President’s Welcome

New IMS President Bin Yu has been wondering how IMS can help your career. She writes: I began my IMS presidency at JSM in Montreal in August. Data science, or big data, had been on my mind well before the meeting, during my flight to Montreal, and at the meeting itself. One question that I have been pondering is what statistics as a community—and IMS as an organization—could do to make sure we are a key player in the “new” field of data science or the “chic” field of big data, while these fields are being defined.

At JSM, my scientific activities were all related to data science or big data. Most, if not all, JSM sessions could be called “data science”. We might think we have been doing data science since the beginning of our field. However, there are new components of “data science” that have been driven by advances in computing, data storage, and data communication.

Statisticians are data scientists, but so are other people from computer science, electrical engineering, applied mathematics, physics, biology and astronomy. In my view, the key factor for our success in data science is human resource: we need to improve our interpersonal, leadership, and coding skills. There is no doubt that our expertise is needed for all big data projects, but if we do not rise to the big data occasion to take leadership in the big data projects, we will likely become secondary to other data scientists with better leadership and computing skills. We either compute or we concede.

Although this might be a bit technical, let me discuss briefly the importance of taking computer memory into account in our computation. This is important because of the predicted computation bottleneck in communication bandwidth and resulted latency. In a nutshell, memory has a hierarchy for us to respect when we compute: CPUs have very fast access to very small cache memory, fast access to small RAM, and slow access to very large disks. R has become a popular platform even in many parts of industry to directly use or interact with C++ code and there are a few functions in R to monitor usages of memory and time (e.g. gc(), system.time(), rprof()). Parallel computation is an effective way to open up the bottleneck and R also has a few packages such as foreach, doParallel and doMPI to parallelize computation on a multi-core machine or a cluster.

The best learning model is the growth model in which one keeps learning. For this, there are many worthy resources on the internet. For computing skills there are, for instance, the Introduction to Python and other courses at the Codecademy (http://www.codecademy.com), and parallel computing online graduate course by Professor Jim Demmel at UC Berkeley (http://www.cs.berkeley.edu/~demmel/cs267_Spr13/). For frontier related to big data, I highly recommend the NAS massive data report chaired by Professor Mike Jordan at UC Berkeley (Jordan et al. (2013): NAS report on Frontiers in Massive Data Analysis, http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=18374).

Continues on page 3
Susan Murphy receives MacArthur Fellowship

The MacArthur Foundation has named as 2013 MacArthur Fellows 24 exceptionally creative individuals with a track record of achievement and the potential for even more significant contributions in the future. Among them is IMS Fellow Susan Murphy, H. E. Robbins Professor of Statistics at the University of Michigan.

Susan is developing new methodologies to evaluate courses of treatment for individuals coping with chronic or relapsing disorders such as depression or substance abuse. In contrast to the treatment of acute illness, where clinicians make a single decision about treatment, doctors treating chronic ailments make a sequence of decisions over time about the best therapeutic approach based on the current state of a patient, the stage of the disease, and the individual's response to prior treatments.

Susan has developed a formal model of this decision-making process and an innovative design for clinical trials that allow researchers to test the efficacy of adaptive interventions. While the standard clinical trial paradigm simply tests and compares "one shot" treatments in a defined population, Susan's Sequential Multiple Assignment Randomized Trial (SMART) is a means for learning how best to dynamically adapt treatment to each individual's response over time. Using SMART, clinicians assess and modify patients' treatments during the trial, an approach with potential applications in the treatment of a range of chronic diseases—such as ADHD, alcoholism, drug addiction, HIV/AIDS, and cardiovascular disease—that involve therapies that are regularly reconsidered and replaced as the disease progresses.

As Susan continues to refine adaptive interventions, she is working to increase opportunities for implementation in clinical settings through collaborations with medical researchers, clinicians, and computer scientists focused on sequential decision making. By translating statistical theory into powerful tools for evaluating and tailoring complex medical therapies, she is poised to have a significant impact on the field of personalized medicine, an area of great activity in biomedical research today.

Susan Murphy received a B.S. (1980) from Louisiana State University and a PhD (1989) from the University of North Carolina. She was affiliated with Pennsylvania State University (1989–1997) prior to her appointment to the faculty of the University of Michigan, where she is currently the H. E. Robbins Professor of Statistics, a professor in the Department of Psychiatry, and a research professor in the Institute for Social Research. She is also a principal investigator at the Methodology Center of Pennsylvania State University.

MacArthur Fellows receive a no-strings-attached stipend of $500,000 (increased from $200,000) paid out over five years. Without stipulations or reporting requirements, the Fellowship provides maximum freedom for recipients to follow their own creative vision.

Cecilia Conrad, Vice President of the MacArthur Fellows Program, said of this year's class of Fellows, "They are artists, social innovators, scientists, and humanists who are working to improve the human condition and to preserve and sustain our natural and cultural heritage. Their stories should inspire each of us to consider our own potential to contribute our talents for the betterment of humankind."

See a video interview of Susan at http://www.macfound.org/fellows/898/
President’s Welcome continued

The IMS is looking into ways to position our members better to engage in big data and data science activities. We hope to improve the communication skills of our members by co-sponsoring a writing workshop with ASA (led by Nell Sedransk and Keith Crank) on the Sunday of the JSM 2014 in Boston; to discuss data science at the New Researchers Conference (chaired by Edo Airoldi) July 31–August 2, 2014, at Harvard immediately before JSM; and to publish papers in a special issue of the Annals of Applied Statistics (Editor in Chief Steve Fienberg) on data science.

The IMS Council has just had a discussion, led by Past-President Hans Künsch, on how to increase the representation of women among the named and Medallion lectures of IMS, triggered by the fact that this year all these lectures were given by men (cf. Terry Speed’s column in the June/July 2013 issue: http://bulletin.imstat.org/2013/05/terences-stuff-a-rant/). There is a broader issue within IMS regarding how to increase the representation of women, and other under-represented groups, in probability and statistics. We can all contribute to this worthy course in different, doable ways. We could work on attracting students from these groups into our graduate programs and retaining them by mentoring such students at the undergraduate and graduate levels. When on conference and award committees, we could make separate lists of qualified women and under-represented groups to make sure people from such groups are considered. Departments and individuals could also participate in activities of organizations such as the Math Alliance (http://www.mathalliance.org/); please watch out for a future piece in the Bulletin by Kathryn Chaloner, giving more information about this organization. Many of our colleagues have been working on this righteous cause for many years. I know many such people and I hope you do too. We should at least remember to thank them in person, at our work places and conferences.

As the IMS president, I would like to get a broader spectrum of people engaged in IMS activities. As a starter, I have asked the council to recommend people for appointments on IMS committees, and the IMS leadership is looking into other concrete measures to involve the IMS community more.

Last but not least, I’d like to remind you that the IMS Bulletin does have an online discussion forum, at http://bulletin.imstat.org (you can leave a comment on any article or post).

Please email me at president@imstat.org with your suggestions and ideas on how IMS can help your career and engage us more in data science and big data.

David Donoho video

As previously reported, IMS Fellow David Donoho was named the 2013 Shaw Prize Laureate in the Mathematical Sciences. David is profiled in a “Pearl Report” video, which also features comments from co-author Iain Johnstone. You can view the video at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=heWEDx1gb80

David Donoho, ballroom dancing with his wife Miki, features on the Hong Kong "Pearl Report" video
The XL-Files: Ig Nobel and 24/7

Contributing Editor Xiao-Li Meng writes:

Life sometimes takes funny turns. Literally. The Ig Nobel Prize ceremony is an annual event organized by the Annals of Improbable Research (AIR), which is devoted to “research that makes people laugh and then think” (www.improbable.com). Since I love laughing and thinking, not necessarily in that order, I have wanted for years to attend the event. Ironically, I only found time this year, when my schedule is not even under my control. Finding a ticket within two days of the event, however, turned out to be harder. Just as I was about to give up, the editor of AIR, who learned that I was looking for a ticket, made me an offer that was too good to be true. There was a 24/7 lecturer who dropped out at the last minute for health reasons. If I’d be willing to replace him, I’d have a VIP seat, that is, on stage!

The official rule of 24/7 lectures is to have each speaker explain her or his subject twice: “first a complete technical description in 24 seconds, and then a clear summary that anyone can understand, in seven words.” However, an informal (and real) definition followed quickly: “to load your 24 second portion with the densest jargon you can think of, so that it’s totally incomprehensible to the lay public. Then the seven-word summary should make the audience laugh, and think. A biologist once said, to describe biology, ‘If it can get infected, it’s biology.’”

To explain Statistics clearly in 24 seconds would be a daunting task, but to make it incomprehensible is trivial. So I accepted the offer right away. Inspired by the biologist, the seven words also came rather easily: “If you are unsure, consult a statistician.”

Of course, there is no free lunch, or in this case, free ticket. I needed to make the audience laugh before making them think! Unsure if loading incomprehensible statistical jargon could induce laughter from the audience, I followed my own advice and consulted a statistician I had known since birth. His advice was loud and clear—and indeed I heard his voice non-stop after the next 24 hours. “Embed jargon into Jack-Handey style deep thoughts. Make it rhyme, if you want it to shine. Go for pun, if you want fun.”

A poem then flowed out rather smoothly. My assistant loved it. Ego boosted, I went further, and made the seven words almightier. (Though I still love the original seven.)

Fun needs to be shared, especially silly fun. A midnight spam about my upcoming adventure then went out (without my 24/7 lecture text) to a semi-random sample of colleagues and friends who I believe would enjoy a few laughs and could provide some moral support. The responses indicated that the 24/7 format aroused quite a bit of interest. The 24/7 below is from an eminent statistician, who most wide-ranging. Indeed, if I could ignore my statistician’s advice, I would have adopted this:


This and other responses, however, reminded me that there would be expectations of my 24/7 lecture beyond just making the audience laugh and think. I therefore replaced a self-deprecating line (“Binomial, Multinomial, and Multivariate Normal/who said I am nerdy and abnormal”) by something a bit more positive. However, I was not prepared to drop all the silliness, given the nature of the event. If you don’t have time to laugh for about 90 minutes (http://www.improbable.com/ig/2013/), here is my 24 seconds of (Ig) fame:

Z-test, t-test, chi-squared test, 
I can help you to face any test; 
Bayes, Frequentist, Fiducial 
Let me make you feel influential.
Regression, Correlation, Causation, 
What else can generate more passion? 
Skewness, Kurtosis, Heteroscedasticity 
Bay, do I feel sexy?

Not unexpectedly, not everyone shared my sense of humor. A hate-hate-hate mail came in, from a friend who preferred to remain anonymous but gave me the permission to describe him as “a curmudgeonly blogger who some say is the second funniest person to join the Harvard statistics department in 1986.” Clearly he had a strong reaction (one with which my serious side completely agrees!): Don’t get mad, but...

I hate hate hate that you wasted three of your 24 words on “Z-test, t-test, chi-squared test” and three more on “Skewness, Kurtosis, Heteroscedasticity.” None of these seem essential to statistics, but they strike me as the kind of technical things that people think statistics is about!

At least he was silent on my seven words on Statistics: The only crystal ball approved by God.

What would yours be?
Call for Nominations for 2015 Noether Lecture (deadline: October 15, 2013)
The Association for Women in Mathematics established the Emmy Noether Lectures in 1980 to honor women who have made fundamental and sustained contributions to the mathematical sciences. In April 2013 the lecture was renamed AWM-AMS Noether Lecture and starting 2015 will be jointly sponsored by AWM and AMS. These one-hour expository lectures are presented at the Joint Mathematics Meetings each January. Emmy Noether was one of the great mathematicians of her time, someone who worked and struggled for what she loved and believed in. Her life and work remain a tremendous inspiration.

The letter of nomination should include a one page outline of the nominee’s contribution to mathematics, giving four of her most important papers and other relevant information. The selection committee will take into account nominations for a three-year period after they are received; the committee may seek out and consider other excellent candidates. Nominations should be submitted as one PDF file at https://www.mathprograms.org/db/programs/219.

Questions? Call 703-934-0163 x215 or email awm@awm-math.org.
Travel Awardees

The IMS provides funds for new researchers to travel to attend IMS meetings. This year the last four Laha Travel Awards were made, and 12 of the new IMS Travel Awards, helping 16 new researchers to travel to the JSM. We asked them to share their experiences.

A few of the group had attended a JSM previously, but Semhar Michael said it was her first IMS meeting, and the JSM was “a great experience and a little overwhelming”—understandable, with over 5,000 attendees. Shanshan Wang said, “This was my first JSM, and I think it is a wonderful conference where people meet and present their research results. I learned some novel and brilliant ideas from the talks and got to know some people.”

Yin Xia said she enjoyed “many good talks” in her area, high-dimensions. Semhar said she attended talks both related and unrelated to her field: “The talks related to my field gave me an insight into different approaches to the same problem. The other talks which were not related to my field were useful since I was giving a talk so I could see how people do their presentation and so on.” Wei Sun “attended some talks given by people from industry, e.g., Google, IBM. It’s great to know how statistics works in the real world.”

Seung Jun Shin attended talks in data mining and high-dimensional data analysis: “Some talks provided for me a whole different way of viewing problems that people, including me, tackle in a conventional way and that was awesome.” He appreciated the wide range of topics: “I can find anything I want since there a lot of sessions with different topics.”

Marcel Carcea picked out a few highlights: “I really enjoyed Post PhD: What to Expect in Your First Year, the experiences of six post-PhD students in finding a job. I attended a couple of talks that might help me improve my research topic. I also found useful the more general topic talks, like the introductory lecture on Twenty Years of Gibbs Sampling/MCMC. Speakers like Nate Silver and Vijay Nair were inspiring and entertaining. I enjoyed [the IMS Presidential Address] Ars Conjectandi: 300 Years Later. It put the field of probability and statistics in perspective, enriching the experience I had at JSM 2013.”

Yao Yu said that attending talks inspired her research, and she could also improve her presentation skills “by attending talks of different styles. I can learn how to explain my research work, how to answer questions and how to accept ideas from other researchers.”

Marcel found JSM “uplifting. Of course, the meeting is big and requires a lot of shifting from one room to another, which can get tiring after two or three days. But once I got back to Dallas and I started reviewing the whole experience I was surprised with how much I learned and how many people I met.”

As for the location, Semhar said Montreal was “beautiful, […] more like a European city. I loved walking by the old port.” Seung Jun had assumed Canada would be quite like the US, “but it didn’t take long to realize my mistake,” adding that he loved its European feel. Marcel “wholeheartedly enjoyed the pastries” and “the authenticity of Chinese food in Chinatown, Montreal.”

Zheng (Tracy) Ke attended many invited and contributed talks, and “got to know what people are doing in my area and what problems they are interested in now.” JSM “provides a very good opportunity for people—both mature researchers and young people—to communicate their ideas.”

Seung Jun would “absolutely” recommend that other new researchers apply for an IMS Travel Award. Marcel agreed: “Attending a meeting like JSM (especially as a presenter) can be eye opening, a career-direction setter, and let’s not forget, a CV booster. Attending a congress like this is not cheap though. So the IMS Travel Award can help reduce the financial strain a young researcher might feel when attending such meetings.” Sunyoung Shin added, “If you are working in statistical theory and probability, I strongly recommend you apply for an IMS Travel Award. [You] can get inspiration for your future work and meet potential coworkers and mentors.”

All the awardees who responded said they intend to remain in academia; for some, attending the meeting reaffirmed that commitment. Zhao Ren is in the last year of his PhD and considering an academic career: “Attending IMS Annual Meeting and JSM makes me feel more confident and determined in my choice.”

Will we be seeing them at a future IMS meeting? Semhar said emphatically, “Yes, definitely!” Wei Sun, a third-year PhD student, plans to “attend IMS meetings often. I appreciate your organization.” Seung Jun “always wants to be a part of IMS.”

It’s worth applying, then. See how on page 7.
IMS Awards: nominate or apply now

Tweedie New Researcher Award

Richard L. Tweedie played a significant role throughout his professional career in mentoring young colleagues at work and through professional society activities. With funds donated by his friends and family, the IMS created the Tweedie New Researcher Award to finance the winner to present the Tweedie New Researcher Invited Lecture at the IMS New Researchers Conference.

Next year’s conference will be held in Cambridge, MA, at Harvard University, July 31–August 2, 2014 (immediately before JSM in Boston).

To be eligible for the 2014 award, the new researcher must have received their doctoral degree in 2008–2013, and the nominee should be a member of the IMS at time of nomination.

The nomination deadline is December 1, 2013.

For details and requirements of the nomination process, please visit http://www.imstat.org/awards/tweedie.html

IMS Travel Award

The purpose of the IMS Travel Award is to fund travel, and possibly other expenses, to present a paper or a poster at an IMS sponsored or co-sponsored meeting, for those who otherwise would not be able to attend the meeting. (Note: the Travel Award cannot be used to fund any part of travel to the IMS New Researcher’s Conference, as that conference is already funded separately)

The travel awards are available to IMS members who are New Researchers. This means any IMS member who was awarded a PhD within the 5 years immediately preceding the year of the application deadline or who has or will receive her/his PhD in the same year as the application deadline. For one third of the total available funds, New Researchers from countries with reduced membership dues will have first priority. For the remaining funds, first priority will go to New Researchers who already have their PhD at the application deadline and second priority will go to PhD students. Applicants must be members of IMS, though joining at the time of application is allowed. And don’t forget that student membership is free (see http://www.imstat.org/membership/student.htm for details) and New Researchers also qualify for substantially reduced rates. To become a member, please see http://www.imstat.org/orders/

Application deadline is February 1, 2014.

For more information on the application process, please visit http://www.imstat.org/awards/laha.html

IMS Fellowship

The candidate for IMS Fellowship shall have demonstrated distinction in research in statistics or probability, by publication of independent work of merit. This qualification may be waived in the case of:

a) 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

b) 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.

All nominations must be received by January 31, 2014.

For details and requirements of the nomination process, please visit http://www.imstat.org/awards/fellows.htm

Harry C. Carver Medal

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.

All nominations must be received by February 1, 2014.

Please visit http://www.imstat.org/awards/carver.html
New in 2014 From Annual Reviews:

**Annual Review of Statistics and Its Application**

Volume 1 • January 2014 • http://statistics.annualreviews.org
Access available online, via your mobile device, or in print.

Editor: **Stephen E. Fienberg**, *Carnegie Mellon University*

Associate Editors: **Nancy Reid**, *University of Toronto*
**Stephen M. Stigler**, *University of Chicago*

The *Annual Review of Statistics and Its Application* aims to inform statisticians, quantitative methodologists, and users of statistics about major methodological advances and the computational tools that allow for their implementation. It will include developments in the field of statistics, including theoretical statistical underpinnings of new methodology, as well as developments in specific application domains such as biostatistics and bioinformatics, economics, machine learning, psychology, sociology, and aspects of the physical sciences.

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OBITUARY: John Bather

1936–2012

John Alfred Bather, Emeritus Professor of Mathematical Statistics at the University of Sussex, died on September 7, 2012 at the age of 76, after suffering from myeloma. He was well known in both Europe and North America for his work on dynamic programming and decision theory.

John was born on January 20, 1936. He attended Burnley Grammar School, then the University of Cambridge, after a period of National Service in the Navy. He first met Statistics, alongside John Kingman, in lectures and supervisions from Dennis Lindley: the course was entitled “Random Variables”, to circumvent Sir Harold Jeffreys’ insistence that Cambridge courses with “probability” in the title be based on his own book.

After Lindley moved away, the Statistics staff in Cambridge consisted of Maurice Walker, Violet Cane and Peter Whittle, tucked away in the basement of the Chemistry Building. As a smoking research student, Bather shared an office with Hilton Miller; the non-smokers—Kingman, Bob Loynes and Roger Miles—occupied another. When Whittle moved to Manchester University in 1961, Bather went with him. His PhD entitled “The optimal control of stochastic processes” was awarded in 1963; his first published papers were on optimal regulation policies for dams. He spent 1964/5 on leave at Stanford University, working with Hermann Chernoff on sequential decisions when controlling a space ship.

In 1967, Bather moved to Sussex University, for the rest of his career. When Kingman, then Professor at Sussex, moved to Oxford, recommendations from Whittle and George Barnard persuaded the search committee to promote Bather to Professor of Statistics in 1969; he did not retire from teaching until 2003. He was Departmental Chairman, served on major university committees, and chaired the UK-wide Committee of Professors of Statistics for three years. He headed the Royal Statistical Society’s Library Committee for several years, and was an Academic Assessor on Appointment Boards for the Statistical class in the Civil Service.

He guided eleven students to a PhD, and the fifty or so academic articles published under his name show joint work with a dozen other researchers. In 1973, he spent four months at the Technion in Haifa. After the European Meeting of Statisticians held at Sussex in 1980, he obtained a Leverhulme Fellowship to work on the sequential design of experiments, seeking the best of several treatments for a particular disease. His read paper [1] assesses the work of the previous thirty years in that area. During that year, he worked with Chernoff again, with Bert Fristedt at Minnesota, and colleagues at Oxford, Cambridge and various European universities.

He hosted visits by Gordie Simons from Chapel Hill in 1982/3, and John Petkau from Vancouver 1986/7; those collaborations continued when Bather visited North America again in 1987/8, working also with Chernoff at Harvard.

He ranged widely over theoretical statistics, with special emphasis on sequential decision problems. He also wrote about control charts, optimal stopping, oil exploration models, the secretary problem, clinical trials, and auditing. His papers are characterized by their thoroughness and completeness; he preferred to work an idea fully through, rather than publish a succession of developing results. He was an obvious choice to honour Chernoff by conducting the ‘conversation’ published as [2].

From 1996, he collaborated with a Sussex colleague, Derek Atherton, on problems related to the capacity of human pilots to effectively use the capabilities of modern military aircraft. His book [3] is based on his popular and successful lecture course.

While still at Cambridge, he married June Smith: they had grown up together in Burnley. They were married for almost 53 years, but June, who cared for him during the four years of his illness, died suddenly just one week before him. They had three sons: Mark died in a road accident abroad, but John was delighted that both Steven and Nick provided him with grandchildren. He was an accomplished piano player: once, when he played the piano in a lecture theatre while the students were completing their end-of-term questionnaires, he was admonished for “seeking to exercise improper influence”! (His integrity was exemplified when, supplementing his salary by marking public examination scripts in his youth, he alerted his overseer to the fact that he had inadvertently been sent the script of his own cousin.) He served as a Governor of the school his sons attended, and closely followed the fortunes of Burnley at soccer, and Lancashire at cricket.

John Haigh, University of Sussex

Contributing Editor Anirban DasGupta writes:

Lazily leafing through the pages of the 2012 World Almanac, I noticed a curiously common phenomenon. Be it the deserts, lakes, mountain peaks, rivers, or waterfalls in the world, or buildings, bridges, tunnels, books, operas, space expeditions—the most spectacular ones are visibly more impressive than the rest. Act of nature or act of man, there is a hidden non-Gaussian who appears to like a second mode at the far right tail.

These provide interesting and challenging problems statistically. First, we cannot possibly have a complete dataset for any of these constructs; so, one has an unknown number of missing values, and at best, one can study distributions that are left truncated (Woodroofe, 1985, *AOS*; Gross and Lai, 1996, *JASA*). Second, these measurements are often not universally agreed on, or even almost impossible to make very accurately. And, third, to explain bi-modality or heavy tails, one really must look into the science of the variable; for example, if the most awesome mountain peaks are strikingly more regal in their heights, what underlying geology is driving the upper tail?

Today, in this one-page column, let me first state a few little tidbits. For example, I noticed that even leaving aside the Caspian sea, the four biggest continental lakes are on average twice as big as the next biggest one, Lake Tanganyika. Not counting the polar deserts, the biggest desert—the Sahara—is about four times as large as the very next one. The Khone waterfall, the widest on our planet, flowing off the Mekong river, is twice as wide as the very next one, the Pará in Venezuela. The Gamma ray burst with the largest energy, recorded on April 27, has about 3 times more energy than the next record. Coming to human achievements, the three largest buildings in the world are on an average 7 million sq. ft. larger than the very next one; the three longest bridges in the world are on an average 40 miles longer than the fourth longest bridge. Based on bone fragment estimates, the tallest man ever alive, excavated at a Neolithic French cemetery, was at least 2 feet taller than anyone who ever lived (*La Nature*, v. 18, 1890). And, one can go on.

To the naked eye, these were clusters of outliers, indicative of heavy tails, mixture, or bimodality. Just to feed my curiosity, I tried my hand at a little classic kernel density estimation à la Rosenblatt (1956, *AMS*) and Parzen (1962, *AMS*). I obtained carefully defined left-truncated data on three constructs of nature (height of mountain peaks, areas of deserts, widths of waterfalls), and three constructs of Man (floor space of buildings, total length of bridges, and duration of human expeditions to the International Space Station). I took all the data from Wikipedia. Left truncation is a constraint of the form $X \geq a$; the Wikipedia articles clearly define the cutoff $a$. For example, when it comes to nonpolar deserts, the cutoff was 50,000 sq. kms.

Density estimation is mired in complexities to do with bandwidth choice and other details (e.g., Scott, 1992, Wiley; Hall et al., 1991, *Biometrika*). Not to be too finicky, I decided to use a Gaussian kernel and the Silverman reference bandwidth $h = 1.06 s n^{-1/5}$ (1986, C&H). Sensitivity analysis would be interesting, but I have no room for it here. When I obtained the kernel density plots, I did notice a clear second mode at the very extreme tail. Sometimes it was a loud second mode, and sometimes an audible whisper. But it was always there. Was this a spurious bump? I couldn’t tell for sure. But I did generate a truly Gaussian sample of comparable $n$ to my cases here, and then applied Silverman’s rule on the truncated Gaussian data. The second mode did not show up. One of the densities is produced here:

If a second mode at the extreme upper tail is not a phantom mode, one would crave an explanation. A broad brush explanation might be that achievement scores would always tend to produce a small proportion of dazzling outliers; no surprises there. This might be true, but it isn’t an intellectually satisfying explanation. We must ask, *why?* For instance, the tallest mountain peaks are all located in the Himalayan range, with a few in the Karakoram. Is it the case that the geologic process giving rise to the Himalayas 250 million years ago contributed to the extraordinarily high and majestic peaks? Do global economy and political choices have something to do with a bundle of astonishingly large structures and buildings confined to a few middle eastern countries and China?

Only when I understand the cause of that second mode can I be happy that I have really understood an applied statistics question I looked at nonchalantly so far.

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*Anirban’s Angle: Nature and Man: Bimodal, at their best?*
Annals of Statistics Volume 41, issue 3: June 2013

The Annals of Statistics aims to publish research papers of the highest quality reflecting the many facets of contemporary statistics. Primary emphasis is placed on importance and originality. The Co-editors (2013–15) are Peter Hall and Runze Li.

Access papers at http://projecteuclid.org/aos

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“Another gem in the tradition of Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs and Structure and Interpretation of Classical Mechanics, providing for applied mathematics what the previous two books did for computer science and physics.”
—Piet Hut, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton University
248 pp., 8 illus., $35 cloth
Recent papers

Annals of Applied Statistics Vol 7, issue 2: June 2013

Statistical research spans an enormous range from direct subject-matter collaborations to pure mathematical theory. The Annals of Applied Statistics is aimed at papers in the applied half of this range. Published quarterly in both print and electronic form, our goal is to provide a timely and unified forum for all areas of applied statistics.

Access papers at http://projecteuclid.org/aoas

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Terence’s Stuff: Travel

If travel broadens the mind, Terry Speed must be one of the most broad-minded people you’ll meet, quite possibly at the next conference you go to.

I travel a lot. Too much, says my wife.
Far too much. Of course I’m speaking of work-related, not recreational travel. Conferences, workshops, seminars, meetings. Usually I present something, but not always. Sometimes I just listen, at other times I take part in discussions.

Why do I do it? For a start, I regard saying yes to invitations as something that goes with my job. As a young mathematician and statistician, I benefited enormously from direct personal interaction with senior people in maths and stats who made the long journey to Australia from the UK, USA or Europe. These included I.J. Good, M.H. Stone, S. MacLane, A.G. Kurosh and B.V. Gnedenko. Discussions with some of these people quite literally changed my career. With this history, how can I refuse – how can I be “too busy” to accept an invitation to visit and speak somewhere, because it is too far away? Similarly, I think an appropriate level of participation in conferences is something we should see as part of our job. If our colleagues, or our professional society, go to the trouble of organizing a meeting in our (sub-) field, isn’t it reasonable to expect that we should be interested in participating? We’ll learn something, while well-attended meetings are usually better than poorly attended ones. Everyone benefits.

A second reason for travel is to tell people what we—my students, postdocs and collaborators and myself—are up to. I am enough of a (statistical) evangelist to want to spread our word, that is, to tell people about the things we think are important at any given time. Naturally I learn a lot from others when doing so, from their questions and discussions. At times I gain students, postdocs or collaborators on my visits.

The third reason for travelling is to find out what others are up to. I find that the most efficient and enjoyable way to learn what people are doing is to listen to them live and to talk to them face-to-face, not to run through their slides or watch them on YouTube or read their papers when they appear.

Do these reasons for academic travel seem compelling? I hope so. Who am I trying to convince? You guessed!

Of course the actual travel can be anything from a slightly bad dream to a total nightmare. I look forward to the day when teleportation becomes a reality, when we can be “beamed up” to wherever we want to go. Until then, I try to organize things so that my actual travel is as painless as possible. I never check my luggage, always carrying it with me on the plane. This restricts the amount I can take, but removes the headache of delayed or lost luggage. I try to sleep on long flights. I take (physical) books to read during the inevitable dead time, and I try to do everything just as required to avoid clashing with the authorities. I carry no metal or fluids, I remove my belt and shoes and empty my pockets when required, I do my best to fill in all forms correctly, and I declare everything. This usually works, and so my journeys are usually as uneventful as they are boring. But not always. Chance can intervene, and a small misstep can have real consequences. On my last trip, I had no checked luggage (see above). But after showing my passport and boarding pass at the gate, I found myself entering a small plane for the short trip from the US to Mexico. My bag was too big for the shelf in that plane, and so it had to be tagged and gate-checked. I put on the tag, but needed to put down my passport—which was still in my hand—to rip off the part I had to retain. Two hours later, as we were about to land in Mexico, and I was filling in the entry form for Mexico, I discovered that I didn’t have my passport. It was nowhere to be found, and so I had to present my passportless self to the Mexican immigration authorities. Unsurprisingly, they would not admit me, so back on the plane I went, to return to the US. Fortunately they did admit me, and so I was able to locate my passport, which had turned up not far from where I’d put it down, re-book my flight to Mexico, and go to a hotel for a little sleep before resuming my travel next day.

I’m not sure what the moral of this story is. Perhaps just that “stuff happens” when travelling, that it’s hard to be perfect. You can be sure that I got some really nice gifts for my wife on this particular trip.

“He’s (often) leaving, on a jet plane…"

“It ought to be plain how little you gain by getting excited and vexed. I’m always just back from my previous trip, and always just off on the next.”

With apologies to Piet Hein.
IMS meetings around the world

IMS co-sponsored meeting
Frontiers of Hierarchical Modeling in Observational Studies, Complex Surveys and Big Data Conference Honoring Professor Malay Ghosh
May 29–31, 2014
University of Maryland, College Park, USA
w http://www.jsm.umd.edu/ghosh
IMS Representative on Program Committees: Gauri S. Datta

IMS co-sponsored meeting
IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM 2015: August 8–13, 2015, Seattle, USA
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2015/
IMS Invited Program chair: Nancy Reid, University of Toronto. IMS Contributed Program chair: Bertrand Clark, University of Nebraska–Lincoln.
Invited session abstract submission opens October 21 (see key dates below).

At a glance: forthcoming IMS Annual Meeting and JSM dates

2014
IMS Annual Meeting:
Sydney, Australia, July 7–10, 2014
ims-asc2014.com
JSM: Boston, MA, August 2–7, 2014

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

2016
IMS Annual Meeting:
Toronto, Canada, dates TBD
JSM: Chicago, IL, July 30 – August 4, 2016

2017
IMS Annual Meeting:
@ JSM: Baltimore, MD, July 29 – August 3, 2017

2018
IMS Annual Meeting:
TBD
JSM: Vancouver, Canada, July 28–August 2, 2018

Joint Statistical Meetings dates, 2014–2018

IMS co-sponsored meeting
IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM 2014: August 2–7, 2014, Boston, USA
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2014/
JSM Program Chair: Jean Opsomer, Colorado State University. IMS Invited Program chair: Nancy Reid, University of Toronto. IMS Contributed Program chair: Bertrand Clark, University of Nebraska–Lincoln.
Invited session abstract submission opens October 21 (see key dates below).

IMS sponsored meeting
JSM 2016: July 30–August 4, 2016, Chicago, USA
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2016/
IMS representative on Program Committees: David Aldous, Berkeley.
IMS co-sponsored meeting
XIII CLAPEM: III Congreso Latino-americano de Probabilidad y Estadística Matemática
September 22–26, 2014
Cartagena de Indias, Colombia
w http://www.clapem.unal.edu.co/
IMS Rep: David Aldous, Berkeley.

IMS sponsored meeting
IMS Annual Meeting @ JSM 2017: July 29–August 3, 2017, Baltimore, USA
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2017/
IMS co-sponsored meeting
JSM 2018: July 28–August 2, 2018, Vancouver, Canada
w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2018/

IMS sponsored meeting
Frontiers of Hierarchical Modeling in Observational Studies, Complex Surveys and Big Data Conference Honoring Professor Malay Ghosh
May 29–31, 2014
University of Maryland, College Park, USA
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JSM Program Chair: Jean Opsomer, Colorado State University. IMS Invited Program chair: Nancy Reid, University of Toronto. IMS Contributed Program chair: Bertrand Clark, University of Nebraska–Lincoln.
Invited session abstract submission opens October 21 (see key dates below).

Key dates:
October 21–November 19, 2013: Online submission of Invited Session abstracts
January 17, 2014: Computer Technology Workshop (CTW) proposals due for consideration for the 2014 program
December 3, 2013–February 3, 2014: Online submission of abstracts, invited posters, introductory overview lectures, topic and regular contributed abstracts
March 31–April 17, 2014: Online Abstract Editing Open
May 1, 2014: Registration & Housing Open (early-bird registration deadline May 29; housing deadline July 2)
Abstract submission: ASC–IMS 2014

You are invited to submit an abstract for consideration for a contributed oral or poster presentation, invited session or keynote presentation. Abstract submission is open.

www.ims-asc2014.com/program/

Abstract submission is open until October 30:


You are invited to submit an abstract for consideration as a contributed oral or poster presentation, invited session or keynote presentation at the ASC–IMS 2014 Conference. The deadline is 30 October, 2013.

As this conference is a joint meeting between the Statistical Society of Australia and the Institute of Mathematical Statistics, an extensive and wide-ranging program will be available. As befitting an event of this size, with approximately 12 Keynote presentations and multiple parallel streams, a large portion of the program is by invitation. However, a substantial part of the program is set aside for contributed presentations, both oral and poster. While there is no restriction on the topic or number of contributed presentations, the number of oral presentations is by nature limited.

Abstracts must be of a high scientific quality, contain original research, and must acknowledge all authors contributing to the research.

Themes

Themes for proposals include, but are not limited to, the following topics:
Bayesian Statistics; Bioinformatics; Biostatistics; Computational and Asymptotic Statistics; Causal inference; Dirichlet form theory; Econometrics; Experimental designs; Filtering theory; Finance and Physics; Financial Statistics; Functional data analysis; Graphical models and networks; Gaussian processes; High-dimensional statistics; Heavy tail phenomenon; Infinite dimensional analysis; Large-scale inferences; large deviations; Limit theory; Levy processes; Long range dependence; Malliavin calculus; Mathematical statistics; Markov processes; Measure-valued processes; Multivariate statistics; Nonparametric statistics; Non local operators; Official statistics methodologies; Particle systems; Percolation probability on trees and graphs; Probability; Random matrices; Random surfaces; Sample surveys methodology; SLE Stochastic Analysis; Spatial statistics; Stochastic differential equations; Stochastic optimization; Stochastic models in biology; Stochastic networks; Stochastic processes; Stochastic/statistical modelling; Statistical computing; Statistical learning; Robust statistics; Functional data analysis; Time series

For more information on how to submit your abstract, or about the program, please visit the website, www.ims-asc2014.com
More IMS meetings around the world

IMS co-sponsored meeting
Conference on Modeling High Frequency Data in Finance 5
October 24–26, 2013
Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, New Jersey
w http://www.stevens.edu/hfconference
IMS Representative(s) on Program Committees: Ionut Florescu, Frederi Viens

IMS co-sponsored meeting
International Conference on Recent Advances in Experimental Designs
December 12–16, 2013
Guangzhou, China
IMS Representative(s) on Program Committees: Jianqing Fan
w http://maths.gzhu.edu.cn/siced2013/
Topics of the conference include, but are not limited to: designs for non-linear models; factorial designs; mixture designs; optimal designs; response surface designs; uniform designs.
Conference registration and abstract submission deadline: 5 October 2013.

IMS co-sponsored meeting
37th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications
July 28–August 1, 2014
Buenos Aires, Argentina
w http://mate.dm.uba.ar/~probab/spa2014/
The 37th Conference on Stochastic Processes and Applications (SPA) will take place in Buenos Aires during the week July 28 to August 1, 2014.
Plenary speakers are: Anton Bovier, Bonn; Ivan Corwin, MIT; Antonio Galves, São Paulo; Christophe Garban, Lyon; Milton Jara, Rio de Janeiro; Gady Kozma, Weizmann Institute; Eyal Lubetzky, Microsoft; Sylvie Méléard, Palaiseau; Felix Otto, Leipzig; Tomohiro Sasamoto, Chiba; Scott Sheffield, MIT; Fabio Toninelli, Lyon; and Balint Tóth, Budapest
Organized under the auspices of the Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability and co-sponsored by the Institute of Mathematical Statistics.

IMS co-sponsored meeting
38th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications
July 13–17, 2015
Oxford, United Kingdom
w TBC

IMS co-sponsored meeting
MCMSki IV
January 6–8, 2014
Chamonix Mont-Blanc, France
w http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~mwl25/mcmski/
The fifth joint international meeting of the IMS and ISBA (International Society for Bayesian Analysis), nicknamed “MCMSki IV”, will be held in Chamonix Mont-Blanc, France, from Monday, January 6 to Wednesday, January 8, 2014. The meeting, the first for the newly-created BayesComp section of ISBA, will focus on all aspects of MCMC theory and methodology, including related fields like sequential Monte Carlo, approximate Bayesian computation, Hamiltonian Monte Carlo. In contrast with the earlier meetings, it will merge the satellite Adap’ski workshop into the main meeting by having parallel invited and contributed sessions on those different themes, as well as poster sessions on both Monday and Tuesday nights. In addition, a one-day post-conference satellite workshop on Bayesian nonparametrics, modelling and computations (“BNPski”) will be held in the same location on January 9th, 2014.
Please see our conference website, http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~mwl25/mcmski/ for more information, including links to the preliminary program, lodging and travel information, and our conference registration page. Please note the “early bird” registration deadline of October 15, 2013.
Finally (and most importantly for some), we are very pleased to announce that we have received funds from ISBA, SBSS, and other sources sufficient to help support the travel expenses of some junior investigators (defined as current PhD student, or less than 5 years since PhD). Information about how to apply for this support can be found at: http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~mwl25/mcmski/student.html. Note that to apply you must first register with the ISBA website (if you have not done so already) and submit your abstract to the ISBA Abstract Page. Full directions are given at the link above. The deadline to apply for this financial support is also October 15, 2013.
We look forward to welcoming you in Chamonix this January! Brad Carlin, Antonietta Mira, and Christian Robert
MCMSki IV conference co-organizers
October/November - 2013

IMS Bulletin - 17

IMS co-sponsored meeting
International Conference
*Ars Conjectandi 1713–2013*
**October 15–16, 2013, Basel, Switzerland**
[http://www.statoo.ch/bernoulli13/](http://www.statoo.ch/bernoulli13/)

IMS Reps on the program committee are Hans Künsch and Lutz Dümbgen.
This conference will celebrate the 300th anniversary of the publication of Jacob Bernoulli’s
book “Ars Conjectandi” in 1713. It is organised by the Swiss Statistical Society (SSS) and
cosponsored by the Bernoulli Society for Mathematical Statistics and Probability, the IMS
and the International Statistical Institute (ISI). The conference will consist of keynote presenta-
tions from:

- David Aldous, Berkeley
- Peter Bühlmann, Zurich
- Louis Chen, Singapore
- Hans Föllmer, Berlin
- Tilmann Gneiting, Heidelberg
- Hans-Ruedi Künsch, Zurich
- Xiao-Li Meng, Cambridge
- Fritz Nagel, Basel
- Nancy Reid, Toronto
- Stephen Stigler, Chicago
- Edith Dudley Sylla, Raleigh
- Grace Wahba, Madison

The conference will be combined with the Swiss Statistics Meeting to be held on October
16–18, 2013, in Basel, Switzerland, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Swiss Statistical
Society, the 15th anniversary of its section “Official Statistics” and the tenth anniversary of its
sections “Education and Research” and “Business and Industry”.

Further information, a tentative programme and registration are available at the website
above.

In the name of the organising committee, we look forward to welcoming you to Basel in
October 2013.

Dr. Diego Kuonen, CStat PStat CSci, Co-president of the organising committee, and
President of the Swiss Statistical Society (SSS)

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IMS sponsored meeting
2014 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
**March 15–19, 2014**
**Baltimore, Maryland, USA**
[http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm](http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm)

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IMS sponsored meeting
2015 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
**March 15–18, 2015**
**Miami, Florida, USA**
[http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm](http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm)

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IMS sponsored meeting
2016 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting
**March 6–9, 2016**
**Austin, Texas**
[http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm](http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm)

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IMS co-sponsored meeting
INFORMS Applied Probability Society
Conference 2015
**July 5–8, 2015, Istanbul, Turkey**
TBC

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IMS sponsored meeting
2014 WNAR/IMS Annual Meeting
**June 15–18, 2014**
**Honolulu, Hawaii, USA**
The 2014 WNAR/IMS meeting will be
June 15-18, in Hawaii. It will be held at the
Conference Center of the University of
Hawaii at Manoa, in Honolulu, HI.

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IMS co-sponsored meeting
Seminar on Stochastic Processes 2014
**March 26–29, 2014**
**La Jolla, CA, USA**

Contact: Jason Schweinsberg e jschwein@math.ucsd.edu

The Seminar on Stochastic Processes (SSP) in 2014 will be held at the University of California
at San Diego on March 26–29, 2014. The local organizers will be Patrick Fitzsimmons, Amber
Puha, Jason Schweinsberg, and Ruth Williams. The invited speakers will be Rodrigo Banuelos
(Kai Lai Chung Lecturer), Sandra Cerrai, Neil O’Connell, Sebastien Roch, and Ramon van
Handel. Tutorial lectures aimed at new researchers will be given by Vladas Sidoravicius in the
afternoon of Wednesday, March 26, the day before the main SSP program begins.
ABSTRACT SUBMISSION CLOSING 30 OCTOBER 2013!

Don’t miss out on the fantastic opportunity to get exposure at the ASC-IMS 2014 Meeting. Abstracts can be submitted for oral and poster sessions at http://www.ims-asc2014.com/call-for-abstracts/. Instructions regarding suggested themes, abstract format and guidelines are available on the meeting website.

PROGRAM UPDATE

We are pleased to announce that we have the following world-class statisticians secured to share their knowledge and expertise with you:

IMS Keynote Speakers: Thomas G. Kurtz, University of Wisconsin–Madison; Peter Donnelly, University of Oxford; Terry Lyons, University of Oxford; Nina Gantert, Technische Universität München; Martin Hairer, University of Warwick; Timo Seppäläinen, University of Wisconsin–Madison; Matthew Stephens, University of Chicago; Harrison Zhou, Yale University
ASC Keynote Speakers: Adrian Baddeley, CSIRO/University of Western Australia; Sheila Bird, Cambridge University; Rob Tibshirani, Stanford University; James Brown, University of Southampton

MARK THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY

Deadline for Receipt of Abstracts: 30 October 2013
Authors Notified of Acceptance: 30 November 2013
Authors Registration, Payment and Early Bird Deadline: 28 February 2014

Don’t hesitate to join us and benefit from one of 2014’s most memorable educational events.

For more information, please visit www.asc-ims2014.com.
IMS co-sponsored meeting
16th IMS New Researchers Conference
Boston, Massachusetts
July 31–August 2, 2014
w TBC
The purpose of the conference is to promote interaction and networking among new researchers in probability and statistics.

IMS co-sponsored meeting
37th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications
July 28–August 1, 2014
Buenos Aires, Argentina
w http://mate.dm.uba.ar/~probab/spa2014/
SPA 2014: Call for Contributed Sessions
The 37th Conference on Stochastic Processes and their Applications will take place at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, from July 28 to August 1, 2014.

The list of plenary speakers is confirmed: Anton Bovier, Ivan Corwin, Laszlo Erdős, Antonio Galves, Christophe Garban, Martin Hairer (Lévy Lecture), Milton Jara, Gady Kozma, Eyal Lubetzky, Sylvie Méléard, Felix Otto, Tomohiro Sasamoto, Scott Sheffield, Fabio Toninelli, and Balint Tóth.

Besides plenary talks, the meeting will have a large number of shorter talks conducted in parallel sessions on different topics. We anticipate around 40 sessions. A list of Invited Sessions can be found at the event webpage. You are welcome to propose a Contributed Session on a topic of your choice - see the webpage for guidelines.

Please note that the deadline for proposing a Contributed Session is October 30, 2013.

More information can be found at the conference website, which is at http://mate.dm.uba.ar/~probab/spa2014/

Organizing Committee: Inés Armendáriz, Pablo A. Ferrari, Pablo Groisman, Matthieu Jonckheere, Nora Muler, Leonardo T. Rolla
Contact: spa.conference.2014@gmail.com

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Wikipedia says: Caminito ("little walkway" or "little path" in Spanish) is a street museum and a traditional alley, located in La Boca, a neighborhood of Buenos Aires, Argentina. The place acquired cultural significance because it inspired the music for the famous tango "Caminito" (1926), composed by Juan de Dios Filiberto. Photo: Luis Argerich/Wikimedia Commons

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IMS co-sponsored meeting
9th ICSA International Conference
December 20–23, 2013
Hong Kong, China
w http://www.math.hkbu.edu.hk/ICSA2013/
IMS Rep: Elizaveta Levina, Department of Statistics, University of Michigan

The 9th ICSA International Conference will be held at Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong. The theme is "Challenges of Statistical Methods for Interdisciplinary Research and Big Data".

Plenary Speakers
Raymond Carroll, Texas A&M University
Ching-Shui Cheng, University of California, Berkeley and Academia Sinica
Hengjian Cui, Capital Normal University
[Some Developments in High-dimension Statistical Testing]
Peter Hall, Melbourne University
[Methodology for Nonparametric Deconvolution when the Error Distribution is Unknown]
Tze Leung Lai, Stanford University
[Covariate Bandit Theory and Its Applications]
Hoewl Tong, London School of Economics [On Conditionally Heteroscedastic AR Models with Thresholds]

Pao-Lu Hsu Award.
Congratulations to Xiao-Li Meng from Harvard University, Jianqing Fan from Princeton University, and Bin Yu from University of California at Berkeley for being the first recipients of the Pao-Lu Hsu Award. This award recognizes their excellent scholarly accomplishments in statistical research as well as outstanding contributions to the development of sound statistics in Chinese communities. An official award ceremony with special presentations by the award recipients will be held at this conference.
Other meetings around the world

Stats in Paris: Statistics and Econometrics of Networks
November 18–22, 2013
Paris, France

w http://www.statsinparis.com/
The school and conference is aimed at graduate students, professors and researchers interested in both mathematical statistics and economics. The school and conference is the second edition of Stats in the Chateau 2009 and includes 3 days of graduate courses (November 18–20, 2013) followed by a research conference (November 21–22, 2013).

The school, held between 18-20 November, comprises three mini courses:
1. Probabilistic Foundations of Graphs and Networks, by Laurent Menard (University Paris Ouest)
2. Economics of Networks, by Sanjeev Goyal (University of Cambridge)
3. Statistical Analysis of Network Data, by Eric Kolaczyk (Boston University)

The conference, covering recent research in the statistics and econometrics of networks, will take place between 21-22 November. Invited speakers for the conference include Yann Bramoullé (Aix-Marseille Université), Vasco Carvalho (CREi, Universitat Pompeu Fabra), Thomas Chaney (Toulouse School of Economics), Habiba Djebbari (Aix-Marseille Université), Nial Friel (University College Dublin), Johan Koskinen (University of Manchester), Marc Lelarge (INRIA, ENS Paris), Catherine Matias (CNRS, Université d’Évry, Génopole), Aureo de Paula (CEMMA, UCL), Imran Rasul (CEMMA, UCL), Stéphane Robin (INRA, AgroParisTech), Nicolas Verzelen (INRA, Supagro Montpellier).

We will also organize a poster session where participants can present their research. Participants who wish to present a poster can upload a summary of their research while registering for the school/conference. A limited number of MOBILITY GRANTS will be awarded to PhD students and young researchers who present a poster on some research related to Networks. Reimbursement of transportation and accommodation costs is limited to a maximum of 400 euros per candidate against invoices (transport and hotel bills). The paper presented to the conference may further be selected (after review) for inclusion in the Springer Lecture Notes - Proceedings issued after the conference. The application procedure and other details for mobility grants can be found at: http://www.statsinparis.com/mobility-grants

Registration for the conference is now open at http://www.statsinparis.com/registration The payment deadline for the school/conference is 28 October 2013.

Lunteren Meeting
November 11–13, 2013
De Werelt, Lunteren, The Netherlands

The annual Meeting of Dutch Statisticians and Probabilists will take place November 11-13, 2013, in ’De Werelt’ in Lunteren. Those who wish to participate in the meeting - including those who will not stay overnight - are kindly requested to register before October 1st. For registration and detailed information see the website.
Organizers: Frank den Hollander, Marie-Colette van Lieshout and Aad van der Vaart

Workshop on Statistical Issues in Compressive Sensing
November 11–13, 2013
Göttingen, Germany

w http://math.uni-goettingen.de/sics2013
Theory and applications of compressive sensing have been developing rapidly during the last decade. From the very beginning, a number of statistical issues have been central but are still unexplored to some extent. This includes convergence analysis of sensing algorithms under statistical noise, Bayesian modeling and reconstruction, and more recently, sequential and online approaches, to mention a few topics of current research.

The goal of this workshop is twofold: First, we attempt to bring together researchers who have been working on statistical issues in compressive sensing. Second, problems from various areas of applications will be discussed, which statistical approaches may help to solve.

2014 ICSA and KISS Joint Applied Statistics Symposium
June 15–18, 2014
Portland, Oregon, USA

w http://www.statkiss.org/icsakiss2014
Contact: Dongseok Choi e choi@ohsu.edu
The International Chinese Statistical Association (ICSA) and the Korean International Statistical Society (KISS) Joint Applied Statistics Symposium will be held from Sunday, June 15 to Wednesday, June 18, 2014 at Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront in Portland, Oregon.

Call for Invited Session Proposals:
The deadline for receipt of invited session proposals is November 1, 2013.
Fall 2013 Program: Theoretical Foundations of Big Data Analysis
October, November & December, 2013 (see dates below)
Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing, UC Berkeley, USA
w http://simons.berkeley.edu/programs/bigdata2013

We live in an era of “Big Data”: science, engineering and technology are producing increasingly large data streams, with petabyte and exabyte scales becoming increasingly common. In scientific fields such data arise in part because tests of standard theories increasingly focus on extreme physical conditions (cf., particle physics) and in part because science has become increasingly exploratory (cf., astronomy and genomics). In commerce, massive data arise because so much of human activity is now online, and because business models aim to provide services that are increasingly personalized.

The Big Data phenomenon presents opportunities and perils. On the optimistic side of the coin, massive data may amplify the inferential power of algorithms that have been shown to be successful on modest-sized data sets. The challenge is to develop the theoretical principles needed to scale inference and learning algorithms to massive, even arbitrary, scale. On the pessimistic side of the coin, massive data may amplify the error rates that are part and parcel of any inferential algorithm. The challenge is to control such errors even in the face of the heterogeneity and uncontrolled sampling processes underlying many massive data sets. Another major issue is that Big Data problems often come with time constraints, where a high-quality answer that is obtained slowly can be less useful than a medium-quality answer that is obtained quickly. Overall we have a problem in which the classical resources of the theory of computation—e.g., time, space and energy—trade off in complex ways with the data resource.

Various aspects of this general problem are being faced in the theory of computation, statistics and related disciplines—where topics such as dimension reduction, distributed optimization, Monte Carlo sampling, compressed sampling, low-rank matrix factorization, streaming and hardness of approximation are of clear relevance—but the general problem remains untackled. This program will bring together experts from these areas with the aim of laying the theoretical foundations of the emerging field of Big Data.

Parallel and Distributed Algorithms for Inference and Optimization
October 21–24, 2013
Organizers: Michael Mahoney (Stanford University; chair), Guy Blelloch (Carnegie Mellon University), John Gilbert (UC Santa Barbara), Chris Ré (Stanford University), Martin Wainwright (UC Berkeley)

Unifying Theory and Experiment for Large-Scale Networks
November 18–21, 2013
Organizers: Michael Kearns (University of Pennsylvania; chair), Deepak Agarwal (LinkedIn), Edo Airoldi (Harvard University), Ashish Goel (Stanford University), Matt Jackson (Stanford University), Jennifer Neville (Purdue University)

Big Data and Differential Privacy
December 11–14, 2013
Organizers: Kunal Talwar (Microsoft Research; chair), Avrim Blum (Carnegie Mellon University), Kamalika Chaudhuri (UC San Diego), Cynthia Dwork (Microsoft Research), Michael Jordan (UC Berkeley)
IMS Monographs 2: Nonparametric Inference on Manifolds, with Applications to Shape Spaces

by Abhishek Bhattacharya, ISI Kolkata, and Rabi Bhattacharya, University of Arizona

This book introduces in a systematic manner a general nonparametric theory of statistics on manifolds, with emphasis on manifolds of shapes. The theory has important and varied applications in medical diagnostics, image analysis, and machine vision. An early chapter of examples establishes the effectiveness of the new methods and demonstrates how they outperform their parametric counterparts. Inference is developed for both intrinsic and extrinsic Fréchet means of probability distributions on manifolds, then applied to shape spaces defined as orbits of landmarks under a Lie group of transformations—in particular, similarity, reflection similarity, affine and projective transformations. In addition, nonparametric Bayesian theory is adapted and extended to manifolds for the purposes of density estimation, regression and classification.

Ideal for statisticians who analyze manifold data and wish to develop their own methodology, this book is also of interest to probabilists, mathematicians, computer scientists and morphometricians with mathematical training.

IMS members, claim your discount: $48.00 (was $80.00) using this link:
http://www.cambridge.org/discountpromotion/?site.locale=en_US&code=IMSSERIES2
More meetings around the world

23rd International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS)
June 8–12, 2014
Ljubljana, Slovenia
w www.law05.si/iwms

The 23rd International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS) will be held at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics at the University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, from June 8–12, 2014.

The main theme of the workshop will be the interplay between matrices and statistics. IWMS will be organized in conjunction with the 7th Linear Algebra Workshop (LAW14) that will start on June 4. The purpose of the IWMS is to stimulate research and, in an informal setting, to foster the interaction of researchers in the interface between statistics and matrix theory. The workshop will provide a forum through which statisticians may be better informed of the latest developments and newest techniques in linear algebra and matrix theory and may exchange ideas with researchers from a wide variety of countries.

More information can be found on the workshop web page: www.law05.si/iwms.

The Third International Workshop on Climate Informatics
September 26–27, 2013
Boulder, CO, USA
w https://www2.image.ucar.edu/event/ci2013
Contact: Bo Li e libo@illinois.edu

Workshop Overview
The format of the workshop seeks to overcome cross-disciplinary language barriers and to emphasize communication between participants by featuring tutorials, invited talks, panel discussions, posters and break-out sessions. The programs of previous workshops can be found here:
CI 2012 https://www2.image.ucar.edu/event/ci2012
CI 2011 http://www.nyas.org/Events/Detail.aspx?cid=462a8558-34c0-4e9e-8cca-97ffda5bf7a3
We invite all researchers interested in learning about critical issues and opportunities in the field of climate informatics to join us, whether established in the field or just starting out.

2013 Rao Prize Conference
October 5, 2013
Penn State University, University Park, PA, USA
w www.stat.psu.edu/~rli/raoprize2013.html

The Department of Statistics at Penn State University is holding a one-day conference on Saturday, October 5, 2013 to honor Professor Herman Chernoff (Harvard University), the 2013 Rao Prize winner, and Professor Steve Fienberg (Carnegie Mellon University), the 2013 P. R. Krishnaiah lecturer. See the conference website for more details. For further information, please e-mail questions to RaoPrize2013@psu.edu.
Employment Opportunities around the world

Canada: Waterloo, ON
University of Waterloo, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
Chair of Statistics and Actuarial Science
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14171939

Canada: Waterloo, ON
University of Waterloo, Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science
Statistics or Biostatistics - Tenure Track or Tenured
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14399181

Canada: Montréal, PQ
Université de Montréal, Département de mathématiques et de statistique
Professor of Mathematics
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14984358

Germany: Mannheim/Heidelberg
University of Mannheim and Heidelberg University, RTG
Postdoctoral Position
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14272253

Italy: Milan
Università Bocconi, Department of Decision Sciences
Assistant Professor Decision Sciences
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14789368

Kazakhstan: Astana
Nazarbayev University
Open rank positions in Mathematics
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14360483

Kazakhstan: Astana
Nazarbayev University
All Ranks (Professor, Associate, Assistant)
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15115433

Lebanon: Beirut
The American University of Beirut, Department of Mathematics
Assistant Professors in Statistics, Applied, and Pure Mathematics
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14945474

Singapore
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
Faculty Positions in Analytics
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14493244

Singapore
National University of Singapore
Department of Statistics and Applied Probability
Faculty Positions
Applications are invited for regular positions in Statistics. A PhD in Statistics or a related field is required. The appointments can be in any area of Statistics at any level. For appointment at Associate Professor or Professor level, the applicant should have an outstanding record in research, and demonstrated leadership in teaching and service. For appointment at Assistant Professor level the applicants should have demonstrated potential for excellence in research, teaching and service. There is no deadline for applications but the search will continue until all positions are filled.

Applicants should send an application letter and a CV and arrange for at least THREE reference letters to be sent directly to the Department. Applications should be mailed by post or via e-mail to:
Search Committee
Department of Statistics and Applied Probability
National University of Singapore
6 Science Drive 2
Singapore 117543
E-mail: stasec@nus.edu.sg

NUS offers internationally competitive remuneration, generous research support and funding, relocation assistance and other benefits. The Department of Statistics and Applied Probability has close to 30 faculty, making us one of the largest Departments in Asia. We provide a stimulating environment for our Faculty to develop professionally.

For more information about the University, Faculty of Science, Department and terms of service, visit our websites:
University: http://www.nus.edu.sg/
Faculty of Science: http://www.science.nus.edu.sg/
Department: http://www.stat.nus.edu.sg/
Terms of Service: http://www.nus.edu.sg/careers/potentialhires/workinginnus/benefits.html

::: Advertise current job opportunities for only $250 for 60 days ::: See http://jobs.imstat.org for details :::
Worldwide Search for Talent

City University of Hong Kong is a dynamic, fast-growing university that is pursuing excellence in research and professional education. As a publicly-funded institution, the University is committed to nurturing and developing students’ talent and creating applicable knowledge to support social and economic advancement. Currently, the University has six Colleges/Schools. Within the next two years, the University aims to recruit 100 more scholars from all over the world in various disciplines, including science, engineering, business, social sciences, humanities, law, creative media, energy, environment, and other strategic growth areas.

Applications and nominations are invited for:

Chair Professor/Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor
Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management [Ref. A/123/49]

The Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management is looking for talented faculty in emerging and interdisciplinary research areas such as risk engineering and management, quality and reliability engineering, system informatics and data mining, logistics and supply chain management, energy and environment, and other IE/OR related areas.

Requirements: A PhD in a highly relevant discipline with a promising research record and strong teaching ability. Good academic credentials and excellent communication skills are required. Successful candidates are expected to develop new research directions and new courses.

(Information about the Department is available at http://www.cityu.edu.hk/seem/)

Salary and Conditions of Service
Remuneration package will be very attractive, driven by market competitiveness and individual performance. Excellent fringe benefits include gratuity, leave, medical and dental schemes, and relocation assistance (where applicable). Initial appointment will be made on a fixed-term contract.

Information and Application
Further information on the posts and the University is available at http://www.cityu.edu.hk, or from the Human Resources Office, City University of Hong Kong, Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong [Email: hrojob@cityu.edu.hk/Fax: (852) 2788 1154 or (852) 3442 0311].

Please send the nomination or application enclosing i) a current curriculum vitae with evidence of teaching ability in English, and ii) a concise (up to 1 page) statement of research interests and teaching philosophy and at least three references to Head, Department of Systems Engineering and Engineering Management, or e-mail to “sehead@cityu.edu.hk”. Applications and nominations will receive full consideration until the positions are filled and only shortlisted applicants will be contacted. Please quote the reference of the post in the application and on the envelope. Shortlisted candidates for the post of Assistant Professor will be requested to arrange for at least 3 reference reports sent directly by the referees to the Department, specifying the position applied for. The University's privacy policy is available on the homepage.

The University also offers a number of visiting positions through its “CityU International Transition Team” scheme for current graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and for early-stage and established scholars, as described at http://www.cityu.edu.hk/provost/cityu_international_transition.htm.

City University of Hong Kong is an equal opportunity employer and we are committed to the principle of diversity. We encourage applications from all qualified candidates, especially those who will enhance the diversity of our staff.

City University of Hong Kong was ranked the 95th among the world’s top universities and the 12th in Asia according to the Quacquarelli Symonds 2012/2013 surveys.
http://www.cityu.edu.hk

::: Search our online database of the latest jobs around the world for free at http://jobs.imstat.org :::
Singapore
Singapore University of Technology and Design
Faculty Members (Stochastics)
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15020752

Switzerland: Lausanne
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne (EPFL)
Postdoctoral/Doctoral Positions in Statistics/Applied Probability at EPFL
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15023029

Taiwan: Taipei
Academia Sinica
Institute of Statistical Science
Regular Research Positions
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14714864
The Institute of Statistical Science, Academia Sinica, is seeking candidates for regular research positions at the level of assistant, associate or full research fellow available in 2014. Candidates in all areas of Statistics will be considered. Candidates should have a PhD degree 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 degree recipients may also be included. Except for the letters of recommendation, electronic submissions are encouraged. Applications should be submitted to

Dr. Hsin-Chou Yang
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: hsinchou@stat.sinica.edu.tw

Applications should be received by December 31, 2013 for consideration.

United Kingdom: Coventry
University of Warwick
Research Fellows
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14982400

United Kingdom: Warwick
University of Warwick
Research Fellows
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15113750

United States: Auburn, AL
Auburn University
Director of Statistical Consulting
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15113881

United States: Berkeley, CA
University of California, Berkeley, Department of Political Science
Assistant or Associate Professor - Quantitative Methods
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15057468

United States: Berkeley, CA
University of California, Berkeley, Department of Statistics
Assistant Professor
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15071951

United States: Fresno, CA
CSU Fresno
Mathematics: Statistics Assistant Professor
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14911401

United States: Los Angeles, CA
UCLA, Department of Mathematics
Faculty Positions 2014–15
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15122762

United States: Los Angeles, CA
UCLA, Department of Statistics
Ladder Faculty
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14742449

United States: Riverside, CA
University of California, Riverside, Department of Statistics
Assistant/Associate Professor in Statistics
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14275359

United States: Santa Barbara, CA
University of California, Santa Barbara
Assistant Professor
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14908658

United States: Santa Cruz, CA
UC Santa Cruz
Assistant Professor of Statistics
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15122781

::: Advertise current job opportunities for only $250 for 60 days :::
See http://jobs.imstat.org for details :::
United States: Los Angeles, CA
University of Southern California
The Department of Mathematics in the Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, California, seeks to fill a tenure-track Assistant Professor position with an anticipated start date of August 2014.

Candidates with research interests in analysis, with an emphasis on computational methods and/or statistics, will be considered. Candidates should have demonstrated excellence in research and a strong commitment to graduate and undergraduate education. A doctoral degree is required at the time of appointment.

To apply, please submit the following materials: letter of application and curriculum vitae, including your e-mail address, telephone and fax numbers, preferably with the standardized AMS Cover Sheet. Candidates should also arrange for at least three letters of recommendation to be sent, at least one of which addresses teaching skills. Please submit applications electronically through MathJobs at www.mathjobs.org. As an alternative and only if necessary, materials can be mailed to:

Search Committee
Department of Mathematics
Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
University of Southern California
3620 Vermont Avenue, KAP 104
Los Angeles, CA 90089-2532.

In order to be considered for this position, applicants are also required to submit an electronic USC application; follow this job link or paste in a browser:

https://jobs.usc.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=72260

Review of applications will begin November 15, 2013. Additional information about the USC Dornsife’s Department of Mathematics can be found at our web site http://dornsife.usc.edu/mathematics/ USC strongly values diversity and is committed to equal opportunity in employment. Women and men, and members of all racial and ethnic groups are encouraged to apply.

United States: Stanford, CA
Stanford University
Faculty opening
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14970751

United States: Stanford, CA
Stanford University, Department of Statistics
Assistant Professor and/or Stein Fellow
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14970734

United States: Fort Collins, CO
Colorado State University, Department of Statistics
Open Rank Special Appointment Faculty Statistical Consultant
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15084039

United States: New Haven, CT
Yale School of Public Health
Tenure-track Faculty Positions in Biostatistics
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14491201

United States: Storrs, CT
University of Connecticut
Assistant Professor of Actuarial Science
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14969931

United States: Atlanta, GA
Georgia Tech
The School of Mathematics at Georgia Tech is accepting applications for faculty positions at all ranks and in all areas of Pure and Applied Mathematics and Statistics. Applications by highly qualified candidates, and especially those from groups underrepresented in the mathematical sciences, are particularly encouraged. See www.math.gatech.edu/resources/employment for more details and application instructions.

United States: Ames, IA
Iowa State University, Departments of Mathematics and Statistics
Assistant or Associate Professor
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14938998

United States: Ames, IA
Iowa State University, Greenlee School of Journalism & Communication
Open Rank: Data-Driven Advertising & Public Relations
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15081895

United States: Grinnell, IA
Grinnell College
Assistant Professor, Statistics
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14813455

United States: Grinnell, IA
Grinnell College
Assistant Professor, Statistics
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14813455

::: Search our online database of the latest jobs around the world for free at http://jobs.imstat.org :::
United States: Ames, IA

Iowa State University

Assistant or Associate Professor of Mathematics and Statistics

The Departments of Mathematics and Statistics at Iowa State University invite applications for the position of assistant or associate professor beginning August 16, 2014. The Departments seek a candidate with research expertise in probability and foundations of statistics. For further information about the departments, please visit our websites at http://www.math.iastate.edu and http://www.stat.iastate.edu.

The new faculty member is expected to have a Ph.D. in mathematics, statistics, or a related field. The successful candidate will have a strong research portfolio in probability theory as it relates to statistics and/or stochastic processes and their application, the potential to obtain external funding, and excellent credentials in both undergraduate and graduate-level teaching. For exceptionally well-qualified candidates, the appointment may be at the level of tenured associate professor.

Qualifications

Required: A Ph.D. or equivalent degree in mathematics, statistics, or a related discipline. Demonstrated potential for superior achievement in research. Excellent teaching record as evidenced by both peer and student evaluations. Appointment at the associate professor level will additionally require an extensive publication record as well as a record of external funding.

Preferred: Two to four years of experience beyond the Ph.D., normally achieved through a postdoctoral position.

Application Instructions

The application process at Iowa State University is a two-part process. Failure to complete both parts of the application process will constitute an incomplete application. Only complete applications will be reviewed.

1. Apply online at Mathjobs.org at https://www.mathjobs.org/jobs. The following materials must be uploaded to constitute a complete application:
   - AMS Cover Sheet
   - Cover Letter
   - Vita
   - Brief statement describing research accomplishments and plans
   - Brief statement describing teaching philosophy and plans
   - Three (3) letters of recommendation—at least one of which should address the candidate’s teaching abilities and experiences.

2. Create an online application on the Iowa State University Employment Opportunities website, Position #131092, at https://www.iastatejobs.com. If you have questions about this step in the process, please email employment@iastate.edu or call 515-294-4800 or Toll Free: 1-877-477-7485.

To assure full consideration, applications should be received by November 30, 2013 although we will continue to accept applications until the position is filled. Questions about the application process may be directed to Melanie Erickson, mathsearch@iastate.edu, 515-294-0393.

All offers of employment, oral and written, are contingent upon the university’s verification of credentials and other information required by federal and state law, ISU policies/procedures, and may include the completion of a background check.

Iowa State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and strongly encourages women and members of underrepresented groups to apply.

Qatar: Education City, Doha

Carnegie Mellon Qatar Teaching Position

Applications are invited for a teaching-track faculty position at Carnegie Mellon Qatar in Education City, Doha. This position emphasizes undergraduate teaching primarily, but also involves a combination of course development and/or research. All areas of statistics are welcome.

See http://www.stat.cmu.edu (email: hiring@stat.cmu.edu).

Send CV, relevant transcripts, teaching statement, and three recommendation letters to: Search Committee, Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 or hiring@stat.cmu.edu.

Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. AA/EOE.
Faculty Positions – School of Operations Research & Information Engineering (ORIE)

Cornell University’s School of Operations Research and Information Engineering (ORIE) seeks to fill up to two tenured/tenure-track faculty positions for its Ithaca campus. Applicants with research interests in all areas of operations research and information engineering will be considered, but applicants in areas aligned with the School’s current strategic plan will receive primary consideration: the plan seeks to strengthen the School’s leading role in advancing the analytical, methodological, and engineering school norms.

ORIE is a diverse group of high-quality researchers and educators interested in probability, optimization, statistics, simulation, and a wide array of applications such as manufacturing, e-commerce, supply chains, scheduling, transportation systems, health care, financial engineering, service systems and network science. We value mathematical and technical depth and innovation, and experience with applications and practice. Ideal candidates will have correspondingly broad training and interests. Please apply online at https://academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/3039 with a cover letter, CV, statements of teaching and research interests, sample publications, list of reference letter writers and, for junior applicants, a doctoral transcript. Applications will be reviewed starting on October 1, 2013 (prior to the annual INFORMS conference); although all applications completed by November 15, 2013, will receive full consideration, candidates are urged to submit all required material as soon as possible. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled.

ORIE and the College of Engineering at Cornell embrace diversity and seek candidates who can contribute to a welcoming climate for students of all races and genders. Cornell University seeks to meet the needs of dual career couples, has a Dual Career program, and is a member of the Upstate New York Higher Education Recruitment Consortium to assist with dual career searches. Visit http://www.unyherc.org/home/ to see positions available in higher education in the upstate New York area. Cornell University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action educator and employer. We strongly encourage qualified women and minority candidates to apply.

Find us online at http://hr.cornell.edu/jobs or Facebook.com/CornellCareers

Cornell University is an innovative Ivy League university and a great place to work. Our inclusive community of scholars, students and staff impart an uncommon sense of larger purpose and contribute creative ideas to further the university’s mission of teaching, discovery and engagement. Located in Ithaca, NY, Cornell’s far-flung global presence includes the medical college’s campuses on the Upper East Side of Manhattan and in Doha, Qatar, as well as the new CornellNYC Tech campus to be built on Roosevelt Island in the heart of New York City.

Diversity and inclusion have been and continue to be a part of our heritage. Cornell University is a recognized EEO/AA employer and educator.
United States: Research Triangle Park, NC
SAMSI
Deputy Director
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=13989039

United States: Las Cruces, NM
New Mexico State University
Assistant Professor
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15055077

United States: Binghamton, NY
Binghamton University
Assistant Professor - Tenure Track
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15114544

United States: Ithaca, NY
Cornell University
Faculty Positions: School of ORIE
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14781530

United States: New York, NY
Columbia University, Department of Mathematics and Department of Statistics
Assistant/Associate Professor
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14969812

United States: Columbus, OH
Mathematical Biosciences Institute
MBI Early Career Award and Postdoctoral Fellowships
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=14793448

United States: Corvallis, OR
Oregon State University, Department of Statistics
Assistant/Associate/Full Professor
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15114786

United States: Eugene, OR
University of Oregon
Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor Quantitative Biology
http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15114763

United States: New York, NY
Columbia University Department of Statistics
Faculty Position Starting Fall 2014
The Department of Statistics invites applications for a faculty position in applied/interdisciplinary statistics to begin July 1, 2014. The position may be filled at any rank from tenure-track assistant professor through full professor with tenure. A Ph.D. in statistics or a related field and commitment to high quality research and teaching in statistics and/or probability are required. Candidates will be expected to sustain an active research and publication agenda and to teach in the departmental undergraduate and graduate programs. The department currently consists of 22 faculty members, 40 PhD students, and over 100 MS students. The department has been expanding rapidly and, like the University itself, is an extraordinarily vibrant academic community. For further information about the department and our activities, centers, research areas, and curricular programs, please go to our web page at: http://www.stat.columbia.edu

Please initiate the application process at https://academicjobs.columbia.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=58288

At Columbia’s Recruitment of Academic Personnel (RAPS) secure website linked above, applicants at all ranks are asked please to create the applicant profile and upload the Curriculum Vitae. The completion of this brief process in RAPS is indicated by a confirmation number which the applicant should retain.

To complete the application process, applicants at all ranks must submit materials through Head Hunter at https://editorialexpress.com/hhc. The Department of Statistics positions will be visible in Head Hunter by clicking on "Positions" after logging in to the Candidate Application Interface.

In Head Hunter, applicants for this position at the assistant professor or non-tenured associate professor rank should submit a cover letter, Curriculum Vitae, a brief statement of their research plans, one writing sample, and arrange for three letters of reference to be sent on their behalf. Applicants at the tenured associate professor or full professor rank should submit a cover letter, Curriculum Vitae, and a statement of research.

Please note that an application will not be considered complete unless the process is completed in both Head Hunter and the Columbia RAPS system.

Inquiries may be made to dk@stat.columbia.edu

Review of applications begins on December 2, 2013 and will continue until the position is filled.

Columbia University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.
United States: Research Triangle Park, NC

National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS)

Deputy Director

The National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) was established in 1990 by the national statistics societies and the Research Triangle universities, to “identify, catalyze and foster high-impact, cross-disciplinary and cross-sector research involving the statistical sciences.” It does so by means of research projects funded by government and the private sector, the fifty-member Affiliates Program, and as a partner in operation of the NSF-funded Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI).

To expand its scale, its impact and its relationships within the statistical sciences community, NISS seeks to appoint an energetic, visionary individual as Deputy Director. This person may, in addition, hold a faculty appointment at one of the Research Triangle universities. The position is based in Research Triangle Park, NC, and reports to the Director of NISS.

The principal responsibility of the Deputy Director is to expand and diversify the NISS research program. The Deputy Director will develop high-impact cross-disciplinary and cross-sector projects addressing major societal problems such as healthcare, education and official statistics; work with NISS affiliates and others to form multi-institution research teams; secure the necessary resources; and carry out the research. Mentoring postdoctoral fellows will also be a central activity.

The Deputy Director will, in addition, be an Associate Director of SAMSI, and in this capacity, will oversee and nurture the NISS–SAMSI relationship. Key goals are to strengthen the role of NISS as a stimulus for SAMSI programs and to realize the potential of NISS projects catalyzed by SAMSI programs.

Criteria for the position include a Ph.D. in the statistical sciences or a related discipline; a strong record of scientific activity and creativity; experience in assembling, generating funding for, and managing cross-disciplinary, multi-organization collaborations; superb communication skills; and passion for what NISS can do to lead the statistics community in serving the nation.

Applications, expressions of interest and nominations should be sent to DDSearch14@niss.org. Both NISS Director Alan Karr and search committee chair Roger Hoerl may be contacted at this e-mail address with questions. Applications should consist of a letter of interest, CV and names of five references. Review of applications will begin in October 2013, and will continue until the Deputy Director is appointed.

NISS is committed to recognizing and nurturing merit, talent, and achievement by supporting diversity and equal opportunity in all of its activities. NISS does not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment on any legally recognized basis, including, but not restricted to, race, color, religion, gender, national origin, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental disability, veteran status, or uniformed service member status. NISS seeks and welcomes applications from women and members of historically underrepresented groups.
**United States: Philadelphia, PA**

**Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania**

The Department of Statistics of the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, is seeking applicants for a full-time, tenure-track faculty position at any level: Assistant, Associate, or Full Professor. Applicants should show outstanding capacity and achievement in research, as well as excellent teaching and communication skills. Applicants must have a Ph.D. (expected completion by June 30, 2015 is acceptable) from an accredited institution. The appointment is expected to begin July 1, 2014.

The department, located in the business school, provides services to the whole university and is interested in applicants in all scientific areas.

Please visit our website, https://statistics.wharton.upenn.edu/recruiting/facultypositions, for a description of the department and link to submit a CV and other relevant material. Any questions should be addressed to “Chair of the Search Committee” and sent to statistics.recruit@wharton.upenn.edu.

The University of Pennsylvania values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds. The University of Pennsylvania is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. Women, minority candidates, veterans and individuals with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.

**United States: Pittsburgh, PA**

**Carnegie Mellon University**

**Tenure-track/Visiting position**

Applications are invited for possible tenure-track 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: Brookings, SD**

**South Dakota State University**

Assistant Professor of Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15110535

**United States: Austin, TX**

**The University of Texas at Austin**

Assistant Professor, Statistics

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=15016138

**United States: Houston, TX**

**Rogue Wave Software, Inc.**

Statistician

http://jobs.imstat.org/c/job.cfm?site_id=1847&jb=13444846

**United States: Pittsburgh, PA**

**Carnegie Mellon University**

**Teaching Professor Position**

Applications are invited for the position of Teaching Professor, rank (Assistant, Associate or Full) to be determined. The Department of Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University is seeking a passionate, master teacher to contribute to our thriving, modern undergraduate and graduate programs. The successful candidate will be expected to have a strong and successful teaching record, demonstrate excellence in statistical pedagogy, and an active research agenda. This position emphasizes teaching, student advising, curriculum development, and supervising collaborative research projects. PhD in statistics, biostatistics or related area required. See http://www.stat.cmu.edu or email hiring@stat.cmu.edu for more details. Send CV, relevant transcripts, teaching and research statements, and three recommendation letters to: Teaching Faculty Search Committee, Statistics, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, USA or hiring@stat.cmu.edu. Application screening begins immediately, continues until positions closed. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. AA/EOE.
United States: Columbia, SC

University of South Carolina Department of Statistics

Full/Associate/Assistant Position and Assistant Professor Position

The Department of Statistics at the University of South Carolina, Columbia invites applications for two positions: an open rank tenure-track Full/Associate/Assistant Professor, and a tenure-track Assistant Professor. Both appointments will commence on August 16, 2014.

The research focus for the open rank position is in the theory, methodology, and computational aspects related to the analysis of high-dimensional data, such as those in bioinformatics, proteomics, and other “-omics” studies; brain imaging; remote sensing; astronomy, and statistical learning. Applicants must have a PhD in the Statistical Sciences and show evidence of outstanding research potential or accomplishment, and a willingness to collaborate and be involved in interdisciplinary research. Applicants should have appropriate teaching experience and demonstrate evidence of excellence in teaching.

The research focus for the Assistant Professor position will be in highly-structured data analysis, though other related research areas will also be considered. Applicants must have a PhD in the Statistical Sciences and must show potential to become an outstanding researcher and demonstrate evidence of excellence in teaching.

Review of applications will begin November 30, 2013. A curriculum vita and at least three letters of reference are required. Applications for this position should be sent to Faculty Search Committee, Department of Statistics, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208 USA. The e-mail address is FacultySearch@stat.sc.edu.

The Department currently consists of thirteen tenured/tenure-track faculty and three full-time instructors. Current research areas of the faculty and graduate students include Bayesian inference, survival analysis and reliability, statistical shape analysis, high-dimensional data analysis, latent variable and mixed effects models, simultaneous inference, group and pooled sample inference, psychometrics and educational measurement, and biomedical and environmental applications. The Department has approximately 35 full-time graduate students each year and offers PhD, MS, Master of Applied Statistics (MAS), and BS degrees. For more information about the University and the Department see the websites www.sc.edu and www.stat.sc.edu.

The University of South Carolina’s main campus is located in the state capital, close to the mountains and the coast. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching has designated the University of South Carolina as one of only 73 public and 32 private academic institutions with “very high research activity” and also lists USC as having strong focus on community engagement. The University has over 31,000 students on the main campus (and over 46,000 students system-wide), more than 350 degree programs, and a nationally-ranked library system that includes one of the nation’s largest public film archives. Columbia, the capital of South Carolina, is the center of a greater metropolitan area with a population over 750,000.

The University of South Carolina is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. The University of South Carolina does not discriminate in educational or employment opportunities or decisions for qualified persons on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, or veteran status.

Visit the jobs section on the IMS website, where you can:

✔ View job opportunities in probability and statistics, including in academia and industry
✔ Post your resume/CV online
✔ Create personal Job Alerts, and never let a matching job opportunity pass you by!

http://jobs.imstat.org/
Employment Opportunities around the world

United States: Madison, WI
Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Biostatistics or Bioinformatics
Department of Biostatistics & Medical Informatics
University of Wisconsin School of Medicine & Public Health
and Morgridge Institute For Research

The Department of Biostatistics & Medical Informatics (BMI) at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine & Public Health (SMPH), in collaboration with the Morgridge Institute for Research (MIR), seeks a tenure track assistant/associate/full professor starting by August 2014. Candidates should have a PhD in Biostatistics, Statistics, Bioinformatics, Computational Biology, Biomedical Informatics, Computer Sciences, or a closely related quantitative area, and demonstrated ability to work in a collaborative, interdisciplinary environment.

Relevant expertise may include, but is not limited to, high-dimensional inference, data integration, graphical modeling, experimental design, network analysis, statistical genetics/genomics, machine learning, optimization, combinatorial algorithms, and image analysis. The incumbent will conduct, publish, and disseminate collaborative and methodological research at the forefront of his/her discipline, including maintaining his/her own independent research program. Attracting and maintaining external funding are parts of the position expectations. Responsibilities will include training graduate students, teaching one BMI course per year, and participating in professional, university, and community service appropriate to rank.

The successful candidate will join the BMI Department, home to faculty with expertise in bioinformatics; clinical informatics; image analysis; biostatistics; and statistical genetics and genomics. Faculty collaborate with scientists across UW and the state, including MIR, the Wisconsin Institute for Discovery, the Institute for Clinical and Translational Research, the Carbone Cancer Center, and the Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation. The Department maintains strong ties to the world-class Departments of Computer Sciences, Statistics, and Industrial & Systems Engineering, through which many of its graduate students are trained.

Simultaneously, the successful candidate will join an energetic team of investigators in the Virology Focus Area of MIR, which is furthering understanding and control of viruses and their roles in human disease. The interdisciplinary environment of MIR provides an exciting context for quantitative methodological, computational, and theoretical advances expected of a tenured or tenure track professor in BMI. MIR is part of the twin institutes of the Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery, a public-private initiative that facilitates interdisciplinary research and breakthrough discoveries to advance human health and well-being. The ultra-modern MIR laboratory and computational research facility is located across the street from the BMI suite of offices on the central UW–Madison campus, and has become a hub of collaborative scholarship.

The University of Wisconsin–Madison is a world-class academic institution with an international reputation for basic, applied, and interdisciplinary research. UW–Madison recently surpassed $1 billion in annual research expenditures and ranks third in the nation in science and engineering expenditures. Madison provides a vibrant, culturally rich environment highly ranked in national surveys for quality of life.


AA/EOE. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. Unless confidentiality is requested in writing, information regarding the applicants must be released upon request. Finalists cannot be guaranteed confidentiality. A criminal background check will be required prior to employment.
October 2013


November 2013


November 9–16: Cochin, Kerala, India. International Conference & Workshop on Fractals and Wavelets [W] www.icfwrajagiri.in


**International Calendar continued**

**December 2013**


**December 11–14:** Simons Institute, UC Berkeley, USA. Big Data and Differential Privacy w [http://simons.berkeley.edu/programs/bigdata2013](http://simons.berkeley.edu/programs/bigdata2013)

**January 2014**

**January 6–8:** Chamonix, France. MCMSkii IV w [http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~mwl25/mcmски/](http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~mwl25/mcmски/)


**February 2014**


**February 24–26:** SAMSI, Research Triangle Park, NC. LDHD: Statistical Inference in Sparse High-Dimensional Models: Theoretical and Computational Challenges w [http://www.samsi.info](http://www.samsi.info)
info/workshop/2013-14-ldhd-statistical-inference-sparse-high-dimensional-models-theoretical-and-computati

March 2014

March 4–7: Ulm, Germany. 11th German Probability and Statistics Days w http://www.gpsd-ulm2014.de/

March 6–8: Ulm, Germany. Conference on Modelling, Analysis and Simulation in Economathematics w http://graduiertenkolleg.gpsd-ulm2014.de/

March 7–9: Dallas, Texas, USA. Ordered Data Analysis, Models and Health Research Methods: An International Conference in Honor of H.N. Nagaraja for his 60th Birthday w http://faculty.smu.edu/ngh/hnnconf.html

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


May 2014

May 29–31: University of Maryland, College Park, USA. Frontiers of Hierarchical Modeling in Observational Studies, Complex Surveys and Big Data: Conference Honoring Professor Malay Ghosh w http://www.jpsm.umd.edu/ghosh

June 2014

June 2–6: Będlewo, Poland. 11th International Conference on Ordered Statistical Data w http://bcc.impan.pl/14OrderStat/

June 8–12: Ljubljana, Slovenia. 23rd International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics (IWMS) w www.law05.si/iwms

June 15–18: Honolulu, Hawaii. 2014 WNAR/IMS Annual Meeting w TBC


July 2014


2014 IMS Meeting in conjunction with the Australian Statistical Conference: abstract submission closes 30 October 2013

http://www.ims-asc2014.com/


Continues on page 38
International Calendar continued

July 2014 continued

- IMs July 31 – August 2: Boston, MA. 16th New Researchers Conference w TBC

August 2014

- IMs August 2–7: Boston, MA. JSM2014 and ASA’s 175th Anniversary. w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/


September 2014

- IMs September 22–26: Cartagena de Indias, Colombia XIII CLAPEM: Congreso Latino-americano de Probabilidad y Estadística Matemática w http://www.clapem.unal.edu.co/

June 2015

- IMs June (exact dates TBC): Location TBC. 2015 WNAR/IMS Annual Meeting w TBC

July 2015

- IMs July 5–8: Istanbul, Turkey. INFORMS Applied Probability Society Conference 2015 w TBC

- IMs July 13–17: Oxford, UK. 38th Conference on Stochastic Processes and Applications w TBC

August 2015

- IMs August 8–13: Seattle, WA. IMS Annual Meeting at JSM2015. w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

March 2016

- IMs March 6–9: Austin, Texas. 2016 ENAR/IMS Spring Meeting w http://www.enar.org/meetings.cfm

July 2016

- IMs July 30 – August 4: Chicago, USA. JSM 2016 w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

July 2017

- IMs July 29 – August 3: Baltimore, USA. IMS Annual Meeting at JSM 2017 w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

July 2018

- IMs July 28 – August 2: Vancouver, Canada. JSM 2018 w http://amstat.org/meetings/jsm/

Are we missing something? If you know of any statistics or probability meetings which aren’t listed here, please let us know. You can email the details to Elyse Gustafson at erg@imstat.org, or you can submit the details yourself at http://www.imstat.org/submit-meeting.html. We’ll list them here in the Bulletin, and online too, at www.imstat.org/meetings
Membership and Subscription Information

Journals

Individual and Organizational Memberships
Each individual member receives the *IMS Bulletin* (print and/or electronic) and may elect to receive one or more of the five scientific journals. Members pay annual dues of $112. An additional $62 is added to the dues of members for each scientific journal selected ($37 for Stat Sci). Reduced membership dues are available to full-time students, new graduates, permanent residents of countries designated by the IMS Council, and retired members. Organizational memberships are available to departments, corporations, government agencies and other similar research institutions at $169 per year.

Individual and General Subscriptions

*IMS Bulletin*
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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Information for Advertisers

**General information:** The *IMS Bulletin* and webpages are the official news organs of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics. The *IMS Bulletin*, established in 1972, is published 8 times per year. Print circulation is around 2,000 paper copies, and it is also free online in PDF format at http://bulletin.imstat.org, posted online about two weeks before mailout (average downloads over 8,000). Subscription to the *IMS Bulletin* costs $90. To subscribe, call 877-557-4674 (US toll-free) or +1 216 295 2340 (international), or email staff@imstat.org. The IMS website, http://imstat.org, established in 1996, receives over 30,000 visits per month. Public access is free.

**Advertising job vacancies**
A single 60-day online job posting costs just $250.00. We will also include the basic information about your job ad (position title, location, company name, job function and a link to the full ad) in the *IMS Bulletin* at no extra charge. See http://jobs.imstat.org

**Advertising meetings, workshops and conferences**
Meeting announcements in the *Bulletin* and on the IMS website at http://imstat.org/meetings are free. Send them to Elyse Gustafson; see http://www.imstat.org/program/prog_announce.htm

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Display advertising allows for placement of camera-ready ads for journals, books, software, etc. A camera-ready ad should be sent as a grayscale PDF/EPS with all fonts embedded. Email your advert to Audrey Weiss, IMS Advertising Coordinator admin@imstat.org or see http://bulletin.imstat.org/advertise

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**Deadlines and Mail Dates for IMS Bulletin**

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The purpose of the Institute is to foster the development and dissemination of the theory and applications of statistics and probability.