



## WSS NEWS

# WASHINGTON STATISTICAL SOCIETY

## LECTURES AND SEMINARS

**Title:** Bayes' Rule: The Theory That Would Not Die

**Organizer:**

Dept. of Physics, Statistics, Institute for Integrating Statistics in Decision Sciences, and The Institute for Reliability and Risk Analysis of GWU.

**Speaker:**

Sharon Bertsch McGrayne

McGrayne is also the author of *Nobel Prize Women in Science* (National Academy Press), and *Prometheans in the Lab* (McGraw-Hill).

A former newspaper reporter and co-author of *The Atom, Electricity & Magnetism* (*Encyclopaedia Britannica*). She has been a panelist on NPR's Science Friday, and her work has been featured on Charley Rose. She has written for *Scientific American*, *APS News*, *Science*, *Isis*, *the Times Higher Education Supplement*, and other publications. Her books have been reviewed by *Nature*, *Chemical & Engineering News*, *New Scientist*, *JAMA*, *Physics Today*, *Scientific American*, *Science Teacher*, *American Journal of Physics*, *Physics Teacher*, *Popular Mechanics*, and others. Her webpage is at [www.McGrayne.com](http://www.McGrayne.com).

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**Date/Time:** Friday, October 21, 2011, 4:00 PM

Wine and Cheese Reception and Book Signing follow the talk.

**Location:**

George Washington University  
 Duques Room 651  
 2201 G Street, NW, Washington DC 20052

**Abstract:**

From spam filters and machine translation to the drones over bin Laden's compound, Bayes' rule pervades modern life. Thomas Bayes and Pierre-Simon Laplace discovered the rule roughly 250 years ago but, for most of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it was deeply controversial, almost taboo among academics. My talk will range over the history of Bayes' rule, highlighting Alan Turing who decrypted the German Enigma code and Jerome Cornfield of NIH and George Washington University who established smoking as a cause of lung cancer and high cholesterol as a cause of cardiovascular disease. The talk will be based on my recent book, *The Theory That Would Not Die: How Bayes' Rule Cracked the Enigma Code, Hunted Down Russian Submarines & Emerged Triumphant from Two Centuries of Controversy* (Yale University Press).

**Reviews:**

"An intellectual romp ... a masterfully researched tale of human struggle and accomplishment, and it renders perplexing mathematical debates digestible and vivid for even the most lay of audiences." — *Boston Globe*.

"We now know how to think rationally about our uncertain world. This book describes in vivid prose, accessible to the lay person, the development of Bayes' rule over more than two hundred years from an idea to its widespread acceptance in practice." —Dennis Lindley, author of *Understanding Uncertainty*.

"Adept at explaining abstruse mathematics in layperson's language, ... a flair for bringing to life the often eccentric personalities of the characters involved, ... a compelling and entertaining fusion of history, theory and biography." — *Sunday Times* (London).

"A statistical thriller. ... Her tale has everything you would expect of a modern-day thriller. Espionage, nuclear warfare and cold war paranoia... a host of colourful characters and their bitter rivalries carry the tale. ... To have crafted a page-turner out of the history of statistics is an impressive feat. If only lectures at university had been this racy." —*New Scientist*.

"Bayesian reasoning promises to bring our views gradually into line with reality and so has become an invaluable tool for scientists of all sorts and, indeed, for anyone who wants, putting it grandiloquently, to sync up with the universe. If you are not thinking like a Bayesian, perhaps you should be." — *New York Times* (Aug. 5, 2011).

"Many twentieth-century scientists who used the Bayesian approach in their work — including mathematician Alan Turing and physicists Enrico Fermi and Richard Feynman — declined to use the 'B' word in public." — *Nature* (July 28, 2011)

**RSVP:** [i2sd@gwu.edu](mailto:i2sd@gwu.edu)



*The Effects of the Great Recession on Our Economy and Society: Insights from Public Data*

**Friday, October 21, 2011** • Keck Center of the National Academies

500 Fifth Street NW, Washington, DC • Room 100

- 1:30 pm     **Light refreshments**, first floor prefunction space
- 2:00        **Welcome** (Lawrence Brown, CNSTAT Chair and University of Pennsylvania)
- 2:05        **Developments at the OMB Statistical and Science Policy Office** (Katherine Wallman, Chief Statistician)
- 2:20        **The Effects of the Great Recession on Our Economy and Society: Insights from Public Data**  
               —**Alan Zaslavsky** (CNSTAT; Harvard Medical School)—*Introduction*  
               —**Michael Hout** (CNSTAT; University of California, Berkeley)—*Labor Market Effects*  
               —**Timothy Smeeding** (University of Wisconsin—Madison)—*Income and Poverty Effects*  
               —**S. Philip Morgan** (Duke University)—*Family Composition Effects*  
               —**Lisa Lynch** (CNSTAT; Brandeis University)—*Discussant*
- 3:45        **Floor discussion**
- 4:15        **Reception**, third floor atrium
- 5:30        **Adjourn**

**Abstract:** *The Great Recession—the longest and deepest recession in the United States since the Great Depression in the 1930s—has and will continue to have significant effects on many aspects of the American society and economy. A publication from the Russell Sage Foundation, The Great Recession (2011 forthcoming, edited by David Grusky, Bruce Western, and Christopher Wimer), argues, that even at this early date, the Great Recession can be seen as transformative in its effects on employment, poverty, income, wealth, consumption, fertility, mortality, marriage, attitudes, charitable giving, and much more. Three contributors to the Russell Sage volume—Michael Hout, Timothy Smeeding, and S. Philip Morgan—will trace the Great Recession’s effects on employment, income and poverty, and family composition, highlighting the uses of statistical data from a variety of sources and identifying important data gaps. Lisa Lynch, former chief economist in the U.S. Department of Labor and chair of the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, will consider the implications of this work for the federal statistical system and other sources of public data to support continued analysis of this watershed event for the United States and the world.*

**Open to the public**, but—for planning purposes—**please register** by email to

[cnstat@nas.edu](mailto:cnstat@nas.edu)

or call Bridget Edmonds at (202) 334-3096

**Title:**

**Likelihood-based Methods for Regression Analysis with Binary Exposure Status Assessed by Pooling**

**Speaker:**

Speaker: Robert H. Lyles, PhD, Associate Professor  
Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics  
Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University

**Date/ Time: Friday, October 28, 2011 10:00-11:00 am**

**Location:**

Georgetown University  
Warwick Evans Conference Room, Building D  
4000 Reservoir Rd, Washington, DC 20057-1484

**Sponsor:**

Georgetown University Department of Biostatistics, Bioinformatics and Biomathematics

**Abstract:**

The need for resource-intensive laboratory assays to assess exposures in many epidemiologic studies provides ample motivation to consider study designs that incorporate pooled samples. In this talk, we consider the case in which specimens are combined for the purpose of determining the presence or absence of a pool-wise exposure, in lieu of assessing the actual binary exposure status for each member of the pool. We presume a primary logistic regression model for an observed binary outcome, together with a secondary regression model for exposure. We facilitate maximum likelihood analysis by complete enumeration of the possible implications of a positive pool, and we discuss the applicability of this approach under both cross-sectional and case-control sampling. We also provide a maximum likelihood approach for longitudinal or repeated measures studies where the binary outcome and exposure are assessed on multiple occasions and within-subject pooling is conducted for exposure assessment. Simulation studies illustrate the performance of the proposed approaches along with their computational feasibility using widely available software. We apply the methods to investigate gene-disease association in a population-based case-control study of colorectal cancer.

**Title:****CDAC-WSS Seminar  
Overview of Data Confidentiality in the Federal Context****Date & Time: Thursday, November 3, 2011****Location:**

Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center  
Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE.  
Use the Red Line to Union Station.

**Abstract:**

The Confidentiality and Data Access Committee (CDAC) and the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) will be presenting an overview on data confidentiality in the federal context on Thursday, November 3, 2011. The day-long seminar will be held at the Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center.

**Agenda:**

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Welcome and Overview (Jonaki Bose, SAMHSA)
- 9:10 Governing Laws and Legal Issues (Chris Chapman, BLS)
- 10:00 Assessing Disclosure Risk (Ramona Rantala, BJS)
- 10:45 Break
- 11:00 Restricted Access Procedures (Jonaki Bose, SAMHSA)
- 12:00 Lunch (on your own)
- 1:15 Statistical Disclosure Limitation Methods for Tabular Data (Mike Buso, BLS)
- 2:00 Statistical Disclosure Limitation Methods for Microdata (J. Neil Russell, SAMHSA)
- 2:45 Examples of Disclosure Problems and Disclosure Limitation Strategies (Larry Cox, NISS)
- 3:15 Conclusion/Questions (Jonaki Bose, SAMHSA)

**Registration:**

Registration is free but there is limited space.

Persons interested in attending should register by sending an email with their name, affiliation, address, phone number and email address to Brian Meekins at [Meekins.Brian@bls.gov](mailto:Meekins.Brian@bls.gov) by **Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>**.

Registrations will be accepted first come-first serve until there are no more spots available. If you have any questions about the seminar please contact Jonaki Bose at [jonaki.bose@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:jonaki.bose@samhsa.hhs.gov).



COMMITTEE ON  
**APPLIED &  
 THEORETICAL**  
 •STATISTICS•

Announcing a *Joint Seminar* of the **Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics** and the **Committee on National Statistics** of *The National Academies*...

## THE STORY OF THE **Netflix Prize**

**Friday, November 4, 2011 • 3:00–5:00 pm**

*Reception to Follow*



Keck Center of the National Academies, Room 100  
 500 Fifth Street NW  
 Washington, DC 20001



**Robert Bell**  
*AT&T Labs Research*



**Lester Mackey**  
*University of  
 California, Berkeley*



**Emmanuel Candes**  
*Stanford University*

Just over five years ago, Netflix released more than 100 million movie ratings as part of a data analysis contest to improve methods for recommending movies to customers based on ratings they had provided for previously rented movies. A prize of \$1 million was offered for a “recommender” algorithm that outperformed the existing Netflix system Cinematch<sup>SM</sup> by at least 10% in terms of root mean squared prediction error. In a textbook example of “crowdsourcing,” more than 20,000 teams from over 150 countries submitted algorithms. By August 2009, after almost three years of effort, two teams, BellKor’s Pragmatic Chaos and The Ensemble, had surpassed the 10% goal in a finish worthy of its own movie.

Bob Bell (*BellKor’s Pragmatic Chaos*) and Lester Mackey (*The Ensemble*) will describe the overall set-up of the competition, the challenges it posed, the main ideas underlying their recommender algorithms, and the interaction among the leading competitors. Emmanuel Candes will then discuss the research avenues stimulated by the various algorithms developed in this competition, some of the resulting advances, and some difficult problems that remain.

**— Open to the Public • Please RSVP! —**

For planning and building check-in purposes, please RSVP by **October 31** to Agnes Gaskin at [agaskin@nas.edu](mailto:agaskin@nas.edu) or (202) 334-3096.

## CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIUMS

**Event:** The SouthEast SAS® Users Group (SESUG)  
**Date:** October 23-25<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
**Location:** Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, Alexandria, VA  
**Description:**

For the first time, the SESUG will hold their annual conference in the Washington D.C. area, making it very convenient for professionals in the DC Area to attend. The conference will be held October 23-25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, Alexandria, VA. The conference schedule, academic sections, and events are planned to accommodate local users. Some examples include:

- Opening session on Monday morning rather than Sunday evening
- Internet connection availability in the conference area
- Two full days of content rather than a day and a half

SESUG is a regional user group that welcomes all SAS users with conference locations in the southeastern United States. SESUG is a great opportunity for significant SAS training and networking with other SAS professionals.

**Registration Deadline: October 11, 2011**

We hope you will join us in a great opportunity to enhance your SAS knowledge and network with other SAS users. More information can be found at the conference website: <http://www.sesug.org/SESUG2011/index.php>.

**Event:** **International Society for Bayesian Analysis (ISBA), the Indian Bayesian Society and the Indian Chapter of ISBA**

**Date:** **January 6-10, 2013**

**Location:** Varanasi, India

**Cost:** \$400 USD if registered on or before September 10, 2012; additional 10% if registered after September 10, 2012

**Description:**

The conference is expected to cover a lot of Bayesian applications and some theories relating to

- Agricultural and Social Statistics
- Business Statistics and Econometrics
- Decision Theory and Decision Analysis
- Environmental and Spatial Statistics
- Image Analysis
- Markov Chain Monte Carlo Methods and their Advancements
- Methods for High or Infinite Dimensional Data
- Objective Bayesian Methods
- Official Statistics and Survey Sampling
- Risk Analysis and Reliability
- Survival Analysis, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, etc.

**Deadlines:**

Abstracts: *passed*

Final Text: **October 10, 2012**

Tutorials **January 6-7, 2013** (tutorial cost: \$50.00 USD)

**Information:**

There are plans to publish the conference proceedings after peer review of contributions by eminent Bayesians.

For more information and to submit abstracts or register, visit <http://www.bhu.ac.in/isba/> .

**KEYWORDS:** Statistics, statistical modeling, analysis



**Event:** **Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology Research Conference**

**Date:** **January 10-12, 2012**

**Location:** Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC

**Description:**

The Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology (FCSM) is planning a research conference to be held at the Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC, on **January 10-12, 2012**.

**Schedule of Activities:**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
Abstracts due	<i>passed</i>
Papers selected/Authors notified	<i>passed</i>
Advance program ready	<i>passed</i>
Conference registration open	October 3, 2011
Draft paper due to Organizers/Chairs	November 16, 2011
Final program ready	December 2011
Conference dates	January 10-12, 2012
Final paper due (FCSM Web site)	March 2012

**POC:**

To obtain conference information or to be included on the mailing list, contact:

Anna Holaus, Conference Coordinator

Email: [fcsm@census.gov](mailto:fcsm@census.gov)

Phone: 202-874-0464

For questions about abstracts contact:

Kevin Cecco, Program Chair

Email: [Kevin.Cecco@irs.gov](mailto:Kevin.Cecco@irs.gov)

Phone: 301-763-2308

**Event:** **2nd ACM SIGHIT International Health Informatics Symposium (IHI 2012)**

**Date:** **January 28-30, 2012**

**Location:** Miami, Florida

**Description:**

IHI 2012 is the main conference of the newly formed ACM Special Interest Group on Health Informatics (SIGHIT). IHI 2012 is ACM's premier community forum concerned with the application of computer science principles, information science principles, information technology, and communication technology to address problems in healthcare, public health, and everyday wellness. The conference highlights the most novel technical contributions in computing-oriented health informatics and the related social and ethical implications. IHI 2012 will feature keynotes, a multi-track technical program including papers, demonstrations, and panels. New additions to the IHI 2012 program include tutorials and a doctoral consortium.

IHI 2012 serves as a venue for the discussion of innovative technical contributions highlighting end-to-end applications, systems, and technologies, even if available only in prototype form (e.g., a system is not deployed in production mode and/or evaluation may be performed by giving examples). We strongly encourage authors to submit their original contributions describing their algorithmic contributions, methodological contributions, and well-founded conjectures based on an application-oriented context. A paper does not have to be comprehensive and can focus on a single aspect of design, development, evaluation, or deployment.

Contributions in the realm of social and behavioral issues might include empirical studies of health-related information use and needs, socio-technical studies on the implementation and use of health information technology, studies on health informatics in the context of community impact and implications, studies on public policies on leveraging health informatics infrastructure, among others.

**Early Bird Registration Deadline: October 15, 2011**

**Websites:** <http://www.sighit.org/ihi2012> , <http://www.comp.hkbu.edu.hk/ihi2012/>

**Event:** **Fourth International Conference on Establishment Surveys**

**Date:** **June 11–14, 2012**

**Host:** Survey Methods for Businesses, Farms, and Institutions

**Location:** Sheraton Centre Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada

**Description:**

The ICES series of conferences serves an important role in the world of survey methodology. Few other conferences focus on methods and applications for establishment surveys.

The first three conferences held in 1993, 2000 and 2007 were successful, with more than 400 attendees per conference. The conferences covered a spectrum of survey methods for businesses, farms, and institutions. The fourth conference will continue along this path. Examples of potential topics include the following:

- Updating business registers
- Sample design challenges
- Questionnaire design for establishment surveys
- Collecting data electronically from establishment surveys
- Issues of multi-mode data collection
- Factors that affect establishment survey participation
- Generalized survey processing systems for establishment survey
- Measuring nonresponse bias
- Variance estimation
- Advances in disclosure protection
- Efficient use of administrative data in establishment surveys
- New directions in establishment surveys

**Information:**

(website) [www.amstat.org/meetings/ices/2012](http://www.amstat.org/meetings/ices/2012)

(email) [ices4@amstat.org](mailto:ices4@amstat.org).

**Event:** **International Conference on Methods for Surveying and Enumerating Hard-to-Reach Populations**

**Date:** **October 31–November 3, 2012**

**Host:** H2R|2012: Survey Methods for Hard-to-Reach Populations

**Location:** Marriott New Orleans at the Convention Center, New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A.

**Description:**

The H2R 2012 conference will bring together survey methodologists, sociologists, statisticians, demographers, ethnographers, and other professionals from around the world to present new and innovative techniques for surveying hard-to-reach populations. Addressing both the statistical and survey design aspects of including hard-to-reach groups, researchers will report findings from censuses, surveys, and other research related to the identification, definition, measurement, and methodologies for surveying and enumerating undercounted populations.

**Identifying, Defining, and Measuring the Hard-to-Reach (H2R)**

Defining H2R populations  
Measuring undercounts for H2R groups  
Improving measurement with administrative records  
Sampling H2R populations

**Techniques and Methodologies**

Recruitment methods  
Targeting the H2R  
Use of social marketing and outreach campaigns  
Overcoming language and literacy barriers  
Use of community-based organizations  
Dealing with complex living and housing

situations

Tracking and tracing H2R populations

**H2R Subpopulations**

Racial minorities  
Immigrant populations  
Indigenous populations  
Highly mobile and migrant populations  
Homeless and refugee populations  
Sexual minorities  
Populations affected by natural disasters  
Populations in zones of armed conflict  
Stigmatized populations  
Cross-cultural similarities and differences in H2R populations  
Linguistic and cultural minorities

**Information:** (website) [www.amstat.org/meetings/h2r/2012](http://www.amstat.org/meetings/h2r/2012)

(email) [H2R2012@amstat.org](mailto:H2R2012@amstat.org).

## CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

### Machine Learning Class Sponsored by Stanford University

Stanford University has announced that their upcoming Machine Learning class, which will run from **October 10 to December 16, 2011**, will be offered for free over the Web.

Machine Learning is a technique for developing models for such uses as pattern recognition, classification, and forecasting. The typical result is a non-linear model, produced by exposure to a training set, with good ability to generalize -- to produce useful outputs when exposed to data that are not in the training set. Statisticians are often not involved -- that is problematic as it is important to develop and use rigorous statistical methods to validate models produced by machine learning and to recognize any biases.

Go to <http://www.ml-class.com/> for more information. You can also sign up to be notified when class registration begins.

Course Description (from <http://www.ml-class.com/> )

This course provides a broad introduction to machine learning, datamining, and statistical pattern recognition. Topics include: (i) Supervised learning (parametric/non-parametric algorithms, support vector machines, kernels, neural networks). (ii) Unsupervised learning (clustering, dimensionality reduction, recommender systems, deep learning). (iii) Best practices in machine learning (bias/variance theory; innovation process in machine learning and AI). (iv) Reinforcement learning. The course will also draw from numerous case studies and applications, so that you'll also learn how to apply learning algorithms to building smart robots (perception, control), text understanding (web search, anti-spam), computer vision, medical informatics, audio, database mining, and other areas.

### **Short Courses Sponsored by JP\$M**

Course and registration information for all JP\$M-sponsored short courses listed below are available at [www.jp\\$sm.org/shortcourses](http://www.jp$sm.org/shortcourses).

#### **Focus Groups from Start to Finish**

**OCTOBER 19-20, 2011** at L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, Washington DC

Registration and Payment Due by **October 5, 2011**

#### **DESIGNING MIXED-MODE SURVEYS**

**NOVEMBER 10-11, 2011** at the Sheraton Crystal City Hotel, Arlington, VA

Registration and Payment Due by **October 27, 2011**

#### **Introduction to Survey Sampling**

**DECEMBER 19-20, 2011** at the Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center

Registration and Payment Due by **December 5, 2011**

#### **Experimental Design for Surveys**

**January 9-10, 2010** at L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, Washington DC

Registration and Payment Due by **December 19, 2011**

#### **Introduction to Survey Estimation**

**FEBRUARY 29 – MARCH 1, 2012** at the Inn and Conference Center, Adelphi, Maryland

Registration and Payment Due by **February 15, 2012**

#### **Writing Questions for Surveys**

**April 2-3, 2012** at Washington Marriott at Metro Center, Washington DC

Registration and Payment Due by **March 19, 2012**

#### **Total Survey Error**

**April 16-17, 2012** at L'Enfant Plaza Hotel, Washington DC

Registration and Payment Due by **April 2, 2012**

#### **COGNITIVE INTERVIEWING: A HANDS-ON APPROACH**

**June 28-29, 2012** at Washington Marriott at Metro Center, Washington DC

Registration and Payment Due by **June 14, 2012**

**WORKSHOP\$ Sponsored by American University:**

**Fall 2011 (October)**

**Philosophy of Information, October 3, 2011, Washington DC, USA**

<http://www.american.edu/cas/economics/info-metrics/workshop/workshop-2011-fall.cfm>

**Fall 2011 (November)**

**Information Theory and Shrinkage Estimation, November 12, 2011,  
Washington DC, USA**

<http://www.american.edu/cas/economics/info-metrics/workshop/workshop-2011-november.cfm>

**Spring 2012 (March)**

**Information and Econometrics of Networks, March 30-31, 2012, Washington  
DC, USA**

<http://www.american.edu/cas/economics/info-metrics/workshop/workshop-2012-spring.cfm>

# EMPLOYMENT

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY COUNCIL ON WOMEN AND GIRLS STEM MENTORING PROGRAM TO HOST:

### Career Panel: What Can I Do with a Degree in Mathematics, Statistics, or Physics and Related Fields?

**What:** The U.S. Department of Energy will be hosting a career panel event featuring professionals who will talk about their careers and the career options for college students pursuing degrees in mathematics, statistics, computing, technology, engineering, and physics.

The event will particularly emphasize the career opportunities available for women.

**When:** Wednesday, November 9, 2011 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. – Arrival, Security Check-in, & Informal Networking

4:50 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – Introduction

5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. – Career Panel

6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Pizza, Refreshments & Informal Networking

**Where:** U.S. Department of Energy  
Forrestal 2E-069/2E-081  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

#### Tentative Speakers:

- Business/Industry Speaker (An operations research major working at Price Waterhouse Cooper)
- Intelligence Community Speaker (not yet fully confirmed)
- U.S. Government Speaker (A mathematics major working at U.S. Energy Information Administration)
- Private Contractor (A statistics/political science major working at Mathematica Policy Research)

**Sponsors:** U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Energy Information Administration, University of the District of Columbia Department of Mathematics, Georgetown University Career Education Center, the American Statistical Association, and the Washington Statistical Society.

**Co-organizers:** Caitlin Donahue (Student-Georgetown University), Carol Joyce Blumberg (Statistician-U.S. Energy Information Administration), and Debbie Jones (CGW STEM Program Manager, Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer).

**Directions:** Closest Metro station is the Smithsonian—Independence Ave. exit. The Visitors'



entrances to the Department of Energy are located across the street from the Smithsonian Castle.

**Security:** Due to Department of Energy regulations, only U.S. citizens may attend this event. Those bringing laptops should arrive by 4:30 p.m. (if possible) to facilitate inspection of laptops. Those without laptops should arrive by 4:40 p.m. (if possible) to facilitate checking in. All those attending will be required go through a screening process similar to airport screening with the non-full body scanners (except that there is no limit on liquid and powder amounts).

**RSVP:** Deborah Jones at [deborah.jones@hq.doe.gov](mailto:deborah.jones@hq.doe.gov) by Wednesday, November 2.

**To submit a question for the panel to address or for more information, please contact:** Carol Joyce Blumberg at [carol.blumberg@eia.gov](mailto:carol.blumberg@eia.gov) or (202) 586-6565 or Caitlin Donahue at [ced44@georgetown.edu](mailto:ced44@georgetown.edu) or (484) 354-9497.

**AOC Solutions, INC.****Position: Statistician****Description:**

Skilled statistician with experience in providing statistical consulting support in the federal financial management industry. Individual possesses strong statistical background and proficiency in the use of statistical software (Microsoft Excel, Stata, etc.), as well as strong verbal and written communication, interpersonal, and client service skills. Individual must be skilled in developing professional written reports to fully document and explain statistical processes, explanations, work plans, and findings. Individual must have a flexible schedule and be responsive to varying timelines to meet client needs.

Individual has demonstrated experience in performing statistical analyses in support of complex projects related to:

- Federal Financial Management
- Federal Financial Statement Audit Readiness and Testwork
- Federal Financial Data Analysis

This resource should provide functional, technical, and/or administrative statistical support as directed in the above subject areas to assist with meeting client needs and objectives.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

- Perform varying statistical analyses in response to and in support of client needs.
- Develop and document work plans and statistical and analytical methodologies for proposal to client based on identified needs and requirements.
- Analyze numerical data to assist with resolving complex financial management and accounting problems and making predictions on future outcomes.
- Generate sample populations for various client test and review needs.
- Analyze, interpret, and summarize sample findings.
- Accurately display information into charts, tables, and written form for presentation and delivery purposes.
- Assist with development and delivery of presentations, reports, and work papers to client personnel, including senior executive level management, regarding statistical analyses.
- Assist with client communication as directed.
- Support status reporting development and delivery to client personnel as directed.

**Required Education and Experience**

Minimum Bachelor's degree in Statistics from an accredited university. Minimum ten (10) years of experience in federal financial sector required. EOE M/F/D/V

**Apply:**

<http://www.aocsolutions.com/careers.htm>,  
or send your resume to droberts@aocsolutions.com

## The American Statistical Association

### Position: Manager of Surveys and Graduate Education

#### Duties and Responsibilities:

The American Statistical Association is seeking qualified applicants to fill a Manager of Surveys and Graduate Education position. [The duties of this dynamic individual include:](#)

- Develop and execute surveys conducted by the ASA
- Serve as a member of a team of staff and volunteers
- Tackle the challenges of improving statistical education at the graduate level
- Assist in the administration of the ASA's accreditation program
- Solicit, propose, and manage ASA grants related to graduate education and research matters
- Work with appropriate ASA constituencies and entities to develop grant requests
- Ensure production of appropriate publicity pieces as needed, including columns for *Amstat News*
- Prepare periodic reports on activities of the graduate education programs and results of surveys
- Prepare and submit budgets within the responsibilities of this position
- Serve as a resource for members, staff, and the community in the field of surveys and graduate education in statistics

#### Qualifications:

Candidates should have an advanced degree in statistics (PhD preferred), with specific expertise in survey methodology and a minimum of five years of experience. Familiarity with working with academic departments of statistics and grant development would be considered a major plus. Successful candidates will demonstrate the ability to effectively collaborate and manage multiple processes and projects. Excellent interpersonal skills and strong oral and written communication skills are required.

Excellent benefits include health, dental, and vision insurance; 401(k); tuition reimbursement; and subsidized public transportation. Candidates should submit a letter of application, including salary history and résumé.

#### Apply:

All materials should be emailed to [lynn@amstat.org](mailto:lynn@amstat.org) or mailed to Human Resources-Surveys/Graduate Education, American Statistical Association, 732 North Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

The American Statistical Association is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## **FROM THE WSS NEWS EDITOR**

Items for publication in the **November, 2011** issue of the WSS NEWS will be accepted thru the **15<sup>th</sup>** of the preceding month.

Email items to [wss.editor@gmail.com](mailto:wss.editor@gmail.com).

Please submit all materials as an attachment in **MS WORD** or **plain text**. Submissions in any other format (e.g., in an email) will be returned.

**PLEASE DO NOT SUBMIT YOUR ITEMS IN PDF.**



P.O. Box 2033  
Washington, DC 20013

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