



## **Caucus of Academic Reps (CAR) Weekly Digest** **March 12, 2018**

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## Positions

### (1) University of Minnesota, School of Public Health, Division of Biostatistics

The School of Public Health (SPH) at the University of Minnesota seeks a Division Head, to be appointed at the rank of full Professor, for its Division of Biostatistics. The position requires a well-established researcher, collaborator, and mentor who can be a visionary leader with the skills to strengthen and further develop our successful teaching and research programs.

The Division, one of four in the SPH, focuses on the critical statistical methods employed in scientific health-related research, from designing studies to analyzing and comprehending data. Learn more at <http://www.sph.umn.edu/academics/divisions/biostatistics/>.

Reporting to the Dean of the School of Public Health, the Division Head will:

- be the chief administrator of the Division and a member of the SPH Executive Team, developing the Division's strategic vision and resources to achieve its missions in collaboration with a Division executive team and with SPH and community leadership;
- strengthen a collegial and collaborative culture that is inclusive, diverse, and supportive for faculty, staff, and students;
- recruit excellent faculty, particularly those from under-represented backgrounds;
- organize and provide exceptional mentoring to junior and newly promoted faculty;
- work collaboratively with SPH leadership to supervise, prepare, implement and monitor the Division budget, which encompasses all funding sources and ensures compliance with grant, legislative, and institutional guidelines as well as effective management of Division resources;
- advance and contribute to the Division's diverse portfolio of interdisciplinary research, teaching, and service;
- support and expand activities with community, industry, and government partners;
- actively seek philanthropic opportunities and partnerships.

**Required Qualifications:** Candidates must have a PhD or ScD in Biostatistics, Statistics, or a closely related field and credentials commensurate with appointment as a tenured full professor in the Division and School. They should have a nationally recognized record of scholarship, including securing funding; demonstrated excellence in mentorship, leadership, and management; and experience in teaching and/or mentoring in a diverse academic environment.

**Preferred Qualifications:** The ideal candidate will be a global thinker who is intellectually curious about advancing the science of biostatistics and its applications in public health and medicine. We seek a candidate who can articulate a vision for enhancing the research and educational missions of the Division nationally and internationally, and who has knowledge, skills, and managerial experience needed for guiding our organization.

This national search will continue until the position is filled. Initial review of applicants will begin the week of April 16, 2018. To apply for the position, please submit: a cover letter that provides an overview of your qualifications and describes your contributions to fostering diversity in your institution and your ideas for fostering diversity in our Division; your CV including publications, funding, and teaching/advising/mentoring; and a list of at least three references (submit on-line at <https://z.umn.edu/jobopening322561>). Salary will be competitive and commensurate with qualifications and background. Questions about the position can be directed to the Search Committee Co-Chairs, Lynn Eberly ([leberly@umn.edu](mailto:leberly@umn.edu)) and Tim Beebe ([beebe026@umn.edu](mailto:beebe026@umn.edu)) or to Interim Division Head Wei Pan ([panxx014@umn.edu](mailto:panxx014@umn.edu)). Questions about the employment web site or the application process can be directed to Tracey Kane ([kane@umn.edu](mailto:kane@umn.edu)).

## **(2) University of Iowa, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science: Visiting Faculty Position**

The Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science invites applications for one or more non-tenure-track faculty positions on a one-year appointment to teach statistics during the 2018-19 academic year, subject to budgetary approval. Applications are welcome for part-time (up to 87% time) employment, and are potentially renewable. Applicants should possess a PhD in statistics or a related area, by the start date of the appointment. Excellent communications skills are essential. Common research interests with current faculty and experience teaching statistics courses are desired. Fall appointments begin [August 15, 2018](#), and candidates must be legally able to work in the United States on that date. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until all positions have been filled.

Applications should be submitted online at <http://jobs.uiowa.edu>. Refer to requisition #72439.

Applications should include a cover letter, a current CV, and academic transcript(s). Three letters of reference should be sent directly to the search committee by the letter writers. Letters should particularly address the applicant's potential for excellence in teaching and should be sent to: [stat-searchcommittee@list.uiowa.edu](mailto:stat-searchcommittee@list.uiowa.edu). Hardcopy letters can be mailed to the following address, if necessary.

Visiting Faculty Search Committee  
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science  
University of Iowa  
[241 Schaeffer Hall Iowa City, IA 52242-1409](#)

## **Funding opportunities and information**

### **(1) NSF Webinar on March 20: TRIPODS+X: Partnerships between Science and Engineering Fields and the NSF TRIPODS Institutes**

The National Science Foundation will hold a webinar (teleconference seminar) to outline the goals of, and proposal-submission requirements for, the new program Partnerships between Science and Engineering Fields and the NSF TRIPODS Institutes (TRIPODS+X). There will be a question and answer session following the presentation.

The webinar will take place on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, EDT (Eastern Daylight Time; UTC/GMT -4 hours). To participate, please see the information on the NSF Event page for the webinar: [www.nsf.gov/events/event\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=244739](http://www.nsf.gov/events/event_summ.jsp?cntn_id=244739)

## **(2) NIJ: New Solicitation: Research and Evaluation on Decision-making, Fiscal Year 2018**

With this solicitation, NIJ seeks proposals for funding for research and evaluation projects to help identify the trait factors and state factors of individual law enforcement officers that may reliably explain their decision-making during encounters with the public.

NIJ is interested in identifying those factors tending to lead to successful encounter outcomes; as well as those tending to lead to unsuccessful outcomes. NIJ is also interested in understanding how these factors may lead to different outcomes based on the type of encounter, including understanding how the importance of individual differences in trait and state factors may vary based on the frequency, risk, and reason for an encounter with the public.

NIJ is most interested in proposals for research and evaluation projects that address a wide range of potential encounter scenarios. Potential scenarios include: low frequency, high-risk encounters, such as responding to an active shooter event or making an arrest; high frequency, low-risk, consensual encounters such as responding to a request for information; and encounters pursuant to an investigation, which may or may not be consensual.

All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on May 7, 2018.

[Review the solicitation.](#)

Applicants must [register with Grants.gov](#) prior to submitting an application.

## **(3) NSF: Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science (NSF INCLUDES)**

NSF INCLUDES (Inclusion across the Nation of Communities of Learners of Underrepresented Discoverers in Engineering and Science) is a comprehensive national initiative designed to enhance U.S. leadership in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) discoveries and innovations by focusing on broadening participation in these fields at scale. The vision of NSF INCLUDES is to catalyze the STEM enterprise to collaboratively work for inclusive change, which will result in a STEM ...  
More at [www.nsf.gov/funding/...](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/...)

Full proposal deadline April 4, 2018.

## **(4) NSF: Cybersecurity Innovation for Cyberinfrastructure (CICI)**

Available Formats:

HTML: [www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18547/...](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18547/...)

PDF: [www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18547/...](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18547/...)

Synopsis of Program:

The objective of the Cybersecurity Innovation for Cyberinfrastructure (CICI) program is to develop, deploy and integrate security solutions that benefit the scientific community by ensuring the integrity, resilience and reliability of the end-to-end scientific workflow. CICI seeks three categories of projects:

- Secure Scientific Cyberinfrastructure: These awards seek to secure the scientific workflow by encouraging novel and trustworthy architectural and design approaches, models and frameworks for the creation of a holistic, integrated security environment that spans the entire scientific CI ecosystem;
- Collaborative Security Response Center: This single award targets the development of a community resource to provide security monitoring, analysis, expertise, and resources Research & Education (R&E) cyberinfrastructure staff, regardless of physical location or organization; and
- Research Data Protection: These awards provide solutions that both ensure the provenance of research data and reduce the complexity of protecting research data sets regardless of funding source.

#### **(5) NSF-NIH Interagency Initiative: Smart and Connected Health**

Notice Number: NOT-OD-18-149

Key Dates

Release Date: March 9, 2018

Related Announcements

None

Issued by

Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research ([OBSSR](#))

National Cancer Institute ([NCI](#))

National Human Genome Research Institute ([NHGRI](#))

National Institute on Aging ([NIA](#))

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism ([NIAAA](#))

National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering ([NIBIB](#))

National Institute of Mental Health ([NIMH](#))

National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke ([NINDS](#))

National Library of Medicine ([NLM](#))

Purpose

Institutes and Centers of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF) have identified Smart and Connected Health as a program focus. The purpose of this interagency program solicitation is the development of technologies, analytics and models supporting next generation health and medical research through high-risk, high-reward advances in computer and information science, engineering and technology, behavior, cognition, robotics and imaging. Collaborations between academic, industry, and other organizations are strongly encouraged to establish better linkages between fundamental science, medicine and healthcare practice and technology development, deployment and use. This solicitation is aligned with previous reports by the

President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology and others calling for new partnerships to facilitate major changes in health and medicine, as well as healthcare delivery and is aimed at the fundamental research to enable these changes. Realizing the promise of disruptive transformation in health, medicine and healthcare will require well-coordinated, multi-disciplinary approaches that draw from the computer and information sciences, engineering, social, behavioral, and economic sciences, medical and health research and biology.

The following will be considered in response to NSF's solicitation [NSF-18-541](#):

- Integrative Projects: Multi-disciplinary teams spanning 2 to 4 years and may receive NIH support from \$300,000 total costs per year.

Scientists and engineers from all disciplines are encouraged to participate.

Application submission is through the National Science Foundation via solicitation [NSF-18-541](#). Following a jointly conducted initial peer review of these applications, likely NIH awardees applications will be forwarded for NIH processing. The general interests of the participating NIH Institute organizations are outlined below:

#### National Cancer Institute (NCI)

NCI is interested in funding research centered on the use smart and connected health technologies to facilitate the efficient and effective collection, flow, and use of health information to improve cancer outcomes. Two governing documents are especially relevant to guide research endeavors in the area. First is a report produced by the President's Cancer Panel, a legislatively mandated oversight committee, titled: "[Improving Cancer-Related Outcomes with Connected Health: A Report to the President of the United States from the President's Cancer Panel.](#)" Second is the [NCI's Cancer Moonshot SM Blue Ribbon Panel Report](#) on priorities for accomplishing in five years what might otherwise have taken ten. From these two reports, the following priorities are relevant to the SCH initiative:

- Improve understanding of how connected health technologies can optimize team performance through better support for distributed cognition between all members of the patient's virtual care team (inclusive of the patient and patient's caregivers) as co-producers of positive health outcomes across the continuum of care from prevention, early detection, treatment, survivorship, and end-of-life.
- Identify strategies to enhance individuals' engagement in their healthcare through smart and connected support structures, including the ability to manage symptoms and adverse events during treatment.
- Develop approaches for using data from connected devices – including biosensors, home monitoring devices, smartphones, and wearable technologies – in meaningful ways to enhance clinical care and to support faster cures.
- Create the building blocks of a national data ecosystem for sharing and analyzing cancer data so that researchers, clinicians, and patients will be able to contribute data and benefit from actionable data analytics.
- Develop intelligent data mining tools for predicting patients' responses to treatment based on a retrospective analysis of patients' clinical, specimen, and genomic data.

- Utilize health information technologies to enhance cancer surveillance for the benefit of local, regional, and national efforts to improve health outcomes equitably across populations.

#### National Human Genome Research Institute of (NHGRI)

NHGRI encourages research related to genomic medicine. Such research may include, but not be limited to:

- methods and algorithms for aggregation of multi-scale clinical and genomic data about a patient in electronic health records (EHRs) and personal health records (PHRs)
- decision support tools to facilitate optimized patient-centered, evidence-based decisions utilizing genomic data
- human-computer interfaces for clinician, patient, and family access to genomic information in EHRs and PHRs.

#### National Institute on Aging (NIA)

NIA is specifically interested in applications which improve quality of life and health of individuals with Alzheimer's Disease (AD) and Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia (ADRD) and/or their family care providers, with a special focus on diverse and underrepresented populations, including older adults living alone. Additionally, efforts to address how the SCH program might begin to address prediction of cognitive or other decline in everyday function that may predict or detect the earliest indicators of dementia will be of interest.

#### National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)

- Use technology (e.g. EMA, brain imaging, biosensors) and innovative statistical methods (e.g., machine learning, systems science dynamic models) appropriate for analysis of "big data" (i.e., time intensive, multisource data) to inform our understanding of mechanisms underlying problematic alcohol use.
- Development or improvement of a portable, affordable, inconspicuous, and user-friendly device/technique to enhance medication adherence.
- Develop, improve, and validate ecological momentary assessment (EMA) methods for capturing, integrating and analyzing real-time multi-source data related to alcohol use including sensor integration and modeling behavioral processes.
- Devise novel methods (e.g., Web-mining software of social networking sites) that capture social network information among groups at risk for alcohol use disorder and high-risk drinking.

#### National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB)

The mission of NIBIB is to improve health by leading the development and accelerating the application of biomedical technologies. NIBIB has broad interests in the development of biomedical technologies to improve human health and address health disparities. Program areas of particular relevance include: health information technologies, telehealth, mHealth, point-of-care technologies, rehabilitation engineering, robotics, and next generation predictive models. The Institute is interested in the development of novel technologies and in advances that enable effective utilization of new or existing technologies.

#### National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)

Within the goals of this FOA, NINDS is particularly interested in research that advances technologies and systems with the potential to decrease the burden of neurological disorders and stroke. Examples of areas of interest include the development and validation of invasive and non-invasive devices,

diagnostic/monitoring tools, advanced imaging techniques, computational models, tissue engineering, and other innovative methods.

#### National Library of Medicine (NLM)

NLM is interested in the development of technologies, analytics and models that utilize novel informatics and data science approaches to help individuals gather, manage and use data and information about their personal health. To bring the benefits of big data research to consumers and patients, new biomedical informatics and data science approaches are needed, shaped to meet the needs of consumers and patients, whose health literacy, language skills, technical sophistication, education and cultural traditions affect how they find, understand and use personal health information. Novel data science approaches are needed to help individuals at every step, from harvesting to storing to using data and information in a personal health library. These approaches should support FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) principles of data management.

#### National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

NIMH is interested in supporting the development of novel technologies to improve the understanding and treatment of mental illness. NIMH encourages research consistent with the NAMHC workgroup report "[Opportunities and Challenges of Developing Information Technologies on Behavioral and Social Science Clinical Research](#)" to improve early detection of mental illness and improve access, continuity, quality, equity, and value of care. NIMH priorities include:

Deep phenotyping through the development of technologies to capture and analyze fine-grained, multimodal data from individuals with mental disorders and healthy controls, for the purpose of identifying novel biological and behavioral patterns that can (1) add to our understanding of specific mental health constructs and domains of function; (2) reveal causal links between environmental factors and mental functions; (3) uncover developmental trajectories; (4) better predict outcomes; and (5) improve the specificity and timeliness of clinical interventions. Technologies of interest to NIMH include, but are not limited to:

- Sensors tailored to infer subjective mental states (e.g. mood, thought process, risk of self-harm, abnormal perceptions) from objectively observable behaviors (e.g. speech, movement, social interactions).
- Sensors adapted to monitor mental health related outcomes across the lifespan, in special populations, and within diverse settings (e.g. young children, geriatric populations, nonverbal individuals, assisted living environments).
- Platforms for the delivery of nonpharmacological interventions (e.g. cognitive behavioral, psychosocial, stimulation-based) in real-world settings.
- Technology allowing simultaneous, temporally synchronized neurophysiology measurements and quantification of behavior, with high spatial and temporal precision, using either invasive or noninvasive methods, toward the long-term goal of closing the loop between real-time behavioral measurements and delivery of targeted interventions in real-world settings.
- Sensors to measure outcomes of mental health interventions, including demonstrations of sensitivity to change and correspondence to conventional clinical assessments.

Technologies targeting improvements in mental health care delivery systems, including:

- Methods to harmonize and analyze electronic health record (EHR) data across multiple systems, especially for low base-rate events/conditions that are difficult to identify, treat, and/or manage (e.g., suicide).
- Application of 'big data' analytics and/or algorithm development to EHRs to inform real-time clinical decision making and measurement-based care associated with the delivery of mental health services.
- Technology platforms that include real-time use of disease registries, measurement-based care, feedback systems, and quality improvement processes as part of a continuously learning healthcare system.
- Research to improve designs, measures, and statistical approaches to support testing of system improvement efforts, including information and communication technologies.

Technology platforms which can be utilized across a range of systems (e.g., primary care, schools, criminal justice system, child welfare agencies) to optimize the delivery of effective mental health interventions.

- Development of innovative technologies to facilitate adoption, implementation, sustainability, and scalability of best practices, or conversely, technologies to de-implement low value mental health services.

#### Inquiries

Please direct all inquiries to:

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**(6) NIH Science-Based Quality Measurement and Management Development for Opioid Use Disorder Treatment (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Required)**

Science-Based Quality Measurement and Management Development for Opioid Use Disorder Treatment (R61/R33 Clinical Trial Required)

[\(RFA-DA-19-005\)](#)

National Institute on Drug Abuse

Application Receipt Date(s): November 7, 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. 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.

**(7) NIH: Natural Product, Multi-Site, Clinical Trial, Data Coordinating Center (Collaborative U24 - Clinical Trial Required)**

Natural Product, Multi-Site, Clinical Trial, Data Coordinating Center (Collaborative U24 - Clinical Trial Required)

[\(PAR-18-697\)](#)

National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health

Application Receipt/Submission Date(s): New Applications: June 7, 2018; February 7, 2019; and October 7, 2019 Resubmission and Renewal Applications: June 21, 2018, February 21, 2019, and October 21, 2019, by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization. All types of non-AIDS applications allowed for this funding opportunity announcement are due on these dates. 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.

## Workshops, Webinars and Conferences

### **(1) 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Innovations in Design, Analysis and Dissemination: Frontiers in Biostatistical Methods conference**

The Kansas-Western Missouri Chapter of the American Statistical Association, Cerner Corporation, and The University of Kansas Medical Center Department of Biostatistics are pleased to announce the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Innovations in Design, Analysis and Dissemination: Frontiers in Biostatistical Methods conference, to be held April 19 - 20, 2018, on the campus of Cerner Corporation in Kansas City, Missouri.

SAVE THE DATE

Keynote Address      *A Machine Learning Approach for Improving the Accuracy of Medical Diagnoses*  
Presented by:  
Daniel Jeske, Ph.D.,  
Professor at the University of California-Riverside, and fellow of the ASA

Short Course          *Data Visualization for Survey Research: From Data Collection, through Budgets and Production, to Reports and Presentations*  
Presented by:  
Edward Mulrow, Ph.D., Vice President, NORC at the University of Chicago &  
Nola Du Toit, M.S., Research Methodologist, NORC at the University of Chicago

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTED PAPERS AND POSTERS

We are currently accepting oral and poster abstract submissions for the conference. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to submit an abstract if you would like to be considered to make a presentation at this event.

Deadline for Abstracts:	Contributed Oral Presentation	April 1, 2018
	Contributed Poster Presentation	April 10, 2018

Please visit our [website](#) to register and for more details on the schedule of events and speakers.

### **(2) Celebrating the Foundations and Impact of Statistics: A Symposium Honoring the 95th Birthday of Herman Chernoff**

Date: Friday, April 27, 2018, 10:00am to 6:30pm

Location: Hilles Hall, [59 Shepard St](#), Cambridge, MA 02138

Co-Sponsors: Boston Chapter of the ASA (BCASA), New England Statistical Society (NESS), and the Harvard Statistics Department

Registration: Please register at [statistics.fas.harvard.edu/event/...](http://statistics.fas.harvard.edu/event/...)

Registration deadline: Please register by April 17, 2018

### **(3) Second Annual Boston Pharmaceutical Symposium**

The Boston Chapter of ASA will hold its second annual pharmaceutical symposium in Cambridge on Friday, May 4, 2018. This will be a full-day event hosted by Takeda Pharmaceuticals. Details of the program are provided below:

Date and Time: Friday, May 4, 2018, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Location: Takeda Pharmaceuticals, 35 Landsdowne Street, Cambridge

Registration Fees: \$160 non-member, \$135 member, \$75 student

Registration Deadline: April 13, 2018

Program Highlights and Registration link: <https://bcasa2018pharma.eventbrite.com>

#### **(4) Seventh Annual Thomas R. Ten Have Symposium on Statistics in Mental Health**

Registration is now open for the Seventh Annual Thomas R. Ten Have Symposium on Statistics in Mental Health, to be held June 7-8, 2018, at the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in downtown Chicago. This event continues and expands upon the Annual Symposium on Statistics in Psychiatry that started in 1999 with participants from Columbia University, New York University, University of Pennsylvania, Yale University, and Cornell University and is jointly sponsored by the universities and the Mental Health Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association.

The conference will consist of 8 invited talks with discussion. This year's keynote speaker will be **Dr. Tyler VanderWeele**, Professor of Epidemiology in the Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

We are now accepting abstracts for a poster session on statistical methodology or applied research in the area of mental health. Please consider presenting your work at the symposium.

Information on registration, abstract submission, and the schedule is located at [www.eventbrite.com/e/...](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/...)

#### **(5) 2018 Joint SRC/QPRC Conference and Student Support**

Registration is now open for the 2018 Joint Research Conference on Statistics in Quality, Industry and Technology that will be held June 11-14, 2018 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. This is a joint meeting of the 25<sup>th</sup> Spring Research Conference on Statistics in Industry and Technology and the 35<sup>th</sup> Quality and Productivity Research Conference. This event is sponsored by the ASA Section on Quality and Productivity, the ASA Section on Physical & Engineering Sciences, the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and local host Los Alamos National Laboratory.

April 1: Abstract Deadline for Papers and Posters

April 1: Application Deadline for Student Support

April 15: Early Registration Deadline

Further information may be found at the conference website: [jrc2018.lanl.gov](http://jrc2018.lanl.gov)

Contact: Joanne Wendelberger, [jrc2018@lanl.gov](mailto:jrc2018@lanl.gov)



## (6) SDSS Focuses on the Latest Developments in Statistics and Data Science

Early Registration Discounts End April 5

Statistics and data science are rapidly evolving and highly interdisciplinary fields. That's part of what makes our careers so exciting, but navigating the way forward can also be a challenge.

We're here to help, which is why we teamed up with the Interface Foundation of North America to launch SDSS, a new annual symposium for all data scientists, computer scientists, and statisticians who analyze and visualize complex data!

Sessions are organized into six key topic areas to help you find the right opportunities for your career, and you can register for [short courses](#) and a banquet for even more learning and networking opportunities.

[View the Program](#)

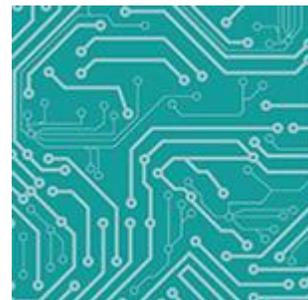
[Register Online](#)



Applications



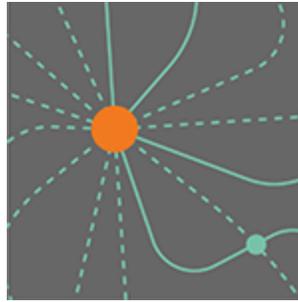
Computational Statistics



Computing Science



Data Science



Data Visualization



Machine Learning



### Short Courses

SDSS 2018 will offer one full-day and four half-day courses on Wednesday, May 16. Short courses are ticketed events that require an additional fee and offer participants the chance to hone hard skills with the latest tools.



### SDSS Banquet

Enjoy an evening filled with networking over a delicious plated meal and listen to a special presentation from former EPA Chief Statistician and ASA President Barry Nussbaum. Get your ticket when you register online!

[Learn More About SDSS](#)

[Register Early to Save!](#)

## Awards

### (1) CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: 2018 National Medal of Science

One of the most important and gratifying aspects of participating in the scientific community is the nomination of colleagues for honorary awards in celebration of their exceptional contributions to one of our fields. I am sending this email today to urge you to recognize one of your peers by submitting a nomination for the 2018 National Medal of Science.

This premier award for American scientists and engineers -- considered by some as the US equivalent of the Nobel Prize -- was established by the 86th Congress in 1959. It is the highest recognition our Nation can bestow for outstanding cumulative contributions to knowledge or sustained, impactful work in the

fields of engineering, chemistry, physics, biology, mathematics, and behavioral and social sciences. Conferred by the President of the United States during a ceremony at the White House, the Medal has been awarded to approximately 500 pioneering individuals. The National Medal of Science program is administered by the National Science Foundation (NSF) in conjunction with the Executive Office of the President.

Please nominate colleagues and peers who have extraordinarily advanced the scientific enterprise for this prestigious honor. Nominations and three letters of support must be submitted to NSF by April 16, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact the Program Manager for the National Medal of Science at [nms@nsf.gov](mailto:nms@nsf.gov) or by phone at 703-292-8040. For more information, please visit the National Medal of Science website at: <http://www.nsf.gov/od/nms/medal.jsp>.

I look forward to celebrating new honorees with you in 2019.

Sincerely,  
France A. Córdova  
Director  
National Science Foundation  
2415 Eisenhower Avenue, Suite 19100  
Alexandria, VA 22314

## Other opportunities or information

### **(1) Opportunity for students: Statsketball Tournament 2018 - Submissions due March 14**

After a successful inaugural Statsketball competition last year where HS and undergrad students could apply their statistical skills to two contests associated with the NCAA men's basketball tournament, we are again sponsoring the contests through This is Statistics. Please invite your students to check out the details at [thisisstatistics.org/home-2/statsketball](http://thisisstatistics.org/home-2/statsketball).

### **(2) Articles of possible interest**

I'll continue to share statistics-related articles and op-eds that I run across or are pointed out to me that I think might be of interest. Here's one from the past week:

[What Data Can't Do](#) – David Brooks in the New York Times