***Formulating Research Questions – Part 2***

**Tuesday, May 20: 1:45pm-3:00pm**

**1:45-1:50pm: Pair up** with a partner you do not know.

**1:50-2:00pm: Write** down your (1) statistical research question and (2) mechanistic model question in plain language. Use words that anyone could understand.

**2:00-2:20pm: Share** with partner.

--State your two research questions, then allow them to ask you questions about your question. Discuss your questions until you arrive at a common understanding of what the questions are about and why they are important.

--With partner, for the statistical model, list *response variable* and *predictor variables* you can identify in your system.

--With partner, for the mechanistic model, list *states* and *processes* you can identify in your system.

**2:20-2:40pm: Repeat** for the otherpartner.

**2:40pm-2:50pm: Wrap up with a few comments from the audience. For homework,** make any further adjustments to your research questions that seem appropriate after hearing your partner’s interpretation of your research. You can adopt their language if you feel they have done a particularly good job of wording your question so it can be understood by those outside your field of study.

***Bring your edited questions to tomorrow’s small group session, ‘*Refining research questions for modeling’, *at 8:15am***