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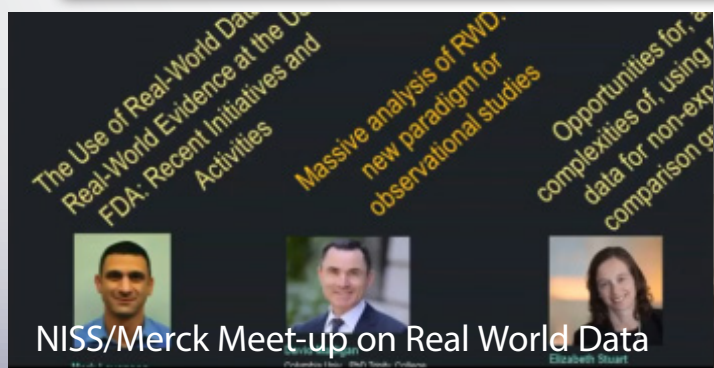
SPRING | 2019

Information for these Upcoming NISS Hosted Events!

NISS Webinar: Alternatives to the Traditional p-value
Ingram Olkin S³ Forum: Gun Violence — The Statistical Issues
NISS Writing Workshop for Junior Researchers - at JSM!



Also - In this issue:



Upcoming Events List and other items
of interest inside!





Welcome to the Spring 2019 edition of the NISS Parameters Newsletter

In keeping with our roots in cross-disciplinary research, NISS continues to reinterpret its mission, with a new focus on the important role of statistics in data science. We are therefore very pleased to have two new elected board members, Victor Lo, Head of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence at Fidelity Investments, and Victoria Stodden, Associate Professor at the University of Illinois in the School of Information Sciences. They greatly strengthen our expertise and connections in this arena. See more about their background on page 5 below in the newsletter.

Upcoming events co-sponsored by NISS

NISS co-sponsors many regional activities, for which our affiliate members can attend and utilize their affiliate funds for travel expenses. The goal is to bring networking opportunities to our affiliate members, to especially encourage cross sector interactions and collaborations. Several are highlighted below on page 7. We invite our affiliates, and prospective affiliates to contact us about upcoming events. When someone from an affiliate organizes a meeting or workshop the NISS Affiliate Award Funds (AAF) can assist in support of speakers, and other affiliates' members can use funds from their AAF to pay registration and travel expenses to attend. These funds can support young faculty members, postdocs, and/or graduate students to attend NISS co-sponsored events. For more information on becoming an affiliate, visit our website: www.niss.org/affiliateprogram-information.

P-value controversy

NISS has also planned a special Academic Webinar on May 23, to address the response to the ongoing controversy about the use of P-values. This webinar will report on the recent special issue of *The American Statistician* (TAS), which published 43 papers in response to the *ASA Statement on P-Values and Statistical Significance*. Speakers include the past and present editors of TAS, Nicole Lazar and Dan Jeske, plus Jessica Utts, and Nell Sedransk, who will each present their specific viewpoint. Please see the note on page 3 below.

Other recent activities

NISS has co-sponsored a variety of regional events for our affiliates. We recently hosted NISS events in Washington DC, including an R & Spark Workshop in February, see page 6 below. And we held our annual survey related workshop in March, see page 3 below. See the newsletter for more information on these events completed during the last few months since our last Newsletter.

Reproducibility

Last week at a conference in Boston, aimed at the bioinformatics community, I addressed the importance of reproducibility in designing studies and planning the workflow for analyzing these ongoing studies. Just as important as randomized clinical trials have been over the past four decades, for testing the effectiveness of new drugs and therapies, the emergence of large collections of clinical data, drug registries, and electronic health records, now provide new opportunities for using this Real-World Data (RWD) to test and evaluate both new and existing drug therapies and devices. These opportunities and challenges were also addressed in our NISS-Merck Meet-ups this past year. See page 6 below.

NISS at JSM

The annual NISS reception, joint with SAMSI will be held Monday evening, July 29 from 6-8pm. At the reception, we will announce the Jerome Sacks award for cross-disciplinary research, the Distinguished Alumni Award to recognize a NISS postdoc, and the Distinguished Service Awards. We invite all affiliates and friends of NISS to attend this event, with announcements and awards presented at 6:30pm.

Since 2007 NISS with support from the NSF and the statistical societies have organized the annual Writing Workshop for New Researchers at JSM. We will continue this workshop this year, with presentations by expert writers and former and current journal editors. Each participant is assigned a mentor. Please encourage your junior colleagues to sign up for this useful workshop. There are still available seats. See page 2 below.

The 2018 Sacks Award winner, Professor G Jogesh Babu, Penn State, will present at a NISS sponsored invited session on Monday afternoon 2:00-3:50 at JSM, titled *Statistical Challenges with Astronomical Data*. Other speakers in this session include: Sara Algeri, U Minn; Chad Schafer, CMU; and Hyungsuk Tak, Notre Dame.

by Jim Rosenberger
NISS, Director

ABOUT NISS

NISS is a national institute that delivers high-impact research in science and in public policy by leveraging the rich expertise of its staff with that of its base of affiliated organizations in academia, industry, and government. NISS works on issues where information and quantitative analysis are keys to solutions and decisions. NISS functions in three ways: as an expert advisor, as a basic researcher, and as a collaborator.

OUR MISSION

The National Institute of Statistical Sciences (NISS) is an independent research organization that serves as a neutral, objective expert in delivering research in science and public policy to its affiliates in academia, industry and government. NISS identifies, catalyzes and fosters high-impact cross-disciplinary and cross-sector research involving the statistical sciences.

July 28 & 30, 2019 Denver, Colorado (at JSM)

This is an experience well worth attending! If you have something that you are working on and would like the assistance and mentoring of experienced and knowledgeable statisticians, authors and editors who will take the time to work with you, read on - then register!

Designed for researchers with a Ph.D. awarded or anticipated during 2013-2019 in statistics, biostatistics or related field - - this is a valuable event not to miss!

The goal of the workshop is to provide instruction for writing journal articles and grant proposals. Participants will be required to provide a recent sample of their writing, which will be reviewed by a senior mentor. The sample could be a current draft of an article to be submitted for publication or an early version of a grant proposal. Senior mentors will be former journal editors and program officers, who will critique the submitted material and provide individual feedback. Participants will be expected to initiate a revision in response with additional feedback from their mentors. **Deadline for the Writing Workshop application submission is June 1**, with notification of acceptances on a rolling basis no later than June 20.

The workshop consists of **two sessions plus a final meeting with the mentor**. The Sunday tutorial is an all-day session that covers scientific writing, as well as how to organize a paper. It also discusses ethical issues, writing grant proposals and issues of journal choice and understanding and responding to reviewers' comments. At the end of this session, each participant meets with the mentor who analyzed a paper the participant submitted prior to JSM. The Tuesday session focuses on the specific issues covering the writing process and details of grammar, sentence structure and word choice, especially helpful for participants whose native language is not English. A panel of senior researchers will discuss their experiences

with technical writing in English.

How to Register

You can register by clicking on the link just ahead, but, please note that you will need to submit a copy of your writing sample during this online registration. To register, click on the [Pre-Registration Information Webform](#). Please answer all questions! All submitted material will be handled confidentially! If you have trouble with the submission of your paper on the registration form, please send a PDF or Word version to officeadmin@niss.org after you have completed the entire registration form.



JSM 2019 NISS National Institute of Statistical Sciences JSM 2019

Writing Workshop for Junior Researchers

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Part I: Sunday, July 28, 2019	7:30 am-3:30 pm	Convention Center, Denver CO
Part II: Tuesday, July 30, 2019	7:30 am-10:30 am	Convention Center, Denver CO

Course Objective: The goal of the workshop is to provide instruction for writing journal articles and grant proposals. Participants will be required to provide a recent sample of their writing, which will be reviewed by a senior mentor. The sample could be a current draft of an article to be submitted for publication or an early version of a grant proposal. Senior mentors will be former journal editors and program officers, who will critique the submitted material and provide individual feedback. Participants will be expected to initiate a revision in response with additional feedback from their mentors. **Deadline for the Writing Workshop application submission is June 1**, with notification of acceptances on a rolling basis no later than June 20.

Target Audience: The workshop is designed for researchers who are awarded or anticipated during 2013-2019 in statistics, biostatistics or related fields. The workshop will be limited to applicants within 0-6 years' post-PhD & members of the Institute who receive preference.

Course Fees: Workshop applicants must register online, submit their writing sample, and if your submission is accepted, to confirm your interest in participation by paying the \$100 registration fee. Depending on the availability of funds, travel and housing costs may be partially reimbursed to those accepted.

We strongly encourage workshop participants to also seek additional funding on their own.

How to Register: Register by clicking the link ahead, but, please note that you will need to submit a copy of your writing sample during this online registration. To register, click on the [Pre-Registration Information Webform](#). Please answer all questions! All submitted material will be handled confidentially. If you have trouble with the submission of your paper on the registration form, please send a PDF or Word version to officeadmin@niss.org after you have completed the entire registration form.

<https://www.niss.org/events/2019-niss-writing-workshop-junior-researchers-jsm>

[See the NISS website for more information!](#)

INAUGURAL INGRAM OLKIN S³ FORUM: GUN VIOLENCE — THE STATISTICAL ISSUES

June 26 & 27, 2019 Washington, DC

In honor of Ingram Olkin (1924-2016), a principal founder of NISS and an internationally prominent statistician whose work stressed the importance of statistical thinking in studying major societal problems, NISS is proud to be the sponsor of the Ingram Olkin S³ Forums. These Forums are aimed at engaging scientists and stakeholders in addressing the compelling issues facing contemporary society and exploring the roles that statisticians and data scientists can bring to address these issues.

With the cooperation and support from the American Statistical Association (ASA) and the Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute (SAMSI), NISS initiates the S³ Forums with a workshop examining gun violence and how statisticians can contribute to its understanding. That gun violence is a vexing problem in the U.S. needs little explanation. Numerous foundations and governmental bodies have recognized that adequate information and insight is lacking about ownership and use of firearms, the causes and consequences of their use, and the effects of interventions and technological innovations. The sociological

context and the implications on health and on law enforcement involve a variety of disciplines; the spectrum of questions that arise affect policymakers at all levels. Implicit is that obtaining adequate information and understanding requires data of high quality and analyses that can withstand scrutiny by all concerned.

To address the twin concerns, adequate data and informative analysis, this S³ Forum brings a working group together consisting first, of criminologists and others with experience in a multiplicity of gun violence issues and second, statisticians with interest and expertise to tackle the driving concerns. The workshop program suggests that there are many problems but not sufficient numbers of involved statisticians. A principal purpose of the Forum is to expose the opportunities and needs for statistical efforts and to engage a substantial number of statisticians to work across disciplinary lines to help in understanding and mitigating the effects of gun violence.

NOTE: The registration for this event is closed, however, if this is a topic of interest to you, it would be a good idea to keep on the lookout for for statisticians to soon become involved. This is typically a topic and data that statisticians have not been heavily involved in, yet with significant funding being directed towards this hot topic, this could very quickly change.

May 23, 2019 12-2:00 pm ET
Online

In response to the discussion at a conference two years ago that focused on the merit of using p-value, the ASA published the statement, "[The ASA's Statement on p-Values: Context, Process, and Purpose](#)".

Since that time, many statisticians have been thinking and writing about alternatives to the traditional p-value.

This work has culminated in the publication of a special edition of the American Statistician. The title of this special issue is "[Statistical Inference in the 21st Century: A World Beyond \$p < 0.05\$](#) ".

This special issue features 43 papers on alternatives to p-values.

This webinar features speakers that will focus on providing a synopsis of these alternative ideas and the discussion that surrounds these ideas.

Speakers for this webinar include:

Nicole Lazar, (University of Georgia) "History of the topic and the motivation for American Statistical Association's and The American Statistician's involvement in this topic"

Daniel Jeske, (University of California, Riverside) "Technical overview of some of the alternative procedures found in the special issue of The American Statistician."

Jessica Utts, (University of California, Irvine) "How we might teach and influence inter-disciplinary collaborations"

Nell Sedransk, (Director-DC, National Institute of Statistical Science) "Translation to other contexts: social science and big data research".

This event will be recorded.

WEBINAR SPECIAL UPDATE: Thank you for your interest in this session! Due to the popularity of the topic for this webinar the number of registrations has exceeded the capacity of our Zoom Meeting space! Not to worry, we have arranged for the event to be live-streamed through our YouTube channel. Information for connecting via the live-streaming option will be sent to all those who registered for this event.

SURVEY WORKSHOP ON IMPROVING THE REPRESENTATIVENESS OF NONPROBABILITY SAMPLES

More than 30 statisticians from government, industry, and academia attended the half-day NISS workshop, "Using Surveys to Improve the Representativeness of Nonprobability Samples in Epidemiologic Studies" at BLS's Janet Norwood Conference and Training Center on March 11. Four major speakers (**Barry Graubard**, **Michael Elliott**, **Yan Li**, and **Lingxiao Wang**) followed **Hormuzd Katki** of the National Cancer Institute's general introduction to the topic. The talks, which represented the speakers' works in progress, were organized by Yan Li. Phillip Kott of RTI and NISS chaired the workshop.

Although roughly conceived as one of NISS's fall series of survey-sampling workshops, this workshop focused more on drawing proper population inferences from health studies rather than from government-sponsored general-purpose surveys. Slides for all the talks can be found on the NISS website for the following speakers:

Hormuzd Katki - Issues Surrounding the Role of Representative Sampling

Barry Graubard - Population-Based Disease Risk Prediction

Michael Elliott - Combining Probability Non-Probability

Yan Li - Kernel Weighting Approach to Improve

Lingxiao Wang - Improving External Validity

Being a workshop and not a seminar, questions and comments were raised during the talks as well as after. The five speakers themselves joined in with the many comments made during and after the other speakers talks.



Hormuzd Katki, (National Cancer Institute), provides an overview for the workshop



Workshop Attendees

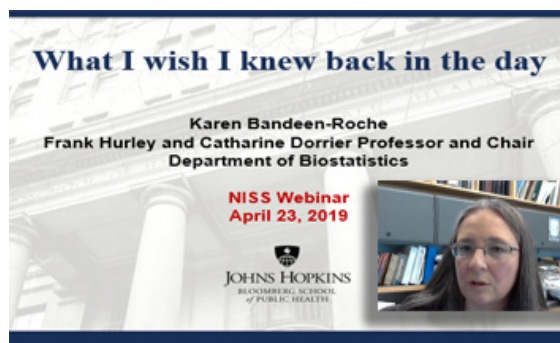
The NISS Affiliates Committee held the third of its virtual meet-ups on April 23. The first two meet-ups targeted landing a job and improving communication skills. This last meet-up asked experienced and veteran statisticians, from three very different academic environments, what their advice and council would be to help promote the success of the careers of junior faculty in statistics. Speakers responded to the statement: “Things I Wish I Knew at the Start of My Career”!

Sharing a wealth of experience from each of their different academic settings, the speakers for this event were **Murali Haran** (Penn State, statistics department in large research university), **Karen Bandeen-Roche** (Johns Hopkins, biostatistics department) and **Nicholas Horton** (Amherst College, small liberal arts college). Biographical sketches of each of these distinguished individuals is included below.

Dr. Murali Haran began his remarks by emphasizing the importance of thinking long term as advice for building ones career. Murali encouraged junior faculty to become involved in things that they enjoy, to build collaborations, to talk with colleagues, give talks, attend seminars, finish papers, go to conferences, submit grants etc. However, he well knows and advises his own faculty that you can't do everything! The important difference, stated Dr. Haran, is that you need to bring the following skills to your efforts: the ability to make good decisions in terms of choice of research projects and writing, be able to manage your time properly and finally to be willing to learn from the examples of those that have come before you.



Dr. Karen Bandeen-Roche remarks were a powerful complement to the advice that Dr. Haran shared. She traced the trajectory of her career from assistant professor to department chair of the Biostatistics Department at Johns Hopkins. In doing so, Karen shared that at one point she experienced a very tough segment where she was doing exactly what she should not have been doing – everything, for everybody else – and even though she was winning prestigious awards it was wearing her down both emotionally and physically.



Eventually, after reaching out to family and mentors, her career was back on track and rebounded wonderfully. As a result, her first-hand experience that taking health (all kinds) seriously, highly prioritizing pursuing one's own academic passions and interests, finding times for other things than academics, and developing a career mentor are all important strategies that she stressed as part of her comments.



Dr. Nicholas Horton was the final speaker of the session. He geared his remarks towards helping us understand the shift that is occurring in undergraduate institutions in terms of statistics and data science and ways that faculty at smaller schools balance teaching and scholarship. Changes in the curriculum at his institution as well as co-curricular opportunities such as the Statistics and Data Science Fellows program, DataFest, and StatFest were examples of ways to help expose students develop skills and capacities. It is also clear that Nick's connection with students are what has driven his passion for teaching and research and have marked his career accomplishments.

All three speakers spent time at the end of the session responding to questions from attendees, providing further advice and remarks.

Here are a few take-aways from the session that we thought are important to share right away.

- **Make sure you build in time in your schedule to work regularly on your own research** (e.g., from 8 – 11 am: no email, no meetings, just research) and do the research at a time of day when your mind is the freshest
- **Learn by example** (study successful grant applications; high impact papers) and get mentors for different aspects of your career development (research, teaching; mentors can be outside of the institution too)
- Everyone experiences professional and personal challenges, setbacks and failures—you have to **persist and keep trying, and get help when necessary!**
- **Get yourself out there**—go to conferences, give talks, be active in professional societies. These relationships that you build outside of the institution are so valuable for career development and fulfillment.
- And above all, **don't neglect your mental and physical health.** Important to make time for hobbies, relaxation, and try to achieve a work/life balance.

Review the entire session recording on the NISS website and keep you eyes open for the next Academic Affiliates Meet-up scheduled for early Fall!

NISS recently welcomed two members to the NISS Board of Trustees.

Victor S.Y. Lo

Victor S.Y. Lo is a seasoned Big Data, Marketing, Risk, and Finance leader & innovator with over two decades of extensive consulting and corporate experience employing data-driven solutions in a wide variety of business areas, including Customer Relationship Management, Market Research, Advertising Strategy, Risk Management, Financial Econometrics, Insurance, Product Development, Transportation, Healthcare, and Human Resources. He is actively engaged with Big Data Analytics, causal inference, and is a pioneer of Uplift/True-lift modeling, a key subfield of data science that has been applied to areas as marketing, political election, and medicine.



Victor has served as the manager of quantitative teams in multiple organizations. He is currently Head of Data Science and Artificial Intelligence in Workplace Solutions at Fidelity Investments. Previously he managed advanced analytics teams in Personal Investing, Corporate Treasury, Managerial Finance, and Healthcare and Total Well-being at Fidelity Investments. Prior to Fidelity, he was VP and Manager of Modeling and Analysis at FleetBoston Financial (now part of Bank of America), and Senior Associate at Mercer Management Consulting (now Oliver Wyman).

For academic & industry services, Victor has been a visiting research fellow and corporate executive-in-residence at Bentley University. He has also been serving on the steering committee of the Boston Chapter of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS) and on the editorial board for two academic journals. He is a frequently invited speaker at several conferences, bridging the gap between industry and academia. Victor has a master's degree in Operational Research from Lancaster University and a PhD in Statistics from the University of Hong

Kong, and was a Postdoctoral Fellow in Management Science at the University of British Columbia. He is a co-editor of a graduate level econometrics book, published numerous articles in Data Mining, Marketing, Statistics, and Management Science literature, and is finishing a graduate level text book on causal inference for business.

Victoria Stodden

Victoria Stodden is an associate professor in the School of Information Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, with affiliate appointments in the Department of Statistics, the School of Law, the Department of Computer Science, the Coordinated Science Laboratory, and the National Center for Supercomputing Applications. She is also a faculty affiliate of the Center for Informatics Research in Science and Scholarship (CIRSS) at the University of Illinois. She completed both her PhD in statistics and law degree at Stanford University, and graduated magna cum laude from the University of Ottawa.



Her research focuses on understanding when and how inferences from data are valid and reproducible. Her group focuses on understanding the effect of big data and computation on scientific inference, for example studying adequacy and robustness in replicated results, designing and implementing infrastructure for sharing and validating scientific findings, developing standards of openness for data and code sharing, and resolving legal and policy barriers to disseminating reproducible research.

Even though their terms begin July 1, 2019, both Dr. Lo and Dr. Stodden have already become involved in working with other members of the NISS community to plan activities and events! Once again, NISS looks forward to the active role that these new leaders will play in the coming years as they help define ways to bring together statisticians and data scientists to address current issues in ways that an organization like NISS can make possible.

NEW WEBSITE FEATURE: MEET-UP RECORDINGS

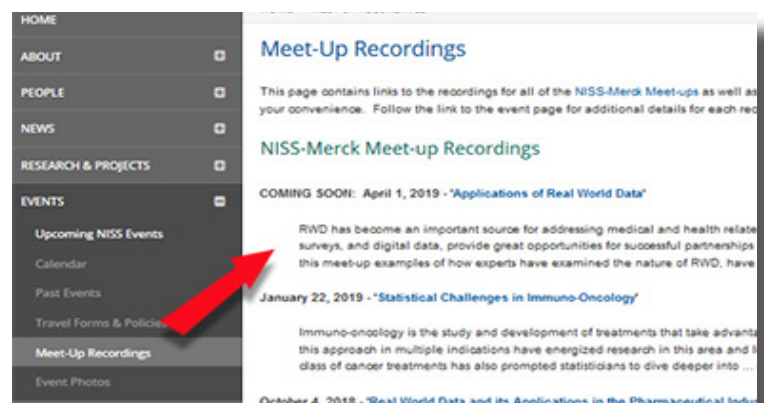
Meet-Up Recordings

It seems that virtual meetings are here to stay! They certainly are convenient, both in terms of travel and expense. While one drawback might be having to put up with the occasional technical glitch or audio levels that just won't seem to cooperate, the upside is that we automatically get recordings of the session to refer to later, or to share with colleagues who might not have been able to attend the live event!

As you know, NISS has been busy hosting a number of virtual meet-ups both in conjunction with Merck and through the Academic Affiliates of NISS. As a result, we have started to accumulate quite a few of these recordings.

To make access to these recordings more efficient, a new web page on the NISS web has been created that has a listing of all of these Meet-up Recordings. You access this page by clicking on the 'Events' menu item, then selecting '[Meet-Up Recordings](#)'.

Check it out today!



On April 1, 2019, 352 statisticians, epidemiologists and biostatisticians spent a long lunch hour together listening to speakers share examples and talk about their experiences with real-world data. This was a follow-up to a first meet-up that was held back on October 4, 2018 on this same topic. While attendees predominantly represented industry, there were a significant number of individuals from government agencies as well as from academia in attendance.

For this follow-up session, the following intro was presented:

“Real world data (RWD) has become an important source for addressing medical and health related questions. Various types of RWD, such as claims, electronic health records, surveys, and digital data, provide great opportunities for successful partnerships between academia and business, industry, and government organizations. In this meet-up we will hear examples of how experts have examined the nature of RWD, have analyzed RWD, and have used findings from their research to answer important real-world questions.”

Presenters for this session included **Mark Levenson** from the FDA whose talk was entitled, “The Use of Real-World Data and Real-World Evidence at the US FDA: Recent Initiatives and Activities”. He was followed by **David Madigan**, from Columbia University. His talk was

entitled, “Massive analysis of RWD: a new paradigm for observational studies”. And, finally, **Elizabeth Stuart** from Johns Hopkins spoke about “Opportunities for, and complexities of, using real-world data for non-experimental comparison group designs”.

For those of you that were not able to attend live, you can review the [complete recording of the session](#) as well as the speaker’s slides on the NISS website.



NISS R & SPARK WORKSHOP AT BLS

About 25 individuals, mostly from various government agencies in and around the Washington, D.C. area, recently came together for a two-day workshop taught by **Dr. James Harner** at the Bureau of Labor Statistic’s conference and training center.

The workshop focuses on the data science process of extracting data from source systems, transforming this data into a tidy form, and then loading this data into distributed file systems, distributed data warehouses, and NoSQL databases, i.e., ETL. This workflow uses the SparkR and sparklyr packages as frontends to Spark from R. This provides the interfaces for modeling big data using regression and classification supervised learning methods. These methods and others are covered using a rich set of examples. An encapsulated computing environment containing R, Spark, Hadoop, etc. is available to attendees to interact with the code locally or in Amazon’s cloud.

“R & Spark: Tools for Data Science Workflows” continues to be one of NISS’s more popular workshops which is due in large part to the role that Dr. Harner has played as instructor. A couple of his recent workshop participants commented:

“The instructor did a great job of explaining the big picture of how workflows are becoming different, and tying that to concerns of statisticians.”

To date, NISS has sponsored this workshop six times at UC Riverside, with CANSII in Toronto, Canada, with SAMSI in North Carolina, and three times in the DC area, twice at the Bureau of Labor Statistics and once at ASA Headquarters! So, where should we send Dr. Harner next?!

If your area or your institution is interested in having this workshop taught in your area, please contact NISS. Or, if you have ideas for other workshop topics / instructors that would be of interest to NISS affiliates, let NISS know about your ideas. Contact Randy Freret at officeadmin@niss.org.

“The ability of the instructor to provide an understanding of the complex interaction of software needed while presenting real examples to help solidify the run. The examples provided a wealth of useful information regarding easier ways to use R, etc., and lots, apparently, of experience-honed knowledge!”



R & Spark Workshop Instructor James Harner

MAY

USCOTS 2019

Event Date: May 16th - 18th, 2019

Event Location: State College, Pennsylvania, 16801

CAUSE has held the United States Conference on Teaching Statistics (USCOTS) every other year since 2005. The 2019 USCOTS will be held on Thursday, May 16 – Saturday, May 18, 2019 at the Penn Stater Conference Center in State College, Pennsylvania, with pre-conference workshops on Tuesday, May 14 –... ([read more](#))

NISS Webinar: “Alternatives to the Traditional p-value”

Event Date: May 23, 2019 12-2:00 pm ET [9-11 am PT]

Event Location: Online (This will be recorded)

In response to the discussion at a conference two years ago that focused on the merit of using p-value, the ASA published the statement, “The ASA’s Statement on p-Values: Context, Process, and Purpose”. Since that time, many statisticians have been thinking and writing about alternatives to the... ([read more](#))

Tripods Center Workshop: Structure in the Micro-World

Event Date: May 28 - 31, 2019

Event Location: Columbus, Ohio

Description of this Workshop: Geometry and topology play a key role in describing nature at the microscopic scales. Shape determines the function of proteins in biochemistry, macroscopic properties of materials, and even behaviors of organisms. This workshop will bring together researchers... ([read more](#))

JUNE

SRCOS Summer Research Conference

Event Date: June 2-5, 2019

Event Location: Carrollton, Kentucky,

The various functions of SRCOS change over time, depending upon the needs and concerns of the statistics community. At present, the Council is involved in discussions of problems concerning teaching, consulting, research, ethics, courts of law, curricula, and student recruitment. ([read more](#))

MBI Bayesian Causal Inference Workshop

Event Date: June 2 - 4, 2019

Event Location: Columbus, Ohio

Description of this Workshop Causality lies at the heart of many scientific research endeavors, including Statistics, Biostatistics, Epidemiology, Economics, Computer Science, Data Science, Sociology, Political Science, etc. In recent years, the use of Bayesian methods in causal inference has drawn... ([read more](#))

The 36th Quality and Productivity Research Conference

Event Date: June 10-13, 2019

Event Location: Washington, DC

This conference is being hosted by American University in Washington D.C. on June 10-13, 2019 Researchers from across academia, industry, and government are invited to participate in the conference, exchange ideas, organize sessions, and present their research related to the spirit of QPRC and this... ([read more](#))

Inaugural Ingram Olkin S^3 Forum: Gun Violence — The Statistical Issues

Event Date: June 26 and 27, 2019

Event Location: Alexandria, Virginia,

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICAL SCIENCES ANNOUNCES THE INAUGURAL INGRAM OLKIN STATISTICS SERVING SOCIETY (S^3) FORUM Gun Violence — The Statistical Issues In honor of Ingram Olkin (1924 -2016), a principal founder of NISS and an internationally prominent statistician whose work stressed the... ([read more](#))

JULY

Workshop on Climate and Weather Extremes

Event Date: July 22-24, 2019

Event Location: Berkeley, California

The previous Workshop on Climate and Weather Extremes was held in State College, PA, on October 23-25, 2016. The 2019 workshop will be similar in that it will serve two complementary purposes. The first is to introduce graduate students, as well as others wishing to enter into the area of extreme... ([read more](#))

2019 NISS Writing Workshop for Junior Researchers (at JSM)

Event Date: July 28 & 30, 2019

Event Location: Denver, Colorado,

The goal of the workshop is to provide instruction for writing journal articles and grant proposals. Participants will be required to provide a recent sample of their writing, which will be reviewed by a senior mentor. The sample could be a current draft of an article to be... ([read more](#))

SEPTEMBER

NISS-Merck Virtual Meet-up on Subgroup Analysis

Event Date: September 10, 2019 11-12:30 EDT

Event Location: Online

This meetup will attempt to frame some of the important issues around the use of subgroup analysis in drug development and provide consideration from both a practitioner’s and regulator’s prospective.

StatFest 2019

Event Date: September 21, 2019

Event Location: Houston, Texas, 77030

StatFest is a one-day conference aimed at encouraging undergraduate students from historically underrepresented groups to consider careers and graduate studies in the statistical sciences. We are excited that StatFest 2019 will be held at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston!... ([read more](#))

Check the [NISS Events webpage](#)
for up to date event info!

OCTOBER

The James R. Thompson Distinguished Lecture Series

Event Date: October, 2019

Event Location: Houston, Texas

The Department of Statistics has established the James R. Thompson Distinguished Lecture Series in Statistics to honor the life and contributions of Professor Jim Thompson. The goal of the series is to bring to campus internationally recognized scholars in the field of statistics to deliver talks... ([read more](#))

DAE 2019 Conference

Event Date: Oct. 17-19, 2019

Event Location: Knoxville, Tennessee

The purpose of the Design and Analysis of Experiments (DAE) conference series is to provide support and encouragement to junior researchers in the field of design and analysis of experiments, and to stimulate interest in topics of practical relevance to science and industry. The meetings also... ([read more](#))

NOVEMBER

Statistics and the Life Sciences: Creating a Healthier World

Event Date: November 15, 2019

Event Location: Boston, Massachusetts,

Statistics and the Life Sciences: Creating a Healthier World is a one-day conference as part of the Boston University Dean's Symposia series. It will take place November 15, 2019, at Boston University School of Public Health. ([read more](#))

Check the [NISS Events webpage](#) for up to date event info!

AFFILIATE NEWS OF NOTE!

ASA and IMS Announce Fellows

The ASA recently announced their list of Fellows who will be recognized for their professional contributions, leadership, and commitment to the field of statistical science at an awards ceremony Tuesday, July 30, 2019, during the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM 2019) in Denver.

NISS would like to acknowledge those individuals from NISS Affiliates who have been recognized with this prestigious honor. They include:

- Hua-Hua Chang, Professor, Purdue University
- Jinbo Chen, Professor, University of Pennsylvania
- Mulugeta Gebregziabher, Professor, Medical University of South Carolina
- Alexandra L. Hanlon, Practice Professor of Biostatistics, Virginia Tech
- Craig A. Hill, Senior Vice President, Survey, Computing, and Statistical Sciences, RTI International
- Rebecca A. Hubbard, Associate Professor, University of Pennsylvania
- Bo Li, Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Jia Li, Professor, Penn State University
- Yehua Li, Professor, University of California at Riverside
- Nandita Mitra, Professor, University of Pennsylvania
- Judea Pearl, Chancellor's Professor of Computer Science and

Statistics, University of California at Los Angeles

- Cynthia Rudin, Associate Professor of Computer Science, Duke University
- Joseph L. Schafer, Mathematical Statistician, US Census Bureau
- Alexander Tsodikov, Professor, University of Michigan
- Xiangrong Yin, Professor, University of Kentucky
- Hui Zou, Professor, University of Minnesota

The IMS also announced its list of Fellows who will also be recognized for receiving this honor for their outstanding work in the field of mathematical statistics. Those inductees from NISS Affiliate institutions include:

- Cynthia Rudin, Associate Professor of Computer Science, Duke University
- Xiaofeng Shao, Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Christopher K. Winkle, Curators Distinguished Professor, University of Missouri-Columbia
- Hongquan Xu, Professor, University of California at Los Angeles
- Xiangrong Yin, Professor, University of Kentucky

Congratulations to all of these NISS members for earning this prestigious acknowledgement!

Look for the *Affiliates Update* which is distributed monthly between the quarterly NISS Newsletters.

AFFILIATES! SEND YOUR JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS TO NISS!

A link to the Job Announcements page can be found at the bottom of every page of the NISS website! It can't hurt to share your announcement with other organizations associated with NISS or other visitors to our website.

Affiliates! Don't forget to add the NISS Reception and the NISS Affiliates Luncheon to your calendar at JSM 2019!

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