

Aaron C. Wenger

PH.D.

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Recruitment Team

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ZOETIS

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KALAMAZOO, MI 49007

Job Application for Statistician in Non-clinical and Diagnostics Statistics Group

Dear Stewart Fossceco,

I am excited to submit my application for the Statistician role in the Non-Clinical and Diagnostics Statistics group at Zoetis. With a Ph.D., extensive training in advanced statistical methods, and practical experience in both experimental design and multivariate analysis, I am well-prepared to contribute to the success of your team. My background in statistical programming, molecular biology, and a collaborative approach to study design and data analysis aligns with Zoetis's purpose to drive innovative animal care through data-driven decision-making in diagnostics and pharmaceutical development.

All too often, data from experimental and quasi-experimental studies are unreliable and not useful for guiding decision-making. In my dissertation work, I investigated a large set of studies in education research to determine how reliable their results were using a study assessment tool and the statistical methods of meta-analysis. To increase the reliability of my own work, I programmed the entire analysis in R, documenting and automating the many decisions which are necessary in any complex analysis, making my results reproducible and extensible when additional data is available or further analysis is required. I also learned machine learning techniques and applied the random forest algorithm to investigate which variables most strongly predict study results, providing context to the findings of my primary analysis.

In my recent role as a Graduate Research Assistant at Western Michigan University, I came to appreciate that data and statistical analyses are only useful if they are being used by decision-makers. In evaluation work of several large grant programs, regular cross-functional meetings with internal staff and external clients were necessary to develop tools and processes which correctly identified and addressed the research problem and so were useful. Through this experience and my dissertation work, I also appreciated the importance of having a team to work alongside and with whom new processes for innovative work can be developed. I shared new approaches to organizing and managing our work and participated in efforts to streamline the production and deployment of data dashboards. In my dissertation work, I also organized a working group of peers, presenting innovative tools and providing input on their projects. I believe that only effective collaborations of motivated individuals can produce effective results.

I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to contribute to innovative research and development at Zoetis and am confident that my technical and interpersonal skills will make a meaningful impact on your team. Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to discussing how my background, skills, and goals align with Zoetis's objectives.

Sincerely,

Aaron C. Wenger