General information about funding sources is always available at http://www.amstat.org/careers/efs.cfm

Funding opportunities:

- Research Education Grants for Statistical and Computational Training in the Genetics of Addiction (R25)
- Data-Intensive Research to Improve Teaching and Learning - An Ideas Lab to Foster Transformative Approaches to Teaching and Learning
- Simons Fellows
- Army Research Laboratory Broad Agency Announcement for Basic and Applied Scientific Research
- Mathematical Foundations of High Assurance Computing

Position announcements:

- Postdoctoral Research Position in Bayesian Biostatistics, Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health

Other opportunities:

- NIST Big Data Working Group Announcement
- OSTP Student Volunteer Program

Funding opportunities

Research Education Grants for Statistical and Computational Training in the Genetics of Addiction (R25)

This FOA encourages applications from organizations that propose creative and innovative research education programs in the mission area(s) of the NIH. The NIH Research Education (R25) grant mechanism is designed to support the development of creative and innovative research education programs for the development of biomedical, behavioral, and clinical researchers, or for public education and outreach on health-related research to a variety of audiences. Although research education grants are not typical research instruments, they do involve experiments in education and/or dissemination of research knowledge that require an evaluation plan in order to determine their effectiveness. As such, each application must include a plan to evaluate the activities proposed (see Section IV, Evaluation Plan). For some types of projects, a plan for disseminating results may also be appropriate and may be required as well (see Section IV, Dissemination Plan).

The proposed research education program may complement ongoing research training and education occurring at the applicant institution, but the proposed educational experiences must be distinct from
those research training and research education programs currently receiving federal support. The R25 is not a substitute for an institutional research training program (T32) and cannot be used to circumvent or supplement Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) mechanisms.

Details at http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-12-199.html#_Part_1._Overview

Data-Intensive Research to Improve Teaching and Learning - An Ideas Lab to Foster Transformative Approaches to Teaching and Learning

The goal of this activity is to foster novel, transformative, multidisciplinary approaches that address the use of large data sets to create actionable knowledge for improving STEM teaching and learning environments (formal and informal) in the medium term, and to revolutionize learning in the longer term. These approaches will involve the work of learning scientists, STEM disciplinary experts, computer scientists, statisticians, database experts and educational researchers who design and study learning environments. Among the potential benefits of integrating approaches from these disciplines are improving student learning and engagement, optimizing personalized instruction, and supporting rapid decision making to help educators respond more effectively to the learning needs of individuals and groups of learners in multiple settings. These approaches may be risky but should have the potential to rapidly advance the field. The scope of this activity does not include infrastructure development focused on data base design and development for education domains. The new approaches envisioned in this solicitation will require the generation and use of data that range from micro-level data on individual learners, to data from online learning sources (such as massively open online courses), to meso-level data from the classroom that provide information to students and teachers about how learning is progressing, to macro-level data such as school, district, state, and national data, including data from federal science and policy agencies. Participants in the Ideas Lab, selected through an open application process, will engage in an intensive five-day residential workshop, the development of multidisciplinary collaborative proposals through a real-time and iterative review process, and, for the participant teams invited to submit full proposals, the subsequent submission of full proposals.


Simons Fellows

Purpose: Research leaves from classroom teaching and administrative obligations can provide strong intellectual stimulation and lead to increased creativity and productivity in research. The Simons Fellows program is intended to increase the opportunity for such leaves and to make leaves more productive by enabling extension of sabbatical leaves from one academic term to a full academic year.
Eligibility Requirements: A Fellow must have a teaching or administrative position at a U.S. or Canadian college or university through the term following the leave. This must be the applicant’s primary position. In addition, a Fellow must have an active current research program.

Eligibility for this year’s program is restricted to sabbatical-eligible faculty who wish to use the grant for the purpose of extending a single term sabbatical leave to a full academic year. For applicants at Universities on the semester system, the Simons Fellowship will fund one semester in academic year 2013/2014, either fall 2013 or spring 2014. For those on the quarter system, the Fellowship will fund up to 1 quarter, during the 2013/2014 academic year, extending the sabbatical leave to 3-quarters.

Details at https://www.simonsfoundation.org/funding/funding-opportunities/mathematics-physical-sciences/simons-fellow-program/simons-fellows-in-mathematics-program-description/

Army Research Laboratory Broad Agency Announcement for Basic and Applied Scientific Research

This Broad Agency Announcement (BAA), which sets forth research areas of interest to the Army Research Laboratory (ARL) Directorates and Army Research Office (ARO), is issued under the paragraph 6.102(d)(2) of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), which provides for the competitive selection of basic research proposals. Proposals submitted in response to this BAA and selected for award are considered to be the result of full and open competition and in full compliance with the provision of Public Law 98-369, "The Competition in Contracting Act of 1984" and subsequent amendments.

Research proposals are sought from educational institutions, nonprofit organizations, and commercial organizations for research in materials sciences; ballistics and aeromechanics sciences; information sciences; human sciences; survivability, lethality, and vulnerability analysis and assessment; chemistry; electronics; physics; environmental sciences; life sciences; mechanical sciences, mathematical sciences, computing sciences and network sciences.

Proposals will be evaluated only if they are for scientific study and experimentation directed toward advancing the state of the art or increasing knowledge and understanding.


Mathematical Foundations of High Assurance Computing

The Formal Methods Section (Code 5543) of the Naval Research Laboratory’s Center for High Assurance Computer Systems is seeking white papers for innovative research in the mathematics underlying security and high assurance computing. For white papers accepted and approved by Code 5543, submitters will be requested to submit formal BAA proposals to the Contracting Division at NRL.
Position announcements

Postdoctoral Research Position in Bayesian Biostatistics, Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health

Description: This position is in the Department of Biostatistics at the Harvard School of Public Health. Primary responsibilities will be methodological development and applied work on Bayesian methodology to address important problems in public health and policy evaluation. Applied areas emphasize analysis of observational data, including (but not limited to) evaluation of air pollution regulatory policies and comparative effectiveness research for clinical treatments and healthcare delivery strategies.

Qualifications: PhD in statistics, biostatistics, or a related field. Experience in analysis of large data, Bayesian computational methods and causal inference are preferred but not required.

Additional Information: Please email a cover letter describing research interests and experience along with a CV and names of three references to biostat_postdoc@hsph.harvard.edu or mail to: Postdoc Search, c/o Vickie Beaulieu, Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health, 655 Huntington Avenue, Building 2, 4th Floor, Boston MA 02115. In your application, please reference “Bayesian Biostatistics Postdoc.” Questions about the position can be emailed to Vickie Beaulieu at the same email address.

Applications from minority and female candidates are especially encouraged. Harvard University is an AA/EOE.

Other opportunities

NIST Big Data Working Group Announcement

You are cordially invited to participate in the NIST Big Data Working Group Kick-off meeting to be held on June 19, 2013, 1300 – 1400 EDT via teleconferencing. The information you’ll need for participating in the kick-off meeting can be found at the bottom of this message.
There is a broad agreement among commercial, academic, and government leaders about the remarkable potential of “Big Data” to spark innovation, fuel commerce, and drive progress. Big Data is the term used to describe the deluge of data in our networked, digitized, sensor-laden, information driven world. The availability of vast data resources carries the potential to answer questions previously out of reach. Questions like: How do we reliably detect a potential pandemic early enough to intervene? Can we predict new materials with advanced properties before these materials have ever been synthesized? How can we reverse the current advantage of the attacker over the defender in guarding against cybersecurity threats?

However there is also broad agreement on the ability of Big Data to overwhelm traditional approaches. The rate at which data volumes, speeds, and complexity are growing is outpacing scientific and technological advances in data analytics, management, transport, and more.

Despite the widespread agreement on the opportunities and current limitations of Big Data, a lack of consensus on some important, fundamental questions is confusing potential users and holding back progress. What are the attributes that define Big Data solutions? How is Big Data different from the traditional data environments and related applications that we have encountered thus far? What are the essential characteristics of Big Data environments? How do these environments integrate with currently deployed architectures? What are the central scientific, technological, and standardization challenges that need to be addressed to accelerate the deployment of robust Big Data solutions?

The NIST Big Data Working Group (NBD-WG) is being launched to address these questions. The Group is charged with developing over the coming months a consensus definition, taxonomy, reference architecture, and technology roadmap for Big Data that can be embraced by all sectors.

The NBD-WG is co-chaired by Chaitan Baru, Bob Marcus, and Wo Chang. Dr. Baru is Distinguished Scientist at the San Diego Supercomputer Center and Director of the Center for Large-scale Data Systems Research. Dr. Marcus is CTO of ET-Strategies and a leader in cloud and data standards efforts with experience in commercial, academic, and government settings. Wo Chang is Digital Data Advisor in the NIST Information Technology Laboratory and an experienced contributor to national and international standards efforts.

Participation in the NIST Big Data Working Group is open to everyone. We hope to bring together stakeholder communities across industry, academic, and government sectors representing all of those with interests in Big Data techniques, technologies, and applications. The group needs your input to meet its goals so please join us for the kick-off meeting and contribute your ideas and insights.

Meetings

The NIST Big Data Working Group will hold **weekly meetings on Wednesdays** (unless announce otherwise) by teleconference. The meeting time is 1300 -1500 EDT. The dial-in information is as follows:

Phone: [866-692-4541](tel:866-692-4541), Participant Passcode: [312-484-475-560](tel:312-484-475-560)
More information about web conference tools can be found at: http://bigdatawg.nist.gov/virtualmeeting.php.

Questions

More details about the NIST Big Data Working Group can be found at http://bigdatawg.nist.gov.

General questions to the NIST Big Data Working Group can be addressed to BigDataInfo@nist.gov.

OSTP Student Volunteer Program

The Office of Science and Technology Policy is currently accepting applications for its Fall 2013 Student Volunteer Program. The application deadline is 11:59pm Friday, June 28th. Students who are U.S. citizens and who will be actively enrolled during the Fall 2013 semester are welcome to apply.

More information and application instructions are available at http://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/about/student/.

About OSTP: The Office of Science and Technology Policy advises the President on the effects of science and technology on domestic and international affairs. The office serves as a source of scientific and technological analysis and judgment for the President with respect to major policies, plans and programs of the Federal Government.

About the Student Volunteer Program: Student Volunteers are accepted for one of three annual terms (Spring, Summer, or Fall), which each last no more than 90 days. While these positions are without compensation, the assignments provide educational enrichment, practical work experience, and network opportunities with other individuals in the science and technology policy arena.

For questions, please contact Rebecca Grimm rgrimm@ostp.eop.gov.