Spring Affiliates Workshop March 6 in Austin, TX

This year's annual NISS/SAMSI Affiliates Meeting will take place Sunday, March 6, 2016, in conjunction with the Eastern North American Region International Biometrics Society's (ENAR) meeting at the JW Marriott in Austin, TX.   The exact room for this meeting is still TBD.

Travel support to the NISS/SAMSI Affiliates meeting is a benefit of Affiliates membership. For this meeting NISS will reimburse up to $600.00 (with receipts for travel and hotel) for one liaison, and up to $800.00 for two liaisons who attend.

The convention hotel is already sold out. They have contracted with the Hyatt Place (across the street from the JW Marriott), for a small block of rooms at the same conference rate of $199.00. Please call the Hyatt Place directly: (512) 476-4440

Agenda
Tentative Schedule

8:30-9:00	Registration and Coffee
9:00-9:15	**Welcome and Review of NISS Events** **Nell Sedransk**, Director, National Institute of Statistical Sciences
9:15-10:30	**Session on Record Linkage** Chair, TBA **Rebecca Steorts**, Duke University Modern Bayesian Record Linkage: Some Recent Developments and Open Challenges
10:30-10:45	Break

10:45- 11:45	**Meeting Future Needs of NISS/SAMSI Affiliates** Discussion Leader: **Jane Pendergast**, Duke University **Speed Session: Introduction of ENAR talks by NISS/SAMSI Affiliates**
11:50- 12:10	11:50-11:55: **Rachel Carroll**, postdoc at the Medical University of South Carolina Multivariate Latent Structure in Bayesian Spatio-temporal Health Models 11:55-12:00: **Masaki (Chien-Wei) Lin**, a graduate student from the University of Pittsburgh (Biostatistics) SeqDesign: A Framework for RNA-Seq Genome-Wide Power Calculation and Experimental Design Issues 12:00-12:10 Questions
12:10- 1:10	Lunch
1:10- 2:25	**Session on Biosimilars** Chair: TBA 1:10-1:45: **Thomas Gwise**, FDA Biosimilar Clinical Studies: Resolving Residual Uncertainty 1:45-2:10: **Yulan Li**, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Statistical Challenges and Current Experience in Biosimilar Trial Designs 2:10-2:25: Floor Discussion
2:25- 3:15	**SAMSI Postdoc Session** Chair: TBA 2:25-2:50: **Yize Zhao**, SAMSI and UNC-CH Bayesian Feature Selection for Ultra-high Dimensional Imaging Genetics Data 2:50-3:15: **Zhengwu Zhang**, SAMSI and Duke University Robust brain structural connectivity analysis using HCP data
3:15- 3:30	Break
3:30- 5:00	**Data Science Panel Discussion** Chair/Moderator: **Joel Dubin**, University of Waterloo **Vladimir Svetnik**, Merck **Garrett Grolemund**, RStudio **Eric Laber**, N.C. State University

5:00-7:00	Reception

Register Here

Co-Sponsored Events

Network of Greater Georgia Institutions for Neuroimaging and Statistics (NOGGINS)

When: Friday, April 15, 2016
Where: Athens, Georgia
The 4th NOGGINS Workshop provides a forum for scientific communication and collaboration between researchers in the area of neuroimaging and neuroscience. For more details, click here.

2016 Southern Regional Council on Statistics (SRCOS)

When: June 6-9, 2016
Where: Bentonville, AR
Summer Research Conference will be held at the Doubletree Suites from June 6-9, in Bentonville, AR. The program includes keynote speakers Naiysin Wang and Terry Therneau. Jim Cochran will be delivering the banquet speech. Eugene Huang of Emory University and Jacqueline Hughes-Oliver of North Carolina State University have agreed to be program co-chairs. More details here.

SAMSI Events

2016 Spring Opportunities Workshop for Women in Math Sciences

When: April 6-8, 2016
Where: SAMSI
Deadline to Apply: February 22, 2016
The workshop will (i) 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. Additionally, it will allow attendees to explore what it takes to thrive in careers pursued by mathematical scientists and researchers. Job interview scenarios and networking will be used to illustrate the principles presented in the workshop. . For details and to apply, click here.

Challenges in Functional Connectivity Modeling and Analysis

When: April 8-10, 2016
Where: SAMSI
Deadline to Apply: February 25, 2016

There will be lectures by experts who will introduce to mathematicians and statisticians the substantive issues on characterizing and modeling connectivity, both structural and neuronal, using various data modalities that capture different facets of brain anatomy and functionality. More information here.

Methodology for Precision Medicine: Integrating Statistical and Mathematical Approaches

When: April 11-12, 2016
Where: SAMSI
Deadline to Apply: February 15, 2016

The 1.5 day program will feature presentations by leading mathematical and statistical scientists and clinicians at the forefront of precision medicine and breakout sessions involving small groups of participants from diverse scientific backgrounds to identify opportunities for methodological integration and synergy and to brainstorm on initial formulation of joint research projects. Number of participants is limited to 50 (including speakers). Junior researchers interested in precision medicine are especially encouraged to apply for this workshop. Click here for details and to apply.

Games and Decisions in Reliability and Risk Workshop

When: May 16-20, 2016
Where: SAMSI
Deadline to Apply: March 28, 2016

The objective of the workshop is to present novel use of game and decision theory in reliability and risk analysis and to bring together researchers from diverse disciplines such as economics, engineering, finance, mathematics, medical sciences, probability and statistics who find themselves working with, and contributing to, this theme. The workshop at SAMSI aims also to check the feasibility of a deeper interaction, possibly through a SAMSI program, among statisticians, mathematicians, decision analysts, game theorists and researchers from the areas mentioned earlier.

Interdisciplinary Workshop for Undergraduate Students

When: May 22-27, 2016
Where: SAMSI and NC State University
Deadline to Apply: April 1, 2016

For a good part of the week, students, in teams of 3 or 4, will use data from different sources to investigate a variety of questions related to several exciting and emerging area of research ranging from the 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 overall complex dynamic behavior of the brain and nervous system. The students will also explore the statistical underpinning for forensic procedures, including fingerprints, patterns and impressions (footprints and tire tracks), toolmarks and firearms, hair, fibers, documents, paints and coatings, bloodstains, and fire debris. Finally, student teams will be prepared to make short presentations on the last day of the workshop, and have the option of having their final presentations reside on the SAMSI website. For details and to apply, click here.

2016-17 Program on Statistical, Mathematical and Computational Methods for Astronomy

This year-long research program focuses on the vast range of statistical and mathematical problems arising in modern astronomical research, particularly due to the flood of data produced by both ground-based and space-based astronomical surveys at many wave-bands. The research areas that form the main ingredients of the program include:

• Astronomical simulations and big data issues
• Exoplanets
• Functional data analysis
• Gravitational wave astrophysics
• High-performance computing for Bayesian inference and machine learning
• Lightcurve analysis/time domain astronomy

Opening Workshop - August 29-September 2, 2016
For details visit
http://www.samsi.info/ASTRO

2016-17 Program on Optimization

This year-long research program aims to produce a synergy between mathematics, statistics and operations research to produce ground breaking advances in:

• Optimization for large-scale statistical analysis
• Statistical approaches for the numerical solution of large-scale optimization problems
• Applications of optimization

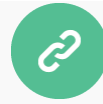**Opening Workshop - August 22-26, 2016**
For details visit
http://www.samsi.info/OPT

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