Caucus of Academic Reps (CAR) Weekly Digest, March 27, 2015

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

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Positions

(1) Department of Biostatistical Sciences, Wake Forest School of Medicine: Assistant/Associate Professor

The Department of Biostatistical Sciences, Wake Forest School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, NC invites applications for an assistant/associate professor position in collaboration with the newly forming Center for Healthcare Innovation and Transformation.
Ideal candidates will have:

- PhD in biostatistics, statistics, computer science, informatics or related field.
- Expertise with large medical record datasets, such as administrative claims from the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) or electronic medical record systems such as Epic.
- Experience collaborating with medical and public health professionals on local and national medical research projects, conduct methodological research, and teach graduate courses in biostatistics / bioinformatics.
- Broad theoretical background and experience collaborating in a multidisciplinary setting.
- Excellent written and oral communication skills.

Teaching expectations are minimal but optional, as the position will primarily focus on research.

Statistical genetics and genomics is not the area of expertise that is best suited for this position.

Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center is home to more than 11,000 employees, which includes over 950 medical and science faculty members and over 530 adjunct and clinical faculty in the community, making the Medical Center the largest employer in Forsyth County. The Medical Center’s primary service area is a 26-county region in northwestern North Carolina and southwestern Virginia and provides a continuum of care that includes primary care centers, outpatient rehabilitation, dialysis centers and home health care.

Winston-Salem, North Carolina, with a population of approximately 220,000, is home to Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. The city is nestled in the northwestern region of North Carolina, within easy driving distance to the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains and the pristine beaches of North Carolina.

Applicants should send a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and a summary of research experience pertinent to job description to Dr. Nick Pajewski, c/o Monica Kiger, mkiger@wakehealth.edu

Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Employer with a strong commitment to achieving diversity among its faculty and staff. EOE/AA: Minorities/Females/Disabled/Vets

(2) Department of Environmental Sciences, Louisiana Tech University: Assistant Professor

Statistical analysis and data mining techniques are increasingly being used with large data sets to determine patterns of energy development and consequences of energy and environmental policies. The position will have an emphasis on applied analysis at
state, regional and national scales and will work closely with CCT, IBM and other business on "big data" problems and solutions and will aim to educate a workforce prepared for inter/multidisciplinary challenges. Interaction with researchers in the Center for Energy Studies is expected.

Responsibilities include: Develop and maintain a rigorous, externally funded research program; teach courses related to modeling in energy and environmental management; mentor graduate students; provide service/advice to state and federal agencies and the University.

Required Qualifications: Ph. D. in a related field; experience with large data sets. ABD candidates who expect to receive their degrees by August, 2015 are eligible to apply. Preferred Qualifications: Experience in the area of determining patterns of energy development and consequences of environmental policies.

An offer of employment is contingent on a satisfactory pre-employment background check. Application review will begin March 31, 2015, and continue until a candidate is selected. Apply online and view a more detailed ad at: www.lsusystemcareers.lsu.edu. Position #038486

LSU IS COMMITTED TO DIVERSITY AND IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/EQUAL ACCESS EMPLOYER

(3) Department of Health Outcomes and Policy, University of Florida: Assistant Scientist for Methodology Research

The successful applicant will participate in analytic, enumerative, and simulation based evaluations of statistical methods and algorithms for two big data applications: 1) longitudinal observations of clusters widely varying in size (as in Medicaid data), and 2) High Dimension, Low Sample Size repeated measures (metabolomics, GWAS, et al.). The first goal is to publish rapidly in highly visible methodological and applied journals. The second goal is to use the work as preliminary studies in proposals for additional NIH funding. The successful applicant will participate fully in all activities, as part of a collaborative team with a long track record of successful mentoring of junior researchers.

Required qualifications: 1) a doctoral degree in biostatistics, bioinformatics, epidemiology, or related quantitative field, or a master's degree and substantial experience; 2) excellent written and oral communication skills (oral interviews as well as English and mathematical writing samples will be requested during the selection process); 3) statistical and simulation programming skills needed to efficiently produce, test, and document software in prototyping languages such as SAS/IML or R; 4) a willingness to learn MapReduce/Hadoop tools and attack massively parallel computing problems.

Interested applicants should email a letter of interest (reference #00029382), research reference statement, curriculum vita, two representative reprints of published papers
(first-authored publications preferred), and a list of at least three references to Lillian Vargus at lvargas@ufl.edu.

Funding

(1) NIH NIDDK Research Education Program

NIDDK Research Education Program Grants for Curriculum Development, Skills Development, and Summer Research Experience

URL's are


(2) NIH Summer Institute for Research Education in Biostatistics (R25)

See more at: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-16-017.html

Letter of Intent Due: May 1, 2015

Application Due Date: June 1, 2015, 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.

Purpose: The NIH Research Education Program (R25) supports research education activities in the mission areas of the NIH. The over-arching goal of this NHLBI R25 program is to support educational activities that complement and/or enhance the training of a workforce to meet the nation's biomedical, behavioral, and clinical research. To this end, this FOA will support creative educational activities with a primary focus on Courses for Skills Development. - See more at: http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-HL-16-017.html#sthash.jiv7svub.dpuf
(3) NIH K25 Mentored Quantitative Research Development Award

http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-14-048.html#_3._Additional_Information

Deadline 6/12/15 and every four months thereafter

The FY14 proposal funding rate was 27% for a total of $2.33 million. You can find more information on the institutes that award K25's at http://report.nih.gov/DisplayRePORT.aspx?rid=551.

Purpose: The purpose of the Mentored Quantitative Research Career Development Award (K25) is to attract to NIH-relevant research those investigators whose quantitative science and engineering research has thus far not been focused primarily on questions of health and disease. The K25 award will provide support and "protected time" for a period of supervised study and research for productive professionals with quantitative (e.g., mathematics, statistics, economics, computer science, imaging science, informatics, physics, chemistry) and engineering backgrounds to integrate their expertise with NIH-relevant research.

Prospective candidates are encouraged to contact the relevant NIH staff for IC-specific programmatic and budgetary information: Table of IC-Specific Information, Requirements and Staff Contacts.

NCI Program Officer Sonia Jakowlew spoke of the K25 in this Amstat News article this way: In addition to post-doctoral fellowships, statistician applicants who have little or no experience in biology or biomedicine may also investigate the Mentored Quantitative Research Development Award (K25) currently supported through the program announcement PA-11-196. Statistician applicants who already have experience in biology or biomedicine, and who are working in the areas of cancer prevention, control, behavioral sciences, and population sciences, also may investigate the Cancer Prevention, Control, Behavioral Sciences, and Population Sciences Career Development Award (K07) currently supported through the program announcement PAR-12-067. The program announcements and details about these NCI-sponsored programs can be found at the National Cancer Institute.

(4) New solicitation from NIJ: DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program

https://www.ncjrs.gov/pdffiles1/ncj/187688.pdf

NIJ is seeking proposals for funding for the FY 2015 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program. This program funds States and units of local government with existing crime laboratories that conduct DNA analysis to process, record, screen, and analyze forensic DNA and/or DNA database samples, and to increase the capacity of public forensic DNA and DNA database laboratories to process more DNA samples,
thereby helping to reduce the number of forensic DNA and DNA database samples awaiting analysis.

Application deadline: May 18.

Download the solicitation.

View all current funding opportunities from NIJ

(5) NSF Dear Colleague Letter Future Directions for NSF Advanced Computing Infrastructure (ACI)

See Dear Colleague Letter: Future Directions for NSF Advanced Computing Infrastructure (ACI)

Available Formats:

Document Number: nsf15053

Other opportunities

(1) Help the ASA raise the visibility of statistics

The ASA asks your assistance building the visibility of our profession by helping increase the number of news stories about statistics and statisticians reported by the media. This request will not require much time on your part.

All you have to do if you hear about an interesting research project or a new scientific advancement facilitated by statisticians is send an email to ASA Public Relations Coordinator Jeff Myers about it. That’s it! Jeff then will contact the statistician(s) involved and pursue the story idea from there.
For the most part, stories that will appeal to reporters and the public will be focused on research with potential broad public impact. Following are examples of three recent story ideas that were brought to the ASA’s attention by someone like you. Jeff then pitched these ideas to the media, resulting in positive stories about statistics and/or statisticians:

- A statistical application: CBSNews.com article about the mortality rates of new and experienced surgeons based on a JASA paper
- Research with broad impact: A Chronicle of Higher Education article on Philip Stark’s course evaluations paper
- Timely topics involving statisticians: A FierceBigData article on the interplay of statistics and Big Data

To help spur your memory, Jeff will email you periodically—every month or two—to email any stories you have heard about. If you are willing to help with this effort, please email Jeff by April 17.

If you have follow-up questions, contact Jeff directly at (703) 302-1865 or jeffrey@amstat.org.

(2) Statistical and Computational Challenges in Networks and Cybersecurity

A 3-day workshop, May 6 - 8 2015, Centre de recherches mathematiques (CRM), Montreal

Networks and cybersecurity are producing varied, rich, complex and BIG data. Great research opportunities are opening up in the statistical, computational and mathematical sciences. This short course and workshop will showcase the latest statistical and machine learning research for social networks (eg facebook), text mining, and cyberdefense.

This research workshop will follow a short course on Statistical Analysis of Network Data (May 4-5).

Financial support for students and postdoctoral fellows available (Deadline April 1).

There will be a poster session (Deadline April 1).

For more information, see the workshop website (http://www.crm.umontreal.ca/2015/Challenges15/index_e.php). See the website to apply for financial support and submit a poster abstract.

If you have students interested in network data, this will be an excellent opportunity for them to get both an introduction to statistical approaches and hear about leading research.
We're looking forward to seeing you in Montreal in May!

This event is affiliated with the CANSSI / Fields thematic program on big data, with support from CRM.

Hugh Chipman, Francois Theberge

Workshop co-chairs

(3) Summer Institute in Statistics for Big Data (SISBID)

The first Summer Institute in Statistics for Big Data (SISBID 2015) will be held at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington during July 6-22, 2015. The Institute consists of a series of two-and-a-half day modules designed to introduce biologists, quantitative scientists, and statisticians to modern statistical techniques for the analysis of Biomedical Big Data. The format will involve formal lectures, computing labs, and hands-on case studies. The instructors are world-class faculty with expertise in all aspects of Biomedical Big Data.

A limited number of scholarships are currently available and participants are encouraged to enroll in multiple modules.

Prerequisites for the SISBID program are described here.

Individuals attending the Institute will receive certificates of course completion in recognition of their participation.

REGISTER TODAY!

(4) Data Science Incubator

Program: The Data Incubator is an intensive 7 week fellowship that prepares masters, PhDs, and postdocs in STEM + social science fields seeking industry careers as data scientists. The program is free for fellows and supported by sponsorships from dozens of employers across multiple industries. In response to the overwhelming interest in our earlier sessions, we will be holding another fellowship.

Locations: There will be both an in-person (in NYC, DC, SF) and online section of the fellowship. There is a common application for both the online and in-person sections.

Dates: All sections will be from 2015-06-01 to 2015-07-17

Application Link: http://www.thedataincubator.com/#apply
Who should apply: Anyone within one year of graduating from a masters or PhD program or who has already obtained a masters or PhD is welcome to apply. Applications from international students are welcome. Everyone else is encouraged to sign-up for a future session.

For additional information, checkout our blog, Venture Beat article, or Harvard Business Review piece.

(5) SAMSI's Uncertainties in Computational Hemodynamics Workshop

June 1-3, 2015

Login today for information and to apply: http://www.samsi.info/uch The application deadline is April 6, 2015.

Workshop will be held at SAMSI, Research Triangle Park, NC

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