The Health Policy Statistics Section (HPSS) of the American Statistical Association (ASA) cordially invites submissions to our student paper competition for the 2018 Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM). Papers entered in the competition should show thorough and appropriate statistical analyses of health policy problems, issues, or questions pertinent to the goals of the ASA Health Policy Statistics Section. Papers focused on advances in statistical theory or statistical methodology are also encouraged provided that they are sufficiently motivated by problems in health policy. The student must be the first author on the paper if there are other co-authors. Current undergraduate or graduate students at any level, as well as those graduating in 2017 who wish to present research they conducted as students, are eligible to participate. Up to five prizes will be awarded. Each winner will be awarded

- an $800 (USD) check,
- a certificate, and
- a ticket to the Wednesday HPSS Speaker with Lunch roundtable.

Students should follow ASA competition guidelines below. Winners, if applying for student paper awards from two sections, must notify both sections if they accept an award from one and then remove themselves from consideration for the award of the other section.

The award for the HPSS student paper competition is an excellent opportunity for students to present their work and launch their professional careers. HPSS has received submissions of very high quality in previous years. If you have a teaching or mentoring role, please bring this to the attention of your students and encourage them to apply.

The following general policies and procedures apply to all ASA section competitions:

- All materials must be received by the Section by December 15, 2017.
- Winners will be notified by January 15, 2018.
- Competition winners must submit abstracts and register for JSM through the official JSM 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 the student 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.

The following policies are specific to the HPSS student paper competition:

- Competition winners must present their paper in a special topic contributed session and no other session.
- Competition winners are encouraged to attend the HPSS Monday night business meeting/mixer in order to receive their awards.

Applications should include:
1. A cover letter including name, current affiliation and status including actual or intended date of graduation, and contact information (address, telephone, e-mail) of the applicant;
2. An abstract of up to 1200 characters;
3. Two drafts of the paper: blinded and unblended. The title, abstract, keywords, the body of the manuscript, acknowledgements and the references (excluding tables and figures) should not exceed 25 pages (A4 or letter, double space).
4. A letter from the adviser certifying student status (or completion of degree within the past year).

Applications must be submitted by email (PDF files preferred) to Roee Gutman by **5 PM EST December 15, 2017**.

For further information and to apply, please contact:

Roee Gutman (Program Chair-Elect, 2018)
Assistant Professor of Biostatistics
Department of Biostatistics
Brown University School of Public Health

Roee_gutman@brown.edu
(401) 863-2682