



Biostatistics 75th Anniversary Conference & Celebration

**75 Years of Research,
Training and Service**

Monday, Nov. 11 - Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024

Carolina Club at the George Watts Hill Alumni Center



GILLINGS SCHOOL OF GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH
Biostatistics

Monday, November 11

All events will take place in the Alumni Hall at the Carolina Club at the UNC-Chapel Hill George Watts Hill Alumni Center.

11:30-12:30p.m. Luncheon, Department Overview - History and Updates

Current State of the Department

Michael Hudgens, PhD, chair of biostatistics

History of the Department

Lisa LaVange, PhD and Ed Davis, PhD, both former chairs of biostatistics

12:45-1:45p.m. Session 1 - Precision Health

Faculty Organizer: Michael Kosorok, PhD, former chair of biostatistics

Individualized Treatment Regimes for Competing Risks

Christina Zhou, BSPH ('16 biostatistics), biostatistics doctoral candidate

Reinforcement Learning for High Dimensional Rewards

Dong Neuck (East) Lee, PhD ('24 biostatistics)

1:45-2p.m.

Break

2-3p.m.

Session 2 - Bayesian Statistics

Faculty Organizer: Joe Ibrahim, PhD

A Framework for Ensembling Informative Priors via Model Averaging

Xinxin Chen, biostatistics doctoral candidate

Bayesian Dynamic Borrowing for Nonparametric Survival Analysis

Matt Psioda, PhD ('16 biostatistics)

3-4p.m.

Session 3 - Machine Learning

Faculty Organizer: Didong Li, PhD

Deep Generative Models: Complexity, Dimensionality and Approximation

Kevin Wang, biostatistics doctoral candidate

Making AI Trustworthy: A Statistical Perspective

Qiang Sun, PhD ('14 biostatistics)

4-4:15p.m.

Break

4:15-5p.m.

Session 4 - Collaborative Studies Coordinating Center

Faculty Co-Organizers: Kevin J. Anstrom, PhD, and Daniela Sotres-Alvarez, DrPH

A Sampling of Recent Clinical Trials Designed at the CSCC

Kevin J. Anstrom, PhD, MS ('94 biostatistics)

Recent CSCC Contributions to Data Ecosystems

Lisa Strader, DrPH, and Micah McCumber, PhD

Fifteen Years of Research in Cardiovascular and Chronic Disease of US

Hispanic/Latino Persons: HCHS/SOL

Daniela Sotres-Alvarez, DrPH ('10 biostatistics), MS ('02 biostatistics)

5-6p.m.

Networking Reception

6-8:30p.m.

Dinner

Introductory Remarks

Michael Hudgens, PhD, chair of biostatistics

Nancy Messonnier, MD, Dean and Bryson distinguished professor

Lee H. Roberts, Chancellor of UNC-Chapel Hill

Lisa M. LaVange, PhD, former chair of biostatistics

Keynote Address

Sir Dennis Gillings, CBE, FMedSci

Tuesday, November 12

- 8-9a.m.** **Breakfast**
- 9-10a.m.** **Session 5 - Statistics in Neuroscience**
Faculty Co-Organizers: Tanya Garcia, PhD, and Hongtu Zhu, PhD
Robust and Efficient Estimation in the Presence of a Randomly Censored Covariate
Brian Richardson, BSPH ('21 biostatistics), biostatistics doctoral candidate
Multi-organ Imaging Genomics: New Resources and Findings
Bingxin Zhao, PhD ('20 biostatistics)
- 10-10:15a.m.** **Break**
- 10:15-11:45a.m.** **Session 6 - Panel Discussion: Careers in Clinical Trials**
Faculty Co-Organizers: Anastasia Ivanova, PhD, and Richard Zink, PhD
Panelists will describe their current positions and career paths in clinical trials and how their time at UNC Department of Biostatistics training contributed to their careers.
Moderator:
Richard Zink, PhD ('03 biostatistics) MS ('99 biostatistics)
Panelists:
Jennifer Clark, PhD ('13 biostatistics)
Rakhi Kilaru, MS ('00 biostatistics)
Sharon Murray, PhD ('90 biostatistics) MS ('86 biostatistics)
Shane Rosanbalm, MS ('02 biostatistics)
Chalmer Thomlinson, PhD ('22 biostatistics)
- 11:45-12p.m.** **Break**
- 12-1p.m.** **Luncheon**
Introductory Remarks
Jianwen Cai, PhD
Keynote Address
Ji-Hyun Lee, DrPH, ('03 biostatistics)
- 1-1:15p.m.** **Break**
- 1:15-2:35p.m.** **Session 7**
Faculty Co-Organizers: Fei Zou, PhD and Xihao Li, PhD
Advancement, Opportunities and Challenges in Spatial Omics
Jiawen Chen, biostatistics doctoral candidate
GAUDI and Future Precision Medicine in the BEST Clinical Trial
Bryce Rowland, PhD ('22 biostatistics)
Inferring Gene Isoform Mechanisms Underlying Genetic Associations with Cancer Risk
Arjun Bhattacharya, PhD ('20 biostatistics)
- 2:35-3p.m.** **Wrap Up and Adjourn**
Michael Hudgens, PhD
- 5p.m.** **Kosorok Conference begins**
Separate event and registration

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