Positions: (see all the latest jobs on the ASA Job Web)

1. Johns Hopkins University, Division of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics: post-doctoral fellow
2. University of Haifa, Department of Statistics: post-doctoral fellow

Funding opportunities: Visit the ASA’s Funding Opportunities Community for recent past information. (You’ll need to log in to ASA Members Only.)

1. NSF: Appointment of Dr. Juan Meza as Division Director, Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS)
2. NSF: Critical Techniques, Technologies and Methodologies for Advancing Foundations and Applications of Big Data Sciences and Engineering (BIGDATA)
3. NIH: Limited Competition: FaceBase 3: Craniofacial Development and Dysmorphology Data Management and Integration Hub
4. NIJ: 1. New Solicitation: Research and Development in Forensic Science; and 2. Become an NIJ Peer Reviewer

Workshops and Conferences

1. Call for Proposals for 2018 New England Statistics Symposium, April 13-14, 2018
2. Reminder: eCOTS proposals are now being accepted (deadline March 1)
3. Symposium on Statistical Risk Assessment at NC State University
4. Big Data Workshop at UNMC May 18

Awards

1. Call for SPAIG Award Nominations to Recognize Successful Collaborations

Other opportunities or information:

1. IBS - Call for Editor Nominations – JABES
2. Interesting reads
**Positions**

(1) Johns Hopkins University, Division of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics: post-doctoral fellow

Position Title: Postdoctoral fellow  
Location: Johns Hopkins University  
www.rits.onc.jhmi.edu/DBB; www.hopkinsmedicine.org/armstrong_institute/centers/...

Duration: 1-2 years

Duties and responsibilities: A postdoctoral position is available in the Division of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins. We are seeking highly motivated individuals to develop and apply novel statistical methods for evaluating diagnostic tests and biomarkers, identify sources of misdiagnosis and eliminate preventable patient harms from diagnostic errors. The successful candidate will join a multidisciplinary team of researchers who focus on medical diagnosis, precision medicine and electronic health records, with the primary mentor from biostatistics. The main responsibility of this position is statistical methodology development and its computational implementation. The successful candidate will also have the opportunity for collaborative projects with faculty in the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins and in the Armstrong Center for Diagnostic Excellence on projects related to diagnostic accuracy. Our research team has database and visualization experts to help preprocess medical care data and to potentially present the statistical model in an interactive or dynamic fashion. The successful candidate is encouraged to take advantage of these resources.

Qualifications: Candidates should have a strong quantitative background with a doctorate in biostatistics, statistics, or a related discipline. Strong programming skills, ideally in R, are required. Experience in statistical methods for medical diagnosis, survival analysis and electronic health records are preferred.

Application Information: Please send your CV, letter of intend including a brief summary of past/current research, writing sample if available (published or arxiv/biorxiv paper) and three reference letters to Dr. Zheyu Wang at wangzy@jhu.edu

Salary Range: Competitive and depends on research experience.

Benefits:  
www.hopkinsmedicine.org/som/offices/registrars/...

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

(2) University of Haifa, Department of Statistics: post-doctoral fellow

The Department of Statistics at the University of Haifa in Israel is seeking a postdoctoral fellow to be supervised by Prof. Philip Reiss. The position will entail methodological work in functional data analysis and semiparametric regression, as well as collaborative projects in psychology and psychiatry, including
analysis of neuroimaging data. Facility with R programming and strong communication skills are required.

The department has 12 full-time faculty members, whose research interests include theoretical statistics, applied statistics, biostatistics, actuarial science, probability, operations research, optimization and machine learning. Faculty members have been recognized internationally for their academic research.

The postdoctoral position is for one year, renewable for a second year. Applicants should hold, or be very close to completing, a PhD in statistics, biostatistics or a related field.

To apply, please send a CV, a statement of research interests, and contact information for three references to Prof. Reiss at reiss@stat.haifa.ac.il.

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(1) NSF: Appointment of Dr. Juan Meza as Division Director, Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS)

(From DMS News) We are very pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Juan Meza as Division Director for the NSF Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS) effective February 20, 2018.

Dr. Meza joins the NSF from the University of California, Merced where he served most recently as the Dean of Natural Sciences. Dr. Meza’s distinguished career spans more than 30 years, with leadership and management experiences working in academia, national laboratories, and industry. He served as Department Head and Senior Scientist of High Performance Computing Research at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and was a Distinguished Member of the Technical Staff at Sandia National Laboratories. Dr. Meza has also been a member of the NSF Mathematical and Physical Sciences Advisory Committee and multiple Committees of Visitors for DMS as well as a member of the NSF CISE Advisory Committee for Cyberinfrastructure. He has also served on the board of directors of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in the Sciences (SACNAS), the National Academies Board on Mathematical Sciences and its Applications, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Council, representing the Section on Mathematics. Dr. Meza holds bachelor's and master’s degrees in electrical engineering, and master's and doctoral degrees in computational and applied mathematics, from Rice University.

(2) NSF: Critical Techniques, Technologies and Methodologies for Advancing Foundations and Applications of Big Data Sciences and Engineering (BIGDATA)


Submission Window Date(s) (due by 5 p.m. submitter’s local time):

May 07, 2018 - May 14, 2018

Synopsis of Program:
The BIGDATA program seeks novel approaches in computer science, statistics, computational science, and mathematics leading towards the further development of the interdisciplinary field of data science. The program also seeks innovative applications in domain science, including social and behavioral sciences, education, physical sciences, and engineering, where data science and the availability of big data are creating new opportunities for research and insights not previously possible.

The solicitation invites two categories of proposals:

- **Foundations (BIGDATA: F):** those developing or studying fundamental theories, techniques, methodologies, and technologies of broad applicability to big data problems, motivated by specific data challenges and requirements; and
- **Innovative Applications (BIGDATA: IA):** those engaged in translational activities that employ new big data techniques, methodologies, and technologies to address and solve problems in specific application domains. Projects in this category must be collaborative, involving researchers from domain disciplines and one or more methodological disciplines, e.g., computer science, statistics, mathematics, simulation and modeling, etc.

Proposals are expected to be well motivated by specific big data problems in one or more science and engineering research domains. All proposals are expected to clearly articulate the big data aspect(s) that motivate the research. Innovative Applications proposals must provide clear examples of the impacts of the big data techniques, technologies and methodologies on applications in one or more domains.

In FY 2018, the BIGDATA program continues the cloud option that was introduced in FY 2017, in partnership with Amazon Web Services (AWS), Google Cloud, and Microsoft Azure (see Use of Cloud Resources, at the end of Section II, Program Description).

Before preparing a proposal in response to this BIGDATA solicitation, applicants are strongly urged to review other related programs and solicitations and contact the respective NSF program officers to identify whether those solicitations are more appropriate. In particular:

- Proposals that focus exclusively on areas of biology supported by NSF’s Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO) should be submitted to programs such as Advances in Biological Informatics that are managed by the BIO Division of Biological Infrastructure (DBI); [www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=DBI](http://www.nsf.gov/div/index.jsp?div=DBI)
- Proposals specific to geosciences that respond to the community needs and requirements expressed by the geosciences community should consider the EarthCube program for Developing a Community-Driven Data and Knowledge Environment for the Geosciences ([www.nsf.gov/geo/earthcube](http://www.nsf.gov/geo/earthcube));
- For the development of robust and shared data- or software-centric cyberinfrastructure capabilities, applicants should consider the Cyberinfrastructure for Sustained Scientific Innovation - Data and Software program (CSSI; [www.nsf.gov/funding/pgmsumm.jsp?pims_id=505505](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgmsumm.jsp?pims_id=505505));
- For computational and data science research not specifically addressing big data issues, applicants should consider the Computational and Data Enabled Science and Engineering program (CDS&E [www.nsf.gov/funding/pgmsumm.jsp?pims_id=504813](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgmsumm.jsp?pims_id=504813));
For work that is focused more on scaling performance of software rather than data-related issues, applicants should consider the Scalable Parallelism in the Extreme program (SPX; www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=505348);

Proposals that focus on research in mathematics or statistics that is not tied to a specific big data problem should be submitted to the appropriate program within NSF’s Directorate for Mathematical & Physical Sciences (MPS) Division of Mathematical Sciences (DMS); see a list of DMS programs at www.nsf.gov/funding/programs.jsp?org=DMS; and

- Proposals that focus on research relevant to NSF’s Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) not tied to a specific big data problem should be submitted to the appropriate CISE program, including the core programs:
  - Computing and Communication Foundations (CCF) Core Programs: www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf17571; and

(3) NIH: Limited Competition: FaceBase 3: Craniofacial Development and Dysmorphology Data Management and Integration Hub

Limited Competition: FaceBase 3: Craniofacial Development and Dysmorphology Data Management and Integration Hub (U01 Clinical Trial Not Allowed) (RFA-DE-19-003)
National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research
Application Receipt Date(s): July 17, 2018 by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All types of non-AIDS applications allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on this date. Late applications will not be accepted in response to this FOA. Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

(4) NIJ: 1. New Solicitation: Research and Development in Forensic Science; and 2. Become an NIJ Peer Reviewer

NIJ is seeking proposals for basic or applied research and development projects. An NIJ forensic science research and development grant supports a discrete, specified, circumscribed project that will:

- Increase the body of knowledge to guide and inform forensic science policy and practice.
- Lead to the production of useful material(s), device(s), system(s), or method(s) that have the potential for forensic application.

The intent of this program is to direct the findings of basic scientific research; research and development in broader scientific fields applicable to forensic science; and ongoing forensic science research toward the development of highly discriminating, accurate, reliable, cost-effective, and rapid methods for the
identification, analysis, and interpretation of physical evidence for criminal justice purposes. Projects should address the challenges and needs of the forensic science community.

The application deadline for the solicitation is April 23, 2018.

Review the solicitation.

Applicants must register with Grants.gov at prior to submitting an application.

Learn how to become an NIJ proposal peer reviewer.

This solicitation is competitive; therefore, NIJ staff cannot have individual conversations with prospective applicants. Any questions concerning the solicitation should be submitted to the National Criminal Justice Reference Service: 1-800-851-3420; TTY at 301-240-6310 (for hearing impaired only); email grants@ncjrs.gov; fax 301-240-5830; or web chat webcontact.ncjrs.gov/ncjchat/chat.jsp. See also nij.gov's solicitation FAQ page.

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### Workshops and Conferences

(1) **Call for Proposals for 2018 New England Statistics Symposium, April 13-14, 2018**

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics and the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst are excited to co-host the 32nd annual New England Statistics Symposium (NESS) on Saturday, April 13-14, 2018: [https://symposium.nestat.org/index.html](https://symposium.nestat.org/index.html)

The theme of NESS 2018 is “Data - Science - Society”, reflecting the growing role that data and statistical sciences are playing in shaping and improving society. We invite proposals for invited sessions from the New England statistical community on all aspects of probability, statistics and data science. We are interested in both methodological developments and innovative applications of statistics. Proposals for invited sessions are due March 5, 2018: [https://symposium.nestat.org/SessionProposalform.php](https://symposium.nestat.org/SessionProposalform.php)

We also invite submissions from student authors for the IBM Student Paper Competition and the MassMutual Student Poster Competition. Abstract submissions for the student paper and poster competitions are due March 26, 2018: [https://symposium.nestat.org/call-for-participation.html](https://symposium.nestat.org/call-for-participation.html)

Additionally, a set of short courses will be offered on Friday, April 13th, on a range of topics including Bayesian modeling using Stan (taught by Stan core developers) and causal inference. [https://symposium.nestat.org/short-courses.html](https://symposium.nestat.org/short-courses.html)

We hope that you will register to attend this year’s conference, and that you will encourage your students and colleagues to do the same. We look forward to seeing you in April!

Sincerely,

The New England Statistics Symposium Planning Committee

Anna Liu (co-chair), UMass Statistics
Nicholas Reich (co-chair), UMass Biostatistics
Raji Balasubramanian, UMass Biostatistics
Patrick Flaherty, UMass Statistics
Jianan Hui, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals
Yihua (Mary) Zhao, Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals

(2) Reminder: eCOTS proposals are now being accepted (deadline March 1)

The 2018 Electronic Conference on Teaching Statistics (eCOTS) May 21-25, 1918 is shaping up to be an exciting online event with keynote presentations from Jeff Leek (Johns Hopkins) and Dick DeVeaux (Williams College) as well as a record number of face-to-face regional conferences! The deadline for proposals for breakout sessions, virtual posters, and birds-of-a-feather discussions is now just two weeks away. This year’s eCOTS focuses on statistics education at all levels and types of learning institutions: secondary school, two-year/community colleges, and four-year liberal arts and research universities.

The conference theme is "Data Science for All." Recently, we have seen a rise in data scientist (or related) positions in industry as well as a boom in data science graduate and undergraduate programs. How should statistics educators and students respond? What curriculum should we teach? How should we teach it? Have the goals of statistics education changed? If so, how?

This conference is for anyone who teaches or studies statistics or data science, regardless of experience with either. Sessions will range from ideas for incorporating data science and statistics concepts into all curricular levels to providing interactive data and learning opportunities for all students and teachers to building certificates and programs that include data science. Panel discussions will include describing data science and its potential role in statistics education, a look at the state-of-the-art in online statistics education tools, and the future of statistics education, including funding opportunities. The conference website will also include a list of related available statistics and data science resources for attendees as well as the general public.

Session proposals related to the conference theme will be given priority. Virtual posters related to a broader coverage of statistics education topics will be given equal priority. All proposals are due by March 1, 2018. For more details about eCOTS 2018 and to submit a proposal, please visit www.causeweb.org/cause/ecots/ecots18/proposals/submit

If you have any questions, please contact program chair Rebecca Nugent at rnugent@stat.cmu.edu.

(3) Symposium on Statistical Risk Assessment at NC State University

The Section on Risk Analysis of the American Statistical association invites you to attend a Symposium on Risk Analysis at NC State University May 10th and 11th. This symposium features experts in climate change risk, high throughput toxicity testing, genetic environmental risk, actuarial risk, social media terrorism threat detection, and adversarial risk. The symposium is designed so that the attendees can learn about problems within and outside of their current research areas, and it is geared towards networking and solving problems through small breakout sessions. It is an exceptional opportunity for researchers, practitioners, and students. The content of the symposium and biographical sketches of our speakers are available at (www.harrissymposium.org). Links to registration are also available at the website. If you have any questions, feel free to contact myself, Matt Wheeler, at mwheeler@cdc.gov or
the current chair of the Section on Risk Analysis Mike Pennell at mpennell@cph.osu.edu. As attendance is capped at 175, we urge you to register as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing you there!

**4) Big Data Workshop at UNMC May 18**

Great Plains IDeA-CTR at UNMC is hosting a big data workshop on May 18. For more details, please contact IDeA-CTR at 402-552-2260 or gpctr@unmc.edu

Mark your calendars also for April 27, when the ASA Nebraska Chapter will welcome Dr. Ofer Harel of the University of Connecticut. Dr. Harel will present his short course titled "An Analysis of Incomplete Data."

More details will follow once registration is active. Please spread the word to your colleagues and friends, and let them know they can join our mailing list by contacting us at amstat.nebraska@unmc.edu.

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### Awards

**1) Call for SPAIG Award Nominations to Recognize Successful Collaborations**

Have you seen great examples of statistical partnerships and collaborations? Are you part of an organization that has an effective partnership with another organization? Then we want your help. We want nominations that recognize excellence among collaborating organizations for the ASA SPAIG award.

The key element to qualify is as follows: "Nominees must represent at least two of the organizations from academe, industry, or government. Also, their collaboration must have resulted in significant contributions to the statistical field with applications to real-world problems."

For nomination instructions and a form, visit the SPAIG website. The winner will be recognized at this year's Joint Statistical Meetings in Vancouver, BC, Canada. Nominations are **due by March 1, 2018**.

**Instructions:**

[www.amstat.org/ASA/Your-Career/Awards/...](http://www.amstat.org/ASA/Your-Career/Awards/...)

**AmStat News Articles:**

[ magazine.amstat.org/blog/2017/10/01/asajsmawards](http://magazine.amstat.org/blog/2017/10/01/asajsmawards)

[ magazine.amstat.org/blog/2017/12/01/spaig_2017](http://magazine.amstat.org/blog/2017/12/01/spaig_2017)

Thank you from the SPAIG Award Committee.
(1) IBS - Call for Editor Nominations – JABES

The International Biometric Society and the American Statistical Association have invited nominations and applications for the position of editor of the Journal of Agricultural, Biological, and Environmental Statistics (JABES).

JABES publishes articles of immediate and practical value to applied researchers and statistical consultants in the agricultural sciences, the biological sciences (including biotechnology), and the environmental sciences (including those dealing with natural resources).

JABES is published quarterly by Springer in March, June, September, and December. The editor reviews new submissions and sends selected papers to associate editors, who also review the papers and either send a response to the editor or the paper to referees for in-depth reviews. Springer's editorial tracking system is used for online submissions and the peer review process. Funds are provided for editorial staff support and office supplies.

The editor also works with Springer's production editor to create each issue and to ensure timely production and publication.

JABES receives approximately 160 submissions a year.

Additional duties of the editor include writing a quarterly report for the IBS Biometric Bulletin, overseeing the selection of best papers in JABES, organizing the JABES Showcase session at the IBC and JSM and reporting to the IBS Executive Board on impact factors and other issues that are of importance.

The next editor will serve a three-year term, from 2019 through 2021, with the transition beginning in 2018.

Nominations should be sent to JABES@biometricsociety.org no later than March 9, 2018. Once received, nominations will be presented to the Chair of the JABES Editor Search Committee for further consideration. Interested individuals are encouraged to nominate themselves.

(2) Interesting reads

From time to time in this space we’ll bring you articles that may be of interest to academic departments of statistics. Here are two:

From the New York Times: The Misguided Drive to Measure ‘Learning Outcomes’

From Buzzfeed: The Inside Story Of How An Ivy League Food Scientist Turned Shoddy Data Into Viral Studies