Thoughts from the Executive Director...

Summer Daze- I hope the month of June is coming to a pleasant conclusion for you and that you’re looking forward to our July 4 holiday with anticipation. Summer is the time many of us focus on our research programs and other professional endeavors. We have good news regarding government funding of the Field of Dreams Conference. The National Security Agency has awarded us funds to support student participation for both 2018 and 2019. I want to thank NSA for their generous support of our conference and our students. The National Science Foundation has also recommended our application for the 2018 Field of Dreams Conference be funded, and this grant also supports student participation. So thanks also to NSF for helping us make the conference possible. Along with the generous support of our Conference host, Washington University in St. Louis, we now have about 50% of the funds needed to run this year’s conference. We hope we will, again this year, have the generous support of our members and partners of the Center for the National Math Sciences Alliance. If your department is a Graduate Program Group, or thinking about becoming one, please encourage your leadership to participate in the Center, or renew your membership if were one last year. By the way, the registration site for the Field of Dreams Conference will go live in early July, so look for that!!

Our F-GAP program is in full swing. We have had close to 100 nominations and as of this writing we have matched about 60 students with faculty facilitators. This is a little ahead of last year’s numbers, so we are doing great. We will be holding some webinars for new facilitators and predoctoral mentors in the coming weeks, so we are looking forward to seeing many of you at these meetings. We are currently surveying our 2017-18 F-GAP students, and I hope I have the results and can report on the success of the past year’s program in a newsletter soon.

I am pleased to announce Ms. Billie Townsend, our retired Program Director at U. Iowa, has asked if she can volunteer some time to the Alliance, and of course we enthusiastically said yes! So, those of you who have missed hearing from Billie from time to time will get that pleasure again, and those who haven’t met Billie, I am sure you will soon. Billie’s past contributions to the Alliance are significant, and in some ways the extent and reach of our community is largely due to her hard work. Besides Billie, both Phil Kutzko (Director) and Bill Vélez (Associate Director for Undergraduate Studies) are retired and continuing to work on a voluntary basis. So, our corps of retiree volunteers is a growing and very important part of our operation. Of course, Rebecca Lank, continues to be a rock of support for this whole endeavor, and we are lucky to have all these great folks working for us. As always, I want to thank everyone for all you’re doing for our students. It is making a difference!

2018-19 F-GAP Program Still Accepting Nominations!

The Facilitated Graduate Applications Process (F-GAP) is an Alliance program that provides undergraduate seniors and Master’s students with the advice and assistance needed to begin the application process as they apply to graduate programs. F-GAP will help students choose departments that are most appropriate to their goals and aspirations. The Alliance Community will work with the student as they prepare their applications to graduate programs and will assist in tracking the progress of their applications through the admissions process. The Alliance Community will assist in maximizing the chances that Alliance Scholars will be admitted, with support, to a department or program where they will thrive. We will pair each eligible student with one of our Doctoral Alliance Mentors who will work with the students local mentor to create a mentoring team that will aid in the application process.

If you know of a senior or Master’s student who will be graduating in the Spring of 2019 and will be applying to graduate programs for Fall 2019 please submit a nomination form.

“F-GAP has substantially helped me in finding the right programs to which I should apply.”

“The attention and help that I receive of my F-GAP facilitator was outstanding. The tips given by him to improve my Personal Statement, CV and others application materials were phenomenal.”

“The F-GAP program is excellent! My facilitator assisted and encouraged me at every stage of the application process.”
The Mathematicians of Color Alliance (MOCA) Network Workshop

The Mathematicians of Color Alliance (MOCA) Network will be hosting a one week workshop for mathematicians of color to collaborate with a secondary mathematics teacher in their local community. Mathematicians will share their expertise, experiences, and time with mathematics teachers in an effort to provide new perspectives, opportunities, and access to the teachers and their students of color.

The workshop will take place at Iowa State University (Ames, IA) on August 6-10, 2018. Participants will receive funding for travel and a stipend in the amount of $1000 for participating in the workshop and periodic school-based collaborations. An application consists of a CV, personal statement, and completing a survey. The survey will be sent to applicants after the apply on MathPrograms. Postdoc, graduate students, and mathematicians in business, industry, or government are encouraged to apply also.

The Mathematicians of Color Alliance (MOCA) Network, is a network whose mission it is to create substantial and transformative relationships with students of color and their teachers in the school setting. The MOCA Network's goals include collaborating with teachers to develop and implement engaging mathematics with students of color in order to provide access to greater opportunities and to ensure these students are able to develop productive relationships with mathematics as a field that is welcoming and exhilarating. Apply Here

This workshop is funded by NSF Includes Grant #1744463
StatFest 2018:
A One Day Conference for Undergraduate Students

Learn about statistics and data science careers in industry, government, and academia. Underrepresented students (African American, Hispanic, Native Americans) with analytical interests are particularly encouraged to attend and learn about exciting career and graduate study opportunities in statistics and data science. There are ample opportunities to network during breaks and the poster session.

Amherst College is one of the most diverse liberal arts colleges in the country. We are dedicated to the centrality of inclusiveness.

Date: Saturday, September 22, 2018
Time: 9:30-5:00 p.m.
Place: Amherst College, Amherst, MA
Contact: Nicholas Horton nhorton@amherst.edu
Renee Moore renee.moore@emory.edu
Cost: Free (though preregistration is required by Wednesday, September 19th)
For more information and to register visit: https://nhorton.people.amherst.edu/statfest

Sponsored by the American Statistical Association’s Committee on Minorities in Statistics

Other sponsors: RStudio, Google, Boston Chapter of the ASA, Five College Statistics Program, and UMass/Amherst Biostatistics.

Keynote Speakers

Fernando Perez created iPython and co-created Project Jupyter. He is a Professor of Statistics at the University of California/Berkeley and Senior Fellow of the Berkeley Institute for Data Science.

Scarlett Bellamy is Past-President of ENAR (Eastern North American Region) of the International Biometrics Society. She is a Professor of Biostatistics and director of the graduate program at the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Drexel University Dornsife School of Public Health.
Visiting Assistant Professor in Mathematics at Manhattan College Position Announcement

The Department of Mathematics at Manhattan College seeks a committed teacher-scholar with a Ph.D. in the mathematical sciences for a full time position at the Visiting Assistant Professor rank, beginning with the Fall 2018 semester. The contract term is for one year, beginning August 2018, but is renewable. The Mathematics Department offers courses to all Schools in the College, and the course schedule is likely to include service courses. The class sizes are small, generally below thirty students, and the teaching load is twenty-one credits per year.

Current department members have expertise in algebra, data analytics, data mining, differential equations, dynamical systems, game theory, graph theory, hyperbolic geometry, linear and non-linear optimization, logic, machine learning, mathematics education, operations research, probabilistic and statistical methods, and topology.

Minimum qualifications: A Ph.D. in the mathematical sciences. All areas of mathematics will be considered. Candidates will be evaluated on their academic background, communication skills, potential for excellence in teaching, scholarly activity, potential for service to the college, and ability to bring new ideas and directions to the mathematics program. Teaching experience is strongly preferred.

Apply online. Applicants should submit, in electronic form, a single PDF file that includes a cover letter, curriculum vitae, a statement of teaching philosophy, and a research plan. Also arrange for three confidential letters of reference to be sent to math.search@manhattan.edu; at least one of these should address teaching ability. Indicate whether or not you have authorization to work in the United States at this time or will have it by the time the position begins. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. No hard copy applications will be considered.

Application Link: https://manhattan.clearcompany.com/careers/jobs/e629a477-667a-de54-44b0-d2b33d76ebec/apply?source=738244-CS-25537

Manhattan College is an independent Catholic coeducational institution in the Lasallian tradition. We expect our faculty, administration, and staff to be knowledgeable about our mission and to make a positive contribution to the mission.

Applicants from historically under-represented segments of the population are encouraged to apply, as well as those attracted to a college with a Catholic identity. We are committed to a diverse campus community. AA/EO Employer M/F/D/V