

BCASA NEWSLETTER

Boston Chapter of the American Statistical Association

Serving

Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont

Volume 35, No. 1, September 2016

Homepage: <http://www.amstat.org/chapters/boston>

E-Mail: BostonChapterASA@gmail.com

SCHEDULED EVENTS & MEETINGS

September 28, 2016	Boston INFORMS Chapter seminar on social physics	Bedford, MA
September 29, 2016	Pickard Award Lecture and Reception	Boston, MA
September 29, 2016	Reproducibility in Personalized Medicine Research Workshop	Boston, MA
October 1, 2016	Analytics on Ice: The Long Change	Wellesley, MA
October 3, 2016	Charles River Lectures 2016	Cambridge, MA
October 12, 2016	Adventures in Music Analytics	Waltham, MA
October 18, 2016	ASA President's Talk	Northampton, MA
October 20, 2016	Lagakos Award Lecture and Ceremony	Boston, MA
October 29, 2016	New England Isolated Statisticians Meeting	Easton, MA
November 8, 2016	Third Annual Analytics using SAS Event at Bryant University	Smithfield, RI
November 11, 2016	Short Course: Statistical Analysis of Network Data	Boston, MA
November 16, 2016	Arlene Ash Presentation on Massachusetts Medicaid	Worcester, MA
December 1, 2016	BCASA Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching of Statistics Banquet	Boston, MA
January 2017, TBD	BCASA Annual Winter Potluck Dinner and Party	TBD
February 2017, TBD	Annual Mosteller Statistician of the Year Award Banquet	TBD
March 3-4, 2017	MIT Sloan Sports Analytics Conference	Cambridge, MA
April 8, 2017	Short Course: Introduction to Statistics for Spatio-Temporal Data	TBA
April 21-22, 2017	The New England Statistics Symposium (NESS)	Storrs, CT

Event schedule at the chapter website: <http://www.amstat.org/chapters/boston>

Detailed announcements appear later in this newsletter. All events are announced in advance to members on our email list. We are currently planning events for the coming year. If you have suggestions please contact Program Chair John McKenzie, mckenzie@babson.edu.

PROGRAM CHAIR REPORT

John McKenzie

This is my fourth report as Program Chair. Below is a summary of the Chapter's events for the year beginning in September of 2015. I also want to thank the many volunteers who gave generously of their time and facility space during the year.

The ASA's second largest chapter continues to be one of its most active chapters. In the past year it has organized eight events (one banquet, six lectures, and one Potluck Dinner and Holiday Party) and sponsored three events (one symposium, two meetings, two competitions, and a triple of presentations). We have also continued to publicize with the Boston INFORMS Chapter each other's events. I look forward to four months of chapter events and hope that you will be able to attend many of them.

Date	Event	Location
Saturday, September 26, 2015	New England Symposium in Sports	Harvard University, Cambridge
Thursday, October 8, 2015	BCASA Evening Lecture Series: Preparing Statisticians for the Workplace	Harvard University, Cambridge
Saturday, October 17, 2015	New England Isolated Statistics Meeting	Boston College, Newton
Wednesday, November 4, 2015	BCASA Evening Lecture Series: Presentation by ASA President	Simmons College, Boston
Thursday, December 3, 2015	BCASA Evening Lecture Series: Developing a Big Data Program for Community Colleges	Wheelock College, Boston
Saturday, January 17, 2016	Annual Winter Potluck Dinner and Holiday Party	Prometrika, Cambridge
Wednesday, February 24, 2016	Mosteller Statistician of the Year Banquet	Simmons College, Boston
Wednesday, March 23, 2016	BCASA Evening Lecture Series: Panel Discussion on the Future of Clinical Trials	Kendall Square Marriott, Cambridge
Friday-Sunday, April 1-3, 2016	BOW DataFest	Olin College, Needham
Friday-Sunday, April 1-3, 2016	Five-College DataFest	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Monday-Tuesday, April 11-12, 2016	Five-Colleges Statistics Presentations by Rob Kass	University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Smith College, Northampton; and Hampshire College, Amherst
Thursday, April 28, 2016	BCASA Evening Lecture Series: Intersections and Diversions in Statistics Education and Mathematics Education	Simmons College, Boston
Friday, May 20, 2016	eCOTS Regional Conference	Simmons College, Boston
Tuesday, May 24, 2016	BCASA Evening Lecture Series: Presentation by Geoff Cumming	Brandeis University, Waltham

EVENTS & MEETINGS
EVENING LECTURE SERIES

Adventures in Music Analytics

Dominique Haughton, Professor of Mathematical Sciences and Global Studies, Bentley University

Date: Wednesday, October 12, 2016

Time: Reception and Light Dinner: 7:30 p.m., Presentation: 8:00 p.m.

Location: Center for Marketing Technology, Second Floor, Morison Hall, Bentley University, 175 Forest Street Waltham, MA

Directions and Map:

<http://www.bentley.edu/about/directions-car> and

https://www.bentley.edu/files/2015/05/20/Campus%20Map%20BW%20%281%29_0_0.pdf

(Building 55)

Parking: free

Cost: Light Dinner: \$8 for chapter members; \$10 for non-members; students free.

Presentation: free.

Registration: <http://bcasa2016haughton.eventbrite.com>. Registration requested by October 10.

Abstract:

This talk will give an overview of projects at the frontier between data analysis and music (“music analytics”) and will present preliminary results of an analysis of the success of Kickstarter rock music projects, using features extracted from audio files with the Echonest API (Application Program Interface). We also discuss current state of the art in defining measures of distance between music excerpts and potential applications to a classification of jingles (with a view to understanding what makes a jingle successful, and indeed how one might measure success for a jingle) and to unraveling legal issues such as claims of plagiarism (as for example in Led Zeppelin’s song Stairway to Heaven). The talk will conclude with a brief mention of other potential areas of interest, such as the automatic identification of allegories in music and approaches to a classification of Chinese classical music. The discussion relies on work conducted by the recently formed music analytics group at Bentley University. The presenter has worked these analyses with Tamara Babaian, Bentley University; Patrick Botti, Waltham Symphony Orchestra; Joe Dery, Bentley University and Dell/EMC; and Mingfei Li, Bentley University.

Speaker Biography:

Dominique Haughton is a Professor of Mathematical Sciences and Global Studies and Graduate Coordinator for Business Analytics at Bentley University. She is also an affiliated researcher at the Universite Paris I Pantheon Sorbonne (SAMM) and an associate researcher, Universite Toulouse I (GREMAQ). Her major areas of interest include applied statistics, statistics and marketing, the analysis of living standards surveys, data mining, and model selection. She is United States co-editor of Case Studies in Business, Industry and Government Statistics (CSBIGS). The author of over 60 refereed articles earned her Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1984. Dominique is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and a former president of the Boston Chapter of the ASA.

LATE AFTERNOON LECTURE SERIES

Understanding P-Values and the Controversy Surrounding Them

Jessica Utts

Professor, Department of Statistics, University of California, Irvine

President, American Statistical Association

Date: Tuesday, October 18, 2016

Time: Reception: 4:00 p.m.; Presentation: 4:30 p.m.

Location: 103 McConnell, Smith College, Northampton, MA

Directions: <http://www.smith.edu/about-smith/visiting-smith/directions> (includes map and directions)

Parking: Between the white lines in any Smith parking lot

Cost: Reception and Presentation: free

Registration: <http://bcasa2016utts.eventbrite.com>. Registration requested by October 14.

Abstract:

Most researchers and journals rely heavily on p-values for determining whether the results of a study are worthy of publication. But recently p-values have come under attack, and one social science journal has gone as far as banning their use for papers submitted to the journal. These developments led the American Statistical Association (ASA) to release a statement titled “Statement on Statistical Significance and P-values” with six principles underlying the proper use and interpretation of p-values and statistical significance. In this talk I will present the ASA’s six principles and discuss what p-values really measure, some pitfalls related to their use, and what steps you can take to make sure your use of them is appropriate.

Speaker Biography:

Jessica Utts is a Professor of Statistics in the Department of Statistics at the University of California at Irvine. From 2011 to 2016 Jessica served as Chair of the Department. Before moving to Irvine she taught at the University of California at Davis for 30 years. Her principal areas of interest are in applied statistics, the use of statistics in parapsychology, and statistics education and literacy. Jessica is the Chief Reader for Advanced Placement Statistics Exam. She is the author of over 80 papers and one book (Seeing Through Statistics); and co-author, with Robert Heckard, of two books (Mind On Statistics and Statistical Ideas and Methods). Jessica earned a Ph.D. in statistics in 1978 at Pennsylvania State University. She is a fellow of the American Statistical Association, which honored her with its Founders Award for distinguished service.

Statistical Analysis of Network Data

Short course given by Dr. Eric D. Kolaczyk, Boston University

Date: Friday, November 11, 2016

Time: 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Place: Boston University, College of Communication, 640 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, **Room:** 215



Organizer: Boston Chapter of the American Statistical Association (BCASA)

Co-sponsors: BU and the BU Student Chapter of the ASA (BUSCASA)

Registration: <http://bcasa2016kolaczyk.eventbrite.com>. Registration deadline: November 4.

Cost: \$15 for students, \$35 for Chapter members, \$45 for non-members

Course Abstract: Networks have permeated most aspects of our life through everyday realities like the Internet, social networks, and viral marketing. Their use has become especially prevalent in the biological and life sciences, particularly in computational biology and neuroscience. Accordingly, network analysis is an important growth area in the quantitative sciences, with roots in social network analysis going back to the 1930s and graph theory going back centuries. Measurement and analysis are integral components of network research, and statistical methods therefore play a critical role in network analysis. This course will provide a brief overview of foundational topics relevant to statistical analysis of network data across the disciplines. Material will be organized according to a statistical taxonomy, with presentation entailing a conscious balance of conceptual and technical aspects. The course will be organized into roughly two halves of equal length. Topics for the first half will include manipulation, visualization, and descriptive analysis of network data. In the second half, the focus will shift to topics pertaining to statistical modeling and inference in network analysis. Specific examples of network analysis will be drawn from a variety of domain areas, with emphasis on computational biology and neuroscience and on social networks.

About the Instructor: Eric Kolaczyk obtained a BS degree in mathematics from the University of Chicago, and MS and PhD degrees in statistics from Stanford University. He has been on the faculty in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Boston University since 1998. Professor Kolaczyk's current research interests revolve around the statistical analysis of network-indexed data, and include both the development of basic methodology and inter-disciplinary work with collaborators in bioinformatics, computer science, geography, neuroscience, and sociology. In addition to numerous research articles, he has also authored two books in this area: *Statistical Analysis of Network Data: Methods and Models* (Springer, 2009) and, joint with Gabor Csardi, *Statistical Analysis of Network Data in R* (Springer, 2014). Dr. Kolaczyk is an elected fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA), an elected senior member of the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), an elected member of the International Statistical Institute (ISI), and a member of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS).

Closest T-Stop: Green line, Boston University East Station

Parking: Please see <https://www.bu.edu/parking/lots-locations/family-guests-and-visitor-parking/>

LATE AFTERNOON LECTURE SERIES

**Technical solutions for practical problems in accounting for risk in
Massachusetts' Medicaid program**

**Arlene Ash, Professor and Chief, Division of Biostatistics & Health Services Research,
Department of Quantitative Health Sciences, University of Massachusetts Medical School**

Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2016

Time: Reception: 3:30 p.m.; Presentation: 4:00 p.m.

Location: Park B. and Linda Smith Laboratories, The College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

Directions: <http://www.holycross.edu/maps-directions-and-transportation> (includes map and directions)

Cost: Reception and Presentation: free.

Registration: <http://bcasa2016ash.eventbrite.com>. Registration requested by November 14.

Abstract:

Research begun in the early 1980s has led to sophisticated tools, such as Verisk Health's DxCG relative risk score (RRS) for predicting a year's health care costs (and other outcomes) for individuals and groups of people from each person's age, sex and medical problems (diagnoses) coded on electronic claims (or encounter) records during a year. For some years now, MassHealth (our State's Medicaid program) has used the DxCG RRS in calculating payments to managed care organizations (MCOs). The goal is to ensure that a plan gets the right amount of money to care for the needs of each person who signs up – more for sicker people, less for healthy ones. Over the past year, our team has been working with the State to add social determinants of health data and other problems not currently accounted for to the RRS – which they are currently implementing for next year's payments. I will discuss several practical issues, such as how to “adjust for” factors that we cannot directly measure, and how we have addressed them.

Full disclosure: I am a developer of the DxCG models and was, until recently, a “Senior Scientist” consultant to Verisk Health.

Speaker Biography:

Arlene Ash is Professor and Chief of the Division of Biostatistics & Health Services Research in the Department of Quantitative Health Sciences at University of Massachusetts Medical School. She is a methods expert on risk adjustment in health services research. Arlene has pioneered tools for using administrative data to monitor and manage health care delivery systems, including those now relied upon by the US Medicare program. In 1996, she co-founded DxCG, Inc., a company with over 350 national and international clients to promote “fair and efficient health care” via predictive software, which is now the science division of Verisk Health. Many of her more than 150 research publications reflect her long-standing interests in women's health; gender, age and racial disparities; and, quality, equity and efficiency in health care financing and delivery. She is also actively involved in improving US electoral integrity. Arlene earned her Ph.D. in Statistics within Mathematics from the University of Illinois in Chicago in 1977. She is a fellow of the American Statistical Association and AcademyHealth and a former president of the Boston Chapter of the ASA.

BCASA Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching of Statistics Banquet

Erl Sorensen, Senior Lecturer, Mathematical Sciences Department, Bentley University

Date: Thursday, December 1, 2016

Time: Reception: 5:45 p.m., Dinner: 6:15 p.m., Presentation: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Kotzen Room, Beatley Library and Lefavour Hall, Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston, MA

Directions: <http://www.simmons.edu/about-simmons/contact-us> (includes map and directions)

Parking: Free with tickets distributed at the event

Cost: Dinner: \$20 for chapter members; \$25 for non-members; students free.

Presentation: free.

Registration: <http://bcasa2016sorensen.eventbrite.com>. Registration requested by November 28.

Abstract: Teaching undergraduate statistics can be a challenging task. Many students are there just because it is “required” in their program of study. Initial attitudes vary from fear to excitement. My challenge is to make the learning of statistics fun, as well as meaningful. I present many of the methods, illustrations, and principles that I have found to “turn students on” to statistics.

Speaker Biography: Erl Sorensen is a Senior Lecturer at Bentley University in the Mathematical Sciences Dept. He has previously taught at Northeastern University and Syracuse University where he did his doctoral studies. His major areas of interest are applied statistics, applied probability, and sampling methodology. He has earned numerous awards for teaching excellence.

Myrto Lefkopoulou Distinguished Lectureship Awarded to Dr. Mahlet Tadesse

The Harvard School of Public Health is proud to announce that Dr. Mahlet Tadesse (ScD '02, MS '00) will be this year's recipient of the annual Myrto Lefkopoulou Award. Dr. Mahlet will be presented with the award and will deliver a lecture on:

Thursday, September 22, 2016
FXB Building, Room G13
Award & Lecture: 4pm
Reception to follow

Dr. Tadesse will present a talk on:

“Variable selection in mixture models: Uncovering cluster structures and relevant features”

Uncovering cluster structures and identifying relevant features can shed important insights when analyzing high-dimensional data. In this talk, I will present methods we have proposed to address this problem in a unified manner. I will start by discussing variable selection in the context of unsupervised clustering, where the goal is to uncover the latent classes while identifying variables that discriminate between the different groups. This may consist, for example, in using genomic data to simultaneously discover disease subtypes and locate markers that distinguish between these subtypes. In the second part of the talk, I will focus on the problem of relating two high-dimensional data sets, as in integrative genomic studies, where there is interest in finding relationships between genomic data from different sources. I will discuss methods we have proposed that combine ideas of mixture of regression models and variable selection to uncover correlated response profiles and identify cluster-specific subsets of covariates. I will illustrate the methods with applications to various genomic studies.

About Dr. Tadesse:

Dr. Tadesse earned her masters and doctoral degrees from the Department in 2000, and 2002, respectively. She is currently a Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Georgetown University and previously served on the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania as Assistant Professor of Biostatistics. She is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute and a fellow of the American Statistical Association.

Dr. Tadesse's research focuses on the development of statistical and computational tools for the analysis of large-scale genomic data. She is particularly interested in stochastic search methods and Bayesian inferential strategies to identify structures and relationships in high-dimensional data sets. Some research problems she is currently working on include: (1) identification of biologically relevant markers and prediction of clinical outcomes in a unified manner, (2) integration of biological knowledge in the evaluation of genomic data, (3) integration of various genomic data sources, (4) methods for mining large-scale prospective epidemiological data, (5) predictive models for species and trait distribution patterns in highly biodiverse ecosystem

About the Award:

The lectureship was established in perpetuity in memory of Dr. Myrto Lefkopoulou, a faculty member and graduate of Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Lefkopoulou tragically died of cancer in 1992 at the age of 34 after a courageous two-year battle. She was deeply beloved by friends, students, and faculty. Each year the Myrto Lefkopoulou Lectureship is awarded to a promising statistician who has made contributions to either collaborative or methodologic research in the applications of statistical methods to biology or medicine, and/or who has shown excellence in the teaching of biostatistics. Ordinarily, the lectureship is given to a statistician who has earned a doctorate in the last fifteen years. The lecture is presented to a general scientific audience as the first Department colloquium of each academic year. The lectureship includes travel to Boston, a reception following the lecture, and an honorarium of \$1000.

Boston INFORMS Chapter Meeting

Speaker: Professor Alex 'Sandy' Pentland, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Title: Social Physics

Location: The MITRE Corporation, 202 Burlington Road, Bedford, MA 01773

Date: Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Time: Light refreshments, 6:30 pm, Talk 7:00.

Abstract:

Fine grain data about human behavior, harvested from cell phones, credit cards, cars, and similar sources, has given us new ways to quantify the dynamics and decision making in real-world situations by use of heterogeneous stochastic network models. Social physics models of human behavior have generated successful predictions in domains ranging from finance, to health, to transportation, to consumer consumption. Experiments at scales from hundreds to millions of people will be described. In order to safely harness these new capabilities a new more secure and privacy-preserving data architecture is required. I will describe the Trusted Data architecture we have developed with support from the EU, and in collaboration with companies such as ATT, IBM, Intuit, in consultation with Treasury and Commerce.

RSVP: There is no charge for the meeting but anyone wishing to attend must register by noon, September 26, 2016 by sending an email to lservi@mitre.org indicating your 1) name, 2) email, (3) company or university, (4) whether you are a US citizen and, if not, which country are you a citizen of. For more information, contact Les Servi, Chair, Boston INFORMS Chapter, lservi@mitre.org

Speaker bio:

Professor Alex "Sandy" Pentland directs the MIT Connection Science and Human Dynamics labs and previously helped create and direct the MIT Media Lab and the Media Lab Asia in India. He is one of the most-cited scientists in the world, and Forbes recently declared him one of the "7 most powerful data scientists in the world" along with Google founders and the Chief Technical Officer of the United States. He has received numerous awards and prizes such as the McKinsey Award from Harvard Business Review, the 40th Anniversary of the Internet from DARPA, and the Brandeis Award for work in privacy.

He is a founding member of advisory boards for Google, AT&T, Nissan, and the UN Secretary General, a serial entrepreneur who has co-founded more than a dozen companies including social enterprises such as the Data Transparency Lab, the Harvard-ODI-MIT DataPop Alliance and the Institute for Data Driven Design. He is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering and leader within the World Economic Forum.

Over the years Sandy has advised more than 60 PhD students. Almost half are now tenured faculty at leading institutions, with another one-quarter leading industry research groups and a final quarter founders of their own companies. Together Sandy and his students have pioneered computational social science, organizational engineering, wearable computing (Google Glass), image understanding, and modern biometrics. His most recent books are 'Social Physics,' published by Penguin Press, and 'Honest Signals', published by MIT Press.

Pickard Award Lecture and Reception

Date: Thursday, September 29, 2016, 4:00pm to 6:30pm

Location: Science Center Hall A, Harvard University

The Department of Statistics of Harvard University announces that Professor Nicholas Horton of Amherst College has been chosen as the 2016 Pickard Lecturer. For those who may not know about the award, you can learn more about it at <http://www.stat.harvard.edu/Academics/PickardAwards/>.

Nicholas Horton received his doctorate in Biostatistics from the Harvard TH Chan School of Public Health in 1999. He is a Professor of Statistics at Amherst College, with methodologic research interests in longitudinal regression models and missing data methods. He received the ASA Waller Education Award in 2009, the William Warde Mu Sigma Rho Education Award in 2014, and the MAA Hogg Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2015. He has published more than 150 papers, co-authored a series of three books on statistical computing, and was co-PI on the NSF funded Project MOSAIC. Nick is a Fellow of the ASA, served as a member of the ASA Board, and chairs the ASA Section on Statistical Education and the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies. You can read more here: <https://www.amherst.edu/people/facstaff/nhorton>.

Reproducibility in Personalized Medicine Research Workshop

Event Date: Thursday September 29

Location: Boston

During the past decade, one of the most notable transformations in science has been the availability of large and diverse sets of data. This trend has been accompanied by the increased use of machine learning and statistical techniques to classify patients and optimize treatments in precision medicine. In this context several concomitant factors can cause poor reproducibility levels, including unmeasured and heterogenous covariates' distributions across studies, new technologies and ascertainment mechanisms. The focus of the workshop will be on statistical techniques and applications to understand and prevent the most important and common causes of lapses of reproducibility.

Invited speakers include Keith Baggerly (The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center), Bin Yu (University of California, Berkeley), David Madigan (Columbia University), Edo Airoldi (Harvard University), and Levi Waldron (City University of New York). As part of the workshop, we are hosting a student poster competition, with prizes for first, second and third place. We invite students to present their work on novel statistical methods and computational approaches. A broad range of contributions, from theoretical statistics to applications in a variety of biomedical fields will be evaluated. Students with ongoing projects in robust statistics, reproducibility and replicability are particularly encouraged to participate. To submit your poster for consideration, click here:

<http://goo.gl/forms/WhdgrqDmTSkgHDxe2>

For more info click here: rpmr.eventbrite.com

Contact: Erica Feick

Phone: 6176325323

Email: adminsec@jimmy.harvard.edu

**Babson College Division of Mathematics and Science Presents:
“Analytics on Ice: The Long Change”
A day devoted to hockey analytics!**

Saturday, October 1, 2016, 9 AM to 4 PM
Babson College
Wellesley, Massachusetts 02457

Program will include:

-Invited Speakers:

Michael Schuckers, St. Lawrence University

Rob Vollman, analyst and author of the Hockey Abstract series

-Contributed paper and/or poster sessions

-Lunch and networking opportunities

Event Cost: \$25.00 USD

Registration:

https://activedata.babson.edu/EventList.aspx?fromdate=10/1/2016&todate=10/1/2016&display=Day&type=public&eventidn=8270&view=EventDetails&information_id=36430

Registration limited to first 150 responses.

For more information, contact the organizers: Rick Cleary (rcleary@babson.edu), George Recck (recck@babson.edu) and Luke Donoho (luke@business.hockey)

Charles River Lectures 2016

Harvard University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Microsoft Research New England are happy to announce that the Charles River Lectures on Probability and Related Topics 2016 will be hosted by MIT on Monday, October 3.

Complete information is available at our website <http://math.mit.edu/programs/charles-river-lectures/>

The speakers for this year are Michael Aizenman (Princeton), Hugo Duminil-Copin (Geneva), Richard Kenyon (Brown), Asaf Nachmias (Tel Aviv) and Allan Sly (Berkeley).

Please, register on our website, by September 23, and forward this information to those who might be interested to attend.

Event organizers: Alexei Borodin, Henry Cohn, Vadim Gorin, Alice Guionnet, Philippe Rigollet, Scott Sheffield, Horng-Tzer Yau.

ASA's Role and Your Role in Communicating the Value of Statistics

At 4:30 p.m. on Monday, October 17, 2016, Jessica Utts, Professor, University of California, Irvine, and President, American Statistical Association, will speak on "ASA's Role and Your Role in Communicating the Value of Statistics" at Amherst College. Here is the abstract of her talk: "Statistical methods impact almost every facet of daily life, from the health care we receive to the entertainment options available to us. Knowledge of the basic concepts of statistics can help everyone make better decisions. How can we convey the importance of understanding statistical results to health care workers, public policy decision-makers, educators, and the myriad other professionals who could benefit from that understanding? We need to communicate the role and value of statistical thinking for everyone, whether they are professional consumers of statistical results or simply could benefit from tools for making better decisions in daily life. In this talk I will discuss some things the American Statistical Association (ASA) is doing to help, and give suggestions and encouragement for the members of the audience to do what they can to help as well." For further information contact Amy Wagaman, Associate Professor of Statistics, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Amherst College at awagaman@amherst.edu.

Dr. Judith Goldberg Won Lagakos Distinguished Alumni Award of Harvard Chan School of Public Health

Dr. Judith Goldberg will be this year's recipient of the annual Lagakos Distinguished Alumni Award. Dr. Goldberg will be presented with the award and will deliver a lecture on:

Thursday, October 20, 2016

FXB Building, Room G13

Award & Lecture: 4pm

Reception to follow

Dr. Goldberg completed her dissertation under the direction of Dr. Margaret Drolette in 1972. She has been a Professor of Biostatistics at New York University School of Medicine since 1999. She was the founding director of the Division of Biostatistics from 1999 through August 2013. Currently, Dr. Goldberg is the Director of the PhD program in Biostatistics in the Environmental Health Sciences in the Graduate School of Arts and Science; Director of the Biostatistics Shared Resource of the NYU Cancer Institute; Director of the Study Design; Biostatistics and Clinical Research Ethics Core of the NYU-HHC Clinical Translational Science Institute; and Director of the Environmental Health Statistics and Bioinformatics Facility of the NIEHS Center at NYU. Dr. Goldberg is the Principal Investigator of the Statistics and Data Management Core of the NCI funded Myeloproliferative Disorders Research Consortium and a co-investigator on numerous other collaborative research grants in clinical and translational research in oncology and other areas. She has over 125 publications in statistics and substantive journals.

Dr. Goldberg is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). She has held numerous offices in national and international organizations including President of the Biometric Society (ENAR), Chair of the Fellows Committee of the American Statistical Association, and Chair of the Statistics Section U of the AAAS.

21st New England Isolated Statisticians Meeting (NEISM21)

The 21st New England Isolated Statisticians Meeting (NEISM21) will be held on Saturday, October 29, 2016. The meeting will take place at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts. This annual event is a wonderful opportunity for statisticians isolated (usually, but not always, in mathematics departments) to discuss topics related to teaching statistics. To register go to <https://goo.gl/VD3GNs>. For further information, email Rob Carver (rcarver@stonehill.edu), Bob Goldman (robert.goldman@simmons.edu), John McKenzie (mckenzie@babson.edu), or Mike Sale (msale@stonehill.edu).

Third Annual Analytics using SAS® Event at Bryant University

The Bryant University Advanced Applied Analytics Center is inviting you to the third annual Analytics using SAS® event at Bryant University on Wednesday, November 9th in the Bello Center.

Please join us for exciting information about Bryant's successful Graduate Certificate in Business Analytics program that began in January 2015. This certificate program leads to a joint certificate in Business Analytics from Bryant University and the SAS Institute. Speakers from the SAS Institute, the private sector, and academia will visit Bryant at this event to discuss topics including "Big Data" in the health sciences, retail marketing, predictive modeling, and visualization.

The three speakers, all from SAS Institute, are Mark Wolff, George Habek, and Jeff Thomas.

A continental breakfast and lunch are provided free of charge to all of our attendees.

Further information may be found at www.bryant.edu/sasday2016.

ASA Short Course: Introduction to Statistics for Spatio-Temporal Data

Instructor: Christopher Wikle, University of Missouri

Length: full day course

Date: April 8, 2017

Time: TBA. Location, cost, and registration information to be posted in the upcoming newsletter.

Abstract: The course gives a contemporary presentation of spatio-temporal processes and data analysis, bridging classic ideas with modern hierarchical statistical modeling concepts. From understanding environmental processes and climate trends to developing new technologies for mapping public-health data and the spread of invasive-species, there is a high demand for statistical analyses of data that take spatial, temporal, and spatio-temporal information into account. This course presents a systematic approach to key quantitative techniques for the statistical analysis of such data that features hierarchical statistical modeling, with an emphasis on dynamical spatio-temporal models. The material follows the book by Cressie and Wikle, *Statistics for Spatio-Temporal Data* (2011) - John Wiley and Sons, Hoboken, NJ. Many examples will be included, along with some basic applications from various R packages. The course can be presented in a 1-day or 1/2-day format, with the 1-day format including more applications and software examples.



Prerequisite: Anyone with a Masters or PhD degree in Statistics is suggested, but required background assumes Masters level probability and statistical inference and good understanding of matrix algebra.

About the Instructor: Christopher K. Wikle is Professor of Statistics at the University of Missouri, with additional appointments in Soil, Environmental and Atmospheric Sciences and the Truman School of Public Affairs. He received a PhD co-major in Statistics and Atmospheric Science in 1996 from Iowa State University. He was research fellow at the National Center for Atmospheric Research from 1996-1998, after which he joined the MU Department of Statistics. His research interests are in spatio-temporal statistics applied to environmental, ecological, agricultural and federal survey applications, with particular interest in dynamics. Awards include elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association, Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences from Iowa State University, ASA ENVR Section Distinguished Achievement Award, the MU Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Research and Creative Activity in the Physical and Mathematical Sciences and the Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award from the UM Graduate School. His book *Statistics for Spatio-Temporal Data* (co-authored with Noel Cressie) was the 2011 PROSE Award winner for excellence in the Mathematics Category by the Association of American Publishers and the 2013 DeGroot Prize winner from the International Society for Bayesian Analysis. He is Associate Editor for several journals and is one of six inaugural members of the Statistics Board of Reviewing Editors for Science.

2017 New England Statistics Symposium at University of Connecticut, Save the Date!

The 31st New England Statistics Symposium (NESS) will be hosted by the Department of Statistics, University of Connecticut, on April 21-22, 2017. We will be celebrating the 30th anniversary since the NESS was started at UConn in 1987! The mission of NESS is to bring together statisticians from all over New England and beyond to a central location to share research, discuss emerging issues in the field and network with colleagues. The symposium will feature three short courses, two invited plenary talks, invited paper sessions, and posters. There will be a student paper competition and a student poster competition sponsored by our industrial partners. The NESS committee consists of Professors Haim Bar, Jun Yan (chair), and Yuping Zhang. The webpage of the conference is at <http://ness.stat.uconn.edu>, with details to be filled as they become known. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact any of the committee members.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Levenson Teaching Prize Awarded to Joe Blitzstein

May 4, 2016

Harvard's Undergraduate Council awarded its Joseph R. Levenson Memorial Teaching Prize for excellence in teaching College students to Joseph Blitzstein, Professor of the Practice in Statistics.

Congratulations to Joe!

2016 DeGroot Prize Awarded to Don Rubin and Coauthors

June 17, 2016

The International Society for Bayesian Analysis has awarded the 2016 DeGroot Prize (for a published book in Statistics Science) to the third edition of "Bayesian Data Analysis" (Chapman and Hall, 2013) by Andrew Gelman, John Carlin, Hal Stern, David Dunson, Aki Vehtari, and Donald B. Rubin. Don Rubin is John L. Loeb Professor of Statistics at Harvard.

Congratulations to Don and colleagues!

MIT Institute for Data, Systems, and Society Launch Event

This two-day event, which took place on September 22-23, celebrated the inaugural year of the Institute for Data, Systems, and Society (IDSS) and set the stage for this new, multi-disciplinary endeavor going forward. The event brought together thought leaders from academia, industry, and government to discuss the challenges and opportunities for research at the forefront of society's greatest challenges. For more information about the event, see <https://idss2016.mit.edu/>

The mission of IDSS is to address complex societal challenges through the advancement of education and research at the intersections of statistics and data science, information and decision systems, engineering, and social sciences. The many application areas considered include energy systems, health analytics, urban sciences, financial systems, and social networks. The society's greatest challenges emerge in these several domains, as well as in interactions between them. To provide answers to these critical challenges, IDSS fosters research utilizing vast amounts of available data, an in-depth understanding of fundamental engineering systems, and the investigation of social and institutional behaviors.

As part of IDSS, the Center for Statistics at MIT was formed 2015 with the goal of formalizing and consolidating efforts in statistics at MIT. Beginning September 2016, the program offers a minor in statistics and data science for MIT undergraduates. Through six required subjects, the Minor will provide students with a working knowledge base in statistics, probability, and computation, and develop their ability to perform data analysis.

In addition to the undergraduate minor, a new PhD program anchored in both analytical tools and social sciences is also in the planning stages. The PhD will be problem-driven, requiring every student to gain in-depth expertise in a wide range of analytical tools; deep understanding of a coherent program in social science; and substantial knowledge in one application domain area. More information about the institute can be found at <http://idss.mit.edu>.

A video from a May, 2015 statistics symposium that was held as part of the IDSS planning process and that brought together thought leaders in statistics to discuss challenges created by the new era of data-rich applications can be found at <http://idss.mit.edu/index.php/event/21st-century-statistics-at-mit-inaugural-symposium/>.

Former BCASA President Howard Raiffa Passed Away on July 8, 2016

The ASA Fellow was President of the Boston Chapter of the ASA from 1969-1970.

Here is his obituary that appeared in the *NEW YORK TIMES* on July 19 2016.

By Sam Roberts

NEW YORK — Howard Raiffa, an economics professor whose mathematical formulas for decision making were applied to the search for a missing nuclear bomb and the siting of a Mexico City airport, and were even suggested as a way to resolve a strike by professional hockey players, died July 8 at his home in Oro Valley, Ariz. He was 92.

The cause was Parkinson's disease, his daughter, Judith Raiffa, said.

Dr. Raiffa, a cofounder of the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard (now the Harvard Kennedy School) and a member of the university faculty for 37 years, pioneered what became known as decision science — an academic discipline that encompasses negotiating techniques, conflict resolution, risk analysis, and game theory.

He was an innovative and often abstruse theoretician, but he applied his postulates to real-world cases of conflict, cooperation, and compromise in planning curriculums, publishing guidebooks, and making videos. He was also the founding director, in 1972, of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, a joint US-Soviet research organization that explored energy, pollution, and other issues as a cooperative venture during the Cold War.

"I learned a lot about the theory and practice of many-party negotiations in the presence of extreme cultural differences," he once said.

In an interview, Professor David E. Bell of the Harvard Business School said: "Many academics cross t's and dot i's. Howard came up with brand-new theories that helped us understand how we should make decisions in a wide variety of circumstances. These were practical approaches, not ivory tower constructs."

Dr. Raiffa was headed for a career as an actuary when, he once said, "I decided that I really wanted to study something more cerebral — something more theoretical."

He became an applied mathematician and statistician and, after conducting a "primitive multiple-value analysis" of 10 variables involved in competing job offers, went to Harvard. He held the Frank Plumpton Ramsey professorship of managerial economics at the Harvard Business School and the Kennedy School until his retirement from the faculty in 1994.

Among his 11 books were "Games and Decisions: Introduction and Critical Survey" (with R. Duncan Luce, 1957), "Applied Statistical Decision Theory" (with Robert Schlaifer, 1961), "The Art and Science of Negotiation: How to Resolve Conflicts and Get the Best Out of Bargaining" (1982), and two more accessible volumes: "Decision Analysis: Introductory Lectures on Choices Under Uncertainty" (1968) and "Smart Choices: A Practical Guide to Making Better Decisions" (with John S. Hammond and Ralph L. Keeney, 1998).

The best practical advice, Dr. Raiffa wrote, is “to maximize your expected payoff, which is the sum of all payoffs multiplied by probabilities.” He explained that “the art of compromise centers on the willingness to give up something in order to get something else in return.”

“Successful artists,” he added, “get more than they give up.”

Professor Richard Zeckhauser of the Kennedy School said that while Dr. Raiffa’s “major intellectual contributions were highly conceptual and theoretical,” he devoted his later career to practical subjects. In helping the Mexican government decide where to build an airport, he assisted in weighing variables like safety (one possible location required planes to make a steep descent over mountains), noise pollution, and convenience.

He delivered a lecture on handicapping horse racing that helped Navy scientists search for a hydrogen bomb lost after a B-52 crash near Palomares, Spain, in 1966. The formula described so-called Bayesian methods of probability, which involve quantifying knowledge or belief.

Howard Raiffa was born in the Bronx on Jan. 24, 1924, the son of Jacob Raiffa, who sold wool products, and the former Hilda Kaplan. He graduated from Evander Childs High School, where he was captain of the basketball team. Math was his best subject, but he dreamed of being a basketball player or coach.

He was attending City College when he enlisted in the Army Air Corps, where he was a radar specialist. He earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics in 1946, a master’s in statistics, and a doctorate in mathematics, all from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

In 1945, he married Estelle Schwartz. He leaves her and his daughter, as well as a son, Mark, and four grandchildren.

After teaching at Columbia University from 1952 to 1957, Dr. Raiffa joined the faculty of the business school at Harvard. There, with Graham T. Allison Jr., Francis M. Bator, Ernest May, Frederick Mosteller, Richard E. Neustadt, Thomas C. Schelling, and others, he was a founder of the Kennedy School.

His students engaged in sometimes cutthroat simulated negotiations, which prompted The Harvard Crimson to ask him in 1979 whether the curriculum taught students to lie in actual business dealings. He replied by citing a letter about the former president of the University of Chicago.

“When, in the 1950s,” the letter began, “Robert Hutchins was hauled before a congressional committee and asked if it was true that the University of Chicago taught communism, he replied: ‘Yes. And in the medical school we teach cancer.’”

“It’s a valid analogy,” Dr. Raiffa replied, according to The Crimson.

“To deal with a problem, we have to teach about it.”

The ASA Student Chapter Program and the BU Student Chapter of the ASA (BUSCASA)

General background

The ASA Student Chapters program was launched last year to provide opportunities for students to connect with other students interested in statistics and interact with prominent statisticians locally and at national meetings. It also encourages students to continue studying statistics and provides career information in the statistical sciences. There are no scholastic requirements, and students need not be statistics majors. All students are welcomed and encouraged to get involved.

The benefits of having an ASA Student Chapter include the following:

- Access to their own chapter microsite at the ASA. The ASA provides the tools to create the site, or will create it for them.
- Free ASA membership for the chapter president
- Free items such as T-shirts, caps, and plastic cups with your chapter logo
- Funding to hold social events for your chapter
- Timely information regarding special activities for students at national and local meetings
- Speakers for chapter meetings
- Great ideas for local program activities from STATtr@k and other ASA websites

More information about the ASA Student Chapter program is available at <http://www.amstat.org/chapters/studentchapters.cfm>.

The Boston University ASA Student Chapter

The BU chapter became a pilot ASA student chapter in the Fall of 2014. The mission statement describes the goals of this chapter:

The purpose of this student chapter shall be to promote statistical practice and research, to unify students across the University with an interest in statistics, and to provide networking opportunities in both industry and academia

The student chapter maintains an active program during the year. Events held during the 2015-2016 academic year included four general chapter meetings, a Data Visualization seminar co-hosted with the BSA on April 21, a seminar on Sports Statistics held on April 5, Statistics @ Work Seminar on March 23, and a seminar on Statistical Practice described below.

Seminar On Statistical Practice held on April 14, 2016

The BU Student Chapter hosted its second annual Seminar on Statistical Practice on Thursday, April 14 at Boston University. The event featured a diverse panel of speakers who shared their experiences working with data and statistical aspects of problems. Each speaker gave a brief overview of how they use statistics in their field. This was followed by a panel discussion and question and answer session, which gave the students an opportunity to ask questions and gain insights into the use of statistics in a broad range of application areas. The event was moderated by Dr. Lisa Sullivan, Associate Dean for Education and Professor at Boston University. The panelists were:

- Dr. Ernst Linder – Discussing applications of ecological statistics
- Dr. Constantine Gatsonis – Discussing applications of forensic science
- Dr. Greta Ljung – Discussing catastrophe and hurricane modeling
- Dr. Kim Dukes – Discussing applications of biostatistics

The program planning for the 2016-2017 academic year is currently underway and was discussed at a BUSCASA General Chapter meeting on September 14, 2016. This year they plan to host monthly Statistics @ Work Seminars, celebrate World Statistics Day on October 20th, and hold a Seminar on Statistical Practice with the theme of “Statistics in New Media Technology”.

Nominations for Mosteller Statistician of the Year

We are seeking nominations for our annual Statistician of the Year award. The BCASA Mosteller Statistician of the Year award is presented each year at a banquet/lecture in February to a distinguished statistician who has made exceptional contributions to the field of statistics and has shown outstanding service to the statistical community and the Boston Chapter. The honoree may be from academia, industry, or government.

Please forward all nominations by October 31, 2016 to James MacDougall,
jamesmacdougall@comcast.net.

Please include a brief description of the candidate's qualifications for the award. Voting will take place at a subsequent Planning Committee meeting.

The award holder for the previous year was George Cobb. A complete list of past winners can be found at <http://www.amstat.org/chapters/boston/awards.html>.

Boston Chapter American Statistical Association Invites Nominations for the 2017 Outstanding Undergraduate Statistics Teaching Award

The criteria for the award are intentionally few and non-specific. The aim is to ultimately acknowledge as wide a variety of statistics education accomplishments as possible. For instance, the winner may have published widely on statistical pedagogy; may have created an exemplary undergraduate program in statistics; may have inspired several generations of undergraduates to pursue careers in statistics, and so on.

The awardee will:

- Be a faculty member at a two-or-four-year college or university in MA, RI, NH, VT, or ME whose primary responsibility is teaching statistics to undergraduates. Those on approved leave during the academic year in which they are nominated qualify if they fulfilled the requirement the previous year.
- Hold membership in the ASA and the BCASA.
- Have more than three years of experience in teaching statistics.

Further:

- Winners of the BCASA's Mosteller Award will not be eligible for this teaching award.
- Nominees unsuccessful in one year will be automatically reconsidered in the three succeeding years.

For more information about the award contact Robert Goldman at robert.goldman@simmons.edu.

Nominations forms may be found on the BCASA website at <http://www.amstat.org/chapters/boston/>.

The deadline for nominations for the 2016-17 award is February 15, 2017.

New England Fishery Council Honors Steve Correia of Fairhaven, MA

Former Massachusetts state fishery scientist Steven Correia received the New England Fishery Management Council's (NEFMC) Janice Plante Award of Excellence for 2016 at its meeting today in Mystic, CT. Steve, the now-retired Fairhaven resident who was employed by the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries for over 30 years, was honored by the NEFMC for his extraordinary contributions to federal fisheries management.”

The annual Janice Plante Award of Excellence, first awarded to Janice herself in 2015 for her outstanding news coverage of New England's fisheries, was established to pay special tribute to those who have displayed outstanding commitment and contributions of time and energy in service to the Council fishery management system.

For the last 26 years Steve served the NEFMC in various ways. He was a member of the technical teams that provide the scientific underpinnings of the Council's management actions. To that end, he was a charter member of the Scallop Plan Development Team, or PDT, beginning in 1991 and served on the Groundfish PDT from 1994 through 2015, during one of the most challenging periods faced by the New England Council.

But he also was a key contributor to nearly all of the Council's major PDTs at one time or another. The standing joke among his colleagues was that Steve was the most valuable Council employee who was not on the NEFMC payroll. He was Chairman of the Multispecies Monitoring Committee from 1997 through 2001 and during other periods was a member of the Atlantic Herring, Monkfish, Red Crab, and Dogfish PDTs, always bringing ideas, analysis, and integrity to the job.

During the development of the Groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) as we know it today, he was influential in designing effort controls to reduce fishing pressure on fish stocks of concern and stock rebuilding programs, harvesting “sector” rules, and methods to establish and account for catch limits. As a member of the Scallop PDT, Steve participated in the development of the rotational management system and the early scallop closed area access programs. He also helped develop measures to protect river herring and shad that were eventually included in the NEFMC's Herring Fishery Management Plan.

Steve frequently contributed to the stock assessments supporting each fishery management plan. Through his long experience, he was able provide key perspectives to management challenges, often helping less experienced Council staff better understand the context of management choices. He also served on the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee in 2011 and several years on its Research Steering Committee.

He touched nearly every management decision made by the Council since at least 1990. His hard work and technical skills were valued by every PDT chair and significantly improved the analyses that supported Council actions. During his many years of service Steve Correia was an invaluable asset to both staff and the Council alike.

2016 Boston Chapter of the American Statistical Association (BCASA) Mu Sigma Rho Award Winner

Ningyue (Christina) Wang '16 of Amherst College has been chosen as the recipient of the 2016 Boston Chapter of the American Statistical Association (BCASA) Mu Sigma Rho Award. Christina was selected as the inaugural winner of the award based on her outstanding achievements in statistics (she had been inducted into Mu Sigma Rho in 2015).

Christina is a double major in Economics and Statistics. Her senior honors thesis project is titled "The impact of ambient pollution on children's educational attainment in China". Christina has worked as a Statistics Fellow in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Amherst since the spring of 2015, received the Hamilton Prize in 2013, and serves as Editor-in-Chief of *Olio* (The Amherst College Yearbook).

This annual award recognizes one outstanding statistics undergraduate per year in the BCASA region (Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont). Mu Sigma Rho is the national statistics honor society. The American Statistical Association is the world's largest community of statisticians and the Boston Chapter is one of its largest and most active chapters.

In addition to Christina's award, eleven Amherst College students were inducted into Mu Sigma Rho. Congratulations to Jonathan Che, Stephany Flores-Ramos, Paul Gramieri, Connor Haley, Azka Javaid, Rishi Kowalski, Levi Lee, Amanda Rosenbaum, Muling Si, Sarah Teichman, and Alex Titelbaum for their academic achievements and distinction.

**Boston University School of Public Health
Department of Biostatistics**

L. Adrienne Cupples Award for Excellence in Teaching, Research and Service in Biostatistics

Purpose of the Award

This annual award recognizes a biostatistician whose academic achievements reflect the contributions to teaching, research, and service exemplified by Professor L. Adrienne Cupples. Dr. Cupples joined the faculty at the Boston University School of Public Health (BUSPH) in 1981 and later served as founding Chair of the Department of Biostatistics and Co-Executive Director of the Graduate Program in Biostatistics. During her tenure at BUSPH, she advanced the field of biostatistics through extensive publications in major journals and book chapters on collaborative and methodological research, development and effective teaching of a wide range of biostatistics courses, and mentorship of numerous graduate students and faculty.

Eligibility and Nominations

To be eligible, the nominee must be an internationally recognized statistician/biostatistician who had made significant contributions to the statistical sciences through teaching, research, and service, and who will be willing to deliver a lecture at the award ceremony held in the Department of Biostatistics at Boston University on April 6th, 2017. Nominations should include the nominee's name and contact information, rationale for the nomination not exceeding 2 pages in length, and the nominee's curriculum vitae. Nominations may be made by faculty, collaborators, students, or staff working with or familiar with the work of the nominee. Nominations will be accepted through November 18th, 2016 and the winner will be notified by December 2nd, 2016.

Please send nominations via e-mail to:

Josee Dupuis, PhD
Professor and Interim Chair, Department of Biostatistics
dupuis@bu.edu

Selection Criteria

Criteria for the award include, but are not limited to, excellence in the following areas:

- Biostatistics education (teaching, curriculum design, course development)
- Collaborative or methodological biostatistical research
- Service to the profession
- Student and faculty mentoring

Award Selection Committee

The Award Selection Committee will be comprised of eight members, six members of the faculty of the Boston University Department of Biostatistics representing varying areas of expertise and faculty rank and two student members currently enrolled in the graduate program in Biostatistics at Boston University.

Winners

Winners of the award will receive a \$1000 honorarium and all expenses to attend and present at the Boston University Department of Biostatistics at an Annual Award Day, generally held on the first Thursday in April. Faculty, staff and students interested in biostatistics from the Boston area will be invited to the presentation given by the Cupples' Award recipient.

www.sph.bu.edu/CupplesAward

Marvin Zelen Leadership Award in Statistical Science

About the Award

This annual award, supported by colleagues, friends and family, was established to honor Dr. Marvin Zelen's long and distinguished career as a statistician and his major role in shaping the field of biostatistics.

The award recognizes an individual in government, industry, or academia, who by virtue of his/her outstanding leadership, has greatly impacted the theory and practice of statistical science. While individual accomplishments are considered, the most distinguishing criterion is the awardee's contribution to the creation of an environment in which statistical science and its applications have flourished. The award recipient will deliver a public lecture on statistical science at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health and will be presented with a citation and an honorarium.

Past recipients list can be found at:

<https://cdn1.sph.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/59/2016/05/awardees.pdf>

Nominations

Nominations are welcome for next year's award, to be given in May 2017.

Please send nomination by email to sandelma@hsph.harvard.edu

or by mail to:

Marvin Zelen Leadership Award Committee

Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health

Department of Biostatistics

Building 2, 4th Floor

655 Huntington Avenue

Boston, MA 02115

Nominations should include a letter describing the contributions of the candidate, specifically highlighting the criteria for the award, and a curriculum vita. Other supporting materials would be extremely helpful to the committee.

All nominations must be received by December 18, 2016.

Mu Sigma Rho

It's not too early to start thinking about your outstanding statistics students and considering nominating them for membership in Mu Sigma Rho. Both undergraduate and graduate students can be nominated. Information can be found at <http://math.smith.edu/~nhorton/msr.html> or by contacting Liam O'Brien at lobrien@colby.edu.

Election Results

The annual election of chapter officers was held at our event on May 24, 2016. The various officer positions have staggered terms. The following were elected to the positions with terms starting in January of 2016:

Greta Ljung, President
Fotios Kokkotos, Program Chair
Ching-Ti Liu, Webmaster (re-elected)
Yan Dong, Newsletter Editor (re-elected)

Thanks to these volunteers for stepping forward to keep our chapter running.

Planning Committee

Chapter activities are run by a core group known as the Planning Committee. Please consider joining us. The committee is open to all interested chapter members, regardless of whether they are also members of the ASA. We meet approximately every six weeks to plan upcoming events of the chapter. Dinner is provided. For more information contact Chapter President Greta Ljung, greta.ljung@verizon.net.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

MGH Institute of Health Professions Assistant or Associate Professor of Quantitative Methods

The MGH Institute of Health Professions, an independent graduate school in Boston, MA, invites applications for a full-time, 12-month faculty position as Assistant or Associate Professor of Quantitative Methods. The successful candidate will have expertise in methods for human subjects studies with competence in both biomedical and psychosocial sciences research. She or he will join the Center for Interprofessional Studies and Innovation and consult with faculty members from across the Institute on research projects. The methodologist will also support students in the online Prerequisites for the Health Professions program, the Master of Science in Health Professions Education program, and PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences.

Responsibilities

All faculty members are expected to contribute to the Institute's teaching, research, and service missions. Initial faculty appointments are for one to three years, depending on rank and qualifications. While the Institute does not offer tenure, faculty appointments are eligible for renewal indefinitely in terms of up to five years.

The successful candidate for this position will engage in his or her own scholarly work as well as in collaboration with principal investigators at the Institute. There will be an opportunity to teach (approximately half-time) introductory through advanced statistics courses, to serve on thesis and dissertation committees, and to consult with faculty members on research projects.

Qualifications

Required:

- Earned doctorate in biostatistics, psychology, or related field
- Mastery of research design for health sciences, clinical, psychosocial, and educational research including high-level modeling, path analyses, item response theory, structural equation models, longitudinal data analysis, mixed effects models, meta analyses, and Bayesian methods
- Proficiency with statistical software
- Experience in teaching analytical methods

Preferred:

- Familiarity with health professions education
- Record of research consultation with faculty members and students across various scholarship paradigms
- Evidence of motivation to collaborate as part of a scientific team
- Demonstration of supporting student success
- Experience in teaching online learners

Application materials

For the past seven years, the Chronicle of Higher Education has named the MGH Institute of Health Professions a Great College to Work For. We combine the intimate feel of a specialized graduate school with the unparalleled resources of Partners HealthCare, the largest integrated health care system in New England. If you would like to join our community, please [apply online](#) by submitting two documents electronically:

- Letter of intent addressing your interest and qualifications for the position
- Curriculum vitae

You may direct questions to Peter S. Cahn, PhD, Director of CIPSI, at pcahn@mghihp.edu.

The information in this e-mail is intended only for the person to whom it is addressed. If you believe this e-mail was sent to you in error and the e-mail contains patient information, please contact the Partners Compliance HelpLine at <http://www.partners.org/complianceline> . If the e-mail was sent to you in error but does not contain patient information, please contact the sender and properly dispose of the e-mail.

Senior Statistician **BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL**

Company Information: BWH is a Research and teaching hospital affiliated with Harvard Medical School. This position will work with the NIH funded Accelerating Medicines Partnership, which brings high-level government, industry and non-profit foundation partners together to identify and validate the most promising biological targets for therapeutics. This network will focus specifically on Rheumatoid Arthritis and Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. This position will be with the network's Systems Biology Group (SBG), which will manage and analyze the data.

The statistician will work closely with Drs. Yvonne Lee and Soumya Raychaudhuri to design and structure the data analytic plan for projects within the AMP-RA/SLE network. She will focus specifically on the clinical aspects of the data. She will receive and review analysis requests from study investigators and collaborators and perform the power calculations for these proposals. She will perform the statistical analyses for these projects and report the results back to the requestors. She will work with the bioinformatician to ensure that all data are complete, clean, quality controlled and well organized.

Position Title: Senior Statistician

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Collaborate with members of the SBG team to design and structure the data analytic plan for projects within the AMP-RA/SLE network.
2. Respond to requests from outside collaborators by performing power calculations, producing results as reports, presentations, graphics, web sites, etc.
3. Use and help develop our computational pipeline for multi-processed big-data analysis on Linux
4. Collaborate with members of the SBG team and AMP investigators on study design, and project development.
5. In collaboration with the Bioinformatician, take the lead on:
 - a. Providing statistical consultation
 - b. Performing statistical analyses
 - c. Performing complex data management tasks
6. Serve as key member of the AMP-RA/SLE research team. This involves attending team meetings, providing expertise and providing assistance with programming or doing the programming for the team's projects, in concert with the Bioinformatician.
7. Provide assistance, teaching and consultation to postdoctoral fellows, junior faculty and other trainees in appropriate statistical analyses for manuscripts, grant submissions, presentations.
8. Write portions of papers and grant proposals, particularly sections on analysis and sample size. Carefully edit entire document, especially sections on analytic techniques, sample size and power.

Position Qualifications:

Ph.D. in statistics required with experience as a statistician and statistical programmer with a focus on genetics, gene environment interactions, case only analysis and linkage analysis.
Experience with SAS programming and R programming in a medical data setting.
Advanced data management and analysis skills. Must be able to perform parametric and nonparametric bivariate analyses and a wide range of multivariate techniques, including linear and logistic regression, survival analysis.
Teaching expertise, as the postdoctoral fellows rely upon the statistician for scientific mentoring.
Problem solving and organizational ability; written and interpersonal and communication skills; and initiative.
Ability to work independently as well as collaboratively on research teams.
Ability to manage multiple tasks under competing deadlines and shifting priorities.
Ability to teach fellows and junior faculty in basic and more advanced statistical techniques.
Advanced knowledge of biostatistics and statistical programming.

Statistical Modeling for Evaluating Human Motion Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Company Information: Stirling Research Group, Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Institute for Medical Engineering and Science

Position Title: Statistical Modeling for Evaluating Human Motion

Duties and Responsibilities: The Stirling Research Group (<http://stirling.mit.edu/research>) has an open post-doc position in the domain of statistical modeling for a collaborative project between MIT and the University of Michigan, sponsored by the U.S. Army. Soldier performance is inherently challenging to understand, to monitor, and ultimately, to quantify. These challenges originate from the varied and complex tasks that the soldier performs, the underlying variability in human task performance, the environments in which they operate, and a limited knowledge of the measures that truly characterize task performance success. The system architecture for wearable motion-sensing technology can be augmented to provide robust information that is interpretable by a nonexpert in sensor technology and physiological systems. The overall objectives of this work include exploiting wearable sensor technology to develop performance metrics that are interpretable by a nonexpert for decision-making scenarios. The project team has collected data from people going through an obstacle course and has developed metrics for these obstacles. The objective of this post-doc is to develop statistical models with these data to aid in informing decision makers.

Position Qualifications: Prerequisites: Experience with statistical modeling (e.g., multifactor regressions, classification, clustering, and/or Bayesian methods).

Experience: This position requires a PhD in Statistics, Computer Science, or related discipline.

Website: <http://stirling.mit.edu/>

Application Information: Contact Prof. Leia Stirling (leia@mit.edu) and provide a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and contact information for 3 professional references.

**Research Associate
Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health**

Company Information: Harvard University seeks to find, develop, promote, and retain the world's best scholars. Harvard is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. Applications from women and minority candidates are strongly encouraged. Information on resources for career development and work/life balance at SPH can be found at: <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/human-resources/worklife> and <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/faculty-affairs/postdoctoral-researchfellows/postdoc-benefits/>
Position Title: Research Associate in Biostatistics and Biomedical Informatics

Duties and Responsibilities: A Research Associate position in biostatistics and biomedical informatics is available at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. The position involves developing and applying statistical and computational methods for analysis of electronic medical records data including narrative data extracted via natural language processing, codified phenotype data as well as large scale genomic measurements. We seek an individual with strong statistical and computing backgrounds and who has expertise in statistical and machine learning methods for big data. The work will involve both methodological research with department faculty and collaboration with subject matter researchers.
Position Qualifications: Ph.D. in a quantitative field, e.g., statistics or biostatistics, computer sciences, strong quantitative research background, statistical and programming proficiency, as well as good written and oral communication skills.

Website: <https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/biostatistics/>

Application Information: Scientific questions regarding this position can be sent to Tianxi Cai at tcai@hsph.harvard.edu. To apply, send cover letter describing your research interests and interest in the position, with CV. Three reference letters are required. In your application, please reference "Cai Biostatistics and Biomedical Informatics Postdoc". Application materials should be sent by email (preferred) to biostat_postdoc@hsph.harvard.edu, or mail to:

Postdoc Search, c/o Phoebe Hackett
Department of Biostatistics
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
655 Huntington Avenue, Building 2, 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02115

**Research Associate/ Research Scientist (ACTG)
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health - CBAR**

Description of Position:

The Department of Biostatistics at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health has an immediate opening in CBAR for a Ph.D.-level Research Associate or Research Scientist statistician to work in the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) and other infectious diseases projects. The ACTG is a very large NIH-funded collaborative clinical trials network with an international research agenda focused on the treatment and cure of HIV infection and associated co-morbidities, particularly end organ diseases, tuberculosis and viral hepatitis. Successful applicant will join over 100 statisticians, epidemiologists and research staff collaborating on the design, monitoring, analysis and reporting of Phase I through Phase IV clinical trials, diagnostic studies and observational studies. Applicants should have the potential to take a leadership role in the ACTG and the ability to: work as part of collaborative teams in designing, conducting and reporting results from 1) studies involving genomic and biomarker data, especially related to virologic and immunologic data from HIV and end organ disease studies and 2) clinical trials and observational studies; provide the statistical expertise for and lead the statistical work in these areas including mentoring and supervising other staff; and develop a self-initiated research agenda related to ACTG research projects. The position may include statistical methods research for someone with an appropriate background. This position provides an opportunity to be a leader in a new generation of statistician-trialists. This is a term appointment, renewable upon mutual consent. Current grant funding for the ACTG SDMC is through November 30, 2020.

Requirements:

Doctoral degree in biostatistics or related field. Research Associate position is available for new doctoral graduates. Research Scientist appointment requires at least two years clinical trials or related applied experience beyond doctorate. Applicants should demonstrate evidence of the ability to conduct collaborative and methodological research and work independently in the design, conduct, monitoring and analysis of 1) studies involving genomic and biomarker data and 2) clinical trials and observational studies. Background in basic biology in these areas is a plus. Applicants should also demonstrate strong quantitative and communication skills and have interest in assuming a leadership role. Experience with multi-center clinical trials a plus.

Internal Number: F01052

About Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health - CBAR

The Center for Biostatistics in AIDS Research (CBAR) is a Center at the Harvard School of Public Health whose mission is to foster and conduct statistical scientific activity in clinical trials and other public health research areas in HIV disease, to promote innovative strategies for medical interventions and study design, and to provide education and training relevant to statistical aspects of HIV disease research.

Assistant Director for Operations, ECOG-ACRIN Boston Biostatistics Center Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Located in Boston and the surrounding communities, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute brings together world renowned clinicians, innovative researchers and dedicated professionals, allies in the common mission of conquering cancer, HIV/AIDS and related diseases. Combining extremely talented people with the best technologies in a genuinely positive environment, we provide compassionate and comprehensive care to patients of all ages; we conduct research that advances treatment; we educate tomorrow's physician/researchers; we reach out to underserved members of our community; and we work with amazing partners, including other Harvard Medical School-affiliated hospitals.

Dana-Farber's Department of Biostatistics and Computational Biology is the home of the ECOG-ACRIN Cancer Research Group's Boston Biostatistics Center. ECOG-ACRIN is part of the NCI National Clinical Trials Network (NCTN), and has been conducting collaborative clinical trials since 1955. The Boston-based team is responsible for planning, executing and reporting the group's therapeutic clinical trials. There are currently 24 ongoing studies with target accrual of over 11,000 patients. Sixteen statisticians and 4 other staff members work in ECOG-ACRIN's Boston Biostatistics Center.

Under the direction of the Group Statistician/Director, the Assistant Director for Operations guides and manages all operational aspects of the Center. Major areas of managerial responsibility include oversight of statisticians, database administrators, and administrative support staff, and serving as liaison/advisor to managers in other ECOG-ACRIN offices. The Assistant Director may serve as the lead statistician for PrECOG, a not-for-profit, privately funded clinical trials arm of ECOG-ACRIN. The Assistant Director also has scientific committee leadership responsibilities and serves as a therapeutic statistician along with the other ECOG-ACRIN statistical staff, with corresponding scientific responsibilities.

Requirements:

Advanced degree (MS or PhD) in biostatistics

5 or more years of experience planning and conducting multi-site clinical trials is required, preferably in the NCTN

Excellent leadership and communication skills

Demonstrated experience managing personnel, providing reviews, training and mentoring

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities Required

The position requires statistical and managerial expertise, an interest in facilitating smooth operations of a complex organization, and enthusiasm for mentoring and supporting other team members.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute is an equal opportunity employer and affirms the right of every qualified applicant to receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, gender identity or expression, national origin, sexual orientation, genetic information, disability, age, ancestry, military service, protected veteran status, or other groups as protected by law.

Assistant Professor of Applied Mathematics Wentworth Institute of Technology

Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, MA seeks to fill an Assistant Professor of Applied Mathematics position that would start in September 2017.

We are especially seeking candidates with data science, operations research or actuarial experience in industry and/or in higher education.

The majority of students that our applied math professors teach are engineering majors and computer science majors. Many of these students are also applied math minor students. Professors in the Department of Applied Mathematics do teach and mentor applied math major students, also, but they are a small percentage of the student body. We value creative and passionate educators that can teach all students.

We are also excited about educating students in an environment that fosters EPIC-Learning: Externally Collaborative, Project-based, Interdisciplinary Culture for Learning. This EPIC approach to learning mimics what happens in many workplaces across the country. The undergraduate Applied Mathematics major is an interdisciplinary curriculum, so we seek applications from candidates with wide intellectual interests and a demonstrated commitment to excellence in teaching, advising and scholarship. The ideal candidate must be able to develop interdisciplinary projects and foster connections within the Applied Math Department, with other departments at Wentworth and with the external professional community that enrich student experience.

Faculty participate in teaching (especially project-based); curricular development; scholarly activities; advising applied math majors; recruiting high school and current students for the Applied Math B.S. program; collaborating with our Industrial Professional Advisory Committee (and recruiting new members for this committee, as needed) and other service to the Applied Mathematics Department and to the Institute.

If you are interested in preparing our next generation of engineers and designers and if you have substantial experience with project-based learning and undergraduate mathematics education innovation then we'd love to hear from you. Please apply at <https://jobs.wit.edu/>. In your application please include: 1) a cover letter that addresses this job description; 2) a current cv or resume, including references; and 3) a statement of your teaching philosophy.

Wentworth seeks to increase the diverse perspectives of its faculty and encourages applications from members of underrepresented groups in STEM.

Ph.D. in applied mathematics or a related discipline. 1- 3 years of teaching experience is required. Ph.D. in applied mathematics or a related discipline. PhD in applied mathematics or a related discipline. 3- 5 years of teaching experience is preferred.

To apply, please visit our online application site at <https://jobs.wit.edu/postings/2916>. Wentworth is an AA/EEO employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Wentworth is a tobacco-free campus.

About Wentworth Institute of Technology

Founded in 1904, Wentworth Institute of Technology offers bachelor's degrees in architecture, design, engineering, technology, and management of technology. Wentworth provides an education that balances classroom theory with laboratory/studio practice and work experience through its strong co-op program. Nearly 3,000 students attend this coeducational institution, located on a 30-acre campus on Huntington Avenue across from Boston's Museum of Fine Arts. Wentworth offers high value in technology-based, career-oriented, affordable higher education on a small, supportive campus in the heart of a major urban center.

Director of the Biostatistics Core Boston Children's Hospital

The Director is responsible for the overall performance and functioning of the Core. Specifically, the Director will triage requests from clinical investigators for consultation and collaboration to Core members based on members' work load and areas of expertise, manage Core members' projects and performance, and provide guidance and feedback. The Director will be part of the ICCTR Leadership team and will also represent the Core in communications with clinical departments and programs.

The successful candidate will have a strong record of leadership and management experience. Successful communication and collaboration with senior leadership from several hospital administrative offices and clinical departments is required. Excellent writing and interpersonal skills are required. A wide breadth and depth of experience across several areas of biostatistical and clinical research is highly desirable.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter describing their background and experience, curriculum vitae, and contact information for three references to:

Judy Fleming, PhD,
Boston Children's Hospital,
300 Longwood Avenue, BCH3200,
Boston, MA 02115
(or e-mail Judith.fleming@childrens.harvard.edu).

Applications will be reviewed until the position is filled.

Boston Children's Hospital and Harvard Medical School are
Equal Opportunity Employers.

Women and underrepresented minorities are encouraged to apply.

About Boston Children's Hospital

Boston Children's Hospital is home to the world's largest research enterprise based at a pediatric hospital. More than 1,100 scientists comprise our research community, including 9 members of the National Academy of Sciences, 11 on-staff members of the Institute of Medicine and 9 members of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Current initiatives have attracted a record \$225 million in annual funding, including more federal funding than any other pediatric facility. In the John F. Enders Pediatric Research Laboratories, named for the Boston Children's Hospital researcher and Nobel Prize recipient who cultured the polio and measles viruses, hundreds of laboratory researchers and physician investigators search for answers to some of the most perplexing diseases. In 2003, a generous philanthropic gift made the 295,000 square foot Karp Family Research Laboratories possible. The building increased our research space by more than 60%. The Karp family gift is just one of many important gifts that support Boston Children's Hospital vital research enterprise.

Tenure Track Assistant/Associate Professor, Mathematical Sciences Mathematical Sciences, Bentley University

Job Description

The Department of Mathematical Sciences at Bentley University – an independent, private business-oriented university located in suburban Boston — is seeking to fill two full-time, open-rank, tenure-track positions beginning in Fall 2017. These appointments are intended to add to our strength in applied statistics, data science, and business analytics and to expand our teaching and research capabilities in related areas, such as probability, modeling, financial mathematics, actuarial science, or applied mathematics.

The Mathematical Sciences Department offers undergraduate degrees in mathematical sciences and actuarial science and an MS in Business Analytics, and it is active in the PhD program in Business both in teaching and in doctoral student supervision. We value collaboration with faculty in other departments and have a particularly strong record of leadership in such activities. Candidates are encouraged to learn more about our department by visiting <http://www.bentley.edu/mathematics/>.

Required Qualifications

Criteria for selection for both positions include: a) interest, commitment, and skill in effective teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate levels; b) evidence of or potential for high quality research; c) direct, current knowledge of the business environment into which we place many of our graduates; d) strong interpersonal skills for building research connections with faculty in various departments and with business collaborators; e) organizational skills to facilitate supporting and building academic programs consistent with the department's mission. Applied experience in academic or nonacademic spheres is highly desirable.

Candidates must have completed a doctoral degree in an appropriate field prior to the start of employment. Salary, benefits, and teaching load are competitive.

Preferred Qualifications

As an Equal Opportunity Employer, Bentley strives to build strength through diversity.

Posting Detail Information

Posting Number FY1711215

Open Date 06/28/2016

Close Date

Open Until Filled Yes

Special Instructions to Applicants

Candidates should submit a cover letter, current curriculum vita, statements addressing research and teaching interests, teaching evaluations, and three letters of recommendation, at least one of which should address teaching. In their submission, candidates should indicate how their research interests could integrate with the department's mission. All applications must be submitted through our online system at <http://jobs.bentley.edu/postings/2070>.

For questions about these positions or about Bentley University, please contact the search committee chair, Charles Hadlock (chadlock@bentley.edu), or any other faculty member in the department.

For questions related to the mechanics of the online submission process, please email Angela Middleton at amiddleton@bentley.edu.

Materials will be evaluated on a rolling basis with no firm deadline, but early submissions are encouraged. The evaluation of applications for these two positions will begin by early October 2016 and will likely extend over several months. However, we reserve the right to fill these positions at any time that a suitable pool has been developed and outstanding candidates have been identified.

Bentley University requires reference checks and may conduct other pre-employment screening.

Documents Needed To Apply

Required Documents

Curriculum Vitae

Cover Letter

Statement of Research

Teaching Philosophy

Teaching Evaluations

Letter of Recommendation

Letter of Recommendation 2

Letter of Recommendation 3

Assistant Professor of Statistics Mount Holyoke College

Mount Holyoke College –Assistant Professor of Statistics

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics of Mount Holyoke College, which has offered a major in statistics for 30 years, invites applications for a tenure-track position in statistics at the Assistant Professor level to begin fall 2017. Qualifications include a doctorate (completed or anticipated) a commitment to teaching and scholarship in a liberal arts environment, and evidence of classroom effectiveness.

We seek candidates who have an active interest in work with undergraduates on statistical research projects and who have a demonstrated record of strong teaching at the undergraduate level including experience with mentoring students who are broadly diverse with regard to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, and religion. Candidates with background in Bayesian methods, computational statistics, spatial analysis, data mining, or related areas are especially welcome. Members of the department are active in both research and curriculum development and teach two courses per semester. The Five Colleges cooperate actively in statistics, and statisticians meet together regularly.

Electronic submission of application materials through <http://www.mathjobs.org> is strongly preferred. A completed application should include a cover letter addressing your interest in Mount Holyoke College, a CV and three statements concerning (1) teaching philosophy, (2) research interests, and (3) a statement about mentoring a diverse student body. Applicants should also arrange to have three letters of reference submitted on their behalf. At least one letter should comment specifically on your teaching. Please submit all application materials through MathJobs.org. Though applications will be accepted until the position is filled, submit by October 15, 2016 to receive full consideration. For information about the department go to <http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/math/>. For further information you may contact the search chair, Janice Gifford (jgifford@mtholyoke.edu).

About Mount Holyoke College

Mount Holyoke is an undergraduate liberal arts college for women with 2,200 students and 220 faculty. Over half the faculty are women; one-fourth are persons of color. Mount Holyoke College is located about 80 miles west of Boston in the Connecticut River valley, and is a member of the Five College Consortium consisting of Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke, and Smith Colleges and the University of Massachusetts. Mount Holyoke College is committed to enriching the educational experience it offers through the diversity of its faculty, administration, and staff members. Mount Holyoke seeks to recruit and support a broadly diverse faculty who will contribute to the college's academic excellence, diversity of viewpoints and experiences, and relevance in a global society. In furtherance of academic excellence, the College encourages applications from individuals from underrepresented groups in the professoriate, including faculty of color, faculty with diverse gender identities, first generation college students, individuals who have followed non-traditional pathways to college due to exceptional talent and motivation in the face of adversity, such as societal, economic or academic disadvantages, and individuals with a demonstrated commitment to applying and including diverse backgrounds and perspectives to learning, scholarship, service, and leadership in the academy.

**Assistant Professor of Statistical and Data Sciences
Smith College**

Company Information: <https://smith.edu/statistics/>

Position Title: Assistant Professor of Statistical and Data Sciences

Duties and Responsibilities: The Program in Statistical and Data Sciences at Smith College invites applications for a tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant Professor, to begin July 1, 2017. Within statistics, this is an open-field position. The successful candidate will be prepared to teach statistics at all levels, advise and mentor students, and must provide evidence of excellence in teaching and of an active research program. Candidates with statistical consulting experience are especially encouraged to apply. As Smith is one of the first liberal arts colleges to offer a major and minor in statistical and data sciences, the new hire will be expected to participate in its growing dynamic interdisciplinary program, with an ability to involve undergraduate students in research, and a willingness to participate in research efforts across the College.

Located in Northampton, MA, Smith College is the largest independent women's college in the country and is dedicated to excellence in teaching and research across the liberal arts. A faculty of outstanding scholars interact with students in small classes, as advisors, and through student-faculty research projects. Tenure-track faculty members teach two courses each semester and enjoy a generous sabbatical policy. The Five College Consortium, comprised of Smith, Amherst, Mount Holyoke, and Hampshire Colleges and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, provides a rich intellectual and cultural life and broad collegial opportunities. Smith College is an institutional member of the American Statistical Association and the Five-College Statistics Program, which supports a vibrant statistical community. Details about the Program in Statistical and Data Sciences at Smith may be found at <http://smith.edu/statistics/>.

Position Qualifications: A Ph.D. in statistics or a closely-related field is required.

Benefits:

Website: <http://apply.interfolio.com/36190>

Application Information: Submit applications at <http://apply.interfolio.com/36190> with a letter of application, curriculum vitae, description of research, statement of teaching experience and philosophy, and three confidential letters of recommendation addressing both teaching and research. Review of applications will begin November 15, 2016.

Diversifying the student body, faculty, administration, staff, and curriculum is at the heart of our mission and vision for the College. We are committed to providing access and reasonable accommodation in the application process for individuals with disabilities and encourage applicants to request any needed accommodation(s). We value and are committed to a host of diverse populations and cultures, including, but not limited to, those based on ability, age, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, and veteran status.

Smith College is an EO/AA/Vet/Disability Employer. Women, minorities, veterans, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Application Deadline: 11/15/2016

Lecturer in Statistics – Amherst College

Applications are invited for a position as a lecturer in statistics with an appointment to begin July 1, 2017. Within the last decade, Amherst College has profoundly transformed its student body in terms of socioeconomic status, ethnicity, and nationality, among other areas. Today, nearly one-quarter of Amherst's students are Pell Grant recipients; 44 percent of our students are domestic students of color. Our expectation is that the successful candidate will excel at teaching and mentoring students who are broadly diverse with regard to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, nationality, sexual orientation, and religion. This is a full-time three-year appointment, with multi-year renewal contingent on successful review. Renewal is based on teaching and the other responsibilities of the lecturer, as outlined below.

We seek candidates who are passionate about teaching statistics to undergraduates. Responsibilities include teaching five courses per year, coordinating introductory courses and our Statistics Fellows Program, and engagement with the growing statistics program at the college. The successful candidate will be expected to make significant contributions to undergraduate instruction in statistics, including curriculum enhancements. Applicants should hold at least a master's degree in statistics or biostatistics (or a related field), doctorate preferred, and have broad intellectual interests in statistics education along with demonstrated excellence in teaching.

Submit cover letter, curriculum vitae, teaching statement, and at least three letters of recommendation that specifically address teaching, to MathJobs.Org. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, but all applications received by October 31, 2016, will be guaranteed consideration. See https://www.amherst.edu/academiclife/dean_faculty/faculty_hiring/employment

For details of the position, and

<https://www.amherst.edu/academiclife/departments/mathematics-statistics/> for details about the department. Questions can be addressed to mathstats@amherst.edu.

Amherst College is a private undergraduate liberal arts college for men and women, with 1,800 students and more than 200 faculty members. Located in the Connecticut River Valley of western Massachusetts, Amherst participates with Hampshire, Mount Holyoke, and Smith Colleges and the University of Massachusetts in the Five-College Consortium. The Five College Statistics Program (established in 2011) actively fosters connections among the many statisticians in the area.

Amherst College is an equal opportunity employer and encourages women, persons of color, and persons with disabilities to apply. The college is committed to enriching its educational experience and its culture through the diversity of its faculty, administration, and staff.

Mathematics and Statistics - Tenure Track Assistant Professor of Statistics Colby College

Location: Waterville, Maine

Tenure-track assistant professor, beginning September 1, 2017. The Department of Mathematics and Statistics seeks a third statistician to join an established, vibrant statistics program.

QUALIFICATIONS

The successful candidate will teach four statistics courses in the first year and five statistics courses per year thereafter and will maintain an active research program. A Ph.D. in statistics or biostatistics is required along with promise of exceptional teaching and mentoring at the undergraduate level. Preference will be given to candidates whose research interests are in applied statistics and who have evidence of collaborative research. Colby is currently expanding its statistics program as part of an expansion of its inter-disciplinary programs and is enhancing its Computational Biology curriculum, including new faculty positions in Computer Science and Biology, investments in computing and network infrastructure, and partnerships with the Jackson Laboratory and the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply, provide a cover letter, curriculum vitae, statements on teaching and research, and a representative sample of current scholarship. Please arrange for at least three letters of recommendation to be submitted directly by the recommenders, at least one of which must address teaching. Colby strives to be a community that is supportive of diverse perspectives and identities. To that end, applicants should comment on their commitment to diversity in their cover letter. All application materials should be submitted via Interfolio at the following link, apply.interfolio.com/36973. Review of applications will begin on October 21, 2016, and will continue until the position is filled. Colby is a highly selective liberal arts college of approximately 1850 students located in central Maine. The college is three hours north of Boston and has easy access to lakes, skiing, the ocean and other recreational and cultural activities. For more information about the position and the department, visit www.colby.edu/math.

Questions about this position should be directed to: statisticssearch@colby.edu

BCASA REGION STATISTICS SEMINARS

Below is a list of the regional statistics (& mathematics) and biostatistics departments that often offer statistics seminars, along with URLs for each department and its seminars. If your institution would like to appear on this list, please contact John McKenzie (mckenzie@babson.edu).

Boston University College of Arts & Sciences
Department of Mathematics & Statistics
<http://www.bu.edu/stat/>
<http://www.bu.edu/stat/seminar/>

Boston University School of Public Health
Department of Biostatistics
<https://sph.bu.edu/Biostatistics/department-of-biostatistics/menu-id-617603.html>
<https://sph.bu.edu/Biostatistics/seminars/menu-id-617654.html>

Brown University
Division of Applied Mathematics
<http://www.dam.brown.edu/>
http://www.dam.brown.edu/dam_seminars.shtml

Brown University School of Public Health
Department of Biostatistics
<http://www.stat.brown.edu/>

Harvard University
Department of Statistics
<http://statistics.fas.harvard.edu/>
<http://statistics.fas.harvard.edu/calendar>

Harvard University T. H. Chan School of Public Health
Department of Biostatistics
<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/biostatistics/>
<http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/biostatistics/seminars-events/>

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Institute of Data, Systems, and Science
<http://idss.mit.edu/index.php/event/stochastics-and-statistics-seminar-series/>

University of Maine
Department of Mathematics & Statistics
<http://umaine.edu/mathematics/>
<http://umaine.edu/mathematics/colloquium-schedule/>

University of Massachusetts Amherst School of Public Health and Health Sciences
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
<https://www.math.umass.edu/>
<https://www.math.umass.edu/~gile/Seminar/>

University of Massachusetts Amherst School of Public Health and Health Sciences
Department of Biostatistics
<http://www.umass.edu/sphhs/biostatistics>

University of New Hampshire
Department of Mathematics & Statistics
<http://www.math.unh.edu/>
<http://www.math.unh.edu/seminars>

University of Rhode Island
Department of Computer Science and Statistics
<http://www.cs.uri.edu/>

University of Vermont College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences
Department of Mathematics & Statistics
<http://www.uvm.edu/~cems/mathstat/>

Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Department of Mathematical Sciences
<http://www.wpi.edu/academics/math/>
<http://www.wpi.edu/academics/math/news.html>

The BCASA Newsletter is published four times during the academic year and is emailed to current BCASA members. Send comments or suggestions to any of the individuals listed below.

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