# NEWS FROM THE WORLD OF STATISTICS

**October 19, 2017**

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Please share this information with your friends and colleagues, and thank you for your interest in The World of Statistics!

–Ron Wasserstein, on behalf of The World of Statistics Steering Committee

# NEWS

## Celebrate European Statistics Day on October 20

European Statistics Day will be commemorated on October 20, and this year's theme is "The Value of Official Statistics as a Public Good."

European Statistics Day is commemorated annually in the four years between each World Statistics Day. It aims to raise awareness of European citizens to the importance of official statistics. In particular, European Statistics Day provides an opportunity for European statisticians to interact with all users of official statistics and to engage with the wider public on statistical issues. Among the many events being organized around the European Union on this day, a special seminar to mark the occasion will take place in Portugal, organized by the European Statistical Advisory Committee, the Portuguese Statistical Society and the Portuguese Statistical Institute.

The 20th of October was designated the World Statistics Day by the United Nations General Assembly in 2010 and is celebrated worldwide every 5 years.

## International Statistical Institute Releases Report on 61st World Statistics Conference
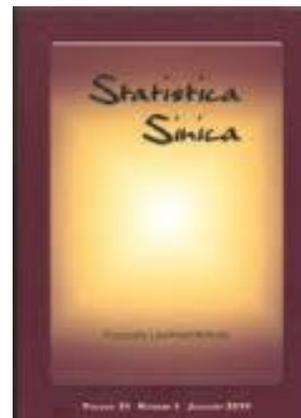
More than 1,800 participants spanning 138 countries attended the 61st World Statistics Congress this summer in Marrakech. Africa topped the list of regions with the most attendees with 588, followed by Europe with 536, North America with 328, Asia with 288, South America with 70 and Oceania with 41. The opening ceremony took place on Sunday, July 16 in the Salle des Ministres Congres and started with a welcome speech by Mohamed Boussaid, Minister of Economy and Finance, followed by a speech by Ahmed Lahlimi Alami

of the High Commission for Planning and additional remarks by ISI President Pedro Silva. The first ever International Prize in Statistics was presented to Sir David Cox, who participated via video message. A complete wrap up of activities and sessions can be found here. Planning is already underway for the 62nd World Statistics Congress, August 18-23, 2019, in Kuala Lumpur.

## Statistica Sinica Issues Call for Submissions for Special Issue on Big Data in Environmental Studies

The environment has become increasingly important in recent years as pressures from human impacts, and interactions are staring to be realized. Statistica Sinica is publishing a special issue on Big Data in Environmental Studies and is seeking submissions. The theme of the special issue is to encourage high-quality research on the theory and methods for analyzing big data related to the environment, and to put papers in one place to facilitate further research. Both methodological and application papers are welcome, and all submissions will go through a rigorous review process. Interested authors should submit manuscripts on the Scholar One web page of the journal. Deadline for submissions is December 31, 2017, and the targeted print date is January 2019.

The following guest co-editors for this theme include:

- Son-Xi Chen, Iowa State University and Peking University
- Ruey S. Tsay, University of Chicago
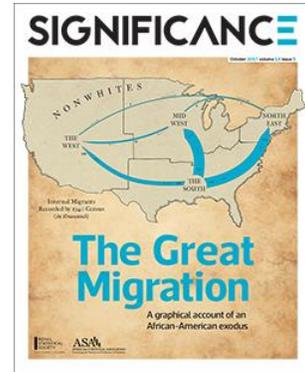- Christopher Wikle, University of Missouri

## BigSurv18 to Connect Survey Science, Big Data in October 2018

Help solve the challenge of combining Big Data and Survey Science. Meet with experts and exchange ideas about promising technologies and methodologies for using massive datasets and state-of-the-art analytical techniques to improve, supplement or replace data and estimates from complex surveys and censuses. Conducted by RTI International and ESRA, BigSurv18 is the intersection of survey science and Big Data and takes place October 25-27, 2018 at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Research and Expertise Centre for Survey Methodology, in Barcelona. A call for papers will soon be issued. Learn more about the conference, see who is on the Scientific Committee, and find out about sponsorship opportunities at www.bigsurv18.org.

## October Issue of Significance Estimates, Examines the Amount of Plastic in the World's Oceans

Between natural disasters and littering by humans, the amount of plastic in the world's oceans is expanding, and to many incalculable. The October issue of Significance magazine highlights the many roles of statistics in calculating and tackling this global issue. "A sad irony is that the abundance and widespread use of plastic makes the question of how much is there hard to answer," notes Ronan McAdam, a researcher in physical oceanography, Department of Physics, Grantham Institute of Climate Change and the Environment, Imperial College London.

Other articles focus on statistics trailblazer Frances Wood, millenials' participation in advocacy and graphics visualizing the historic migration of African Americans.

## India to Host Conference on Statistical Methods in Finance

The third conference and workshop on Statistical Methods in Finance takes place December 16-19 at Chennai Mathematical Institute in Chennai, India. Jointly organized by the ISI Chennai and CMI with support from MCX-IPF Trust, IISA and ISBIS, the conference invites PhD students, post-doctoral researchers and faculty in mathematics, statistics, business, economics and physics to apply. The last date for applications is October 10, and abstracts must be submitted by October 12. Further details can be found here.

## New Eurostat Publication is Statistical Portrait of Men and Women in Europe

Eurostat has published a new digital publication titled "The Life of Women and Men in Europe - a Statistical Portrait." This digital publication, which contains texts, graphs, dynamic data visualizations and illustrations, aims at comparing women and men in their daily lives. It also shows how similar or different the everyday life of women and men is in European countries and is available in 24 languages. Watch a short video to learn more about the publication!

## Afrika Statistika Shares New Releases, Updates

Our friends at Afrika Statistics are pleased to announce the following new releases:

- Release of Number 2 of Volume 12 (2017) of **Afrika Statistika** in **Euclid** and in our platform (www.jafristat.net).
- First online Papers in **African Journal of Applied Statistics /AJAS**, Vol 4 (1) in our platform (www.jafristatap.net).
- Vol 4 (1) of AJAS is still open and will be closed by December 2017. Your are invited to submit papers.

- Number 4 of Vol 12 will be open to all mathematics areas in honor of the late professor Galaye Dia, a major pioneer of Probability Theory and Statistics Teaching and Research in Africa.
- (6) Number 1 of Vol 13 (2018) will publish selected papers of the East African Conference on Mathematical Statistics with Applications (EACMSA 2017), held in Kigali with special guest editors Martin Singull (Sweden) and Mustapha Rachi (France).

# IISA 2017 Annual Conference Set for December

The International Indian Statistical Association's (IISA) 2017 Annual Meeting takes place December 27-30, 2017, in Hyderabad, India. The theme of this year's IISA annual conference is "Statistics and Data Science for Better Life, Society and Science." One of the primary goals of the event is to engage leading experts and junior members in all topics related to statistics and data science. The four days of vibrant conference activities will consist of pre-conference short courses, plenary talks, invited sessions, contributed sessions, panel discussions and student paper competitions. Past annual conferences have attracted more than 300 participants primarily from India and the United States.

The IISA is a nonprofit professional association, and this year marks its 25th anniversary. Its objectives are to promote education, research and application of statistics and probability throughout the world with a special emphasis on activities in the Indian subcontinent.

# Jamaica Statistics Symposium Just Days Away

The Third Biennial Jamaica Statistics Symposium and Pre-Conference Workshop Series (JASSYM 2017) takes place October 24-27, in Kingston, Jamaica. With the theme of "Statistics for Success: Ethics, Data Security and Quality," the event's program will further hone the data management and analysis skills of professionals from all sectors of society including researchers, data analysts, policymakers, and students. JASSYM 2017 will feature the methodology and practice of securing data, safeguarding data quality, interpreting and using statistics with ethical principles. For additional information, email jssbiennial.rc@gmail.com.

# Contribute News, Jobs to the World of Statistics

The editorial staff of the World of Statistics relies on you so that we can share newsworthy statistics-related events. Send us details via the links below. In addition, the World of Statistics will feature job listings for statistics and data science positions in this newsletter. There is no cost for this service, but listings are limited to 250 words and must include a link to where more detailed information can be found. Send your job listing to *ron@amstat.org*.

As always, we look forward to promoting the positive work of the global statistical community to educate the public, grow the profession, expand research and development, and improve the quality of life.

# JOBS

**Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor**

**Applied Statistics and Financial Mathematics**

**Engineering and Computational Mathematics**

**Applied Optimization and Operations Research**

**The Hong Kong Polytechnic University**

The Department of Applied Mathematics (AMA) is part of the Faculty of Applied Science and Textiles. The Department offers undergraduate programs in Investment Science, Actuarial Science, and Statistics and Computing, and makes a significant contribution to most of the other academic programs of the University by providing service teaching. It also offers master programs in Applied Mathematics for Science and Technology with specialism in Decision Science and Actuarial Science, and Operational Research and Risk Analysis. Members of the Department have expertise in applied optimization and optimal control, engineering computation, operational research, management science and applied statistics. There are currently 50 academic staff and about 42 research personnel in the Department.

The appointees will be required to (a) teach and contribute to curriculum development at undergraduate and postgraduate levels; (b) supervise MPhil and PhD students; (c) engage in scholarly research, consultancy and other scholarly activities leading to publications in top-tier refereed journals and awards of research grants; and (d) undertake academic and departmental administrative duties. The Department has established a Joint Research Institute with the Academy of Mathematics and System Sciences of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. The appointees are expected to be actively involved in the activities of the Institute.

Applicants should have (a) a doctoral degree in Mathematics / Statistics / Financial Mathematics / Operations Research / Computational Mathematics / Applied Mathematics or a closely related

field; (b) an established track record in research and scholarship, including refereed publications and external grant applications; (c) expertise in applied statistics, operations research and mathematics; and (d) a demonstrated commitment to excellence in teaching.

Applicants for appointment at Professor level should demonstrate a strong background in research in the aforementioned field(s) with an international academic profile. They should also demonstrate excellent international reputation in research and possess an excellent record of academic leadership and research scholarship, both in terms of publications and funded research. The successful candidates will be appointed at the level commensurate with their qualifications and experience.

A highly competitive remuneration package will be offered. Initial appointments for Assistant Professor will be on a fixed-term gratuity-bearing contract. Re-engagement thereafter is subject to mutual agreement. An appropriate term will be provided for appointment at Associate Professor and Professor levels. Applicants should state their current and expected salary in the application.

Please submit application form via email to [hrstaff@polyu.edu.hk](mailto:hrstaff@polyu.edu.hk) ; by fax at (852) 2764 3374; or by mail to Human Resources Office, 13/F, Li Ka Shing Tower, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Recruitment will continue until the positions are filled.

## Full-time/visiting Faculty Position

## National Sun Yat-sen University

## Kaohsiung, Taiwan

The Department of Applied Mathematics at National Sun Yat-sen University invites applications to fill a full-time/visiting faculty position (subject to the approval by the University) beginning February 1 or August 1, 2018. Recent PhDs with exceptional potential at the rank of assistant professor and/or internationally well-established senior candidates at the rank of associate or full professor will be considered. A successful candidate must have a doctorate in mathematics or statistics, and should have strong research record and excellence in teaching. All areas of mathematics, applied mathematics, scientific computing and statistics will be considered.

Interested applicants should send a cover letter of application, curriculum vitae, transcripts, research summary, and reprints to Chairperson, Department of Applied Mathematics, National Sun Yat-sen University, Kaohsiung 804, Taiwan, R.O.C.

- Email: [head@math.nsysu.edu.tw](mailto:head@math.nsysu.edu.tw)
- Tel: +886-7-5252000 ext. 3800 , 3834; Fax: +886-7-5253809
- Website: [www.math.nsysu.edu.tw](http://www.math.nsysu.edu.tw)

Applicants should also arrange at least three letters of recommendation which should be sent directly to the above address. The instruction language is Mandarin and the ability of teaching in Mandarin is therefore required.

**Sr. Statistician**

**Celgene Corporation**

**Berkeley Heights, NJ**

Celgene is a global biopharmaceutical company leading the way in medical innovation to help patients live longer, better lives. Our purpose as a company is to discover and develop therapies that will change the course of human health. We value our passion for patients, quest for innovation, and spirit of independence and love of challenge. With a presence in more than 70 countries - and growing - we look for talented people to grow our business, advance our science and contribute to our unique culture.

Responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Actively provide statistical support to the Clinical R&D Department.

- Contribute to efficient study design, prepare statistical consideration sections and provide input into other protocol sections.
- Prepare statistical analysis plans including table shells.
- Analyze clinical trial data; work with programmers to provide tables, listings and graphs, including ad hoc validation.
- Review, synthesize, interpret and report analysis results.
- Provide ad hoc data driven analyses.
- Provide statistical input for the preparation of final study reports and other required documents.
- Support preparation of manuscripts.
- Provide statistical support for integrated reports, submissions preparation, and post-submission activities.
- Provide project requirements to programmers
- Work closely with different departments in the company (regulatory, clinical, marketing, data management, health economics, etc.) and provide statistical support for a variety of functional groups.
- Manage outside CROs and consultants as needed.

2. Apply statistics modeling, text mining, and other latest techniques to efficiently extract relevant information from public sources or internal database. The extracted information will be further used in explorative analyses to assist clinical trial design or improve efficiency of clinical trial conduct and data analysis.

3. Explore and apply innovative approaches to solve real world problems and develop new methodologies or process.

4. Proactively seeks ways to gain broader experience/perspectives and focuses on a robust professional development plan Qualifications Ph.D. in Statistics or related fields with 2 plus years (or 5+ years for MS) pharmaceutical experience supporting clinical trials or computing experience for text mining.

Skills/Knowledge Required:

- Ph.D. or MS. in statistics, text mining, machine learning, or related fields.
- Working experience in text mining or related areas is a plus
- Demonstrated skill in the analysis and reporting of clinical trials.
- Knowledge of statistical methodologies and statistical regulatory requirements.
- Strong knowledge of clinical trial design concepts and clinical drug development process
- Knowledge of statistical computing software (e.g. SAS, R, or WinBUGs).
- Knowledge of MS Office products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Experience working in a team environment and a good team player.
- Self-motivated and good interpersonal, communication, writing and organizational skills.
- The level of position is negotiable

To apply, please [click here](#).

Celgene is committed to equal opportunity in the terms and conditions of employment for all employees and job applicants without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, gender identity or gender expression, national origin, disability or veteran status. Celgene complies with all applicable national, state and local laws governing nondiscrimination in employment as well as employment eligibility verification requirements of the Immigration and Nationality Act. All applicants must have authorization to work for Celgene in the U.S.

## Chair of the Department of Biostatistics
## University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC)
## College of Public Health

The University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) College of Public Health is seeking outstanding candidates for the next Chair of the Department of Biostatistics.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Chair is responsible for leading the department including developing new programs, strengthening existing programs, expanding the statistical methodology profile of the department, and growing collaborative relationships. The chair also oversees the department budget, coordinates teaching assignments, and evaluates and mentors department faculty and staff. This position is a 12-month appointment with administrative, teaching, research, and service responsibilities.

QUALIFICATIONS

A Ph.D. degree in biostatistics or statistics is required. The candidate should also have a record of accomplishment of collaborative research and peer-reviewed publications, demonstrated ability to obtain extramural funding for research, and track record of effective teaching and student mentoring as would be expected for the rank of full professor. The chair is expected to have effective interpersonal and communication skills, leadership and management experience, faculty mentorship experience, and a strong track record of collaborative and/or statistical methodology work. Experience managing a biostatistics consulting service, developing and implementing biostatistics academic programs, and directing extramurally funded research will be considered positively.

To apply for this position, visit *unmc.peopleadmin.com/postings/34633*. Only online applications will be accepted. Interested applicants should submit a current CV, letter of interest, and 3 references. The letter should highlight the candidate's vision for the department, his/her experience and philosophy of leadership, administration, and mentoring and outline the candidate's research and teaching interests and how these fit with the department. Salary will be commensurate with the candidate's qualifications and experience. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Inquiries regarding this position should be directed to the chair of the search committee, Dr. Li-Wu Chen at liwuchen@unmc.edu.

## Full/Associate/Assistant Professors
## Post-Doctoral Fellows
## National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

The Department of Mathematics and Institute of Applied Mathematical Sciences at National Taiwan University invite applications for several openings at the levels of tenure-track or non-tenure-track assistant, associate and full professors, and for several post-doctoral positions. The positions begin from August 1, 2018 and are open for the research areas of pure mathematics, and computational and applied mathematics, probability and financial mathematics, statistical sciences, data science and others.

Candidates for professorships should have strong commitment to research and teaching. The teaching load may be reduced to one course per semester in the beginning period. The post-doctoral position is a one-year appointment, with a possible extension for one more year. Candidates are required to have received a Ph.D. degree before the start of their appointment and they should show strong research potential. With donation from alumni, the department can possibly provide new faculty additional financial support up to three years. Young scholars with great performance in research and teaching can be awarded Junior Fellow. The prize awarded for Junior Fellow is half a million to 1.2 million TWD a year in addition to salary for five years.

Applicants for all positions please send a letter of application, an up-to-date curriculum vitae, recent publications, a research plan and three letters of recommendation to hiring@math.ntu.edu.tw or to the postal address: Recruiting Committee, Department of Mathematics, National Taiwan University, No. 1, Sec. 4, Roosevelt Road, Taipei 10617 Taiwan.

The deadline is January 15, 2018 for regular positions, and March 31, 2018 for post-doctoral positions. For more information please visit www.math.ntu.edu.tw/.

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