Caucus of Academic Reps (CAR) Weekly Digest, June 19, 2015

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

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1) School of Public Health and Health Professions, University at Buffalo: two tenure-track positions, assistant/associate professor

The University at Buffalo, School of Public Health and Health Professions (CEPH accredited) is recruiting for two (2) new, state funded, 12-month, tenure track positions at the rank of Assistant and Associate Professor to join the faculty as health services researchers with expertise in the areas of health analytics, health economics, or outcomes research. Successful applicants will be part of the Division of Health Services Policy and Practice in the EEH.

The successful candidates will develop independent, funded research programs and contribute to graduate student teaching and service. The ideal candidates will have research interests in the areas of healthcare quality; patient centered care; patient
outcomes; resource utilization; and/or healthcare economics. The duties and responsibilities for this position include teaching, participation in collaborative research and the training and mentoring of trainees in the MPH Health Services Administration concentration, MS/PhD program in Epidemiology and the anticipated PhD Program in Health Services Research in the School of Public Health and Health Professions. These are strategic hires within an expanding Division. We are seeking faculty members who are interested in the opportunity to help grow the department and its programs.

EEH has a long and distinguished history in research and student education. Part of the School of Public Health and Health Professions (SPHHP). The department offers PhD and MS and MPH degrees in Epidemiology, as well as MPH degrees with concentrations in epidemiology, environmental health and health services administration.

The University at Buffalo (UB) provides a rich environment for collaborative and transdisciplinary research with faculty within the SPHHP and at other schools located in the Academic Health Center (Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Dental Medicine, Pharmacy and Nursing). Collaborative opportunities also exist with Roswell Park Cancer Institute, The New York Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics and Life Sciences, the UB Clinical and Translational Research Center, the Women's Health Initiative, the Office of Global Health Initiatives and the new UB Institute on Research in Energy, Environment and Water (RENEW). EEH and faculty in schools across the University are building collaborative groups and engaging in scholarship relevant to global health, the microbiome, and the environment, offering unique opportunities for trans-disciplinary research. In addition, department strengths include cancer, cardiovascular disease, women's health, nutrition, physical activity, infectious disease and environmental epidemiology. UB, dedicated to academic excellence, is a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU) and is the leading public research university in New York State, offering more than 300 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. The University is in a period of unprecedented growth.

Western New York is among the most beautiful and most welcoming regions in the country. Known locally as the "City of Good Neighbors", Buffalo has been named as one of the best cities in the US to live in; for more information about the city and the region, please see http://sphhp.buffalo.edu/home/about-us/the-buffalo-niagara-region.html.

For more information about the Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, please see http://sphhp.buffalo.edu/epidemiology-and-environmental-health.html. For more information about the position, please contact search committee chair: Dr. Arthur Michalek, Department of Epidemiology and Environmental Health, amm3@buffalo.edu, (716) 829-5369.
Yale University Program of Applied Translational Research: Junior Biostatistician

The Program of Applied Translational Research at Yale (patr.yale.edu) is a vibrant environment dedicated to improving the health of patients by discovering and validating novel biomarkers in serum and urine for several human diseases that involve the kidney (acute kidney injury, kidney transplantation, diabetic kidney disease, etc). We have access to large biorepository that has biosamples from multi-center clinical trials. The Program is looking for an experienced biostatistician with a strong interest in academic scholarship and publication as well as tremendous skill in managing, programming and analyzing data from multiple sources. The successful candidate will work with investigators, database administrators, research coordinators and post-graduate fellows to complete various translational and clinical research projects using a variety of statistical techniques. In addition, the successful candidate will get an opportunity to collaborate with other experienced statisticians and supervise junior trainees who are enrolled in Yale University graduate programs.

Principal Responsibilities

- Performs a variety of duties involving the application of statistical skills to the design of research studies. Works as a member of a research team/study team to provide appropriate statistical input in the design, execution and analysis of studies.
- Participates in the development of operations and procedures for the collection, editing, verification and management of statistical data.
- Operates one or more systems of computer hardware and statistical analysis software for the management and analysis of data. Evaluates the statistical methods and procedures used to obtain data to ensure validity, applicability, efficiency, and accuracy.
- Analyzes and interprets statistical data to identify significant differences in relationships among sources of information.
- Processes large amounts of data for statistical modeling and graphic analysis, using computers.
- Investigates, evaluates and prepares reports on applicability, efficiency, and accuracy of statistical methods used in obtaining and evaluation data.
- Participates in the preparation of written and oral presentations that summarize the analysis of data, interprets the finding and provides conclusions and recommendations.
- May perform other duties as assigned.

Required Education and Experience

Master’s degree in Statistics, Biostatistics, Epidemiology or related field or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Required Skill/Ability
• Knowledge of multiple statistical packages (SAS, R, SPSS or STATA)
• Experience with large administrative databases like Medicare (desired, though not required)
• Ability to become well versed with medical terminology (kidney and heart diseases)
• Well-developed analytical, organizational, and oral and written communication skills
• Ability to manage and prioritize multiple projects to ensure on-time delivery as well as meticulous quality

Interested candidates: Please email Joseph.Ficek@Yale.edu

(3) Missouri University of Science and Technology: tenure-track position

The Missouri University of Science and Technology is strategically hiring faculty who excel in interdisciplinary research to advance the campus signature area of Smart Living. This search is for talented candidates in multiple areas, with mathematics and statistics being two of these areas. Smart Living seeks to improve the human living condition by enhancing the integrated system of people, technology and the environment. Smart Living requires an interdisciplinary effort among the social science, computing, engineering, science and humanities disciplines to advance a sustainable, usable, and healthy society. The Smart Living signature area is one of four signature areas that are part of S&T’s aggressive strategic plan to hire 100 faculty, adding more breadth and depth to the university's world-class programs. Details of the job description and application process can be found at

Job Description and application details

Funding

(1) NIH BD2K: Funding Opportunity and Meeting Announcement: Harnessing Big Data to Stop HIV

The Division of AIDS is keenly interested in exploring the potential for Big Data approaches and methodology to address key questions targeting some remaining gaps in HIV knowledge. Under the funding announcement, NIH PA 15-273, Harnessing Big Data to Stop HIV, NIAID, NCI, NIMH, and NIDA are soliciting new ideas and opportunities to discover rare and unseen factors that contribute to HIV transmission networks and the continuum of care.

Specific areas of research interest include:

- Using heterogeneous data to characterize social, behavioral, and contextual, life courses of events that put individual people at risk for HIV acquisition.
- Simulation modeling of social networks, context of risk and health seeking behaviors.
- Exploration of machine learning to process and visualize data.
- Gender and ethnic/racial disparities in disease acquisition, retention in care, and long-term outcomes.
- Insight into HIV test-seeking behaviors using heterogeneous data.
- Using viral phylogenetics to define transmission networks and approaches to disrupt them.
- Analyzing ethical, legal, and policy issues and working guidance documents or policy frameworks to guide Big Data research.
- Big Data approaches to gain insights on HIV-associated malignancies.


In addition, the Division of AIDS, NIMH Division of AIDS Research, NIH Big Data to Knowledge, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation are hosting a companion meeting, Harnessing Big Data to Stop HIV on July 13 and 14, 2015, in at 5601 Fishers Lane, Bethesda Maryland, to further explore the potential for Big Data approaches to answer questions in HIV research. Over one and a half days, sessions will address examples of Big Data research, legal and ethical issues, and statistical and methodological challenges and solutions.

Meeting registration can be accessed here https://www.blsmeetings.net/HarnessingBigDataToStopHIV and information on public webcasting will be forthcoming.

***BD2K is not contributing funds to this solicitation but we imagine it will be of interest to many of the BD2Kupdates listserv readers and colleagues. We are however, supporting some of the costs for the companion meeting which will be webcast. Information about the meeting can be found on the Data Science at NIH website calendar at: https://datascience.nih.gov/events/BigDataHIV. We will post agenda information on this page soon and will also include webcast access information when that is available.

(2) NSF Graduate Data Science Workshop & Community Building, 2015

Seattle, August 5-7th
http://depts.washington.edu/dswkshp/

Overview: The NSF-sponsored Graduate Data Science Workshop will bring together 100 graduate students from diverse domain sciences and engineering with Data
Scientists from industry and academia to discuss and collaborate on Big Data / Data Science challenges.

Participation: To participate in the workshop, submit a white paper in PDF format that describes a Big Data / Data Science challenge faced by your scientific or engineering discipline or an idea for a new tool or method addressing Big Data / Data Science problem. White papers will be reviewed using NSF scoring criteria and attendees will be selected based on the strength of their position papers. If you are selected for attendance, you must bring a poster to present on one of either of the two poster presentation sessions. The authors of the very highest scoring white papers will be invited to give lightning talks of a few slides during the plenary session to describe their challenges or methods. The white paper submission deadline is June 22nd, 2015. Invitees will be notified on July 1st, 2015.

Program: In addition to keynote presentations from high profile speakers, the participants will present posters covering their own research and work collaboratively to begin to solve some of the Grand Challenge problems facing Data Enabled Science & Engineering disciplines.

Community building: After the workshop, the output from the collaborative teams will be published in an open access environment. Through the shared work at the workshop and beyond, the participants will form lasting, collaborative relationships with their peers and the senior academia partners and industry participants including those from companies like Amazon, Google and Microsoft.

Travel awards: If you are invited to participate, travel support of up to $1,000 will be available which can be used to cover the registration and lodging fees in addition to airfare. Most meals are included. Workshop registration is $200. Lodging is $123 (two beds), $195 (single) for two nights.

Organizers:

General Chair  
David A. C. Beck, PhD, (University of Washington, Chemical Engineering)

Local Arrangements Chair  
Jennifer Worrell

Steering Committee  
Ginger Armbrust, PhD, (University of Washington, Oceanography)  
Magdalena Balazinska, PhD, (University of Washington, Computer Science & Engineering)  
Andrew Connolly, PhD (University of Washington, Astronomy)
(1) **JSM sessions of possible interest to CAR members**

ASA Director of Science Policy Steve Pierson has collected information on some JSM sessions that might be of interest to members of the Caucus of Academic Reps or their colleagues:

- Neuroscience Sessions/Talks at the 2015 Joint Statistical Meetings
- Sessions on Personalized Medicine at the 2015 Joint Statistical Meetings
- Big Data Sessions at the 2015 Joint Statistical Meetings

Also, don’t forget the Ninth Annual Workshop for Chairs of Programs in Statistics and Biostatistics at JSM. See [http://www.amstat.org/education/caucusactivities.cfm](http://www.amstat.org/education/caucusactivities.cfm) for details.

(2) **SAMSI Tutorial on Forensics Workshop, August 27-29, 2015**

Deadline for applications is Monday July 6, 2015. To apply, go to [http://www.samsi.info/fs-tutorials](http://www.samsi.info/fs-tutorials)

This workshop will be held at SAMSI, 19 T.W. Alexander Dr., Research Triangle Park, NC.

Workshop Organizers: Clifford Spiegelman, Len Stefanski

Visit the SAMSI website for more information about the Forensics Opening Workshop ([http://www.samsi.info/forensics-ow](http://www.samsi.info/forensics-ow)) and the 2015-16 Forensics Program ([http://www.samsi.info/Forensics](http://www.samsi.info/Forensics))

For additional information, send e-mail to forensics@samsi.info

(3) **10 Tips for Entry-Level Analytics Professionals**

We thought you or some or your colleagues might find this article useful:

[http://stattrak.amstat.org/2015/06/01/10-tips-for-entry-level-analytics-professionals/](http://stattrak.amstat.org/2015/06/01/10-tips-for-entry-level-analytics-professionals/)
Thank you to the following Departments for displaying the “This is Statistics” logo on their websites:

- Brown University Department of Biostatistics: [http://www.brown.edu/academics/public-health/biostatistics/biostatistics-graduate-programs/resources](http://www.brown.edu/academics/public-health/biostatistics/biostatistics-graduate-programs/resources)
- Central Connecticut State University Department of Mathematical Sciences: [http://www.math.ccsu.edu/](http://www.math.ccsu.edu/)
- Colorado State University Department of Statistics: [http://www.stat.colostate.edu/](http://www.stat.colostate.edu/)
- Pennsylvania State University Department of Statistics: [http://stat.psu.edu/](http://stat.psu.edu/)
- Purdue University Department of Statistics: [http://www.stat.purdue.edu/](http://www.stat.purdue.edu/)
- South Dakota State University Department of Mathematics and Statistics: [http://www.sdsstate.edu/mathstat/](http://www.sdsstate.edu/mathstat/)
- University of California, Riverside Department of Statistics: [http://statistics.ucr.edu/](http://statistics.ucr.edu/)
- University of Chicago Department of Statistics: [https://galton.uchicago.edu/](https://galton.uchicago.edu/)
- University of Idaho Department of Statistical Science: [http://www.uidaho.edu/sci/stat](http://www.uidaho.edu/sci/stat)
- University of Wisconsin, Madison Department of Biostatistics and Medical Informatics: [https://www.biostat.wisc.edu/](https://www.biostat.wisc.edu/)

Sorry to those we missed. (Please let us know if we did.) We’ll keep updating this list as other departments join in. Remember, this is a collective investment in the future of our discipline and profession.