



Bulletin



November 2010

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Go Green with the *Bulletin*

When you come to renew your IMS membership at <https://secure.imstat.org/secure/orders/IndMember.asp> (or perhaps join us for the first time!) you will see that there is a section in the online form about whether you want the print copy of the *Bulletin*, or whether you are happy to read the PDF copy. We are encouraging all members to Go Green by taking the electronic option, if they are happy to do so. The note reads:

Because of a general change in the way that people both receive and read all kinds of materials, the IMS expects that, over the next few years, electronic distribution may well become the primary means of making the IMS Bulletin available to its members. From now on, all members will be emailed a link to the Bulletin when it comes out. In order to give members complete choice over this matter, we are asking whether it would be acceptable to you personally to receive the Bulletin only by email link starting this year.

You can then select *Yes, the email link will be sufficient; please discontinue sending me the hard copy of the Bulletin*, or, *No, I would prefer to continue receiving a hard copy of the Bulletin by regular mail.*

There will be no charge for hard copy; however, the IMS is anxious not to waste postage and printing costs sending hard copy to members who would be entirely happy with electronic copy only. Student members do not receive a hard copy of the *IMS Bulletin* with their free membership.

Please make your wishes known when you renew—and remember, if you renew by December 31, you'll get a 10% discount!



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IMS members' news

Sallie Ann Keller Receives the 2010 Jerome Sacks Award for Cross-Disciplinary Research

James Landwehr, chair of the Board of Trustees of the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS), announced that Dr. **Sallie Ann Keller** has received the 2010 Jerome Sacks Award for Cross-Disciplinary Research. Katherine Ensor, chair of the Department of Statistics at Rice University, accepted the award on Keller's behalf at the NISS reception at the Joint Statistical Meeting in Vancouver, British Columbia on August 2.

The Awards Committee of the NISS Board of Trustees, which selected Keller for the award, cited "her pioneering work in cross-disciplinary research in reliability and computational technology for complex systems of critical national security and for her leadership in forging research relationships in new areas for statisticians in government and academia."

The award, named in honor of Jerome (Jerry) Sacks, the founding director of NISS, was established in 2000 to "recognize sustained, high-quality cross-disciplinary research involving the statistical sciences," that exemplifies the NISS role of identifying, catalyzing and fostering high-impact, cross-disciplinary research involving the statistical sciences. In remarks read by Ensor, Keller stated "I have been fortunate to have access to important, frequently time-sensitive, problems that no one person or discipline could solve. I have had, and continue to have, wonderful career appointments that continually stretch my thinking. These appointments have exposed me to the depth, breadth, and critical need for cross-disciplinary interactions."

For the past five years, Keller has been the William and Stephanie Sick Dean of the George R. Brown School of Engineering and professor of statistics at Rice University. In September she will become director for the Science and Technology Policy Institute (STPI) in Washington DC. As STPI director, Keller will provide analysis of national and international science and technology issues for the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the White House, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and the departments of Commerce and Energy. The STPI is part of the Institute for Defense Analyses, a not-for-profit corporation that operates three federally funded research and development centers, including the STPI and two others that serve the Department of Defense.

Keller is fellow and past president of the American Statistical Society and one of the nation's experts in applied and theoretical statistics. She is fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a National Associate of the National Academy of Sciences. She has also served on the Board of Trustees of NISS and on the Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI) National Advisory Council. Prior to joining Rice, she was the group leader for the Statistical Sciences Group at Los Alamos National Laboratory from 1998 to 2005. Before that, Keller was professor in the Department of Statistics, Kansas State University. She is a former Program Director for Statistics and Probability, Division of Mathematical Sciences, the National Science Foundation (1994-1996).



Sallie Ann Keller

2010 NISS Distinguished Service Award Presented to Bock, Wilkinson and Thomas

James Landwehr, chair of the Board of Trustees for the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) also (see previous page) announced the recipients of this year's NISS Distinguished Service Awards. Among the awardees presented by Alan Karr, director of NISS, at the NISS/SAMSI reception at JSM Vancouver, was IMS Fellow **Mary Ellen Bock**. Also honored were Lee Wilkinson and James Thomas. Established in 2005, the distinguished service awards recognize individuals who have given extraordinary service that significantly advances NISS and its mission. As Karr puts it, "The awards recognize people who didn't have to do what they did, but like you, did it because they care so deeply about NISS."

Bock received the award in recognition of her many years of service to NISS including serving on the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee for multiple terms, her seminal role in the formation of the affiliates program, and chairing the Awards Committee for the past two years. She was also involved with the Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI), most recently as a member of the search committee for the new director, which has also manifestly benefited NISS.

Wilkinson served as chair of the Affiliates Committee for over seven years, as Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees for four years, and on the Executive Committee for over six years. Wilkinson helped coordinate several workshops for NISS and played a key role in formation of the Affiliate clusters over the past few years. Thomas has served NISS and SAMSI with their many complicated computing and communication needs for the past ten years. Literally he has been available "24/7," coming to work at various hours of the day and night whenever a computing problem needed to be solved.

Nominations sought for the 2011 Distinguished Alum Award at Harvard SPH

The Distinguished Alum Award is annually presented to a former graduate of the Biostatistics Department at the Harvard School of Public Health working in government, industry, or academia, who by virtue of applications to support of research, methodology and theory, significant organizational responsibility, and teaching has impacted the theory and practice of statistical science. The overall career of the individual is considered with an emphasis on how the nominee has used their experience to bring out the best in life with research and academics. The award recipient will be invited to deliver a lecture on their career and life beyond the Department at the Harvard School of Public Health, for the primary benefit of our students. The recipient will also be presented with a plaque.

Nominations for the award, to be given in May 2011, should be sent to the *Distinguished Award Committee, Dept. of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health, 655 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115*. Nominations should include a letter describing the contributions of the candidate, specifically highlighting the criteria for the award, and curriculum vitae. Supporting letters and materials are welcome but not required. Questions should be directed to Artemis Moore at aemoore@hsph.harvard.edu.

The deadline for submission of nominations is **January 31, 2011**.

IMS Editors

IMS Journals and Publications

Annals of Statistics: Peter Bühlmann and Tony Cai
<http://imstat.org/aos>

Annals of Applied Statistics: Bradley Efron, Stephen Fienberg, Michael Stein, Karen Kafadar & Samuel Kou
<http://imstat.org/aoas>

Annals of Probability: Ofer Zeitouni
<http://imstat.org/aop>

Annals of Applied Probability: Andrew Barbour
<http://imstat.org/aap>

Statistical Science: David Madigan
<http://imstat.org/sts>

IMS Lecture Notes – Monograph Series
<http://imstat.org/publications/lecnotes.htm>

IMS Collections
<http://imstat.org/publications/imscollections.htm>

NSF-CBMS Regional Conference Series in Probability and Statistics:
<http://imstat.org/publications/nsf.htm>

IMS Co-sponsored Journals and Publications

Electronic Journal of Statistics: David Ruppert
<http://imstat.org/ejs>

Electronic Journal of Probability: Bálint Tóth
<http://www.math.washington.edu/~ejpecp>

Electronic Communications in Probability:
Timo Seppäläinen
<http://www.math.washington.edu/~ejpecp/ECP/index.php>

Current Index to Statistics: George Styan
<http://www.statindex.org>

Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics:
Richard Levine
<http://www.amstat.org/publications/jcgs>

Statistics Surveys: Lutz Dümbgen
<http://imstat.org/ss>

Probability Surveys: Geoffrey Grimmett
<http://imstat.org/ps>

IMS Supported Journals

Annales de l'Institut Henri Poincaré (B): Alice Guionnet
<http://imstat.org/aihpc>

Bayesian Analysis: Herbie Lee
<http://ba.stat.cmu.edu>

Bernoulli: Richard Davis
<http://isi.cbs.nl/bernoulli>

Brazilian Journal of Probability and Statistics: Silvia Ferrari
<http://imstat.org/bjps>

IMS Affiliated Journals

ALEA: Latin American Journal of Probability and Statistics:
Claudio Landim
<http://alea.impa.br/english>

Probability and Mathematical Statistics: M. Musiela,
J. Rosiński, W. Szczołka, A. Weron &
W.A. Woyczyński
<http://www.math.uni.wroc.pl/~pms>

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Laha Award winners: “great experience”

Ping-Shou Zhong, Iowa State University: *With the help of the Laha Travel Award, my trip to Sweden finally came true. This first trip to Europe was fresh and unique for me. I really appreciate the support and encouragement from this award that gave me the opportunity to present my work and communicate with professionals. This is also my first time attending the annual IMS meeting outside of the joint statistical meetings. I like this kind of well-organized and professional meeting, which gave me opportunities to listen closely and talk face-to-face with professors. During the meeting, I met some experts who are working in the field I am interested in and got the chance to talk with them. Their ideas will certainly benefit for my future research and give me more motivation. The comments and encouragement from the audience in my presentation made me realize some other possible research directions. I enjoyed the meeting and I'm happy to know more friends and experts from different countries.*

Layla Parast, Harvard School of Public Health: *I especially enjoyed the Wald lecture series on trees, spatial branching processes and random graphs by Jean-François Le Gall. He was an excellent speaker and I learned a lot of new and interesting information! I was also able to attend the boat tour and IMS banquet with other IMS attendees and I had a wonderful experience. The weather was cloudy and threatening rain but it held out just until it was time for us to all go inside anyway! The boat tour operator gave us lots of information about the history of Gothenburg and the historic buildings along the river and canal. It was a great opportunity to mingle with other attendees whom you may not have had the chance to meet in any of the sessions, especially if their research is focused in other areas than yours. Gothenburg was an amazing city, the perfect mix of charm and big city feel with lots of parks and bike paths throughout the city and very friendly people!*

Xiaoru Wu, Columbia University: *As a PhD student in statistics, receiving the Laha award was a great honor and encouragement. The travel grant made it much easier for me to attend my first IMS meeting and also my first conference outside the US. It offered a good opportunity to meet so many renowned professors and fellow students from European countries. Seeing some old friends again, and making some new ones, gave me a wonderful time in Sweden.*

Haeran Cho, London School of Economics: *It was my first time attending an annual IMS meeting, and I wouldn't have been able to do so without the support of IMS. It was a great opportunity to meet statisticians all around the world and see what they were working on at the moment. I thank the organizers for making my attendance at the conference a memorable experience and look forward to another great experience at the next IMS meeting.*

The 2010 Laha Award winners, pictured in Gothenburg with the IMS Presidents past, present and future.

Back row, l-r: Mike Steele, Dacheng Xiu, Ruth Williams, Jelena Bradic, Peter Hall.
Front, l-r: Ping-Shou Zhong, Seunggeun Lee, Seonjoo Lee, Haeran Cho, Xiaoru Wu.
Xiao Fang, Xu Han and Layla Parast were not able to be present for the picture.



Jelena Bradic, Princeton University: *I had never been to an IMS meeting before so attending this one in Gothenburg was quite new for me. I got the experience that can only be realized at such a big meeting: I got to meet and talk with famous researchers in the area of high-dimensional statistics (which is my area of research and was well represented at the conference). I got to hear novel and interesting talks on my subject of interest and on papers just published, or not yet published at all. This is not possible to get over the internet and by simply reading the papers themselves. I also heard what questions are pertinent to the current research streams of thought, which helped me understand better the field I am just starting to contribute to. Overall a great experience for a young researcher.*

IMS Awards: apply or nominate now

Laha Awards for travel to JSM Miami

Deadline: February 1, 2011

Travel awards for students and new graduates are available for travel to the IMS Annual Meeting, which will be at the 2011 Joint Statistical Meetings in Miami Beach, Florida, from July 30 to August 4. Information about the JSM is at <http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2011/>

Some of this year's Laha Award winners speak about their experiences on page 4.

With funds from a generous bequest by the late Professor Radha Govind Laha, IMS established the Laha Awards to provide funds for travel to present a paper at the IMS Annual Meeting.

Eligibility: First priority to students, second priority to New Researchers within 2 years of PhD degree at the date of the meeting. Applicants must be members of IMS, though joining at the time of application is allowed. Student membership is free and New Researchers also qualify for substantially reduced rates. You can join online at <https://secure.imstat.org/secure/orders/IndMember.asp>

Grants provided to Laha awardees have been typically around US\$500 per award. The actual amount depends on the distance traveled to the IMS meeting. Grants will be reimbursed against receipts and may be combined with other sources of funding.

Details of how to apply are at <http://imstat.org/awards/laha.html>

Carver Medal for exceptional service to IMS

Deadline: February 1, 2011

Nominations are invited for the Carver Medal created by the IMS in honor of Harry C. Carver, Founding Editor of the *Annals of Mathematical Statistics* and one of the founders of the IMS. The medal is for exceptional service specifically to the IMS and is open to any member of the IMS who has not previously been elected President. The medal will be awarded at a ceremony during the next IMS Annual Meeting, in Miami Beach (see <http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2011/>).

Details of the nomination process are at <http://imstat.org/awards/carver.html>



The 2010 Carver Medal was presented to Julia Norton (left) by former IMS President Nanny Wermuth (right)

Nomination for Tweedie New Researcher Award

Deadline: December 1, 2010

This award, established in memory of Richard Tweedie, will fund travel to present the Tweedie New Researcher Invited Lecture at the Fourteenth Meeting of New Researchers in Statistics and Probability, immediately preceding next year's JSM in Miami, Florida. To qualify as a new researcher, the nominee must have received their doctoral degree in one of the five calendar years preceding the year of nomination, or in the year of nomination, meaning any of the years 2005–2010 for the 2011 award with nomination deadline December 1, 2010. Nominees should be members of the IMS at time of nomination.

Electronic submission is highly encouraged. Please read all the details at <http://imstat.org/awards/tweedie.html>

This year's Tweedie New Researcher Invited Lecturer was Harrison Zhou,

who gave his lecture at the New Researchers Conference in Vancouver, and was presented with the award in Gothenburg

(pictured right with Mike Steele)



Nomination for IMS Fellowship

Deadline: January 31, 2011

In order to qualify for Fellowship, the candidate shall have demonstrated distinction in research in statistics or probability, by publication of independent work of merit. This qualification may be partly or wholly waived in the case of

- 1 a candidate of well-established leadership whose contributions to the field of statistics or probability other than original research shall be judged of equal value; or
- 2 a candidate of well-established leadership in the application of statistics or probability, whose work has contributed greatly to the utility of and the appreciation of these areas.

Candidates for fellowship should be members of IMS on December 1 of the year preceding their nomination, and should have been members of the IMS for at least two years.

Electronic submission is highly encouraged. Please read all the details at <http://imstat.org/awards/fellows.htm>

The Painlevé Project: A Request

F. Bornemann, P. Clarkson, P. Deift, A. Edelman, A. Its, and D. Lozier would like your help.

In recent years the Painlevé equations, particularly the six Painlevé transcendents P_I, \dots, P_{VI} , have emerged as the core of modern special function theory. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the classical special functions—the Bessel functions, the Airy function, the Legendre functions, the hypergeometric functions, and so on—were recognized and developed in response to the problems of the day in electromagnetism, acoustics, hydrodynamics, elasticity and many other areas. In the same way, around the middle of the twentieth century, as science and engineering continued to expand in new directions, a new class of functions, the Painlevé functions, started to appear in applications. The list of problems now known to be described by the Painlevé equations is large, varied and expanding rapidly. The list includes, at one end, the scattering of neutrons off heavy nuclei, and at the other, the statistics of the zeros of the Riemann-zeta function on the critical line $\text{Re}(z) = \frac{1}{2}$. And in between, amongst many others, there is random matrix theory, the asymptotic theory of orthogonal polynomials, self-similar solutions of integrable equations, combinatorial problems such as Ulam's longest increasing subsequence problem, tiling problems, multivariate statistics in the important asymptotic regime where the number of variables and the number of samples are comparable and large, and also random particle systems.

Random matrix theory is a common portal for the Painlevé equations into science and engineering. A striking recent example is the discovery that the statistics of the bus delivery system in Cuernavaca, Mexico, is described with remarkable accuracy by random matrix theory: the bus delivery system in Cuernavaca has particular distinguishing features and is a prototype for the bus transportation system in many cities in Latin America. Equally striking is the recent experimental verification of random matrix behavior in turbulent liquid crystal growth.

Over the years, the properties of the classical special functions—algebraic, analytical, asymptotic and numerical—have been organized and tabulated in various handbooks such as the Bateman Project or the National Bureau of Standards *Handbook of Mathematical Functions*, edited by Abramowitz and Stegun. What is needed now is a comparable organization and tabulation of the properties—algebraic, analytical, asymptotic and numerical—of the Painlevé functions. This letter is an appeal to interested parties in the scientific community at large for help in developing such a “Painlevé Project”. What we have in mind, will be described below.

Although the Painlevé equations are nonlinear, much is already known about their solutions, particularly their algebraic, analytical and asymptotic properties. This is because the equations are integrable in the sense that they have a Lax-Pair and also a Riemann-Hilbert representation from which the asymptotic behavior of the solutions can be inferred using the non-linear steepest-descent method. The numerical analysis of the equations is less developed and presents novel challenges: in particular, in contrast to the classical special functions, where the linearity of the equations greatly simplifies the situation, each problem for the nonlinear Painlevé equations arises essentially anew.

As a first step in the Painlevé Project, we have established an e-site, maintained at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). We ask interested readers to send to the site

- a pointers to new work on the theory of the Painlevé equations, algebraic, analytical asymptotic or numerical
- b pointers to new applications of the Painlevé equations
- c suggestions for possible new applications of the Painlevé equations
- d requests for specific information about the Painlevé equations.

The e-site will work as follows:

- 1 You must be a “subscriber” to post messages to the e-site. To become a subscriber, send an email to daniel.lozier@nist.gov.
- 2 To post a message after becoming a subscriber, send email to PainleveProject@nist.gov. The message will be forwarded to every subscriber.
- 3 See <http://cio.nist.gov/esd/emaildir/lists/painleveproject/threads.html> for the complete archive of posted messages. This archive is visible to anyone, not just subscribers.
- 4 See <http://cio.nist.gov/esd/emaildir/lists/painleveproject/subscribers.html> for the complete list of subscribers. This list is visible to anyone, not just subscribers.

Depending on the response to our appeal, we plan to set up a wiki page for the Painlevé equations, and then ultimately a comprehensive handbook in a style befitting our digital age, along the lines of the hyperlinked version, <http://dlmf.nist.gov>, of the new *NIST Handbook of Mathematical Functions*, edited by Olver, Lozier, Boisvert and Clark, and published by Cambridge University Press. Incidentally, this work contains, for the first time, a chapter on the Painlevé equations.

Five NSF CAREER Awards to Junior Faculty at Georgia Tech

In rapid succession, five assistant professors in the statistics program of the Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISyE) at Georgia Tech have earned the National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Award in the last four years.

The five awardees—Nagi Gebrael, Yajun Mei, Nicoleta Serban, Roshan Joseph Vengazhiyil and Ming Yuan—joined Georgia Tech, following Professor Jeff Wu, who moved to Georgia Tech in 2003 as the Coca-Cola Chair in Engineering Statistics.

Jeff Wu says his mandate when coming to ISyE was to try something no one had tried before, namely building a strong statistics and quality program within engineering that would allow for interaction and collaboration with engineers and scientists. He envisioned a diversified faculty where every member of the statistics group would collaborate and do joint work with other groups across disciplines. According to Wu, the goal of an interface between statistics and engineering has clearly been achieved as reflected in the programs through which these awards were given: Mei and Yuan from the Statistics program of the Mathematical Sciences division, Gebrael and Vengazhiyil from the Manufacturing Enterprise System program of the Engineering directorate, and Serban from the Service Enterprise System program of the Engineering directorate at the NSF.

The selection of these faculty members for the ISyE Statistics Group and their earning the prestigious award were a bit serendipitous, Wu says. Their selection for the group was not based upon work that he consciously thought would be considered

for this recognition of junior faculty. “We simply wanted to hire the best people and groom them,” he said. “Winning a CAREER Award is one measure—though not the only one—of success.”

“Georgia Tech is possibly the only place where the statistics program is within the school of industrial engineering,” states Vengazhiyil, ISyE associate professor, who adds that this is unique in the higher education landscape. This is attractive to Vengazhiyil because his research interests are in engineering statistics. “I felt that my efforts would be most appreciated in this place.” For Vengazhiyil, working within an engineering school rather than in a department of statistics gives him better exposure to the latest developments and trends in engineering and provides him better opportunities to collaborate with the engineers.

And that collaboration really characterizes the Stewart School’s statistics group. Their research activities strengthen the bond within ISyE and across the Georgia Tech campus. Examples of its success among the other NSF CAREER Award winners include Serban’s collaboration with the Tennenbaum Institute on health care, Mei’s collaboration with the Georgia Tech Research Institute on indoor air quality, Yuan’s bioinformatics techniques to successfully address questions related to aging and diabetes, and Gebrael’s new degradation lab in the Manufacturing Research Center.

For a full listing of the Statistics / Quality Group faculty, the breadth of their research and the scope of their work, visit their website at <http://www2.isye.gatech.edu/statistics/index.php>.



Seated: Jeff Wu. Standing (left to right): Yajun Mei, Ming Yuan, Nicoleta Serban, Roshan Joseph Vengazhiyil, and Nagi Gebrael.

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Uncertainty Quantification Program at SAMSI

Rick Durrett and Pierre Grimaud write: Next year's program at SAMSI is unique in its history. Instead of running two parallel programs during the year, SAMSI will devote all its resources to Uncertainty Quantification (UQ), a theme at the heart of its mission. Mathematical models intended for computational simulation of complex real-world processes are a crucial ingredient in virtually every field of science, engineering, medicine, and business. Two related but independent phenomena have led to the near-ubiquity of models: the remarkable growth in computing power and the matching gains in algorithmic speed and accuracy. Together, these factors have vastly increased the applicability and reliability of simulation. Utilization of such computer models requires addressing Uncertainty Quantification on at least the following issues: uncertainties in the initial conditions, unknown parameters, stochastic features, combination of model output and noisy data (data assimilation), scarcity of model output, inaccuracies in the models.

The intellectual content of computational modeling comes from a variety of disciplines, including applied mathematics, statistics, probability, operations research, and computer science, and the application areas are remarkably diverse. Despite this diversity of methodology and application, there are a variety of common challenges in developing, evaluating and using complex computer models of processes.

The program will pursue theoretical advances and applications to engineering/energy, climate and geosciences. Methodological research foci include: treatment of multiscale systems, detection and forecasting of rare events, model calibration and validation, representation of uncertainty and error, sensitivity, etc. Like all

SAMSI programs, it is led by experts from across the country: Amy Braverman (JPL, Caltech, and UCLA), Don Estep (Colorado State), Roger Ghanem (USC), David Higdon (LANL), Christine Shoemaker (Cornell), and Jeff Wu (Georgia Tech), with the help of local scientific coordinators: James Nolen (Duke) and Jan Hannig (UNC). For more information, which will become more detailed as time passes, visit our newly redesigned web page at www.samsi.info

Visiting opportunities

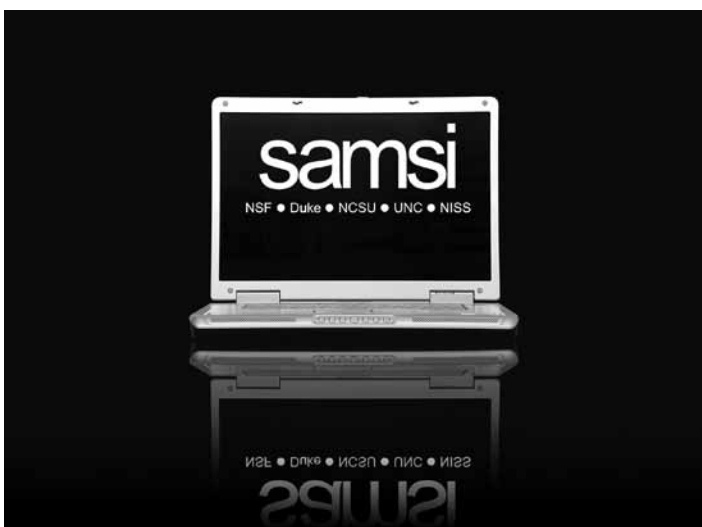
If these topics interest you, consider visiting SAMSI in 2011–12. Long-term research visitors do so for periods up to one-year; such positions are ideal for researchers on sabbatical or leave. Postdoctoral fellowships are available, with appointments beginning in September 2011. Appointments will typically be for two years and be made between SAMSI and an associated organization. However, we will also consider one year postdocs for people who are on the way to their first tenure track job. Salaries are extremely competitive. SAMSI New Researcher fellowships provide up to \$20,000 in salary for semester to year-long visiting outstanding researchers who have received their Ph.D. within the previous 8 years. Visiting graduate student positions are also available for participation in the program.

Activities at SAMSI are organized around working groups. These groups are formed at the beginning of the program and, through the year, tackle important problems related to the year's theme. The groups meet regularly, usually weekly, and many people participate remotely by a combination of webex and conference call. The working group structure, unique to SAMSI, has proved extremely successful in producing research and stimulating new collaborations.

Collaborations

As part of our continuing efforts to engage researchers from across the USA, some of the activities of the program will take place outside the Research Triangle. Planned activities include a Summer School in collaboration with Sandia National Lab, climate workshops and possible working groups at Lawrence Livermore National Lab, shared postdoctoral appointments with these and other national labs and institutions, as well as significant interactions with the National Renewable Energy Lab and the National Climatic Data Center.

The SAMSI Directorate and the organizers are committed to running the best program possible. For this, we need your participation and input. Contact us at uq@samsi.info



The IMS Evolution: *Personal Perceptions*

Pranab K. Sen has been associated with the Institute of Mathematical Statistics for about 45 years, and here he shares some of his personal perceptions:



P. K. Sen

I moved to the USA (University of California, Berkeley) from India (University of Calcutta) in 1964, and for the past forty-five years I have been grounded

in Chapel Hill at the University of North Carolina. In this time I have been associated with IMS, mostly as a member (and as a Fellow since 1968). IMS is just about a couple of years older than me, and during the past five decades, it has always been an inspiring source of professional aspiration and career development. I have been fortunate to publish some of my work, some in collaboration with my colleagues, in the *Annals of Mathematical Statistics*, branching out later into *Annals of Probability* and *Annals of Statistics*, along with its siblings, *Annals of Applied Probability*, *IMS Lecture Notes—Monographs Series*, *IMS Collections* series, and *Statistical Science*. I am yet to get a ticket for the latest journal, the *Annals of Applied Statistics*. In this respect, like many of us, I have witnessed a magnificent growth of activities of IMS, its ever broadening impact spheres, and its pioneering role in the sustained evolution of research in theoretical and applied statistics, as well as many interdisciplinary fields.

Although IMS was launched (in 1935) primarily by the foresight of ASA, from the beginning, *JASA* and the *Annals* had a somewhat different emphasis on statistical science. Further, the *Annals* used to be distinctly different from *Biometrika* and *JRSSB*. The only other journal comparable

to the *Annals* (and almost of the same age) was *Sankhyā*, the *Indian Journal of Statistics*. In our college days at Calcutta, we were especially proud of publishing in either of these two journals. Their conjugate development of probability theory and stochastic processes in one hand, and theoretical statistics in the other, has been remarkably matched, and together they have nurtured the omnibus growth of mathematical statistics without degrading combinatorics, design of experiments, sample surveys and even operations research. Its doors have always been open to novel ideas and emerging new disciplines which have laid down the foundation of statistical science.

In its early days, IMS had excellent coordination with academic institutions in the USA and Canada (as well as other countries) where statistics used to reside mostly in the mathematics curriculum, in Mathematics and Statistics (and rarely in separate Statistics) Departments. In the UK and India there were some Statistics Departments while in Japan there were none, though there were many outstanding Japanese statisticians scattered in mathematics, economics and engineering curriculums. There were other research groups, such as the Bell Telephone Laboratories in New Jersey, IBM Research Centers in New York and California, Army Research Centers, Rand Corporation, Los Alamos National Laboratories, Ford Motors and General Motors, all contributing significantly to the outreach of IMS, especially in the area of applied probability theory, stochastic processes and applied statistics.

IMS has had natural affinity with the National Science Foundation (NSF) as well as the Office of Naval Research (ONR) in channeling academic research grants to the broader area of statistics and probability. During the past three decades, IMS

has also been actively involved with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and its subsidiaries for better implementation of statistical reasoning in the greater domain of health, environmental and clinical sciences. In the formation of the National Institute of Statistical Science as well as SAMSI, IMS has an important role too. In short, IMS, in collaboration with the ASA, used to be the custodian of statistics and probability theory not only in USA and Canada but also globally. Years later, IMS developed better ties with the Bernoulli Society, paving the way for the World Congress in Statistical Science at regular intervals during the past twenty years [next in 2012 in Istanbul, Turkey]. IMS has also sponsored other statistics meeting around the world, organized by regional societies. IMS, having its dual ties with the American Mathematical Society and International Biometric Society, has been quite a catalytic force in the sustained effort to bridge the gap between abstract theory and real life applied problems needing statistical resolutions.

In my own perception, mathematical statistics, stochastic processes as well as (abstract and applied) probability theory are inseparable disciplines, and interactively they have expanded the frontiers of statistical science far beyond the traditional quarters. In my own research during the past fifty years, I have tried, albeit not always successfully, to implement basic tools of probability theory and stochastic processes to fortify some of the evolving areas of statistical science: bioassays (dosage invariant statistical inference), multivariate nonparametrics (invariance, equivariance, and basic rank permutation principles), sequential nonparametrics (martingale theory based invariance principles), aligned ranking in general linear models, and

time-sequential methods in clinical trials based on suitable martingale characterizations. A greater part of this work has appeared in the *Annals* where almost sure convergence, second-order asymptotic representations and weak invariance principles could not have been advocated without the implementation of diverse probability tools. As such, when in 1973, the *Annals* led to its bifurcation of *Annals of Probability* and *Annals of Statistics*, like some other colleagues, I was a bit skeptical about how much that would affect the academic research of people of my background. While the *Annals of Applied Probability* has bridged the gap between applied probability (and stochastic processes) and statistics, the newly-launched *Annals of Applied Statistics* is likely to swing statistics into a somewhat different direction, under total dominance of computational statistics.

Many of us are left to wonder about the

explosive branching process of the *Annals*!

The advent of information technology and bioinformatics has totally reshaped the interface of statistical science. Shifting goals and mounting challenges have invaded all walks of life and science—statistical science is no exception. This evolution goes far beyond the boundaries of statistical learning and data mining (forming the so-called knowledge discovery and data mining, or KDDM) approaches which, at present, is often devoid of adequate statistical interpretation or resolution. Even the mighty Bayesians are likely to get lost in this data mining world. In addition to the *Annals of Applied Statistics*, the *Annals of Statistics* is also intoxicated with this “KDDM madness.”

Statistical science should address other disciplines consistent with its own principles and foundations. Indiscriminate quantification without comprehension of

inherent deterministics as well as stochastics has little statistical appeal.

We love to see the IMS taking a driver's seat in restoring the integrity of statistical foundations in complex and often least comprehensive interdisciplinary research, in abundance in the present era. Statistical reasoning has its limitations in real life problems and so have the electronics which are engulfing human society with robotics and iPads. What a big step from abstract number theory to the current KDDM number game!

I am afraid, in its golden age, like many of us, IMS may encounter rough seas ahead, but I am confident that IMS will steer through this threatening storm by its own vigilance.

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IMS Collections volume 1 is a Festschrift in honor of Pranab K. Sen. See the ad on page 17 for how to order.

Introducing *StatProb: The Encyclopedia*

StatProb: The Encyclopedia Sponsored by Statistics and Probability Societies is a free encyclopedia that combines the advantages of wikis (rapid and up-to-date publication, user-generated development, hyperlinking, and a saved history) with traditional publishing (quality assurance, review, credit to authors, and a structured information display). All contributions have been approved by an editorial board determined by these sponsoring societies:

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David Dunson, COPSS Presidents' Award

Bhramar Mukherjee (Secretary/Treasurer, COPSS) from University of Michigan reported in the last issue on David Dunson, Duke University, being selected to receive the 2010 COPSS Presidents' Award. Here, David answers some of Bhramar's questions:

What was your first reaction to winning the prestigious COPSS President's award?



David Dunson

I had just looked online and found that it was a couple weeks past the date the committee was supposed to notify the winner, so I was a bit bummed and let Jim Berger know.

Right after that I heard from the committee chair Harry Joe that I had won, and Jim found it hilarious that he had to so quickly change his condolences to congratulations. I'd like to say that I was calm and professional on hearing the news, but I was overwhelmingly thrilled and ran around the house shouting, jumping up and down and yelling like a complete lunatic. My wife Amy thought I had gone insane.

Which part of your job do you like most?

There are many things I love about my job, but the best part is sitting at a coffee shop in the morning just getting started on a new and interesting problem with a pile of blank paper and no distractions. I really love all aspects of statistics research but the best part is the initial problem solving stage, and the point at which you need to "dream up" fun new things to work on. It is important to maintain that free thinking and creative time even with all the distractions that come with academia.

What advice would you give to young people entering the profession as PhD students and assistant professors at this time?

I would say that the most important things are to enjoy what you are doing, be creative and take risks in choosing what to work on. Being a professor is really an awesome job and great lifestyle, with the freedom to set your own hours, work on what you like and spend most of your time in a creative and dynamic environment surrounded by brilliant and interesting people. Instead of getting overly stressed out about all you need to accomplish to succeed and how difficult it is, just enjoy the process. If you love what you are doing, then productivity and success will come naturally. In terms of choice of research topics, too much of statistics research is incremental and driven by a bandwagon effect. As a young researcher, don't choose to work on topic A (e.g., large p , small n penalized regression) just because it seems that everyone else is and it is a hot area. Instead, read the literature and go to talks on a wide variety of subjects having a skeptical eye and thoughts towards figuring out the limitations of what people are currently doing and how to do something better fully motivated by applications. Don't get bogged down in the details of papers and seminars, but view it as a puzzle in which you win by figuring out a better big picture way of doing things instead of an incremental technical modification. Avoid writing papers that combine existing methods in obvious ways.

Who are your most significant mentors? How did/do they impact your career?

My tendency has been to follow my own path and figure out how to do things myself. This is not entirely a good character trait, and paying more attention to mentors along the way likely would have accelerated my early development as a researcher. I

conducted my dissertation research on my own based on ideas I developed by reading papers on topics that seemed interesting and trying to think of better ways to do things. My most significant mentor was clearly Clare Weinberg. She was my postdoc advisor, and convinced me to stay at NIH in a tenure track position. Clare is a great applied statistician and a brilliant and intense researcher. She has a talent for developing very simple statistical approaches for solving important applied problems, and is naturally skeptical of modeling and complex methods. We had a wonderful dynamic in which I would attempt to come up with a flexible Bayesian hierarchical modeling approach, which she would then criticize. This taught me to be able to defend my ideas and to develop methods leading to real practical improvements in applications, lessons which have stuck with me and greatly increased the impact of my work.

Why were you drawn to Bayesian statistics?

I had no real exposure to Bayesian statistics during my graduate work, but I was bothered by the ad hoc nature of the frequentist solution I developed to an informative clustering problem in my dissertation. My initial interest in statistics came out of a desire to discover interesting new "biological truths" underlying high-dimensional, complex and messy biological data, and such problems could not be addressed adequately in my view using frequentist methods. I did not believe in basing inferences on a point estimate, and am skeptical of asymptotic justifications. In addition, in science we always have abundant prior information and it seemed ridiculous to ignore it. Hence, the Bayesian paradigm fits in perfectly with my philosophy of the "proper" way to do statistics and it was natural for me to gravitate towards it early in my career. My subsequent drift towards

Bayesian nonparametrics is due to the thought that parametric Bayes hierarchical models are typically built on a house of cards of unverifiable modeling assumptions and it is wrong to assume that the true model is in a list of parametric models. Nonparametric Bayes is a young field full of interesting problems, but already the methods have seen dramatic success in applications, particularly in machine learning.

Is there anything else you would like to share about our profession?

Just that I think I was extremely lucky to stumble into the field of statistics, which clearly has a daunting image problem. There are many fields that sound interesting to the general public but what you are actually doing most of the time is not very stimulating intellectually. For example,

work in many of the sciences involves very long hours of tedious busy work and big discoveries are often based on luck. The outside perspective is that what statisticians do must be extremely boring (memorizing baseball and health statistics, entering numbers, working through tedious calculations, etc) but nothing could be further from the truth. In reality, we work with scientists in an amazing variety of fields and have a fundamental impact on how the studies are conducted and the results that come out, while also having our own fascinating scientific discipline. I had to stumble through engineering, geosciences, biology and mathematics majors before discovering statistics but we need to figure out as a discipline a better way to get the word out to top high school and undergraduate students.

Finally, what are your hobbies/interests beyond statistics?

I think it is important to maintain active interests beyond academics to clear your head and maintain perspective. I personally love endurance sports, including trail running and open water swimming. I swim 2-3 miles with the Duke Aquatics team 5-6 days per week in the early morning and also run about 30 miles a week. It was a blast swimming along the coast of Spain at the recent Valencia conference and also running the trails along the coast. My best ideas often come to me while running.

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Read the call for nominations for the 2011 awards on page 14.

COPSS Scott and Fisher Awards

COPSS is the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies. Its member societies are IMS, the American Statistical Association (ASA), the Statistical Society of Canada (SSC), and the Eastern and Western North American Regions of the International Biometric Society (ENAR and WNAR, respectively). Xihong Lin is the Chair.

As we briefly announced in the last issue, the winner of the COPSS Elizabeth L. Scott Award for 2010 is **Mary E. Thompson**, University of Waterloo, Canada. Mary was selected for her “outstanding contributions in research, teaching, and service that have served to inspire women statisticians; for encouraging women at all levels to seek careers in statistics; for excellence in graduate student supervision and mentorship; and for her leadership to minimize gender-based inequalities in employment.” Xihong Lin (pictured right with Mary Thompson, and below right, with Bruce Lindsay) presented the award at a ceremony at JSM in Vancouver.

As also previously announced, the 2010 Fisher Lecturer was **Bruce G. Lindsay**, Pennsylvania State University. He was chosen, “for fundamental contributions to statistical theory that have had a profound impact on the practice of statistics; this includes significant results on mixture models, conditional score functions and composite likelihood that have influenced later developments in measurement error models and spatial statistics among other areas.” His Fisher lecture, delivered at the Joint Statistical Meetings in Vancouver, was titled “*Likelihood: Efficiency and Deficiency (and the special role of hidden variables).*”



Mary Thompson (above left with Xihong Lin) receives the Elizabeth Scott Award, and Bruce Lindsay gave the R A Fisher Lecture



2011 COPSS Awards: Nominations

Please visit <http://www.niss.org/copss> for details of eligibility and nomination requirements for all these awards. Send nominations, preferably by email in PDF format, to the committee chairs.

COPSS Presidents' Award

The Presidents' Award is presented annually to a young member of one of the participating societies of COPSS. The award is presented in recognition of outstanding contributions to the statistics profession. It is typically granted (with some exceptions) to an individual who has not yet reached his or her 41st birthday during the calendar year of the award (see COPSS website for more details on eligibility criteria).

Nominations must be sent by **January 15, 2011** to:

*Mary E. Thompson, Chair, COPSS Presidents' Award Committee,
Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science,
University of Waterloo, 200 University Avenue West,
Waterloo, Ontario, CANADA N2L 3G1*

t 519-888-4567 Ext. 35543

f 519-746-1875

e methomps@uwaterloo.ca

Florence Nightingale David Award

The Florence Nightingale David Award is presented biennially (odd years) to recognize a female statistician who exemplifies the contributions of Florence Nightingale David, an accomplished statistician in combinatorial probability theory, author/editor of numerous books, first Chair of Department of Statistics at University of California at Riverside and the first recipient of the Elizabeth L. Scott Award. The criteria for the award are excellence as a role model to women and in statistical research, leadership of multidisciplinary collaborative groups, statistics education, and service to the profession.

Nominations should be sent by **January 15, 2011** to:

*Alice S. Whittemore, Chair, COPSS FN David Award Committee,
Stanford University School of Medicine,
Department of Health Research and Policy,
Redwood Building, Room T204,
259 Campus Drive,
Stanford, CA 94305-5405*

t 650-723-5460

f 650-725-6951

e alicesw@stanford.edu

George W. Snedecor Award

The George W. Snedecor Award is presented biennially (odd years) in honor of its namesake, a pioneer who had worldwide impact in improving the quality of scientific methods concerning the use of statistical methodology. The award recognizes an individual who has been instrumental in the development of statistical theory in biometry and a noteworthy publication in biometry by that individual within three years of the date of the award.

Nominations should be sent by **January 15, 2011** to:

*Barry I. Graubard, Chair, COPSS Snedecor Award Committee,
Senior Investigator, Biostatistics Branch,
Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics,
National Cancer Institute,
Executive Plaza South, Room 8024,
Bethesda, MD 20892*

t 301-496-7455

f 301-402-0081

e graubarb@mail.nih.gov

Fisher Lectureship and Award

The Fisher Lectureship and Award, awarded annually, was established in 1963 by COPSS to honor the outstanding contributions of the late Sir Ronald Aylmer Fisher, and those of a current statistician, on aspects of statistics and probability that closely relate to the scientific collection and interpretation of data. The award exists to recognize the importance of statistical methods for scientific investigations.

Nominations should be sent by **December 15, 2010** to:

*Michael Newton,
Chair, COPSS Fisher Lecture and Award Committee,
Department of Statistics, University of Wisconsin–Madison,
1220 Medical Sciences Center,
1300 University Ave.,
Madison, WI 53706*

t 608-262-2598

f 608-262-0032

e newton@stat.wisc.edu

Modern Massive Data Sets

Computation in Large-Scale Scientific and Internet Data Applications is a Focus of MMDS 2010

Michael W. Mahoney is in the Department of Mathematics at Stanford University. He writes:

The 2010 Workshop on Algorithms for Modern Massive Data Sets (MMDS2010) was held at Stanford University, June 15–18. The goals of MMDS2010 were:

- 1 to explore novel techniques for modeling and analyzing massive, high-dimensional, and nonlinearly-structured scientific and Internet data sets; and
- 2 to bring together computer scientists, statisticians, applied mathematicians, and data analysis practitioners to promote cross-fertilization of ideas.

MMDS2010 followed on the heels of two previous MMDS workshops. The first, MMDS2006, addressed the complementary perspectives brought by the numerical linear algebra and theoretical computer science communities to matrix algorithms in modern informatics applications; and the second, MMDS2008, explored more generally fundamental algorithmic and statistical challenges in modern large-scale data analysis.

As with the previous meetings, MMDS2010 generated intense interdisciplinary interest, clearly indicating the desire among many research communities to begin to distill out and establish the algorithmic and statistical basis for the analysis of complex large-scale data sets, as well as the desire to move increasingly-sophisticated theoretical ideas to the solution of practical problems.

Several Recurring Themes

Several themes emerged over the four days of the meeting. One major theme was that many modern data sets of practical interest are better-described by (typically sparse and poorly-structured) graphs or matrices than as dense flat tables. While this may be obvious to some—after all, both graphs and matrices are mathematical structures that provide a “sweep spot” between more descriptive flexibility and better computational tractability—this also poses considerable research and implementational challenges, given the way that databases have historically been constructed and the way that supercomputers have historically been designed.

A second major theme was that computations involving massive data are closely tied to hardware considerations in ways that are very different than have been encountered historically in scientific computing and computer science—and this is true both for computations involving a single machine (recall recent developments in multicore computing) and for computations run across

many machines (such as in large distributed data centers). Given the diversity of possible perspectives, MMDS2010 was organized loosely around six hour-long tutorial presentations.

Large-Scale Informatics: Problems, Methods, and Models

On the first day of the workshop, participants heard two tutorials that addressed computational issues in large-scale data analysis from two very different perspectives. The first was by Peter Norvig of Google, and the second was by John Gilbert of the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Norvig kicked off the meeting with a tutorial on “Internet-Scale Data Analysis,” during which he described the practical problems of running a data center so massive that “six-sigma” events, like cosmic rays, drunken hunters, blasphemous infidels, and shark attacks, are legitimate concerns. At this size scale, the data can easily consist of billions to trillions of examples, each of which is described by millions to billions of features; and computations are typically performed on clusters of tens or hundreds of thousands of relatively-inexpensive commodity-grade CPUs. Norvig surveyed a range of applications, emphasizing that in these and other Web-scale applications, simpler models trained on more data can often beat more complex models trained on less data. The reason is that in Internet-scale data analysis more data mean different data, and throwing away even rare events can be a bad idea since much Web data consists of individually rare but collectively frequent events.

John Gilbert provided a complementary perspective in his tutorial “Combinatorial Scientific Computing: Experience and Challenges.” Combinatorial Scientific Computing (CSC) is a research area at the interface between scientific computing and algorithmic computer science; and an important goal of CSC is the development, application, and analysis of combinatorial algorithms to enable scientific and engineering computations. Throughout his tutorial, Gilbert focused on two broad challenges—the challenge of architecture and algorithms, and the challenge of primitives—in applying CSC methods to large-scale data analysis. The “challenge of architecture and algorithms” refers to the nuts and bolts of getting high-quality implementations to run rapidly on machines, e.g., given architectural constraints imposed by communication and memory hierarchy issues or the existence of multiple processing units on a single chip. The “challenge of primitives” refers to the need to develop algorithmic tools that provide a framework to express concisely a broad scope of computations; that allow

Modern Massive Data Sets *continued*

programming at the appropriate level of abstraction; and that are applicable over a wide range of platforms, hiding architecture-specific details from the users.

New Perspectives on Old Approaches to Networked Data

Describing recent developments in modeling graphs and networks in a broader historical context was the subject of tutorials by Peter Bickel of the University of California at Berkeley and Sebastiano Vigna of the Università degli Studi di Milano.

In his tutorial on “Statistical Inference for Networks,” Bickel described a nonparametric statistical framework for the analysis of clustering structure in unlabeled networks, as well as for parametric network models more generally. Bickel considered a class of models applicable to both the dense/regular and sparse/irregular regimes, but for which the assumption of statistical exchangeability holds for the nodes. This exchangeability assumption provides a regularity such that any undirected random graph whose vertices are exchangeable can be written as a mixture of “simple” graphs that can be parametrized by a function $b(\cdot, \cdot)$ of two arguments. Popular stochastic block models are examples of parametric models which approximate this class of nonparametric models—the block model with K classes is a simple exchangeable graph model, and block models can be used to approximate a general function b . In this framework, Bickel considered questions of identifiability and consistency; and he showed that, under assumptions such as that the expected degree is sufficiently high, it is possible to recover “ground truth” clusters in this model.

Sebastiano Vigna provided an overview of “Spectral Ranking,” a general umbrella name for techniques that apply the theory of linear functions, e.g., eigenvalues and eigenvectors, to matrices that do not represent geometric transformations, but instead represent some other kind of relationship between entities. For example, the matrix M may be the adjacency matrix of a graph or network, where the entries of M represent some sort of binary relations between entities. In this case, a common goal is to use this information to obtain a meaningful ranking of the entities; and a common difficulty is that the matrix M may contain “contradictory” information—e.g., i likes j , and j likes k , but i does not like k ; or i is better than j , j is better than k , but i is not better than k . Vigna described the history of such methods, emphasizing common mathematical developments underlying efforts to rank children, sports teams, voters, and other sociological applications. Partly because the basic ideas underlying spectral ranking are so intuitive, there are “gazillions” of small variants that could be (and are still being)

introduced regularly in many areas of machine learning and data analysis. Unfortunately, though, this is often without reproducible scientific justification or careful evaluation of which variants are meaningful or useful.

Matrix Computations—in Data Applications

Challenges and trade-offs in performing matrix computations in MMDS applications were the subject of the final pair of tutorials—one by Piotr Indyk of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and one by Petros Drineas of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Indyk discussed recent developments in “Sparse Recovery Using Sparse Matrices.” This problem arises when the data can be modeled by a vector x that is sparse in some (often unknown) basis; and it has received attention recently in areas such as compressive sensing, data stream computing, and combinatorial group testing. Traditional approaches first capture the entire signal and then process it for compression, transmission, or storage. Alternatively, one can obtain a succinct approximate representation by acquiring a small number of linear measurements of the signal. It is often important that the measurement matrix A be sparse, in that it contains very few non-zero elements per column. Indyk described trade-offs that arise when designing recovery schemes to satisfy the criteria of short sketches, low algorithmic complexity, and strong recovery guarantees. Randomization has proved to be an important computational resource; and thus a key issue has been to identify properties that hold for very sparse random matrices and also are sufficient to support efficient and accurate recovery algorithms.

In his tutorial on “Randomized Algorithms in Linear Algebra and Large Data Applications,” Petros Drineas used his work on DNA single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) to illustrate the uses of randomized matrix algorithms in data analysis. SNP data sets consisting of thousands or more of individuals typed at hundreds of thousands of SNPs are increasingly-common. Size is an issue since even getting off-the-shelf SVD and QR decomposition code to run on dense matrices of size, say, $5000 \times 500,000$ is nontrivial on commodity laptops. Perhaps less obvious is the issue of interpretability—even if the data clusters well in the span of the top k “eigenSNPs,” these eigenSNPs cannot be assayed in the lab and they cannot be easily thought about. Thus, while eigenvector-based methods for dimensionality reduction are popular among data analysts, the geneticists were more interested in the k actual SNPs that were most important. Drineas described how to address these two challenges—of size and interpretability—in a unified manner. To do so, he defined the so-called statistical leverage scores as key

structural quantities that describe heterogeneity in the data—random sampling algorithms perform well when they use these scores to construct importance sampling distributions, and random projections perform well since they uniformize these scores.

Conclusions and Future Directions

As with previous MMDs meetings, the presentations from all speakers can be found at the conference website, <http://mmds.stanford.edu>; and participant feedback made it clear that there is a lot of interest in MMDs as a developing interdisciplinary research area. So keep an eye out for future MMDs!

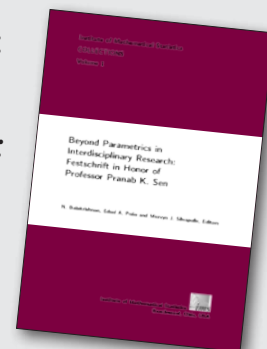
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Frontiers of Statistical Decision Making and Bayesian Analysis—Conference in honor of James O. Berger

Ming-Hui Chen and Dipak K. Dey,
University of Connecticut, report:

In honor of Dr. James O. Berger on his contributions to statistical decision theory and Bayesian statistics, a conference entitled “Frontiers of Statistical Decision Making and Bayesian Analysis” was held in the downtown campus of the University of Texas at San Antonio, from Wednesday, March 17, to noon of Saturday, March 20, in 2010.

The executive committee of this conference included Dipak K. Dey (Chair),

Ming-Hui Chen (Associate Chair), Peter Müller, Dongchu Sun, and Keying Ye. This conference was hosted by the Department of Management Science and Statistics and the College of Business at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Keying Ye was the chair of the local committee.

On Wednesday, March 17, a series of short courses were offered at the same location. The courses were taught by Drs. Sudipto Banerjee, Susie Bayarri, Brad Carlin, Andrew Finley, Peter Müller and Christian Robert. Six plenary speakers covered cutting-edge research on statistical decision making and Bayesian analysis. The plenary speakers were: Donald A. Berry, Professor of Statistics and Frank T. McGraw Memorial Chair for Cancer Research Chairman, Department of Biostatistics, The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center; Lawrence D. Brown, Miers Busch Professor and Professor of Statistics, Department of Statistics, University of Pennsylvania; Persi Diaconis, Mary V. Sunseri Professor of Statistics and Mathematics, Department of Statistics, Stanford University; Stephen Fienberg, Maurice Falk Professor of Statistics and Social Science, Department of Statistics,

Department of the Machine Learning, Carnegie Mellon University; and Alan E. Gelfand, J.B. Duke Professor of Statistics and Decision Sciences, Department of Statistical Science, Duke University.

In addition, there were 80 invited talks by eminent Bayesians and a poster session for the young researchers. There were in total 250 participants.

This conference was sponsored by IMS, the American Statistical Association (ASA), Boehringer Ingelheim, Boston Scientific Corporation, CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group, Duke University, Eisai Inc., International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA), International Indian Statistical Association (IISA), International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA), National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS), Pfizer, Inc., Springer, and the University of Connecticut.

The conference highlight was a gala dinner to celebrate Jim’s 60th birthday.

An edited volume, entitled *Frontiers of Statistical Decision Making and Bayesian Analysis*, co-edited by Ming-Hui Chen, Dipak K. Dey, Peter Müller, Dongchu Sun, and Keying Ye, was published in July, 2010 through Springer-Verlag.

Jim Berger



Terence's Stuff: Travel

Terry Speed firmly believes that academic travel is A Good Thing, and that the benefits vastly outweigh the risks. Have you done it?



Join the profession, see the world, meet interesting people, collaborate with them... as the old slogan nearly said.

Where I come from, (almost) everywhere and everyone else is far away, so we are used to travelling. Until relatively recently, our universities had generous sabbatical arrangements, and we were encouraged to head off to foreign parts every seventh year. In many of the sciences, if you didn't go "OS" for your PhD, you definitely did for your postdoc, otherwise you would be regarded as somehow incomplete. Academic travel—foreign experience—was thought to be A Good Thing.

Why? Many reasons can be advanced. The main ones concern exposure to the *new*: people, methods, technologies, problems and ideas. Secondary ones include reinforcing your membership of the international scientific community. I can't and won't argue with these reasons, for I support them, strongly, as you will see. In Australia there was also an element of what we call the "cultural cringe," the feeling that we always had to go elsewhere to find out what was really going on, to see the best of our discipline, to get up-to-date, to meet the best people and the newest ideas, before they made their long, slow journey from whence they originated, to our home. Some of this was part of our colonial legacy, our national inferiority complex, but often it was true: the best frequently *was* elsewhere, and we'd benefit greatly by going there and absorbing it *in situ*. But this applies more generally, and is rarely one-way; sometimes the best is with *us*, and people should

want to come *here*, whoever "we" are, and wherever "here" is.

These days travel is so straightforward and cheap, and communication so effective, we might wonder whether there is any longer a need to have *extended* visits abroad. We can and do make short visits to almost anywhere, so why is there a need for more? I'll argue that there is. Perhaps perversely, let me begin by enumerating some of the possible negatives associated with foreign postdocs or sabbaticals.

Moving a long way from one's home base for an extended period usually involves a loss of productivity. Your routine is broken, sometimes dramatically. A long way from home, you will typically be without the support you are used to, where this could be anything from collaborators, mentors, IT assistance, to babysitters. You might make a mistake, and choose the wrong place, or the wrong host or mentor. Over the years I've heard many stories on this aspect of travel, typically about how unwelcoming the locals were, but even one along the lines of, "I knew I'd made a disastrous mistake an hour after I arrived [for two to three years, at the other side of the world]: the scientific rationale for my choice turned out to be based on a lie." And, last of all, you might never return. This is not infrequent, especially for postdocs, but also sometimes for people on sabbatical.

That's a formidable list, enough to lead many to pause as they contemplate a long-term, albeit temporary, move. But there's more. Going to a new country can cause "culture shock," as can returning home after a very positive experience elsewhere. I've seen plenty of examples of each. Home, especially when it is small, and your foreign experience was at somewhere big, can find it hard to match what you left. The effect can last for years. It is almost inevitable that you will lose out financially, at least

initially. And, not to be ignored, we don't always travel alone. Life in foreign parts can be very difficult for partners, who are forced to leave a familiar environment for somewhere offering no obvious benefits to them. Again, I have seen many cases of spouses being quite unhappy, and have even seen relationships break up for this reason. As for children, it depends on their ages. In most cases I know, the kids had a wonderful time, far better than their parents.

With all these risks, who would ever leave home? Well, one reason is that one can enumerate risks like this associated with leaving home any morning, to go to your regular workplace. You might be involved in an accident en route, your partner might leave you, and so on. Most of the possible negatives are just that: possible, not certain, and typically have a quite low probability of happening, though some bad things will occur to some people anyway, whether or not they go to do a postdoc or have a sabbatical in a foreign country. What we're really talking about here is the life experience, and I believe it can be immeasurably enriched by extended academic travel. Exposure to different cultures, not just academic ones, languages, not just spoken ones, can benefit you scientifically and the whole family more generally. Try it!

"We live in a wonderful world that is full of beauty, charm, and adventure. There is no end to the adventures we can have if only we seek them with our eyes open."

—Jawaharlal Nehru

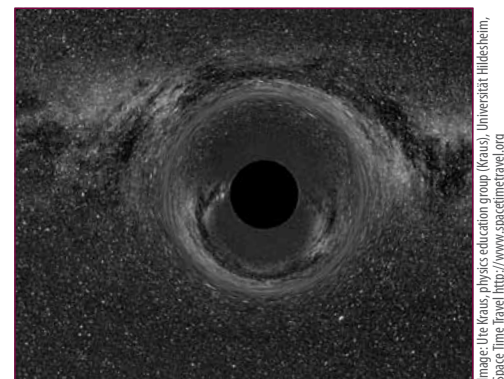


Image: Ute Kraus, physics education group (Kraus), Universität Hildesheim, Space Time Travel <http://www.spacetime-travel.org>

IMS meetings around the world

IMS-sponsored meetings



MCM Ski III

January 5-7, 2011 Park City, Utah

<http://madison.byu.edu/mcmski/>

IMS
ISBA
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BAYESIAN ANALYSIS

The fourth joint international meeting of the IMS (Institute of Mathematical Statistics) and ISBA (International Society for Bayesian Analysis) will be held at The Canyons resort in Park City, Utah, USA, from Wednesday, January 5 to Friday, January 7, 2011. The conference center is just 40 minutes from Salt Lake City airport and is readily accessible by public transport. The meeting will feature three plenary speakers (Nicky Best, Mike Newton, and Jeff Rosenthal), and five invited sessions from internationally-known experts covering a broad array of current and developing statistical practice. There will also be nightly poster sessions and one session of contributed talks reserved for young investigators (within 5 years of PhD).

TRAVEL SUPPORT: ISBA and NSF have committed to support young researchers presenting posters or contributed talks, with preference given to senior or advanced students active in research, and preferentially to students from economically-disadvantaged countries. As such, we encourage applications from young investigators from all parts of the world; see the "Student travel" tab on the conference webpage for details. Application deadline is October 22, 2010; winners will be notified by email shortly thereafter.



AdapSki III

January 3-4, 2011 Satellite meeting
Park City, Utah

<http://www.maths.bris.ac.uk/~maxca/adapskiIII/>

This workshop is intended to provide an updated snapshot of recent methodological and theoretical advances in Monte Carlo methods with a strong emphasis on adaptive Monte Carlo methods in the broad sense. It will consist of four half-day sessions of 12 invited talks with discussions. As in the previous editions, it will include sufficiently long afternoon breaks to allow informal discussions, relaxation and skiing. There will be a poster session on the evening of January 3, please see the website for instructions. Registration is just \$50 for those also attending the main meeting.

At a glance:

*forthcoming
IMS Annual
Meeting and
JSM dates*

2011

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM: Miami Beach, FL, July 30–August 4, 2011

2012

IMS Annual Meeting @ World Congress: İstanbul, Turkey, July 9–14, 2012

JSM: San Diego, CA, July 28–August 2, 2012

2013

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM: Montréal, Canada, August 3–8, 2013

2014

IMS Annual Meeting: Sydney, Australia, July 7–11, 2014

JSM: Boston, MA, August 2–7, 2014

2015

IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM: Seattle, WA, August 8–13, 2015

New & Bestselling Books from Chapman & Hall/CRC

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Introduction to General and Generalized Linear Models

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A CHAPMAN & HALL BOOK

More IMS meetings around the world

IMS sponsored meeting

2012 World Congress/IMS Annual Meeting

July 9–14, 2012

Grand Cevahir Hotel & Convention Center, Istanbul, Turkey

NEW WEBSITE: <http://www.worldcong2012.org/>

The eighth World Congress in Probability and Statistics will be held in Istanbul from July 9 to 14, 2012. It is jointly organized by the Bernoulli Society and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. Scheduled every four years, this meeting is a major worldwide event for statistics and probability, covering all its branches, including theoretical, methodological, applied and computational statistics and probability, and stochastic processes. It features the latest scientific developments in these fields.

The program will cover a wide range of topics in statistics and probability, presenting recent developments and the state of the art in a variety of modern research topics, with in-depth sessions on applications of these disciplines to other sciences, industrial innovation and society. It will feature several special plenary lectures presented by leading specialists. In addition, there will be many invited sessions highlighting topics of current research interests, as well as a large number of contributed sessions and posters.

The venue of the meeting is Grand Cevahir Hotel & Convention Center located in Istanbul, which is a vibrant, multi-cultural and cosmopolitan city bridging Europe and Asia. Istanbul has a unique cultural conglomeration of east and west, offering many cultural and touristic attractions, such as Hagia Sophia, Sultanahmet, Topkapı Palace and Maiden's Tower.

On behalf of the Program Committee and the Local Organizing Committee, we invite you to join us in Istanbul for this exciting scientific event. Your participation will ensure that the 2012 World Congress will be a memorable meeting.

Elvan Çeyhan and Mine Çağlar, Co-chairs of the Local Organizing Committee
Arnoldo Frigessi, Chair of the Program Committee

UPDATED

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy V

June 13–17, 2011

The Pennsylvania State University, USA

w <http://astrostatistics.psu.edu>

IMS Rep: David Banks

NEW

IMS co-sponsored meeting

2nd International Workshop on Integer-Valued Time Series (WINTS 2011)

June 18–21, 2011

Protaras, Cyprus

w <http://www2.ucy.ac.cy/~wints2011/>

IMS Rep: Konstantinos Fokianos

The aim of this meeting is to bring researchers together to discuss their recent contributions to this area. The workshop will cover topics such as integer autoregressive models and their generalizations; generalized linear models for time series; applications and case studies.

NEW

IMS co-sponsored meeting

International Statistics Conference 2011

December 28–30, 2011

Colombo, Sri Lanka

w TBC

Organized by the Applied Statistics Association of Sri Lanka (ASASL)
IMS Rep: Peter Hall, University of Melbourne, Australia.

The meeting location is at the water's edge in the capital city of Sri Lanka. The website is under construction.

Kizkulezi, or Maiden's Tower, stands in the Bosphorus Strait, where Europe and Asia meet



More IMS meetings around the world

IMS sponsored meeting

**IMS Annual Meeting @
2011 Joint Statistical Meetings**
July 30 – August 4, 2011, Miami Beach, FL

w <http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2011/>

Miami beach



IMS sponsored meeting

2012 Joint Statistical Meetings
July 28 – August 2, 2012, San Diego, CA

w <http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2012/>

IMS sponsored meeting

2011 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 20–23, 2011
Hyatt Regency Miami, Florida, USA

w <http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm>

IMS sponsored meeting

2013 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 10–13, 2013
Orlando, Florida, USA

w <http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm>

NEW

IMS co-sponsored meeting

**International Workshop on Emerging Issues
and Challenges to Statistics**
December 17–18, 2010

Xiamen University, Fujian, P.R. China

IMS Rep: Jiayang Sun

w <http://www.southalabama.edu/iweics/>

IMS co-sponsored meeting

**35th Conference on Stochastic Processes and
their Applications**

June 19–25, 2011, Oaxaca, Mexico

w TBC

IMS sponsored meeting

**IMS Annual Meeting @
2013 Joint Statistical Meetings**
August 3–8, 2013, Montréal, Quebec, Canada

w <http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm.cfm>

IMS sponsored meeting

2014 Joint Statistical Meetings
August 2–7, 2014
Boston, Massachusetts, USA

w <http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm.cfm>

IMS sponsored meeting

**IMS Annual Meeting @
2015 Joint Statistical Meetings**
August 8–13, 2015
Seattle, Washington, USA

w <http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm.cfm>

IMS sponsored meeting

2012 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
April 1–4, 2012
Washington DC, USA

w <http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm>

IMS sponsored meeting

2014 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
March 16–19, 2014
Baltimore, Maryland, USA

w <http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm>

NEW

IMS co-sponsored meeting

Seventh Cornell Probability Summer School
July 11–22, 2011. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

NEW WEBSITE <http://www.duke.cornell.edu/~rtd/CPSS2011/>

The Seventh Cornell Probability Summer School will feature six lecture series by Marek Biskup (UCLA), Geoffrey Grimmett (Cambridge) and Greg Lawler (Chicago). In addition Omer Angel (UBC), Julien Dubedat (Columbia), Dmitry Ioffe (Technion), and Alan Sly (Microsoft) who will each give two lectures.

The conference web page, which will be up by November 1, has more information, and a registration form for people who would like to participate. All accepted participants will have their dorm room paid for. US participants can apply for \$400 toward the cost of meals. This meeting is supported by a Research Training Group grant from the National Science Foundation to the probability group at Cornell.

IMS sponsored meeting

2014 IMS Annual Meeting
July 7–11, 2014
Sydney, Australia

w TBC

The location for the 2014 IMS Annual Meeting has been selected as Sydney, Australia. Details will follow, but you can mark your calendars now!

Sydney Opera House, one of the world's iconic buildings



IMS co-sponsored meeting

**International Chinese Statistical Association
2010 Conference:
Frontiers of Interdisciplinary and
Methodological Statistical Research**
December 19–22, 2010

Guangzhou University, Guangzhou, China

w http://www.icsa2.org/Intl_2010/

Program co-chairs: Bin Yu and Zhi-Ming Ma.

UPDATED

IMS co-sponsored meeting**Seminar on Stochastic Processes****March 24–26, 2011. University of California, Irvine****w** <http://math.uci.edu/~mcransto/ssp2011a.html>

IMS rep: Davar Khoshnevisan

IMS co-sponsored meeting**2011 IISA Conference on Probability, Statistics and Data Analysis****April 21–24, 2011****NC State University, Raleigh, NC, USA****w** <http://www.iisaconference.info>

IMS Reps on Program Committees: Soumendra Nath Lahiri (Chair of International Organization Committee), Subhashis Ghoshal (Co-Chair of Local Organization Committee)

IMS co-sponsored meeting**WNAR/IMS Meeting****June 19–22, 2011****San Luis Obispo, California****w** <http://www.wnar.org/>IMS Program Chair: Jay Bartroff **e** bartroff@usc.edu

The 2011 WNAR/IMS meeting will be held on the campus of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, located halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles. See <http://www.calpoly.edu/visitors/visitors.html> for local information, and visit <http://www.wnar.org> for meeting information. Local Organizer: Jimmy Doi **e** jdoi@calpoly.edu

IMS sponsored meeting**IMS-China International Conference on Statistics and Probability****July 8–11, 2011****XiAn, China**

IMS Organizing Chair: Heping Zhang, Yale University

w <http://www.stat.umn.edu/~statconf/imschina2011/index.html>

We are pleased to announce the 3rd IMS-China International Conference on Statistics and Probability 2011 in XiAn, China. The first two meetings in this series were held in Hangzhou (2008) and WeiHai (2009), China.

The meeting is open to all current and prospective IMS members by registration, until the maximum of 150 non-local participants is reached. Local participants are defined as those who reside in mainland China. It will feature plenary lectures, and invited and contributed talks in all areas of probability and statistics. The official languages of the meeting are English and Chinese.

If you live in China, contact Professor Geng Zhi (zhigeng@pku.edu.cn) and Gong Fuzhou (fzgong@mail.amt.ac.cn) for more information. If you live in other countries, send your enquiries in English to Professor Heping Zhang (heping.zhang@yale.edu).

IMS co-sponsored meeting**8th Workshop on Bayesian Nonparametrics****June 26–30, 2011****Veracruz, Mexico****w** <http://www.bnpworkshop.org/>**IMS co-sponsored meeting****IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meeting****July 3–6, 2011****Tokyo, Japan****w** <http://www.ims-aprm2011.org/>

The second IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meeting will take place in OMIYA Sonic City conference hall (<http://www.sonic-city.or.jp/modules/english/>), Tokyo, Japan during the period Sunday July 3 to Wednesday July 6, 2011. This conference is sponsored by IMS, The International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA), The International Indian Statistical Association (IISA), The Japan Statistical Society (JSS), The Korean Statistical Society (KSS) and the Institute of Statistical Mathematics



(ISM). This meeting series provides an excellent forum for scientific communications and collaborations for the researchers in Asia and Pacific Rim. It also promotes communications and collaborations between the researchers in this area and those from other parts of the world. The program covers a wide range of topics in statistics and probability, presenting recent developments and the state of the art in a variety of modern research topics and in applications. Plenary speakers are Professor



Peter Hall (University of Melbourne, Australia), and Professor S.R.S. Varadhan (New York University, USA). A number of celebrated scholars will deliver distinguished lectures and invited talks in this conference. Details about distinguished lecture speakers, invited talk speakers and the key dates can be found in the website.

For more information, you may contact the program chairs: Byeong U. Park (bupark@stats.snu.ac.kr) and Runze Li (rli@stat.psu.edu).

MATHEMATICAL AND COMPUTATIONAL APPROACHES IN HIGH-THROUGHPUT GENOMICS

September 12 - December 16, 2011

Organizing Committee

Eleazar Eskin (UCLA), Phil Green (Univ of Washington), Stanley Nelson (UCLA), Lior Pachter (UC Berkeley), Matteo Pellegrini (UCLA), Sebastien Roch (UCLA), Eric Schadt (Pacific Biosciences), Elizabeth Thompson (Univ of Washington) and Wing Wong (Stanford)

Scientific Overview

Biological sciences have been transformed over the past two decades by the development of technologies capable of performing large-scale measurements of cellular states. In particular, DNA sequencing instruments have undergone an extraordinary increase in efficiency during the past few years that has reduced the time and cost required to sequence billions of bases by several orders of magnitude. This is revolutionizing the scale and potential applications of genomic studies, and creating an enormous need to develop mathematical and computational infrastructures to meet emerging data analysis challenges. To name just a few examples, applications requiring the development of novel mathematical and statistical frameworks include the reconstruction of RNA transcript populations, identifying sequence variations (both single-nucleotide and segmental) and exploring their disease associations, locating the sites of protein-DNA interactions, elucidating population histories, and reconstructing microbial communities that colonize particular hosts or environmental niches. The goal of this long program is to bring together mathematical and computational scientists, sequencing technology developers in both industry and academia, and the biologists who use the instruments for particular research applications. This presents a unique opportunity to foster interactions between these three communities over an extended period of time and advance the mathematical foundations of this exciting field.

Workshop Schedule

- High-Throughput Genomics Tutorials: September 13 – 16, 2011
- Workshop 1: Next-generation Sequencing Technology and Algorithms for Primary Data Analysis, October 3-6, 2011
- Workshop 2: Transcriptomics and Epigenomics, October 25 – 28, 2011
- Mini-Workshop: Cancer Genomics, October 31 – November 1, 2011
- Workshop 3: Evolutionary Genomics, November 15 – 18, 2011
- Workshop 4: Coancestry, Association, and Population Genomics, November 29 – December 2, 2011
- Culminating Workshop at Lake Arrowhead Conference Center, December 11 – 16, 2011

Participation

This long program will involve a community of senior and junior researchers. The intent is for participants to have an opportunity to learn about mathematical and computational challenges in genome-scale biology, meet a diverse group of people and form new collaborations.

Full and partial support for long-term participants is available. We are especially interested in applicants who intend to participate in the entire program (September 12 – December 16, 2011), but will consider applications for shorter periods. Funding is available for participants at all academic levels, though recent PhDs, graduate students, and researchers in the early stages of their careers are especially encouraged to apply. Encouraging the careers of women and minority mathematicians and scientists is an important component of IPAM's mission and we welcome their applications. More information and an application is available online.

<http://ipam.ucla.edu/programs/gen2011>

Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics
Los Angeles, CA



UCLA

Other meetings around the world

ICIAM 2011: AWM Workshop for Women Graduate Students and Recent PhDs

July 18–19, 2011

Vancouver, Canada

Deadline for Applications is October 31, 2010

w <https://sites.google.com/site/awmmath/programs/workshops/ICIAM-workshop>

An Association for Women in Mathematics (AWM) Workshop will be held in conjunction with the 7th International Congress on Industrial and Applied Mathematics (ICIAM 2011), Vancouver, Canada, July 18–19, 2011.

The workshop will consist of a graduate student poster session and two mini-symposia featuring selected postdocs, plus an informational mini-symposium directed at starting a career. The graduate student poster session will include all areas of research but each postdoc mini-symposium will have a definite focus, and will be selected from the research areas of Mathematical Biology, Modeling, Control, Optimization, Scientific Computing, and PDEs and Applications. All ICIAM participants (female and male) are invited to attend the mini-symposia and poster session.

Pending funding, limited travel support will be available from AWM, but applicants are encouraged to explore all avenues for support. Departments are urged to help graduate students and postdocs obtain some supplementary institutional funding to attend the Workshop and the ICIAM meeting. SIAM has travel support for students and early career participants, such as postdoctoral candidates, to attend ICIAM 2011. More details on the application procedure will be available soon at http://www.iciam2011.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id

Please visit the website for full details on the workshop.

17th European Young Statisticians Meeting

September 5–9, 2011

Lisbon, Portugal

w <http://www.fct.unl.pt/17eysm>

The European Young Statisticians Meetings are organized every two years under the auspices of the European Regional Committee of the Bernoulli Society. The aim is to provide a scientific forum for the next generation of European researchers in probability theory and statistics. The meeting will gather about 46 participants coming from about 23 European countries.

Participants are less than 30 years old or have two to eight years' research experience. They are chosen by invitation only in a uniformly-distributed way in Europe (two per country).

See the website for details.



ICORS 2011: International Conference on Robust Statistics

June 27 – July 1, 2011

Valladolid, Spain

w <http://www.icors11.uva.es>

e congreso.icors2011@uva.es

The International Conference on Robust Statistics will be held at Universidad de Valladolid (Spain), from June 27th to July 1st, 2011. The aim of this conference is to be a forum for the developments and applications of robust statistical methods, and their interactions to other fields of statistics, and to science in general. It is an opportunity to meet, exchange knowledge, and build scientific contacts for all people interested in the subject.

Mathematical and Computational Approaches in High-Throughput Genomics

[see ad on facing page]

September 12 – December 16, 2011

Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, Los Angeles, CA, USA

w www.ipam.ucla.edu/programs/gen2011/

Biological sciences have been transformed over the past two decades by the development of technologies capable of performing large-scale measurements of cellular states. In particular, DNA sequencing instruments have undergone an extraordinary increase in efficiency during the past few years that has reduced the time and cost required to sequence billions of bases by several orders of magnitude. This is revolutionizing the scale and potential applications of genomic studies, and creating an enormous need to develop mathematical and computational infrastructures to meet emerging data analysis challenges. This long program aims to foster interactions between mathematical and computational scientists, sequencing technology developers in industry and academia, and the biologists who use the instruments for particular research applications to advance the mathematical foundations of this exciting field.

This program will involve a community of senior and junior researchers. Applications will be accepted through May 12, 2011 but decisions will be made starting in December. Encouraging the careers of women and minority mathematicians and scientists is an important component of IPAM's mission; we welcome their applications.

46th Actuarial Research Conference

August 11–13, 2011

University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut, USA

w <http://www.math.uconn.edu/~valdez/46arc/46arc-storrs.php>

Employment Opportunities around the world

Canada: Scarborough, ON

University of Toronto @ Scarborough, Department of Computer & Mathematical Sciences

Assistant Professor Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7259513

Canada: Scarborough, ON

University of Toronto @ Scarborough, Department of Computer & Mathematical Sciences

Lecturer in Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7259531

Canada: Waterloo, ON

University of Waterloo

Tenured Full Professor in Survey Sampling

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7283631

Canada: Waterloo, ON

University of Waterloo

Tenure Track Assistant Professor in Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7283611

Canada: Waterloo, ON

University of Waterloo

Tenure Track Assistant Professor in Actuarial Science

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7283594

China: Beijing

Peking University, Center for Statistical Science

Open Rank Faculty Positions

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7239274

Hong Kong



THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Applications are invited for:-

Department of Statistics

Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor

(Ref. 1011/033(408)/2)

The Department invites applications for faculty post(s), open rank. Applicants should have (i) a PhD degree; and (ii) strong research and teaching records in statistics. Applicants with exceptionally strong credentials may be considered for appointment at a higher level as Professor or Associate Professor. For a senior level appointment, applicants should have an internationally renowned research record that is commensurate with the departmental interest, demonstrated administrative experience including mentoring junior faculty, and a distinguished record in teaching. The appointee will (a) teach undergraduate and postgraduate courses in statistics and risk management; (b) conduct high quality research; and (c) assist in the administration of the Department. Appointment will normally be made on contract basis for up to three years initially commencing as soon as possible, which, subject to mutual agreement, may lead to longer-term appointment or substantiation later. Applications will be accepted until the post is filled.

Salary and Fringe Benefits

Salary will be highly competitive, commensurate with qualifications and experience. The University offers a comprehensive fringe benefit package, including medical care, plus a contract-end gratuity for an appointment of two years or longer, and housing benefits for eligible appointee. Further information about the University and the general terms of service for appointments is available at <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/personnel>. The terms mentioned herein are for reference only and are subject to revision by the University.

Application Procedure

Please send full resume, copies of academic credentials, a publication list and/or abstracts of selected published papers together with names, addresses and fax numbers/e-mail addresses of three referees to whom the applicants' consent has been given for their providing references (unless otherwise specified), to the Personnel Office, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong (Fax: (852) 2696 1462). The Personal Information Collection Statement will be provided upon request. Please quote the reference number and mark 'Application - Confidential' on cover.

Hong Kong

THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Department of Mathematics Faculty Position(s)

The Department of Mathematics invites applications for tenure-track faculty positions at the rank of Assistant Professor in all areas of mathematics, including one position in analysis/PDE. Other things being equal, preference will be given to areas consistent with the Department's strategic planning.

A PhD degree and strong experience in research and teaching are required. Applicants with exceptionally strong qualifications and experience in research and teaching may be considered for positions above the Assistant Professor rank.

Starting rank and salary will depend on qualifications and experience. Fringe benefits including medical/dental benefits and annual leave will be provided. Housing will also be provided where applicable. Initial appointment will normally be on a three-year contract, renewable subject to mutual agreement. A gratuity will be payable upon successful completion of contract.

Applications received on or before 31 December 2010 will be given full consideration for appointment in 2011. Applications received afterwards will be considered subject to availability of positions. Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, at least three research references and one teaching reference to the Human Resources Office, HKUST, Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong [Fax: (852) 2358 0700]. Applicants for positions above the Assistant Professor rank should send curriculum vitae and the names of at least three research referees to the Human Resources Office. More information about the University and the Department is available at <http://www.ust.hk>.

(Information provided by applicants will be used for recruitment and other employment-related purposes.)

Taiwan

Academia Sinica Institute of Statistical Science Regular Research Positions

The Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica, is seeking outstanding candidates for regular research positions at the level of assistant, associate or full research fellow available in 2011. Candidates in all areas of Statistics will be considered. Candidates should have a PhD in statistics or related fields. Application materials must include (1) a curriculum vitae, (2) three letters of recommendation and (3) representative publications and/or technical reports. Additional supporting materials such as transcripts for new PhD applicants may also be included. Except for the letters of recommendation, electronic submissions are encouraged. Applications should be submitted to

Dr. Hsin-Cheng Huang
Chair of the Search Committee
Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica
128 Sec. 2 Academia Road, Taipei 11529, Taiwan, R.O.C.
Fax: +886-2-27831523
E-mail: hchuang@stat.sinica.edu.tw

Applications should be completed by **December 31, 2010** for full consideration.

Italy: Milan

Bocconi University, Department of Decision Sciences

Assistant Professor Decision Sciences

[http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_
id=1847&jb=7254898](http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7254898)

New Zealand: Dunedin

University of Otago, New Zealand, Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Statistics

[http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_
id=1847&jb=7294117](http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7294117)

Qatar: Doha

Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar

Postdoctoral and Research Specialist:

Biostatistics and/or Epidemiology

[http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_
id=1847&jb=7088608](http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7088608)

Singapore

National University of Singapore, Dept of Statistics and Applied Probability

Faculty Positions

[http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_
id=1847&jb=7185006](http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7185006)

Spain: Barcelona

Universitat Pompeu Fabra

Assistant Professor

[http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_
id=1847&jb=7287042](http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7287042)

Sweden: Gothenburg

Gothenburg University

Professor of Biostatistics

[http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_
id=1847&jb=7175496](http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7175496)

Switzerland: Neuchâtel**University of Neuchâtel, Institute of Statistics**

Postdoc

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7224128**Taiwan: Taipei****National Taiwan University, Department of Mathematics**

All ranks

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7217999**Taiwan: Taipei City****Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica**

Assistant Research Fellow, Associate Research Fellow or Research Fellow

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7107563**United Kingdom: London****Imperial College London, Department of Mathematics, Statistics Section**

Chair in Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7216394**United Kingdom: London****University College London**

Chair/Reader in Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7261673**United States: Berkeley, CA****UC Berkeley, Department of Statistics**

Tenure or Tenure Track Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7267255**United States: Fullerton, CA****California State University, Fullerton**

Tenure Track Position in Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7264000**United States: La Jolla, CA****UCSD, Department of Mathematics**

Tenure Track Professor of Mathematics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7249857**United States: Los Angeles, CA****University of Southern California, Marshall School of Business**

Tenure Track Position in Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7093781**United States: Los Angeles, CA****UCLA Department of Mathematics**

Faculty Positions Academic Year 2011–2012

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7012800**United States: Stanford, CA****Stanford University, Department of Statistics**

Assistant Professor, tenure track

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7051472**United States: Aurora, CO****University of Colorado**

Postdoctoral Fellow: Biostatistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7190323**United States: Fort Collins, CO****Colorado State University**

Department of Statistics Faculty

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7279973**United States: Miami, FL****University of Miami**

Full Professor & Associate Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7200057**United States: Chicago, IL****DePaul University**

Assistant Professor: Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7287004**United States: Bloomington, IN****Indiana University**

Associate Professor of Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7145820

United States: Chicago, IL**University of Illinois at Chicago****Department of Mathematics, Statistics, & Computer Science**

Research Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7217513

The Department has active research programs in a broad spectrum of centrally important areas of pure mathematics, computational and applied mathematics, combinatorics, mathematical computer science and scientific computing, probability and statistics, and mathematics education. See <http://www.math.uic.edu> for more information.

Applications are invited for the following position, effective August 16, 2011. Final authorization of the position is subject to the availability of state funding.

Research Assistant Professorship. This is a non-tenure track position, normally renewable annually to a maximum of three years. This position carries a teaching responsibility of three courses per year, and the expectation that the incumbent play a significant role in the research life of the Department. The salary for AY 2010-2011 for this position is \$55,000. Applicants must show evidence of outstanding research potential in mathematics, computer science, statistics, mathematics education or related field, and should expect to have a Ph.D. or equivalent degree by the start date.

Applicants should include a vita, research and teaching statements, and at least three (3) letters of recommendation. Applications should be submitted through mathjobs.org. No applications will be accepted by surface mail or e-mail. To ensure full consideration, application materials must be received by December 31, 2010, but applications will be accepted through January 31, 2011. Minorities, persons with disabilities, and women are particularly encouraged to apply. UIC is an AA/EOE.

United States: West Lafayette, IN**Department of Statistics - Purdue University**

Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7283676**United States: Waltham, MA****AstraZeneca**

Senior Statistician

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7255274**United States: Chicago, IL****University of Illinois at Chicago****Department of Mathematics, Statistics, & Computer Science**

Tenure Track Assistant Professor in Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7217507

The Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science invites applications for a tenure track Assistant Professor position in statistics or probability. The position is effective August 16, 2011 and the salary is negotiable. Applicants must have expertise in statistics, probability, or related areas, a demonstrated commitment to research and teaching, and should expect to have a Ph.D. or equivalent degree by the start date. Final authorization of the position is subject to the availability of state funding.

The Department has active research programs in a broad spectrum of centrally important areas of pure mathematics, computational and applied mathematics, mathematical computer science, probability and statistics, and mathematics education. See <http://www.math.uic.edu> for more information.

Applicants should include a vita, research and teaching statements, and at least three (3) letters of recommendation. Applications should be submitted through mathjobs.org. No applications will be accepted by surface mail or e-mail. To ensure full consideration, application materials must be received by December 1, 2010, but applications will be accepted through January 15, 2011. However, we will continue considering candidates until the position is filled. Minorities, persons with disabilities, and women are particularly encouraged to apply. UIC is an AA/EOE.

United States: Williamstown, MA**Williams College**

Assistant Professor of Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7091803**United States: East Lansing, MI****Michigan State University**

Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7229633

United States: Durham, NC**Duke University** DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICAL SCIENCE

The Department of Statistical Science invites applications for faculty appointment at the level of Assistant Professor of the Practice to begin in Fall 2011. The professor of the practice rank at Duke is parallel to the tenure track, emphasizing teaching and pedagogy. It is term renewable, and affords the possibility for promotion to associate and full professor of the practice. Preference will be given to candidates demonstrating outstanding teaching and strong interests in developing a new and growing undergraduate major. Complementary interests in Bayesian statistical science research and collaboration will also be considered.

The Department of Statistical Science is an internationally recognized center of excellence for research and education in the development and application of contemporary statistical methodology. Particular emphasis is directed toward Bayesian modeling in many scientific fields as well as emerging computationally intensive methods. The Department offers outstanding computational facilities and opportunities for interdisciplinary research. It currently has 14 regular rank faculty along with 14 visiting, adjunct, and post doctoral faculty and 35 Ph.D. students.

The educational program (graduate and undergraduate) as well as the Department's research agenda benefit from strong connections with the Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI) and the National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS), both located nearby in the Research Triangle. More information about the Department is available at the web site <http://www.stat.duke.edu>.

All applicants should provide a letter, curriculum vitae, personal statement, and three reference letters. All materials should be submitted online at Academic Jobs Online (<https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo>). For inquiries and e-mail correspondence please write to dalene@stat.duke.edu. The application pool will remain open until the position is filled but screening will begin on 1 December 2010.

Duke University prohibits discrimination and harassment, and provides equal employment opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, sex or age. Duke is committed to recruiting, hiring, and promoting qualified minorities, women, individuals with disabilities, and veterans.

United States: Durham, NC**Duke University** DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICAL SCIENCE

The Department of Statistical Science invites applications for faculty appointment at the level of Assistant Professor to begin in Fall 2011. Preference will be given to candidates whose core statistical science research interests are complemented with collaborative research interest in systems biology, neurosciences, social sciences, or environmental science.

The Department of Statistical Science is an internationally recognized center of excellence for research and education in the development and application of contemporary statistical methodology. Particular emphasis is directed toward Bayesian modeling in many scientific fields as well as emerging computationally intensive methods. The Department offers outstanding computational facilities and opportunities for interdisciplinary research. It currently has 14 regular rank faculty along with 14 visiting, adjunct, and post doctoral faculty and 35 Ph.D. students.

The Ph.D. program as well as the Department's research agenda benefit from strong connections with the Statistics and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI) and the National Institute of Statistical Science (NISS), both located nearby in the Research Triangle. A Statistical Science major, started in Fall 2007, provides the primary focus of our undergraduate program. More information about the Department is available at the web site <http://www.stat.duke.edu>.

All applicants should provide a letter, curriculum vitae, personal statement, and the names of three references. All materials should be submitted online at Academic Jobs Online (<https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo>). For inquiries and e-mail correspondence please write to search@stat.duke.edu. The application pool will remain open until the position is filled but screening will begin on 1 December 2010.

Duke University prohibits discrimination and harassment, and provides equal employment opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, sex or age. Duke is committed to recruiting, hiring, and promoting qualified minorities, women, individuals with disabilities, and veterans.

United States: Columbia, MO**University of Missouri - Department of Statistics**

Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7245838**United States: Raleigh, NC****North Carolina State University**

Teaching Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=6478610**United States: Raleigh, NC****North Carolina State University, Department of Statistics**

Head, Department of Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7260123**United States: Raleigh, NC****North Carolina State University**

Assistant/Associate/Full Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=4837228**United States: Research Triangle Park, NC****Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute**

Postdoctoral Fellow

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7225093**United States: Piscataway, NJ****Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey**

Associate/Full Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7290610**United States: Piscataway, NJ****Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey**

Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7290590**United States: Princeton, NJ****Princeton University**

Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7160087**United States: Ithaca, NY****Cornell University**

Tenure-Tenure Track Position

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7266968**United States: Ithaca, NY****Cornell University**

NSF Postdoctoral Position

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7266966**United States: New York, NY****Columbia University, Department of Statistics**

Faculty Position

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7263317**United States: New York, NY****Columbia University, Department of Statistics**

Limited-term Faculty Position

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7263308**United States: Ithaca, NY****Cornell University****Statistical Sciences**

Cornell University, located in Ithaca, New York, is an inclusive, dynamic and innovative Ivy League university and New York's land-grant institution. Its staff, faculty, and students impart an uncommon sense of larger purpose and contribute creative ideas and best practices to further the university's mission of teaching, research, and outreach.

The Department of Statistical Science at Cornell University invites applications for two open-rank faculty positions. We seek individuals with a strong foundation in statistical theory and/or methodology doing outstanding research. A PhD in statistics or related mathematical science is required.

Application screening begins immediately and continues until the positions are filled. Applicants for Assistant Professor must submit a cover letter, a curriculum vitae including a list of publications, and arrange for three letters of reference to be sent directly to the Search Committee. Up to three relevant research publications may also be submitted. Applicants for Associate and Full Professor positions must possess the potential for leadership in the core research and teaching missions of the Department. Candidates for senior positions should submit a cover letter that clearly highlights your three most important research publications, a curriculum vitae that includes a full list of publications and current and past sponsored project activity, and the names of three or more individuals that may be contacted for references.

Application materials and all related queries should be sent to: stat_search@cornell.edu

Cornell University is an affirmative action/ equal opportunity employer and educator.

United States: New York, NY**Columbia University, Department of Statistics**

Faculty Position starting Fall 2011

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7263300**United States: New York, NY****New York University Stern School of Business: Information, Operations and Management Sciences Department, Statistics Group**

Assistant Professor of Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7280352**United States: Cincinnati, OH****University of Cincinnati, Department of Mathematical Sciences**

Assistant Professor: Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7283167**United States: Columbus, OH****Mathematical Biosciences Institute**

Early Career Award

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7267358**United States: Columbus, OH****Mathematical Biosciences Institute**

Postdoctoral Fellowship

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7267353**United States: Philadelphia, PA****Temple University****Fox School of Business****Fox School of Business**
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY®

The Department of Statistics in the Fox School of Business at Temple University invites applications for Tenure-Track faculty positions at all levels. Qualified candidates must hold a Ph.D. in Statistics, publications in top-tier journals, proven record of teaching excellence, and strong theory/application background. Strong candidates in any area of statistics will be considered. Apply electronically to Dr. Sanat K. Sarkar, stat.recruiting@temple.edu, with cover letter, full CV, evidence of excellence in teaching & three letters of recommendation. Additional information is available from the department websites at: www.fox.temple.edu/dept/statistics/.

Temple University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer and specifically invites applications from women and minorities.

United States: Portland, OR**Portland State University: Fariborz Maseeh Department of Mathematics & Statistics**

Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7256318**United States: Portland, OR****Portland State University: Fariborz Maseeh Department of Mathematics & Statistics**

Maseeh Distinguished Chair in Mathematical Sciences

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7155921**United States: Easton, PA****Lafayette College**

Statistics Position:- Tenure Track Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7271349**United States: Pittsburgh, PA****Carnegie Mellon University/Department of Statistics**

Tenure-track, lecturer, and visiting faculty

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7250336**United States: Pittsburgh, PA****Carnegie Mellon University**

Applications are invited for possible tenure-track, lecturer, and visiting positions. Carnegie Mellon offers a collegial faculty environment, emphasizing a combination of disciplinary and cross-disciplinary research and teaching. All areas of statistics are welcome, and joint appointments with other units in the Pittsburgh area are possible. We especially encourage women and minorities to apply. Details at <http://www.stat.cmu.edu> (email: hiring@stat.cmu.edu). Application screening begins immediately and continues until positions closed. Send CV, research papers, relevant transcripts and three letters of recommendation to: *Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, USA. AA/EOE.*

United States: University Park, PA**Penn State University**

The Department of Statistics at Penn State seeks to fill multiple tenure-track positions at any level, to begin August 2011. Candidates with Ph.D. in statistics or related field who demonstrate excellence in research and teaching are encouraged to apply.

See <http://www.stat.psu.edu> for particulars. Please apply at mathjobs.org; or send letter of application, curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation to: Chair, Faculty Search Committee, Department of Statistics, 326-I Thomas Building, University Park, PA 16802-2111. Screening will begin November 15, 2010. Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity and the diversity of its workforce.

United States: Pittsburgh, PA**FACULTY POSITION****Department of Statistics****Arts and Sciences****University of Pittsburgh**

The Department of Statistics at the University of Pittsburgh invites applications for a tenure-track position, pending budgetary approval. This position begins September 2011:

Assistant Professor

This position involves teaching, statistical research, and collaboration with investigators outside of Statistics. Strong preference will be given for research in computationally intensive methods, but any area of statistics will be considered.

Send CV, transcripts, and three recommendation letters before January 5, 2011 to:

*Search Committee
Department of Statistics
2717 Cathedral of Learning
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15260*

The University of Pittsburgh is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and members of minority groups under-represented in academia are especially encouraged to apply.

United States: Lubbock, TX**Texas Tech University**

Open-rank faculty position

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7221590

United States: Salt Lake City, UT**Department of Mathematics University of Utah**

Tenure-track or tenured appointments at the level of assistant, associate, or full professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7263186

United States: Blacksburg, VA**Department of Statistics, Virginia Tech**

Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7199893

United States: Fairfax, VA**George Mason University**

Assistant or Associate Professor of Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7250282

United States: Seattle, WA**University of Washington, Department of Statistics**

Tenure-Track Assistant or Associate Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7260018

United States: Madison, WI**University of Wisconsin-Madison, Department of Statistics**

Assistant Professor

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=7115840

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Institute of
Mathematical
Statistics



Bernoulli Society
for Mathematical Statistics
and Probability

Electronic Journal of Statistics

The *Electronic Journal of Statistics (EJS)* publishes research articles and short notes on theoretical, computational and applied statistics. All articles in this **open access** journal are refereed and are held to the same high standard as articles in other journals published by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS) . Articles become publicly available shortly after they are accepted.

The *Electronic Journal of Statistics* is jointly sponsored by the IMS and the Bernoulli Society. In addition to *EJS*, the societies also jointly sponsor several other open access journals, including two research journals, *Electronic Journal of Probability* and *Electronic Communications in Probability*; as well as the two survey journals, *Probability Surveys* and *Statistics Surveys*.

David Ruppert (Cornell) serves as editor for the *Electronic Journal of Statistics*. Please visit www.imstat.org/ejs/ for more information, and to submit papers.



www.imstat.org/ejs/



Volume 1, 2007



International Calendar of Statistical Events

IMS meetings are highlighted in maroon with the  logo, and new or updated entries have the  or  symbol. **t** means telephone, **f** fax, **e** email and **w** website. Please submit your meeting details and any corrections to Elyse Gustafson at erg@imstat.org

November 2010

November 8–10: Lodz, Poland. Multivariate Statistical Analysis Conference. **w** <http://www.msa.uni.lodz.pl>

November 15–16: Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, MA. 2010 Program in Quantitative Genomics Conference. **w** www.hsph.harvard.edu/research/pqg-conference-2010/

November 25–27: Lahore, Pakistan. Third International Conference on Statistical Sciences. **w** www.icss3.co.nr

December 2010

December 4–10: University of Jammu, India. International Conference on the Development and Applications of Statistics in Emerging Areas of Science & Technology (ICDASEAST) and 30th Annual Convention of the Indian Society for Probability and Statistics **w** <http://www.jammuuniversity.in/upload/conference/pic240.PDF>

December 5–10: Federal University of Santa Catarina, Florianópolis, SC, Brazil. XXV International Biometric Conference (IBC) **w** www.ibc-floripa-2010.org

December 5–10: Atlantic City, NJ. 65th Annual Deming Conference on Applied Statistics **w** www.demingconference.com

December 6–10: Fremantle, Australia. Australian Statistical Conference 2010 **w** <http://www.promaco.com.au/2010/asc>

December 12–17: Eindhoven, The Netherlands. Workshop on Combinatorics and Analysis in Spatial Probability. **w** <http://www.esf.org/activities/esf-conferences/details/2010/confdetail348.html?conf=348&year=2010>

 **December 13–17:** Selwyn College, Cambridge, UK. Extreme Environmental Events. **w** <http://www.esf.org/index.php?id=7048>

December 15–17: University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA. Borrowing Strength: Theory Powering Applications. Conference

in honor of Lawrence Brown's 70th birthday **w** <http://stat.wharton.upenn.edu/~zhangk/BS/index.htm>

December 16–18: The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. International Conference on Applied Statistics and Financial Mathematics (ASFM2010). **w** <http://www.polyu.edu.hk/ama/events/conference/asfm2010/>

 **December 17–18:** Xiamen University, Fujian, P.R. China. International Workshop on Emerging Issues and Challenges to Statistics. **w** <http://www.southalabama.edu/iweics/>

 **December 19–22:** Guangzhou University, Guang-Zhou, China. 2010 ICSA International Conference. **w** tba

December 26–28: University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. First International Conference on the Theory and Applications of Statistics **w** <http://www.dusdaa.org/conference2010>

January 2011

 **January 3–4:** Park City, Utah, USA AdapSki III, the satellite meeting to MCMSki III. **w** <http://www.maths.bris.ac.uk/~maxca/adapskIII/>

 **January 5–7:** Park City, UT. MCMSki III: Markov Chain Monte Carlo in Theory and Practice **w** <http://madison.byu.edu/mcmski/>

January 24–26: CongresHotel De Werelt, Lunteren. 10th Winter School on Mathematical Finance. **w** <http://www.science.uva.nl/~spreij/stieltjes/winterschool.html>

February 2011

February 2–5: University of Zurich, Switzerland. Workshop on Bayesian Inference for Latent Gaussian Models with Applications **w** <http://www.math.uzh.ch/bilgm11>

International Calendar *continued*

February 25–26: SAMSI, Research Triangle Park, NC. Education and Outreach Program: Two-Day Undergraduate Workshop **w** <http://www.samsi.info>

March 2011

 **March 20–23:** Hyatt Regency Miami, FL. 2011 ENAR/IMS Spring Meetings. **w** <http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm>

23–25 March: The Netherlands. Spatial Statistics 2011 Conference **w** <http://www.spatialstatisticsconference.com/>

 **March 24–26:** University of California, Irvine. Seminar on Stochastic Processes. IMS rep: Davar Khoshnevisan **w** <http://math.uci.edu/~mcransto/ssp2011a.html>

Meeting organizer's to do list



April 2011

April 11–13: Bordeaux, France. Third International Biometrics Society (IBS) Channel Network Conference. **e** ibschannel@isped.u-bordeaux2.fr **w** <http://www.ibs-channel-bordeaux2011.fr>

 **April 21–24:** NC State University, Raleigh, NC, USA. 2011 IISA Conference on Probability, Statistics and Data Analysis. IMS Reps: Soumendra Nath Lahiri (Chair of International Organization Committee), Subhashis Ghoshal (Co-Chair of Local Organization Committee). **w** <http://www.iisaconference.info>


May 2011

May 16–20: SAMSI, Research Triangle Park, NC. Education and Outreach Program: Interdisciplinary Workshop for Graduates **w** <http://www.samsi.info>


June 2011

June 12–15: Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada. 2011 SSC Annual Meeting **w** <http://www.ssc.ca/en/meetings/2011>

NEW  **June 13–17:** Penn State University, USA. Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy V. **w** <http://astrostatistics.psu.edu>

NEW  **June 18–21:** Protaras, Cyprus. WINTS2011: 2nd International Workshop on Integer-Valued Time Series **w** <http://www2.ucy.ac.cy/~wints2011/>

 **June 19–22:** San Luis Obispo, California. WNAR/IMS Meeting. IMS Program Chair: Jay Bartroff. **w** <http://www.wnar.org/>

 **June 19–25:** Oaxaca, Mexico. 35th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications. **w** TBC

June 20–24: Beijing Institute of Technology, China. Seventh International Conference on Mathematical Methods in Reliability. **w** www.mmr2011.cn

June 26–29: New York City, NY, USA. **ICSA 2011 Applied Statistics Symposium.** **w** <http://www.icsa.org/2011/>

 June 26–30: Veracruz, Mexico. **8th Workshop on Bayesian Nonparametrics.** **w** <http://www.bnppworkshop.org/>

NEW June 27 – July 1: Valladolid, Spain. **ICORS 2011: International Conference on Robust Statistics** **e** [congreso. icors2011@uva.es](mailto:icors2011@uva.es) **w** <http://www.icors11.uva.es>

July 2011

 July 3–6: Tokyo, Japan. **IMS Asia Pacific Rim Meetings.** **w** <http://www.ims-aprm2011.org/>


July 6–8: Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm, Sweden. **INFORMS Applied Probability Society Conference.** **w** <http://meetings.informs.org/APS2011>

 July 8–11: XiAn, China. **IMS-China International Conference on Statistics and Probability.** IMS Organizing Chair: Heping Zhang. **w** <http://www.stat.umn.edu/~statconf/imschina2011/index.html>

UPDATED  July 11–22: Ithaca, NY. **7th Cornell Probability Summer School.** **NEW WEBSITE** <http://www.duke.cornell.edu/~rtd/CPSS2011/>

NEW July 18–19: Vancouver, Canada. **ICIAM 2011: AWM Workshop for Women Graduate Students and Recent PhDs.** **Deadline October 31, 2010.** **w** <https://sites.google.com/site/awmmath/programs/workshops/ICIAM-workshop>

NEW July 18–22: Vancouver, Canada. **ICIAM 2011: 7th International Congress on Industrial and Applied Mathematics** **w** <http://www.iciam2011.com/>

 July 30 – August 4: Miami Beach, Florida. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2011.** **w** <http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2011/>



Miami, location of JSM 2011 and IMS Annual Meeting

August 2011

NEW August 1–4: Boulder, Colorado. **Uncertainty Quantification in Scientific Computing.** **w** <http://www.nist.gov/itl/math/ifip-woco-10.cfm>

August 1–5: Sandbjerg Estate, Sønderborg, Denmark. **Conference in Honour of Søren Asmussen: New Frontiers in Applied Probability** **w** www.thiele.au.dk/asmussen

NEW August 11–13: University of Connecticut, Storrs, USA. **46th Actuarial Research Conference.** **w** <http://www.math.uconn.edu/~valdez/46arc/46arc-storrs.php>

September 2011

NEW September 5–9: Lisbon, Portugal. **17th European Young Statisticians Meeting** **w** <http://www.fct.unl.pt/17eysm>

NEW September 12 – December 16: Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, Los Angeles, USA. **Mathematical and Computational Approaches in High-Throughput Genomics** **w** www.ipam.ucla.edu/programs/gen2011/

December 2011

NEW  December 28–30: Colombo, Sri Lanka. **International Statistics Conference 2011.** **w** TBC

International Calendar *continued*

December 2011 continued

December 28–31: Hong Kong, China. **International Conference on Advances in Probability and Statistics Theory and Applications: A celebration of N. Balakrishnan's 30 years of contributions to statistics.** e icaps2011@gmail.com w <http://faculty.smu.edu/ngh/icaps2011.html>

April 2012



 April 1–4: Washington DC, USA. **2012 ENAR/IMS Spring Meetings.** w <http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm>

June 2012

June 3–6: Guelph, Ontario, Canada. **2012 SSC Annual Meeting** w TBC

June 23–26: Boston, MA, USA. **ICSA 2012 Applied Statistics Symposium.** w TBC

July 2012

  July 9–14: Istanbul, Turkey. **IMS Annual Meeting 2012 in conjunction with 8th World Congress in Probability and Statistics.** **NEW WEBSITE** <http://www.worldcong2012.org/>



Istanbul, location of 2012 IMS Annual Meeting

 July 29 – August 2: San Diego, California. **JSM2012.**



March 2013

  March 10–13: Orlando, Florida. **2013 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting.** w <http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm>

August 2013

 August 3–8: Montréal, Canada. **IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2013.** w TBC

March 2014

  March 16–19: Baltimore, Maryland. **2014 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting.** w <http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm>

July 2014

 July 7–11: Sydney, Australia. **2014 IMS Annual Meeting.** w TBC

August 2014

 August 2–7: Boston, MA. **JSM2014.** w TBC

August 2015

 August 8–13: Seattle, WA. **JSM2015.** w TBC

Are we missing something? If you know of any statistics or probability meetings which aren't listed here, please let us know. Email the details to Elyse Gustafson at erg@imstat.org. We'll list them here in the *Bulletin*, and online too, at www.imstat.org/meetings

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The *IMS Bulletin* publishes articles and news of interest to IMS members and to statisticians and probabilists in general, as well as details of IMS meetings and an international calendar of statistical events. Views and opinions in editorials and articles are not to be understood as official expressions of the Institute's policy unless so stated; publication does not necessarily imply endorsement in any way of the opinions expressed therein, and the *IMS Bulletin* and its publisher do not accept any responsibility for them. The *IMS Bulletin* is copyrighted and authors of individual articles may be asked to sign a copyright transfer to the IMS before publication.

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**December
2010**

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