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National Institute of Statistical Sciences
Fall 2021 Academic Career Fair

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Department of Statistics @ Columbia

- Major turning point - Hotelling’s arrival at Columbia in 1931
- Statistical Research Group during WWII
- Founded in 1946
Department of Statistics @ Columbia

- Faculty of Arts and Sciences
  - 26 departments in three divisions:
    - social sciences (6), humanities (13), and natural sciences (9)
  - Five schools: Columbia College, General Studies, Arts, Graduate School, Professional Studies

- Located on the Morningside Campus
A vibrant and fast growing department

- 24 T/TT Faculty
- 5 Term Assistant Professors
- 5 Lecturers
- 6 Affiliated faculty
- ~200 undergraduates
- ~700 MA
- ~60 PHD
- ~10 Postdocs
The mission of a modern statistics department

- Research and related advanced training in probability, theoretical statistics, and applied statistics;
- Instruction in statistical thinking at basic, intermediate, and advanced levels;
- Leadership in the broader university community, in statistical computing, scientific collaboration and consulting, and instructional design.
Available positions

- **Faculty Positions (4+)**
  - One Tenure-Track Assistant Professor
    - All areas of statistics and probability
    - Teaching load: 2
    - Start date: July 2022
  - Multiple Term Assistant Professors
    - Up to four years
    - All areas of statistics and probability
    - Teaching load: 3
    - Start date: July 2022
  - Lecturer
    - Renewable
    - All areas of statistics and probability
    - Teaching load: 6
    - Start date: Jan 2022 or July 2022

- **Postdoc Positions (2+)**
  - One DSI postdoc in Statistical Machine Learning
    - Jointly with Data Science Institute
  - Distinguished Postdoc Fellow
    - "bring exceptional scientists of outstanding potential to Columbia University."
    - Two-year fellowship, with no teaching obligations
    - A competitive annual salary will be supplemented with generous funding for conference travel and research support.
  - More grant-funded positions to come
Q: What are the preferred qualifications for a tenure-track/tenured faculty position in your institution?

- Potential in Research, especially at the frontiers of Statistics
- Excellent teacher and mentor
- A collegial colleague who will contribute to the diversity and excellence of the academic community
- A future leader: creative thinker, problem solver, self-starter

Q: What are the potential distinguishing characteristics of candidates for a tenure-track/tenured faculty position in your institution?

- Independence and potential for growth
- Collaboration
Q: What advice would you give to job candidates?

- Be yourself
- Be professional
- Prepare for both “big” and “small” talks
- Think early about what you need in order to succeed
  - Department research environment - how you will fit
  - Resources to pursue hard and challenging problems
  - Collaborators and mentors
  - Start-up package
- Learn about the process and enjoy the process
Q: What advice would you give about how Ph.D. students or post-docs should prepare for the future?

- “It is a very exciting time for doing research in Statistics!”
  - Take risks and invest in learning
  - Look for “true love” in your research
- “Is an academic career for me?”
  - Join professional societies and attend conferences
  - Talk with your professors and mentors about their career paths
  - Try out formal or informal teaching and mentoring
  - Understand that everyone has the imposter syndrome
- Find your own work-life balance
Join us at Columbia!