

Section on Statistics in Genomics and Genetics

ASA SSGG Quarterly Newsletter: Sept 2021

<https://pixabay.com/illustrations/dna-genetic-material-helix-proteins-3539309/>

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Homepage:

<https://community.amstat.org/sectiononstatisticsingenomicsandgenetics/home>

Upcoming Events

Please check our website for details.

<https://community.amstat.org/sectiononstatisticsingenomicsandgenetics/meetings/upcomingevents>

Announcements

- Webinar. Speaker: Dr. Wenyi Wang. Title: Statistical Methods for Analysis of Heterogeneous Tumor Samples. Time: Sep 20, 2021 02:00 PM in Eastern Time (US and Canada). Registration: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_LUafxgy1Th2Oe6HN97a0gA
- Student Paper Award Competition (see page 10 for details).
- Call for topic-contributed Session Proposals for JSM 2022 (see page 11 for details).

Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| Upcoming Events..... | 1 |
| Announcements | 1 |
| Highlights of SSGG Business Meeting at JSM 2021 | 2 |
| Resources and Advice for Those on the Job Market | 4 |
| Reflections and Tips from Recent Grads on the Job Search Experience..... | 5 |
| Student Paper Award Competition..... | 9 |
| Call for Topic-contributed Session Proposals | 10 |
| Job Opportunities..... | 11 |
| Section Executive Committee | 11 |
| Contact Us | 11 |

Highlights of SSGG Business Meeting at JSM 2021

We held our annual business meeting on August 13th via Zoom. For those of you who missed the meeting, below are the highlights.

Contributed by Katerina Kechris
(katerina.kechris@cuanschutz.edu)

1. Report on 2021 Election Results

Katerina Kechris will become the Past-Chair in 2022. Michael Wu and Lin Chen will begin their terms as Section Chair and Program Chair respectively starting January 2022. Nancy Zhang and Kimberly Siegmund were elected as the Chair-Elect and Program Chair-Elect respectively for 2022.

2. New Positions

This past year we created two new appointed positions to improve engagement with our members.

- Communications Officer Dr. Ching-Ti Liu (Boston University)
- Member Engagement Committee Chair Dr. Shili Lin (The Ohio State University)

3. New Communication Initiatives (from Ching-Ti Liu)

We increased the modes and frequency of communication with members using the following platforms:

- Our website has been newly updated to include links to News, Webinar Recordings, Newsletters, and other information.
- We have a new and improved newsletter with member interviews, summary of section members, awards and recognitions, and other new features.
- We have a new Twitter account @ASA_SSGG. There were 216 followers as

of 08/03/2021, which is a 20% increase since January 2021.

- We also have a LinkedIn group <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12501931/> which was created on Feb 2021 and with 17 members
- We are considering other platforms (Facebook and Instagram) and plan to put more content on our social media accounts.
- Thank you also to the people who contributed: Audrey Hendricks, Jongyun Jung, Eric Lock, Anna Plantinga, Zhenwei Zhou
- We also welcome your suggestions to improve communication!

4. New Membership Engagement Committee (from Shili Lin)

The new committee was formed in 2021 and has a well-balanced membership representation among committee members – academia, industry, senior, mid-career, junior, and students.

- The committee worked with the Communication Chair to establish multiple communication channels
- A new webinar series was started January 2021, which has focused on technical topics.
- Moving forward there will also be career development webinars (e.g., time management panel, life/work balance). For example, a Mentoring webinar is scheduled with Dr. Ruth Gotian in February 2022
- There are also plans to kick off a short course series in Jan 2022 on Deep Learning (stay tuned!)
- Finally, a Member Survey was distributed to get feedback about professional needs and how to best serve members in the webinar series and other events in the future.

Past Webinars 2021

- 1/21 Dr. Xihong Lin (biobanks, whole genome sequencing)
- 2/21 Dr. Genevieve Wojcik (admixed populations)

- 3/21 Dr. Hongzhe Li (microbiome metagenomics)
- 4/21 Dr. Jin Zhou (GWAS & diabetes)
- 5/21 Dr. John Marioni (single cell)
- 6/21 Dr. Dionne Swift (sparse sequencing data)

Upcoming Webinars 2021

- 9/20 Dr. Wenyi Wang (tumor expression)
- 10/21 Dr. Zhengzheng Tang (genetic associations)
- 11/21 Dr. Jing Ma (multi-omics networks)

5. 2021 JSM SSGG Program Report (from Sündüz Keleş)

The SSGG section sponsored 10 sessions, including 3 invited/panel sessions, 3 topic-contributed sessions, and 4 speed sessions with ~20 speakers each and organized into four broad topics:

- Statistical methods for data from single cell technologies
- Statistical methods for genomic and epigenetic data analysis
- Statistical methods for microbiome data analysis and beyond
- Recent advancements in the analysis of large-scale GWAS

6. Recognizing New ASA Fellows

The Section Chair Katerina Kechris congratulated the members of our section who were named new ASA Fellows this year: Kellie Archer from The Ohio State University, and Olga Vitek, Professor in the Khoury College of Computer Sciences at Northeastern University.

7. SSGG Student Paper Awards (from Michael Wu and Ni Zhao)

We presented the Student Paper Awards to the winners at the SSGG Business meeting.

We received 30 submissions for the 2021 ASA Section on Statistics in Genomics and Genetics' Distinguished Student Paper Competition. Each

paper was reviewed by 4-5 referees separately, and 28 referees helped with the reviews, each reviewing 3-6 submissions. Based on reviews, the following four winners were selected with no particular order:

- Zhenxing Guo, Department of Biostatistics, Emory University. "Detecting m6A methylation regions from Methylated RNA Immunoprecipitation Sequencing"
- Jian Hu, Department of Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Informatics, University of Pennsylvania. "Integrating gene expression, spatial location and histology to identify spatial domains and spatially variable genes by graph convolutional network"
- Amanda Brucker, Department of Statistics, North Carolina State University. "Association Test Using Copy Number Profile Curves (CONCUR) Enhances Power in Rare Copy Number Variant Analysis"
- Yujie Jiang, Department of Statistics, Rice University. "CliP: fast subclonal architecture reconstruction for cancer cells from genomic DNA sequencing data"

We acknowledge the hard work of our volunteer judges for the competition: Alex Alekseyenko (MUSC), Arnab Maity (NC_State), Dave Zhao (Illinois), Davide Risso (Padova), Donatello Telesca (UCLA), Eric Lock (Minnesota), Han Chen (UTHealth), Jennifer Sinnott (Ohio State), Jing Ma (Texas A&M), Jun Chen (Mayo Clinic), Jung-Ying Tzeng (NC State), Anna Plantinga (Williams College), Xiang Zhan (PSU), Liming Liang (Harvard), Lynn Lin (Penn State), Mengjie Chen (Chicago), Nancy Zhang (Penn), Seunggeun Lee (Michigan), Noah Simon (Washington), Pei-Fen Kuan (SUNY), Xuefeng Wang (Moffitt), Zhigang Li (Florida), Zhicheng Ji (Duke), Weiqiang Zhou (JHU), Debashree Ray (JHU), Dora Zhang (HKU), Jianxin Shi (NCI), Ran Tao (Vanderbilt)

8. 2022 JSM Planning (from Lin Chen)

Invited session: Invited proposal submission is open now. Deadline: Sep 8, 2021

Only those sessions submitted via the online system can be considered and accepted for the program.

We encourage our colleagues and SSGG section members to submit session proposals and abstracts via the online system by the deadlines.

9. Future Directions

We would like to grow and increase their diversity of our membership. Following an analysis of our member demographics, also published in our newsletters, we found that our membership needed a more diverse representation, in addition to fostering more industry partnerships. We will also start a short course series and professional development webinars in late 2021 and early 2022. Finally, we plan to extend into new communication platforms and newsletter features.

Resources and Advice for Those on the Job Market

Where to Look for Positions

Job postings are submitted and compiled in a variety of locations, so it is wise to keep an eye on several websites. Here are some resources suggested by the community:

- University of Florida job board (<https://forms.stat.ufl.edu/statistics-jobs/>)
- ASA memberships: positions will often be advertised via the mailing lists for relevant sections
- [ASA JobWeb](#) (allows you to filter by location and/or set up notifications if a job gets posted that is located in a particular city or state of interest)
- [MathJobs.Org](#) and [AcademicJobs.Org](#) (often small schools do not have a stand-alone statistics department, so it is good to check for postings from math departments and other related fields too!)
- University of Washington job board (<https://stat.uw.edu/news-resources/jobs>)
- ASHG job board (<https://careers.ashg.org/jobs/>)
- IGES job board (<https://www.geneticepi.org/position-openings>)

For postdoctoral positions, in addition to the job boards above, you can follow relevant people on Twitter and cold-email PIs you want to work with to see whether they have a position available.

For industry jobs, in addition to the job boards above, you can use LinkedIn, Google job search, Indeed, and many other job search tools.

What Jobs are Out There?

There are many ways to categorize job and career options for statisticians. Here is one framework that is often used.

Academia

Post-doctoral position

- Short-term (typically 2-3 years) research position that provides further training, broadens your areas of expertise, and helps you develop as an independent researcher.

Faculty at liberal arts institution

- Primarily undergraduate students; teaching-focused positions. Research is still valued, but quantity will typically be lower.
- In job ads, pay attention to teaching loads (for example, 2-2 is two classes per semester; common teaching loads at liberal arts colleges range from 2-2 to 4-4).
- Often hard money (institution fully funds the position).

Faculty at research university

- Typically, a combination of undergraduate and graduate students; research-focused positions. Teaching load varies. Salary may come from a combination of hard money (institution-provided) and soft money (grant-based).
- Some institutions have research-track and teaching-track positions, and medical schools may function differently from other types of institutions.
- Responsibilities and funding structure are great things to look for in job ads and good questions to ask at your interview!

Industry (contributed by Lin Li, ll323@cornell.edu)

- There are post-doctoral opportunities in industry environments. For example, some pharmaceutical companies offer such positions.
- Similar format to positions in academia: short-term (typically 2-3 years) research position that provides further training and research experience.

- Usually, the position is funded by the company, not by funding agencies as in academia. Sometimes you can find a permanent position at the company after the postdoc training.

Statistician or data scientist in a pharmaceutical/biotech/diagnostics company

- Publications are not the primary goal although often a research position does involve publishing heavily if it fits the company's business needs. Also, the pace in industry is generally faster than that in academia.
- Depending on your interest and background, you may find yourself in a department of statistics, data science, quantitative sciences, etc., whose name varies by company. Usually, the position has clear responsibilities serving clear business objectives. You could be focusing on a particular stage of the drug development lifecycle or R&D in other areas (e.g., diagnostics). Examples include, but are not limited to:
 - If your responsibilities focus on drug discovery, you may work with human geneticists, computational biologists, biologists, and statisticians to analyze large-scale omics data to identify or validate drug targets.
 - If your responsibilities focus on clinical development, you may focus on methodologies and analysis in pharmacogenomics (PGx), biomarker statistics, and/or precision medicine.
 - If your responsibilities focus on genetics testing and analysis, you may help develop and validate diagnostic tests that can be applied in clinics or clinical trials.

Statistician or data scientist in a service company

- If you like to learn new things and get exposure in different areas, you may enjoy working in a company that provides consulting and services to other companies, often pharmaceutical/biotech/diagnostics.
 - Often you will be working on different client projects whose business objectives can vary. You will be using your expertise (e.g., statistical genetics) to tackle different problems that may be in different areas (e.g., drug target discovery vs. PGx vs. diagnostics) yet

share similar ways of thinking. You can also have more exposure to different stages of the drug development lifecycle. You may even be able to connect dots between them, which can be challenging if you focus only in one area. The pace is generally faster than that in academia.

Reflections and Tips from Recent Grads on the Job Search Experience



Interview on liberal arts job search experience

Dr. Kelsey Grinde,
Assistant Professor,
Department of
Mathematics, Statistics,
and Computer Science
at Macalester College

Q: Who besides your advisor did you ask for advice about career

paths and applications?

A: I found it helpful to seek out advice from a variety of sources. Besides my advisor, I talked with a number of other faculty in my department about different aspects of the job search process. Talking with other students in my department, especially those who were applying for jobs a year or two before me, was also invaluable --- having gone through the process so recently, they were able to share helpful, practical tips and resources (some of which I'll share below). I also recommend getting in touch with people outside your department. I set up informational interviews with a few different faculty members at liberal arts colleges and found those meetings to be incredibly helpful for learning about what it's like to teach at a small liberal arts college and the types of things those schools look for in job candidates. It was also a useful networking tool --- one of the people I met with is actually now a colleague of mine at Macalester!

Q: What resources did you find helpful when preparing your applications and applying to positions?

A: At the University of Washington, I took a course offered through the graduate school that was focused on developing materials for academic job searches. The course provided time and space for working on materials and an opportunity to engage, and exchange materials, with other folks who were applying to academic positions across a wide range of fields and types of institutions. I recommend finding out if your school offers some version of this, whether through a formal course or a workshop. I also found it helpful to tap into my advising network--some folks shared teaching statements that they had written, and many were willing to read drafts of my own materials. Getting feedback from people both inside and outside of my field was helpful. Many liberal arts colleges have combined math, statistics, and/or computer science departments (and the Dean, Provost, and/or President of the college may even read your materials!), so there's a good chance that the people reading your application materials are not experts in your particular area. Sharing your materials with people outside your field can help you find out if your materials are accessible to a wider audience. I also found [The Professor is In Blog](#) helpful in preparing materials and used several of the resources listed above to find positions I wanted to apply for in the first place.

Q: What is the general timeline of job applications and interviews?

A: The application and interview timeline for liberal arts colleges tends to be a bit earlier than R1 universities. You'll typically start seeing postings in late summer or early fall, a year before the position would start. Written materials (cover letter, teaching statement, etc.) are typically due in early October, and then invitations are sent out for the first round of interviews, often over phone or video call, in mid-October. From there, a few candidates are invited to visit campus for one or two days in early November. I heard back from all schools by Thanksgiving and had about two weeks to make my final decision and negotiate. Everything was wrapped up by early December! (Disclaimer: everything I'm describing above is representative of what was typical pre-pandemic.)

Q: How did you prepare for interviews?

A: Before each of my interviews, I spent a fair amount of time reading about the school and the people with whom I would be meeting, and I made a fairly substantial list of questions that I wanted to ask. One of the schools I interviewed at actually sent a list of interview questions beforehand, so I made sure to spend time thinking about each of those questions and jotting down notes on how I wanted to respond. Another big part of my preparation centered on my job talk. I knew that the audience of my talk would be broader, and include a lot more undergraduate students, than talks I had given in the past, so I spent quite a bit of time making sure that my talk would be interesting and accessible. My last piece of advice related to preparing for interviews is easy to neglect, but perhaps just as important: make sure you get a good night's sleep! The two-day in-person campus visits are *exhausting*, and you'll want to make sure you don't spend the whole day yawning :)

Q: What else do you think people currently on the job market should know?

A: If you're interested in working at a liberal arts college, consider doing a teaching post-doc! I actually spent one year as a teaching post-doc at Macalester before I transitioned into a tenure track role. For me, the post-doc was a great opportunity to try out teaching at a liberal arts college, both to get more teaching experience and to make sure I liked it, before applying to tenure track positions. It also gave me some room to be picky in where I applied for faculty positions. As a post-doc, I had a one-year contract with the option to renew for a second year. During that first year, I decided to be very selective in which faculty positions I applied for because I knew that I could always renew my post-doc and do a wider tenure track search the second time around if needed. It worked out well for me that I didn't end up needing to use that second year, and I'm glad I was picky that first time around! There are a handful of liberal arts colleges that offer post-docs, Macalester included. If you're interested in finding out more about what that's like, feel free to get in touch with me! (kgrinde@macalester.edu)



Interview on industry job search experience

Dr. Samantha Lent,
Senior Computational
Biologist, Freenome and
Fellow, MacLean Center
for Clinical Medical
Ethics at the University
of Chicago

Q: How did you learn about the different available career paths? How did you decide what area to apply in (e.g., academia vs. industry)?

A: Personally, I knew I wanted to go to industry for at least a couple of years because of my undergraduate student debt, but I've never viewed it as a permanent, binary choice. In my most recent job hunt, I applied for both industry and postdoc positions, and I'm currently working in industry and doing an unpaid academic fellowship at the same time.

Q: What skills or preparation do you wish you had obtained before going on the job market? What skills or preparation did you have that you found most valuable?

A: I really struggle with salary negotiations. Like anything else, it's a skill that takes time to learn, and I wish I had reached out to my advisor and others for help with that sooner. It's still a work in progress but having open discussions with both peers and mentors about salaries, benefits, and negotiation experiences has been incredibly helpful.

Q: How did you decide on your current position?

A: In my previous job, which was my first out of grad school, I was exposed to a ton of genomics data that I hadn't worked with before and I learned a lot (in no small part thanks to my brilliant, helpful colleagues). I stayed there for about three years, and I was happy with my job and research when I left, but ultimately, I decided that I wanted to look for a permanently remote position. My current position is more focused on statistics and reproducibility, which I really enjoy, and has also given me the

opportunity to learn more about cell-free DNA and regulatory submissions, which I was excited about.

Q: What else do you think people currently on the job market should know?

A: I think one of the benefits of being in a high-demand field is that you can take time to look for something that's the right fit for you, so for that reason I'm incredibly transparent in interviews. I'm upfront about my skills, blind spots, and expectations, and I ask very direct questions of potential employers. This has led to a handful of incredibly awkward interview moments, but also a few really great opportunities to work with people who have served as wonderful mentors and advocates.

Q: What do you miss most from your time as a Ph.D. student? What would you do again (and maybe appreciate more!) if you could go back?

A: I miss a lot of things about being a Ph.D. student! I had a great experience in graduate school overall, but I especially miss the camaraderie and the academic freedom. If I could go back, I would finish more of my homework assignments (apologies to my professors) and try not to let imposter syndrome hold me back from seeking out research opportunities.

Interview on postdoc search experience

Dr. Subrata Paul,
Postdoctoral Associate,
Institute for Behavioral
Genetics, University of
Colorado Boulder and
Bioinformatics Analyst,
Frederick National
Laboratory for Cancer
Research



Q: How did you learn about the different available career paths? How did you decide what area to apply in (e.g., academia vs. industry)?

A: I had a great supervisor who helped to think through different career paths. Young investigator's meetings at conferences are also good ways to learn the pros and cons of different career paths. I

felt that I needed a bit more training in the application of statistical genetics and so decided to go for a postdoc. Based on my future goal and vast opportunities in the industry, now I am planning to move to the industry field.

Q: Who besides your advisor (if anyone) did you ask for advice about career paths and applications?

A: I talked to all my favorite professors, alumni, and friends. More information makes it easier to make a decision.

Q: What resources did you find helpful when preparing your applications and applying to positions?

A: As a non-native English speaker, I have found the writing center at the university very helpful. I also asked for help from some professors in the department in proofreading my statements. Most of all my Ph.D. supervisor helped me a lot in the application preparation phase. I had a friend who works in the HR department at a company who helped me with my resume as well.

Q: How did you prepare for interviews?

A: I prepared a talk based on my current research. While preparing the slides, I kept in mind my audience and included necessary details on the methods and results that I intended to present. I had a general presentation and customized it based on where I was presenting and the research area of the PI(s) in the lab.

Q: What skills or preparation do you wish you had obtained before going on the job market? What skills or preparation did you have that you found most valuable?

A: Being able to Negotiate with HR efficiently is a skill. I wish I had that when I was interviewed for industry jobs. Later I found tips online that helped to develop the skill. In one interview for a job in the industry, I kept some extra slides at the end of the presentation. I have found that one of the interviewer's research interests does not match well with my main presentation and he was active in asking questions. I could use the extra slides that he liked a lot, and I got an offer from the job.

Q. What do you miss most from your time as a Ph.D. student? What would you do again (and maybe appreciate more!) if you could go back?

A: Being able to decide between industry and academia is very important in the early stage of graduate study. I could not decide. It is possible to shape Ph.D. research and dissertation to match the goal. Since I now decided to work in the industry, I feel I could work more on applications-focused topics instead of method development ones.



Interview on research university job search experience

Dr. Cassandra N. Spracklen,
Dept of Biostatistics and Epidemiology, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Q: How did you learn about the different available career paths? How did you decide what area to apply in (e.g., academia vs. industry)?

A: I knew about academic tracks through my time in academia as a grad student and post-doc. I learned about various industry career paths through my attendance at the American Society for Human Genetics annual meeting. I also had several of my peers and friends chose industry, so I spoke with them about their experiences. When I went on the job market, I chose to apply to both academic and industry positions, and I received phone and in-person interviews for both. Ultimately, job location played a large role in my career path—most industry positions are located in large cities (e.g., San Francisco, Boston) in which my family and I did not want to live.

Q: What resources did you find helpful when preparing your applications and applying to positions?

A: I had copies of job application materials from colleagues who went on the job market 1-3 years before me. I also had several people read through my application materials, including my post-doc advisor, grad school advisor, and other people I

knew who were in my field but not as well-versed in my specific area of research.

Q: What is the general timeline of job applications and interviews?

A: Most job postings came out during the summer and early fall, but a few were also posted in late fall. Most application deadlines were between mid-September and mid-November. I began getting invitations for phone interviews in October and November and in-person interview invitations to be scheduled in late November through late February.

Q: What else do you think people currently on the job market should know?

A: There is a lot of luck involved. The people on the search committee are going to quickly scan through the application pool, which can contain hundreds of applications, to identify a smaller pool of 'best fit candidates'. There are many reasons for which you may not make it past this first round of review, but that doesn't mean you aren't a good candidate for the position. I later found out that one of the jobs I applied for at a state school in the midwest received over 300 applications!!

Student Paper Award Competition

The Section on Statistics in Genomics and Genetics (SSGG) of the American Statistical Association is pleased to announce the 2022 Distinguished Student Paper Award Competition. Papers considered in this competition should contain methodological innovations and/or novel applications of statistical and computational methods to problems arising in genetics and genomics. Three to six awards will be given.

Applicants for the SSGG Student Paper Award must meet all the following criteria at the time of submission:

- Be a current undergraduate or graduate student at any level, or have received their degree in statistics, biostatistics, or related quantitative field in 2021.
- Be a current member of SSGG. The applicant can join SSGG at the time of submission. Instructions on how to join are

provided below. Note that ASA membership does not automatically confer SSGG membership; ASA members must join individual sections in addition to generic membership.

- Be first author of the paper and scheduled to present the same paper submitted for the award at the 2022 JSM (current scheduled to be held in Washington, DC) as either a talk, SPEED, or poster.
- Have submitted the paper to no more than one other ASA section 2022 student or early-stage investigator competition. (Note that in the event a paper wins two awards, the author may only accept one of the two awards)
- Have not previously won an SSGG student paper award.

Applications should include:

1. A cover letter including name, current affiliation and status including actual or intended date of graduation, and contact information (address, telephone, e-mail) of the applicant.
2. The paper submitted for the competition which should be up to 25 pages (double-spaced, 1-inch margins) including an abstract and references, but not including figures and tables. Figures and tables should be placed at the end of the manuscript. No supplemental materials and appendices beyond the 25-page limit will be accepted. Papers do not need to be anonymized.
3. A letter from the advisor who should certify student status (or completion of degree within the past year), and in the case of joint first-authorship, should indicate the fraction of the applicant's contribution to the paper.

All materials must be received by the Section by **11:59 PM (Pacific Time) December 15, 2021**. Winners will be notified by **January 15, 2022**. Applications must be submitted by email (as separate PDF files). For further information or to apply, please contact Ni Zhao, Chair of the SSGG Distinguished Student Paper Award Committee nzhao10@jhu.edu with "SSGG Distinguished Student Paper Award" in the subject line.

For section members who are faculty or mentors, we would like to encourage you to become a section member, and please bring this to the attention of your students and encourage them to apply. Section members and friends are welcome to contribute funds towards the endowment for future student awards. Please contact Xihong Lin at xlin@hsph.harvard.edu for directions.

To become a SSGG section member, please first become an ASA member by signing up at <http://www.amstat.org/membership/becomeamember.cfm>. If you are already an ASA member, there are two ways you can become an SSGG section member: (1) call the ASA Headquarters at (703) 684-1221 and request the SSGG section be added to your membership or (2) renew your ASA membership online via the ASA member only website <https://www.amstat.org/membersonly/index.cfm> and add the "Section on Statistics in Genomics and Genetics" when you are asked to "verify your Publications, Chapters, and Sections, making any necessary additions or removals."

Call for Topic-contributed Session Proposals

It is time to plan for your 2022 JSM, which will take place in Washington, District of Columbia, August 6-11, 2022.

We support your submission!

The Section of Statistics in Genomics and Genetics (SSGG) is a community of individuals interested in Statistical Genomics and Genetics within the American Statistical Association. The goals of the SSGG are to foster research, education and influence of statisticians on genomics and genetics and associated applications. We are now calling for topic-contributed session proposals. The theme for JSM 2022 is "**Statistics: A Foundation for Innovation**," but not all sessions have to adhere to this theme. Topic-contributed sessions include papers, panels, and posters:

- Topic-contributed paper sessions consist of five speakers, made up of at least three presenters and, at most, two discussants; each speaker has 20 minutes to present.
- Topic-contributed panels consist of three to six members providing commentary or a point of view on the panel topic.
- Topic-contributed poster sessions have 10–15 participants with posters addressing a common topic.

A topic-contributed session proposal includes a session title, general description of the session, list of participants, and tentative talk titles.

To propose a topic-contributed session:

- Develop your idea and a list of speakers who agree to present on a common topic.
- Submit your idea online from November 11 to December 9, 2021.
- Await approval from a member of the JSM Program Committee.
- Ensure all speakers submit individual abstracts by February 1, 2022, using the six-digit session ID. *Note: All speakers will be required to register for JSM prior to abstract submission.*
- Talk to potential authors early, as no participant can serve as a presenting author in more than one session.

We are supporting proposals broadly related to statistical genomics and genetics, computational biology, and relevant topics.

To submit a session proposal to be considered for 2022 JSM, please read the instructions and guidelines

at <https://www2.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2022/>. **Be sure to check the SSGG as your first choice of sponsor.** Submissions are open **Nov 11 to Dec 9, 2021**.

We hope to see you in Washington, DC in the year 2022!

Job Opportunities

- [Posted](#) 08.25.2021. Post-doc position in Statistical Genetics and Genomics, University of Colorado Denver. Details [here](#). Contact Dr. Hendrick's team [here](#)
- [Posted](#) 07.22.2021. Postdoctoral position for bioinformatics, Stanford University. Contact Dr. Summer Han (summer.han@stanford.edu)
- [Posted](#) 06.23.2021. Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Biostatistics, Boston University. Contact Dr. Josée Dupuis (dupuis@bu.edu)
- [Posted](#) 06.15.2021. Research Faculty Positions, Department of Biostatistics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Details [here](#).
- [Posted](#) 05.20.2021. Postdoctoral Associate Position, Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Duke University School of Medicine. Details [here](#).

Section Executive Committee

| ASA SSGG Executive Committee | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Position | Name | Contact |
| Past-Chair | Saonli Basu | saonli@umn.edu |
| Chair | Katerina Kechris | katerina.kechris@cuanschutz.edu |
| Chair-Elect | Michael Wu | mcwu@fhcrc.org |
| Section Representative | Iuliana Ionita-Laza | li2135@columbia.edu |
| Secretary | Yingying Wei | ywei@cuhk.edu.hk |
| Treasurer | Li-Xuan Qin | qinl@mskcc.org |
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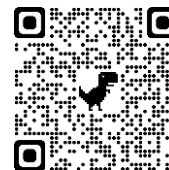
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If you have something to share with our section or would like to contribute to our newsletters, please contact Ching-Ti Liu (ctliu@bu.edu).

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