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Positions

(1) Moores Cancer Center, UC-San Diego: Postdoc position

Description: Moores Cancer Center at UC San Diego is seeking a highly motivated postdoctoral fellow with an interest and experience in biostatistics and health outcomes research. The successful candidate will lead a project that will build a high-dimensional patient-specific prediction model that will draw from the big data within a patient’s medical record. The tool will help patients estimate the risks of mortality from both cancer, and non-cancer causes, and ultimately will integrate an estimation of the risk of decreased quality of life from prostate cancer itself, or from treatment-related toxicity. If successful, this project will help patients understand the severity of their prostate cancer, and the potential impact of their treatment decisions. This will hopefully improve
patient’s ability to make decisions regarding treatment, which ultimately stands to improve patient’s quality of life.

The candidate will work with large administrative datasets and draw from the disciplines of biostatistics, informatics, and oncology. Applicants will assist with all areas of research ranging from grant preparation, data analysis, through completion of manuscripts. Additionally, the ideal candidate will partake in teaching and mentoring undergraduates, medical students, and medical residents.

Salary/Stipend Information: NIH/UCSD scale plus benefits

Procedure to Apply: Please e-mail a copy of your C.V. and provide contact information for 2 references.

Skills and Knowledge Required: PhD or MD with a background in biostatistics, statistics, or bioinformatics, as well as experience programming in R or SAS.

Position Closing Date: Open until filled

Appointment Length/Period: 1-2 years, with possibility of extension

For more information or to apply, please contact:

Jim Murphy
j2murphy@ucsd.edu
Telephone: 858-822-6059
Fax: 858-246-1505

(2) Sandia Labs: two positions

#649789: R&D Mathematics (Senior or Principal)

Internal and external posting dates: 5/12/2015-6/11/2015 (30 days)


#649772: R&D Mathematics (Member or Senior)

Internal and external posting dates: 5/12/2015-6/11/2015 (30 days)

(3) South African Medical Research Council: Senior Biostatistician

The South African Medical Research Council is looking for a senior biostatistician for its Cape Town office. The Biostatistics Unit of the MRC is an active research entity that collaborates with health and medical researchers from the MRC, universities, other research institutions and international agencies. Statisticians in the Biostatistics Unit provide statistical support on design, analysis and reporting, to collaborative national and international projects in the MRC research portfolio. The Biostatistics Unit offers a challenging biostatistics career in health and clinical research within a dynamic environment. The Unit has a number of methodological research programmes such as longitudinal and spatial data analysis. The successful candidate will have an individual research portfolio and contribute to these programmes. All areas of expertise in biostatistics will be considered. More detail on the position can be obtained at http://www.mrc.ac.za/hr/job1.htm

(4) The Governance Lab: Policy Fellow

(NB: This isn’t the typical notice we place in this section, but it is interesting to see what people are looking related to statistics and data science, and it might be of interest to someone in our community.)

The Governance Lab is an action-oriented research center based in Brooklyn, New York that works to improve people’s lives and their communities by accelerating the use of data and technology to change how we govern. We work on high-impact, multidisciplinary projects with partners in city, state, and national governments, as well as other public interest organizations and research institutions in the United States and around the world.

We are looking for a highly-motivated GovLab Fellow to work on a range of exciting projects related to data-driven policymaking.

Over the coming year, GovLab will be especially focused on working on a grant-funded project on data driven criminal justice innovation. The bulk of the fellow’s time will be spent conducting both policy research and data analysis, collaborating on the writing of a white paper on data driven criminal justice reform, helping to convene conferences and working groups, assisting in the design of pilot projects and collaborating in the creation of an expert network for criminal justice innovators. The Fellow will work together with a team that includes lawyers, data scientists, designers, and engineers to produce outputs including policy recommendations, strategic communications, and new tools.

As part of this project, the GovLab will coordinate closely with partners in government at the federal, state, and local level, including with the White House Office of the Chief Data Scientist, to devise more effective methods of using data to develop and implement meaningful criminal justice reforms and seek ways to reduce both incarceration and crime by leveraging the potential of data-driven policy innovations.
GovLab also has underway a number of other related data-driven governance innovation projects the fellow will have an opportunity to contribute to, including: measuring the economic impact of the use of open data in an urban environment; developing the data governance frameworks necessary to advance the use of private data for public good; and leveraging data analytics to connect policymakers to relevant experts and practitioners more quickly.

If you are passionate about social impact and have experience (academic and/or practical) with policy and governance innovation, please send your CV, a cover letter, and a short statement of interest to noveck@thegovlab.org. Excellent communication, familiarity with data science, and a minimum of three years of project management experience are required for this position plus a background in criminal justice and/or law is a plus.

Jerry M. Hultin Global Network Professor Beth Simone Noveck  
New York University Polytechnic School of Engineering  
MIT Media Lab  
Director, The Governance Lab  
GovLab: http://www.thegovlab.org  
GovLab Research Network: http://www.opening-governance.org/  
GovLab Weekly Digest: http://www.thegovlab.org/govlab-digest/  
@bethnoveck

Funding

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Other opportunities or information

(1) ASA election results

Barry D. Nussbaum, chief statistician at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), was elected the 112th president of the ASA by the membership. Nussbaum will serve a one-year term as president-elect on the ASA Board of Directors starting January 1, 2016, and will become ASA president January 1, 2017. ASA members also elected
Katherine B. Ensor, Rice University professor of statistics, as an ASA vice president. She will begin her three-year term on the board January 1, 2016. Read more. Complete election results found here.

(2) Ninth Annual Workshop for Chairs of Statistics and Biostatistics Departments

The Ninth Annual Workshop for Chairs of Statistics and Biostatistics Departments will be held 8:30am-1:30pm August 9 at JSM. The agenda is still being worked out, but registration is open at https://www.amstat.org/series/scriptcontent/beweb/event/eventinfo.cfm?product_major=CHAIRS2015. Some additional information is available at https://www.amstat.org/education/caucusactivities.cfm. More info to be announced.

(3) Big Data and Statistics – 2015 Annual Meeting of the Wisconsin Chapter ASA

Sponsored by the ASA Section on Statistical Graphics, Revolution Analytics and Marquette University

When: June 5
Where: Marquette University Emory T. Clark Hall Rm. 111
https://www.google.com/maps/place/570+N+16th+St,+Milwaukee,+WI+53233

Parking: 16th Street Parking Structure
https://www.google.com/maps/place/749+N+16th+St,+Milwaukee,+WI+53233

11:30-12:45 Roundtable Luncheons on Big Data topics
12:45-01:00 Registration
01:00-01:15 Welcome and Introduction
01:15-02:15 First Keynote
02:15-02:30 Break
02:30-03:00 Networking Opportunity
03:00-04:00 Second Keynote
04:00-05:00 Third Keynote
05:30-? Dinner with the Speakers

Current members of WI Chapter or Section on Statistical Graphics; and students: $20
New/former members: $29

You can make reservations via PayPal <elsmith@mcw.edu> or send a check made out to The Wisconsin Chapter of the ASA
Keynote Speakers

Yuan Ji
Director of Biomedical Informatics
NorthShore University HealthSystem
Associate Professor, University of Chicago
http://health.bsd.uchicago.edu/yji/index.html

Title: Zodiac -- A comprehensive depiction of genetic interactions in cancer by integrating TCGA data

Abstract: The Cancer Genomes Atlas (TCGA) data are unique in that multimodal measurements across genomics features, such as copy number, DNA methylation, and gene expression, are obtained on matched tumor samples. The multimodality provides an unprecedented opportunity to investigate the interplay of these features. Graphical models are powerful tools for this task that address the interaction of any two features in the presence of others, while traditional correlation- or regression-based models cannot. We introduce Zodiac, an online resource consisting of two main components, 1) a large database containing nearly 200 million interaction networks of multiple genomics features produced by applying novel Bayesian graphical models on TCGA data through massively parallel computation, and 2) analytics tools that perform high-quality inference on data-enhanced networks. Setting a new way of integrating TCGA data, Zodiac, publicly available at <http://www.compgenome.org/ZODIAC>, is expected to facilitate the generation of new knowledge and hypotheses by the community.

David Smith
Chief Community Officer
Revolution Analytics
https://www.linkedin.com/in/dmsmith

Title: Reproducible Data Science with R

Abstract: Good data science is reproducible. If someone else can’t independently replicate your results from your data, the consequences can be severe. Using an open-source data science language like R is a good first step for reproducibility, and I’ll
introduce a new system for R that manages a changing ecosystem of versions and packages to ensure reliable results.

Ming Yuan
Professor, Department of Statistics
Senior Investigator, Morgridge Institute for Research
University of Wisconsin-Madison
http://www.stat.wisc.edu/~myuan

Title: Journey into the "world of data"

Abstract: We live in an information era. Immediate access to copious amounts of data provides unprecedented opportunities but also creates new challenges, particularly on how to turn them into actionable insights. Through several examples from my recent academic research, I will share with you a few lessons learned in dealing with these new challenges.

(4) Undergraduate Statistics Project Competition (USPROC)

The Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education (CAUSE) in conjunction with the American Statistical Association via a member initiative grant is happy to announce that applications are being accepted for its sixth annual undergraduate statistics project competition. The purpose of USPROC is to encourage the development of data analysis skills, to enhance presentation skills and to recognize outstanding work by undergraduate statistics students.

There are two main categories for submissions to the competition. The Undergraduate Statistics Research Project competition (USRESP) is a competition for undergraduate students who conduct research projects that are statistically related, either methodological or applied. These projects may include research work from REU research projects, senior capstone research projects, or independent research projects that are not based on a specific course that students are taking. The Undergraduate Statistics Class Project Competition (USCLAP) is for undergraduate students who are taking an applied statistics course(s) at introductory, or intermediate levels, in which a class project is part of the course work (either required or optional). All levels of projects for both competitions are strongly encouraged to apply.

Visit www.causeweb.org/usproc for additional details, contact information and a link to submit your project. The submission deadline is May 31, 2015 with winners announced summer 2015. Cash prizes will be awarded.
Also, save the date of Friday, October 2, 2015 for the first electronic undergraduate statistics research conference where USPROC student winners and others will be able to present their work. Details coming soon.

(5) Editor searches for the International Biometric Society

IBS seeks nominations/suggestions for two editors of Society publications: the *Biometrics* Book Review Editor and the *Biometric Bulletin* Editor.

IBS members are invited to submit suggestions for nominees or self-nominations for *Biometrics* Book Review Editor, with service to begin 1 January 2016 and will conclude 31 December 2018.

Suggestions will be forwarded to the search committee for consideration. Send the name(s) of proposed nominee(s), a CV (as an attachment) or a URL at which information on the candidate's qualifications may be found, by email to ibs@biometricsociety.org no later than 30 May 2015.

*Biometrics* Book Review Search Committee: Esa Lääärä, Taesung Park, Tim Friede, T. Shun Sato, and Ming Tan

The Committee on Communications is seeking candidates for Editor of the *Biometric Bulletin*. The Editor will serve a three-year term (January 2016-December 2018.) Those interested in serving as the Editor of the *Biometric Bulletin* should send a statement of experience relative to the position to ibs@biometricsociety.org. Statements are due no later than 30 May 2015.

*Biometric Bulletin* Review Search Committee: Sue Welham, Dimitris Karlis, Mary Putt, Raul Macchiaveli, and Reinhard Vonthein

(6) Announcing draft guidance on Adaptive Design for Medical Device Clinical Studies

On May 18 the FDA posted a draft guidance on [Adaptive Design for Medical Device Clinical Studies](https://www.fda.gov/downloads/MedicalDevices/DeviceRegulationandGuidance/GuidanceDocuments/UCM440642.pdf). When finalized, this guidance will provide clarity on the design and use of adaptive designs for clinical studies of medical devices.

Adaptive design allows for planned modifications to a clinical study based on accumulating data, while maintaining the trial's integrity and validity. When properly implemented, adaptive design can reduce resource requirements and/or increase the chance of study success.

FDA is releasing this guidance to further encourage companies to consider the use of adaptive design in their clinical trials. It is part of the FDA's on-going efforts to improve access to new devices by strengthening and streamlining the clinical trial enterprise.
FDA welcomes your comments and suggestions regarding this draft guidance. The comment period will be open for 90 days.

(7) AAAS article on careers in biostatistics

Here’s an article from the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) that might be of interest to biostatistics departments: