Digest of Items of Interest to the Caucus of Academic Reps – September 20, 2013

Funding
- **CALL FOR PROPOSALS: DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF BIOSTATISTICIANS**
- For more recent funding announcements first log onto the ASA web site then go to the ASA Community: Funding Opportunities
- General information about funding sources also at [http://www.amstat.org/careers/efs.cfm](http://www.amstat.org/careers/efs.cfm)

Positions Open
- **Assistant Professor, The University of Chicago**
- **Tenure Track Faculty, Johns Hopkins**
- **DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF BIOSTATISTICS, NYU School of Medicine**

Webinars
- **GUIDELINES FOR UNDERGRADUATE STATISTICS PROGRAMS WEBINAR SERIES**

Unconferences
- **“Unconference” on the Future of Statistics**

Contributions Sought
- **Contributors sought for Significance magazine and website**

**Funding**

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS: DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF BIOSTATISTICIANS**

The ASA Biometrics Section invites applications for funding to support projects developing innovative outreach projects focused on enhancing awareness of biostatistics among quantitatively talented US students. We particularly are interested in projects that will encourage students to pursue advanced training in biostatistics. We anticipate funding up to three projects this year, with total funding of up to $3,000 - $5,000 per project. The project timelines would be from 1.5-2 years. All investigators are encouraged to apply. Award recipients must be an ASA member and Biometrics section member before project initiation.

A three-page application is due by November 20, 2013, and should be in the following format: Title, Objectives and Specific Aims; Background, Significance, and/or Rationale; Design and Methods; Deliverables/Products, and Budget. The following types of expenditures are allowed: supplies, domestic travel (when necessary to carry out the project), professional expertise (e.g., instructional designer or webmaster) and cost of computer time. The following types of expenditures are not allowed: secretarial/administrative personnel, tuition, foreign travel, and honoraria and travel expenses for visiting lecturers to the investigator's home institution. A project period with a start date no earlier than December 1, 2013 and an end date no later than December 31, 2015 also should be specified.
Applications should be submitted electronically to the Strategic Initiatives Subcommittee Chair, Roslyn Stone, at Roslyn@pitt.edu. All investigators will be expected to submit a brief report at the conclusion of the project to the Subcommittee Chair. Questions should be addressed either to the Subcommittee Chair or to the Subcommittee Co-Chair, Page Moore, at PMoore@uams.edu.

Positions Open

The University of Chicago
Academic Career Opportunities
Position Title: Assistant Professor
Req # 01857

The Department of Statistics at the University of Chicago invites applications from exceptionally qualified candidates for faculty positions at the rank of Assistant Professor. We seek individuals doing advanced research in statistical methodology or theory or in related fields. As part of a University of Chicago initiative, applicants could be working in scientifically focused computation or applied mathematics, but hiring is not limited to that initiative. It is expected that all successful applicants will engage in the direction of doctoral dissertations, as well as teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Interdisciplinary collaboration will be particularly valued. While applicants do not need to be specifically trained in statistics, they must have doctorates in statistics or some field of mathematics or science where statistical concepts play an important role. Doctorate must be in hand at the time of appointment. Appointments may be made jointly with another department in the University. A demonstrated research excellence appropriate to the rank is essential. Applicants must apply online at the University of Chicago Academic Jobs website at http://tinyurl.com/mct7w4e, and must upload a cover letter and CV. You may also upload research and teaching statements as well as up to three relevant research publications, but they are not required. In addition, three letters of reference will be required. Referral letter submission information will be provided during the application process. Application screening will begin November 1, 2013; submission by December 1, 2013, will ensure consideration during this academic year, but the search will continue until all positions are filled or the search is closed.

Inquiries should be sent to the Search Committee at search@galton.uchicago.edu or to Search Committee, Department of Statistics, Eck 108, University of Chicago, 5734 S. University Avenue, Chicago, IL 60637.

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

Johns Hopkins, Department of Biostatistics

The Department of Biostatistics at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health is seeking an outstanding applicant to join our tenure track faculty. Rank of appointment will be commensurate with experience and new PhDs and recent postdoctoral fellows are encouraged to apply. Candidates should have a PhD or equivalent in statistics, biostatistics, or a comparable data science field. In 2013-14 the
Department particularly seeks new faculty members who are committed to education and engage in cutting edge research to advance statistical and quantitative inference, methods and discovery for the population health, clinical and social health sciences. Women and under-represented minority candidates are particularly encouraged to apply.

-Track Faculty Positions
The Hopkins Department of Biostatistics, founded in 1918, was the first degree-granting department of statistical science in the US and has ranked among the best throughout its history. The Johns Hopkins Health Institutions (Schools of Public Health, Medicine, and Nursing, and the Johns Hopkins Hospital) are among the top worldwide and provide a research environment in which energetic faculty can promulgate scientific excellence. Today, the Department comprises 21 tenure track faculty members, 19 research track faculty members, 10 postdoctoral fellows, 47 PhD students, 16 full-time master degree students, and 13 students pursuing joint master degrees together with doctorates in other departments.

TO APPLY
Email cover letter, CV, contact information for three references, a statement of research interests and goals, and two manuscripts or articles representing your most important work to: Faculty Search Committee at biostat@jhsph.edu.

The Johns Hopkins University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer.

DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF BIOSTATISTICS, NYU School of Medicine

NYU School of Medicine seeks to recruit a Director of the Division of Biostatistics. This is a unique opportunity for an accomplished biostatistician to shape and expand biostatistics in a dynamic academic environment characterized by growth, collaborative spirit, and high impact science.

The Division of Biostatistics currently has 9 faculty members and 7 staff biostatisticians, and contributes to scientific advances that benefit human health through innovation in methodology, theory, and application of biostatistical methods in biomedical research. The Division is a vital hub of collaboration and consultation to the entire NYU School of Medicine community, and supports major research initiatives in cancer, environmental medicine, cardiovascular and pulmonary disease, and mental health, among other areas. The division leads the biostatistics cores of the NIH CTSA-supported NYU-HHC Clinical and Translational Science Institute, the NIH Cancer Center Award-supported NYU Cancer Institute, and a developing unit that houses the Statistical and Data Coordinating Center as well as the Clinical Coordinating Centers for multicenter clinical trials and registries. The division supports education and training at multiple levels including a PhD program in Biostatistics. The Department of Population Health (http://pophealth.med.nyu.edu/), founded in 2012, is academic home to the Division, and committed to supporting its robust trajectory of growth through methodological and collaborative research.

We seek a Division Director nationally recognized for his/her scholarship and with a successful record of administrative leadership in academic medicine or public health. The Director will lead Division faculty in strategic planning for growth, including identification and pursuit of funding initiatives in translational and methodological research. Responsibilities will include developing and administering biostatistical support infrastructure that enables and accelerates the institutional research mission, representing the Division
effectively within the Department and the School of Medicine, and providing leadership, including administration and growth of Division resources, recruitment and mentoring of new faculty, and academic promotion and retention of Division faculty. The Director will also interface at the University level, including with the Global Institute of Public Health, Center for the Promotion of Research Involving Innovative Statistical Methodology (PRIISM), and Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences.

Core qualifications include: excellent track record in research, strong interpersonal and administrative skills, and significant academic experience and accomplishment including in a leadership role. Candidates must have a doctoral degree in Biostatistics or Statistics and be eligible for a tenured appointment at the rank of associate or full professor.

Send cover letter and CV (addressed to Marc N. Gourevitch, MD, MPH), referencing “search biostats” to kathryn.nyland@nyumc.org

NYU Langone Medical Center is an equal employment/affirmative action employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital/or parental status, age, national origin, citizenship, disability, veteran status, or any other classification protected by applicable Federal, State, or Municipal Law.

Webinars

GUIDELINES FOR UNDERGRADUATE STATISTICS PROGRAMS WEBINAR SERIES

The American Statistical Association endorses the value of undergraduate programs in statistical science, both for statistical science majors and for students in other majors seeking a minor or concentration. Guidelines for such programs were endorsed in 2000, and a new workgroup is working to update them.

To help gather input and identify issues and areas for discussion, the workgroup has organized a series of webinars to focus on different issues. These are free to attend, and will be made available after the event. More information about the existing curriculum guidelines as well as a survey can be found at:

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

We hope that you can participate in some or all of the following webinars. These will be recorded and made available for review after the session at the guidelines webpage.

OBSERVATIONS FROM LARGE PROGRAMS
Friday, September 27th, 12:00-12:45pm Eastern Time
Description: Different institutions implement statistics programs in different ways. In this webinar, we will hear from representatives from four large undergraduate statistics programs (Berkeley, BYU, Harvard and NCSU) and discuss the existing guidelines and issues which should be addressed in the future.

CONNECTION WITH COMMUNITY COLLEGES
Monday, October 21st, 6:00-6:45pm Eastern Time

Description: Community colleges serve a key role in the US higher education system, accounting for approximately 40% of all enrollments. In this webinar, representatives from community colleges and universities with many community college transfers will discuss the interface between the systems and ways to prepare students for undergraduate degrees and minors in statistics.

BUILDING TOWARDS BIG DATA AND DATA SCIENCE
Monday, November 18th, 6:00-6:45pm Eastern Time

Description: Undergraduate Statistics majors and minors will be entering an increasingly data-centric world upon graduation. What new skills and capacities will they need to succeed in this environment? How do we train the current generation of faculty to be able to teach them? In this webinar, data scientists and faculty will work to enunciate key aspects which need to be included in our programs.

THE ROLE AND VARIETY OF UNDERGRADUATE STATISTICS CAPSTONES
Wednesday, December 4th, 5:00-5:45pm Eastern Time

The undergraduate capstone experience brings reflection and focus as well as integration of material studied within a major. Capstones require the disciplined use of skills, methodology and knowledge taught throughout their courses, experiential and co-curricular activities. In this webinar, several models for undergraduate capstones will be discussed, as well as key themes which pervade them all.

To be added to a low-volume, moderated mailing list for announcements related to the revision of the undergraduate guidelines, please contact Rebecca Nichols (rebecca@amstat.org). More information about the workgroup and the process can be sent to the chair (Nicholas Horton, nhorton@amherst.edu).
Unconferences

“Unconference” on the Future of Statistics

Dear Colleague,

We are delighted to announce the first ever “Unconference” on the Future of Statistics on October 30th from 12-1pm EDT co-hosted by the Johns Hopkins Department of Biostatistics and the Simply Statistics blog. We were inspired by the workshop on the Future of Statistical Sciences (Nov. 11-12) organized by Statistics 2013 and we decided to build on their great idea. It is an incredible time to be a statistician and discussing the future of our discipline is of utmost importance to us.

This unconference will feature some of the most exciting and innovative statistical thinkers in the field discussing their views on the future of the field and focusing on issues that affect junior statisticians the most: education, new methods, software development, collaborations with natural sciences/social sciences, and the relationship between statistics and industry.

The confirmed presenters are:
Daniela Witten, Assistant Professor, Department of Biostatistics, University of Washington
Hongkai Ji, Assistant Professor, Department of Biostatistics, Johns Hopkins University
Joe Blitzstein, Professor of the Practice, Department of Statistics, Harvard University
Sinan Aral, Associate Professor, MIT Sloan School of Management
Hadley Wickham, Chief Scientist, RStudio
Hilary Mason, Chief Data Scientist at Accel Partners

The unconference will be hosted on Google Hangouts and will be simultaneously live-streamed on YouTube. After the presenters have finished there will be a brief panel discussion with the presenters. For those who cannot make it to the live broadcast, we will maintain a recorded version for viewing on YouTube.

Further information about the unconference can be found at http://simplystatistics.org/unconference.

Contributions Sought

Contributors sought for Significance magazine and website

Significance magazine has just celebrated its 10th birthday and its sister website, www.significancemagazine.org, has also just reached its 3rd birthday. It’s been a hugely successful period for the publication and that achievement has been down to the statisticians who have contributed to the magazine down the years.
The aim is to make statistics accessible to the ordinary reader. The trick with this is to create an interesting narrative in which authors can convey the important message that the data tells them. Statisticians have so many fascinating stories to tell from their work examining and making sense of the numbers.

This is precisely the reason that the American Statistical Association and the Royal Statistical Society created Significance. It gives statisticians on both sides of the Atlantic the platform on which to transmit their findings and thoughts to the wider world.

If you have an idea for an article or a suggestion then please contact the Significance editorial team:

- For more lengthy and detailed articles in the print magazine you can get in touch with Julian Champkin at j.champkin@rss.org.uk
- The Significance website offers the opportunity to publish shorter and more topical articles, for these you can get in touch with Oz Flanagan at o.flanagan@rss.org.uk