NISS/SAMSI Affiliate Update

September 2014

NISS Holding Workshop on Analyzing Complex Survey Data with Missing Item Values

NISS will hold a workshop in Washington DC on October 17 from 8:30am - 5pm on Analyzing Complex Survey Data with Missing Item Values. The workshop will be held at the Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center.

The workshop will have four sessions. The first focuses on Conceptual and Methodological Issues for Incomplete Data and Imputation. The second session will cover case studies from federal agencies. The third session will explore new research ideas and the last session will be a working session entitled "Challenging Problems with Incomplete Data and Imputation in Large-scale Federal Surveys." More details can be found here.

SAMSI's 2015-16 Programs

SAMSI has announced its programs for 2015-16. Nominations are now open for an affiliate representative to join with the program leaders committee for each of these programs. Contact Sujit Ghosh at ghosh@samsi.info.

Challenges in Computational Neuroscience (CCNS)
The CCNS program will develop mathematical and statistical methods for neuroscience applications. These will be used to understand the underlying mechanisms that bridge multiple spatial and temporal scales, linking the activity of individual components (e.g., molecular biology, genetics, and neuron networks), and their interactions to the complex dynamic behavior of the brain and nervous system. Brain theory, modeling, and statistics will be essential to turn data into better understanding of the brain. The CCNS program will address the underlying methodological, theoretical, and computational challenges. Probability and statistics, dynamical systems, geometry, and computer science will be combined with respect to theory and in applications.

Program on Statistics and Applied Mathematics in Forensic Science (Forensics)

Photos from Affiliates Dinner at JSM 2014

More than 55 people attended the NISS and SAMSI Affiliates Dinner at JSM 2014 in Boston in August. Cliff Spiegelman, Texas A&M along with Beth Chance, California State Polytechnic University; Nicholas Horton, Amherst College and Keith Soper, Merck spoke about new trends in teaching statistics in a variety of venues.

Mary Batcher (L), Chair of NISS, and Linda Young from NASS.

People listening to the speaker before dinner.

SAMSI's program on Forensics is focused on strengthening the statistical and applied mathematical bases of forensic science. Forensic science is fundamentally based upon statistical comparisons of the characteristics of a material left at a crime scene to characteristics of a source or suspect. These comparisons are often acknowledged by forensic scientists to be highly subjective. A series of reports by the National Research Council (NRC) has raised deep questions about major forms of forensic evidence and has made a clear case for heeding statistical underpinning for forensic procedures. These include fingerprints, patterns and impressions (footprints and tire tracks), toolmarks and firearms, hair, fibers, documents, paints and coatings, bloodstains, and fire debris. Working groups will focus on statistical issues for pattern evidence; bias; imaging; quality control for forensics laboratories. Crosscutting challenges are identifying where statistics can have a quick impact, and educating mathematical scientists about forensics and forensic scientists about the mathematical sciences.

Details and dates for the opening workshops will be announced soon. Look at the SAMSI website for more details. Application deadline will be announced soon.

Postdoc applications for these two programs can be submitted to: mathjobs.org, SAMSIPD2015 Job #6133.

NISS Events

Analyzing Complex Survey Data with Missing Item Values
When: October 17, 2014
Where: Bureau of Labor Statistics Conference Center
Details here.

SAMSI Events

Undergraduate Workshop
When: October 23-24, 2014
Where: RTP, NC
Deadline to Apply: September 19, 2014.
This workshop will focus on bioinformatics.
Details here.

Undergraduate Workshop
When: February 26-27
Where: RTP, NC
Deadline to Apply: January 16, 2015.
This workshop will focus on ecology.
Details here.

Undergraduate Modeling Workshop
When: May 17-22, 2015
Where: NCSU, Raleigh, NC

Beth Chance speaks to the affiliates.

Deadline to Apply: TBA
More details to come soon.

Industrial Mathematics & Statistical Modeling Workshop
When: July 12-22, 2015
Where: NCSU, Raleigh, NC
Deadline to Apply: April 15, 2015
More details to come soon.

NISS and SAMSI
P.O. Box 14006, Research Triangle Park, NC
www.niss.org and www.samsi.info