Caucus of Academic Reps (CAR) Weekly Digest
August 18, 2017

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Positions

(1) Virginia Tech, Department of Statistics: Two Open Rank Tenure / Tenure-track Faculty Positions

The Virginia Tech Department of Statistics (www.stat.vt.edu) has two tenure/tenure-track openings. We seek individuals with established track records in statistics, well-funded, internationally distinguished research programs, and who excel in teaching. Applicants must have an earned Doctorate in statistics or closely related field at the time of appointment.

- STATISTICIAN: The successful applicant will have a strong background in computationally intensive statistical methods and high performance computing with a research focus in data analytics, machine learning, data mining, stochastic modeling/inference, interactive data visualization, or a similar area.

This position is part of a major emphasis on statistics, including data science and analytics at Virginia Tech (http://provost.vt.edu/destination-areas/da-data.html). This position will support of the Computational Modeling and Data Analytics (CMDA) program (http://www.ais.science.vt.edu/programs/cmda.html), a multi-department effort including the Departments of Statistics, Mathematics, and Computer Science.
Questions regarding this position can be directed to Dr. Robert Gramacy, Statistician Search Committee Chair, rbg@vt.edu.

- **BIOSTATISTICIAN**: The successful applicant will have a specialization in some area of health-related statistics, such as biostatistics, bioinformatics, or genomics, and will be a leader in developing and expanding our health sciences research program. This position is part of a major emphasis on biostatistics and health analytics within the Data Analytics and Decision Sciences destination area at Virginia Tech (http://provost.vt.edu/destination-areas/da-data.html).

Located in the Health Sciences and Technology Innovation District in Roanoke, (http://vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2016/03/bov-hstdistrict.html), the successful applicant will play a significant role in the development and leadership of a biostatistics/health analytics group that will collaborate with scientists across the university, including the Virginia Tech Carilion Research Institute, the Virginia Tech School of Medicine, and the Biocomplexity Institute of Virginia Tech.

Questions regarding this position can be directed to Dr. Ron Fricker, Department Head and Biostatistician Search Committee Chair, rf@vt.edu.

Applications are due by November 1, 2017 and must be submitted online at listings.jobs.vt.edu (Statistician posting #TR0170087; Biostatistician posting #TR0160168). Interviews may start as early as December 1, 2017.

(2) **Virginia Tech, Department of Statistics: Two Teaching Faculty Positions**

Virginia Tech has two faculty openings in the Department of Statistics (www.stat.vt.edu) to start Fall 2018. Appointment at the rank of Collegiate Assistant Professor is preferred, but the Associate level will be considered for exceptional candidates. These are full-time, multi-year appointments (three years for Assistant Professor and five years for Associate Professor) with multi-year renewal upon successful review.

We seek candidates who are passionate about teaching statistics to undergraduate and graduate students. Responsibilities include teaching three courses per semester, where successful candidates will:

- Make significant contributions to our instruction in statistics; coordinate introductory and service courses, work closely with our undergraduate students, engage in a variety of significantly growing statistics curricula across the university, and lead efforts in curriculum enhancements and innovative pedagogy;

- Continue to develop professional capabilities and participate in scholarly activities, including travel to and participate in professional conferences and societies; and participate in department, college, and university service and governance, as well as professional service.

These positions are part of a major emphasis on statistics, including computational modeling, data science and analytics, and empirical decision making at Virginia Tech. Successful applicants will have the opportunity to be key players in the creation of the university’s “Data Analytics and Decision Sciences” destination area (http://provost.vt.edu/destination-areas/da-data.html) and to teach in the Computational Modeling and Data Analytics and program.
within the College of Science’s Academy of Integrated Science as well as the School of Neuroscience (www.neuroscience.vt.edu/index.html).

Applicants must have a Ph.D. in Statistics, Biostatistics, or a related field with a strong statistical emphasis, and have broad intellectual interests in statistics and statistics education along with a strong promise for being a leader in the instructional mission of the department. Desirable characteristics include a record of pedagogical achievement and vision, creativity, and leadership skills relevant to instruction.

Applications must be submitted online at www.jobs.vt.edu (postings #TR0160135 and #TR0170086). Questions regarding the position can be directed to Dr. Pang Du, Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Hutcheson Hall, 250 Drillfield Dr., Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061, Tel. (540) 231-5198, E-mail: vstat_search2017@vt.edu. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, but all applications received by November 1, 2017, will be guaranteed full consideration.

(3) Reed College, Department of Mathematics: tenure-track position in statistics

The Reed College Mathematics Department invites applications for a tenure-track position in statistics at the rank of assistant professor to begin fall 2018 (more senior candidates will also be considered). Applicants should have a Ph.D. in statistics, biostatistics, data science, or a related field by the time of appointment.

We are seeking candidates with a commitment to teaching students from diverse backgrounds and to a strong research program that can engage under-graduates. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching statistics courses at the introductory and advanced levels and helping to build a growing academic program. Duties will include advising senior students as they write their theses, a cornerstone of the Reed academic experience.

Reed College is a vibrant intellectual community located in Portland, Oregon. Reed students are known for their outstanding intellectual engagement and creativity and the substantial proportion that go on to pursue advanced degrees. While teaching is our primary mission, the College is very supportive of faculty research; we have a generous leave and sabbatical program, funding for professional travel and student research assistants, and opportunities for internal research grants.

Applications must be submitted through the MathJobs.org website and should include a cover letter, curriculum vitae, teaching statement, research statement, and three letters of recommendation. The cover letter should address how the applicant's teaching and scholarship are suited to the liberal arts college environment. Reed College is a community that believes cultural diversity is essential to the excellence of its academic program. In your application materials, please provide a description of how you would engage and sustain the commitment to diversity and inclusion articulated in Reed Colleges diversity statement (www.reed.edu/diversity/).

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, but they should be received by October 2, 2017 to guarantee full consideration. Any questions may be directed to the chair of the search committee, David Perkinson, davidp@reed.edu.
(4) **Rebecca D. Considine Research Institute, Akron Children's Hospital: biostatistician**

The Rebecca D. Considine Research Institute, Akron Children's Hospital, OH has one Biostatistician position available and we are accepting applications.

**Position Description:**

Involved in all aspects of a clinical research study from detailed study design to statistical data analysis, data interpretation and meaningful comprehensive contributions to research study reports/manuscript preparation and scientific publications.

**Qualifications Required:**

Master's Degree required, a PhD is preferred, in biostatistics, statistics or related field. Minimum two (2) years of experience in a clinical research program highly desirable. SAS programming required. Will act as a team member and independently as a representative of the CHMCA system and Clinical Research Center. Outstanding writing, statistical/data analysis and communication skills are required. A detailed and working understanding of research study design, data analysis and interpretation with a commitment to accuracy is essential. Effective team collaboration skills, active participation in research curriculum (lectures, skill workshops, etc.) ensuring successful and timely completion of assigned projects, and proactively contributing to discussion and preparation of publications and lectures on biostatistics are also essential.

To apply please search under Akron Campus>Professional>Full time exempt

mykidsnet.chmca.org/myHR/EmploymentOpportunities/Pages/…

(5) **University of Texas Health Science Center, Department of Biostatistics and Data Science: faculty positions in Data Science**

The Department of Biostatistics and Data Science at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) School of Public Health is pleased to invite applications for immediate opening of multiple faculty positions in Data Science. These positions will be tenure-track and open rank (Assistant/Associate/Full Professor) faculty positions. These positions are expected to perform research in big biomedical/health science data mining, modeling, analysis, prediction and visualization, as well as contribute to the development of our new Data Science graduate programs. Demonstrated evidence of excellent communication and collaboration skills is essential. Previous research experience in Big Data management, data mining, machine learning, natural language processing, large-scale optimization, unstructured data processing/analysis, electronic health records, and high-performance computing is highly desirable.

**Qualifications:** Candidates must have a Ph.D. or its professional equivalent in data science, computer science, statistics, biostatistics, engineering, computational mathematics or other related disciplines. Applicants must have a demonstrated record of outstanding research work, excellent teaching performance and recognized leadership in the data science field.

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Interested
candidates must apply online through the access of the following link: jobs.uth.tmc.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=116860 and include a cover letter describing their qualifications and interests along with their curriculum vitae, and contact information for three professional references.

Any inquiries should be directed to: Search Committee for Data Science, c/o Ms. Maricé Barahona, Department of Biostatistics, UTHealth School of Public Health, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, 1200 Pressler Street, E-835, Houston, Texas 77030, FAX: 713-500-9440, Email: Marice.Barahona@uth.tmc.edu.

(6) NIH, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Biostatistics and Computational Biology Branch (BCBB)

Position Description:

A postdoctoral position is available in the Biostatistics and Computational Biology Branch (BCBB) at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, NIH, in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, under Dr. Clarice Weinberg (www.niehs.nih.gov/research/atniehs/labs/bb/staff/... The successful candidate will develop methods to address problems in genetic, cancer, reproductive and/or environmental epidemiology. He/she will have the opportunity to work with data from a family-based study and large cohort projects. In methodologic work, we are interested in better use of family genetic data to study epistasis, in developing methods based on pooling of specimens prior to assay, and in approaches to study the role of time-varying exposures in discrete-time survival models, for application to time-to-pregnancy studies. However, research topics are not limited to those, and candidates with different topics of interest are encouraged to apply.

Candidates should have or be very close to obtaining a Ph.D. in epidemiology (with a strong interest in methods), or in biostatistics, statistics or closely related areas (with a strong interest in epidemiology). Programming skill is required. Excellent communication skills and fluency in both spoken and written English are essential.

Interested candidates should submit their curriculum vitae, a detailed statement of their research interests, and the names and contact information for three references to Dr. Clarice Weinberg at weinber2@niehs.nih.gov.

Application Deadline Date: October 31, 2017

(7) NIGMS PRAT Program: postdoctoral fellowships

Accepting Applications beginning September 3, 2017

The National Institute of General Medical Sciences’ Postdoctoral Research Associate (PRAT) program is accepting applications from September 3 through October 3, 2017. Applications must be submitted via the Fi2 funding mechanism (https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-16-130.html). PRAT fellows conduct research in scientific areas within the Institute’s mission while in an NIH intramural research program (IRP) lab. Before applying, applicants must identify a potential preceptor in the NIH IRP and develop a research proposal.
PRAT fellows receive 3 years of stipend support and additional benefits such as health insurance, a travel allowance and professional development training activities, including a monthly seminar series designed specifically for fellows.

For more information about the PRAT program, see http://www.nigms.nih.gov/Training/Pages/PRAT.aspx or contact Jessica Faupel-Badger at badgerje@mail.nih.gov.

(8) Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute: Collaborative Biostatistician Position

The Biostatistics Unit at Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute (KPWHRI) is seeking an entry-, mid- or senior-level MS or PhD biostatistician interested in applying modern statistical methods to data from both observational studies and clinical trials in an interdisciplinary academic research environment. Using electronic health data from health care delivery systems, the position will involve collaboration with investigators across areas such as cancer prevention, pharmacoepidemiology, immunizations, behavioral medicine, women's health, health informatics, mental health, and aging. The successful candidate will also have the opportunity to support biostatistical methods research to improve the conduct of pragmatic trials and complex observational studies. To learn more about our ongoing research and methods, please visit https://www.kpwashingtonresearch.org/.

Applicants must have an MS or PhD in Biostatistics or Statistics. Excellent oral and written communication skills and a strong interest in interdisciplinary collaboration are required. Experience with statistical consultation, regression models, correlated data, survival analysis, clinical trial and/or missing data is preferred. Expertise with SAS, Stata or R is desirable.

To apply, please submit a letter of interest and a resume (or CV) to the attention of Annie Shaffer (shaffer.ax@ghc.org). Questions about the position can be directed to the Director of Biostatistics, Jennifer Nelson, PhD (nelson.jl@ghc.org). Review of applications will begin immediately. Salary and title commensurate with training and experience.

(9) University of Alabama, Culverhouse School of Commerce: two faculty positions in applied statistics

The Culverhouse College of Commerce at The University of Alabama invites applications for two faculty positions in Applied Statistics, at the Associate or Full Professor level, with an expected start date of August 16, 2018. Candidates must hold a Ph.D. in Statistics, or a closely related field. Successful candidates will be expected to lead independent and rigorous research in statistics with an emphasis on Data Science or Network Analytics.

For the details of the position and job application, please refer to facultyjobs.ua.edu/postings/41281.

The review of applications begins immediately, and applications will be accepted until October 1, 2017. All inquiries should be directed to the search committee chair, Dr. Marcus Perry, at mperry@cba.ua.edu.
**University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign, Department of Statistics: tenured or tenure-track faculty position in statistics and data science**

The Department of Statistics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign invites applications for a tenured or tenure-track faculty position in Statistics and Data Science (100% for 9 months). Areas of emphasis include statistical methods and computation methods for big data, computational statistics, biological and health sciences, statistical machine learning, causal inference, graphical models and sampling and design for large-scale studies, but all areas of Statistics and Data Science are welcome.

To apply, create your candidate profile through https://jobs.illinois.edu and submit application materials by November 15, 2017. Only applications submitted through the University of Illinois Job Board will be considered. To ensure full consideration, applications must be submitted by November 15, 2017. In your cover letter please state which rank you wish to be considered for. Interviews may take place before the closing date, but all applications received by the closing date will receive full consideration for an open position.

For more details, please see the link: uofi.illinois.edu/blog/view/7002/...

**American University, Department of Mathematics and Statistics: assistant professor in statistics**

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics at American University (Washington, DC) invites applications for a full-time, tenure-line Assistant Professor position in Statistics, beginning in August 2018.

An ideal candidate will possess expertise in computation; can identify specific prospects for on-campus collaboration, possibly interdepartmental; and will have a record of or a strong potential for obtaining external funding. Some research areas that would be compatible with those of the university include data science, machine learning, Bayesian modeling, spatial statistics, time series analysis, biostatistics, and other areas of statistics with biological applications. We are open to researchers who ignore traditional disciplinary boundaries.

Applicants must have a PhD in a relevant discipline. Successful teaching and post-doctoral experience are preferred. Responsibilities include: establishing an internationally recognized research program, preferably one that can involve students at the undergraduate or master's level; teaching and curriculum development; and service to the department and to the wider university.

American University's areas of long-time strength or recent investment include computational and behavioral neuroscience, environmental science, public health, persuasive gaming, metropolitan studies, economics, international service, public affairs, and business.

Applicants should submit a cover letter explaining how they fit the criteria above. In addition, they should submit a curriculum vita, teaching statement, and research statement, and applicants must arrange for at least three letters of recommendation, at least one of which should address teaching ability. Materials can be submitted online at mathjobs.org (highly preferred) or via email to Michele Mazzocchetti at mazzocch@american.edu. Letters of recommendation can be submitted online at mathjobs.org, by email, or in hard copy to Search Committee, Department of Mathematics and
Statistics, American University, Washington, DC 20016-8050. Applications received by December 1 will receive full consideration, but the search will continue until the position is filled. Please contact Prof. Michael Baron at baron@american.edu if you have any questions.

(12) National Center for Research on Gifted Education: Post-doctoral Researcher Position

Job Posting Title: University Postdoctoral Fellow 1

The National Center for Research on Gifted Education (http://ncrge.uconn.edu) is seeking a quantitative researcher for a Postdoctoral Fellow position. The person in this position will work with the National Center for Research on Gifted Education on a large mixed methods research study. Duties include conducting statistical analyses to answer complex research questions, documenting methods and results, and communicating those results for a variety of audiences. In addition, this position entails data management, programming, and reporting tasks. This individual will be a core team member who must be able to both learn and work independently as well as collaborate effectively with co-workers. There will be substantial opportunities to actively engage in the entire research process and to collaborate on research presentations and publications.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Manage and clean data
- Lead programming tasks
- Analyze secondary and survey data using descriptive and inferential statistical techniques
- Integrate data from multiple sources
- Develop code, scripts, or syntaxes for advanced statistical analyses
- Troubleshoot data anomalies and conducting quality control checks
- Create and maintain documentation of data management and analysis processes
- Analyze, visualize, and interpret data
- Contribute to project reports, briefs, and other manuscripts
- Ensure detailed documentation of methods and reproducibility of results
- Conduct observations and interviews in the field for the qualitative portion of the research study
- Aid in coding and analyzing the qualitative results
- Conduct literature searches and synthesize the results of prior research studies

Minimum Qualifications

- D. degree in quantitative social science, statistics, or a related area
- Extensive experience with data management and data analysis
- Extensive experience managing and conducting analyses using large scale databases
- Extensive experience conducting secondary data analyses
- High degree of proficiency with one or more statistical software packages (e.g., SPSS, SAS, Stata, R)
- Experience implementing advanced statistical techniques
- Strong written and verbal communications skills

Preferred Qualifications
- Substantial experience with multilevel modeling and/or latent variable modeling
- Substantial statistical programming experience in Stata and/or R
- Experience with large-scale data management and curation
- Experience analyzing multilevel quasi-experimental data
- Some training and experience conducting qualitative research

Appointment Terms

This is a full-time, end-date, 12-month position with an anticipated start date of October 1, 2017. The position may be renewed based on funding. The successful candidate’s appointment will be at the Storrs campus with the possibility of national travel. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

To Apply

To apply, complete an online application on UConn Jobs, [www.jobs.uconn.edu](http://www.jobs.uconn.edu). Please attach a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references. Applications are due by September 6, 2017. Evaluation of applicants will begin immediately. Employment of the successful candidate will be contingent upon the successful completion of a pre-employment criminal background check. (Search # 2018040)

For questions about the position, please contact Dr. Del Siegle at del.siegle@uconn.edu. For more information regarding the National Center for Research on Gifted Education, please visit the website at [http://ncrge.uconn.edu/](http://ncrge.uconn.edu/).

This job posting is scheduled to be removed at 11:59 p.m. Eastern time on September 6, 2017.

All employees are subject to adherence to the State Code of Ethics which may be found at [www.ct.gov/ethics/site/default.asp](http://www.ct.gov/ethics/site/default.asp).

(13) Michigan State University, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics: tenure track position

The Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Michigan State University (MSU) invites applications for a tenure system faculty position, academic year basis, for its expanding research, teaching and consulting missions. The position is a part of MSU's Global Impact Initiative, designed to address the grand challenges through the creation of over 100 new faculty positions in some of the most promising and exciting fields of research.

The position will be filled at the level of Professor or Associate Professor depending on the qualifications and record of the successful candidate. Applicants must have a PhD in Statistics/Biostatistics, or related quantitative discipline and have previous research and teaching experience. The successful candidate is expected to make significant contributions to research; develop and maintain a vigorous independent and collaborative research program; participate in teaching and mentor junior faculty and graduate students; and provide statistical consultation to graduate students in the department and in the College of Human Medicine. It is envisioned that the candidate will assume a leadership role in the department.

We have interest in candidates with research expertise in several areas including, but not limited to, design and analysis of randomized clinical trials, comparative effectiveness, and healthcare studies.
Candidates should have training and experience in applications of novel statistical methodologies to the health sciences. The individual must have excellent verbal and written communication skills, and the motivation to act as a team member in collaborative research ventures.

Application should be submitted on-line at http://careers.msu.edu for posting 448834. Include a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, statement of research interests, teaching philosophy and contact information for three references (applicant will be notified prior to contacting references). For full consideration, applications are due September 1, 2017. However, the position will remain open until filled. Review of candidates will begin immediately. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Questions regarding the position should be addressed to: Search Committee Coordinator, Mary Ann Vigil, vigil@msu.edu.

**DePaul University, School of Computing: renewable faculty position in Data Science**

The School of Computing at DePaul University invites applications for a full-time, non-tenure-track faculty position in Data Science. The appointment is renewable, contingent upon satisfactory performance.

The School of Computing is part of the College of Computing and Digital Media (CDM). It is located in the heart of Chicago’s Loop, the central business district of Chicago and offers a variety of undergraduate and graduate programs including Computer Science, Software Engineering, Human Computer Interaction, Game Development, Information Security, and others.

Ideal candidates will have expertise and teaching experience in data science with an emphasis in computational statistics, data mining, data visualization, pattern recognition or machine learning. The term faculty members will be affiliated with the DePaul’s Data Mining and Predictive Analytics Center, a multidisciplinary center that was created in 2011 to bring together faculty, students and private organizations interested in data science.

For priority consideration, application materials must be received by August 25, 2017. Applications should include CV, statement of teaching interests, a cover letter, and three letters of recommendation that preferably address the candidate’s teaching qualifications or potential. Material should be submitted at the following link: facultyopportunities.depaul.edu/postings/1281

Contact Raffaella Settimi at rsettimi@depaul.edu for additional inquiries.

**University of Sydney, Business Analytics group: Four academic positions**

The Business Analytics group in the Business School at The University of Sydney is advertising for four academic positions. Two positions are permanent and two positions are 2 year contracts.

Please see below the links to both roles.

1267/0617 Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Business Analytics (2 roles) (2 year contract; Closing date: 24th August, 2017)

1520/0717 Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Business Analytics (2 roles) (permanent, tenured; Closing date: 21st September, 2017)
We are looking for colleagues with:

- significant progress towards, or the completion of, a PhD with specialisation in Statistics, Business Analytics, Machine Learning, Operations Management, Operations Research and Management Science, or a related discipline
- evidence of high quality teaching in Statistics/Machine Learning and/or Business Analytics units, at undergraduate or postgraduate level
- capacity to contribute to course and program development
- an active research program with significant potential for future publication
- evidence of successful teamwork and a collegial approach

These positions represent an opportunity to join a dynamic group that researches and teaches in quantitative business analytics and decision sciences.

### Funding opportunities and information

1. NIH: The NHGRI Genomic Data Science Analysis, Visualization, and Informatics Lab-space (AnVIL) (U24)

The NHGRI Genomic Data Science Analysis, Visualization, and Informatics Lab-space (AnVIL) (U24) (RFA-HG-17-011)

National Human Genome Research Institute
Application Receipt Date(s): November, 9, 2017, by 5:00 PM local time

**Funding Opportunity Purpose**

The scope of this FOA is to establish the NHGRI Genomic Data Science Analysis, Visualization, Informatics Lab-space ("AnVIL") in support of genomic research. The AnVIL aims to create an interoperable resource for the research community by co-locating data, storage and computing infrastructure with commonly used services and tools for analyzing and sharing data. The AnVIL will further advance research by leveraging a cloud-based infrastructure to facilitate genomic data access by the broad scientific community, integration and computing on and across large datasets generated by NHGRI programs, or programs funded by others in support of human genomics research. In particular, the AnVIL resource will provide genomic researchers with the following:

- Cloud-based infrastructure and software platform
- Shared analysis and computing environment
- Participation in a federated genomic data commons ecosystem
- Cloud services cost control
- Genomic datasets, phenotypes and metadata
- Data access and data security
- User training and outreach
Incorporation of scientific and technology advances

(2) IES: Invitation for Public Comment on IES-Funded Efficacy, Replication, and Effectiveness Studies

Invitation for Public Comment on IES-Funded Efficacy, Replication, and Effectiveness Studies, Due October 2
ies.ed.gov/whatsnew/pdf/PublicComments072517.pdf

Each year, the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) invites applications for education and special education research projects that address one of five research goals, including Efficacy and Replication (Goal 3) and Effectiveness (Goal 4). We write to request your feedback on whether Goals 3 and 4 as currently configured are meeting the needs of the field, or whether we should consider making changes to incentivize and support more replication and effectiveness studies.

The requirements and recommendations for Goal 3 and Goal 4 projects are described in the Request for Applications for Education Research (84.305A) and Special Education Research (84.324A). Briefly, Goal 3 supports the evaluation of fully-developed interventions to determine whether they produce a beneficial impact on student education outcomes relative to a counterfactual when they are implemented under ideal or routine conditions by the end user in authentic education settings. Goal 4 supports the independent evaluation of fully-developed interventions with prior evidence of efficacy to determine whether they produce a beneficial impact on student education outcomes relative to a counterfactual when they are implemented by the end user under routine conditions in authentic education settings. To date, IES has funded 321 Goal 3 studies and 18 Goal 4 studies.

In October 2016, IES convened a group of experts for a Technical Working Group (TWG) to discuss the broad question of what should come after an efficacy study (a summary of the TWG meeting (PDF) and a blog post summarizing the discussion are available on the IES website). The TWG agreed that more emphasis on replication research is needed, and recognized that replication may take different forms, including re-analysis of original datasets; direct replications (in which the elements and conditions of the original study are repeated as closely as possible); and conceptual replications (in which the parameters of the original study are modified in some way, such as altering an aspect of the intervention to improve outcomes or re-testing an intervention on a different population or in a different context). About half of all Goal 3 and Goal 4 studies funded by IES have been conceptual replications; re-analysis of datasets and direct replications are relatively rare.

The TWG considered various actions IES could take to increase the visibility and support it provides for replication studies. The TWG also discussed whether the requirements for a Goal 4 study – in particular, the emphasis on an independent evaluation of an intervention under routine conditions – are impeding efforts to build more evidence on interventions that have prior evidence of efficacy. Finally, the TWG considered whether more attention is needed to examine causal mechanisms of interventions, variability across studies or study sites, and strategies to produce greater impacts and/or to help end users implement and sustain interventions with fidelity.
As we consider the TWG's comments and recommendations, we would also like to invite input from the field on the following questions:

1. What can IES do to encourage more visible and systematic replication research?

2. How can IES revise the current requirements for Goal 4 to encourage more effectiveness studies? Specifically:
   - How important is IES' current requirement for an independent evaluation, that is, an evaluation carried out by individuals who did not and do not participate in the development or distribution of the intervention? Are there other ways that an independent evaluation might be conceptualized?
   - Do we need a different definition of routine conditions? Currently, IES uses the term to refer to conditions under which an intervention is implemented that reflect (1) the everyday practice occurring in classrooms, schools, and districts; (2) the heterogeneity of the target population; and (3) typical or standard implementation support.

3. Does IES pay sufficient attention to collecting and analyzing data on program implementation under the current research goal structure? If not, how can IES better support this type of research?

4. Does IES place enough emphasis on examining causal mechanisms and variation in impacts under the current goal structure? If not, what can IES do to better support work in these areas?

Please send your feedback to Comments.Research@ed.gov by Monday, October 2, 2017. We also encourage you to forward this request to anyone interested in providing suggestions.

(3) NIH BD2K Training Coordinating Center 2nd Data Science Rotations for Advancing Discovery program

Are you a junior biomedical researcher or a senior-level data scientist? The BD2K Training Coordinating Center is now accepting applications for our 2nd Data Science RoAD-Trip!

RoAD-Trip--Rotations for Advancing Discovery, is a program which provides fellowship support to junior biomedical scientists with pre-existing data, wishing to integrate their prior training and experience together with expertise and Big Data/resources being housed at leading institutions around the United States. More specifically, we invite biomedical researchers to "take to the road" to collaborate with a senior data scientist on a joint project at an institution possessing advanced data science resources.

Junior biomedical fellows will receive travel reimbursement up to $4000 for airfare, hotel and per diem to help defray living expenses during the research training experience. Senior data science mentors will receive a $1000 stipend for their expertise and support. All stipends/reimbursements are granted after rotations and project abstracts are submitted.

We are accepting applications through September 16th. To learn more, visit our page at: bigdatau.ini.usc.edu/roadtrip.
Please see the latest update from the NIH Interagency Modeling and Analysis Group (IMAG) about Multiscale Modeling consortium meeting next year and related funding opportunities. See also, www.imagwiki.nibib.nih.gov/funding-opportunities and www.nibib.nih.gov/research-funding/....

Announcement: Please hold the following dates for the 2018 Multiscale Modeling (MSM) Consortium Meeting - - - March 20-23, 2018 - - - we may not use all the dates, but we want to make sure you hold them in your calendars. We will update you as the plans solidify (we may be trying something different this year!)

Below are the upcoming activities for August. For the most up-to-date information, please visit the IMAG Wiki.

UPCOMING WEBINARS/Online Discussions

The MSM Steering Committee is reconfiguring the MSM webinar series – stay tuned! Please visit https://www.youtube.com/user/MultiscaleModeling to view archives of our past webinars.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Intensive Longitudinal Analysis of Health Behaviors (U24)
Link to Program Announcement: www.imagwiki.nibib.nih.gov/funding-opportunities/...
Letter of Intent Due Date: August 25th, 2017

Predictive Multiscale Models for Biomedical, Biological, Behavioral, Environmental and Clinical Research (U01)
Link to Program Announcement: www.imagwiki.nibib.nih.gov/funding-opportunities/...
Letter of Intent Due Date: August 29th, 2017

NOTICE - NCCIH has joined the MSM U01 FOA!!
Link to Program Announcement: www.imagwiki.nibib.nih.gov/funding-opportunities/...
Letter of Intent Due Date: August 29th, 2017

Synthetic Biology for Engineering Applications (R01)
Link to Program Announcement: www.imagwiki.nibib.nih.gov/funding-opportunities/...
Open Date: September 5th, 2017

For other upcoming funding opportunities visit the Funding Opportunities Page on the IMAG Wiki.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

NIMBioS Tutorial: RevBayes: Bayesian Inference of Phylogeny
Meeting Date: August 7th-11th, 2017

Multiscale Problems in Biomechanics and Mechanobiology
Meeting Date: September 11th-13th, 2017
For more events visit the **Upcoming MSM Meetings Page** on the IMAG Wiki.

**RESOURCES FOR MODELING**

If you know of others who may be interested in the MSM Consortium or IMAG Wiki, please pass along this email and encourage them to look at the [FAQ page](#) to find out how to become involved. If this email was forwarded to you and you would like to receive it in the future, please contact [NIBIBimag@mail.nih.gov](mailto:NIBIBimag@mail.nih.gov) to be placed on the appropriate listserv.

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**Workshops and Conferences**

(1) **ISBA 2018 in Edinburgh: Session & Workshop Proposals**

The 2018 ISBA World Meeting will be held 24-29 June in Edinburgh, UK. Preparation is well underway for the World Meeting. In planning the program, the Scientific Committee would welcome participation from you in a number of formats.

At this time we would like to invite interested parties to propose both sessions and workshops. Details of abstract submission are:

**Member contributed sessions**

*Due: September 15th, 2017*

Members who would like to propose a contributed session should apply using this link.

[griffithisbr.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/...](http://griffithisbr.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/...)

You will be required to provide contact details for the session organizer, chair and speakers. In addition, a short abstract detailing the objective of the session should be provided, along with a title and abstract for each talk.

**Member contributed workshops**

*Due: October 6th, 2017*

Members who would like to propose a pre-meeting workshop to be held at the venue should use this link

[griffithisbr.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/...](http://griffithisbr.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/...)

You will be required to provide presenter details, an abstract describing the proposed workshop and any special requirements in terms of venue facilities.

Abstract submission for individual oral presentations and posters will be open later this year.

If you require further information, please email [c.alston-knox@griffith.edu.au](mailto:c.alston-knox@griffith.edu.au) or the ISBA program Council [program-council@bayesian.org](mailto:program-council@bayesian.org)
Kind Regards,

Clair Alston-Knox
Chair, Scientific Committee
ISBA World Meeting, 2018.

(2) StanCon 2018

StanCon 2018 will take place over three days, from Wednesday January 10, 2018 to Friday January 12, 2018, at the beautiful Asilomar Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove, California. In addition to talks and open discussion, this year we'll also have dedicated time for collaborative Stan coding with other attendees and the Stan development team.

Detailed information about registration and accommodation at Asilomar, including fees and instructions, can be found on the event website, mc-stan.org/events/stancon2018/. Early registration ends on Friday November 10, 2017 and no registrations will be accepted after Wednesday December 20, 2017.

Confirmed speakers for StanCon 2018 include

- Susan Holmes (Department of Statistics, Stanford University)
- Frank Harrell (School of Medicine and Department of Biostatistics, Vanderbilt University
- Sophia Rabe-Hesketh and Daniel Furr (Educational Statistics and Biostatistics, University of California, Berkeley)
- Sean Taylor and Ben Letham (Facebook Core Data Science)
- Manuel Rivas (Department of Biomedical Data Science, Stanford University)
- Talia Weiss (Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology)

Contributed talks will proceed as last year, with each submission consisting of self-contained knitr or Jupyter notebooks that will be made publicly available after the conference. Last year’s contributed talks, github.com/stan-dev/stancon_talks, were awesome and we can't wait to see what users will submit this year. For details on how to submit see the submission website, mc-stan.org/events/stancon2018/... The final deadline for submissions is Saturday September 16, 2017 5:00:00 AM GMT

This year we are going to try to support as many student scholarships as we can - if you are a student who would love to come but may not have the funding then please don't hesitate to submit a short application, docs.google.com/forms/d/e/...

We graciously thank the early sponsorship of Stan Group, Liquid 2 Ventures, and Metrum Research. We are still actively looking for sponsors; if you are interested in supporting StanCon 2018, or know someone who might be, then please contact the organizing committee at stancon@mc-stan.org.

(3) O-Bayes ‘17

The International Workshop on Objective Bayes Methodology ("O-Bayes17") will be held in Austin, Texas, Su Dec 10 - We Dec 13  sites.google.com/site/obayes2017 Applications for (partial) travel support are invited from students, postdocs and junior researchers (Ph.D. after Dec 2015) to apply
O-Bayes is one of the longest running and preeminent meetings in Bayesian statistics, going way beyond objective Bayes and covering topics like robust, default Bayesian analysis, reproducibility, variable selection, big data and nonparametric Bayes.

(4) NISS/WSS Workshop on Inference from Nonprobability Samples

DATE: September 25, 2017, 9 A.M to 5 P.M.

VENUE: Bureau Labor Statistics Jane Norwood Conference and Training Center
2 Massachusetts Ave NE, Washington, DC 20212

FEES: $100 for regular registration, $80 for NISS affiliates and WSS members, $60 for students.

DESCRIPTION:

The workshop is modeled on a European Survey Research Association (ESRA) workshop on inference from nonprobability samples (www.europeansurveyresearch.org/news/inps_program.pdf). The National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) in association with the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) has invited the four DC-based speakers on the ESRA workshop program (Mercer, Kott, and replacements for Tortora and Krotki) and three others (Richard Valliant, David Dutwin, Michael Robbins) having interesting things to say about inference from nonprobability samples to discuss and debate their work in progress.

There may be four-minute advertisements for relevant works by registrants (write pkott@rti.org if you have something you want to advertise).

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The workshop should be of interest to survey statisticians and others grappling with the theoretical and practical issues of drawing statistical inference from samples with components not selected at random.

Input from the attendees is not only welcome but encouraged. Statisticians and survey methodologists from all sectors, government, academia and industry, are encouraged to participate.

For registration and questions about signing up, contact officeadmin@NISS.org

(5) NISS short course on Spark

The National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) has organized a shortcourse on Spark, the heavy-lifting programming language for Big Data. It will be taught on Sept. 14-15 at the ASA Headquarters at 732 North Washington Street in Alexandria VA. Enrollment is capped at 25. Employees who work for agencies, universities and companies that are NISS Affiliates will receive a substantial discount. Details are available on the NISS website at www.niss.org/events/...
You are invited to the upcoming Distinguished Lecture Series at The Fields Institute. The two lectures, featuring Raymond Carroll (Department of Statistics, Texas A&M University) will take place on October 4-5, 2017 at the Fields Institute.

Raymond Carroll is Distinguished Professor of Statistics and Nutrition at Texas A&M University and Distinguished Professor at the University of Technology Sydney, Australia. Among his many honours, he was the first statistician to receive a U.S. National Cancer Institute MERIT Award. Professor Carroll’s work is focused on complex data scenarios in nutritional surveillance, nutritional epidemiology, and dietary patterns.

More information about the event can be found on our website here:


Everyone is welcome to attend. It is a free, public lecture and there will be a reception following the General Lecture on October 4. Please feel free to extend the invitation by forwarding a copy of this email to anyone you know who would be interested in attending.

Bayesian KOL Lecture Series sponsored by the DIA Bayesian Scientific Working Group

When: August 25, 11-1pm EST

Title: Bayesian Disease Progression Modeling in Clinical Trial Design

Presenter: Melanie Quintana, PhD (Statistical Scientist, Berry Consultants)

Abstract: We will focus our discussion on understanding the unique challenges that are encountered in designing clinical trials in slowly progressive and sporadic diseases and how disease progression models can help to overcome some of those challenges. Examples will be given to demonstrate the usefulness of disease progression modeling in conjunction with natural history data to guide decision making for key trial parameters and to provide an analysis model for determining if a novel therapy is effective in altering disease progression. Some examples of diseases in which there are currently no approved therapies that have been shown to alter disease progression include: 1) Alzheimer’s Disease – the leading cause of dementia globally and 2) GNE Myopathy – a rare slowly progressive muscle wasting disorder. One common challenge in designing clinical trials in these areas is understanding expected rates and the variability of natural progression in different patient populations that are likely to be enrolled in the trial. If the trial population is largely made up of an early staged population or a late stage population there may be little expected progression in terms of key clinical outcome measures over the course of the trial and little hope for demonstrating differences in decline between treatment and control patients. The development of disease progression models within this context provides a better understanding of key clinical outcome measures that capture progression over the entire course of the disease and within different patient populations.

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About the DIA BSWG: Our mission is to ensure that Bayesian methods are well-understood and broadly utilized for design and analysis throughout the medical product development process and to improve industrial, regulatory and economic decision making. The group is comprised of individuals from academia, industry and regulatory authorities. You can find out more about us here:
http://www.bayesianscientific.org/

Awards

No new listings this week.

Other opportunities or information

(1) NASEM Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education: Call for Nominations-Committee on the Reproducibility and Replicability in Science

Call for Nominations: Please submit by August 25

Committee on the Reproducibility and Replicability in Science

Submit your nomination
In response to a congressional mandate, the National Science Foundation has asked the National Academies to explore the issues of reproducibility and replication in scientific and engineering research. The committee will explore what is known and identify areas that may need more information to ascertain the extent of reproducibility and replication, review current activities to improve reproducibility and replication highlighting examples of good practices, and examine factors that adversely affect reproducibility and replication.

Committee selection is critical to the success of National Academies’ projects. Committee members must be well-respected in their specified fields of study and work and have a broad understanding of the domains relevant to the charge. The National Academies is committed to the full participation of women, persons with disabilities, and under-represented minorities in all phases of its work. Areas of expertise needed are listed below.

If you would like to nominate someone (including yourself) to serve on the committee, we invite you to submit their/your name, area(s) of expertise, and affiliation via the following link: http://sgiz.mobi/s3/ef5d07e2dc10.

The **DEADLINE** to submit nominations is **Friday, August 25, 2017**.

The study is being conducted by the National Academies’ Board on Behavioral, Cognitive, and Social Sciences. To receive information on the study’s public meetings and final report, please [sign-up to our mailing list](http://sgiz.mobi/s3/ef5d07e2dc10).

Expertise is needed in the following areas:

- physical and life sciences,
- engineering,
- statistics,
- computing and data management,
- history and philosophy of science,
- science communication,
- social and behavioral sciences,
- industry and quality control,
- reproducibility and replicability in scientific results,
- academic administration,
- scientific organizations, and
- scientific journals.

(2) NASEM Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education: Call for Nominations-Advisory Committee for the Climate Communications Initiative

Call for Nominations: Please submit by September 15
Advisory Committee for the Climate Communications Initiative

Submit your nomination

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine are establishing a new Climate Communications Initiative (CCI) to coordinate efforts across the institution to facilitate rapid and effective communication of evidence-based insights to an attentive public and critical decision makers. CCI will leverage consensus reports and ongoing activities across the depth and breadth of scientific disciplines housed at the National Academies to offer a suite of authoritative and objective materials and engagement opportunities.

Goals of the CCI are to:

- Address public questions surrounding climate change by leveraging our robust and diverse body of work on the topic.
- Provide easy access to evidence-based understanding of climate change to help advance the dialogue and inform responses.
- Coordinate efforts across the institution to facilitate rapid and effective communication.
- Apply best practices of science communication.
- Develop innovative approaches that could be adapted to other contentious topics addressed by the National Academies.
Expert oversight and guidance will be provided by a new Advisory Committee, which will develop a strategic plan for the CCI. Once the strategic plan is completed and approved, the Advisory Committee will provide ongoing guidance on implementation.

We are currently seeking individuals to serve on the Advisory Committee for the Climate Communications Initiative. These individuals should have expertise including, but not limited to: climate science, climate impacts and economics, potential response options, science communication, social media engagement, science education, and experience with other issues considered to be contentious in public discourse. In selecting members, efforts will be made to include individuals with experience and expertise related to the many climate and communications–related activities underway across the National Academies (e.g., by seeking members with joint appointments to other boards or former members of committees that issued key reports).

For more information, including the Advisory Committee's statement of task, visit the CCI homepage. To submit a nomination, click the button above. Deadline for nominations is September 15, 2017.