

Spring 2022 Issue

CHAPTER CHATTER

Western Tennessee Chapter

By Hongmei Zhang

The West Tennessee (WT) Chapter has been working diligently to enhance research and educational activities in the community. The chapter recently collaborated with researchers at the University of Bristol, UK, to offer a workshop focusing on a combination of causal mediation analyses with Mendelian randomization. The workshop is scheduled for March 30, and Katlin Wade, a professor at the University of Bristol, and her assistants will deliver it.

As in the schedule noted below, the workshop will offer hands-on practice, which strengthens participants' skills learned from the workshop. The pandemic has interfered in our daily life in various ways. On the other hand, we have discovered ways to work around it. As such, this workshop will be held virtually via Zoom.

When: 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. CDT, March 30

Where: Zoom (Zoom link will be sent to registered participants)

Speaker: Katlin Wade, University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom

Organizer: American Statistical Association West Tennessee Chapter (WTASA)

Link to register: www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=84RVWCD4BFT3G

Registration fee: \$20

Registration Deadline: March 28

Tentative Schedule:

Time (CST)	Title	Brief description
9:00-9:10am	Introduction to the workshop	Introduction to session
9:10-9:50	Introduction to mediation analyses	Introduction to non-counterfactual mediation methods. Introduce the concepts of total, direct and indirect effects. Briefly introduce counterfactual theory, but direct to further reading (MR mediation methods are not based on counterfactual reasoning)
9:50-10:40	Introduction to Mendelian randomization	Introduce the basic principles of MR, including one and two-sample analyses, data harmonisation, effects estimated
10:40-10:50	Break	Time to stretch!
10:50-11:20	Mediation analysis with MR (e.g., multivariable, two-step and network MR)	Introduce two-step/network MR and MVMR
11:20am-12:20pm	Practical application (with help from tutors)	Computer practical working through an MR example, to estimate a total effect, then conduct MR mediation analyses to decompose a direct and indirect effect

Also, our Annual Research Symposium is scheduled for November this year. It will be a combination of invited talks and student research presentations. The chapter officers (listed below) will try their best to bring the community together to share their research.

- ❖ Hongmei Zhang (University of Memphis), President
- ❖ Yu Jiang (University of Memphis), Vice President
- ❖ Haitao Pan (St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital), Secretary
- ❖ Xueyuan Cao (University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center), Treasurer
- ❖ Dale Bowman (University of Memphis), Chapter Representative