Dr. Ann Von Holle

1158 Belfair Way

Chapel Hill, NC 27517

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Faculty Search Committee

Department of Epidemiology

University of Florida

2004 Mowry Road

Gainesville, FL 32610

Dear Members of the Faculty Search Committee,

I am writing to apply for the faculty position in the Department of Epidemiology at the University of Florida. My current position as a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), combined with my experience as a biostatistician and doctoral training in genetic epidemiology under Dr. Kari North’s guidance at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, provides a good fit with your advertised position.

As found in my curriculum vitae, I have transitioned from my prior work as a biostatistician in an academic setting to advanced level public health research applying longitudinal, survival, and latent class methods in chronic disease and cancer epidemiology. *I have authored five and co-authored more than 40 peer-reviewed publications, with 2,597 citations and an H-index of 28, according to Google Scholar.* As a graduate student in Dr. Kari North’s research group, I applied both longitudinal and latent class methods in my dissertation to advance knowledge about the relationships between early infant growth and lipid levels in adolescence. From this work, I have published two first author manuscripts, with another in preparation. My work as a graduate student further solidified my passion for public health research, and I was very happy to continue along this track at my current postdoctoral fellowship at NIEHS in Dr. Clarice Weinberg’s research group. In my current position, I have developed work focusing on familial correlation of age at breast cancer onset using a combination of survival models and time-dependent covariates. My current focus is on iron biomarkers and the occurrence of breast cancer. Future plans include research to better understand the role of modifiable lifestyle change in breast cancer and mortality outcomes.

The position within the Department of Epidemiology at the University of Florida offers an exciting opportunity to teach, mentor, and conduct research in a public health context. My first teaching-related experience was as a biostatistician functioning in an advisory role to undergraduate students, graduate students, postdoctoral fellows and professors in health professions as they were applying statistical methods for their peer-reviewed manuscripts. As a teaching assistant in the advanced epidemiologic methods class at the University Of North Carolina Department Of Epidemiology, I organized all class material into a GitHub group repository that is still being accessed as of this year. I have also taught a short-course in introductory statistics as a postdoctoral fellow. These experiences were a rewarding opportunity to share knowledge and help current and future researchers address scientific hypotheses through epidemiological methods, and I look forward to expanding this role.

The position at the University of Florida provides a welcome and exciting opportunity for me to establish my independent research program while collaborating with the exceptional faculty and teaching Epidemiology-related classes within the curriculum. I look forward to hearing from the committee and thank you for consideration of my application.

Sincerely,

Ann Von Holle, Ph.D.