



SILVER STATE-ISTICS

Nevada Chapter of American Statistical Association



Dear Nevada ASA Members and Friends,

Read on for information on what our Chapter has been up to and what we are planning for the future.

Please keep an eye on our website
for more details on upcoming events.

www.amstat.org/chapters/

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See the item to follow for our on-line Webinar to take place **NEXT WEEK**.

Our **Annual Meeting** will take place in the South this coming Fall. Stay tuned for announcements of this and other events, both North and South.



Elections



Four positions will be open for terms beginning in 2021: President, Southern Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. ∞



The President's Corner

Christopher Tong



Welcome to your spring chapter newsletter. The COVID-19 pandemic has obviously disrupted chapter plans for the first half of this year. Sadly, we have had to delay the judging phase of our annual K-12 poster competition, and the traditional live presentations of awards at the schools may not be possible.

Instead of in-person events this spring, we are rapidly putting together a virtual, state-wide, spring symposium, using the Zoom platform. Please see the announcement in this newsletter for the "Census Data and Coronavirus Modeling" event to be held April 25, just a week away. Please also find a brief article by our chapter Treasurer (and long-time board member), Alejandra Livingston, about the US Census, which is taking place this year. Those of you who receive *Significance* magazine may recall that last October's issue featured an article by Lynn Billiard about the shared history of ASA and the US Census. Billiard suggests that the very founding of the ASA was prompted in part by concerns about how the 1840 census would be carried out. The ASA remained closely involved with the US Census throughout the 19th and early 20th century, as Billiard describes.

Please join us this month for our virtual event, and please consider volunteering with us for future events, and for officer positions opening this fall. Σ

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**NV-ASA Spring WEBINAR:**  
**Census Data and Coronavirus Modeling**  
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You will soon receive an announcement and invitation to register for an on-line webinar Saturday April 25. Speakers will include Alejandra Livingston, NV Department of Corrections and NV-ASA Treasurer ("Processing the Decennial Census for Group Quarters, Nevada Correctional Facilities") and Dr Brian Labus, Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, UNLV ("When Bad Models Happen to Good People; Making Sense of the Coronavirus Numbers"). ≤

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**On the Decennial Census**  
**Alejandra Livingston**  
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The decennial census in the US was codified into the U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 2, in 1790 to take place in years ending with "0." The intent of the census was to apportion representatives and direct taxes among several states included in the Union "according to their respective numbers, and these [will] be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those *bound to Service for a Term of Years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other Persons.*" The actual enumeration was slated to take place within three years after the first meeting of the Congress, and within every subsequent term of ten years. From 1790 to 1848, decennial censuses were conducted under the authority of the Secretary of State, from 1849 to 1901 by the Department of Interior; and beginning 1902, the newly created Department of Commerce and Labor's US Census Bureau oversaw the census.

Between 1790 and 1890, US marshals conducted the enumeration, and highly trained enumerators conducted counts beginning in 1880. Prior to 1902, the work was performed in a temporary office, and later it became a permanent agency.

The first decennial census questionnaire had six questions, employed 650 U.S. marshals, and counted approximately 3.9 million people in the U.S. with the intent of apportioning the US House of Representatives. The program expanded significantly, and as of the 2010 census, the Bureau hired 635,000 enumerators to count more than 300 million of our country's inhabitants. Beginning with that cohort, the data collected has been utilized for data-driven decision making in areas such as policy making; spending on housing, highways, hospitals, schools; and to identify and fund a variety of public projects and programs that are essential to the health and welfare of our country's population. The questions to be

asked every ten years are not written in law. However, the US Census Bureau is required to submit notification of intent and the questionnaire two to three years in advance of each upcoming decade for final approval. The 2020 census is the first one allowing participants to complete the survey online, by phone, or on paper. The U. Census plans, however, to send interviewers to households that don't complete the survey by a certain date. It is important to note that participation is mandated by law, under the authority of 13 US Code 141, responses are confidential as directed by Title 13, US Code, Section 9, and violating the confidentiality of a respondent is a federal crime. Tabulations must be done expeditiously and reported to the governor and public officers of each state. Final counts must be ready within one year after the decennial census date.

References: information was retrieved from the websites below

<https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/13/141>
https://www.census.gov/history/www/programs/demographic/decennial_census.html
https://www.census.gov/history/www/census_then_now/
https://www.census.gov/history/pdf/Article_1_Section_2.pdf

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**Post-Doctoral Position Opening**  
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The William W Orrison Jr Postdoctoral Fellowship is a two-year program that will focus on the design, execution, and analysis of clinical neuroimaging studies. This fellowship is a collaborative effort through the UNLV Department of Health Physics and Diagnostic Sciences with Touro University and SimonMed Imaging and HCA radiology residency program. The applicant should be familiar with biostatistics, reliability analysis, and data management.

The postdoctoral fellow will work alongside Neuro-radiologist Travis Snyder, two research physicians, a research scientist, and medical students and residents, and will provide statistical analysis and input toward the design, execution, and analysis of neuroimaging studies. Responsibilities will include application of statistical techniques to estimate variation, assess multivariate correlations, test hypotheses, identify trends from a body of quantitative medical imaging and clinical data.

A primary project includes analyzing a 600+ subject database of head trauma patients comparing MRI imaging parameters with clinical outcomes with specific analysis of advanced imaging including volumetric data, perfusion, DTI, fMRI, NeuroQuant, and SWI. Other projects include Alzheimer's and mild cognitive impairment associations with volumetric MR data and analysis of advanced quantification of amyloid nuclear


medicine studies and PET and analysis of a carbon monoxide database comparing clinical outcomes to imaging parameters. Additional research opportunities are available with national experts in the Dept of Defense, the Enigma group, Cortech laboratory, the Mind Research Network and national cancer screening projects with SimonMed including novel pulse sequences and whole-body diffusion and automated breast ultrasound studies with thousands of subjects and various DTI databases.

Preferred Applicant Qualifications:

- PhD in statistics, neuroimaging informatics, biostatistics, bioinformatics, or related fields;
- Proficiency in SAS, SPSS, R, or MATLAB;
- Familiarity with mixed effect models and machine learning methods;
- Ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously in a highly collaborative environment;
- Experience in statistical analysis of medical imaging data and/or clinical data, particularly experience with MR volumetric analysis.

For further information, contact Thomas Knoblauch (thknoblauch1@gmail.com). 


Poster Competition 2020

Numerous entries have been received; however, judging is delayed while access to the schools is unavailable. 

Joining NV-ASA!

Only a minority of the people who receive this newsletter are members of the Nevada Chapter of the American Statistical Association (NV-ASA). Dues are nominal. For full-time students at NV institutions, the cost is \$10 per year (\$2 for student members of the national ASA). Otherwise, it is \$20 per year (\$10 for members of the national ASA). One can become a Life Member for \$100. You can join NV-ASA when you renew your national ASA membership (or join for the first time); this can be done on-line at www.amstat.org/chapters.

Otherwise, whether a national ASA member or not, you can join through PayPal on our website or by contacting our Treasurer Alejandra Livingston. Any way you do it, please obtain an information form from our website, complete it, and send it to Alejandra at the address listed on the form.

Why should you join? NV-ASA events provide opportunities for networking and contact with other statisticians working in a wide variety of areas in Nevada. But in addition to that, a major reason is that your dues help support the outreach activities of the NV-ASA including the K-12 Poster Competition and Career Days. Our financial needs are not great, so long as we all pitch in our modest amounts. 

NV-ASA Officers & Others

Voting officers are

President:	Christopher Tong (2020)
Past President:	Alicia Chancellor Hansen (2020-2021)
Northern Vice President:	Glenn Waddell (2020-2021)
Southern Vice President:	Sharang Chaudhry (2019-2020)
Secretary:	Charles Davis (2020)
Treasurer:	Alejandra Livingston (2019-2020)
Chapter Representative:	Gayle Allenback (2020-2022)

Also involved are

Webmaster:	Alicia Chancellor Hansen
Poster Competition Lead:	Tia Maria Price
Newsletter Editor:	Charles Davis

Silver State-istics welcomes news items and letters from members and friends of the NV-ASA on matters of interest to the Chapter and the profession. Manuscript or items can be sent as a Microsoft Word document, PDF, or within an e-mail. *Silver State-istics* is published by the Nevada Chapter of the American Statistical Association. All items appearing in *Silver State-istics* are from the individuals providing them, and are not intended in any way to represent positions or opinions of any employer, government agency, or client.

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For contact information, go to www.amstat.org/chapters/

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