Caucus of Academic Reps (CAR) Weekly Digest, March 20, 2015

http://www.amstat.org/education/aboutthecaucus.cfm

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**Positions**

(1) **Department of Statistics, Kansas State University: Assistant or Associate Professor (tenure track)**

Pending final budgetary approval, the Department of Statistics at Kansas State University invites applications from qualified individuals for a 9 month tenure track faculty position at the assistant or associate professor level, with a preferred start date of August 16, 2015. It may be possible, depending on the applicant's interests, to be appointed to a 12 month position. Qualifications include a PhD in statistics, biostatistics or related area by the start date. This position requires the ability to do collaborative
research (especially with agricultural researchers) and to consult in the areas of linear models/generalized linear models/generalized mixed linear models, and experimental design. Evidence of excellence in teaching is required. Additional experience with other areas of applied statistics, such as survey sampling or ecological statistics, is preferred. Duties will include: statistical consulting/collaborative research with KSU researchers, especially in agriculture; teaching upper-level undergraduate and graduate courses; directing MS and PhD students; and service.

Qualified individuals, if interested, may also be considered for Director of the Statistical Consulting Laboratory. This position supervises two Graduate Research Assistants and oversees the work of a departmental staff consultant. Additional responsibilities include managing the review of KSRE projects, submitting an annual departmental report of KSRE related research, and coordinating requests for statistical consulting. The Director will receive a one course teaching reduction each academic year (from the nominal four courses per year) in exchange for the added administrative responsibilities.

The applicant should submit an application packet which includes a cover letter describing the applicant’s interest in this position, CV, transcripts of all graduate level coursework, and three letters of reference submitted on behalf of the applicant. Applicants should provide strong evidence of potential to do statistical consulting (for example, consulting activity through a university statistical consulting center or similar experience), including at least one letter of reference from a supervisor or collaborator familiar with the applicant's ability to do statistical consulting/ collaborative work. All application materials should be submitted to the Search Committee Chair at statsearch@ksu.edu. If submitting hard copies, the address is Search Committee Chair, Department of Statistics, 101 Dickens Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506-0802. Review of applications will begin April 10, 2015 and continue until the position is filled.

KSU is EOE of individuals with disabilities and protected veterans and actively seeks diversity among its employees. Background check required.

(2) Section of Clinical Statistics, Mayo Clinic: biostatistics faculty with a focus in aging & neurodegenerative diseases

The Section of Clinical Statistics, which is housed in the vibrant Department of Health Sciences Research, Division of Biomedical Statistics and Informatics, is seeking motivated and talented biostatisticians looking to establish successful careers in a welcoming collaborative research environment or more senior investigators seeking opportunities to further develop leadership skills who have demonstrated extensive collaborations with clinical and statistical faculty. The Department is home to over 60 PhD faculty members, 70 Master's level statisticians, and 100 programmer analysts. Faculty members have the opportunity to teach biostatistics and related topics as well as mentor doctoral students, master’s students, and junior faculty through the Center for Clinical and Translational Science and the Mayo Clinic Graduate School.
We are specifically seeking a candidate to direct the statistical program associated with the Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC), the Kogod Center on Aging and the Mayo Clinic Study on Aging. The faculty member will lead analyses within the program as well as be a leader in the national ADRC network. The position will direct a highly skilled group of bachelors and masters trained statisticians, mentor junior faculty, and collaborate with translational researchers across Mayo’s three research campuses – Rochester, MN; Jacksonville, FL; and Phoenix, AZ. This program will also serve as a vibrant academic home to foster methodological advances in the areas of longitudinal analysis, causal inference and advanced modeling strategies.

QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates should have 1) a PhD in biostatistics or a closely related field with at least one year post graduate experience; 2) a record of successful collaborative research, with prior experience in aging, dementia, and Alzheimer’s preferred; 3) demonstrated ability to publish work in high-quality, peerreviewed journals as first and/or senior author; 4) leadership experience, especially of a team of allied health staff (BS and MS-trained statisticians and programmers); and 5) skill in presenting research at national or international forums. Flexibility, creativity and excellent communication skills are required.

MAYO CLINIC has been recognized as the best hospital in the nation for 2014-2015 by U.S. News and World Report. We are an integrated, multidisciplinary academic medical center with comprehensive programs in medical education and research that span across three group practice sites. We support a vibrant research enterprise, with programs in clinical, basic and population sciences. In 2014, the institution received over $371 million in extramural research awards, supplemented with over $276 million of institutional support. Our policies and practices demonstrate a commitment to long-term productive careers for collaborative statisticians at Mayo. We offer a highly competitive compensation package with sustained intramural funding, capital equipment funding, technical and computational resources, and exceptional benefits. Mayo Clinic in Rochester combines the comfort of small city living with easy access to rich cultural and entertainment opportunities in nearby Minneapolis/St. Paul.

CLICK HERE to apply and learn more. Applications should include a cover letter, CV, and a statement of research interests. Specific questions should be addressed to: Rickey Carter, PhD, Chair, or Felicity Enders, PhD, Co-Chair, Search Committee Email: schilbe.jennifer@mayo.edu

(3) Section of Clinical Statistics, Mayo Clinic: biostatistics faculty with a focus in clinical trials

The Section of Clinical Statistics, which is housed in the vibrant Department of Health Sciences Research, Division of Biomedical Statistics and Informatics, is seeking motivated and talented biostatisticians looking to establish successful careers in a welcoming collaborative research environment or more senior investigators seeking opportunities to further develop leadership skills who have demonstrated extensive collaborations with clinical and statistical faculty. The Department is home to over 60
PhD faculty members, 70 Master's level statisticians, and 100 programmer analysts. Faculty members have the opportunity to teach biostatistics and related topics as well as mentor doctoral students, master’s students, and junior faculty through the Center for Clinical and Translational Science and the Mayo Clinic Graduate School. We are specifically seeking a candidate with expertise in clinical trials. Particular relevant experience may include established or innovative topics such as: clinical trials built around mobile health technologies; cluster, community-based or pragmatic clinical trials; comparative effectiveness research; Bayesian and other adaptive study designs; early phase clinical trials with drug discovery and first-in-human goals; noninferiority studies; competing risks analysis; and multiple imputation.

QUALIFICATIONS: Candidates should have 1) a PhD in biostatistics or a closely related field with at least one year post graduate experience; 2) a record of successful collaborative research, especially across a broad spectrum of researchers, with clinical trials expertise preferred; 3) demonstrated ability to publish work in high-quality, peer-reviewed journals as first and/or senior author; 4) leadership experience, especially of a team of allied health staff (BS and MS-trained statisticians and programmers); and 5) skill in presenting research at national or international forums. Flexibility, creativity and excellent communication skills are required.

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(4) (grad student opportunity) Internship at the Federal Reserve

The Information Management unit at the Federal Reserve Board of Governors located in Washington D.C. is seeking to fill one opening for a summer intern position. This is a paid internship and we are seeking a graduate student currently enrolled in a Master’s program or Ph.D. program.
Job Description: Responsibilities and tasks include data mining, text mining, data analysis, and report creation. Knowledge of statistical programming packages (such as SAS) and dashboard & reporting tools (such as Tableau) is preferred. Tasks include using the following software packages for query, analysis and data preparation: SAS 9.3 or 9.4, SAS Enterprise Miner, and SAS Enterprise Guide. Specific project work will depend on the skill level of the intern. Strong analytical skills and good communication skills desired. Ability to work with large/complex data sets is a plus. A major in Economics, Statistics, or Finance is preferred.

*Requirement: US Citizenship

Please send resumes to nuha.elmaghrabi@frb.gov

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**Funding**

1. NIH: New Big Data to Knowledge (BD2K) funding opportunity

*Supplements to Support Interoperability of NIH Funded Biomedical Data Repositories (Admin Supp) PA-15-144.*


**Application Receipt Date(s):** April 20, 2015

**Background:**

NIH is accepting administrative supplement requests to support projects that will establish or improve interoperability among NIH funded biomedical data repositories. Improved interoperability is expected to lead to increased efficiency of repositories' operations and cost reductions, which are significant factors of the NIH's long-term sustainability plans for the biomedical data repositories.

Each supplement request should be associated to a collaborative project consisting of a biomedical data repository supported by an active NIH-funded parent grant, and one or more collaborating sites that together implement the interoperability goals of this FOA. The collaborating sites may be other biomedical data repositories, or may provide computational tools and data standards, or perform other activities that facilitate interoperability among data repositories. Supplement requests will only be accepted from active NIH-funded parent grants that primarily support biomedical data repositories with an overall annual budget above $500,000 in direct costs.

**Inquiries:**
Please direct all inquiries to the BD2K program contact Valentina Di Francesco AND to the Program Officer listed on the Notice of Award of the parent award.

BD2K Program/Scientific Contact:

Valentina Di Francesco
National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)
Telephone: 301-496-7531
Email: vdifrancesco@mail.nih.gov

Other opportunities

(1) Section on Statistics and the Environment Distinguished Achievement Medal and Young Investigator Award

The ASA Section on Statistics and the Environment (ENVR) is seeking nominations for the 2015 ENVR Distinguished Achievement Medal and the 2015 ENVR Young Investigator Award. Both are given in recognition of outstanding contributions to the development of methods, issues, concepts, applications, and initiatives in environmental statistics. The section uses a broad definition of environmental statistics—from theoretical/foundational through applications and policy—and seeks to recognize the full range of activities that academic, governmental, and industrial statisticians and scientists study in statistics and the environment. Environmental statistics is interdisciplinary, and outstanding contributions may occur outside of traditional disciplinary niches.

To be eligible for a Distinguished Achievement Medal, nominees must (a) have made distinguished contributions to environmental statistics; (b) joined ENVR at least three years prior to June 1, 2015; and (c) not have received the award in a previous year.

The Young Investigator Award is meant to encourage and recognize younger members of the environmental statistics community. Criteria for the Award include (a) having made distinguished contributions to environmental statistics; (b) having current membership in ENVR; (c) not being a recipient of the Young Investigator Award from a previous year; and (d) not having reached her/his 41st birthday during the calendar year of the award. (In the special case of an individual who has received his or her terminal degree in statistics fewer than 12 years prior to the nomination deadline, a nominee will be eligible who has not yet reached her/his 46th birthday during the calendar year of the award.)
For both awards, the committee considers only those members for whom nominations are submitted. Committee members do not offer nominations, but encourage ASA members to make a thorough search for good candidates.

For the 2015 competition, nomination materials must consist of the following:

- A nomination letter featuring the nominee’s contributions to environmental statistics
- A brief CV for the nominee, not exceeding five pages
- At least one (1) and up to three (3) external letters of support
- A clear statement for which of the two awards the nominee should be considered. If being considered for the Young Investigator Award, please submit the birth date of the nominee. The committee will use the "Jonathanian" method of calculating the age of the nominee.

Nominations must be received by **April 15** and should be submitted electronically as a PDF document (preferred) or a Word file. Submit nominations to Dale Zimmerman by email to dale-zimmerman@uiowa.edu

Members of the ENVR awards committee will make the selection, and successful nominees will receive their award at the ENVR business meeting and reception during the Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle, WA. Questions regarding the award should be addressed to Dale Zimmerman.

**Website**

(2) Health Policy Statistics Section Awards

The next set of HPSS awards will be presented at the Tenth International Conference on Health Policy Statistics (ICHPS) October 7-9, 2015 in Providence, Rhode Island.

These awards honor individuals who have made significant contributions to the development of statistical methods or have developed innovative statistical applications for health care policy or health services research, to encourage research in this area and to increase awareness of the HPSS in the statistical community. Candidates for awards should be recognized leaders in the field, with outstanding contributions through methodological or applied work in statistics. Candidates for the Long-Term Excellence Award should have contributed significantly through mentoring and/or service that advance the aims of the Section. Candidates for the Mid-Career Award should bring the promise of continued excellence at the frontier of statistical practice and research in health care policy, thus advancing the aims of the Section.

HPSS Mid-Career Award: Recipient must be within 15 years of their terminal degree on January 1, 2015 and cannot be a previous HPSS Mid-Career Award winner. Prize:
Recipient will receive a personalized plaque, recognizing his or her specific achievements. Past Recipients: Marc Elliott (RAND Corporation), James O'Malley (Harvard), Susan Paddock (RAND Corporation).

**HPSS Long-Term Excellence Award**: Recipient cannot be within 15 years of their terminal degree on January 1, 2015 and cannot be a previous HPSS Long-Term Excellence Award winner. Recipient can be a previous HPSS Mid-Career Award winner.

**Prize**: Recipient will receive a personalized plaque, recognizing relevant career accomplishments. Past Recipients: Arlene Ash (University of Massachusetts), Alan Zaslavsky (Harvard), Sharon-Lise Normand (Harvard), Paula Diehr (University of Washington), Naihua Duan (Columbia), Robert Gibbons (University of Chicago).

Nominations should be sent by midnight on May 8, 2015 to the HPSS Awards Committee at paddock@rand.org.

Nominations should include the nominee's curriculum vitae and a letter (not to exceed two pages) from the nominator summarizing the candidate's credentials for the award. Self-nomination is permitted, and neither the nominee nor the nominator needs to be a current or past HPSS member. Additional independent evaluation letters may be provided, but are not necessary. Be sure to include contact information for the nominee and the nominator (if different). Email inquiries may be directed to Susan Paddock at paddock@rand.org.

2015 HPSS Awards Committee (past winners): Arlene Ash, Marc Elliott, Robert Gibbons, Sharon-Lise Normand, Susan Paddock (Chair)

(3) **SAMSIs Uncertainties in Computational Hemodynamics Workshop**

June 1-3, 2015, to be held at SAMSI, Research Triangle Park, NC. Login today for information and to apply: [http://www.samsi.info/uch](http://www.samsi.info/uch) The application deadline is April 6, 2015.

Workshop Organizers:
- Pierre Gremaud, North Carolina State University
- Vera Novak, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
- Daniel Tartakovsky, University of California - San Diego

(4) **17th IMS New Researcher's Conference**

The 17th IMS New Researcher's Conference will be held at the University of Washington in Seattle, from Aug 6 to 8 prior to JSM.
The conference provides an ideal opportunity for young researchers in statistics and probability to interact with each other and with senior researchers, and to expand their professional network.

Anyone who has received a Ph.D. on or after 2010, or expects to receive a Ph.D. by the end of 2015, is eligible to attend, and is encouraged to submit an application by March 27th.

Additional details about the conference, including instructions for application, can be found on conference website: [http://depts.washington.edu/imsnrc17/](http://depts.washington.edu/imsnrc17/)

(5) 2015 Atlantic Causal Inference Conference

The 2015 Atlantic Causal Inference Conference will be held at the University of Pennsylvania from **Tuesday, May 19 through Thursday, May 21, 2015**.

The Atlantic Causal Inference Conference is an annual gathering of statisticians, epidemiologists, economists, social science and policy researchers to discuss methodologic issues with drawing causal inferences from experimental and non-experimental data.

Registration for the 2015 ACIC at Penn is now open at [http://www.cceb.upenn.edu/biostat/conferences/ACIC15/ACICregistration.php](http://www.cceb.upenn.edu/biostat/conferences/ACIC15/ACICregistration.php). Early registration is available until April 20; the fee increases after that.

A few highlights of the program are:

**Tuesday, May 19**

1:00 - 5:30 pm. Short Course: Targeted Learning. Instructor: Sherri Rose, Harvard University.

**Wednesday, May 20**

9:00 am - 6:00 pm. First day of conference sessions. The schedule is available at [http://www.cceb.upenn.edu/biostat/conferences/ACIC15/program.php](http://www.cceb.upenn.edu/biostat/conferences/ACIC15/program.php).

6:00 - 7:30 pm. Poster session and reception. Researchers who would like to present a poster can e-mail the title and list of co-authors to [acic-2015@wharton.upenn.edu](mailto:acic-2015@wharton.upenn.edu) by Friday, May 1.
As in previous years of the conference, junior researchers whose posters demonstrate exceptional research will be considered for the Thomas R. Ten Have Award which recognizes "exceptionally creative or skillful research on causal inference."

Thursday, May 21

9:00 am - 12:40 pm. Final day of conference sessions.


(6) CATS Reproducibility Workshop video now available online

The videos from the reproducibility workshop organized by the Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics of the National Research Council are now available online: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLuQHjVdm6pcddth5eAts8HflUmCUjFENH.

NB: This was an excellent workshop with insightful presentations and Q&A. It is very much worth your time to watch.