Caucus of Academic Reps (CAR) Weekly Digest
February 6, 2017

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Positions

(1) North Carolina A&T State University, Department of Mathematics: tenure-track position in statistics

The Department of Mathematics at North Carolina A&T State University invites applications for a 9-month, tenure-track assistant or associate professorship in Statistics available in August 2017. The Department encourages persons from all areas of statistics to apply but is particularly interested in areas of big data methodology and applications, biostatistics, computational statistics, data mining and statistical learning, multivariate statistical analysis, or categorical data analysis. The Department of Mathematics seeks candidates to join a growing Department with interactive faculty. The detailed posting of the position can be found at http://jobs.ncat.edu/postings/11803.

Applications will be reviewed beginning February 28, 2017, and the review will continue until the position is filled. Interested applicants must submit the following items via the job posting at http://jobs.ncat.edu/postings/11803: 1) electronic application for employment (resumes will not be accepted in lieu of completing an electronic application); 2) letter of interest (cover letter); 3) current curriculum vitae; 4) legible copies of all undergraduate and graduate transcripts (upload a copy of each transcript under the degree name; original transcripts will be required if hired); 5) statement of teaching philosophy; and 6) statement of research interests and accomplishments.
Requirements: The position is open to any area of statistics with preference given to those whose research expertise and interests lie in the areas of big data methodology and applications, biostatistics, computational statistics, data mining and statistical learning, multivariate statistical analysis, or categorical data analysis. For the position of assistant professor, applicants must show strong research potential and commitment to excellence in teaching, learning and student success. Research productivity beyond the doctoral dissertation is expected. For an associate professorship, applicants should show evidence of excellence in teaching, learning and student success, and have an established research reputation, including success in securing extramural funding, record of publications and supervision of graduate students.

Additional Salary Information: Ph.D. in Statistics or Biostatistics at the time of anticipated appointment date; and experience and a track record indicating excellent potential to conduct research, obtain extramural funding, advise students, and experience teaching undergraduate and graduate courses is required.

Internal Number: 001446

(2) University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Zilber School of Public Health Visiting Assistant Professor Opening - Biostatistics

The Joseph J. Zilber School of Public Health, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, invites applications for a non-tenure-track Visiting Assistant Professor position in Biostatistics that will begin in August 21, 2017. The successful candidate will be expected to teach graduate level biostatistics courses; mentor graduate students; develop and/or expand their own research program; and collaborate with academic colleagues in the Zilber School and the University. This appointment is a 9-month position with a two-year contract that offers a competitive salary and benefit package.

Required Qualifications: Doctoral degree or equivalent in Biostatistics or related disciplines by August 21, 2017.

Preferred Qualifications: (1) On-going research in Biostatistics (2) Proven ability to teach graduate level biostatistics courses and mentor graduate students. (3) Research interests in one or both areas of statistical computing and Bayesian statistics. (4) Teaching interests in one or both areas of statistical computing and Bayesian statistics.

Research interests of current Biostatistics faculty include GWAS, statistical genetics, pharmacogenomics, public health bioinformatics, network modeling, causal inference, high-dimensional data analysis, biomedical informatics, risk prediction for chronic diseases, and applied statistics for population health and social and behavioral health sciences. The Zilber School is involved in research that spans tobacco and food policies; life-course analyses, maternal and child health; epigenetics; developmental neurobiology and immunotoxicology; environmental toxicology; social and environmental epidemiology; and mass criminalization and health.

Application Process: This is a continuous recruitment. Review of applications will begin February 10, 2017, and continue until the position is filled. Applications received after February 9, 2017, may not receive consideration. All applications must be done online through the UWM Human Resources website. To apply for this position, please use the following link, jobs.uwm.edu/postings/25891.
(3) Augusta University, Medical College of Georgia, Department of Biostatistics & Epidemiology: Assistant/Associate Professor of Biostatistics

The Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology in the Medical College of Georgia at the Augusta University (AU) invites applications for a tenure track faculty position in Biostatistics at the Assistant or Associate level. Applicants must have a Ph.D. in biostatistics or a closely related field. Experience and demonstrated interest in computational biology, data analytics, epigenetics or genomics is highly desirable. Interest and ability in active collaboration with other investigators in biomedical and public health research within and outside of AU will be an important factor in the selection of candidates, as will doctoral teaching and mentoring experience. Candidates must have a nationally recognized record of innovative and leading-edge methodological research, genuine interest in interdisciplinary collaborations in translational research, successful track record of extramural funding support, strong ability and interest in teaching and mentoring students, and demonstrated leadership potential.

The Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at AU offers pre- and post-doctoral training programs in Biostatistics, and a Masters and a Certificate program in Clinical and Translational Science. Immediate future plans include developing graduate programs in Data Analytics and Epidemiology. The new faculty members will join a highly interdisciplinary faculty and will play an integral role in the ongoing expansion of research and education at AU. The academic departments, and centers and institutes such as the Center for Biotechnology and Genomic Medicine, Cyber Institute, Georgia Cancer Center, Georgia Prevention Institute, Institute of Public and Preventive Health and Sickle Cell Center provide rich opportunities for interdisciplinary research.

Interested applicants should send curriculum vitae, a brief statement of current and planned research, and names and contact information of at least three references to:

Varghese George, Ph.D., Chair
Dept. of Biostatistics and Epidemiology
Medical College of Georgia at Augusta University
1120 15th Street, AE 1005
Augusta, GA 30912-4900
E-mail: VGeorge@Augusta.edu
Phone: (706) 721-0801
www.augusta.edu/mcg/biostatepi/

Review of applications will begin immediately. Position is open until filled.

(4) University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine: postdoctoral fellowships

Postdoctoral fellowships are available in imaging statistics as part of the Penn Statistical Imaging and Vizualization Endeavor (PennSIVE). PennSIVE is a group of statisticians interested in the study of disease and development through biomedical imaging at the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine. This fellowship centers on the development of statistical methodology for the study of structural magnetic resonance imaging. Applicants should have a PhD in biostatistics or statistics, an established methodological research publication record, experience with advanced statistical computation, and excellent communication skills. Expertise in biomedical imaging is also recommended.
Additionally, a joint postdoctoral fellowship between the departments of Biostatistics (Dr. Taki Shinohara) and Psychiatry (Dr. Desmond Oathes) at the University of Pennsylvania is seeking applicants who are willing to learn and to help develop statistical models for functional MRI data acquired in the context of non-invasive neuromodulation. We plan to study predictors of TMS response, change before and after neuromodulation, and better understand how acute and prolonged modulation protocols induce neural plasticity. We prefer individuals who have a PhD in a related field and with methodological research publications as well as experience with statistical computation. Communication skills are also prioritized given that the applicant will learn and share resources across labs and will be encouraged to write papers, grants and to give scientific presentations.

Please forward a curriculum vitae to Taki Shinohara by email (rshi@upenn.edu) to apply. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

(5) Portland State University: Assistant/Associate Professor

This position is part of a cluster hire in "Environmental extremes". It is also part of a strategic plan in developing Statistical Data Science at Portland State. Apply at jobs.hrc.pdx.edu/postings/22220

Funding opportunities and information

(1) NSF Director’s Notes

See NSF Director France Cordova’s monthly message here: http://us12.campaign-archive1.com/?u=e565a96b120cd217183307476&id=9d8150c6cc&e=845c412d7e

(2) NSF Dear Colleague Letter: Request for Input on Federal Datasets with Potential to Advance Data Science

See https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2017/nsf17049/nsf17049.jsp

(3) NSF Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Transdisciplinary Research in Principles of Data Science Phase 1 (TRIPODS)


(4) NSF: Resource Implementations for Data Intensive Research in the Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences (RIDIR)

See https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2015/nsf15602/nsf15602.htm

Synopsis of program: As part of NSF’s Cyberinfrastructure Framework for 21st Century Science and Engineering (CIF21) activity, the Directorate for Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) seeks to develop user-friendly large-scale next-generation data resources and relevant analytic techniques to advance fundamental research in SBE areas of study. Successful proposals will, within the financial resources provided by the award, construct such databases and/or relevant analytic techniques and produce a finished product that will enable new types of data-intensive research. The databases or
techniques should have significant impacts, either across multiple fields or within broad disciplinary areas, by enabling new types of data-intensive research in the SBE sciences.

(5) NIH: Request for Information on Enhancing Timely Data Sharing from NIA-Funded Studies
grants.nih.gov/grantsguide/notice-files/...

The National Institute on Aging (NIA) is seeking comments and suggestions on ways to enhance the timely sharing of high-quality data generated by NIA-funded studies. Through this Request for Information (RFI), NIA seeks additional perspectives on what, if any, unique considerations exist for sharing of data from NIA-funded research on aging. Furthermore, NIA invites comments on what the extramural research community and other stakeholders believe are the primary characteristics of successful data-sharing resources and strategies (currently in use). Finally, NIA invites responses focusing on what stakeholders believe are the barriers to broad sharing of data and what additional resources and tools stakeholders believe would promote more timely and efficient sharing of data from NIA-funded research on aging. NIA will use information from responses to this RFI to inform NIA policy development.

Full details, including how to submit a response, at https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-AG-17-001.html.

(6) NIH: CTSA Program Data to Health (CD2H) Coordinating Center (U24) (RFA-TR-17-006)
(RFA-TR-17-006)
National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences
grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/...

Funding Opportunity Purpose

This funding opportunity announcement (FOA) invites applications for a Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) Program Data to Health Coordination Center (CD2H-CC) that will support the activities of the CTSA Program in using data to translate discoveries to health benefit. The CTSA Program supports high quality translational and clinical research locally, regionally, and nationally, and fosters excellence and innovation in research methods, informatics, training, and career development. The CTSA Program is evolving into an innovative national consortium of academic medical centers that comprises “hubs” — working together to support translational science and improve the research process in order to get more treatments to more patients more quickly. It is expected that the CD2H-CC will 1) support and enhance a collaborative informatics community for the CTSA Program, 2) develop Good Data Practice (GDP) for information stewardship, 3) promote software standards for interoperability, 4) foster collaborative innovation in the area of informatics tools, methods, and processes, 5) stimulate the use of cutting edge biomedical research informatics and data science education for CTSA Program researchers, and 6) evaluate the impact of CD2H-CC activities to enhance health through the use of informatics resources. Through these activities it is expected that the CD2H-CC will discover, develop, demonstrate, and disseminate innovation in informatics tools, standards, methods, and processes and will facilitate collaboration and consortium activities in the area of innovative informatics solutions that will translate to health benefit.

Key Dates
(7) NIH: Data Management and Coordinating Center (DMCC) for the Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) Collaborative Research Centers (CRC) (U24) (RFA-NS-17-02)


Funding Opportunity Purpose

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is to invite new cooperative agreement applications for the Data Management and Coordinating Center (DMCC), which supports the Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) Collaborative Research Centers (CRC). This FOA will support the DMCC (U24) cooperative agreement that will focus on providing the infrastructure and support to the individual ME/CFS CRCs in their activities. Clinical data management for efficient data collection as well as data mining and data sharing will be addressed in the data management and coordinating center (DMCC). The ME/CFS CRCs will establish a network to facilitate research through: 1) collaborative basic and/or clinical research on ME/CFS; 2) longitudinal studies of individuals with ME/CFS within each ME/CFS CRC and across CRCs within the network; 3) access to information related to ME/CFS for basic and clinical researchers, academic and practicing physicians, healthcare professionals, patients, and the lay public.

Key Dates

- Posted Date January 27, 2017
- Open Date (Earliest Submission Date) April 2, 2017
- Letter of Intent Due Date(s) 30 days prior to the application due date
- Application Due Date(s) May 2, 2017, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization

(8) AHRQ: Notice of Intent to Publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA): Implementation and Evaluation of New Health Information Technology Strategies for Collecting and Using Patient-Reported Outcome Measures (NOT-HS-17-006)


Purpose

AHRQ intends to publish a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for grant applications to stimulate innovative and collaborative research by utilizing new health information technology (IT) strategies for
collecting and using patient-reported outcome (PRO) measures in primary care and other ambulatory care settings.

This Notice is being provided to allow potential applicants sufficient time to develop meaningful collaborations and responsive projects.

The planned FOA is expected to be published in 2017. Details of the planned FOA are provided below.

Research Initiative Details

PROs offer an essential perspective that complements clinician assessments, and may provide greater insights into health status, function, symptom burden, adherence, health behaviors, and quality of life. Although health IT has been shown to be an enabler of the use of PROs in certain healthcare settings with certain populations and disease types, PRO data are not commonly collected and integrated at the point of care. Electronic health record systems in use today often do not collect and present PRO data in ways that can afford truly meaningful use for broad and comprehensive clinical or health outcomes measurement and improvement.

AHRQ is planning to solicit applications for projects that develop new health IT strategies for implementing existing PRO measures in ambulatory care environments, including projects that support the care of people with multiple chronic conditions. All projects must include an implementation and evaluation plan for the health IT strategy, rationale for the PRO measures selected, and how the selected PRO measures can lead to desired outcomes (e.g., patient health outcomes, quality of care).

APPLICATIONS ARE NOT BEING SOLICITED AT THIS TIME.

Please direct all inquiries to:

Chun-Ju (Janey) Hsiao, PhD
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
Center for Evidence and Practice Improvement
Division of Health Information Technology
Telephone: 301-427-1505
Email: PROsHealthIT@ahrq.hhs.gov

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**Workshops and Conferences**

(1) **Eighth International Workshop on Statistical Analysis of Neural Data**

For statisticians who would like to find out what's going on in statistics for the brain sciences, the eighth international workshop on Statistical Analysis of Neural Data (SAND8) will take place May 31-June 2, 2017, in Pittsburgh, PA.

*Partial travel support is available.*

The 3rd Annual Conference for Statistical Methods in Imaging is also taking place on the same days, in parallel, at a nearby location in Pittsburgh.
SAND8 will begin with a morning-long panel discussion on “Emerging Challenges of Brain Science Data,” and will end with several talks that connect statistical analysis to mathematical modeling. In between there will be keynote talks by senior investigators and shorter presentations by junior investigators, the latter selected on a competitive basis. There will also be a poster session, to which all participants are invited to contribute. Talks and posters may involve new methodology, investigation of existing methods, or application of state-of-the-art analytical techniques. In addition, there will be a lunchtime discussion devoted to opportunities and challenges for women in computational neuroscience.

Confirmed keynote lecturers, panelists, and discussants include the following: Genevera Allen, Rice; Marlene Behrmann, CMU; Emery Brown, MIT/ Harvard Medical School; Elizabeth Buffalo, U. Washington; Anne Churchland, Cold Spring Harbor; Peter Dayan, Gatsby; Alain Destexhe, CNRS, France; Adrienne Fairhall, U. Washington; Sonja Grun, Julich Institute, Germany; Alon Korngreen, Bar-Ilan, Israel; Mark Kramer, Boston U.; Andrew Leifer, Princeton; Brian Litt, Penn; Katherine Nagal, NYU; Jonathan Pillow, Princeton; Sridevi Sarma, Johns Hopkins; Aarti Singh, CMU; Andreas Tolias, Baylor; Timothy Verstynen, CMU.

Any young investigator interested in presenting their work as a talk should submit an abstract by MARCH 6. Requests for travel support are due MARCH 20. Please see our website: http://sand.stat.cmu.edu

This workshop series is concerned with analysis of neural data of all kinds, ranging from anatomy to electrophysiology, to neuroimaging. It aims to define important problems in neuronal data analysis and useful strategies for attacking them; foster communication between experimental neuroscientists and those trained in statistical and computational methods encourage young researchers, including graduate students, to present their work; and expose young researchers to important challenges and opportunities in this interdisciplinary domain, while providing a small meeting atmosphere to facilitate the interaction of young researchers with senior colleagues. We are especially interested in attracting to this workshop people wishing to learn more about challenges in the analysis of neural data who are females, under-represented minorities, or persons with disabilities.

The organizers are Emery Brown, Elizabeth Buffalo, Rob Kass, Liam Paninski, Sri Sarma and Jonathan Victor.

(2) Registration Now Open! - 10th Annual University of Pennsylvania Conference on Data and Safety Monitoring Committees in Clinical Trials

For details and link to registration: http://www.med.upenn.edu/cceb/biostat/ClinTrials17_index.shtml

(3) Live-streaming SAMSI Workshop on the Interface of Statistics and Optimization

February 8-10, 2017

The SAMSI Workshop on the Interface of Statistics and Optimization brings together pioneers in statistics and optimization. In one-hour lectures they will discuss the breadth and depth of advances, computational challenges, and cutting-edge applications.

Speakers:
Larry Biegler (CMU), John Burns (Virginia Tech), Jack Dongarra (Tennessee), Yonina Eldar (Technion), Jianqing Fan (Princeton), Michael Jordan (UC Berkeley), Arkadi Nemirovski (Georgia Tech), Alex Shapiro (Georgia Tech), Bernd Sturmfels (UC Berkeley & MPI Leipzig), Martin Wainwright (UC Berkeley), Margaret Wright (NYU Courant), Steve Wright (Wisconsin)

The workshop will be live-streamed at [external link removed]. The final schedule is still under construction.

(4) Call for abstracts - 2017 New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports

The 2017 New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports will be a meeting of statisticians, statistical researchers, and quantitative analysts connected with sports teams, sports media, and universities to discuss common problems of interest in statistical modeling and analysis of sports data. The symposium format will be a mixture of invited talks, a poster session, and a panel discussion. Students in particular are encouraged to submit abstracts; a prize will be awarded to the best student poster as decided by a panel of judges.

ABSTRACTS FOR TALKS AND POSTERS ARE NOW REQUESTED, AND SHOULD BE SUBMITTED ON THE ONLINE ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM


Decisions for accepting abstracts will be made by June 30, 2017.

Further details of the 2017 NESSIS are forthcoming. Complete up-to-date information will be posted at the 2017 NESSIS web site.

Please contact Mark Glickman (glickman@fas.harvard.edu) or Scott Evans (evans@sdac.harvard.edu), the co-organizers of the symposium, with any questions.

(5) Deadline Extended to February 16, 2017: Abstract Submission for MCP 2017

We would like to draw your attention about the deadline extension (Feb. 16, 2017) for the abstract submission for the 10th International Multiple Comparison Procedures. The MCP2017 organizing committee encourage you to submit abstract through the conference web site (http://www.mcp-conference.org). Talks from any area covered by the conference’s scientific topics are welcome. Your support and participation are much appreciated.

For further details and submission of abstracts visit http://www.mcp-conference.org/ or contact Prof. Xinping Cui (Co-chair) xinping.cui@ucr.edu.

(6) Project TIER workshop, March 31 - April 1, 2017

A Project TIER "Teaching Integrity in Empirical Research" workshop will be offered March 31-April 1, 2017 at Haverford College (in the western suburbs of Philadelphia).

Please see the Project TIER site (http://www.projecttier.org/) for more information.

Note that ASA recently offered a webinar about Teaching Reproducible Resource, featuring 2015-16
TIER Faculty Fellows Ben Baumer and Mine Çetinkaya-Rundel, and Karl Broman (http://www.amstat.org/ASA/Education/Undergraduate-Educators.aspx, follow the link to Publications).


(7) 21st Applied Probability Day

The 21st Applied Probability Day is on Friday April 21, and is hosted by CAP (Center for Applied Probability) at Columbia University, and organized by CAP's director Karl Sigman. This day is to honor Ward Whitt on the occasion of his recent 75th birthday. Please come!


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Awards

(1) 2017 TSHS Portal Innovation Challenge Awards

The Teaching of Statistics in the Health Sciences (TSHS) Section is pleased to announce the 2017 TSHS Portal Innovation Challenge Awards. These will be awarded by the section to the best contributions accepted and published on the TSHS Resources Portal (www.causeweb.org/tshs) during the 2016 – 2017 academic year (before June 1, 2017). One award of $250 will be presented for the best contributed dataset and a second award of $250 will be presented for the best contributed teaching materials related to an existing Portal dataset.

The mission of the TSHS Resources Portal is to promote excellence in the teaching of statistics in the health sciences through the dissemination of peer-reviewed health sciences-related datasets and teaching materials that are centrally archived in a public domain easy-to-navigate website. The purpose of the Innovation Challenge Awards is to publicize the Portal to increase the number of contributors and users.

Portal submissions that will be eligible for the 2017 award may be either 1) a health sciences-related dataset and codebook (no simulated data, please), or 2) a set of teaching materials to accompany a previously published Portal dataset; teaching materials could include classroom activities, lab activities, quiz question sets, homework problem sets, lecture notes, etc.

All Portal submissions are peer-reviewed by the TSHS Portal editorial board, and accepted submissions are published on the Portal. The best contributions that are accepted and published on the Portal during the 2016-2017 academic year (before June 1, 2017), as judged by the Portal editorial board, will win the 2017 Innovation Challenge awards. The awards will be presented at the TSHS section mixer at the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) in Baltimore in August 2017.

More information about contributing to the TSHS Portal can be found at www.causeweb.org/tshs/contributors/. If you have further questions, please contact us at tshsportal@gmail.com.
(2) **Nominations for the Waller Education Awards due February 15**

Please visit [http://www.amstat.org/ASA/Your-Career/Awards/Waller-Awards.aspx](http://www.amstat.org/ASA/Your-Career/Awards/Waller-Awards.aspx) and consider nominating a colleague.

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(1) **Suggest topics for the 2017 JSM Workshop for Department Chairs**

The CAR Executive Committee is beginning to plan for the 2017 JSM Workshop for Department Chairs. Please use this [form](#) to suggest topics and/or presenters for the workshop. Your input is important to us and will help us plan a valuable workshop.

(2) **The American Statistician Call for Editor Applications**

The American Statistical Association invites applications for the position of editor of the *The American Statistician*.

*The American Statistician* publishes articles of general interest to the statistical profession. Articles address topics that are important to a broad group of statisticians, and ordinarily are not highly technical. The journal is organized into the following sections: Statistical Practice, General, Teacher’s Corner, Statistical Computing and Graphics, Reviews of Books and Teaching Materials, Letters, History Corner, and Interdisciplinary.

For more information about *The American Statistician*, see Aims and Scope and the Editorial Board.

The new editor will serve from 2018 through 2020, with the transition beginning late summer or early fall of 2017.

Applications should be sent electronically to [eric@amstat.org](mailto:eric@amstat.org). Applications should include a CV, names of 3 references, and letter of interest in the position including a brief statement of the candidate’s vision for *The American Statistician*, directions the candidate would pursue and contributions she or he would make if selected as editor. Applications should be sent no later than February 17, 2017.

(3) **New data resource available from the National Science Foundation**

This week, NSF announced the release of the 2017 Women, Minorities and Persons with Disabilities report, produced by our National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES). This is the federal government’s most comprehensive look at demographic participation in science and engineering, drawing from NCSES surveys and other sources. In addition to the digest, the WMPD website contains extensive, in-depth data tables that enable researchers or the public to use this information for their own analyses. As NSF Director France Córdova notes, "This report is a valuable resource to the science and engineering policy community."

NSF is looking to reach as many people as possible to let them know that this free, valuable data is available. NSF requests help to amplify its outreach, and encourages use of WMPD data as a resource for your own work. The information contained in the WMPD report has particular significance for the
education community, as much of the data (and four out of seven sections in the digest) look at enrollment, field of degree, degrees awarded and other educational benchmarks. The press release is live on the NSF website here.