



# C·A·U·C·U·S

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## FOR WOMEN IN STATISTICS

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## Newsletter

Volume 43, No 1: Winter, 2013

<http://www.caucusforwomeninstatistics.com/>

### Letter from the President

Welcome to the first Newsletter of Caucus for Women in Statistics (CWIS) in 2013. I hope you will enjoy reading the Newsletter and continue to participate in CWIS with renewed enthusiasm. Although we have made tremendous progress regarding the status of women in statistics over the years, we still need to do a lot more in this area. Although CWIS is a small organization, we still can promote excellence of women in our profession. So please stay involved and make this organization even stronger and bigger so we can make an impact towards improving the status of women-statisticians in academia, industry, and government.

We have started the year with an unprecedented and difficult situation with our webpage being hacked. In any case, our diligent team is working hard to fix the problem. The web page is now almost functional. I give my sincere thanks to the team of people who are trying to revive the web page. We will continue to upgrade the page frequently once it is up and running. I am sure some of you were unable to pay the membership dues due to the inaccessibility of the web page, but in a short while you will be able to do so. So please use that facility, and also please encourage your colleagues to join the organization. Otherwise, please contact Ms. Cathy Furlong ([cathy.furlong@cox.net](mailto:cathy.furlong@cox.net)) to assist you with paying the dues manually. We are sorry for any inconveniences. We have had our first executive committee teleconference call, and we will post the minutes of that meeting on the web page soon, so feel free to check it out.

I want to thank all of you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as the president of this important organization, especially for 2013. All of you are aware, 2013 has been designated as the International Year of Statistics. Please take a look at the web page <http://www.statistics2013.org/> to check out the list of activities dedicated to this cause. CWIS is also a part of this celebration. We are planning to dedicate our social mixer at the JSM to this initiative. We continue to brainstorm to make this event as attractive and special as possible. Please send your ideas to me ([susmita.datta@louisville.edu](mailto:susmita.datta@louisville.edu)). I would like to invite all of you to the JSM in Montréal, Québec, Canada from August 3–8, 2013. This venue brings us together face-to-face, so this is a great opportunity. We will have our own sponsored session organized by Amanda Golbeck and Yulia Gel ("Educating Future Leaders in Statistics and Maximizing the Likelihood of Leadership: Perspectives from Women in Statistics"). In addition, Marie Davidian agreed to talk at the JSM's first time attendee celebration. We may also have a poster competition for girls grades 1-12, which gives us a great opportunity to get the next generation involved in our cause as well.. We will keep you posted regarding this in the near future.

*(continued on p 2)*

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**Future newsletter submission deadlines are**  
**Spring 2012**                      **April 1, 2013**  
**Fall 2012**                         **Sept 3, 2013**  
**Winter 2013**                      **Dec 16 2013**

#### Advertising Policy

The Caucus welcomes two types of advertisements for the newsletter:

- 1) General commercial ads, for which the charges are \$100, full page; \$55, half page; \$30, quarter page, for which Malini Iyengar should be contacted, and
- 2) Job ads, for which Sorina Eftim should be contacted. See Job Notices for deadlines and charges. These ads (and only these) will be posted on our website,

<http://www.caucusforwomeninstatistics.com/>

Some of our members are attending the ENAR Spring Meeting in Orlando in March, 2013, so I will try to arrange for a small, informal gathering of our members there as well. Additionally, I will personally bring some of the CWIS brochures and the membership forms to be displayed at the diversity workshop on Sunday, March 10. I really appreciate the kind gesture of the organizing committee members of the workshop in allowing us to advertise the CWIS without anything in return.

I wanted to update you about an ongoing initiative about holding the first meeting of “Celebrating Women in Statistics: Know Your Power” in 2014. This conference will be held in Research Triangle, North Carolina, during May 15-17, 2014. This is a joint initiative between CWIS and the Committee of Women in Statistics (COWIS). We have submitted an NSF proposal to support this conference and many are working on submitting other proposals as well. The committee assignments, the programs, and the list of speakers are being developed. We will keep you posted about further developments regarding the conference I encourage you to get involved with this initiative and plan to attend the conference.

I also wanted to make you aware of the many possible awards for which women can be nominated: Award of Outstanding Statistical Application; the COWIS-Gertrude M. Cox Scholarship; the Deming Lectureship; the Edward C. Bryant Scholarship; the Excellence in Statistical Reporting; the Founders Award; the Noether Award; The Samuel S. Wilks Memorial Medal; W. J. Dixon Award; W. J. Youden Award in Interlaboratory Testing and the Waller Education Award. With limited manpower, it is hard for CWIS to make the full nomination packages for all these awards. However, we can forward the possible nominations to the COWIS leadership for them to prepare the full packages for these awards.

This newsletter also contains interesting and important information for you to read regarding our activities. Thanks for your continual support.

Sincerely,  
Susmita Datta  
President of the Caucus for Women in Statistics (2013)  
Professor and University Scholar of Bioinformatics and Biostatistics at the University of Louisville

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## Note from the President-Elect

Dear Colleagues,

In case you missed it, I want to call your attention to the recent article on gender biases (Moss-Racusin et al., 2012, *Proceedings of the National Academy of the United States* [www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1211286109](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/doi/10.1073/pnas.1211286109)). They conducted a randomized double-blind study (n = 127) in which science faculty from research-intensive universities rated the application materials for a graduate student laboratory manager position. Identical applications were sent out for review, but in some the applicant had a male name and in some female name, and which faculty got applications associated with gender was random. Applications with male names were rated as significantly more competent and hireable than identical applications with female names. Reviewers also selected a higher starting salary and offered more career mentoring to the male applicant. In addition, women and men faculty both favored male applicants.

The authors claim novelty in using randomization to investigate gender bias in academia. But any of the alumni of the Pathways to the Future Workshops that Lynne Billard ran for decades can tell you otherwise. The results from Moss-Racusin et al. (2012) corroborate a study by M.A. Paludi and W.D. Bauer (Goldberg revisited: What's in an author's name. *Sex roles* 9, 387-390, 1983) in which identical manuscripts were sent out to faculty for review with the author randomly being listed as John T McKay, Joan T. McKay and J.T. McKay. Paludi and Bauer extended to include male reviewers the earlier randomized study by P.A. Goldberg (Are women prejudiced against women? *Transactions* 5, 28-30, 1968) in which the reviewers were all college girls.

Although the conclusions of the 2012 study are disappointing, it is very important to see. Studies from 1968 and 1983 are so old that one could wistfully argue that our culture had evolved. Conclusions, either way, from non-randomized studies just don't pack the same punch as do conclusions from randomized studies. Now we know that our work is not done. We must renew our efforts to insure that women's creativity and output is not devalued because of her gender.

If anyone has ideas regarding new ways in which the Caucus for Women in Statistics can do more to recognize and honor excellence in women statisticians, I would love to hear from you.



Nancy Flournoy,  
President-Elect, Caucus for Women in Statistics  
University of Missouri Curators' Distinguished Professor

## Member News

### SHARE YOUR GOOD NEWS!

Caucus Members: Have you recently published an article or book? Received a promotion? Taken a new job? If so, we would like to share your good news with the Caucus membership. Please send a short email message with your news to: Jill Montaquila (Caucus Newsbriefs Features Editor), [jillmontaquila@westat.com](mailto:jillmontaquila@westat.com)

### Newsbrief / Mailbag

#### Mailbag/Newsbriefs

##### About This Column

The Mailbag/Newsbriefs Column provides a means of sharing news items with Caucus members. Mailbag items are generally personal news items—updates on members who have recently taken new jobs, received promotions, published articles or books, etc. Newsbriefs are brief summaries of noteworthy news items from newspapers, magazines, or websites. As Features Editor, I collect both types of items and prepare them for the Caucus newsletter. If you have good news to share, or come across an article or website that you think would be of interest to the Caucus membership, please email these submissions to me at [jillmontaquila@westat.com](mailto:jillmontaquila@westat.com).

- 1.) Our past president Lynn Palmer accepted a new responsibility at the ASA as Director of Programs after serving as a faculty member at MD Anderson Cancer Center for a long time. Her new email address is [palmer@amstat.org](mailto:palmer@amstat.org)
- 2.) Three of our members will be speaking at ENAR 2013 Spring Meeting (March 10-13, 2013, Orlando, Florida:

- a.) Nancy Flournoy: Session #30 on Monday March 11 on “A sigmoid Shaped Regression Model with Bounded Responses for Bioassays”.
- b.) Sally Morton: Session #78 on Tuesday March 12 on “Systematic Reviews in Comparative Effectiveness Research”
- c.) Susmita Datta: Session #104 on Wednesday March 13 on “DELPTM: A Statistical Algorithm to Identify Post-Translational Modifications from Tandem Mass Spectrometry (MS/MS) Data”.

## Caucus Website Updates

*By Jenna Green*

Website updates:

Hi, everyone. As always, I am working on cleaning up the website layout and making it easier to access information we put online. General background information and job ads have always been on the site, and we are starting to feature more news content (submissions are always welcome!). Currently, we are using the front page to display important Caucus items, while a link to all news items can be found in the menu bar. We are also trying to keep all of the more static sections up-to-date so they can be used as a reliable reference.

## Status of Caucus Membership

*by Cathy Furlong*

The Caucus is always looking for new members – please remind your colleagues about the Caucus! It is important for women to continue to share their experiences with each other and for all of us to encourage women to develop their skills and careers in statistics and mathematics.

Do you have ideas of how to increase the Caucus membership? If so, please email all suggestions to me. I would like to thank people for some suggestions given so far:

1. Create Caucus for Women in Statistics subsets at universities or colleges. For members at the university or college level, are you interested in doing this?
2. Encourage younger members to conduct informational interviews of experienced members, especially when dealing with balancing work and family or finding mentors at work. I am willing to pair members for the interviews.

Experienced members, please let me know if you are open to being interviewed by younger members.

New members, please let me know if you are interested in conducting an informational interview.



At the present time, we have about ninety-nine registered members, some of whom have not yet renewed their membership for 2012. Please remember to renew your membership! Anna Nevuis, Treasurer, has successfully organized the PayPal account; therefore members are encouraged to pay their dues on-line. When renewing on line, please include your email address and any additional notes. I will email new members for additional database information.

Membership Coordinator [cathy.furlong@cox.net](mailto:cathy.furlong@cox.net)

## **Request for Newsletter Contributions**

*by Malini Iyengar*

We need your timely input to keep the newsletter informative and interesting to readers and also to build a loyal fan base. We are a diverse community with members in academia, pharmaceutical industry, financial services, software development and various governmental organizations. Each of these has its own system / programs to recognize outstanding performances in the field of statistics. Quite often many such opportunities are not well advertized centrally. If you happen to come across announcements for competitions, scholarships etc., can you please send me a write-up for the newsletter? This way we can inform members of opportunities to benefit from, and continue to serve them.

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## Job Notices

*Job notices must be submitted to Sorina Eftim by April 10, 2013 for inclusion in the Spring 2013 Newsletter. The fee for publishing a job notice of  $\leq 12$  lines is \$50, a  $\frac{1}{2}$  page is \$100. Longer ads are \$125 per page. Jobs will be posted on the Web site periodically as received and published in the next edition. Credit card payments can be made on the Caucus website, or a check payable to The Caucus for Women in Statistics will be accepted. Phone or e-mail inquiries are welcomed. All positions advertised in this newsletter are EO/AA.*

### **TENURE-TRACK POSITIONS IN STATISTICS THE DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY – BOZEMAN**

The Department of Mathematical Sciences at Montana State University - Bozeman invites applications for 2 tenure-track positions in Statistics at the Assistant Professor level to begin in August 2013. View the complete job descriptions and details for submitting applications at <http://www.montana.edu/jobs/faculty/12167-2>.

The department has multiple openings across specialties in the mathematical sciences: dual career professional partners are encouraged to apply.

EOE: Montana State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. MSU values diversity and strongly encourages applications from underrepresented groups, such as minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

**CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS**  
**Possible tenure-track and visiting positions**

Possible tenure-track and visiting positions. Collegial environment emphasizing disciplinary and cross-disciplinary research and teaching. All areas of statistics welcome. Joint appointments possible with other units in the Pittsburgh area. See <http://www.stat.cmu.edu> (email: [hiring@stat.cmu.edu](mailto:hiring@stat.cmu.edu)). Send CV, research papers, relevant transcripts, and three recommendation letters to:

Faculty Search Committee, Statistics  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213, USA.

Application screening begins immediately, continues until positions closed. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. AA/EOE.

**CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY**  
**DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS**  
**Possible teaching-track positions**

Possible teaching-track position. Collegial environment emphasizing disciplinary and cross-disciplinary research and teaching. Position emphasizes teaching, program administration, curriculum development. Joint appointments possible with other units at CMU. See <http://www.stat.cmu.edu> (email: [hiring@stat.cmu.edu](mailto:hiring@stat.cmu.edu)). Send CV, teaching statement, relevant transcripts, and three recommendation letters to:

Faculty Search Committee, Statistics,  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213, USA.

Application screening begins immediately, continues until positions closed. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. AA/EOE.



## CAUCUS FOR WOMEN IN STATISTICS

### 2012 MEMBERSHIP FORM

**This form may be used for new members or renewal of membership for 1/1/2013 – 12/31/2013**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be included in the Caucus email  
distribution list?      ☐ Yes    ☐ No

Highest Degree: \_\_\_\_\_ Year Received \_\_\_\_\_

Field/Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Thesis Topic/Current Interest: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to volunteer to (please, check):**

- ☐ Serve as an Officer  
☐ Serve on Awards/Fellows Nomination Committee  
☐ Be a Mentor  
☐ Assist with fundraising

Newsletter

- ☐ Submit Regular Column  
☐ Write article  
☐ Other

At the JSM/other conferences

- ☐ Organize a Session  
☐ Lead Round Table discussion  
☐ Sit at Hospitality Table  
☐ General/Other

Other

\_\_\_\_\_

The rate schedule is:

Membership Category

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| New Member                               | \$5.00   |
| Associate (student, retired, unemployed) | \$5.00   |
| Regular Individual                       | \$30.00  |
| Regular Couple                           | \$35.00  |
| Individual, 5 years*                     | \$145.00 |
| Couple, 5 years                          | \$170.00 |

**Membership Fee**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS IN AFFILIATED  
SOCIETIES (Please check all that apply):**

- ( ) American Statistical Association  
( ) Biometric Society - Eastern North American Region  
( ) Biometric Society - Western North American Region  
( ) Biometric Society- Other Region or At Large  
( ) International Statistical Institute  
( ) Institute of Mathematical Statistics  
( ) Statistical Society of Canada  
( ) Population Association of America

Contributions to:

|                      |          |
|----------------------|----------|
| Caucus General Fund  | \$ _____ |
| Cox Scholarship Fund | \$ _____ |
| FN David Award Fund  | \$ _____ |

**TOTAL (Dues and contributions)**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

The Caucus is a 501 (c)(3) organization 93-0747853. All contributions are tax deductible in the US

**Complete the form on this page, write a check for the TOTAL amount to the Caucus for Women in Statistics and mail to:**

**Anna Nevius, Treasurer  
7732 Rydal Terrace, Rockville, MD 20855-2057**

## 2013 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### PRESIDENT

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