

## **Message From the President**



July 1 is the date on which memberships change on SSC's many committees, the board, and the executive. As he transitions to past president, I would particularly like to thank **Robert Platt** for his able stewardship of the society during the past year, and at the same time, welcome **Wendy Lou** as president elect. Also, thanks to **Hugh Chipman** who has completed his term as past president, and also a term as interim electronic services manager. Welcome to **Angelo Canty**, our new electronic service manager. On behalf of the society, I would like to thank **Edward Chen** for his exceptional and long term service as treasurer. Edward is stepping down a year prior to the scheduled end of his current term in order to focus his energies on the upcoming Census. **Patrick Brown** has kindly agreed to step in to complete the current term of treasurer. I would also like to thank our outgoing regional representatives **Ying Zhang**, **Aurelie Labbe**, **Lisa Lix**, and **Tim Swartz** for their able representation of their regional constituencies. Welcome to newly elected board members. A full report on election results is located [elsewhere](#) in this issue.

The SSC is a dynamic society, with 30+ committees, and we could not operate effectively without the substantial and generous contributions of our committee members. Many thanks to outgoing committee members for their service to the society, and welcome to new members. I have been most impressed at the willingness of individuals to serve on committees when asked.

In addition to the contributions from our volunteers, the functioning of the society depends very much on the work of our office staff—our executive assistant, **Michele Benoit**, who joined us in fall, 2018, and our administrative assistant, **Miaclaire Woodland**, who has been in this position since that time, and was previously our executive assistant. Miaclaire will be leaving us at the end of September to focus her energies full time on her graduate studies. Thank you Miaclaire, for her superb work over the past several years, and best wishes for her studies.

Our recent annual meeting in Calgary, attended by approximately 550 individuals, was a tremendous success. Many thanks to the local arrangements committee, chaired by **Alex De Leon** and **Karen Kopciuk**, for the superb social program, and to program chair Lisa Lix, for a diverse and stimulating scientific program. The Student Research Conference, organized by co-chairs **Myrtha Reyna** and **Anita Brobbey**, was a fabulous success with 85 attendees. The Student Research Conference has become a feature of our annual meeting. Keep up the great work, students!

The Joint Statistical Meeting (JSM) this year was in Denver, with Johanna Neslehova the SSC representative on the program committee. There were a number of SSC members in attendance, and I would like to thank those who kindly volunteered to sit the SSC booth and spread the good word about the SSC. Our SSC reception was well attended, and it was wonderful to meet with old friends and make new acquaintances.

Looking forward, our 2020 SSC meeting will be held May 31–June 3 at Carleton University in Ottawa, with local arrangements co-chairs **Shirley Mills** and **Yiqiang Zhao** of Carleton University, and program chair **J. C. Lored-Osti** of Memorial University of Newfoundland.

The 2020 JSM will be held in Philadelphia, with **Ying Zhang** from Acadia University as the SSC representative on the program committee.

I look forward to serving the SSC in the coming year.

**Bruce Smith**

## **CANSSI National Case Study Competition 2019**



**Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute**  
**Institut canadien des sciences statistiques**

*Data • Discoveries • Decisions*  
*Données • Découvertes • Décisions*

### **Predicting Delays in BC Ferries**

Expand your statistical, collaboration, and problem-solving skills in this [Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute National Case Study Competition \(CANSSI NCSC\)](#). Students will apply their knowledge to solve a real-world problem using a dataset about BC Ferries. As organizations look for students who have real-world problem-solving skills, you'll gain valuable experience that better prepares you for a successful career in statistics.

#### **About:**

The CANSSI NCSC is a project for students enrolled in undergraduate or graduate programs at Canadian universities. Students will compete in a statistical prediction task. The data for this competition will be made available on September 3, and students will be able to submit their solutions online until October 3. Students may [register for the CANSSI NCSC](#) starting September 3. Carleton University, Concordia University, MacEwan University, Simon Fraser University, and the University of New Brunswick will host regional competitions. The best solutions of their participating students will be awarded cash prizes. Winners of the regional competitions will be invited to compete in a final national poster championship at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, BC at the CANSSI headquarters on November 2.

#### **Why Participate:**

This competition provides a unique opportunity to develop your problem-solving skills and allows you to build creative solutions to a real-world problem—skills that are highly desirable in all organizations. On top of being able to work collaboratively with your team, you'll hone your presentation skills as you present your solutions to our judges. Not to mention winners get a guaranteed interview with Statistics Canada for a full-time or co-op position and a cash prize.

#### **The Prizes:**

- Winners will get guaranteed job interviews with Statistics Canada for full-time and co-op positions.
- Cash prizes will be awarded to the winning teams.

#### **Important Dates:**

September 3, 2019—Dataset and registration available online

October 2, 2019—Online predictions due

September 30 to October 4, 2019—Regional competition (Carleton University, Concordia University, MacEwan University, University of New Brunswick, and Simon Fraser University)

November 2, 2019—Final competition at Simon Fraser University

#### **Eligibility:**

Students enrolled in undergraduate or graduate programs at a Canadian university or college may participate in this competition. People that are not enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program may still participate, but they will not be eligible for the cash prizes or judging in the regional competition or national poster championship.

#### **The Challenge:**

This national case study competition is about predicting ferry delays in BC Ferry sailings around Vancouver and Victoria harbours. The dataset consists of 61,880 sailings occurring between August 2016 and March 2018. The dataset is split into a training dataset including 80% of the sailings (49,504 sailings between August 2016 and November 2017) and a testing dataset including 20% of the sailings (12,376 sailings between November 2017 and March 2018). The task is to predict whether or not each sailing described in the testing dataset was delayed. A variety of covariates are provided for each sailing (date, time of departure, departure terminal, arrival terminal, the name of the vessel, and so on). These covariates are described more fully in the Data section below. In addition to these covariates, some weather data and traffic data is provided.

In the regional competitions and national poster championship, students will be judged based on the accuracy of their delay predictions (percent correct), and also a report in which they discuss their methods and results and additional insight about the data provided by their analysis.

#### **Data:**

The ferry dataset involves records about 61,880 sailings occurring between August 2016 and March 2018 for routes starting or ending at one of Horseshoe Bay, Swartz Bay, Tsawwassen, and Departure Bay. For each sailing the following information is provided:

- Name of vessel
- Scheduled departure time
- Departure harbour
- Arrival harbour
- Date (including day of week and day of year)

For the 49,504 sailings among training data, the actual duration of the sailing is provided and an indicator is provided describing whether or not the sailing was delayed. For the 12,376 sailings in the testing data, the actual duration of the sailing and the delay indicator are not provided and instead the delay indicator must be predicted.

A time series of temperature and humidity from Vancouver Harbour is also provided, along with a time series of temperature, humidity, pressure, wind speed, and wind direction from Victoria Harbour. A time series of ordinal traffic volume data from the Lions Gate Bridge is also provided (in which traffic is ranked on a scale between 1 and 5). This bridge links downtown Vancouver and North Vancouver, a major arterial route towards the Horseshoe Bay Ferry terminal.

Further detail about these data will be provided simultaneously with the data release on September 3. These data are in the public domain and may be redistributed or modified.

#### Rules:

- You may work in teams of up to three people.
- You may use any libraries, software, programming languages, or methods in this contest.
- You may use any code you find on the internet provided that
  - the code is available under an open license (e.g., anything from <http://stackoverflow.com> is fine);
  - you note the outside sources that you've used as a comment in your code.
- You may use code written by other participants that aren't on your team provided that
  - you have their permission to use it;
  - you note them as a source that you've used as a comment in your code.
- You may ask professors or supervisors or other people outside the contest for help and advice, but all your work must be done by your team.
- Instructors are free to use this competition as a class assignment.

## **SSC 2019 Election**



The SSC 2019 Election was held between April 15 and May 15, 2019. There were 1300 members eligible to vote and 401 ballots were received, a participation rate of 30.8%. Of the 137 P.Stat.-accredited members eligible to vote for the openings on the accreditation committees, 85 voted, a participation rate of 62.0%. All ballots were submitted electronically.

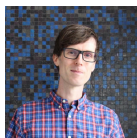
The following candidates were elected.

#### **Executive Committee** (Three-year terms)

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**  
(President, 2020–21; Past President, 2021–22)  
**Wendy Lou**, University of Toronto



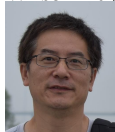
**PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**  
**David Campbell**, Simon Fraser University



**REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
(Two-Year Terms)

**ATLANTIC PROVINCES**

**Wilson Lu**, Acadia University



**QUÉBEC**

**Jean-Francois Plante**, HEC Montréal



**Alexandra Schmidt**, McGill University



**ONTARIO**

**Bethany White**, University of Toronto



**Leilei Zeng**, University of Waterloo



**MANITOBA–SASKATCHEWAN–NORTHWEST TERRITORIES–NUNAVUT**

**Cindy Feng**, University of Saskatchewan



**ALBERTA–BRITISH COLUMBIA–YUKON**

**Jinko Graham**, Simon Fraser University



**SECTION EXECUTIVES**

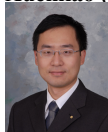
**ACTUARIAL SCIENCE SECTION EXECUTIVE**  
(Three-year terms; 2019–22)

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**

(President, 2020–21; Past President, 2021–22)  
**Hélène Cossette**, Université Laval

**SECRETARY**

**Xuemiao (Samuel) Hao**, University of Manitoba

**BIostatistics SECTION EXECUTIVE**

(Three-year terms; 2019–22)

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**

(President, 2020–21; Past President, 2021–22)  
**Aurélien Labbe**, HEC Montréal

**SECRETARY**

**Geneviève Lefebvre**, Université du Québec à Montréal

**BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS SECTION EXECUTIVE**

(Three-year terms; 2019–22)

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**

(President, 2020–21; Past President, 2021–22)  
**Sanjeena Dang**, Binghamton University

**SECRETARY**

**Kathryn Mills**, Canada Revenue Agency

**PROBABILITY SECTION EXECUTIVE**

(Three-year terms; 2019–22)

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**

(President, 2020–21; Past President, 2021–22)  
**Mary Thompson**, University of Waterloo

**SECRETARY**

**Sévérien Nkurunziza**, University of Windsor

**STATISTICAL EDUCATION SECTION EXECUTIVE**

**(Three-year terms; 2019–22)**

**PRESIDENT-ELECT**

(President, 2020–21; Past President, 2021–22)  
**Xu (Sunny) Wang**, Wilfrid Laurier University

**SECRETARY**

**Karen Buro**, MacEwan University

**SURVEY METHODS SECTION EXECUTIVE****PRESIDENT-ELECT**

(President, 2020–21; Past President, 2021–22)  
**Zilin Wang**, Wilfrid Laurier University

**SECRETARY**

(Two-year term; 2019–21)  
**Golshid Chatrchi**, Carleton University

**ACCREDITATION PROGRAM COMMITTEES  
(Three-year terms; 2019–22)****ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE**

**John Koval**, Western University



**Peter Macdonald**, McMaster University



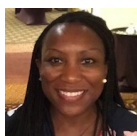
**Elmabrok Masaoud**, Canadian Food Inspection Agency



**Jenna Sykes**, St. Michael's Hospital

**ACCREDITATION APPEALS COMMITTEE**

**Cheryl Gibbons**, Canadian Food Inspection Agency



**Jill Vandermeersch**, Université du Québec à Montréal



## THE SSC ELECTION COMMITTEE 2018–19

**Hugh Chipman**, Chair and SSC Past President, Acadia University

**Sylvia Esterby**, UBC Okanagan

**David Haziza**, Université de Montréal

**Cynthia Struthers**, University of Waterloo

**Kevin Keen**, University of Northern British Columbia

**Yi Lu**, Simon Fraser University

**Joel Dubin**, University of Waterloo

**Shirley Mills**, Carleton University

**Richard Lockhart**, Simon Fraser University

**Bruce Dunham**, University of British Columbia

**Mahmoud Torabi**, University of Manitoba

## Accreditation Task Force Report



The task force was asked by the SSC board to propose operational changes required to improve the functionality of the accreditation committee, along with means of implementing such changes.

The task force received and incorporated input from the fall and winter boards; circulated draft proposals twice to the accreditation committee, accreditation services committee, and accreditation appeals committee; and circulated the draft proposals to all SSC accredited prior to its final report presentation at the annual meeting board. The motions and recommendations were approved by the board.

The major change to the accreditation committee is that the accreditation chair will serve a three-year term, serving as chair-elect, current chair, and past-chair. This structure will be implemented July 1, 2019 by **Soyean Kim** becoming past-chair, and the appointment of a new current chair and chair-elect. This will spread the heavy workload amongst three people. The current chair will lead SSC Accreditation, overseeing individual and institutional reviews by the accreditation committee and making recommendations to the SSC board.

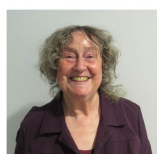
The past-chair will write/review an Operations Guide to inform the current chair about latest operational practices; will upon request provide counsel to the current chair; will be chair of the accreditation services committee; and will serve on the elections committee.

The chair-elect will support the SSC Accreditation Program by promoting SSC Accreditation within the SSC and in the workplace.

The accreditation services committee requires the long awaited accredited-only space on the SSC website to house the accredited-only database for mentoring facilitation and accredited networking, and to house professional development materials. Existing and future professional development materials will facilitate maintenance of professional competence.

We celebrate 15 years of the SSC general opening for awarding P.Stat. with a renewed accreditation program.

Respectfully submitted,





**Judy-Anne Chapman** (Chair)

**Fernando Camacho**  
**Jill Vandermeersch**  
**Ying Zhang**  
**Shirley Mills**  
**Soyean Kim**

## **CANSSI News**



## **Canadian Statistical Sciences Institute** **Institut canadien des sciences statistiques**

*Data • Discoveries • Decisions*  
*Données • Découvertes • Décisions*

**Donald Estep** has been appointed as CANSSI's new scientific director. He is University Distinguished Professor and University Interdisciplinary Research Scholar at Colorado State University and will be taking up his new position at Simon Fraser University this summer. For full details, see the CANSSI website: [www.canssi.ca](http://www.canssi.ca)

**Yogendra Chaubey** will be the new regional director for CANSSI Quebec. He is a full professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at Concordia University. CANSSI Quebec is our new regional node located at Concordia. We're looking forward to ramping up our activities in Quebec.

CANSSI welcomes **Valérie Bécaert** (Element AI), **Donald Estep** (Simon Fraser University), **Lisa Lix** (University of Manitoba), and **Laxmi Sushama** (McGill University) to our board of directors. **Arvind Gupta** (University of Toronto), **Paul Kovacs** (Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction at Western University), and **Adrian Levy** (Dalhousie University) return to the board for a second term. [Learn more about all of them on our site.](#)

Board members **Charmaine Dean** (University of Waterloo), **Alexandre Leblanc** (University of Manitoba), and **Mary Thompson** (University of Waterloo) are completing their terms. Thanks are due to all of them for their efforts on behalf of CANSSI. Charmaine's strategic thinking has been a real asset both on the board and the governance and board nominating committee. Alex served on the board since its inception. In addition, he's been the associate director for Manitoba and the chair of the board nominating committee for the last several years. Mary was CANSSI's first director and has contributed so much to CANSSI that it cannot be summarized here. Most recently as the chair of the health science committee, she has very ably led the development of work in this area, establishing and coordinating the network of 11 Health Science Collaborating Centres.

**Erica Moodie** (McGill University) and **Paul McNicholas** (McMaster University) have concluded their terms as associate directors for Quebec and Ontario respectively. We'd like to thank Erica for her help developing CANSSI Quebec and Paul for his leadership on the data science committee.

**Nancy Reid** (University of Toronto) has stepped down as scientific director of CANSSI. We owe her a great deal of thanks for her leadership, dedication, and commitment. Her efforts have helped CANSSI grow and put us in an excellent position moving forward. Nancy remains on the board of directors for another year. We're not letting her go that easily!

### **New Collaborative Research Teams for 2019**

CANSSI is pleased to announce two new collaborative research teams that started in 2019.

**Statistical Methods for the Analysis of Genetic Data with Survival Outcomes** will be led by **Lajmi Lakhal-Chaieb**, Université Laval; **Richard Cook**, University of Waterloo; and **Laurent Briollais**, Lunenfeld Tanenbaum Research Institute of Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto.

**Contingent Capital and Calibration of Capital Structure Models** will be led by **Mark Reesor**, Wilfrid Laurier University; **Hatem Ben-Ameur**, HEC Montreal; and **Adam Metzler**, Wilfrid Laurier University.

Both teams will collaborate for three years. The aim of CANSSI's Collaborative Research Team Program is to enable cross-disciplinary collaborations and training opportunities for postdoctoral fellows and graduate students.

### **CANSSI National Headquarters Grand Opening**

CANSSI's headquarters at Simon Fraser University opened in Dec. 2018. We kicked off with a public lecture by **Jeffrey Rosenthal**: "The Puzzle of Luck." The next day, we celebrated the official launch. A series of Lightning Talks showcased CANSSI projects. The speakers and audiences at Dalhousie University, McGill University, Western University, the University of Manitoba, and Simon Fraser University took part via webcast. You can see a [video of the event here](#).

### **Upcoming Deadlines**

- [Distinguished Visitor Program](#)—July 31, 2019



- [Call for Workshop/Conference Proposals](#)—Sept. 15, 2019
- [Kick Start Program for Early Career Researchers](#)—ongoing
- [Undergraduate Datathons/Hackathons](#)—ongoing

## **News from the University of Winnipeg**



The Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Winnipeg warmly welcomes Dr. **Gyanendra Pokharel**. Dr. Pokharel started as assistant professor on July 1, 2019. He received his PhD in Statistics from the University of Guelph in 2015; followed by a postdoctoral fellowship in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics at the University of Calgary. His main research interests include biostatistics, Bayesian and computational statistics, and cancer epidemiology.

Zeinab Mashreghi

## **Paul McNicholas Receives a Steacie Fellowship**



McMaster researcher **Paul McNicholas** has been awarded the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada's prestigious E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellowship. McNicholas, [Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Computational Statistics](#) and a member of the College of the Royal Society of Canada, is one of six researchers to receive the fellowship which is awarded annually to enhance the career development of highly promising scientists and engineers who are earning a strong international reputation for original research. A professor of mathematics and statistics, and the director of McMaster's [MacDATA Institute](#), McNicholas is a leading expert in developing new statistical and machine learning methods and tools to analyse large or complex datasets, and works with researchers from diverse disciplines to apply these approaches to difficult data analysis problems. "This fellowship is a wonderful recognition of the increasing importance of research in statistics, especially in light of the deluge of new data types that we've seen in recent years," says McNicholas who is only the second statistician ever to receive the Steacie Fellowship. Steacie Fellowships are held for a two-year period at a Canadian university or affiliated research institution. Each fellow receives a grant of \$250,000 over two years and is relieved of teaching and administrative duties, enabling them to devote their time and energy to research.



*Governor General Julie Payette and Paul McNicholas*

Acknowledgements: This news item contains excerpts from the article “McMaster statistician awarded prestigious Steacie Fellowship” written by **Erika Balch** for the McMaster University’s *Daily News* (<https://brighterworld.mcmaster.ca/articles/mcmaster-statistician-awarded-prestigious-steacie-fellowship/>)

## **Obituary: Ernest Monga**



**Ernest Monga**, professor at the University of Sherbrooke since 1991, passed away on July 23, 2019, at the age of 64. Born in Cameroon in 1955, he completed his graduate studies at the University of Montreal under the supervision of the late **Serge Tardif**. An educator beyond compare, he coauthored with **Sabin Lessard** the textbook *Statistique: Concepts et méthodes, avec exercices et corrigés*, published in 1993 by the Presses de l’Université de Montréal. A long-time member of the executive committee of Sherbrooke’s University Teacher Union (SPPUS), he was also chair of his department from 2010 to 2015. Among his many accomplishments, he contributed to the foundation of the Québec Association of Statisticians (ASSQ), which made him an honorary member in 2015. He was also chair of the organizing committee for the SSC Annual Meeting held in Sherbrooke in 1998. His students will remember him as a born communicator with a great ability to synthesize complex matters. His proverbial joviality and kindness will continue to inhabit the hearts of his colleagues and friends.

## **Canadian Consortium for Research (CCR) Summit**



**CANADIAN  
CONSORTIUM FOR  
RESEARCH**

**CONSORTIUM  
CANADIEN POUR LA  
RECHERCHE**

The SSC is one of 20 member organizations which belong to the Canadian Consortium for Research (CCR), representing more than 50,000 researchers and 650,000 students across disciplines. The broad group seeks to promote multidisciplinary unity and progress for Canadians of the impact of research both within, and without, academia on the ultimate placement of our nation internationally.

**Dr. David Naylor**, chair of the Fundamental Science Review (FSR) Panel in Canada, asserts, “Given global competition, the role of research in underpinning innovation and educating innovators, the need for evidence to inform policy-making, and the current unsettled conditions in the research ecosystem, the Panel firmly believes that this commitment is also among the very highest-yield investments in Canada’s future that any government could make.” Yet, Canada relies on universities to pay for research more than any other country; universities subsidize research in untoward extent. Gross domestic Research & Development expenditure from business is also low.

If we want to foster our R&D capacity, we need to train the next generation accordingly and need the demand side to be active (e.g. businesses hiring PhDs). The value of the PhD is not only about creating topic experts. It is also about generating creative and critical minds. Graduates are equipped for a lifetime of high quality contributions in any field. A PhD is the greatest work-integrated learning program there is.

We risk under-utilizing our irreplaceable resource if training does not embrace innovation, societal transferrable skills, and recognize the vulnerability of young researchers who may lack support to prosper in career paths that fully utilize their potential. In academia, high teaching loads, contract teaching without research opportunities, low funding success rates, low support for maintaining infrastructure, and merit systems which do not recognize current achievable career goals all work to frustrate early careers. As well, business in Canada does not have the long history that countries like the UK and US have for knowledge that skill and innovation augment economic advances.

As a result of the FSR recommendations, the 2018 Budget increase for operating grants was 235 million dollars, rather than the 405 recommended. Unfortunately, this amount would not cover shortfalls in facilities and administrative costs. Dr. Naylor advised that making financial progress will be slow; we need to remember to strategize in unity, and stay watchful in campaign mode for the long haul.

The gap in society's understanding that research impacts their daily lives may be overcome effectively with story-telling about concrete ways that research has improved individual and community life, in ways that people relate to. We need to bridge communication gaps to bring our work to life in meaningful ways, always be ambassadors. The upcoming Canadian elections are an opportunity to challenge candidates to understand Canada's needs.

Following along the tenor of mentoring our future, the SSC was represented by **Janie Coulombe**, a PhD graduate student at McGill, and **Judy-Anne Chapman**, retired Queen's professor, who was SSC Accreditation mentoring facilitator for about 10 years. We both fully participated and enjoyed the CCR program, learning a lot. Janie reported to The Canadian Statistics Student Conference in Calgary. **Shirley Mills** represented the SSC at the January CCR meeting with Funders (CIHR, SSHRC, NSERC, CFI, MITACS) and CCR March Meetings about the federal budget, response to the federal budget, and Planning for the Summit that Janie and Judy-Anne attended.

The main take-home message from the summit is that research is not sustainable as it is now and that we must constantly campaign for better conditions: more funding, better definition of excellence, smaller workloads, better conditions for parents, with fewer inequities amongst researchers. Statisticians have an important role to play in decisions related to fundamental research and should actively participate in those debates.



**Janie Coulombe, PhD student**



**Dr. Judy-Anne Chapman**



**Dr. Shirley Mills**

## **Statistical Society of Canada Contributors List**



Dear SSC members and friends,

Thank you for your generous contributions to the Statistical Society of Canada for 2017 and 2018. This list celebrates each of you and your support of the mission of the SSC.

**Wendimagegn Ghidey Alemayehu**

**Eshetu G. Atenafu**

**Jeff C. Babb**

**John D. Baser**

**François Bellavance**

**Cynthia J. Bocci**

**Anne-Sophie Charest**

**Edward J. Chen**

**Hugh Chipman**

**Janie Coulombe**

**Pierre Daoust**

**Joel A. Dubin**

**Sylvia R. Esterby**

**Jack Gambino**

**Melody Ghahramani**

**Alison L. Gibbs**

**Paul Gustafson**

**Nancy E. Heckman**

**Jack D. Kalbfleisch**

**Mark D. Krailo**

**Jerald F. Lawless**

**Alexandre Leblanc**

**Yifan Li**

**Richard A. Lockhart**

**Thomas M. Loughin**

**Urs Maag**

**Peter D. M. Macdonald**

**Neal Madras**

**Kenneth B. McRae**

**Marc Moore**

**Natalia Nolde**

**John Petkau**

**Fritz Pierre**

**Nancy Reid**

**John R. Rutherford**

**Paramita Saha Chaudhuri**

**Anna Theresa Santiago**

**Marc Simard**

**Jenna Sykes**

**Denis Talbot**

**Thai-Son Tang**

**Mary E. Thompson**

**David J. and Maja-Lisa Thomson**

**Mahmoud Torabi**

**Xu (Sunny) Wang**

**Sarah Watt**

**Kenneth Laurence Weldon**

**David R. Wilson**

**Changbao Wu**

**Yanqing Yi**

**Julie Zhou**

And 93 anonymous donors

## **Call for Nominations: 2020 SSC Awards**



Nominations for the 2020 SSC awards—Gold Medal, Honorary Member, Impact in Applied and Collaborative Work, Lise Manchester, Distinguished Service, and Pierre Robillard Award—must be received on or before January 31. Nominations for the CRM-SSC Prize must be received by February 1.

The Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies (COPSS), of which SSC is a member, is also seeking nominations. The deadline for nominations for the Elizabeth L. Scott Lectureship, the Fisher Lectureship, and the Florence N. David Award is December 15, and the deadline for nominations for the COPSS Presidents' Award and the Snedecor Award is January 15.

Additional information will be published in the October issue of *Liaison*. Clicking on the links above will also take you to nomination instructions.

## **2020 SSC Elections: Call for nominations**



Members of the SSC are hereby invited to volunteer or suggest names to fill positions in the SSC. A preliminary slate of candidates is to be presented in November by the election committee. Suggestions of names or nominations are requested for the following positions.

#### **MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SSC**

(Three-year terms)

- President-elect
- Treasurer
- Meetings coordinator

#### **REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

(Two-year terms)

Regional representatives from all regions:

- Atlantic Provinces (1)
- Quebec (2)
- Ontario (2)
- Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Northwest Territories, Nunavut (1)
- Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon (1)

#### **SECTION OFFICERS**

(Three-year terms; two-year terms for SMS)

Nominations or suggestions are requested for executive positions in the six sections:

- Actuarial Science Section (President-elect)
- Biostatistics Section (President-elect)
- Business and Industrial Statistics Section (President-elect)
- Probability Section (President-elect, Treasurer)
- Statistical Education Section (President-elect)
- Survey Methods Section (President-elect, Treasurer)

#### **MEMBERS OF THE ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE**

Four positions will be elected, each for a three-year mandate. Candidates must be P.Stat. members.

#### **MEMBERS OF THE ACCREDITATION APPEALS COMMITTEE**

Two positions will be elected, each for a three-year mandate. Candidates must be P.Stat. members.

Please communicate your suggestions to any member of the election committee before October 15, 2019. More formal nominating petitions (signed by five members of the SSC) may be sent before January 15, 2020 to the chair of the committee.

#### **The election committee for 2019–20 consists of the following members:**

**Robert Platt**, Chair

**Jean-François Renaud**, Actuarial Science

**Patrick Brown**, Biostatistics

**Chunfang Devon Lin**, BISS

**René Ferland**, Probability

**Asokan Variyath**, Statistical Education

**Susie Fortier**, Survey Methods

**Soyean Kim**, Accreditation

**Erica Moodie**, Appointed

**David Haziza**, Appointed

#### **Chair of the election committee**

**Robert Platt**, McGill University

[robert.platt@mcgill.ca](mailto:robert.platt@mcgill.ca)



## **Job Announcement: Assistant professor of biostatistics**



Université de Montréal has more than 10,000 employees and is one of Canada's Top 100 Employers.

UdeM has Canada's 2nd largest student body and ranks among the top five Canadian research universities, receiving more than half a billion dollars in research funding every year.

Through the achievements of the members of its community, UdeM participates in building today's and tomorrow's world.

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### **Assistant Professor of Biostatistics**

#### **Department of Social and Preventive Medicine / School of Public Health**

The Université de Montréal is the largest university in Quebec and its School of Public Health is one of Canada's francophone centres of excellence in public health research and training. The Université de Montréal is a centre of excellence in artificial intelligence and big data. The School of Public Health (ESPUM) is the only Canadian institution that offers US-accredited training programs in both public health and health administration. The School of Public Health offers a biostatistics option in an MSc jointly led by the school and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics as well as the CEPH-accredited MPH. The multidisciplinary Department of Social and Preventive Medicine offers an MSc in Epidemiology and an MSc in Clinical Research (jointly offered with the Faculty of Medicine). The department trains public health professionals and researchers (MSc, PhD, and postdoctoral levels) as well as contributing to the training of physicians and other health professionals at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Our professors are associated with several dynamic and productive university research centres in Montreal and have extensive national and international collaborations. The department is now recruiting an assistant professor for a career in teaching and research in biostatistics.

**As a professor, you will have the opportunity to contribute to the excellence of your department and the School of Public Health (ESPUM).**

Through your teaching and your research activities, you will also ensure the visibility of your discipline in addition to actively participating in the operation of a renowned institution.

Your contributions will include:

- Undergraduate and graduate teaching (the language of instruction is French).
- Supervision and co-supervision of students within the research and professional streams of our Masters and PhD programs.
- Development and implementation of a program of research in biostatistics; collaboration with researchers within the public health sector.
- Contribution to the everyday functioning and administration of the department and the school.
- Building of a national and international reputation.

**To succeed in this role, you'll need:**

- A PhD in biostatistics or statistics.
- An ongoing or developing research program pertinent to public health.
- An adequate knowledge of the French written and spoken language or a strong commitment to mastering the proficiency level required, in accordance to [Université de Montréal's Language Policy](#). An institutional learning support program is offered to all professors wishing to learn French or improve their communication skills.

#### **How to submit your application**

We invite you to submit a letter outlining your interests, career goals, and potential contributions, your resumé, a copy of your diplomas, and two letters of recommendation from professors or supervisors to:

Dr Christina Zarowsky, Head of Department  
a/s Ms. Agnes Chirinian  
Department of Social and Preventive Medicine / ESPUM  
University of Montreal  
C.P. 6128, Succursale Centre-ville  
Montreal, QC H3C 3J7  
Fax : 514-343-5645 Email: [agnes.chirinian@umontreal.ca](mailto:agnes.chirinian@umontreal.ca)  
[www.espum.umontreal.ca/accueil/](http://www.espum.umontreal.ca/accueil/)

#### **Additional information about the position**

<b>Reference number</b>	ESP-08-19_1
<b>Application deadline</b>	October 15th, 2019
<b>Salary</b>	Université de Montréal offers competitive salaries and a full range of benefits
<b>Starting date</b>	January 2020

*Université de Montréal is strongly committed to fostering diversity and inclusion. Through its Equal Access Employment Program, UdeM invites women, Aboriginal people, visible and ethnical minorities, as well as persons with disabilities to send their application. We will—confidentially—adapt our recruitment mechanisms to the specific needs of people with disabilities who request it. We also welcome applications from candidates of all orientations and sexual identities. All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply; however, in accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, priority will be given to Canadians and permanent residents.*

*Université de Montréal's application process allows all members of the Professor's Assembly to review the application files submitted. If you wish to keep your application confidential until the shortlist is established, please mention it in your application.*

