QUOTES

• “Writing is an exploration. You start from nothing and learn as you go.” E. L. Doctorow

• “As beautiful as simplicity is, it can become a tradition that stands in the way of exploration.” Laura Nyro

• “Either write something worth reading or do something worth writing.” Benjamin Franklin

• “The most important thing is to read as much as you can, like I did. It will give you an understanding of what makes good writing and it will enlarge your vocabulary.” J. K. Rowling

• “Your writing voice is the deepest possible reflection of who you are. The job of your voice is not to seduce or flatter or make well-shaped sentences. In your voice, your readers should be able to hear the contents of your mind, your heart, your soul.” Meg Rosoff

• “I learned to dream through reading, learned to create dreams through writing, and learned to develop dreamers through teaching. I shall always be a dreamer. Come dream with me.” Sharon Draper
REMINDER: KUTNER ALUMNI AWARDS RECEPTION

- **Monday October 23**, the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics in the Rollins School of Public Health will be recognizing the many accomplishments and generous contributions of Rollins Professor Michael Kutner in a celebration honoring the 2016 and 2017 recipients of the Michael H. Kutner Distinguished Alumni Awards.
- The celebration will be held from 4-5pm, October 23, in the Lawrence P. and Ann Estes Klamon Room, 8th floor, Claudia Nance Rollins Building.
- Reception following.
- In addition, Brent Blumenstein will be presenting as special seminar from 12-1 on Monday in the Rita Anne Rollins Room on “Statistics in a Regulatory Setting”.
- We look forward to seeing you there!

KUDOS

- Nice pictures of (some of the) BIOS runners at the Winship 5K (brightest shirts EVER), and the BIOS Intramural Flag Football team (playoff appearance!). Congratulations to all!
UPCOMING DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

• Full Faculty Meeting, Tuesday, 12-1, P53
  o DRAFT AGENDA
    ▪ Search update
    ▪ WHSC Strategic Planning
    ▪ Computing recommendations
    ▪ GA CTSA Renewal
    ▪ GA CTSA BERD Methods RFA (also mentioned below)
  o Anything else?

INTRESETTING READS

• Interesting listen: Our S+S Episode 43, "Why Don't People Like My Graphs?" is now available. This episode features a conversation with Alberto Cairo (@albertocairo), Knight Chair in Visual Journalism at the University of Miami. He's the author of *The Functional Art: An Introduction to Information Graphics and Visualization* and *The Truthful Art: Data, Charts, and Maps for Communication*. He also writes regularly about visualization in his personal blog.
  o To listen now, please visit www.statsandstories.net or Apple Podcasts. Please forward information about S+S and S+SS to any of your colleagues or friends who might enjoy exploring the statistics behind the stories and the stories behind the statistics.

• Power poses and replicability:
RFAS

**METHODS PILOT FUNDING!!**
- Georgia CTSA Biostatistics, Epidemiology, & Research Design (BERD) Request for Proposals - Due November 15

**STUDENT PAPER COMPETITIONS**

- Submissions are now being accepted for the 2018 Biopharmaceutical Student Paper Awards. These awards are presented annually during the Biopharmaceutical Section open business meeting to be held at the 2018 Joint Statistical Meetings in Vancouver, Canada. Winners will present their paper during in one of the contributed paper sessions at JSM and are encouraged to attend the section's business meeting to receive their award in person. In 2017, the awards were $1000 for 1st place, $600 for 2nd place, and $400 for 3rd place. Honorable mention awards ($200 in 2017) may also be given at the discretion of the Student Paper committee.
  - Student research papers with statistical content applicable to the biopharmaceutical arena are eligible for consideration. Submissions are judged for clarity, contribution to statistics, and biopharmaceutical applicability. Suitable topics include methodological issues in preclinical or clinical trials, epidemiology studies of drug (or device or biological) safety, genetic studies predicting drug (or biological) response, laboratory and toxicological data analyses, methods for high-dimensional data from high-throughput screening, and nonlinear pharmacokinetic modeling.
  - **Both a complete paper and a "blinded" paper should be submitted electronically in pdf format by December 11, 2017.** The submission email should contain the name, school, and contact information of the student.
  - In the blinded version, the student's name and affiliation/school should not appear and names for references should not be included in the text (numbers for references should be used in text; names should appear on reference page only). References that would unblind a reviewer to the student's name or the student's advisor/collaborator should be removed and replaced with "reference removed."
  - The length of the student paper should not exceed 20 pages of double-spaced text with no more than five additional pages of appendices (25 pages maximum). **Because of the volume of submissions received, the length limitation will be strictly enforced.** Consider a manuscript style for the paper to facilitate publication in the proceedings for JSM or another appropriate journal.
STUDENT PAPER COMPETITIONS (cont.)

- Papers must be submitted no later than one year after graduation and reflect research completed while a student. Submissions should be labeled "Biopharmaceutical Section Student Paper Submission" and sent to Qi Jiang, Biopharmaceutical Section JSM 2018 program chair, at qjiang@amgen.com. In addition to submitting a paper for judging, winners also must submit an abstract of the work as a contributed paper for JSM. All participants will be notified prior to the abstract submission deadline as to whether they have won or not. Requirements for contributed paper submission must be followed in addition to those for the student paper submission.

- The Statistical Computing and Statistical Graphics Sections of the ASA are co-sponsoring a student paper competition on the topics of Statistical Computing and Statistical Graphics. Students are encouraged to submit a paper in one of these areas, which might be original methodological research, some novel computing or graphical application in statistics, or any other suitable contribution (for example, a software-related project). The selected winners will present their papers in a topic-contributed session at the 2017 Joint Statistical Meetings. The prize carries with it a cash award of $1,000.

  - Anyone who is a student (graduate or undergraduate) on or after September 1, 2017 is eligible to participate. An entry must include an abstract, a six page manuscript (including figures, tables and references; a two-column format is acceptable), blinded versions of the abstract and manuscript (with no author names or other information that easily identifies the authors), a CV, and a letter from a faculty member familiar with the student's work. The applicant must be the first author of the paper. The faculty letter must include a verification of the applicant's student status and, in the case of joint authorship, should indicate what fraction of the contribution is attributable to the applicant. We prefer that electronic submissions of papers consist of PDF files. All materials must be in English.

  - Students may submit papers to no more than two sections and may accept only one section's award. Students must inform both sections applied to when he or she wins and accepts an award, thereby removing the student from the award competition for the second section.

  - All application materials MUST BE RECEIVED by 5:00 PM EST, Friday, December 15, 2017. The submission window will be open at http://asa.stat.uconn.edu on December 1, 2017. They will be reviewed by the Student Paper Competition Award committee of the Statistical Computing and Graphics Sections. The selection criteria used by the committee will include innovation and significance of the contribution as well as the professional quality of the manuscript. Award announcements will be made by January 15th, 2018.

  - Additional important information on the competition may be found at stat-computing.org/awards/student/faq.html and, for all ASA sponsored student paper competitions amstat.org/ASA/Your-Career/...
STUDENT PAPER COMPETITIONS (cont.)

- **2018 SBSS Student Paper Competition** The Section on Bayesian Statistical Science (SBSS) of the American Statistical Association (ASA) is pleased to sponsor a student paper competition for research on Bayesian methodology, which may be broadly construed and includes applied, computational, or theoretical work. This paper competition is for *completed* research. A manuscript suitable for journal submission is required to enter the competition. Winners of the competition will receive partial support to attend the 2018 Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) in Vancouver, BC.
  - The ASA sets the **deadlines and general principles** for the student paper competitions. Below are the details for SBSS's student paper competition for JSM 2018.
  - **Eligibility:** To be eligible for this award, the candidate must have been a full-time student (undergraduate, master's, or Ph.D.) on or after September 1, 2017. The candidate must be first author on the paper, and the advisor (or other co-author) must write a letter stating that the candidate had primary responsibility for the research and write-up. The candidate must be a member of SBSS or ISBA (International Society for Bayesian Analysis). Students who have previously received travel support from SBSS are not eligible to participate.
  - **Application deadline: Dec. 15, 2017.** Formal application consists of sending an e-mail to Professor Robert Gramacy (rbg "at" vt.edu) with the subject line "SBSS 2018 Student Paper Competition" and the following attachments (in PDF format):
    - The curriculum vita of the applicant.
    - A letter from the advisor (or other co-author) verifying the student status of the candidate and briefly describing the candidate's role in the research and writing of the paper.
    - The paper, including all tables, figures and appendices, as a single PDF file.
  - **Selection of winners:** Papers will be reviewed by a committee determined by the officers of the SBSS. Criteria for selection will include, but are not limited to, novelty in theory/methods/applications, significance and potential impact of the research, and clarity of writing and presentation. Decisions of the committee are final.
  - Applicants will be notified by January 15, 2018. Winners of the SBSS student paper competition must submit abstracts and register for JSM by February 1, 2018 through the official JSM abstract submission system. To receive the award, winners must register for the conference and present a talk under the auspices of the SBSS on the topic of their winning paper. Those who are not selected as winners are encouraged to submit a contributed abstract to the JSM 2017.
  - **Prizes:** SBSS anticipates awarding travel awards to nine students and one $1,000 travel award to the winner of the Laplace Award. All winners will also be presented with a certificate at the SBSS section meeting at JSM 2018. Note that the financial award will likely not cover all of a winner's travel, so winners will need to supplement the SBSS award with other funds.
STUDENT PAPER COMPETITIONS

- **The Section on Statistics in Epidemiology (SIE) Section of the ASA** invites applications from young investigators who will present their papers at the 2018 JSM, July 28-August 2, 2018, Vancouver, CA. The awards honor the best papers by young investigators in statistics in epidemiology presented at the JSM. The awards are open to all current graduate students in statistics, biostatistics and epidemiology and also recent graduates who received their degrees no earlier than December 31, 2015. The top paper will be awarded the Norman Breslow Prize with a $1000 stipend. Additional awards consisting of $800 to help defray travel costs to the JSM will also be awarded. A reception will be held at the Baltimore meeting to honor award recipients.
  - Preference will be given to papers with both methodological contributions and substantive epidemiological applications. Jointly authored papers are certainly acceptable, but the applicant is expected to be the lead author and present the work at the 2018 JSM. The presentation at JSM may be in a regular session, speed session or poster session. Further, the presentation does not have to be in a session sponsored by the SIE Section nor must applicants necessarily be current members of the SIE Section. The presentation at JSM must, however, correspond to the paper receiving the award.
  - Papers should be submitted in .pdf format with 12-point type, double-spaced and one-inch margins. We strongly recommend that papers be no longer than 20 pages, but this is not an absolute maximum.

- In order to apply for the award, please submit the paper no later than **November 15, 2017**. Early submissions are encouraged. Along with the paper include a cover letter stating where you are a current student or your year of graduation if you are a recent graduate. Submissions should be sent to: Yueh-Yun Chi, yychi@ufl.edu Section Secretary/Treasury. Questions about the award can also be addressed to Dylan Small Dsmall@wharton.upenn.edu, 2018 Section Chair.
**JOB OPENINGS**

- **Postdoc, Quantitative Modeling National Center for Toxicological Research**
  - The FDA National Center for Toxicological Research invites applications for a postdoctoral research associate position based in Jefferson, Arkansas, focusing on quantitative modeling applications. The National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR) is the only FDA Center located outside the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. The one-million square foot research campus in Jefferson, Arkansas plays a critical role in the missions of FDA and the Department of Health and Human Services to promote and protect public health. Regulatory science researchers, academia, and other regulatory science research organizations and groups from around the world investigate, learn, and train at the Federal facility. NCTR, FDA's internationally recognized research center, plays a critical role in FDA's mission. The unique scientific expertise of NCTR is critical in supporting FDA product centers and their regulatory roles. General information of the center can be found at [www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/OC/...](http://www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/CentersOffices/OC/...).

  - Duties and Responsibilities: The successful candidate will conduct applied research of interest to FDA with quantitative modeling in collaboration with other scientists in the center. Current projects include modeling the impact of deep sequencing on precision medicine applications, mining regulatory databases for disease dynamics, network analysis, and predictive toxicology. Method development, programming, data analysis, and manuscript preparation are expected for this position.

  - Position Qualifications: The candidate should have a Ph.D. degree (within the last five years) with training in quantitative modeling. Candidates from statistics, biology, chemistry, mathematics, computer science, or other related fields are encouraged to apply. Familiarity with mathematical modeling (deterministic or statistical), Monte Carlo simulation, statistical concepts and good programming skills are desirable (some skills can be obtained on the job, so a candidate is not required to have everything listed). Strong work ethics and good communication skills are expected. We also encourage students who have conducted Ph.D. research in other scientific areas but want to gain experience in human health to apply.

  - Both domestic and international candidates will be considered. International candidates are required to have spent at least three years during the last five in the United States to qualify.

- **Application Information:** Please send the CV and a cover letter to dong.wang@fda.hhs.gov
In the College of Arts and Sciences at The Ohio State University invites applications for an Open Rank Faculty/Data Analytics Academic Program Specialist position to begin as early as January 2018.

The focus of this non-tenure-track faculty position is the enhancement of student learning in the university’s undergraduate Data Analytics major through teaching and academic program support and development. We seek individuals who are committed to excellence in undergraduate teaching and education and have interests and expertise in areas of statistics related to data analytics. This faculty position—which has been designed to allow a motivated individual to impact undergraduate education both inside and outside of the classroom—is a hybrid position that consists of a 45% appointment as a non-tenure-track faculty member and a 55% appointment as a data analytics academic program specialist. The faculty portion of the appointment entails teaching three to four undergraduate statistics courses per year (nine contact credit hours). The academic program specialist portion of the appointment entails, in conjunction with other statistics faculty, coordination and development of the major program. For appointment at the associate or full level, applicants should have demonstrated ability for leadership in the practice of data analytics and in statistical pedagogy and academic program development at the undergraduate level. For appointment at the assistant level, applicants should have evidence of excellence in teaching at the undergraduate level and expertise in modern data analytic methods.

Candidates are expected to have a Ph.D. in Statistics (or related area) before starting in the position, and to present evidence of excellence in teaching and of expertise in statistical methodology related to data analytics. Further information about the department can be found at http://www.stat.osu.edu/, and information about the undergraduate Data Analytics major can be found at http://data-analytics.osu.edu/. Applicants should apply electronically at academicjobsonline.org/ajo/jobs/9833. Applicants should submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, and statements of research and teaching interests, and arrange for submission of letters of reference. New or recent Ph.D. graduates are encouraged to include graduate school transcripts with their applications. Review of applications will begin after the application deadline of October 22, 2017. Inquiries may be directed to Dan Miner at miner.58@osu.edu.

The Ohio State University is committed to establishing a culturally and intellectually diverse environment, encouraging all members of our learning community to reach their full potential. We are responsive to dual-career families and strongly promote work-life balance to support our community members through a suite of institutionalized policies. We are an NSF Advance Institution and a member of the Ohio/Western Pennsylvania/West Virginia Higher Education Recruitment Consortium (HERC).

The Ohio State University is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation or identity, national origin, disability status, or protected veteran status.
The Department of Mathematics at the College of William and Mary seeks applications for a tenure-track position at the Assistant or Associate Professor level in statistics or related areas. Applicants must hold a Ph.D. in Statistics or a related field by August 2018. The regular teaching expectation is two courses per semester with most classes capped at 35 students.

- Required Qualifications: Applicants must hold a Ph.D. in Statistics, Mathematics, Operations Research, or a related field at the time of appointment (August 10, 2018).
- Preferred Qualifications: Candidates should demonstrate excellence in research and teaching. Previous experience in teaching and mentoring successful undergraduate and/or graduate research is preferred.

- Applicants must apply online at https://jobs.wm.edu. Submit a curriculum vitae, a cover letter including statement of research and teaching interests. You will be prompted to submit online the names and email addresses of at least three references (with one evaluating teaching) who will be contacted by the system with instructions for how to submit a letter of reference. For full consideration, submit application materials by November 1, 2017. Applications received after the review date will be considered if needed.
- Representatives of hiring committee will be available at Joint Mathematics Meeting (January 2018) to meet with potential candidates.
**JOB OPENINGS**

- **University of Minnesota:** The School of Statistics in the College of Liberal Arts invites applications for two full-time, tenure-track positions to begin fall semester 2018. Appointments will be 100% time over the nine-month academic year (late-August to late-May). Appointments will be at the rank of tenure-track assistant professor, depending on qualifications and experience and consistent with collegiate and University policy.
  
  o How to Apply: All applicants must apply online at [www1.umn.edu/ohr/employment/index.html](http://www1.umn.edu/ohr/employment/index.html) referencing job posting ID 318928
  
  o To be considered for this position, please click on "Apply" and follow the instructions. You will be given an opportunity to complete an online application for the position and attach a cover letter and curriculum vitae.
  
  o Additional documents must be attached by accessing your "My Activities" page. The following materials must be attached to your online application: 1) cover letter, 2) curriculum vitae, 3) research statement, 4) teaching statement, and 5) a sample of your scholarly written work representing your disciplinary focus. In addition to the materials submitted online, please arrange for three letters of recommendation to be sent directly to StatsOffice@umn.edu
  
  o The priority deadline for application materials is November 10, 2017. The positions will remain open until filled. Additional materials may be requested at a later date. Please refer questions to the School of Statistics, 612-625-8046.
The Hollings Cancer Center and the Department of Public Health Sciences at the Medical University of South Carolina invite applications for an Assistant or Associate Professor of Biostatistics. This position is for biostatisticians with research interests in clinical and translational cancer research, including novel early phase trial design. A PhD in biostatistics or related field is required.

- The Department has a large and expanding program of collaborative and internal research. The position will involve highly collaborative interactions with Hollings Cancer Center faculty with an emphasis on joint grant proposals, development of statistical methodology for cancer research, and the design and analysis of laboratory, clinical and epidemiologic studies. Candidates wishing to develop their own research projects are welcome.
- Candidates should be able to work independently, have experience in data analysis and statistical programming, and excellent oral and written communication skills. Prior experience in oncology research writing collaborative papers and grant proposals is highly desired.
- MUSC is a drug free workplace. We are an equal opportunity employer promoting diversity. m/f/v/d
- Send statement of research interests, contact information for three references, and curriculum vitae to:
  - Elizabeth Hill, PhD, Associate Professor of Biostatistics
  - Director, Biostatistics Shared Resource, Hollings Cancer Center
  - Medical University of South Carolina
  - 86 Jonathan Lucas St.
  - MSC 955
  - Charleston, SC 29425
  - hille@musc.edu
  - people.musc.edu/~hille
- Or Apply Online:
The Virginia Tech Department of Statistics (www.stat.vt.edu) invites applications for an open rank tenured or tenure track faculty position in Statistics to begin in August 2018. Requirements include a Ph.D. in statistics or a closely related field; a research focus in data analytics, statistical/machine learning, data mining, stochastic modeling/inference, interactive data visualization, or any related branch of computationally intensive statistical methods; and teaching experience.

- This position is part of a major emphasis on statistics, including computational modeling, data science and analytics, and empirical decision making at Virginia Tech. This position will support of the Computational Modeling and Data Analytics (CMDA) program (www.science.vt.edu/ais/cmda). CMDA, a multi-department effort including not just Statistics but also the Departments of Mathematics and of Computer Science, represents an entirely new approach to training quantitative scientists, one that develops foundations for, knowledge of, and skills in computationally intensive techniques for modeling and inference.

- Successful applicants will also have the opportunity to be key players in the creation of the university's "Data Analytics and Decision Sciences" destination area (provost.vt.edu/destination-areas/da-data.html). This is a rare opportunity to help develop and grow a truly innovative approach to education and research. Applications from researchers whose work and goals straddle traditional academic boundaries are especially encouraged.

- Responsibilities: Expectations for this position include: maintaining a visible and vigorous funded research program; providing effective instruction and advising to a diverse population of undergraduate and graduate students; continuing development of professional capabilities and scholarly activities; curriculum development; participation in department, academy, college, and university governance; and professional service. The faculty handbook (available at http://www.provost.vt.edu) provides a complete description of faculty responsibilities.

- Required qualifications: Applicants must have a strong background in statistics with specialization in data analytics, machine learning, data mining, stochastic modeling/inference, interactive data visualization, high performance computing and computationally intensive statistical methods; strong promise for developing, or in the case of senior applicants continuing, a well-funded, internationally distinguished research program; demonstrated experience with and commitment to interdisciplinary research; willingness to cross disciplinary boundaries to tackle complex scientific challenges; a desire to advise and teach a student body that is diverse with respect to socio-economic status, interests, and abilities; and commitment/sensitivity to address issues of diversity in the university community. Applicants must have earned a doctorate in a relevant discipline at the time of appointment.

- Preferred qualifications: Preference will be given to candidates with demonstrated examples of interdisciplinary scholarship employing statistical and data analytical techniques. Preference will also be given to candidates with postdoctoral or similar experience, with a record of achievement as might be demonstrated during a postdoctoral or previous faculty appointment.
“Your proposal is written with clarity and conviction. Send it up to legal for obfuscation.”

Savage Chickens
by Doug Savage

3 WAYS TO GET OUT OF A CONVERSATION

So what do you do?

INTERACTIVE DANCE, MOSTLY

So what do you do?

I DRAW THE CHALK NOTICES AT CRIME SCENES

So what do you do?

I’M A TECHNICAL WRITER

“This is gobbledygook. I asked for mumbo-jumbo.”

VOLUME
L x W x H

“What if someone hits the mute button?”

CARTOONS SOURCES:

• https://i.pinimg.com/originals/68/0e/03/680e0330d9d6861ecf5f80610bb0ab9e.jpg
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