

News from the World of Statistics



January 17, 2017

The World of Statistics is experimenting with adding job listings for statistics and data science to the newsletter. There is no cost for listing available jobs, but listings must be limited to 250 words and include a link to where more detailed information about the position can be found. We hope this will be a valuable service to the worldwide community of statisticians and data scientists. Send your listing to ron@amstat.org.

NEWS

International Workshop on Operations Research Set for Cuba



The 12th International Workshop on Operations Research (IWOR) will take place March 14-17, 2017, in Havana, Cuba. With a theme of “Operations Research for Sustainable Socioeconomic Development,” the workshop promotes the exchange of experiences about applications of operations research that foster contributions on theoretical results, applications to decision problems and computing issues related to human health, environment and regional development. Specific focus areas include bioinformatics, biomathematics, computer science, management sciences, multi-criteria, numerical analysis, probability and statistics, optimization and operations research education. The deadline for abstracts is January 10, 2017. For more information, contact professor Sira Allende Alonso of the Universidad de La Habana, Cuba, at sira@matcom.uh.cu.

Wiley to Launch New Journal

In partnership with the Stevens Institute of Technology, Wiley & Sons is in the process of launching a new journal titled [*High Frequency*](#) that will publish research in the fields of quantitative finance, seismology,

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astrophysics, communications, imaging, neuroscience, and environmental statistics. Papers are invited via the [ScholarOne Manuscripts Online](#) submission and peer review system.

Leave Your Mark on Scientific Progress, Participate in a Global Questionnaire



The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Program on Scientific Responsibility, Human Rights and Law, and the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition invite you and your colleagues to participate in a [global questionnaire](#) aimed at better understanding how scientists understand “the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications.” This right is codified in Article 15 of the International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

The results of the survey will help inform a report to the United Nations Committee that is currently developing an implementation framework (called a “general comment”) on this right. The questionnaire is anonymous and should take no more than 5-10 minutes to complete. For questions or additional information, please contact [Jessica Wyndham](#).

European Network Plans Spring 2017 Meeting, Issues Call for Papers



The 2017 European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics ([ENBIS](#)) [Spring Meeting](#) will take place May 28-30 at the monastery of Schlägl in Upper Austria and will focus on predictive maintenance and reliability with big and complex data. The meeting will contribute to the discussion of current problems and challenges in reliability and maintenance and to the exchange of knowledge among experts from industry, consultancy, and academia.

Special focus is on the application of statistical methods in contemporary Big Data and Internet, where the sustained flow of failure and maintenance data can be of great value for forecasting and decision making if properly integrated with data analytic methods. Keynote addresses will be provided by **Christopher Gray** (Uptime Engineering GmbH) and **Jan Post** (Philips and University of Groningen), while an interactive problem-solving session, software showcase, additional contribution sessions, and cultural activities round out the program. Contributions are welcome on the illustration of particularly challenging reliability and maintenance problems, as well as on methodologies such as stochastic modelling, association modelling and data analysis methods designed for big data. Abstracts are due no later than February 26, 2017.

In addition to the Spring Meeting, the ENBIS 17th Annual Conference will take place September 10-14, 2017, at the University of Naples Federico II in Naples, Italy. Mark your calendars now for sessions spanning experiment design, measurement uncertainty, process modelling and control, reliability, pharmaceutical industry statistics, computing, operational risk management, stochastic modelling, Six Sigma, data mining, machine learning, shipping industry statistics, ergonomics, predictive analytics, and more.

December Issue of IAOS Journal Now Online



The [December 2016 issue](#) of the Statistical Journal of the International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS) is now available. Based on the ISI World Statistics Congress in Rio de Janeiro, and to honor Shigeru Kawasaki, IAOS president (2013-15), Gemma Van Halderen from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and associate editor for the SJIAOS has put together a selection of papers with the theme: "Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information." Additionally, a conversation piece is with Monica Dashen with Statistics without Borders (SwB) who touches on several projects in Myanmar about maternal and infant care.

IASE Satellite Conference Set for July in Morocco



The International Association for Statistical Education (IASE) is pleased to announce that its [10th Satellite Conference](#) will take place July 11-14 in Rabat, Morocco, just before the 61st World Statistics Congress. IASE Satellites bring 80-120 participants from around the world and the host country to share their passion, expertise, and experiences in statistics education. Many delegates continue to the larger WSC, which has numerous sessions related to statistics education, but many come just for the Satellite meeting.

The 2017 Satellite conference will be organized around the broad theme of *Teaching Statistics in a Data Rich World*. The conference will mix plenary talks, paper and poster sessions, and pre-conference hands-on workshops in English, Arabic, and French. The conference language is English, but we will accept a limited number of presentations in Arabic and French (preferably where slides are translated to English), to contribute to capacity-building. The International Program Committee (IPC) has issued a [call for contributions of papers](#) and posters.

Joint Economic Cooperation Session Between Moldova, Romania a Success



The [9th Session of the Intergovernmental Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation](#) between the Republic of Moldova and Romania was held in Kishinev on November 3-4, 2016. Delegates of the National Institute of Statistics attended two meetings with Deputy Director General Lurie Mocanu and Director General Vitalie Valcov of the National Office of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova. Discussions highlighted the importance of the cooperation between NIS and NBS, specifically targeted to strengthening the ability of NBS to align to international and European standards in statistics. Through the assistance provided by Romanian experts during bilateral missions organized in Kishinev; study visits; a systematic exchange of publications; and also through joint projects, some remarkable results have been achieved such as: the development of a quality management system of official statistics in the

republic of Moldova, the implementation of the UNICA survey, and the improvement of the existing methodology on demographic statistics.

In October, Romania's National Institute of Statistics hosted the V7 Annual Meeting of National Statistics Societies. Romanian Statistics Society (RSS) President Constantin Mitrut opened the event, which addressed a number of topics around the importance of promoting a statistical culture and principles identified in the "Code of Practice of European Statistics." NIS and RSS promote statistical culture through press conferences, a monthly newsletter, and meeting brochures. The V7 group includes the RSS, Czech Statistics Society, Hungarian Statistic Association, the Association of Statistics in Poland, the Statistics and Demographic Society of Slovakia, and the Statistic Society of Slovenia.

Special Issue of Statistics Education Research Now Available



Check out [new content](#) in the Statistics Education Research Journal on probability modeling, inference about "Bunny Hops," statistical investigation using "Tinkerplots," quantifying unusualness and conceiving stochastic experiments, reasoning about conditional probability, analysis of flipping between languages, mediation models explaining skills and reasoning in achievement, development of cognitive schema for understanding random phenomena, and much more.

Ethiopian Statistical Association Hosts Annual Conference in March



The [26th Annual Conference](#) of the Ethiopian Statistical Association will be held on March 25-26, 2017 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Abstract submissions are now open. All members and non-members across all Statistics specializations are cordially invited to submit abstracts of original work for consideration as an oral or poster presentation. Abstract are not to exceed 300 words and should be submitted online or sent to ethstat@gmail.com. The deadline to submit abstracts is February 15, and authors who have been selected will be notified by February 25. For additional information, contact [Birhanu Teshome](#), ESA president; [Zeytu Gashaw](#), ESA vice president; or [Zelalem Destaw](#).

Florida Professor Visits Cuba for Talk on Generalized Linear Modeling



University of Florida professor Alan Agresti visited the Group of Probability and Statistics of Universidad de La Habana on November 29, 2016, for a talk on "Perspectives about Generalized Linear Modeling." Led by professor Vivian Sistachs, the talk focused on categorical data, including bias in using ordinary linear models with ordinal categorical response data; interpreting effects with nonlinear link functions; cautions in

using Wald inference (tests and confidence intervals) when effects are large or near the boundary of the parameter space; and behavior and choice of residuals for GLMs. Agresti's publications are being used in the teaching of categorical data analysis at the university.

ICSA Annual Symposium Drew Hundreds to Address Challenge of Big Data



More than 700 statisticians from government, academia, and industry attended the 25th ICSA Annual Symposium last June in Atlanta. The theme of this conference was the "Challenge of Big Data and Applications of Statistics." The scientific program included keynote lectures from renowned statisticians Bin Yu (University of California, Berkeley), David Madigan (Columbia University), and Paul Albert (National Institutes of Health). A mixture of invited, topic contributed, and contributed talks reflected on recent advances and challenges in statistics, business statistics and biostatistics. A free career service for graduate students was also held during the conference.

JOB OPENINGS

Faculty Position

**Department of Mathematics and Statistics
American University of Sharjah (AUS)
United Arab Emirates**

The AUS is seeking applications for a faculty position in statistics beginning August 2017. Candidates are required to have a Ph.D. in statistics. Evidence of strong potential in research, excellence in teaching at all levels of the curriculum and strong communication skills in English are expected. Experience in American-style higher education is an advantage. Applications at all ranks will be considered but preference is given to applications at the rank of assistant or associate professor. Applicants should submit a cover letter, a curriculum vitae, a research statement, a teaching statement, and arrange for at least three letters of recommendation (one of which addresses teaching) to be sent. All applications should be submitted via e-mail to Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Mahmoud Anabtawi, at cashr@aus.edu. The university offers competitive tax-free salary and excellent benefits package.

Biostatistician Faculty

**Department of Statistics
Virginia Tech University
Blacksburg, VA**

Virginia Tech Department of Statistics has an open rank tenure/tenure track biostatistics faculty position. Ph.D. in Biostatistics or closely related field required. Nine-month salary (with

opportunity to conduct extramurally funded summer research funding) is competitive and commensurate with experience. Reference #TR0160168. Review of applications will begin on January 15, 2017 and will continue until position is filled. Virginia Tech is an EO/AA university.

Teaching Faculty (Multiple Openings)

Department of Statistics

Virginia Tech University

Blacksburg, VA

Virginia Tech has multiple teaching faculty openings in the Department of Statistics to start August 2017. Appointment at the rank of collegiate assistant professor is preferred, but the associate level will be considered for exceptional candidates. A Ph.D. in Statistics, Biostatistics, or a related field is required. Salary is highly competitive and commensurate with experience. Reference #TR0160135. Applications are due by February 1, 2017. Virginia Tech is an EO/AA university.

Biostatistics Chair

School of Public Health and Health Professions

University at Buffalo

State University of New York

Buffalo, New York

The School of Public Health and Health Professions (SPHHP) at the University at Buffalo (UB), State University of New York (SUNY), seeks a Chair of Biostatistics. Preferred candidates will have a strong record of excellence in academic leadership and statistical research. The Department of Biostatistics has a reputation for excellence in methodologic and collaborative research and education. The department offers PhD, MA, and MPH degrees, and an MS in bioinformatics and biostatistics. A proposal for an undergraduate degree is in the final stage of review.

Department faculty are engaged in a range of methodologic and transdisciplinary research. Collaborative research within and outside the university is integrated with the department's academic and research missions.

UB and Buffalo provide a rich environment for advancement of the department's faculty. In addition to the SPHHP, the department has relationships with the UB Clinical and Translational Research Center (recently awarded an NIH CTSA), other UB schools, and numerous regional institutions. UB is a member of the Association of American Universities, and the SPHHP is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health.

Questions can be addressed to the search committee chair, [Jo Freudenheim](#). This is a 12-month, state supported position. UB is an Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action Employer/Recruiter that welcomes and fosters diversity among applicants, faculty, staff, and students and encourages applications from members of groups underrepresented in biostatistics.

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Post an event on the [Activities Calendar](#).

[Submit your photos and details](#) and we'll share those in the next issue of *News from the World of Statistics*.

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