KUDOS

- Congratulations to Lisa Elon for successfully taking 5,000-10,000 steps daily during the last 4 weeks of the Emory Move More Fitbit Challenge. She even won a $25 gift card!

INTERESTING READS

- Talking Turkey Infographic

- Biostatistics: It’s not what you think it is. (Important thoughts by Rafa Irazzary)
“Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don’t have, you will never, ever have enough.”
-Oprah Winfrey

“I am grateful for what I am and have. My thanksgiving is perpetual.”
-Henry David Thoreau

“If you are really thankful, what do you do? You share.”
-W. Clement Stone
MEETINGS
- Graduate Faculty Meeting, Tuesday 11/24, GCR 115
- Agenda:
  - Discussion of waiving core BIOS classes, results of graduate faculty vote.
  - See you there!

UPCOMING DEPARTMENT MEETINGS
- None next week

ASA NEWS
- See weekly digest
- Call for Roundtable Proposals:
  - Would you like to lead a roundtable discussion or have an idea for a roundtable for JSM 2016? If so, please contact Tanzy Love (tanzy_love@urmc.rochester.edu) with proposals by December 1, 2015. More details on roundtables can be found here: http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2016/participate.cfm.

STATS + STORIES PODCAST
- In 2013, John Bailer, ISI Vice President, and his journalism colleague, Richard Campbell launched Stats+Stories, a new webcast / podcast. This program reflects the interplay between the journalistic narrative and the evidence-based decision making perspective of statistics. Fifteen episodes later, they are still adding to this project. Episodes are available at www.statsandstories.net or on iTunes (search podcasts for "Stats+Stories"). A blog entry on the World of Statistics tells more about how this program evolved - http://www.worldofstatistics.org/2015/10/28/statistics-meets-journalism-in-statsstories-webcast/
STATISTICIANS WITHOUT BORDERS

- **Statistics Without Borders - urgently looking for Methodologists to help with Measuring world-wide humanitarian crisis for refugees**
  - The world-wide humanitarian crisis for refugees is one the international voluntary organisation - Statistics Without Borders (SWB) would like to address.
  - However, unlike other refugee crisis, the population is very transient and therefore very difficult to define.
  - SWB is looking for methodologists with extensive experience in transient populations, including those with experience with capture-recapture, adaptive sampling, and adaptive link-tracing designs; to volunteer to help in the design of the project.
  - The first part of the project would be a brainstorm with a group of methodologists with extensive experience in hard-to-reach populations.
  - If you have experience with both defining the population and surveying transient populations and are interested in working on the early stages of this project, please contact Cathy Furlong at cathy.furlong@cox.net ASAP. Please include a brief summary of your experience.

WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

- **SAMSI 2016 Spring Opportunities Workshop for Women in Math Sciences**
  - Held at SAMSI in Research Triangle Park, NC. April 6-8, 2016
  - The application deadline is February 22, 2016. [http://www.samsi.info/women16](http://www.samsi.info/women16)
  - The primary goals of the workshop is two-fold: (i) to familiarize women and/or under-represented minorities in the mathematical sciences with professional opportunities in academia, industry, and government, and (ii) to focus on challenges currently faced by women or minorities in mathematical sciences.
  - Send questions to: springopp@samsi.info
  - Workshop Organizers: Sujit Ghosh, Eleanor Jenkins
WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS, continued

• SAMSI Workshop on Distributed Data Analysis with Applications in Finance and Healthcare March 21-22, 2016
  o Held at SAMSI in Research Triangle Park, NC and SAS in Cary, NC
  o The application deadline is February 1, 2016.
  o [Link](http://samsi.us11.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f8d81ec133891cc606c5dc3af&id=e3eee0adb7&e=e9037c39ab)
  o The research focus of this workshop is on the explorations of the methodology for the computing and modeling architecture for distributed data, including data ingestion and staging platform, enterprise data warehouse and analytics platform. The application focus of this workshop is on two major areas: Healthcare and Finance. The workshop will bring academic researchers and industrial engineers together for the exploration and scientific discussions on recent cutting-edge theories and proven best practices in industries on distributed data analytics.
  o Workshop Organizers: Bo Zhang, IBM Research, Xiangxiang Meng, SAS Institute, Wayne Thompson, SAS Institute

• 2nd Trends and Innovations in Clinical Trial Statistics
  o A forum where presenters and panelists will discuss the current trends, innovation, and needs in clinical trial statistics. The conference is aimed at a broad audience of statisticians and scientists involved in the design and analysis of clinical trials. It will take place at Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center in Durham, North Carolina on May 1-4, 2016.
  o The keynote presentations will be given by distinguished speakers:
    ▪ Robert M. Califf, Deputy Commissioner for Medical Products and Tobacco, US Food and Drug Administration: "Regulatory Trials and Other Trials: A False Dichotomy?"
    ▪ David Madigan, Executive Vice President and Dean of Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Professor of Statistics, Columbia University: "Honest Inference from Observational Studies"
    ▪ Steve Ruberg, Distinguished Research Fellow, Scientific Leader, Advanced Analytics, Eli Lilly: “Making What’s Advanced Today Routine Tomorrow”
  o The conference registration is now open and is limited to 350 attendees due to conference room capacity. To register for the conference and pre-conference short courses, please visit: [https://www.regonline.com/TICTS2016](https://www.regonline.com/TICTS2016)
WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS, continued

• International Statistical Ecology Conference (ISEC) 2016
  o 28 June - 1 July 2016 in Seattle, WA
  o Authors are now invited to submit an abstract for their presentation or poster for the fifth biennial International Statistical Ecology Conference:
    http://depts.washington.edu/uwconf/wordpress/isec2016/abstract-submission/
  o The submission deadline is January 10, 2016.
  o Possible topics for contributed talk and poster sessions include (but are not limited to) abundance, animal movement, big data, biodiversity, capture-recapture, citizen science, community dynamics, disease ecology, distance sampling, epidemiology, evolutionary ecology, fisheries, individual-based models, integrated population models, metapopulation dynamics, multispecies models, occupancy models, population dynamics, spatial ecology, species distribution models, and survey design.
• **NSF: Big Data Regional Innovation Hubs: Establishing Spokes to Advance Big Data Applications (BD Spokes)** Program Solicitation NSF 16-510
  o This *Big Data Regional Innovation Hubs: Establishing Spokes to Advance Big Data Applications (BD Spokes)* solicitation extends the BD Hubs network by establishing multi-institutional and multi-sector collaborations (i.e., across academia, industry, government, non-profits, etc.) focused on topics of specific interest to a given region, which build upon the capabilities and strengths of said region. Working in concert with the corresponding regional BD Hub, a BD Spoke would work on a particular topic that requires Big Data approaches and solutions. Each BD Spoke would function similar to a BD Hub—in that it will take on a convening and coordinating roll as opposed to primarily carrying out research—but with a narrower and goal-driven scope. The set of activities managed by a BD Spoke would ensure that progress is made toward providing solutions in the chosen topic area, including, for example, gathering important stakeholders via forums, meetings, workshops, etc.; engaging with end users and solution providers via competitions, community challenges, etc.; and forming multi-disciplinary teams to tackle questions no single field can solve alone. The regional BD Hub Steering Committee will provide general guidance to the BD Spoke and assist the BD Spoke in coordinating with the national BD Hub network, other BD Spokes, and the broader innovation ecosystem.
  o The Big Data activities of a BD Spoke will be guided by the following broad themes:
    ▪ Accelerating progress towards addressing societal grand challenges relevant to regional and national priority areas;
    ▪ Helping automate the Big Data lifecycle; and

• **NSF: BIGDATA**
  o The BIGDATA program seeks novel approaches in computer science, statistics, computational science, and mathematics, along with innovative applications in domain science, including social and behavioral sciences, geosciences, education, biology, the physical sciences, and engineering, that lead towards the further development of the interdisciplinary field of data science. The solicitation invites two types of proposals: "Foundations" (F): those developing or studying fundamental theories, techniques, methodologies, and technologies of broad applicability to big data problems; and "Innovative Applications" (IA): those developing techniques, methodologies, and technologies of key importance to a Big Data problem directly impacting at least one specific application. [...]
  o In addition to approaches such as search, query processing, and analysis, visualization techniques will also become critical across many stages of big data use, to obtain an initial assessment of data as well as through subsequent stages of scientific discovery. Research on visualization techniques and models will be necessary for serving not only the experts who are collecting the data, but also those who are users of the data, including “cross-over” scientists who may be working with big data and analytics for the first time, and those using the data for teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels. The BIGDATA program seeks novel approaches related to all of these areas of study.
RFAs

• NSF: Big Data Regional Innovation Hubs: Establishing Spokes to Advance Big Data Applications (BD Spokes) Program Solicitation
  NSF 16-510
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  o The Big Data activities of a BD Spoke will be guided by the following broad themes:
    • Accelerating progress towards addressing societal grand challenges relevant to regional and national priority areas;
    • Helping automate the Big Data lifecycle; and
  o http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2016/nsf16510/nsf16510.htm#toc

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  o http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504767&org=DMS
QuanTM’s DATA SCIENCE CLUB TALK
QuanTM’s inaugural Data Science Club event!
On December 3, 2015. Dr. Drew Linzer, Chief Data Scientist at Daily Kos, will talk about preparing for careers in Data Science.

How Social Science Can Prepare You for a Career in Data Science

Thursday December 3, 2015
4:00 - 5:30pm
White Hall 110

Dr. Drew Linzer

Drew Linzer is the Chief Data Scientist at Daily Kos, located in Oakland, CA. A statistician and survey scientist, Drew was previously an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Emory University and professional pollster in California and Washington, DC. In 2012, he ran the election forecasting site votamatic.com. His research has appeared in the American Political Science Review, Journal of the American Statistical Association, International Journal of Forecasting, Political Analysis, Political Science Research and Methods, Journal of Politics, World Politics, Social Science & Medicine, and the Journal of Statistical Software. Drew holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of California, Los Angeles.
JOB OPENINGS

• Assistant Professor in Statistics, Department of Mathematical Sciences at the University of Cincinnati
  o Completed applications consisting of a cover letter, CV, description of research program (if applicable), description of teaching experience (if applicable), and three letters of recommendation should be submitted on [https://www.mathjobs.org/jobs/jobs/7689](https://www.mathjobs.org/jobs/jobs/7689).
  o Applicants must also complete an online application and submit a CV and cover letter on UC's recruitment system at [https://jobs.uc.edu/job/Cincinnati-Assistant-Professor-Math-%28Statistics%29-OH-45201/298477200/](https://jobs.uc.edu/job/Cincinnati-Assistant-Professor-Math-%28Statistics%29-OH-45201/298477200/).
  o Review of applicants will begin on December 1, 2015 and the position will remain open until filled. The appointment will begin on August 15, 2016. The position requires a PhD degree in the area of statistics or equivalent awarded by August 14, 2016. Inquiries concerning the position should be directed to, Dr. Siva Sivaganesan, the Search Committee Chair, or Dr. Shuang Zhang, Head, Department of Mathematical Sciences.

• Mathematical Statistician, CDC
  o This position is located in the Biostatistics and Information Management Office and will support the branches in the Division of Foodborne, Waterborne, and Environmental Diseases in the area of study design and statistical analysis. (see S drive for full job posting)
  o Responsibilities
    ▪ The incumbent will serve as Mathematical Statistician in BIMO and will work with epidemiologists and laboratory scientists in DFWED's five branches to apply analytical techniques for statistical analysis, including methodology adapted from existing techniques and newly-developed methods, to meet goals in the epidemiology and biological science of enteric, waterborne, and mycotic diseases. In addition to providing statistical analysis and modeling support, the incumbent will provide expertise in the areas of study design, data visualization, and the use of statistical software, as well as support and participate in publication efforts.
    ▪ The primary responsibility of this position will be working with experts in the fields of epidemiology, laboratory science, and bioinformatics to apply or develop statistical methods and tools for the analysis of epidemiologic and laboratory data, including genetic/WGS data.
  o Qualifications
    ▪ A qualified applicant should have a PhD in Biostatistics, Statistics, Mathematics, or other relevant discipline. The applicant should have a strong background in biostatistics or statistics, and relevant public health experience including basic knowledge of the field of epidemiology is an advantage.
  o To apply, please email a CV and cover letter in support of your application to: Gordana Derado, PhD. (gderado@cdc.gov)
Bios Buzz

JOB OPENINGS, continued

• Lecturer/Senior Lecturer of Health Data Science at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
  o The department has made educating the next generation of data scientists one of its top priorities. The lecturer/senior lecturer will be an integral part of our faculty, as they will play a leadership role in developing a new Master of Science Program in Data Science with an emphasis in health applications. Candidates should have a strong background in data analysis and computing for big data as well as enthusiasm for research, teaching, and mentorship throughout the graduate program.
  o Candidates are required to have a doctorate degree in biostatistics, statistics, computer science, or related fields by the time the appointment begins.
  o The lecturer and senior lecturer appointments are non-tenure-track faculty appointments.
  o Please apply to: https://academicpositions.harvard.edu/postings/6467

• Postdoctoral Fellow, Biostatistics Branch of Division of Cancer Epidemiology and Genetics (DCEG) National Cancer Institute (NCI)
  o A two-year appointment with possible extension to work on integrative analysis of multi-platform high-dimensional cancer genomics data with epidemiology and clinical outcomes. The position will be focused on development and application of statistical methods in two major areas: 1) identification of regulatory components that "drive" cancer development; 2) integration of clinical and multi-platform molecular data for survival prediction in cancer patients. Candidate will work with Dr. Bin Zhu and potentially other principle investigators of Biostatistics Branch.
  o Candidate will have a Ph.D. in statistics, biostatistics, bioinformatics, computer science or a related field, and should have strong knowledge of statistical theory and excellent skills in computer programming.
  o Applicants should send a CV, a short research statement, and names of three referees to Bin.Zhu@nih.gov. Review of applications will begin immediately, and continue until the position is filled.
  o More details are given at http://www.stat.ufl.edu/jobs/job.php?id=7409

• Biostatistician in HIV/AIDS Research at UNC
  o UNC CFAR(https://unccfar.org/) is seeking applicants for a masters level Biostatistician.
  o The Biostatistician in the UNC CFAR Biostatistics Core will consult and collaborate with multiple HIV/AIDS researchers to provide statistical and data analysis expertise for designing studies, writing grant proposals, managing data, conducting statistical analyses, and writing manuscripts. The Biostatistician may also become involved in statistical methods research motivated by HIV/AIDS studies, and possibly assist in the supervision and work of graduate research assistants. The Biostatistician will also assist in operational aspects of the Biostatistics Core.
  o A master's degree in biostatistics or statistics and working knowledge of SAS or R are required.
  o This position will remain open until filled. To apply, use the electronic submission website at http://unc.peopleadmin.com/postings/87236. Provide CV/Resume, cover letter and a list of contact information for 3 references.
JOB OPENINGS, continued

• Assistant/Associate Professor, Department of Statistics at the University of Missouri
  o Tenure-track Assistant/Associate Professor Position to begin Fall 2016.
  o Applicants from all areas of statistics are encouraged to apply. A doctorate in statistics or biostatistics or related field by August 15, 2016, excellence in teaching, outstanding research potential, and excellent communication skills are required. The tenure and administrative home for this faculty position resides solely in the Department of Statistics.
  o Deadline for applications is December 1, 2015. Please apply online at http://hrs.missouri.edu/find-a-job/academic with a cover letter, current CV and academic transcripts; and have three letters of reference emailed directly to:

    Chair of Search Committee
    umc.statfacsearch@missouri.edu
    or
    University of Missouri
    Department of Statistics
    146 Middlebush Hall
    Columbia, MO 65211

• Research Scientist, Savvysherpa, Inc.
  o http://www.stat.ufl.edu/jobs/job.php?id=5993
  o Requirements: Masters or Ph.D. in a quantitative discipline such as Machine Learning, Statistics, Mathematics, Economics, or Computer Science

STUDENT SUMMER PROGRAM

• DESRE Program at Georgia Southern University
  o The initiative is a 6-week summer program at Georgia Southern University hosted by the Rural Health Research Institute in collaboration with the Center for Rural Health and Health Disparities at Mercer University. The initiative, called DESRE (Disparities Elimination Summer Research Experience), is a paid, hands-on research experience for undergraduate and graduate students. During the program, students engage in cutting-edge rural health disparities research and receive training in the unique factors associated with addressing health disparities. Students work with and learn from a team of experienced faculty researchers from both Georgia Southern University and Mercer University. The program is funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) through the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities. The application deadline is Friday, January 15, 2016.
  o The website to learn more about the program is: www.GeorgiaSouthern.edu/rhri/desre
  o Please email us at DESRE@georgiasouthern.edu with any questions or for more information about the program.
“I don’t like the look of this. Searches for gravy and turkey stuffing are going through the roof!”
CARTOONS SOURCE: