Digest of Items of Interest to the Caucus of Academic Reps - Week of June 21, 2013

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

Funding opportunities:

- Widening Implementation & Demonstration of Evidence Based Reforms
- NSF-CBMS Regional Research Conferences in the Mathematical Sciences

Position announcements:

- Lecturer, Department of Statistics, University of Chicago

Other opportunities:

- New ASA Community on Funding Opportunities
- Undergraduate curriculum guidelines project
- 2013 JSM Diversity Mentoring Program

Funding opportunities

Widening Implementation & Demonstration of Evidence Based Reforms

Full Proposal Deadline Date: July 3, 2013

The chief goal of WIDER is to transform institutions of higher education into supportive environments for STEM faculty members to substantially increase their use of evidence-based teaching and learning practices. The first recommendation in the Report of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST), "Engage to Excel," is to increase widespread implementation of evidence-based practices in order to increase persistence in STEM and contribute to the goal of producing 1 million additional STEM graduates.

Through this process, WIDER seeks to substantially increase the scale of application of highly effective methods of STEM teaching and learning in institutions of higher education, by employing instructional materials and methods that have a convincing evidentiary basis of effectiveness. In particular WIDER seeks this transformation for high enrollment, lower division courses required for many STEM majors and taken by many other students to fulfill general education distribution requirements.

Included in our broad definition of effective STEM teaching and learning are not only instructional practices in traditional learning environments, but also modern laboratory methods and field research, proven distance education methods (or hybrid designs incorporating both face-to-face and distance methods), and improved approaches to motivating student interest in STEM. In all cases, the primary goal of WIDER is to increase substantially the scale of these improvements within and across the higher education sector in order to achieve:
(1) Improved student learning;
(2) Increased numbers of students choosing STEM majors, particularly from demographic groups underrepresented in STEM;
(3) Improved retention in the first two years of undergraduate study and to graduation of all STEM majors.

Applicants may apply for WIDER grants to begin institutional planning efforts, to support implementation efforts for evidence-based teaching and learning practices, and for research on how to increase the importance placed on evidence-based practices in institutional strategic planning and faculty rewards.


NSF-CBMS Regional Research Conferences in the Mathematical Sciences

The NSF-CBMS Regional Research Conferences in the Mathematical Sciences are a series of five-day conferences each of which features a distinguished lecturer delivering ten lectures on a topic of important current research in one sharply focused area of the mathematical sciences. CBMS refers to the Conference Board of the Mathematical Sciences which publicizes the conferences and administers the resulting publications. Support is provided for about 30 participants at each conference. Proposals should address the unique characteristics of the NSF-CBMS conferences, outlined in the Program Description.


Position announcements

Lecturer, Department of Statistics, University of Chicago

Position Title: Lecturer

Req # 01737

The Department of Statistics at the University of Chicago seeks to hire a Lecturer. This is a one-year position starting in Autumn Quarter 2013, with the possibility of renewal for a second year. Duties include teaching four courses per year at the undergraduate level. Applicants must have a PhD in Statistics at the time the appointment begins and previous experience in statistical research and teaching. Review of complete applications, including recommendation letters, will begin July 22, 2013, and continue until the position is filled. All applicants must apply through the University's Academic Jobs website at http://tinyurl.com/k2hptq9 and upload a cover letter of interest and a curriculum vitae.
Three letters of recommendation will be required. Referral letter submission information will be provided during the application process.

Inquiries should be sent to the Search Committee at search@galton.uchicago.edu.

The University of Chicago is an Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer.

http://tinyurl.com/k2hptq9

**Other opportunities**

**New ASA Community on Funding Opportunities**

The ASA Committee on Funded Research has created a new ASA Community with the goal of distributing relevant information about funding opportunities to ASA members. It currently includes a section with discussion postings about recent funding opportunities; a page with recent articles in *Amstat News* about and related to funding opportunities; and a static page with funding opportunities from federal agencies, non-profit organizations, and for-profit companies. Log in to ASA Communities and search for Funding Opportunities to view and/or join. Or go directly to the Funding Opportunities community page. Also feel free to post other funding opportunities on this web site.

**Undergraduate curriculum guidelines project**

The American Statistical Association (ASA) is updating the set of curriculum guidelines ([www.amstat.org/education/curriculumguidelines.cfm](http://www.amstat.org/education/curriculumguidelines.cfm)) for undergraduate statistics programs. President-elect Nathaniel Schenker has appointed a working group consisting of representatives from academia, industry, and government to make recommendations for changes in the guidelines.

The working group welcomes your input online at [http://www.amstat.org/education/curriculumguidelines.cfm](http://www.amstat.org/education/curriculumguidelines.cfm). Additionally, there will be an open meeting held at the Joint Statistical Meetings (Montréal, Canada) from 4-5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 7, in CC-515B.

Feedback also can be sent to the working group chair, Nicholas Horton, at nhorton@amherst.edu.

We appreciate your efforts to enhance statistics education and hope you will provide input regarding updating these guidelines.

**2013 JSM Diversity Mentoring Program, Sunday, August 4, continuing through Wed, August 7**

Objective: The ASA Committee on Minorities in Statistics (ASA CMS) is hosting a Diversity Mentoring Program (DMP) at the 2013 Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) in Montréal Québec, Canada. This program brings minority graduate students, post-doctoral scholars, and junior professionals together with senior-
level statisticians in academia, government, private sector, and faculty in a structured program at the annual Joint Statistical Meetings. The program provides career information, mentoring, and a peer network to participants. Program activities will include small group discussions and one-on-one meetings between mentor-mentee pairs.

Registration: Space and funding are limited. Though participation in the program is free, participation is limited to 10 participants. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. Notification of acceptance will be sent approximately one week after application submission. To register or obtain detailed information on the Diversity Mentoring Program please visit [http://jsmdiversity.statfest.com/](http://jsmdiversity.statfest.com/). Note: Separate registration for the Joint Statistical Meetings is required for all participants.

Travel: Travel funds of up to $900 will be provided for up to 7 mentee participants. To qualify for travel funding, each participant must submit (1) a signed statement of his/her commitment to participate in all DMP workshops and (2) verification of travel arrangements (i.e., flight itinerary and/or hotel reservations), and (3) confirmation of JSM registration no later than 2 weeks after acceptance into the program. Valid U.S. passport and/or other travel documentation may be required for travel to Canada. Please allow sufficient time to secure these documents before the conference.

Funding for the program has been provided by the National Science Foundation (grant # 1136920) and the American Statistical Association.