen explained, there exists a natural tension between privacy and utility. A data set kept private and never released to the public has low (or no) utility, for example, whereas any data set released to the public inevitably sacrifices some privacy for the sake of utility. The question is, where

to strike the balance between privacy loss and utility? To explore this, privacy researchers use what are called privacy-utility curves to visualize the trade-off for different data sets and subsets of the data. Inevitably, different groups can have different privacy loss and utility curves, said Bowen. What this means in practice, as explained in the report, is that "Some groups may need to sacrifice relatively higher levels of privacy loss for the same increase in statistical utility, which means that those groups may obtain higher utility and lower privacy loss relative to other groups."

Bowen also explored issues around defining groups in the data and identifying those who might best represent the interests of said groups, questions of resource allocation (how to provide access to restricted data and how to train people to properly use data), and the importance of not treating equity and privacy as separate studies.

Particularly useful was Bowen's presentation of an 'aspirational workflow' for creating equitable statistical data privacy. Discussant Susan Gregurick

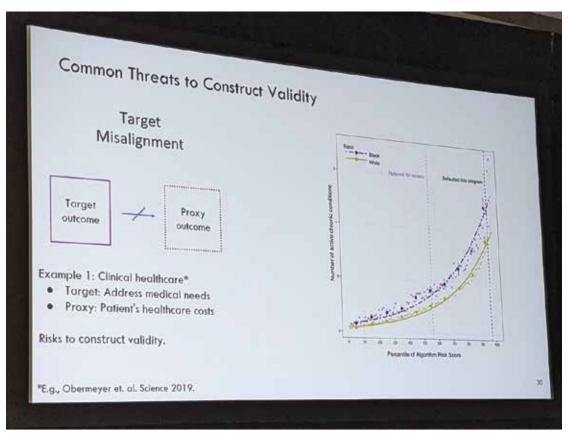


Photo courtesy of Brian Tarran

Amanda Coston concludes her talk with discussion of statistical methods used to counteract threats to validity.

of the National Institutes of Health praised the workflow for its focus on co-design and giving people a voice in the work being done to make sure they are benefiting from it.

Valid Decisions?

Rounding out the presentations was Amanda Coston, postdoc researcher at Microsoft Research, who set out to examine "the validity and fairness of societally high-stakes decisionmaking algorithms." The algorithms Coston focused on were predictive algorithms used to inform decisions around consumer lending, health care, criminal justice, or child welfare. She set out to define what validity means in these contexts and the threats to validity posed by selection bias and missing data.

Coston began by defining validity, in the scientific or statistical sense, as the measures we use to actually measure what we intend to measure. For decision-making algorithms, she said, validity means the model predicts what it is supposed to predict. But, of course, they don't always.

She then gave examples of where validity can be undermined. For instance, in a health care context, an algorithm may be used to inform decisions on patient care. The aim may be to predict health care needs and select the most in-need patients for a treatment program based on algorithmic risk score. However, what if the designers of the algorithm use health care costs as a proxy for health care needs? This creates a risk to "construct validity," said Coston. Drawing on work by Ziad Obermeyer and colleagues in their Science article titled "Dissecting Racial Bias in an Algorithm Used to Manage the Health of Populations," she showed how, at the same risk score, the disease burden on Black patients was more severe than that of white patients, leading to what Obermeyer describes as "substantial disparities in program screening." ■

MORE ONLINE

View Do No Harm Guide: Applying Equity Awareness in Data Privacy Methods at https://urbn.is/3Q2yDEK.

A ROAD MAP for ASA Chapter Rejuvenation

Tom Krenzke, Jamie Perrett, Maureen Mayer, Alexandra Hanlon, and Mimi Kim

Has it been more than a year since your chapter last met? Are you having difficulty finding new officers and/or involving early-career statisticians? Does your chapter need rejuvenation? This article provides guidance we hope will help you attain the status of a healthy ASA Chapter.



First, let's talk about the following minimal requirements for an ASA chapter to be in good standing:

- Maintain a current constitution on file at the ASA office
- Elect officers according to your chapter constitution
- Ensure the president, secretary, treasurer, and chapter representative are ASA members
- Report names and addresses of chapter officers (especially the president, secretary, treasurer, and chapter representative) to the ASA office on an annual basis
- Hold at least one chapter meeting per calendar year



Having one chapter planning meeting and one well-done fun chapter event during the year is sufficient if that is all you can manage. Start out simply.

Complete the annual report of chapter activities requested by the Council of Chapters
Governing Board

If you cannot locate your chapter constitution, contact ASA Professional Development and Chapter and Sections Manager Rick Peterson (*rick@amstat.org*) at the ASA office to see if he has it on file. For questions about officer elections, contact Director of Awards, Committees, and Elections Elizabeth Henry (*elizabeth@amstat.org*).

Last, the recently revamped annual chapter reporting tool available at https://bit.ly/3M1dHwi should only take about 15 minutes to complete.

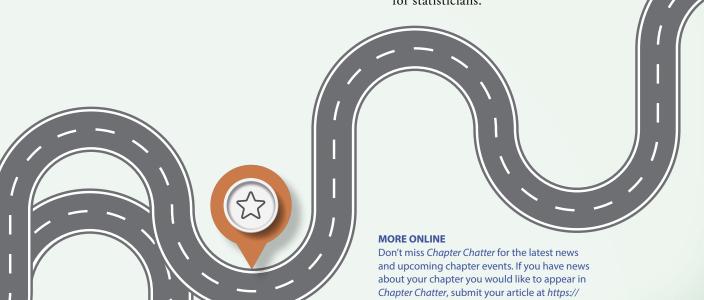
Benefits of a Chapter Benefits of being a healthy chapter

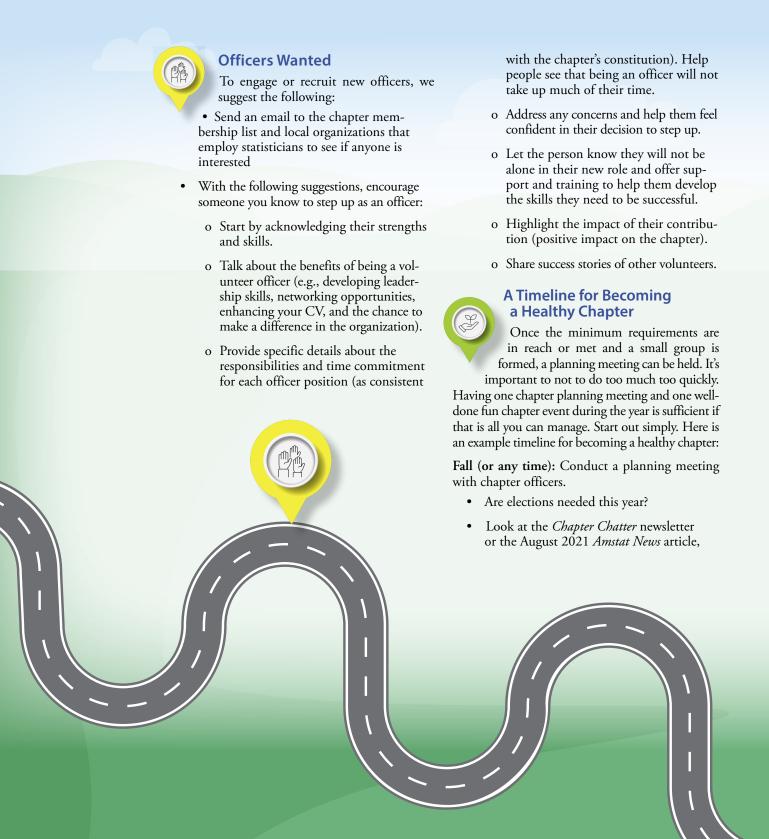
Benefits of being a healthy chapter include the following:

- Community Get together (in person or virtually) and make new contacts.
- **Service** Give back by mentoring and supporting young statisticians.
- Continuing education Stay on top of emerging statistical technologies.

form.jotform.com/zzlalo/chapter-chatter.

• Networking and job support – Ask if anyone knows about any jobs in the area for statisticians.





Chapter Rejuvenation Resources

"ASA Mentoring: An Update": https://bit. ly/3Ffy4IF

"Eric Vance Talks Mentoring": https://bit. ly/3rGC7og

Council of Chapters Officers: https://bit. ly/3Ff7UQf

Annual Chapter Reporting Tool: https://bit.ly/3M1dHwi

Chapter Chatter: https://bit.ly/3LYRijr

Chapter Chatter Article Submission: https://bit.ly/3M2kMwS

Council of Chapters Traveling Courses: https://bit.ly/3rQCn3X

Chapter Stimulus Funding Program: https://bit.ly/3rQCblf

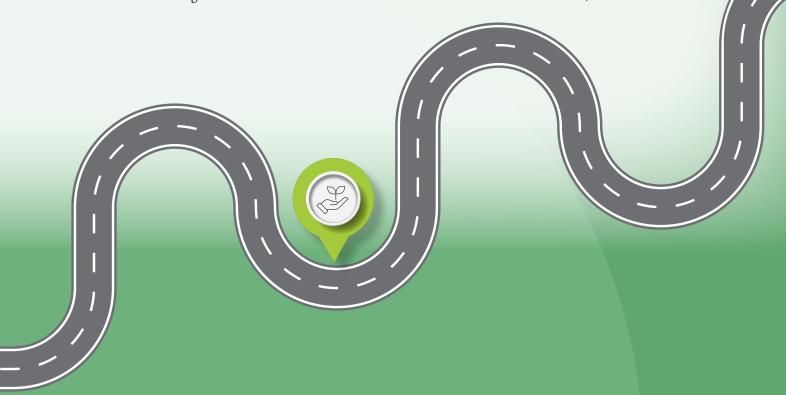
Outstanding Chapter Service Award: https://bit.ly/3S03Bjo

Council of Chapters Website: https://community.amstat.org/coc/home

ASA Guidance: asainfo@amstat.org and (888) 231-3473

"'How-To' Succeed Now and in the Post-Pandemic Future," for chapter activity ideas. Also, consider hosting an ASA traveling course. Here are a few other ideas for successful activities:

- o Host a social gathering before a business meeting.
- o Organize a panel discussion about jobs or careers.
- o Invite speakers such as someone from ASA leadership to talk about a general topic of interest, an author of a recent impactful journal article to talk about the article and current research, and a



colleague from work who is known for being a great speaker to talk about how they use statistics in their field.

January: Turn in your annual report (the Council of Chapters will send out instructions) and submit a request for a traveling course, if interested.

February: Apply for stimulus funds for a planned event.

March: Nominate a member for a Chapter Service Award.

Request stimulus funds from the ASA. Up to \$1,000 can be requested throughout the year if the annual report has been submitted by January 31. Stimulus funds can be used for items such as pizza for a social gathering; the funds do not need to be spent on a

speaker honorarium.

Help Wanted: Early-Career Statisticians and Students

Last, we suggest contacting local universities and organizations that employ statisticians to see if they would like to help the chapter in any way, particularly by encouraging their students or early-career statisticians to participate in the chapter

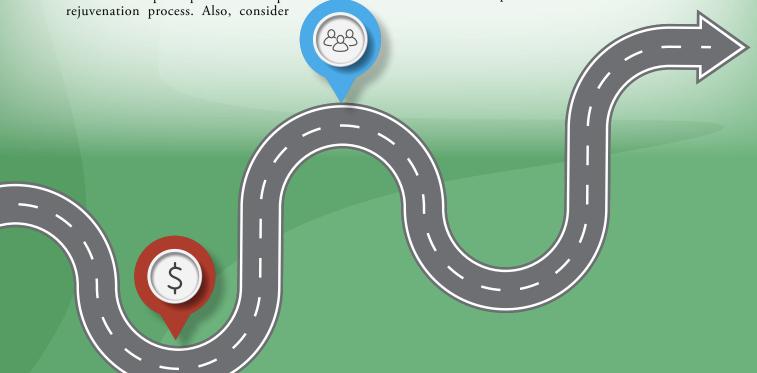
establishing a mentoring program as a chapter activity by following these steps:

- Review the Amstat News articles "ASA Mentoring: An Update" from April of 2019 and "Eric Vance Talks Mentoring" from February of 2015.
- · Identify mentors.
- Send an email describing the mentoring program to local organizations that employ statisticians.
- Match mentors with mentees.
- Invite the pairs to chapter activities.

These are just a few ways to move toward providing a sense of community for your chapter members, providing service to the community, offering continuing education to learn about new statistical methods and tools, and facilitating networking and job support.

Finally, don't miss *Chapter Chatter* for the latest news and upcoming chapter events. If you have news about your chapter you would like to appear in *Chapter Chatter*, submit your article at *https://bit.ly/3M2kMwS*.

For assistance, contact the ASA district vicechair for your district or the ASA office. Additional chapter information and resources can be found on the Council of Chapters website.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT: Christina Bonner

ello, Amstat News readers! My name is Christina Bonner, and I recently ▲ joined the ASA as the membership marketing coordinator. I also manage advertising for the ASA.

Born and raised in North Bethesda, Maryland, right outside of Washington, DC, the DMV is home for me. I attended college at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and then returned to Washington, DC.

I have spent most of my career in the capital markets and technology sectors of the commercial real estate industry. During my time in this industry, I worked alongside two co-founders to launch the first transactional marketplace for office space. I also helped clients invest in and refinance their commercial real estate properties. Several years in, I decided to make a career change and enrolled in courses that allowed me to build upon my marketing, communication, and business development skills. My favorite course focused on innovation in the life sciences and health care industries.

Upon completing these courses, I was a marketing ambassador for the University of California San Francisco School of Medicine's Global Entrepreneurship program. I assisted with communications, marketing, research, and business development strategy to improve marketing collateral, advertise the program, and recruit startup founders from around the world for future cohorts.

I interned at the Natural Products Association during college, so I was eager to return to the association world in a role that allowed me to focus on marketing, advertising, and connecting closely with members. I am excited to be here and for this opportunity to work with such a diverse and intelligent group of members spread across industry, government, and academia.

Outside of work, my favorite hobby is playing tennis. And, many days, my favorite way to unwind is going for a long walk around the monuments on the National Mall while listening to music or a podcast. (The ASA's Practical Significance is now included in my regular podcast lineup.)

I could not live without my daily cup of coffee, so as you may guess, I love stumbling upon and try-

ing different coffee shops. My current favorite is Compass Coffee. If you are ever in DC, be sure to check them out.

I enjoy cooking and baking, too, and constantly challenge myself to find the newest, nextbest recipe (any recipe with pistachios is always a good idea). On weekends, you can find me checking out new restaurants in the city with friends and family.

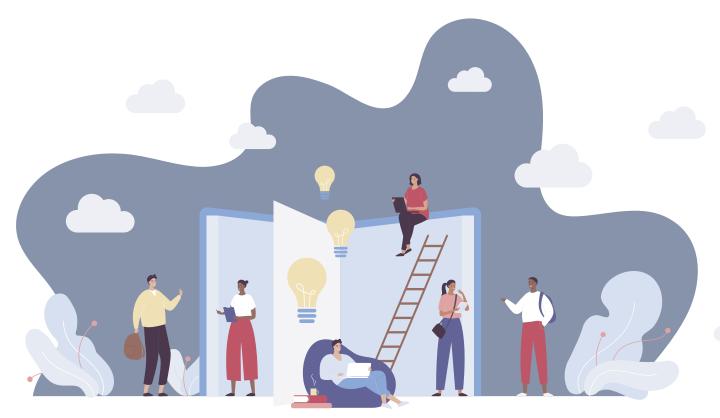
I also love to travel. Whenever I need to relax and recharge, I find myself planning my next trip to a California beach. I've already checked off Malibu, San Diego, Venice, and Santa Monica from my list ... next up is Santa Barbara! I hope to



Christina Bonner

visit many beaches outside the US, too. If you have any recommendations, send them my way.

I was happy to connect with many of you in Toronto at my first JSM and, later, the Biopharmaceutical Section Regulatory-Industry Statistics Workshop. I look forward to meeting more of you via our Community site, Zoom, and future ASA events. ■



STATtr@k

Discover the Benefits of Joining an ASA Student Chapter



Ken Vu is a recent graduate from California State University-East Bay, where he earned his master's degree in statistics. As the co-founder and former communications chair for his university's ASA student chapter, he was responsible for creating and managing the chapter's social media graphics and posts for their Instagram, LinkedIn, and Discord accounts.

hen I started my graduate statistics program at California State University-East Bay (CSUEB) during the spring 2021 semester, I was a recent applied mathematics graduate from San Jose State University looking to expand my statistics knowledge and make new friends. A semester later, I came across a group of statistics and biostatistics students who helped me do just that. I enjoyed working and connecting with them, and we were all responsible for founding CSUEB's first ASA student chapter.

In the spring of 2022, I signed on to be the student chapter's communications chair. I designed and distributed digital fliers and brochures containing information and updates about various chapter activities and events. The activities included hosting speaker events at which students and faculty could speak with and learn from working professionals in the statistics and biostatistics fields and collaborate with the ASA's San Francisco Bay Area Chapter members.

For example, we collaborated with the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter to organize a holiday celebration at San Jose State University on December 11, 2022. We prepared the venue with Christmas decorations and set up tables for job recruiters and representatives from Bay Area biotech employers such as Clindata Insight and RealtimeCRO. The goal was to provide opportunities for attendees to network with employers and prominent contributors to the statistics field and present a panel on key ethical and technical issues, particularly in the health care industry.

I never thought I would gain so much knowledge and experience through my involvement with the ASA student chapter. As an aspiring statistician and data enthusiast, that knowledge developed me personally and professionally, and I highly encourage other students to consider it.

Why Get Involved in ASA Student **Chapters?**

You will build and expand your network with like-minded connections. By starting and participating in a student chapter, you get the chance to not only make new friends and connections but those connections are with students, faculty, and professionals who share your interest in statistics. If you're nervous about the idea of networking (especially if you're a shy and/or neurodivergent person like me), don't worry! Networking is much simpler than it looks. In fact, networking can start with asking fellow students what their favorite hobbies are, what their career goals are, what classes they're taking, or even what projects they're working on.

Networking can also include attending workshops and conferences with prominent researchers, professors, and statisticians who you can ask about topics you're trying to learn about, even if you're still learning and growing. The people you meet along the way might end up being the ones who help you build your career or even land your first job or internship. This was the case for me during my second year in graduate school.

You will gain experience communicating with and/or leading diverse groups of people. Effective communication skills and emotional intelligence are necessary in our increasingly diverse, interconnected, and evolving world. These skills allow you to successfully engage, connect, and work with people from a variety of academic, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds—people who may very well be your co-workers, classmates, employers, or friends. Thus, such skills are just as integral to the success of a company, organization, or community as the technical skills and domain knowledge you possess.

Fortunately, these skills can be developed and practiced by getting involved in a student chapter and being exposed to a diverse group of students. For example, my student chapter included students with bachelor's degrees in STEM and non-STEM majors, international students, out-of-state students, and students from different races and age groups. Considering our differences, we may not have always agreed about how to run the chapter, but we learned how to communicate with those who had differing opinions.

You will participate in major ASA events. The ASA hosts conferences, workshops, and other events that you will have the opportunity to participate in. For example, a few of our chapter members were able to attend the Conference on Statistical Practice in San Francisco because they received travel awards from the ASA Student and Early Career Travel Fund. They went to sessions covering topics ranging from writing effective research papers to biological data management and interacted with student researchers and professionals showcasing their latest statistics-driven research.

In addition, during the spring 2022 semester, we helped bring CSUEB its first DataFest competition. DataFest is an annual ASA event held simultaneously across numerous American colleges and universities. Teams of students compete to produce the best data analysis presentation possible with a large, complex data set. When I participated in DataFest 2022, I worked with other students day and night for three consecutive days to analyze a data set using R and produce a high-quality presentation on our findings. Our hard work and creativity as a team resulted in us winning an award for "Best in Show."

Getting involved with an ASA student chapter allows students to cultivate connections with likeminded students, faculty, and professionals in the statistics and biostatistics community. Students who get involved have the chance to practice transferrable skills, meet a variety of people, and attend numerous events hosted by the ASA.

I am grateful for the experiences I had as the co-founder and communications chair of the California State University-East Bay Student Chapter of the ASA, which helped me learn leadership skills, grow, and engage with the broader statistics community. I hope to see this student chapter continue for the next generation of students and beyond so they can enjoy the same benefits and experiences. ■

STATS4GOOD

UCS's Science for Public Good Fund Targets Projects with Local Impact



David Corliss is the principal data scientist at Grafham Analytics. He also serves on the steering committee for the Conference on Statistical Practice and is the founder of Peace-Work.

¶he Union of Concerned Scientists is accepting applications for a program that should attract considerable interest from the #DataForGood community. Its Science for Public Good Fund offers grants up to \$1,500 to support science in service to the public, making it ideal for a wide range of D4G advocates and projects. The Union of Concerned Scientists has a long history of science advocacy. Founded in 1969 by a group at MIT, the union applies rigorous scientific expertise, research, and discipline to a range of societal issues. It has played a leading role in advocacy concerning climate change, sustainable energy and food production, transportation, and the danger of nuclear war. With a membership including both trained scientists and the public, it advocates for the use of science in policy and greater public funding for scientific research. Organized as a 501c3 nonprofit, the union consistently receives high ratings from charity assessment organizations such as Charity Navigator.

The goals of the funding program are the same as the union's: advocacy with science and for science to benefit the public. With funding of up to \$1,500, projects are mostly small and highly focused. Possibilities include inviting a guest speaker to an event, printing materials or developing a website for the public, advertising, and hosting a hackathon. As with most grant programs, collaborating with others will tend to make your proposal stand out.

The Union of Concerned Scientists is actively seeking projects focusing on justice, equity, and diversity and looks for these qualities in the teams doing the work. Other priorities include projects from early-career scientists, financial need, and projects that help the participants develop skills needed for science advocacy. The program does not support applications for people who have

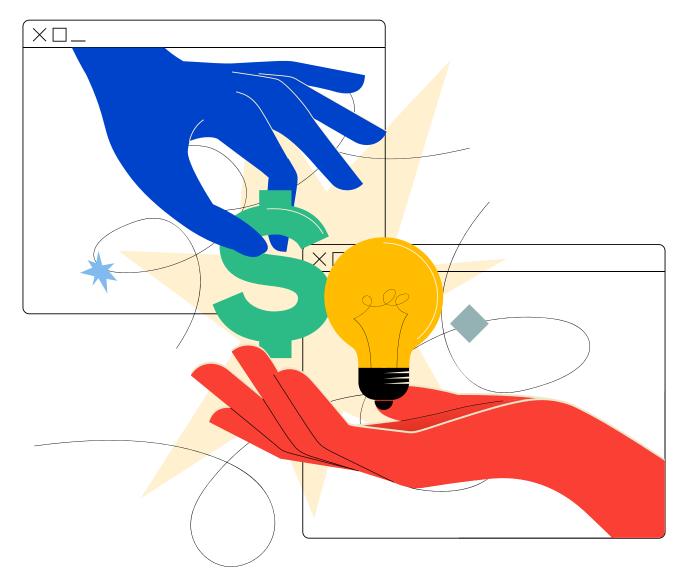
Getting Involved

In addition to the Union of Concerned Scientists Science for Public Good Fund, the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies is accepting nominations for its 2024 awards, which will be celebrated at JSM in Portland. Oregon. Honors include the Presidents' Award for outstanding contributions to the statistics profession, Distinguished Achievement Award and Lectureship for outstanding contributions to statistical methods that have had significant impact on scientific investigations, Elizabeth L. Scott Award and Lectureship for fostering opportunities in statistics for women, and Emerging Leader Award. You can get all the information, including profiles of past winners, on the committee's website at https://community.amstat.org/copss/ awards/nominations.

received Science for Public Good grants more than once in the past.

The union requires grant recipients to be part of their Science Network, so grantees who are not already members will need to join and remain active for two years.

The Science Network is something everyone in Data For Good should be part of, whether you are seeking a grant or not. I've been a member since 2016, and it has been rewarding, helping me make contacts and learn about important new science for the public good.



Grant projects are to be completed and a report sent to the union within six months. This offers an opportunity to create materials showcasing your project and sharing through social media, blogs, and conference presentations. You can also share it with colleagues and possibly local news media.

Grant applications are due by January 5, 2024. You can find the application and detailed information for preparing a submission on the program website at https://bit.ly/3Fij4DR.

A good way to move forward is to visit the website to learn the particulars about applying. Then, research projects that have received support in the past (this is always good practice when developing a proposal for any grant). Projects receiving a grant share information through a variety of channels, especially online, so it's easy to find out about past projects that received union support. Use these examples to help refine your ideas. Over the next month, look for collaborators and other resources you will want to mention in your proposal. Over the holiday break, put your ideas into words and share them with your collaborators. Make sure to get the final proposal submitted by the January 5 deadline.

Consider how your work can make an even greater impact with support from the Union of Concerned Scientists Science for Public Good Fund and get involved with their Science Network to continue growing in 2024. ■

SDSS to Bridge Gap Between Statistics, Data Science in June

Amanda Koepke, SDSS 2024 Program Chair

he 2024 Symposium on Data Science and Statistics, with the theme "Beyond Big Data: Bridging the Gap Between Theory and Practice," is about highlighting the links between statistics and data science and building an inclusive conference that spans fields.

Statistics and data science use many similar tools and techniques, but differences in terminology and user communities often make the gap between the two seem vast. SDSS shines a light on this intersection of data science and statistics and covers a broad range of interests and applications. SDSS has a place for all data enthusiasts, whether new to the field or a seasoned expert, whether working with small data sets or large.

The symposium—taking place June 4-7 in Richmond, Virginia—includes a program organized into the following six tracks:

- Computational Statistics
- Statistical Data Science (formerly Machine Learning)
- Data Visualization
- Practice and Applications
- Education
- Software and Data Science Technologies

So Much to Do and See

The conference will take place in the recently renovated Omni Richmond Hotel (www.omnihotels. com/hotels/richmond), located next to Shockoe Slip (https://bit.ly/45C8QZE), a fun, historic neighborhood filled with abundant food options. Also nearby is the Canal Walk, which stretches more than a mile along the river (https://bit.ly/49bHooG). Visit https://bit.ly/45HsqDI to explore all downtown Richmond has to offer.



The new Statistical Data Science track further shows the programming committee's commitment to bridging the gap by having a more inclusive name that invites a wider range of talks.

SDSS will continue its focus on providing networking and career growth opportunities, especially for students and early-career professionals. This includes speed mentoring and organized lunches and events. To further bridge the gap between novice and expert, the SDSS 2024 program committee-which includes representatives from academia. industry, and government—is brainstorming new offerings.

Short courses, lightning talks paired with poster sessions, plenary panels, and refereed presentations will fill the technical program. Refereed abstracts can be submitted until December 15 at ww2. amstat.org/meetings/sdss/2024/ submitanabstract.cfm.

As in past years, the symposium is collaborating with the Journal of Data Science, and authors of refereed presentations will have the opportunity to submit their papers for a special issue.

For more information about the symposium and how to participate, visit ww2.amstat.org/ meetings/sdss/2024. ■

MORE ONLINE Visit https://bit. ly/3rQGQnl_for the SDSS 2022 / Journal of Data Science special issue

Submit a refereed abstract at ww2. amstat.ora/ meetings/sdss/2024/ submitanabstract.cfm.

Harvard Department of Statistics Celebrates Herman Chernoff's 100th Birthday

Emily Palmer, Harvard Department of Statistics Administrative Coordinator

n May 5, professor of the practice Blitzstein from the Harvard University Department of Statistics launched the centennial celebration of emeritus faculty Herman Chernoff and his research and teaching legacy. The day featured a full program, including a tribute video from former colleagues and students; an interview with professor Xiao-Li Meng; and research presentations from professor emeritus Joseph (Jay) Kadane of Carnegie Mellon University, professor Tian Zheng of Columbia University, and professor Joseph Gastwirth of The George Washington University. The event recognized Chernoff's contributions as a statistician, educator, and mentor.

Career Highlights

Chernoff started his career in 1943 with a BS in mathematics and a minor in physics from City College in New York. For a year and a half, he worked as a physicist with the US Navy, building and fixing electronics. According to John Bather in "A Conversation with Herman Chernoff," published in Statistical Science, Chernoff's use of statistical ideas in the Navy convinced him to return to school to pursue a master's and PhD in applied math at Brown University, where he was supervised by Abraham Wald. Chernoff held faculty positions at the University of Illinois (1949-1952), Stanford



Photo by Sally Thurston Herman Chernoff (left) and Xiao-Li Meng chat during Chernoff's birthday celebration.

University (1952-1974), MIT (1974-1985), and Harvard University (1985-1997).

Chernoff's contributions to the field include work on large sample theory, experimental design, sequential analysis, presenting statistical data in visual form, and statistical decisionmaking. He is also known for his enthusiasm for mentoring. He proposed creating the annual New England Statistics Symposium to support young researchers and, in honor of his contribution to the symposium and profession in general, the New England Statistical Society established the Chernoff Excellence in Statistics Award in 2019.

In recognition of his work, Chernoff has received honors from the National Academy of Sciences and American Academy of Arts and Sciences and been elected fellow of American Statistical Association and Institute of Mathematical Statistics.

An Expansive, Curious Mind

During a conversation with Meng, Chernoff shared why he changed focus from mathematics and physics to statistics. He described a pivotal moment in his graduate student career when he read a paper by Wald about generalizing the testing of hypotheses and estimation. "Wald's paper struck me because [...] it confronted the fundamental idea that the test of a hypothesis or an estimation of a parameter leads to a conclusion and that conclusion should have an economic, realworld consequence." He concluded, "and that's what converted me to being a statistician!"

Chernoff added that reading papers by statisticians Jerzy Neyman and Karl Pearson exposed him to the idea that it was

important to consider alternatives to a hypothesis when evaluating it. Those experiences highlighted what drew Chernoff to statistical thinking: his interest in connecting theory to applications and solving and quantifying problems of uncertainty. Although he was trained as a mathematician and physicist, Chernoff relished the opportunity to tackle a new field.

In his career as a statistician, Chernoff embraced working in applied and theoretical areas, a rare feat today because of how specialized statistics has become. Blitzstein emphasized Chernoff's multi-faceted work in statistics, pointing out his applied and theoretical, Bayesian and frequentist, and parametric and nonparametric approaches.

The research talks given by Chernoff's colleagues showcased the span of his research interests and influence. While Kadane's talk focused on using probability theory to analyze handwriting in a court case, Zheng's talk covered methods for detecting influential variables in high-dimensional data, specifically genetic data. Additionally, Gastwirth spoke about his collaboration with Chernoff on the use of L-statistics to measure economic inequality.

In his interview with Meng, Chernoff explained why the manifold applications of statistics have motivated his career. He reflected, "People regard me as a theoretical statistician, but I've decided in recent years that I'm really an applied statistician. My theoretical insights have relied upon my work in thinking about applied problems."

An example of Chernoff taking inspiration from applied problems was when he created Faces, a data visualization tool he developed to help researchers analyze multivariate data (by presenting data as faces), while at Stanford.

The centennial celebration illustrated Chernoff's love of learning. The curiosity that drove him to study statistics also motivated him to study R. Blitzstein said, "I was pretty impressed that he was still coding. Usually, brilliant mathematicians get their PhD students to do all the coding, but Herman wanted to test out his methods by carrying out the simulations himself." He added, "One day, Herman came into my office and asked for a book on C because R was 'too slow' for him, and I was even more impressed with that!"

A Generous Educator and Mentor

Having taught statistics for many years, Chernoff still encouraged and mentored undergraduates once he became an emeritus faculty. Blitzstein reminisced about when their offices faced each other and he would routinely return to his office to find Chernoff in conversation with a student. "My students from Stat 110 would receive homework help from this friendly man in his 80s without even realizing he had pioneered some of the methods they were using 60 years before," marveled Blitzstein.

Chernoff demonstrated his interest in supporting students' intellectual growth by publishing books such as *Elementary Decision* Theory in 1959 and Algebra I for Students Comfortable with Arithmetic in 2001. Holding his autographed version of the former, Blitzstein commended the book for being accessible to highschool students and addressing some of the most pressing questions in statistics.

Some of the most memorable moments of the centennial celebration were when colleagues and former students shared their stories about Chernoff's tips and coaching. For example, when Gastwirth was a junior colleague at Stanford, he was thrilled to be asked to review an article and willing to offer a tight turnaround with his comments. He shared advice from Chernoff that he's adhered to ever since. "When I told Herman about finishing the review within a week, he said, 'No, no—you have to think about the worst possible thing that can happen to delay you (e.g., you get sick), and then you double that amount of time!""

Harvard statistics professors Meng and Jun Liu shared anecdotes about Chernoff's mentorship. Shortly after Liu arrived as a junior faculty at Harvard, he was drafting the first paper in which he was a first author and Chernoff offered to read it. Liu recalled, "I felt a little intimidated by such a renowned statistician offering to read my paper, but Herman read it and provided such useful, lineby-line comments that it was ultimately accepted into the Annals of Statistics."

During his interview with Chernoff, Meng highlighted an episode that occurred early in his career as a PhD student. In preparation for his qualifying exam, Meng printed a copy of his paper to read to his committee. Chernoff paused the perusal with a question Meng glossed over. Chernoff interjected, "Xiao-Li, you are not answering my question." Meng learned it wasn't sufficient to pursue important research questions; he had to learn how to communicate effectively to succeed as a researcher.

For more information

MORE ONLINE

and to view pictures of the celebration, visit https://bit.ly/45zSsbW.

Lasting Relationships with Colleagues, Family, and Friends

During a tribute video and toasts, friends, family, former colleagues, students, and postdocs acknowledged Chernoff's impact on them. They reminisced about grad student lunches at a pizza parlor and cozy gatherings at the Chernoff home, and they shared some of Chernoff's favorites: politics; travel; dogs; and Swiss orange chip ice-cream. Many also paid tribute to the late Judith Chernoff by reflecting on her warmth and humor and lauding the couple's marriage of more than 75 years.

A Sense of Humor

Throughout the celebration, there were many moments that brought Chernoff's sense of humor to the foreground. An example was when he narrated a story about his analysis of the Massachusetts lottery. When he arrived in Boston, the lottery had only been in place for about 500 days. After a statistician showed the lottery was likely to have had some repetitions but didn't, Chernoff realized the lottery was probably fixed. He elaborated, "When I realized that the lottery was fixed, I thought that I should announce it, but then maybe the gangsters would not like that and would assassinate me. On the other hand, when I told the area chair at MIT, Harvey Greenspan, he suggested that if it was fixed, I should take advantage of it!"

Chernoff's words emblematic of his approach to life and relationships with others. Despite his serious career pursuits, he appreciates humor and enjoys interacting with friends, family, and colleagues. ■

ASA member Nawar **Shara** was recently appointed chief of research data science for the MedStar Health Research Institute. Shara is a seasoned investigator, leveraging technology including artificial intelligence and machine learning in health care research.

As chief of research data science, Shara will provide the strategic vision for growing the health system's AI research programs, continue to build a sustainable sponsored research portfolio, identify emerging trends in data science research and technology, and foster a culture of innovation that supports new data science ideas and applications. She will also continue to serve as codirector of the research institute's Center for Biostatistics, Informatics, and Data Science.

"Over the years, I've had the privilege of leading the biostatistical and analytics team, as well as developing and leading the conduct of research that harnesses the power of technology. My constant pursuit has been to embrace cutting-edge tools and explore innovative ways to effectively utilize electronic health records and health data to enhance the well-being of patients," said Shara. "As the field of analytics continues to evolve, we see new developments emerge every few years. Artificial intelligence represents the latest breakthrough, poised not just to serve as a tool in health care but to fundamentally transform how we deliver patient care. It is imperative that MedStar Health continue to lead in this transformative technology."

My constant pursuit has been to embrace cutting-edge tools and explore innovative ways to effectively utilize electronic health records and health data to enhance the well-being of patients.

Shara was also part of the multi-institutional consortium of research institutions team that secured the National Institutes of Health Clinical and Translational Science Award. This award established the Georgetown-Howard University Clinical and Translational Science Center, where Shara serves as the director of the Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Research Design Core and co-director of the Biomedical Informatics Core.

Outside her professional roles, Shara is a mother to four and lives with her family in northern Virginia. She earned her undergraduate degree in economics from Damascus University and her master's and PhD degrees in applied statistics from American University.

Call for Nominations: Rousseeuw Prize for Statistics

tatistics is a cornerstone of science, health, industry, economics, government, and more and benefits society as a whole. The Rousseeuw Prize for Statistics awards pioneering work in statistical methodology. The prize recognizes a statistical innovation—an outstanding contribution or tool that has had significant impact and found wide application in statistical practice with relevance to society.

The biennial Rousseeuw Prize for Statistics is awarded by the King Baudouin Foundation (www.kbs-frb.be/ en/about-us), a large public utility foundation in Belgium. The prize is named after its sponsor, the statistician Peter I. Rousseeuw, and focuses on the innovation rather than a single individual. This allows recognition of several individuals who made significant contributions. One of the goals of awarding the people who created such an innovation is to promote awareness of the important role and intellectual content of statistics and its profound impact on human endeavors.

The prize is awarded in even years and started in 2022. The award amount is one million US dollars for each prize, to be shared among recipients in case of multiple awardees, which is the hoped-for scenario. The award ceremony is scheduled for the fall of 2024 at KU Leuven.

For the purpose of the prize, statistics is defined as "the science and technology of obtaining useful information from data, taking its variability into account." Statistical work in the above sense can be found under flags such as astrostatistics, data analysis, genomic statistics, quantitative finance, and time series analysis, to name a few.

There is no time window for the work in the sense that it would have to have been completed within a determined range of years. Likewise, there is no age limit on awardees. The awardees must be living persons, not organizations. If one of the main contributors is no longer alive, the surviving author(s) of the joint work can still be awarded, and the deceased contributor(s) will be named explicitly.

Nominations will propose a particular innovation as well as a list of awardees. Considering gender diversity when making the list is encouraged, when applicable. Self-nomination is not permitted. The nominations, including letters of recommendation, are to be submitted by February 29, 2024, on the website www.rousseeuw prize.org, which contains all information about the prize and nomination procedures.

King Baudouin Foundation appoints an international jury consisting of 10 reputed statisticians. The jury will make a ranked shortlist of three options, in case some awardees do not accept the prize or are unwilling to be present at the award ceremony. To avoid undue pressure on the jury, its members are anonymous while they do their work.

The selection of the award is to be impartial and balanced. The members of the jury may not be related to the people on the shortlist through family ties or have been past or present life partners, PhD adviser-student pairs, or co-authors in the last 15 years. When selecting the award topic and awardees, the jury takes into account important contributions and contributors irrespective of gender, race, sexual orientation, ideology, or religion.

In October 2022, the inaugural prize went to a topic in biostatistics: causal inference with applications in medicine and public health. The laureates were James Robins, Miguel Hernan, Andrea Rotnitzky, Thomas Richardson, and Eric Tchetgen Tchetgen. They carried out this research mainly in the United States.

The 2024 prize can be awarded in any of the other four subfields of statistics:

- General statistical method-
- Computational statistics and data science
- Statistics in the physical sciences and industry
- Statistics in economics and humanities

To ensure geographic diversity over time, the 2024 prize cannot go to work carried out in the United States, Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, or United Kingdom. Also, to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest, the award cannot be in Peter Rousseeuw's research areas. More information about the rules can be found at www. rousseeuwprize.org.

Tweedie New Researcher Award

Nominations are being accepted for the Tweedie New Researcher Award, which funds travel to the Institute of Mathematical Statistics New Researchers Conference to present the Tweedie New Researcher Invited Lecture. A new researcher is one who earned a doctorate in one of the five calendar years preceding the year of nomination.

Nominations require the following:

- Recent CV (not older than two years)
- Extended paper abstract
- Two letters of recommendation, one of which can come from the nominator
- A draft citation

Nominations due December 1. For award details, visit https://bit.ly/3M6q0rr. ■

Section Travel Awards for Students

Many ASA sections offer travel awards to students who enter and win their student paper competitions. These awards reimburse registration and travel costs to ASA-sponsored conferences. The following general policies and procedures apply to all ASA section competitions:

- Sections must receive all materials by December 15; however, some sections have earlier deadlines, so check each section's website for dates.
- Winners will be notified by January 15.
- ISM best paper competition winners must submit abstracts and register for ISM through the official ISM abstract submission system by the deadline.

- Students may submit papers to no more than two sections and may accept only one section's award. Students must inform both sections applied to when he or she wins and accepts an award, thereby removing themselves from the award competition for the second section.
- Students planning to participate in section competitions must adhere to the eligibility, paper format, submission process, and other requirements of the sections to which they are applying.

For a list of sections offering awards, visit https://bit. ly/46wkC9d; however, visit each section's website for detailed submission instructions, eligibility requirements, and deadlines.

Chambers Statistical Award

Submissions will be accepted December 1–15 for the John M. Chambers Statistical Software Award, co-sponsored by the ASA Statistical Computing and Statistical Graphics sections.

This annual prize for statistical software written by, or in collaboration with, an undergraduate or graduate student carries a cash award of \$2,000. Both individuals and teams are eligible to participate, but the individual or at least one individual in the team must have begun the development while a student and either currently be a student or have completed all requirements for her/his last degree within the calendar year.

The award will be given to the winning individual or split between up to three winning team members.

Visit the ASA Community at https://bit.ly/3PXnQeO for more information. Email questions about the award to Philip Waggoner at philip.waggoner@ gmail.com. ■





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Deadlines and Contact Information for Select ASA National Awards, Special Lectureships, and COPSS Awards

The ASA's extensive awards program (amstat.org/ASA/Your-Career/Awards-and-Scholarships.aspx) recognizes statisticians who have made outstanding contributions to the association and statistical profession through research, teaching, consulting, and service.

AWARD	DEADLINE	QUESTIONS & NOMINATIONS
David R. Cox Foundations of Statistics Award	December 1	awards@amstat.org
John J. Bartko Scholarship Award	December 2	Donna LaLonde (DonnaL@amstat.org) awards@amstat.org
COPSS Distinguished Achievement Award and Lectureship	December 15	Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS) website (community.amstat.org/copss/home)
Florence N. David Award and Lectureship	December 15	COPSS website (community.amstat.org/copss/home)
George W. Snedecor Award	December 15	COPSS website (community.amstat.org/copss/home)
COPSS Emerging Leader Award	December 15	COPSS website (community.amstat.org/copss/home)
Monroe G. Sirken Award in Interdisciplinary Survey Methods Research	December 20	awards@amstat.org
Gottfried E. Noether Awards	January 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Bob Riffenburgh Award	January 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Karl E. Peace Award	February 1, 2024	awards@amstat.org
W. J. Dixon Award for Excellence in Statistical Consulting	February 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Harry V. Roberts Statistical Advocate of the Year Award	February 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Waller Awards	February 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Samuel S. Wilks Memorial Award	February 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org
W. J. Youden Award in Interlaboratory Testing	February 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Statistics in Physical Engineering Sciences Award	February 20, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Gertrude M. Cox Scholarship	February 23, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Edward C. Bryant Scholarship Trust Fund	March 1, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Excellence in Statistical Reporting Award	March 1, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Fellows of the ASA	March 1, 2024	awards@amstat.org
ASA Mentoring Award	March 1, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Outstanding Statistical Application Award	March 1, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Statistical Partnerships Among Academe, Industry, and Government (SPAIG) Award	March 1, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Annie T. Randall Innovator Award	March 15, 2024	Sherri Rose (sherrirose@stanford.edu)
Biopharmaceutical Section Scholarship Award	March 15, 2024	Biopharmaceutical Community website (community.amstat.org/biop/awards/scholarship)
Founders Award	March 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org
ASA Pride Scholarship	March 31, 2024	Donna LaLonde (DonnaL@amstat.org)
Causality in Statistics Education Award	April 5, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Government Statistics Section Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship	May 1, 2024	Nathan Cruze (nathan.cruze@gmail.com)
Links Lecture Award	July 1, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Dorothy Marie Lamb and Annette Lila Ryne Memorial Scholarship	July 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Health Policy Statistics Section Achievement Awards	September 15, 2024	Health Policy Statistics Section website (asahealthpolicy.org/for-students)
Lester R. Curtin Award	October 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Deming Lecturer Award	October 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org
Lingzi Lu Memorial Award	October 15, 2024	awards@amstat.org

sectionnews

Survey Research Methods

At JSM 2023, the Survey Research Methods Section sponsored six invited sessions, nine topic-contributed sessions, eight contributed sessions, and 18 poster and speed entries on a variety of topics. SRMS also co-sponsored various other sessions. Below is a list of the sessions for which SRMS was the main sponsor:

Invited Sessions

- "Formally Private Disclosure Limitation Methods for Establishment Data," organized and chaired by Daniell Toth
- "Missing Data: The Where, the How, and the Why," organized by Sahar Zangeneh and chaired by Matt Williams
- "Modern Techniques in Robust Estimation for Handling Outliers and Influential Units," organized by Sixia Chen and chaired by David Haziza
- "Advanced Methods of Using Auxiliary Information to Improve Inferences of Population Quantities," organized by Lingxiao Wang and chaired by Sixia Chen
- "Using Machine Learning and Data Science Methods to Improve Model-Assisted Estimation and Survey Design," organized by Morgan Earp and chaired by Katherine Thompson
- "Contributions to Inference from Survey Samples," organized by Balgobin Nandram and chaired by Guofen Yan

Topic-Contributed Sessions

 50 Years of NCVS Data: What We've Accomplished

- and Where We Are Headed," organized by Heather Brotsos and chaired by Alex Piquero
- "Recent Advances in Statistical Modeling and Machine Learning for Dependent Data in Official Statistics and Survey Methodology," organized and chaired by Scott Holan
- "40 Years of the Survey of Consumer Finances: Building a Community of Use for Evidence Building," organized and chaired by Arthur Kennickell
- "Cell Suppression Methods for Economic Census and Establishment Surveys," organized and chaired by Yang Cheng
- "Combining Economic Survey Data with Other Data Sources," organized by Christopher Henry, Heng Chen, and Angelika Welte and chaired by Heng Chen
- "Field Survey Labor Challenges in the US, organized and chaired by Brad Edwards
- "Getting the Utility Out of Privatized Data," organized by Daniell Toth and chaired by Michael Hawes
- "Cryptocurrency Surveys: What Data Tells Us?," organized by Daniela Balutel and chaired by Christopher Henry
- "Measurement of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Federal Surveys," organized by Kathy Ott and Struther VanHorn and chaired by Kathy Ott

Contributed Sessions

 "Exploring Auxiliary Resources at Early Stages in the Sampling Process," chaired by Katherine Irimata

- "Hierarchical Models for Survey Data," chaired by Akhil Vaish
- "Evaluating and Addressing Survey Nonresponse," chaired by Daifeng Han
- "Survey and Data Science," chaired by Victoria Landsman
- "Analyzing Health Survey Data," chaired by Erin Tanenbaum
- "Sampling and Evaluation Strategies to Improve Coverage and Response," chaired by Eric Rancourt
- "Weighting Adjustments," chaired by Evrim Oral
- "Model-Based Estimation for Survey Data," chaired by Justin McIllece

Contributed Speed Posters

- "Propensity Score
 Weighting with Survey
 Weighted Data When
 Outcomes Are Binary," presented by Chen Yang
- "Generalized Estimating Equations for Interpretable Coefficients of Trends, Seasonality, and Covariates," presented by Harold Gomes
- "Outlier Detection for Administrative Data," presented by John Bunker
- "Using Propensity Score Estimation with Survey Weighted Data to Estimate Population Treatment Effects," presented by Lihua Li
- "Evaluating the Hidiroglou-Berthelot Method for Survey Data Collected by the US EIA," presented by Michael Winkler
- "Constructing Better 'Confidence' Intervals for Proportions and Tests of Differences Among Them," presented by Phillip Kott

- "To Calibrate or Not to Calibrate: Disability Measurement and Calibration in a State Health Survey," presented by Robert Ashmed
- "Calibrating the Census' Low Response Score," presented by Patrick Coyle
- "Creating Compact Sampling Units Meeting Population Constraints for In-Person Surveys," presented by Stephanie Zimmer

Contributed Posters

- "Equating Monitor-Based to Self-Reported Physical Activity by Zero-Inflated Quantile Regression," presented by Chengpeng Zeng
- "Extension of Ardah and Oral's Two-Stage RRT to the Polychotomous Case," presented by Evrim Oral
- "Uncertainty Estimation for US Crime Estimates Using the National Incident-Based Reporting System," presented by George Couzens
- "Error Sources, Data Summaries, and Data Cleaning from a World War I-Era Survey," presented by Gerald Shoultz
- "Estimation of US County-Level Average Unhealthy Days by Zero-Inflated Model and Hurdle Model," presented by Yan Wang
- "Dynamic Time-to-Event Models for Future Call Attempts Required Until Interview or Refusal," presented by Xinyu Zhang
- "The Seat-Belt Use Rate Study, Based on Iowa's Data," presented by Zirou Zhou
- "Machine Learning Applications to Survey Quality Control and Fraud Detection," presented by Timothy Van Blarcom

In addition, SRMS honors the best poster presentations it sponsors or co-sponsors at JSM. This year's winners are the following:

- Poster: Timothy Van Blarcom, D3 Systems, for "Machine Learning Applications to Survey Quality Control and Fraud Detection"
- Speed Poster: Harold Gomes, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, for "Generalized Estimating Equations for Interpretable Coefficients of Trends, Seasonality, and Covariates"

Furthermore, we congratulate Chengpeng Zeng of Iowa State University, winner of the 2023 Student Travel Award.

Statistics in Defense and National Security

The ASA's Section on Statistics in Defense and National Security hosted a webinar in July as part of the SDNS Webinar Series.

Thomas Mathew, ASA Fellow and professor of statistics in the department of mathematics and statistics at the University of Maryland Baltimore County, gave a talk on tolerance intervals and regions. In his talk, Mathew defined tolerance intervals and regions, explained how to compute them for univariate and multivariate populations, and illustrated their use with applications like these:

- Testing the ballistic resistance of personal body armor
- Assessing the distribution of the peak cladding temperature of a nuclear power plant below a regulatory requirement
- Computing reference intervals and regions in laboratory medicine

Mathew is the co-author of two books, Statistical Tests for Mixed Linear Models and Statistical Tolerance Regions: Theory, Applications and Computation. He is also a fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics.

A recording and materials from Mathew's webinar are available on the SDNS YouTube channel (https://bit.ly/3rUiw3Y), along with recordings from the following past speakers:

- "Modeling Spectral Data using JMP Pro 17," Chris Gotwalt, SAS Institute
- "MuyGPs: Scalable Gaussian Process Model Estimation with Uncertainty Quantification," Amanda Muyskens, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
- "Introduction to Model Uncertainty and Averaging for Categorical Data," Chris Franck, Virginia Tech
- "A Random Walk in the World of Graph Analytics," Cetin Savkli, Johns Hopkins University

Derek Tucker of Sandia National Laboratories will present at the upcoming webinar in December. His talk, titled "Elastic Bayesian Model Calibration," will give a simple framework for Bayesian model calibration when the model responses are misaligned functional data. To register for this free webinar, visit the SDNS Community page at community. amstat.org/sdns/home.

For additional questions, contact Elise Roberts at SDNS. AmStat@gmail.com. ■



Thomas Mathew



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ICES values its truly international character—plan to gather in Glasgow in 2024.

Learn more at ww2.amstat.org/meetings/ices/2024.



Alabama

■ The University of North Alabama invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position in data analytics to begin fall 2024. PhD or ABD status in statistics, economics, or a related field from an accredited institution is required. Expertise in advanced regression, time-series, and data mining/ data science is preferred. Applications will only be accepted via: https://bit. ly/3RKL6Py. For questions, email employment@una.edu and select option #2. UNA is an equal opportunity employer committed to achieving excellence and strength through diversity. UNA seeks a wide range of applicants for this position so that one of our core values, ethnic and cultural diversity, will be affirmed. UNA is a smoke-free campus.

Indiana

■ Associate/full professor for the Walther Cancer Foundation and Regenstrief Endowed Chair in Cancer Informatics, Department of Biostatistics and Health Data Science/Indiana University School of Medicine, Indianapolis, IN. See posting for duties and education requirements. Competitive salary/excellent benefits. Submit CV, three references to: https://indiana.peopleadmin.com/ postings/19826. Indiana University is an EEO/AA employer, M/F/D/V.

Missouri

■ The Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Missouri University of Science and Technology invites applications for a Kummer Endowed Professorship, with an anticipated start date of August 2024. The department seeks an excellent scholar with a strong research record in data science. Learn more about the application process at (www.mathjobs.org/jobs/list/23056) and (https://hr.mst.edu/careers/ academic-employment) Position #00083283. Apply by 11/15/2023. We value the uniqueness of every individual and strive to ensure each person's success. Contributions from individuals with diverse backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives promote intellectual pluralism and enable us to achieve the excellence that we seek

Professional Opportunity listings may not exceed 65 words, plus equal opportunity information. The deadline for their receipt is the 20th of the month two months prior to when the ad is to be published (e.g., May 20 for the July issue). Ads will be published in the next available issue following receipt.

Listings are shown alphabetically by state, followed by international listings. Vacancy listings may include the institutional name and address or be identified by number, as desired.

Professional Opportunities vacancies also will be published on the ASA's website (www.amstat.org). These listings and additional information about the 65-word ads can be found at ww2.amstat.org/ads.

Employers are expected to acknowledge all responses resulting from publication of their ads. Personnel advertising is accepted with the understanding that the advertiser does not discriminate among applicants on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, color, national origin, handicap, or sexual orientation.

Also, look for job ads on the ASA website at https://jobs.amstat.org/jobseekers.

in learning, research, and engagement. This commitment makes our university a better place to work, learn, and innovate. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

New York

■ The NYU Grossman School of Medicine Division of Biostatistics advances individual and population health by creating, disseminating, and implementing rigorous, innovative statistical and research methodologies. We seek assistant professor candidates who are emerging scholars with evidence of outstanding scholarship, a strong commitment to teaching, interest in methodological and collaborative research, a commitment to team science, and effective communi-cation skills. Apply at apply.interfolio.com/95590.

Texas

■ The Department of Statistics and Data Sciences at The University of Texas at Austin invites applications for faculty positions to begin in fall 2024, including multiple tenured/tenure-track assistant/associate professor positions and assistant/associate/full professor of instruction (non tenure-track) positions. More information and to submit an application apply for (tenured/tenure track) https://apply.interfolio.com/133276 or professional track: https://apply. interfolio.com/133280.

■ The SMU Department of Statistics & Data Science invites applications for an open-rank, tenure-track faculty position involving teaching and collaboration. Submit materials at http:// apply.interfolio.com/128580. To ensure full consideration for the position, apply by November 27, 2023. The committee will continue to accept applications until the position is filled. Address questions to Daniel Heitjan at dheitjan@smu.edu. SMU will not discriminate in any program or activity on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity and expression. The Executive Director for Access and Equity/Title IX Coordinator is designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies and may be reached at the Perkins Administration Building, Room 204, 6425 Boaz Lane, Dallas, TX 75205, 214-768-3601, accessequity@smu.edu.

INTERNATIONAL Canada

■ The Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, University of Waterloo invites applications for 4 tenure-track or tenured positions in statistics, biostatistics or data science. Candidates must have a Phd in statistics, biostatistics or related area. Apply through University of Waterloo, statistics and actuarial science



Statistical Analyst

CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH OFFICE OF TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCES

The Office of Biostatistics is recognized for excellence in the application and communication of statistical science in drug regulation and development. We play a central role in promoting innovative, science-based, quantitative decision-making throughout the drug development life-cycle. To support our Center's mission, we provide statistical leadership, expertise, and advice to ensure that safe and effective drugs are available to the American people.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Work with a multidisciplinary review team to provide statistical programming and data management support, assess the quality and completeness of submissions, prepare clinical trial analysis datasets, validate sponsor results, assist in modeling and simulation, and suggest possible additional statistical analyses required to fully evaluate the evidence in the submission.
- Collaborate with scientists from the Office of Pharmaceutical Quality, statistical reviewers in OB, and management on a variety of computationally intensive projects to support and improve the efficiency of regulatory product review, evaluation of pharmaceutical quality and applied regulatory research.
- Use machine learning and natural language processing to assess internal and external data sources to support assessment of quality intelligence throughout the product life cycle.
- Develop, validate, implement, document, maintain and support programming tools and software according to standards and accepted validation procedures; Support efforts to develop, document and apply reusable code and/or
- Develop software using the appropriate statistical programming packages for statistical reviewers to support programming-intensive review-related activities such as sensitivity analysis, Bayesian approaches, clinical trials modeling, genomic studies, psychometric Clinical Outcome Assessment (COA) validation, and simulation.
- Promote and improve the Center data standards initiatives mandated by the Prescription Drug User Fee Act; Monitor the quality of the implementation of data standards used in New Drug Application submissions.
- Apply your skills to address unique and precedent-setting problems, while refining your consulting, communication, and presentation skills.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

Master's degree in statistics or biostatistics.

Familiarity with R, SAS, data science tools, machine learning predictive techniques and natural language processing.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS

Experience in clinical trials, epidemiology, genomics, or risk assessment. Strong skills in multiple programming environments.

Candidates should also have excellent oral and written communication skills.

The ability to communicate statistical issues to non-statisticians is vital.

BENEFITS

Health and Life Insurance Long-term Care Insurance **Dental and Vision Insurance** Annual and Sick Leave

Paid Holidays Federal Retirement Plan Thrift Savings Plan (401k)

WORK/LIFE BALANCE

Telework & Alternative Work Schedules Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) Child Care Center | Fitness Center Employee Assistance Program/Resource Groups **Commuting and Transportation Programs**



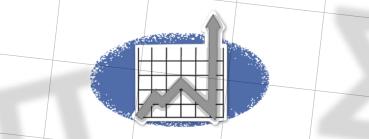
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WORKING AT FDA?

SEND YOUR RESUME OR CURRICULUM VITAE TO: CDEROTSHires@fda.hhs.gov

LOCATIONS

Statisticians are located in the Washington, D.C. area. Remote employment may be available.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION ● CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH ● OFFICE OF TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCES



Strength in Numbers

Join the 300+ strong and diverse community of U.S. Census Bureau mathematical statisticians—at the heart of the statistical quality of our demographic and economic census, surveys, and research.

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- Improve statistical methods for modeling and adjustment of seasonal time series.
- Perform research on statistical methodology that will improve the quality and value of the data collected.
- Publish research papers and technical documentation of your work.

Requirements

- U.S. citizenship
- Bachelor's, Master's, or Ph.D with at least 24 semester hours in math and statistics (see Web site for more specifics on required coursework)

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U.S. Department of Commerce Economics and Statistics Administration U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

(www.mathjobs.org/jobs/list/23073). Include cover letter, CV, research/teaching statements, up to three reprints/ preprints and three reference letters. Full advertisement: https://bit.ly/45izKW4. Closing: November 15, 2023. The university regards equity and diversity as an integral part of academic excellence and is committed to accessibility for all employees. We encourage applications from candidates who have been historically disadvantaged and marginalized, including applicants who identify as Indigenous peoples, Black, racialized, people with disabilities, women and/or 2SLGBTQ+.

■ The Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science, University of Waterloo invites applications for a tenure-track or tenured position in Actuarial Science or Quantitative Finance. Candidates must have a Phd in actuarial, statistical or mathematical sciences, finance or risk management. Apply through (University of Waterloo, Statistics and Actuarial Science (mathjobs.org). Include cover letter, CV, research/teaching statements, up to three reprints/preprints and three reference letters. Full advertisement Two Positions in Actuarial Science or Quantitative Finance, Statistics and Actuarial Science (*uwaterloo.ca*). Closing: November 15, 2023. The University regards equity and diversity as an integral part of academic excellence and is committed to accessibility for all employees. We encourage applications from candidates who have been historically disadvantaged and marginalized, including applicants who identify as Indigenous peoples, Black, racialized, people with disabilities, women and/or 2SLGBTQ+.

Singapore

Assistant, associate and full professor positions in the Department of Statistics and Data Science, National University of Singapore. The Department of Statistics and Data Science at the National University of Singapore invites applications for full-time open-rank positions in statistics, data science and related



Mathematical Statistician

CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH OFFICE OF TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCES

The Office of Biostatistics is seeking individuals with strong statistical methodology skills and an interest in biomedical applications to serve as mathematical statisticians. Incumbents work with multidisciplinary teams of review scientists in a dynamic, highly challenging, and innovative atmosphere of development, evaluation, and research of drug and therapeutic biologics. The Office of Biostatistics is responsible for reviews in all therapeutic areas CDER supports and can be as diverse as cardio-renal, oncology, rare disease, and antimicrobial products. Incumbents have an opportunity to employ a broad variety of statistical procedures relevant to pre-clinical and clinical evaluation decisions for new and generic drugs as well as new and biosimilar biologics and the emerging field of quantitative risk assessment.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Evaluate and advise on protocols for clinical studies and assess the evidence for safety and efficacy from clinical studies submitted in drug and biologics applications.
- Employ a broad variety of statistical procedures relevant to pre-clinical and clinical evaluation decisions for new and generic drugs as well as new and biosimilar biologics and the emerging field of quantitative risk assessment.
- Work with multidisciplinary teams of review scientists in a dynamic, highly challenging, and innovative atmosphere of development, evaluation, and research of drug and therapeutic biologics.
- Refine your consulting, communication, and presentation skills and present at domestic and international professional meetings.
- Engage in an active collaborative regulatory research program which will allow you to advance your skills and professional development.
- Interact with national, international, public, and private organizations on statistical issues, and help develop guidance for the pharmaceutical industry.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants should possess an advanced degree with specific coursework in Statistics, Biostatistics or Mathematical Statistics. Applicants with a doctoral degree and associated experience are highly desirable. In addition to a background in statistics, applicants should have an interest in biostatistics, clinical trials, epidemiology, genomics, or risk assessment.

The ability to communicate statistical issues to non-statisticians is vital.

Non-US citizens may apply for term appointments.

BENEFITS

Health and Life Insurance Long-term Care Insurance Dental and Vision Insurance Annual and Sick Leave Paid Holidays Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) Federal Retirement Plan Thrift Savings Plan (401k)

WORK/LIFE BALANCE

Telework & Alternative Work Schedules
Child Care Center | Fitness Center
Employee Assistance Program/Resource Groups
Commuting and Transportation Programs



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN WORKING AT FDA?

SEND YOUR RESUME OR CURRICULUM VITAE TO: CDEROTSHires@fda.hhs.gov

LOCATIONS

Mathematical Statisticians are located in the Washington, D.C. area. Remote employment may be available.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION ● CENTER FOR DRUG EVALUATION AND RESEARCH ● OFFICE OF TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCES

Assistant Professor Positions Available



The Department of Statistics in the College of Arts & Sciences at Texas A&M University anticipates two tenure-track Assistant Professor positions to begin in August 2024. Both positions will be full-time, 9-month appointments. Completion of all requirements for a PhD/DSc degree in Statistics or a related field prior to beginning employment is required. The department encourages people from all areas of research to apply and is particularly interested in expertise in the broad areas of Computational Statistics/Machine Learning, Bayesian Statistics, or Statistical Bioinformatics. Evidence of interdisciplinary research and focus on computational aspects is a plus. In addition to conducting outstanding research, the successful candidate will be expected to teach undergraduate and graduate courses, supervise graduate students, and provide service to the profession. Excellent computing facilities are available, and highly competitive startup funding and starting salaries are anticipated.

The Department of Statistics has a tradition of outstanding methodological, theoretical, computational, and interdisciplinary research. Current faculty members actively collaborate with colleagues within the department, throughout the university, and at many outside institutions. Interested applicants should include a cover letter, current Curriculum Vitae (CV), a personal statement to include philosophy and plans for research, teaching and service, as applicable, and at least three (confidential) professional references.

To apply, please visit https://apply.interfolio.com/131752. All applications received by December 15, 2023 will receive full consideration. Applications will continue to be accepted until the position is filled. Please direct all inquiries to Dr. Anirban Bhattacharya, Search Committee Chair at hiring@stat.tamu.edu.

areas at tenure track and tenured levels. The National University of Singapore offers internationally competitive salaries, generous research funding, travel support, relocation assistance and other benefits. The Department of Statistics and Data Science has nearly 40 faculty members and provides a stimulating research environment. Applicants must have demonstrated exceptional research potential. For the associate and full professor positions, they must also have a track record of excellence in teaching and leadership. Please submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, research and teaching statements, and at least three letters of recommendation either to mathjobs.org or to Ms Muslihah at muslihah@nus.edu. sg. We have an ongoing recruitment process and will review applications as they are received. More information about the university and the department can be found at www.nus.edu.sg and www.stat. nus.edu.sq. ■

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		ure of Circulation	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date	
a. Total Numbe	er of C	Copies (Net press run)	12147	11750	
	(1)	Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541(Include paid distribution above nomi- nal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	10698	10208	
Paid Circulation (By Mail and	(2)	Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	0	0	
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. Total Paid D	istribu	ution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))	11495	10878	
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. Total Free	or No	minal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))	0	0	
. Total Distri	butior	(Sum of 15c and 15e)	11495	10878	
- Copies not	Distr	ibuted (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))	652	872	
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Percent Pa (15c divide		15f times 100)	100	100	
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PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 2 of 3)

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FDA	p. 42, 44
Institute for Mathematical and Innovation	
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software

SAS	cover 2
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This month's Top 10 is the 'Top Ten **List of Buckets**.'



Wasserstein

Amstat News continues its hilarious offering by ASA Executive Director Ron Wasserstein, who delivers a special Top 10—one that aired during a recent edition of Practical Significance. He says, "I hear all the time about people's bucket lists, so I thought the Practical Significance podcast should also have one."

A bucket of fried chicken—lots of deliciousness coming in at about 4,000 calories.

A bucket of popcorn to enjoy while watching a three-hour movie and ingesting a full gram of salt.

08

A mop bucket with those nice rollers to squeeze the mop head.



ODCASA

An ice bucket—very handy at hotels, or to keep you cool on the beach, where you will need ...

06

A beach bucket for building sandcastles.

A helicopter bucket—for putting out those wildfires.

A paint bucket— 'nuff said.



03

An upside-down paint bucket—for busking drums in the subway.

An excavator bucket so that you can dig even faster that hole you are digging yourself into.

#01

One with a hole in it, dear Liza, dear Liza.

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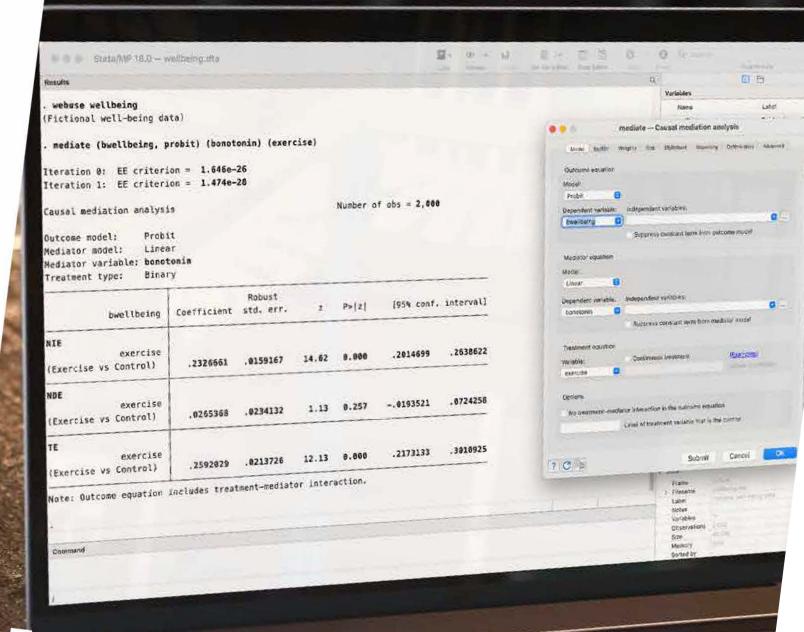
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