

Organization and Staffing

Biostatistics:

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Research Computing Group:

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Sondra Birch, PhD, Research Professional
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Manu Murugesan, Data Scientist
manorathan@uchicago.edu

Location & Hours

The Department of Public Health Sciences administrative offices are located in AMB W-238 and are open Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Biostatistics Laboratory is located in the Medical Center at the north end of the 3rd floor of the Mothers Aid Research Pavilion (MARP). The R-corridor 3rd floor can be accessed from Goldblatt 2nd floor by the staircase at the west end of the corridor near the entrance to the Dept. Ob/Gyn suite.

To schedule an appointment for the Biostatistics Clinic, please go to <https://biotime.uchicago.edu/Clinic.aspx>

To initiate collaboration or request biostatistical support for a project, please go to <https://biotime.uchicago.edu/RequestSupport.aspx>, and fill out the form. This will generate an e-mail to the Biostatistics Laboratory Director, and you will be contacted by the statistician assigned to the project.

Administrative Contact:

Phone (773)702-2453

E-mail:

grants@health.bsd.uchicago.edu

Website:

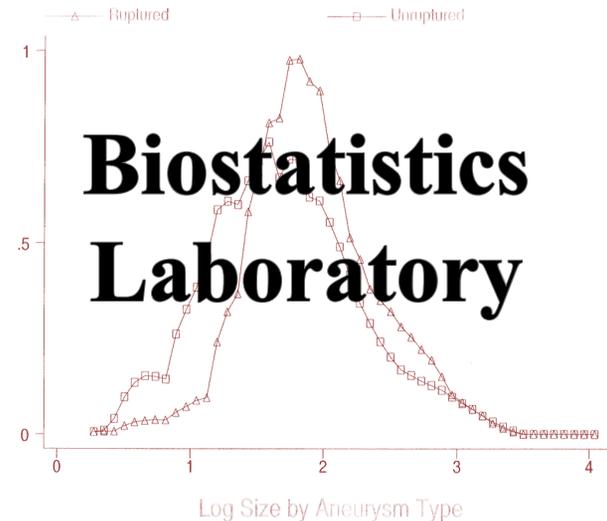
<http://health.bsd.uchicago.edu/Biostatistics-Laboratory>

The Department of Public Health Sciences

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MC2000
Chicago, IL 60637



Department of Public Health Sciences



Academic Year

2021-2022

Theodore G. Karrison, Ph.D., Director
Donald Hedeker, Ph.D., Faculty Director



Collaboration

The Biostatistics Laboratory (located within the Department of Public Health Sciences) consists of a group of PhD and MS statisticians, computer programmers, and research professionals whose primary focus is on applied and collaborative research. Our members have a broad range of experience and interests, and also conduct methodological work in addition to collaborating with researchers throughout the University. We participate in training and mentoring young investigators (e.g., advising on K Awards, attending journal clubs, etc.). Biostatistics Lab (BL) members serve on various committees and participate in the academic life of the University.

Members of the BL advise and collaborate with investigators on study design (including sample size and power calculations, protocol development and the preparation of grant and contract proposals), study execution (including randomization, data collection and monitoring, and oversight of data management and other study procedures), data analysis and interpretation, and manuscript preparation. BL members are also available for shorter consultations, such as making recommendations about statistical techniques or software, providing guidance and helping investigators avoid common pitfalls when performing their own analyses, and discussing ideas for future studies or analyses.

Investigators wishing to involve the BL in a project are encouraged to schedule an appointment during the initial phase of study/proposal planning, since statistical input and advice regarding data collection is often most critical at this stage to avoid mistakes that are difficult (if not impossible) to correct later on. Investigators who have not worked with a statistician before are often surprised at the amount of input and value we can provide early in the process of developing a proposal or planning a study.

To ensure a clear understanding of the needs, expectations, and available resources, the Principal Investigator or Project Director must attend an initial meeting to discuss pertinent information with the statistician. At this meeting, the full scope of the project will be discussed to determine the need for further collaboration.

An estimated charge will be prepared according to the needs throughout the various phases of the project and submitted for administrative and funding approval. Charges are either as an hourly rate for unrestricted and non-federal awards or percentage of effort for federal awards.

The academic home of the BL is the Department of Public Health Sciences, whose mission is “to increase and communicate knowledge that enhances health, reduces illness, and improves outcomes of health care.” BL members contribute to that mission through collaborative as well as methodological research, with the latter typically addressing problems identified during collaborative work. Current methodological interests of BL members include clinical trials methodology, survival analysis and competing risks methods, statistical genetics and gene expression analysis, model selection techniques, latent variable models including generalized linear latent and mixed models, and analysis of high-dimensional data.



Additional Services

The Biostatistics Clinic has been established by the Department of Public Health Sciences to provide free, short-term statistical consultation. This might include discussion about study design, sample size calculations, or basic data analysis. Staffed by members of the BL, the Clinic is held once a week with one-hour time slots available.

The Research Computing Group (RCG) within the BL develops specialized databases, software applications and tools for projects with unique requirements. They also work with the Center for Research Informatics (CRI) and Center for Translational Data Science (CTDS) to facilitate effective use of existing clinical data resources (e.g., Clinical Research Data Warehouse, REDCap, file storage, HPC, etc.). Members of the RCG are available for short-term projects (paid hourly) or longer-term involvement in large studies (percent effort).



Grant & Budget Preparation

Per Divisional policy, pre-approval **must** be obtained from the PHS Chairman or Lab Director **before** including a lab member on a proposal or grant submission.

Department Grant Administrators: To facilitate obtaining departmental concurrence and/or other grant proposal related items for a member of Public Health Sciences, please email our Department's grants administrator grants@health.bsd.uchicago.edu.



Fee Schedule

Grant preparation collaboration:

No charge when biostatistician's effort is appropriately included in the submitted project budget.

Percentage of effort on federal grants and contracts as determined by the scope and needs of the project:

Actual percentage of salary and fringe costs as a personnel expense.
When calculating salaries for future years, use 3% increase per year.

Collaboration effort charged on an hourly basis for non-federal and unrestricted projects only:

First hour of collaboration:

No charge.

Subsequent collaborative effort:

Billed as an hourly rate covering both personnel and non-personnel costs.....\$125.00/hr

External collaborative effort:

Billed at \$205/hr as long as project is not federally funded.