

# BCASA NEWSLETTER

## Boston Chapter of the American Statistical Association

*Proudly serving*

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

---

Volume 37, No. 2, November 2018

Homepage: <http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/home>

E-Mail: [BostonChapterASA@gmail.com](mailto:BostonChapterASA@gmail.com)

---

### SCHEDULED EVENTS & MEETINGS

<b>November 14, 2018</b>	<b>Evening Presentation by Susan Murphy at MIT</b>	<b>Cambridge, MA</b>
<b>January 19, 2019</b>	<b>Annual Potluck Dinner and Party</b>	<b>Boston, MA</b>
<b>February, 2019</b>	<b>Mosteller Statistician of the Year Awards Lecture</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>March 4, 2019</b>	<b>Women in Data Science (WiDS) Conference</b>	<b>Cambridge, MA</b>
<b>April, 2019</b>	<b>New England Statistics Symposium (NESS)</b>	<b>Storrs, CT</b>
<b>April 29– May 10, 2019</b>	<b>May Institute at Northeastern University</b>	<b>Boston, MA</b>
<b>September 28, 2019</b>	<b>New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports (NESSIS)</b>	<b>Cambridge, MA</b>

Event schedule at the chapter website: <http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/home>

Detailed announcements appear later in this newsletter. All events are announced in advance on our website and through emails to our members. We are currently planning events for the coming year. If you have suggestions please contact incoming Program Chair Olga Vitek at [o.vitek@northeastern.edu](mailto:o.vitek@northeastern.edu).

---

## *UPCOMING EVENTS*

### **November 14 Presentation by Professor Susan Murphy**

**Title: “Stratified Micro-Randomized Trials with Applications in Mobile Health”**

**Co-Sponsors:** Boston Chapter of the ASA; Department of Mathematics & Statistics at Boston University; and the IDSS Institute at MIT



**Date:** Wednesday, November 14, 2018

**Time:** Social and light Dinner 6:15 pm; Presentation 7:00 PM

**Location:** Room E51-149; MIT Tang Center; 70 Memorial Drive, Cambridge;

Please see <http://web.mit.edu/eventguide/cacfacilities/tang.html>

**Registration:** <https://bcasa2018nov.eventbrite.com> by 10 AM, November 12, 2018

**Cost:** Dinner \$7 for students; \$12 for non-students. Presentation free

**Note:** Space is limited so please register early

#### **Presentation Abstract:**

Technological advancements in the field of mobile devices and wearable sensors make it possible to deliver treatments anytime and anywhere to users like you and me. Increasingly the delivery of these treatments is triggered by detections/predictions of vulnerability and receptivity. These observations are likely to have been impacted by prior treatments. Furthermore, the treatments are often designed to have an impact on users over a span of time during which subsequent treatments may be provided. Here, we discuss our work on the design of a mobile health smoking cessation study in which the above two challenges arose. This work involves the use of multiple online data analysis algorithms. Online algorithms are used in the detection, for example, of physiological stress. Other algorithms are used to forecast at each vulnerable time, the remaining number of vulnerable times in the day. These algorithms are then inputs into a randomization algorithm that ensures that each user is randomized to each treatment an appropriate number of times per day. We develop the stratified micro-randomized trial which involves not only the randomization algorithm but a precise statement of the meaning of the treatment effects and the primary scientific hypotheses along with primary analyses and sample size calculations. Considerations of causal inference and potential causal bias incurred by inappropriate data analyses play a large role throughout.

#### **Speaker Biography:**

**Susan Murphy** is Professor of Statistics at Harvard University, Radcliffe Alumnae Professor at the Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, and Professor of Computer Science at the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Her current research interests concern clinical trial design and the development of data analytic methods for informing multi-stage decision making in health, particularly in mobile health. She is a 2013 MacArthur Fellow, a member of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Medicine, both of the US National Academies. She is currently president of the Bernoulli Society and incoming president of the Institute for Mathematical Statistics.

## **The Fifth Annual *Analytics Using SAS®* Event at Bryant University**

The Bryant University Advanced Applied Analytics Center invites you to the fifth annual *Analytics using SAS®* event at Bryant University on **Wednesday, November 7, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm**, in the Bello Center. Speakers from the SAS Institute and the private sector will discuss topics related to blockchain technology, business analytics, marketing analytics, and business intelligence.

The keynote address will be given at 9:30 am by Sam Penfield, Advisory Product Manager, SAS Institute. The topic of his presentation is “*A Practical Approach to Blockchain Analytics: What is blockchain and how can you analyze data in a blockchain?*” Over the last 2+ years, Sam has focused on Blockchain technologies and the integration of SAS from a regulatory, data management, and real-time analytics perspective including AI and deep learning. This presentation will discuss various forms of blockchain analytics from a tactical or heuristic perspective.

The next speaker is Melodie Rush, a Principal Data Scientist at SAS Institute. In her presentation titled “*Proven Practices in Predictive Modeling*” she will share some of the common strategies, attributes, processes and best practices of the most successful organizations. Best practices will include considerations for an overall analytics process as well as the discrete steps of building a predictive model, such as: data preparation and sampling; input (variable) examination, selection, and transformation; model selection and validation; and more.

The third speaker is Erik Miller, Assistant Business Intelligence Manager, Amica Mutual Insurance Company. In his presentation “*Analytical Use Cases in the Insurance Industry*”, which will focus on the use of analytical techniques to derive business value, the speaker will provide a survey of current trends, and highlight some of the more interesting use cases across the insurance industry.

The fourth speaker is John Young, Executive in Residence, Information Systems and Analytics, Bryant University and former Chief Analytics Officer, Epsilon. His presentation topic is “*Building a Successful Marketing Analytics Organization*”. This presentation lays out a blueprint for delivering a center of excellence in analytics within a company— establishing a mission for an inhouse analytics group, creating a group identity, developing an analytic roadmap, building a compelling analytic framework, and ensuring the requisite enablers of data, tools and people are in place. Following these five steps will help organizations greatly increase their chances of success.

There is no charge to attend the event and a continental breakfast and lunch will be provided free of charge to all of our attendees. For more information and to register, please visit <https://my.bryant.edu/portal/public/sasday2018.htm>

## 2018 Pickard Lecture at Harvard on Friday, November 9

The David K. Pickard Memorial Fund was established by gifts from colleagues, students, and friends of David Pickard. The income from this fund supports a biennial lecture by an outstanding university faculty member on a topic to do with teaching and pedagogy.

The 2018 Pickard Lecturer will be Mine Çetinkaya-Rundel, Associate Professor of the Practice in the Department of Statistical Science at Duke University and Data Scientist at RStudio. The lecture, which is open to the public, will be **Friday, November 9, 2018 from 12:00 pm to 1:15 pm at Harvard University, in Science Center Hall A.**

**Speaker:** Professor Mine Cetinkaya-Rundel  
**Presentation Title:** Let them eat cake (first)!

**Abstract:** Backwards design, designing educational curricula by setting goals before choosing instructional methods and forms of assessment, is a widely accepted approach to course development. In this talk we introduce a course design approach inspired by backwards design, where students are exposed to results and findings of a data analysis first and then learn about the building blocks of the methods and techniques used to arrive at these results. We present this approach in the context of an introductory data science course that focuses on exploratory data analysis, modeling, and effective communication, while also requiring reproducibility and collaboration. The talk is organized in three parts (visualization, data acquisition, and modeling) and features examples of in class activities, details of the course curriculum, and sample student work.

## 2019 Winter Potluck Dinner and Party to be Hosted by the Chernoffs

We are pleased to announce that our 2019 Winter Pot-luck Dinner and Party will be hosted by Herman and Judy Chernoff, along with their daughter Miriam and her husband Stan. The event will be held on Saturday, January 19 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Springhouse in Boston, the current home of Herman and Judy Chernoff.

**Location:** Springhouse is a senior living community near Faulkner Hospital in Jamaica Plain. It is located at 44 Allandale Street, Boston, MA 02130. The event will be held in the Main Street function room on the ground floor by the main entrance to the building. You will need to sign in at the entry desk as you enter the building.

**Public Transportation:** MBTA Orange Line to Forest Hills, MBTA Bus # 38 to Faulkner Hospital. For other options see the MBTA Trip Planner (<https://www.mbta.com/trip-planner>)

**Parking Information:** Parking is available at Springhouse in spaces marked “Visitor” or “Staff”. If these are full, it’s okay to park along the circular road.

**Sign-up:** We will be posting a sign-up for the event sometime in December. Please bring a favorite dish to share. We will supply drinks (beer, wine, juice, soft drinks, etc.), plates, cutlery and cups. We look forward to seeing all of you at this event!

## Women in Data Science (WiDS) Conference - Cambridge, MA

**Date and Time:** March 4, 2019, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

This one-day technical conference will bring together local academic leaders, industrial professionals and students to hear about the latest data science-related research in a number of domains, to learn how leading-edge companies are leveraging data science for success, and to connect with potential mentors, collaborators, and others in the field.

The conference, which is part of a global initiative occurring in multiple locations during the same day, aims to inspire and educate data scientists worldwide, regardless of gender, and support women in the field. The conference provides an opportunity to hear about the latest data science related research and applications in a broad set of domains. All genders are invited to participate in the conference, which features outstanding women doing outstanding work.

Registration information and other details will be provided in our January newsletter.

## May Institute on Computation and Statistics for Mass Spectrometry and Proteomics

**April 29–May 10, 2019, Northeastern University, Boston MA**

**Organizers:** Meena Choi, Brendan MacLean, and Olga Vitek

The May Institute focuses on computational and statistical aspects of quantitative mass spectrometry-based proteomics. The course combines keynote presentations, introductory lectures, practical training, and informal personal discussions.

Instructors of the course are leading experts in this field, who contributed numerous experimental and computational methods and software. The target audience are both beginners and experienced scientists, who would like to strengthen their computational and statistical expertise. We also welcome computer scientists, bioinformaticians, data scientists, statisticians and engineers interested in learning about working with data from modern biotechnologies. The participants will have many opportunities to ask questions, and will be able to present their research.

Program Overview:

- April 29 – May 1, 2019 : Targeted proteomics with Skyline
- April 29 – May 1, 2019 : Proteomics and metabolomics with OpenMS
- May 1-3, 2019 : Beginner's statistics in R
- May 1-3, 2019 : Advanced R
- May 6-8, 2019 : Statistics for quantitative mass spectrometry
- May 6-8, 2019 : Visualization of biomolecular data
- May 8-10, 2019 : Capstone – case studies in data-independent acquisition (DIA)

More information is at <https://computationalproteomics.ccis.northeastern.edu/>

## **New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports (NESSIS) (Save the date!)**

**Date:** Saturday, September 28, 2019

**Location:** Harvard University Science Center, 1 Oxford Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts

**Conference co-chairs:** [Mark Glickman](#) and [Scott Evans](#).

The 2019 New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports is a meeting of statisticians and quantitative analysts connected with sports teams, sports media, and universities to discuss common problems of interest in statistical modeling and analysis of sports data. The symposium format is a mixture of invited talks, a poster session, and a panel discussion.

Abstract submission and conference registration will open early 2019. A link to sign up for the NESSIS mailing list is available at <http://www.nesis.org/>.

Selected presentations from the 2017 NESSIS can be found at <http://www.nesis.org/nessis17.html>.

## ***HIGHLIGHTS FROM RECENT EVENTS***

### **October 19 Short Course on Incomplete Data Analysis was a Success**

Close to sixty people attended the short course titled “An Introduction to the Analysis of Incomplete Data” held at Boston University on Friday, October 19. The course was organized by the American Statistical Association’s Council of Chapters and co-sponsored locally by the Boston Chapter of the ASA (BCASA) and the Boston University Student Chapter of the ASA (BUSCASA). The course was taught by Dr. Ofer Harel, Professor of Statistics at the University of Connecticut. Dr. Harel demonstrated that ignoring the missing data problem and/or using ad hoc techniques can have serious consequences on the validity of the analysis. Biased results and inefficient estimates are just some of the risks of incorrectly dealing with incomplete data. The course introduced and compared more principled solutions to dealing with missing data, including the use of likelihood methods, the Expectation Maximization (EM) algorithm, Bayesian methods, Multiple Imputation, and semi/non-parametric methods. Numerical examples along with software for implementing these methods were provided throughout the course.

The Chapter thanks Professor Harel for his excellent presentation that provided great insights into methods for properly dealing with missing values. The Chapter also thanks the officers of the BU Student Chapter who took part in the planning and helped everything run smoothly during the day.

### **2018 StatFest at Amherst College Draws a Big Crowd**

On Saturday, September 22, Amherst College welcomed 150 students and professionals from over 90 institutions to engage in StatFest 2018. Attendees included undergraduates, graduates, emerging professionals, and established leaders in academia, government, and industry. StatFest was founded in 2001 at Spelman College in Atlanta, GA. This conference allowed students to interact with dynamic role models and gain information on careers in statistics. It has taken place each year since then. The Boston Chapter of the ASA was one of many co-sponsors of this year's conference.

Over the years, StatFest has expanded into a one-day regional conference aimed at encouraging students from under-represented groups to consider careers and graduate studies in statistics and data science. The conference centers around two keynotes and informative panels addressing career and graduate opportunities.

This year’s keynote speakers were Scarlett Bellamy, a professor of biostatistics at Drexel University, and Fernando Perez, a professor of the Berkeley Institute for Data Science. They shared their victories as well as their struggles in their fields, how their backgrounds influenced their outlooks on life, and their personal motivations to achieve despite challenges. These stories were heartfelt, genuine and revealed to students that leading professionals begin as very ordinary people who set out to do extraordinary things for our community. The keynotes delivered at Amherst were livestreamed to two satellite StatFest events held at Purdue University and Pomona College.



Students also benefitted from panels on the graduate experience and careers in academia and industry. When students were not listening to keynotes and panels, they were encouraged to network with other students and professionals. The event concluded with student poster presentations and a reception.

Participants shared thoughts of gratitude for the event and the connections they had made. One participant shared, "It made me realize that the stats family is a great one. The folk here really love stats but more importantly really love us." Another participant said, "I learned that the sky is the limit and grad school is possible."

The conference is an ongoing initiative of the American Statistical Association's (ASA) Committee on Minorities in Statistics. StatFest 2018 was organized by local co-chairs Brittney Bailey and Nick Horton and a national committee led by Renee Moore (Emory University).

More information about StatFest 2018 and recordings of the introduction and keynote addresses can be found at <https://nhorton.people.amherst.edu/statfest/>.

-- Contributed by *Grace Montoya* (Amherst College)





## ***AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS***

### **HSPH Professors Francesca Dominici and Xihong Lin Elected to the National Academy of Medicine**

Membership in the National Academy of Medicine is considered one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine and recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievements and commitment to service.

Francesca Dominici has been cited for “developing and applying innovative statistical methods to understanding and reducing the impact of air pollution on population health.”

Xihong Lin has been cited for “contributions to statistics, genetics, epidemiology, and environmental health through influential and ingenious research in statistical methods and applications in whole-genome sequencing association studies, gene-environment, integrative analysis, and complex observational studies.”

### **Johns Hopkins Professor Elizabeth Stuart Receives the 2018 Myrto Lefkopoulou Distinguished Lectureship Award from Harvard**

Professor Elizabeth Stuart, who received her doctorate in statistics from Harvard University in 2004, is the recipient of the 2018 Myrto Lefkopoulou Distinguished Lectureship Award established by the Department of Biostatistics at Harvard. Accepting the award on September 20, 2018, Dr. Stuart delivered a lecture on “Dealing with observed and unobserved effect moderators when estimating population average treatment effects”.

### **Amherst Professor Nick Horton Receives the BCASA Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award**

Professor Nick Horton of Amherst College is this year’s winner of the Boston Chapter’s Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching of Statistics. Professor Horton accepted the award and delivered a lecture titled “Introductory Statistics in a World of Data Science: Where We Are and Where We Need to Head” at an event held in the School of Public Health at Brown University on Tuesday, September 25.

### **MIT Professor Philippe Rigollet awarded NSF BIGDATA Grant**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded MIT IDSS faculty member and Professor of Mathematics Philippe Rigollet, along with his co-principal investigator Professor Justin Solomon from MIT’s School of Engineering, a Critical Techniques, Technologies and Methodologies for Advancing Foundations and Applications of Big Data Sciences and Engineering (BIGDATA) grant for his research titled “Statistical and Computational Optimal Transport for Geometric Data

Analysis”. The goal of the project is to develop a “geometric data analysis” toolbox based on optimal transport to tackle large datasets, and to create a common language for cross-disciplinary collaborations involving optimal transport and geometric data analysis.

The nascent theory of computational optimal transport is still largely dissociated from statistics, and many methods do not account properly for sampling and measurement noise. To avoid the pitfalls of overfitting, Rigollet and Solomon propose to take a systematic statistical approach to geometric data analysis. With an understanding of the theoretical advantages and drawbacks of optimal transport for statistical modeling, this project will lead to scalable optimal transport algorithms with strong statistical guarantees. Applications for this research include medical imaging, LiDAR for self-driving cars, single-cell RNA sequencing, and other diverse, yet large-scale sources of data.

### **Professor Don Rubin Appointed Murray Schusterman Senior Research Fellow at Temple University**

Don Rubin, professor emeritus at Harvard University and professor of statistics at Yau Mathematics Center at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China, has been appointed Murray Schusterman Senior Research Fellow at the Temple University Fox School of Business. Don’s research interests include the causal inference in experiments and observational studies; inference in sample surveys with nonresponse and in missing data problems; application of Bayesian and empirical Bayesian techniques; and developing and applying statistical models to data in a variety of scientific disciplines. He has authored or co-authored over 400 publications, including ten books. He holds four joint patents and is considered one of the most highly cited authors in the world. He holds honorary doctorate degrees and honorary professorships from universities in several different continents.

## ***OTHER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS***

### **Video from the April 27 Chernoff Symposium is Now Available on Our Website**

On April 27, 2018, former students, colleagues, and friends of Herman Chernoff converged on Radcliff's Hilles Hall in Cambridge for a one-day symposium celebrating the 95<sup>th</sup> birthday of Professor Herman Chernoff. The Chapter was pleased to co-sponsor this event. A video of the presentations was prepared by the Harvard Statistics Department and is now available on our website at <http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/recent-events/new-item2>. The video is divided in five parts as follows:

#### ***Part I:***

- William DuMouchel (Oracle Health Sciences): *Some applications of Bayesian models for meta-regression and drug safety data.*
- Shaw-Hwa Lo (Columbia University): *Selecting influential/predictive variables for a large data set.*
- Joseph Kadane (Carnegie Mellon University): *Herman Chernoff on the sin of ignoring data.*

*t*

#### ***Part II:***

- Stuart Geman (Brown University): *Populations, individuals, and what the doctor tells the patient.*
- Jacob Abernathy (Georgia Institute of Technology): *Understanding generalization in machine learning through Chernoff bounds.*

#### ***Part III:***

- Nancy Reid (University of Toronto): *Statistical visualization comes of age.*

#### ***Part IV:***

- David Siegmund (Stanford University): *Detection and estimation of local signals.*
- Lucas Janson (Harvard University): *Model X knockoffs: Exact inference with any variable importance measure.*
- Panel discussion led by Miriam Chernoff (Harvard School of Public Health). The panelists were Carl Morris (Harvard University); Joseph Gastwirth (George Washington University); Roy Welsch (MIT); and Mark Vangel (Massachusetts General Hospital).

#### ***Part V:***

- After dinner speakers: Henry Brown (Boston College), David Siegmund (Stanford University), and Oliver Weisberg (Alibaba)

The Chapter thanks the Harvard Statistics Department for videotaping the presentations and making the videos available to us. We also thank the speakers and other participants who contributed to making the event a great success.

## The Council of Chapter's 2019 Traveling Short Courses Announced

Below is list of the Traveling Short Courses offered by ASA's Council of Chapters in 2019. More information about these short courses is available at

<http://community.amstat.org/coc/chapterresources/travelingcourse>.

**1. Practical Bayesian Computation**

Instructor: Fang Chen, SAS Institute; Full-day or half-day course

**2. Guidelines for Using State-of-the-Art Methods to Estimate Propensity Score and Inverse Probability of Treatment Weights When Drawing Causal Inferences**

Instructor: Beth Ann Griffin, RAND Corporation; Full-day or half-day course

**3. Welcome to the Tidyverse: An Introduction to R for Data Science**

Instructor: Garrett Golemund, RStudio; Full-day course

**4. Analysis of Big Healthcare Databases**

Instructor: Rebecca Hubbard, University of Pennsylvania; Half-day course

**5. Big Data, Data Science and Deep Learning for Statistician**

Instructors: Ming Li, Amazon, and Hui Lin, Netlify; Full-day course

The deadline for applications is December 15, 2018. Our application should include a ranking of the courses based on preference, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc. The rankings are currently being collected by Program Chair-Elect Olga Vitak at [o.vitek@northeastern.edu](mailto:o.vitek@northeastern.edu). Also, please feel free to contact Olga if you have suggestions for other event topics for the year.

## Mu Sigma Rho Membership Nominations Sought

Mu Sigma Rho is the national honorary society for statistics. Its purpose is to promote and encourage scholarly activity in statistics and the recognition of outstanding achievement among the students in eligible academic institutions.

Both undergraduate and graduate students can be nominated. Information about BCASA's chapter of Mu Sigma Rho is available at <http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/awards/musigmarho>.

Instructions on how to nominate students can be found at <http://www.colby.edu/musigmarho/> or by contacting Liam O'Brien at [lobrien@colby.edu](mailto:lobrien@colby.edu).

Completed nomination forms are due to Mu Sigma Rho subcommittee by March 21st.

## **Please Join the BCASA Planning Committee**

Chapter activities are planned and organized 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. In addition to communicating by email, we meet approximately every two months to plan upcoming activities for the chapter. These meetings are held in the evening and dinner is provided. For more information contact Chapter Vice-President Miriam Chernoff ([mchernoff@sdac.harvard.edu](mailto:mchernoff@sdac.harvard.edu)).

## **How Do I Join the Boston Chapter?**

You can join the Boston Chapter when you join the American Statistical Association (ASA) or renew your ASA membership. ASA members who wish to join the Boston Chapter at other times should complete the printed application form available at <http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/joinbcasa> and send it directly to the ASA.

However, you can be a member of the Boston Chapter without being an ASA member. To join the Boston Chapter without joining the ASA, write a check for \$10 (\$4 for students) made payable to BCASA, and send it directly to our Treasurer at:

Boston Chapter of ASA  
c/o Lisa Mukherjee  
PO BOX 200766  
Boston, MA 02120

Provide your name, address, and email address. Members receive an electronic subscription to the chapter newsletter, discounts at some events, and an opportunity to join our e-mail list for other announcements. A membership application form is available at <http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/joinbcasa>.

# ***JOB OPPORTUNITIES***

Note: Job opportunities sent to Yan Dong, BCASA Newsletter Editor at [yad509@mail.harvard.edu](mailto:yad509@mail.harvard.edu) will be included in a future BCASA newsletter.

## **Amherst College, Lecturer in Statistics**

Amherst College invites applications for a lecturer in statistics with the appointment to begin on July 1, 2019. This is a full-time appointment with an initial three-year term and the possibility of renewal for an additional three-year term as a lecturer, which may be followed by five-year renewable appointments as a senior lecturer. Reappointment and promotion are contingent upon positive reviews of teaching and the other responsibilities of the lecturer, as outlined below. The college provides an annual allocation to support conference travel and/or research. Responsibilities include teaching five courses per year, carrying out departmental duties, and engaging with the growing statistics program at the college. The successful candidate will be expected to make significant contributions to teaching introductory statistics and potentially other courses in the program, including curriculum enhancements. Applicants must hold at least a master's degree in statistics or biostatistics (or a related field). A Ph.D. is preferred. In addition, applicants must have broad intellectual interests in statistics and data science 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](http://MathJobs.Org). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, but all applications received by December 17, 2018, will be guaranteed consideration. More information on this position is available at <https://www.amherst.edu/academiclife/departments/mathematics-statistics/jobs>.

## **Amherst College, Visiting Assistant Professor**

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics invites applications for a full-time visiting assistant professor in statistics with a three-year appointment to begin on July 1, 2019. We seek candidates who are passionate about teaching statistics and data science to undergraduates. Today, nearly one-quarter of Amherst's students are Pell Grant recipients; 45 percent of our students identify as 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.

Responsibilities include teaching a range of undergraduate statistics courses (two per semester) and helping with the comprehensive evaluation of senior majors in statistics. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. in statistics or a closely related field and have broad intellectual interests and a strong commitment to excellence in research and in undergraduate teaching in statistics. Submit cover letter, curriculum vitae, list of publications, research statement, teaching statement, and at least three letters of recommendation, including at least one specifically addressing teaching, to [MathJobs.Org](http://MathJobs.Org). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled, but all applications received by February 22, 2019, will be guaranteed consideration. See [https://www.amherst.edu/academiclife/dean\\_faculty/faculty\\_hiring/employment](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](mailto:mathstats@amherst.edu).

## **Bentley University, Tenure Track Position in Mathematical Sciences**

The Department of Mathematical Sciences at Bentley University invites applications for a tenure track position beginning Fall 2019.

We seek candidates to add to our strengths in applied statistics, data science, machine learning, and applied mathematics. Candidates with the ability and willingness to teach in more than one of these areas at both the undergraduate and graduate levels are especially attractive. The rank and salary will be commensurate with experience. The Mathematical Sciences Department offers undergraduate degrees in mathematical sciences, actuarial sciences, and data analytics 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:** Applicants must hold a Ph.D. in Statistics, Mathematics, or a closely related discipline. Criteria for selection include: (a) Evidence of excellent teaching ability; (b) High quality research skills and experience; (c) Organizational skills to facilitate supporting and building academic programs consistent with the department's mission; (d) Strong interpersonal skills for building research connections; (e) Ability and willingness to supervise graduate student research and participate in activities related to our graduate programs.

**Preferred Qualifications:** Applied experience in academic or nonacademic spheres is highly desirable.

## **WPI, Tenure Track Position in Mathematical Sciences**

The Department of Mathematical Sciences at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) invites applications for a tenure-track position, at the assistant professor level, to begin in the Fall of 2019.

We seek strong candidates in any field of statistics whose research profiles involve innovative methodology and/or interdisciplinary applications. The successful applicant is expected to develop a robust, externally funded, high-profile research program, and contribute to the teaching mission of the department. Candidates with the ability to contribute to WPI's growing interdisciplinary programs, in particular to the Data Science Program and to the Bioinformatics and Computational Biology program, are especially attractive. Applicants should have a Ph.D. in Statistics, or related area. Salary, benefits and start-up funding are competitive and commensurate with research experience and accomplishments. Qualified applicants should submit a detailed curriculum vitae, a statement of specific teaching and research objectives, and at least four letters of recommendation, one or more of which addresses teaching experience or potential, via [MathJobs.Org](http://MathJobs.Org). Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

For more information, please go to <https://www.mathjobs.org/jobs/jobs/12395>.



## ***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](mailto: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](http://www.dam.brown.edu/dam_seminars.shtml)

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

Dartmouth College  
Department of Biomedical Data Science  
<https://bmds.dartmouth.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  
<https://idss.mit.edu/>

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  
<https://ceps.unh.edu/mathematics-statistics>

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.*

<b>BCASA OFFICERS</b>	
President, 2017-18	Greta Ljung, Consultant
Program Chair, 2017-18	Fotios Kokkotos, Trinity Partners
Past President, 2017-18	James MacDougall, Consultant
Vice-President, 2016-19	Miriam Chernoff, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
Secretary, 2016-19	Eugenie Coakley, John Snow, Inc.
Treasurer, 2016-19	Lisa Mukherjee, Consultant
Council of Chapters Representative, 2016-2018	Mingfei Li, Bentley University
Webmaster, 2013-18	Ching-Ti Liu, Boston University
Newsletter Editor, 2016-18	Yan Dong, OPKO Diagnostics
<b>BCASA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS</b>	
<i>Education Committee</i>	Shannon Stock, College of Holy Cross
<i>Mu Sigma Rho</i>	Liam O'Brien, Colby College