



# WSS NEWS

January 2009

WASHINGTON  
STATISTICAL  
SOCIETY

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed at different times between March and June 2009 -- to judge entries in the Curtis Jacobs Memorial Prize for Outstanding Statistics Project; to judge entries in the WSS Statistical Poster Competition; and to judge science fair projects at the regional science fairs in Northern Virginia, suburban Maryland and the District of Columbia. The WSS needs **you** to volunteer now for any one – or all three!

The WSS has a longstanding and active program of reaching out to elementary and secondary school students to encourage them to gain an understanding and appreciation of Statistics. We do this in part by sponsoring two annual competitions – the Curtis Jacobs Memorial Prize and the WSS Statistical Poster Competition – and by awarding prizes at the annual regional high school science fairs.

Since 1986, WSS has provided special awards at the five **regional science fairs** to students whose projects demonstrate excellence in data analysis or the application of statistical methods. The fairs are held on Saturdays in March. They need volunteers willing to devote one Saturday morning to interact with students, judge their projects, and give them some guidance and encouragement. Those who have participated in these activities have very much enjoyed meeting the students, talking with them, and seeing the widely diverse projects they have presented. Last March, 27 of your fellow WSS members judged and awarded prizes to projects in Behavioral and Social Sciences, Engineering: Materials and Bioengineering, Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy, Environmental Management, Medicine and Health Sciences, and Animal Sciences. If you are interested in being a science fair judge, contact Bob Clickner at [Robertclickner@westat.com](mailto:Robertclickner@westat.com), or 301-294-2815.

The **Curtis Jacobs Award** program focuses on gathering information and analyzing for making decisions. Entries are typically due in May; judges review and score the entries at their convenience and transmit their evaluations and scores by late May. If you are interested in volunteering to judge the entries, contact Tom Krenzke at [TomKrenzke@westat.com](mailto:TomKrenzke@westat.com) or 301-251-4203.

The **poster competition** is open to students in grades K-12 and entries may be in any area of statistics. Judging is typically in May or June. If you are interested in judging, contact Cammy Fine at [Cammy.Fine@ey.com](mailto:Cammy.Fine@ey.com) or 202-327-7730, or Ryan Petska at [Ryan.Petska@EY.com](mailto:Ryan.Petska@EY.com) or 202-327-7245.

**WSS and Other Seminars**  
(All events are open to any interested persons)

**January**

22 Thurs. **Challenges and Opportunities for the Statistics Profession and the American Statistical Association**

27 Tues. **Vulnerability of Complementary Cell Suppression to Intruder Attack**

**February**

5 Thurs. **Using Administrative Data in Support of Policy Relevant Disability Research: Success of a Three-Way Partnership**

Also available on the Web at the following URL: <http://www.scs.gmu.edu/~wss/>

**Note from the WSS NEWS Editor**

Items for publication in the February issue of the WSS NEWS will be accepted until January 12, 2009. E-mail items to Michael Feil at michael.feil@usda.gov.

## Announcement

### Nominations Sought for 2009 Julius Shiskin Award

Nominations are invited for the annual Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics. The Award is given in recognition of unusually original and important contributions in the development of economic statistics or in the use of statistics in interpreting the economy. Contributions are recognized for statistical research, development of statistical tools, application of information technology techniques, use of economic statistical programs, management of statistical programs, or developing public understanding of measurement issues. The Award was established in 1980 by the Washington Statistical Society (WSS) and is now cosponsored by the WSS, the National Association for Business Economics, and the Business and Economics Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association (ASA). The 2008 award recipients were William R. Bell and Robert M. Groves. Dr. Bell was recognized for his innovative statistical research that led to improved economic statistics through important contributions to the theory and practice of seasonal adjustment, small area estimation, and time series modeling; Dr. Groves was recognized for his innovative statistical research that led to improved economic statistics through important contributions to the theory and practice of survey methods for the conduct of sample surveys of both households and establishments.

Because the program was initiated many years ago, statisticians and economists often ask, "Who was Julius Shiskin?" At the time of his death in 1978, "Julie" was the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and earlier served as the Chief Statistician at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the Chief Economic Statistician and Assistant Director of the Census Bureau. Throughout his career, he was known as an innovator. At Census he was instrumental in developing an electronic computer method for seasonal adjustment. In 1961, he published *Signals of Recession and Recovery*, which laid the groundwork for the calculation of monthly economic indicators, and he developed the monthly Census report *Business Conditions Digest* to disseminate them to the public. In 1969, he was appointed Chief Statistician at OMB where he developed the policies and procedures that govern the release of key economic indicators (Statistical Policy Directive Number 3), and originated a *Social Indicators* report. In 1973, he was selected to head BLS where he was instrumental in preserving the integrity and independence of the BLS labor force data and directed the most comprehensive revision in the history of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which included a new CPI for all urban consumers.

Nominations for the 2009 award are now being accepted. Individuals and groups in the public or private sector from any country can be nominated. The award will be presented with an honorarium of \$750 plus additional recognition from the sponsors. A nomination form and a list of all previous recipients are available on the ASA Website at [www.amstat.org/sections/bus\\_econ/shiskin.html](http://www.amstat.org/sections/bus_econ/shiskin.html). For questions or more information, please contact Steven Paben, Julius Shiskin Award Committee Secretary, via e-mail at [paben.steven@bls.gov](mailto:paben.steven@bls.gov) or phone at 202-691-6147.

Completed nominations must be received by April 1, 2009.

## Announcement

### SIGSTAT Topics

**January 21, 2009: GeoDA – Part 2**  
(<https://www.geoda.uiuc.edu/>)

GeoDa is the latest incarnation in a long line of software tools developed by Dr. Luc Anselin's [Spatial Analysis Laboratory \(SAL\)](#) in the [Department of Geography](#) at the [University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign](#). It is designed to implement techniques for exploratory spatial data analysis (ESDA) on lattice data (points and polygons). The free program provides a user friendly and graphical interface to methods of descriptive spatial data analysis, such as spatial autocorrelation statistics, as well as basic spatial regression functionality. The latest version contains several new features such as a cartogram, a refined map movie, parallel coordinate plot, 3D visualization, conditional plots (and maps) and spatial regression.

Continuing the December discussion, this month will cover:

- Spatial Data Manipulation
- EDA Basics, Linking
- Brushing Scatter Plots and Maps
- Multivariate EDA Basics
- Advanced Multivariate EDA

**February 11, 2009: GeoDA – Part 3**  
(<https://www.geoda.uiuc.edu/>)

GeoDa is the latest incarnation in a long line of software tools developed by Dr. Luc Anselin's [Spatial Analysis Laboratory \(SAL\)](#) in the [Department of Geography](#) at the [University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign](#). It is designed to implement techniques for exploratory spatial data analysis (ESDA) on lattice data (points and polygons). The free program provides a user friendly and graphical interface to methods of descriptive spatial data analysis, such as spatial autocorrelation statistics, as well as basic spatial regression functionality. The latest version contains several new features such as a cartogram, a refined map movie, parallel coordinate plot, 3D visualization, conditional plots (and maps) and spatial regression.

Continuing the January discussion, this month will cover:

- ESDA Basics and Geovisualization
- Advanced ESDA
- Basic Rate Mapping
- Rate Smoothing
- Contiguity-Based Spatial Weights

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**March 18, 2009: What's New in SAS 9.2**  
(<http://support.sas.com/documentation/whatsnew/index.html>)

Some of the enhancements in the latest release of the SAS System include new language features and procedure options, ODS Statistical Graphics (previously experimental), which are now in production; a new family of SAS/GRAPH procedures that use ODS Graphics to create standalone plots; new procedures in SAS/STAT software; jackknife and BRR variance estimation and domain analysis provided by the survey data analysis procedures; the PANEL procedure in SAS/ETS which expands the estimation capability of the TSCSREG procedure in the time-series cross-sectional framework; and SAS Stat Studio, new software for data exploration and analysis, providing a flexible programming environment in which you can run SAS/STAT or SAS/IML analyses and display the results with dynamically linked graphics and data tables.

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**SIGSTAT** is the Special Interest Group in Statistics for the **CPCUG**, the Capital PC User Group, and **WINFORMS**, the Washington Institute for Operations Research Service and Management Science. All meetings are in Room S3031, 1800 M St, NW from **12:00 to 1:00**. Enter the South Tower & take the elevator to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor to check in at the guard's desk.

First-time attendees should contact Charlie Hallahan, 202-694-5051, [hallahan@ers.usda.gov](mailto:hallahan@ers.usda.gov), and leave their name. Directions to the building & many links of statistical interest can be found at the **SIGSTAT** website, <http://www.cpcug.org/user/sigstat/>.

## Program Announcement

- Title:** Challenges and Opportunities for the Statistics Profession and the American Statistical Association
- Speaker:** Ronald L. Wasserstein, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
American Statistical Association
- Sponsor:** Office of Biostatistics Research  
Division of Prevention and Population Sciences  
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute  
  
(Bio)Statistics Seminar Series
- Date/Time:** Thursday, January 22, 2009 / 11am - noon
- Location:** Conference Room 9091  
Two Rockledge Center, 6701 Rockledge Drive,  
Bethesda, MD 20892
- Abstract:** From his perspective as ASA's Executive Director, Ron Wasserstein will discuss seven sets of challenges and opportunities he sees as particularly important for our profession, and for the ASA. These include: membership, the statistical pipeline, visibility and impact of the profession, publications, meetings, internationalization/globalization, and accreditation. Each set includes a set of questions for the participants, so a large portion of the time will be spent in audience discussion.

## Program Announcement

- Title:** Vulnerability of Complementary Cell Suppression to Intruder Attack
- Chair:** Philip Steel, U.S. Census Bureau
- Speaker:** Lawrence H. Cox, National Center for Health Statistics
- Date/Time:** Tuesday, January 27, 2009 / 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics, Conference Center. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of Labor Statistics you need to e-mail your name, affiliation, and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (underscore after 'wss') by noon at least two days in advance of the seminar, or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE. Use the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsors:** Confidentiality and Data Access Committee, an interest group of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology; Methodology Program, WSS
- Abstract:** Complementary cell suppression was the first and remains a popular method for disclosure limitation of magnitude data such as economic censuses data. We show that, when not solved in a rigorous mathematical way, suppression can fail to protect data, sometimes fatally. When solved properly as a mathematical programming problem, suppression is guaranteed to meet certain conditions related to protecting individual data, but we demonstrate that other vulnerabilities exist. Suppression sacrifices both confidential and non-confidential data, forcing potentially significant degradation in data quality and usability. These effects are often compounded because mathematical relationships induced by suppression tend to produce “over-protected” solutions. To mitigate these effects, it has been suggested that the data releaser provide exact interval estimates of suppressed cell values. We demonstrate for two standard data sensitivity measures that, even when safe, exact intervals further threaten data security, in some situations completely.

## Program Announcement

- Title:** Using Administrative Data in Support of Policy Relevant Disability Research: Success of a Three-Way Partnership
- Speakers:** Richard Burkhauser, Sarah Gibson Blanding Professor of Policy Analysis, Cornell University and Robert Weathers, Economist Social Security Administration
- Discussant:** Jameela Akbari, Program Examiner, U.S. Office of Management and Budget
- Chair:** Shelly Wilkie Martinez
- Date/Time:** Thursday, February 5, 2009 / 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.
- Location:** Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center, Room 10. To be placed on the seminar attendance list at the Bureau of labor Statistics, you need to email your name, affiliation and seminar name to [wss\\_seminar@bls.gov](mailto:wss_seminar@bls.gov) (note that there is an underscore after 'wss') by noon at least two days in advance of the seminar or call 202-691-7524 and leave a message with this information. Bring a photo ID to the seminar. BLS is located at 2 Massachusetts Ave., NE. Take the Red Line to Union Station.
- Sponsor:** WSS Section on Public Policy
- Abstract:** A three way partnership between the Social Security Administration, the National Technical Institute for the Deaf of the Rochester Institute of Technology (NTID-RIT), and Cornell University resulted in the creation and ongoing analysis of a unique data set that links Social Security Administrative records data to educational attainment records of deaf and hard of hearing applicants to NTID from 1965 to the present. Each of the partners entered this agreement to achieve both joint and individual institutional goals. The project's success lies in mutual cooperation that allowed each partner to achieve their institutional goals. The result is a data set containing the most detailed information on the earnings and SSA program history of the applicants of any US institution of higher education. It has been of great value to NTID in evaluating it program's success. Because these students all meet or exceed the medical listings for Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income benefits these data also have provided SSA researchers and program administrators with a unique opportunity to trace the use of these programs. Cornell University researchers have used these data to complete externally funded research that looks at the factors that determine both educational success and SSA program outcomes. We provide a description of these data and key findings from our research using them.



## Student Corner

Happy New Year! I often use the New Year to reflect on the previous year and to set goals for the upcoming year. There were many highlights in 2008 for the statistical community. Statistics played a pivotal role in election discussions. From the popular Bayesian website [www.fivethirtyeight.com](http://www.fivethirtyeight.com) to Andrew Gelman's new book "Red State, Blue State, Rich State, Poor State: Why Americans Vote the Way They Do," the results of complex statistical analysis became quite popular in 2008. National estimates of employment, gas prices, and home ownership continued to receive much attention in the press and public policy spheres.

One of the highlights of 2008, for me was finding Andrew Gelman's excellent blog (see <http://www.stat.columbia.edu/~gelman/blog/>). Professor Gelman has received many awards and written numerous books and articles, usually using statistics to solve fascinating and popular social science problems. His blog highlights many insightful comments on contemporary statistical, political, and social problems and issues. I especially appreciated his posting from December 1, 2008 titled "Could we publish your paper?" where he described his personal journey as an undergraduate into the field of statistics. If you are apt to make New Year's resolutions, I would humbly recommend that you consider reading Gelman's blog during 2009 or starting a statistical blog. If you start your own blog or know of other statistical blogs, please let me know. I'll try to publicize them in a future student's corner.

In 2009, I am anticipating the American Statistical Association's (ASA) Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM), which will be held in Washington, DC this August. In addition to hundreds of interesting sessions; minimal travel and lodging costs for local students; and discounted registration costs for students, there are many other incentives for students to attend the conference including:

The JSM is a great forum to gain experience with presenting a statistical paper. In most sessions, participants have about 15 minutes to present their research. An added benefit of writing a paper for the JSM is that they are published in the conference proceedings and made available online at: <http://www.amstat.org/sections/SRMS/Proceedings/>. Most papers must be 8 pages or less.

Another way to participate is by creating a poster. This year, there will be a \$1,000 prize given to the best poster at the conference.

The JSM also features a job fair, large expo, and a student mixer, which provide excellent networking opportunities for graduating students.

If you would like to write a paper or make a poster for the 2009 JSM, the deadline for submitting an abstract is February 2. The ASA presents a number of awards and scholarships for students in statistics. For more information on the awards see: <http://www.amstat.org/profession/index.cfm?fuseaction=main>. Last year, I gave a short presentation at the JSM in Denver, Colorado and had a great experience. I hope you will consider attending the JSM in DC with me this August.

## JPSM Short Courses

### OPEN FOR REGISTRATION

February 19, 2009  
Practical Tools for Nonresponse Bias Studies  
Robert M. Groves and J. Michael Brick  
Registration Deadline: February 5, 2009

February 23-24, 2009  
Introduction to Survey Estimation  
David Morganstein and Richard L. Valliant  
Registration Deadline: February 9, 2009

March 10-11, 2009  
The Psychology of Survey Responses  
Roger Tourangeau  
Registration Deadline: February 24, 2009

March 25-26, 2009  
Introduction to Survey Sampling  
Colm O'Muircheartaigh and James M. Lepkowski  
Registration Deadline: March 11, 2009

April 6-7, 2009  
Guidelines for Writing Questions for Standardized Measurement  
Nora Cate Schaeffer  
Registration Deadline: March 23, 2009

May 11-12, 2009  
Methods for Testing Survey Questions  
Pamela Campanelli  
Registration Deadline: April 27, 2009

#### ADDITIONAL 2009 COURSES

May 28-29, 2009 (Not yet open for registration)  
Bayesian Inference in Surveys  
Roderick Little and Trivellore E. Raghunathan  
Registration Deadline: May 14, 2009

2009 (Dates to be determined)

Analysis and Presentation of Economic Data  
Katharine G. Abraham and Deborah P. Klein

2009 (Course is tentative)

Introduction to Item Response Theory (IRT) Modeling and Applications  
Bryce B. Reeve

## INFORMATION

Course Details and Online Registration  
[www.jpsm.org/shortcourses](http://www.jpsm.org/shortcourses)

Sponsor Affiliate List  
[projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/info.cfm#sponsors](http://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/info.cfm#sponsors)

Primary Funding for JPSM is from the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy.

## JPSM Short Course

### **BAYESIAN INFERENCE FOR SURVEYS**

A two-day short course sponsored by the Joint Program in Survey Methodology

MAY 28-29, 2009

Presented at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda, MD

RODERICK LITTLE AND TRIVELLORE E. RAGHUNATHAN  
University of Michigan

#### COURSE OBJECTIVES

Bayesian methods in statistics are increasingly popular, spurred by advances in computational power and tools. Bayesian inference provides solutions to problems that cannot be solved exactly by standard frequentist methods. Students learning the Bayesian approach will obtain new analysis tools and a deeper understanding of competing systems of statistical inference, including the frequentist approach. The objective of this course is to describe the application of the Bayesian approach to survey sampling, where the focus of inference is on finite population quantities. Both instructors have conducted research in Bayesian methods, and have developed applications to real-world problems.

#### INSTRUCTORS

Roderick Little is Richard D. Remington Collegiate Professor of Biostatistics, School of Public Health and Research Professor, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. His areas of research expertise primarily focus on how to handle missing data in variety of statistical analyses, and inference from sample surveys. He has published numerous articles on these topics and was also the Coordinating and Applications Editor of the Journal of the American Statistical Association (JASA). He is the coauthor with Donald Rubin of the book, *Statistical Analysis with Missing Data*. He is the 2005 Wilks Award recipient from the American Statistical Association.

Trivellore Raghunathan (Raghu) is a Professor of Biostatistics, School of Public Health and a Research Professor, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. He is a Research Professor, the Joint Program in Survey Methodology at the University of Maryland. He is the Director of Biostatistics Collaborative and Methodology Research Core (BCMRC). His research interests are in the analysis of incomplete data, Bayesian methods, design and analysis of sample surveys, small area estimation, statistical disclosure longitudinal data analysis and statistical methods for epidemiology.

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**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE****DAY 1: MAY 28, 2009**

8:00 - 9:00	Registrant Check-In and Continental Breakfast
9:00 - 10:30	Session 1: Approaches to Inferences in Survey Sampling
10:30 - 10:45	Morning Break
10:45 - 12:00	Fundamentals of Bayesian Inference for Surveys; Parametric and Nonparametric models
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch Break
1:00 - 2:30	Session 3: Modeling the Sampling Mechanism, Survey Weights and Bayesian Inference
2:30 - 2:45	Afternoon Break
2:45 - 4:30	Session 4: Stratification, Clustering and Bayesian Hierarchical Models.
4:30 - 5:30	Discussion
5:30	Adjourn

**DAY 2: MAY 29, 2009**

8:00 - 9:00	Registrant Check-In and Continental Breakfast
9:00 - 10:30	Session 5: Models for Post-stratification
10:30 - 10:45	Morning Break
10:45 - 12:00	Session 6: Bayesian Computational Methods, Software and specific applications
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch Break
1:00 - 2:30	Session 7: Model Checking and Model Averaging
2:30 - 2:45	Afternoon Break
2:45 - 4:30	Session 8: Survey Nonresponse
4:30 - 5:30	Discussion
5:30	Adjourn

**COURSE MATERIALS**

Registrants will be provided with a course lecture notebook.

**MEALS**

JPSM group continental breakfasts, lunches and refreshments are included in the course fee.

**FEEES**

The course fee is \$600 for JPSM sponsor affiliates, \$600 for full-time university students, and \$810 for other participants. JPSM Sponsor Affiliate List:  
<http://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/info.cfm#sponsors>.

**REGISTRATION**

Online registration is required. JPSM Short Courses: [www.jpsm.org/shortcourses](http://www.jpsm.org/shortcourses) . Confirmation of acceptance will be sent after the registration form has been processed. Registration is not firm until you receive an acceptance email. The email will include directions to the course. The automatic web registration number is not an acceptance letter. The registration deadline is May 14, 2009.

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## PAYMENT

Payment by credit card is required. Payment may be done online during registration. Post registration payment may be done online using the registration number or by calling (800) 937-9320. Payment is required by May 14, 2009.

## CANCELLATION

Please notify JPSM as soon as possible if you need to cancel your registration. Cancellation requests should be done online. You will be fully reimbursed if you cancel by May 14, 2009. Cancellation May 15-20, 2009 will require a \$100 administrative fee, the remainder will be reimbursed. Cancellation on or after May 21, 2009 is subject to the full fee amount.

## FELLOWSHIP

The Joint Program in Survey Methodology strives to increase the number of survey professionals from groups traditionally under-represented in the field. As part of this effort, a limited number of competitive fellowships are available to African-Americans, Latinos, Hispanic Americans, and Native American Indians for the short course. The registrant must be a US citizen or permanent resident.

The applicants should submit:

1. The Online Registration form.
2. A 500-word essay describing their reasons for wanting to attend this short course and how their participation will enhance their chosen career path. The essay should indicate the applicant's background (i.e. African-American, Latino, Hispanic American, or Native American Indian) and why the fellowship support is needed.
3. A letter of recommendation written by a person knowledgeable about the applicant's aptitude and interest in survey methodology.

The online registration form, essay, and letter of recommendation are due April 30, 2009. JPSM will evaluate the applications and inform the successful applicants by May 7, 2009. The fellowship covers the registration fee, materials to be distributed during the course and the JPSM group continental breakfasts, lunches and refreshments. The registration must be done online. The essay and letter of recommendation may be faxed to (734) 764-8263 or emailed to JPSMShort@isr.umich.edu.

## JPSM CITATION PROGRAM

The citation programs are built around the JPSM short courses. The JPSM Citation in Introductory Survey Methodology is designed to provide the working professional and interested students with state-of-the-art knowledge about current principles and practices for conducting complex surveys combined with practical skills of day-to-day utility. The JPSM Citation in Introductory Economic Measurement is designed for professional staff requiring a grounding in the principles and practices of economic measurement. Completion of the citation programs involves taking a semester-length JPSM credit-bearing course and eight JPSM short courses, of which four are specified core courses. For information on the Certificate and Citation Programs visit the website at <http://www.jpsm.org> or call 301-314-7911.

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## HYATT REGENCY BETHESDA

One Bethesda Metro Center, 7400 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20814  
Front Desk: 301-657-1234 Web: <http://bethesda.hyatt.com/property/index.jhtml>

The course will be held at the Hyatt Regency Bethesda, One Bethesda Metro Center, 7400 Wisconsin Avenue, at the intersection of Wisconsin Avenue and Old Georgetown Road in Maryland. Registrants seeking accommodation can call the hotel's front desk at 301-657-1234. The hotel is in the heart of Maryland's high-tech corridor, just 6 miles from downtown Washington, D.C., with convenient access to the Capital Beltway and Metro Subway.

## OVERNIGHT ROOMS

Individuals are responsible for making their own overnight room reservations and for payment.

## PARKING

There is a parking garage located directly underneath the Hotel which offers both valet and self-parking. The garage is not owned or operated by the Hyatt Regency Bethesda.

## METRO RAIL

The Hyatt is accessible via the Metro Red Line at the Bethesda Metro stop.

## INQUIRIES

Questions for this course should be directed to the JPSM Short Course, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, 426 Thompson Street, Room 4050, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-2321, Phone: (800) 937-9320, Fax: (734) 764-8263, Email: [jpsmshort@isr.umich.edu](mailto:jpsmshort@isr.umich.edu).

TAX IDENTIFICATION (University of Michigan): 38-6006309

JPSM HOME PAGE: [www.jpsm.org](http://www.jpsm.org)

JPSM SHORT COURSES: [www.jpsm.org/shortcourses](http://www.jpsm.org/shortcourses)

SPONSOR AFFILIATE LIST: [projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/info.cfm#sponsors](http://projects.isr.umich.edu/jpsm/info.cfm#sponsors)

Primary Funding for JPSM is from the Interagency Council on Statistical Policy.

## Employment

As a service to local statisticians, *WSS News* provides notification of employment opportunities and description of those seeking employment here in the Washington, DC, area. Readers are encouraged to take advantage of this feature of the newsletter. The deadline for inserting notices is five (5) weeks before the publication date. Those interested should email or call Anne Peterson, at [apeterson@insightpolicyresearch.com](mailto:apeterson@insightpolicyresearch.com) or (703) 373-6645.

### **CLINICAL TRIAL BIOSTATISTICIANS M.S. and Ph.D. Level Positions**

With an opportunity for substantial leadership responsibility in studies of international public health import.

The Biostatistics Center of The George Washington University, founded in 1972, is a leader in the statistical coordination of clinical trials conducted by the National Institutes of Health. We enjoy over \$45 million per year of NIH research funding for major studies in cardiovascular disease, diabetes, maternal/fetal medicine, osteoporosis, urology, and the genetic basis for various diseases. The center has a staff of over 100 with 27 biostatisticians/epidemiologists, including 10 faculty. We are recruiting M.S. and Ph.D. level staff to participate in these and future studies. Please visit our web site (below).

**Master's Level Research Positions:** These positions require a Master's in Biostatistics or Statistics and 1-5 years experience in analysis, supervision of data management and study design for biomedical applications. Good written and oral communication skills, and detailed knowledge of SAS required. Send CV to address below.

**Assistant to Full Research Professorial Positions** are available immediately to serve as Co-Investigator or Principal Investigator (Project Director) and to provide statistical direction of the design, conduct and analysis of studies and the conduct of methodologic research to meet the projects needs. We are seeking individuals who want to join a highly competent team of academic biostatisticians and epidemiologists; who desire to contribute to the design and analysis of major medical studies, seek substantive scientific and statistical responsibility, enjoy interacting with medical investigators; take pride contributing to the publication of major papers in leading medical journals, and desire to make an impact on the public health. Our faculty also participate in graduate programs in biostatistics, epidemiology and statistics which afford opportunities for teaching at the graduate level. The research projects also provide an environment rich in methodological problems, with opportunities for collaboration with research active Center faculty and graduate students.

**Minimum Position Requirements:** Doctorate in Biostatistics, Statistics or Epidemiology, or alternatively an M.D. or Ph.D. in Biological Science, Physical Science or Computer Science with a Masters in Biostatistics or Statistics, 1-5 years' experience with clinical trials, especially study design and statistical analysis of study results using SAS, excellent oral and written English communication skills, and supervisory experience.

**Application Procedures:** Applicants must send a Curriculum Vitae and three letters of reference; a letter to include a synopsis of their role in collaborative medical research that has led to medical scientific presentation or publication and a statement of career purpose indicating their career goals and how this position can help you achieve those goals; and applicants for Assistant Research Professor positions must send an Official Transcript of graduate coursework leading to the doctoral



degree to: Sarah Fowler, Research Professor and Director, The George Washington University Biostatistics Center, 6110 Executive Blvd., Suite 750, Rockville, MD 20852.

[HTTP://WWW.BSC.GWU.EDU](http://www.bsc.gwu.edu)

Review of applications is ongoing until the positions are filled. Rank/position title and salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Tuition benefits for employees (including Ph.D. in Statistics, Biostatistics and Epidemiology) and for spouse and dependent children.

All research and regular faculty at the rank of Assistant Professor in Biostatistics or Statistics may apply for the Samuel W. Greenhouse Biostatistics Research Enhancement Award. For a period of 1 year, the award will provide 20% effort for methodological research and a discretionary fund to support professional activities, travel to professional meetings, supplies and equipment. Applicants for the research faculty position may also apply for the Greenhouse Award while their faculty application is being considered. For complete information including Award Application Materials Requirements, please visit our website at: [www.bsc.gwu.edu](http://www.bsc.gwu.edu).

The George Washington University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer

### **Survey Sampling Statistician**

#### **WESTAT: AN EMPLOYEE-OWNED RESEARCH CORPORATION**

Westat is an employee-owned corporation headquartered in the suburbs of Washington, DC (Rockville, Maryland). We provide statistical consulting and survey research to the agencies of the U.S. Government and to a broad range of business and institutional clients. With a strong technical and managerial staff and a long record of quality research, Westat has become one of the leading survey research and statistical consulting organizations in the United States.

Our company was founded in 1961 by three statisticians. The current staff of more than 1,800 includes over 60 statisticians, as well as research, technical, and administrative staff. In addition, our professional staff is supported by data collection and processing personnel situated locally and in field sites around the country. The work atmosphere is open, progressive, and highly conducive to professional growth.

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