



# It's Been 30 Years! The 31st New England Statistics Symposium

Friday and Saturday, April 21–22, 2017

*University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT*

<http://ness.stat.uconn.edu/>

The Department of Statistics of the University of Connecticut is proud to host the 31st New England Statistics Symposium on Saturday, April 22, 2017. The purpose, as usual, is to bring together statisticians from all over New England to a central location to share research, discuss emerging issues in the field, and network with colleagues. The Symposium local hosts and organizers from the University of Connecticut are Haim Bar, Jun Yan (chair), and Yuping Zhang.

**Keynote Speakers:** David Madigan of Columbia University and Xihong Lin of Harvard University.

**Short Courses:** Three Full-Day (8:30am–5:00pm) Short Courses on Friday, April 21, 2017: 1) Fitting mixed-effects models using the Julia language: Douglas Bates, University of Wisconsin–Madison; 2) Practical Integrative Statistical Learning: Recent Developments and Case Studies: Robert Aseltine, University of Connecticut Health Center and Kun Chen, University of Connecticut; 3) Subgroup Analysis and Treatment Scoring with Application in Precision Medicine: Menggang Yu, University of Wisconsin–Madison.

**Invited Sessions:** Over 20 invited sessions on a wide range of topics are planned. Each invited session will have 105 minutes. A career development panel discussion session, with panelists from our sponsors and local industries, aims to help students in Statistics better plan their career development.

**Poster Session:** Contributed posters are still being accepted (up to 60) for the poster session.

**IBM Student Paper Competition:** Students are encouraged to submit papers for consideration of 3 student paper awards sponsored by the IBM Watson Research Center. Manuscripts need to be received no later than Friday, March 31, 2017. See details online.

**Liberty Mutual Student Poster Competition:** Students are encouraged to submit posters for consideration of 3-5 student poster awards sponsored by Liberty Mutual. Abstract needs to be received no later than Friday, April 7, 2017. See details on line.

**Registration:** The online registration system is now open. There is a registration fee of \$20 for students and \$40 for non-students to help defray the cost of refreshments, lunch and accommodations for keynote speakers. The registration fee for students who present a paper/poster will be waived through the sponsorship of IBM T. J. Watson Research Center and Liberty Mutual. There is a separate short course fee of \$50 for students, \$250 for non-students, and \$150 for non-student CT State employees.

**Program:** (Tentative)

## Friday, April 21, 2017

08:30am–05:00pm

NESS short courses at Rome Ballroom

## Saturday, April 22, 2017

08:30am–09:30am

Registration & Refreshment & Poster Session

09:30am–09:45am

Welcoming Remarks

09:45am–10:45am

Keynote Presentation: David Madigan, Columbia University

11:00am–12:45pm

Parallel Invited Paper

12:45pm–02:00pm

Lunch

01:00pm–02:00pm

Poster Session (continued)

02:10pm–02:40pm

Special Session: New England Statistical Society

02:40pm–03:40pm

Keynote Presentation: Xihong Lin, Harvard University

03:55pm–05:40pm

Parallel Invited Paper Sessions

05:40pm–06:15pm

Travelers Reception, Student Paper and Poster Awards Ceremony

06:45pm–08:45pm

NESS Dinner (signing up required with limited space)

Students from accredited universities and colleges are invited to participate the IBM Student Paper Competition and the Liberty Mutual Student Poster Competition at the 2017 NESS.

## IBM Watson Research Center Student Paper Competition

### Submission Guidelines

1. Each submission should include: a separate author information page that gives the title, authors, abstract, and keywords, and a blinded manuscript with no identifying information, either in the manuscript, or in the file name. The blinded version should include the title, abstract, and keywords.
2. Each submission is limited to a total of 25 pages (including references, tables, and figures), typeset with the Biometrics manuscript style: no more than 25 lines each page; 12-pt font size with one-inch margin; no more than 6 tables/figures together.
3. The student author should register online (for free) and submit the abstract for a poster presentation. A paper not selected for the IBM Student Paper Award will still be considered for the Liberty Mutual Student Poster Award.
4. The student author should be the first author of the manuscript.
5. The manuscript should be received by 11:59pm, Monday, March 20, 2017.
6. Each submission should be accompanied by a letter from the students advisor which confirms the student status of the submitter at the time of submission, and, in the case of joint authorship, the student's contribution as first author. This letter should be sent by the advisor directly to Prof. Yuping Zhang (yuping.zhang@uconn.edu).
7. The manuscript should not have been accepted for journal publication.
8. Award winners from previous years are not eligible for this year's award.

### Selection Criteria

Evaluators evaluate the blinded manuscripts with the following consideration: Novelty in theory/methods/applications; Significance and potential impact of the research; Motivation by a relevant problem; Methodological development or investigation relevant to the motivating problem; Scientifically meaningful illustration of proposed methodology; Clarity and style of presentation.

## Liberty Mutual Student Poster Competition

### Submission Guidelines

1. The student author should register online (for free) and submit an abstract for poster presentation by 11:59pm, Monday, April 3, 2017.
2. The student should be the first author of the poster.
3. Each submission should be accompanied by a letter from the students advisor which confirms the student status of the submitter at the time of submission, and in the case of joint authorship, the student's contribution as first author. This letter should be sent by the advisor directly to Prof. Yuping Zhang (yuping.zhang@uconn.edu).
4. The poster board will be ready at 8:30am on the day of the conference. Presenters are encouraged to set the posters up as early as possible to maximize the display time. Push-pins will be available on site. The formal presentation will be during the lunch time.
5. Award winners from previous years are not eligible for this year's award.

### Selection Criteria

Evaluators evaluate the posters on a scale of 1-10 based on the following weighted themes: 1) presentation of information (40%); 2) the originality and significance of research (30%); and 3) insightfulness of discussion (30%). Posters that receive high scores will have excellent graphics with large fonts and images, nice backgrounds, and good readability from at least one meter, precise text, and logical flow to the information; focused problems, innovative contributions to methodological or applied statistics; and a presenter who engages the viewers with exciting, interactive presentation and answers questions with clarity.

