The Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences started in 1999, with funding from the University Initiatives Fund. It is the first center in the nation devoted to this interface, with the triple mission of galvanizing collaborative research between social scientists and statisticians, developing a menu of new graduate courses for social science students, and putting together an innovative case-based undergraduate statistics sequence for the social sciences.

“Research in Foreign Nations”

On the rivers edge of the Shitalakhya river in Dhaka, Bangladesh

On the left Nairobi, Kenya, on the right rural Kenya
Math Camp was taught again this past year by Toby White, graduate student in the Department of Statistics, and Jason Thomas, graduate student in the Department of Sociology. We had a total of 46 students from various disciplines who attended the camp, including incoming graduate students from the departments of Anthropology, Health Services, Political Science, School of Social Work, Sociology, and Urban Design and Planning.

Math Camp is an intensive one-week introduction to fundamental concepts of mathematics and probability designed to help prepare social science graduate students for advanced courses in statistical methodology in general, and CSSS courses in particular.


Funding for Math Camp was provided by the Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences, the Department of Sociology, the Department of Political Science, the School of Social Work, and Washington State University (Anthropology dept.) and their NSF IGERT Grant.

CSSS Graduate Student Liaison

Eric Gleave, graduate student in the department of Sociology, takes over the role of CSSS Graduate Student Liaison. He will work with the CSSS Team to increase the level of interdisciplinary research/dialogue amongst affiliated graduate students involved in CSSS. His role includes attending the CSSS Team meetings, reminding/encouraging students to attend CSSS social events, and fielding questions/concerns that students may have in regards to CSSS.

CSSS Student Seminars

The CSSS student seminar (C6S) is an informal meeting open to all UW graduate students with interests in interdisciplinary quantitative social science research. The seminar aims to create a friendly supportive environment for students of all disciplines and all levels of technical sophistication to learn from each other. It serves this function in two ways:

(1) By providing a venue for students to practice giving a 'conference style' presentation, present their research at any stage, and receive feedback from fellow graduate students.

(2) By fostering a cross-disciplinary community of graduate students with interests in quantitative research. Fellow graduate students are a great resource for learning about new methods and statistical techniques, and for discussing the 'everyday' problems one confronts in research. C6S is a forum for dialogue with and feedback from students in other disciplines. It can be very useful to talk with researchers studying similar questions through other disciplinary lenses, or to see familiar methods used in different disciplinary contexts.

The student presenter is encouraged to talk about their research for ~20 minutes, leaving 10 minutes for questions, feedback, and discussion.

Information about CSSS Student Seminars can be found at [http://www.csss.washington.edu/StudentSem/](http://www.csss.washington.edu/StudentSem/)
From the Director:

Adrian E. Raftery

I spent 2006-7 on sabbatical in Prague, visiting the Department of Adaptive Systems at the Institute of Information Theory and Automation, which is part of the Czech Academy of Sciences. This is a group of Bayesian engineers who work on analysis and control of complex systems such as the Prague traffic system. They also have social science interests, and were involved in the European Union project, "Towards Electronic Democracy" (http://infodoc.escet.urjc.es/te), finding ways for citizens to be involved in governmental policy-making via the Internet (beyond just electronic voting, which is what the term often evokes in the US). It was fun to be exposed to such ambitious, complex and mind-stretching projects, while enjoying the amazing architectural beauty and cultural richness of Prague.

Thomas Richardson was Acting Director during the year, and did a great job, overseeing a remodel of the CSSS suite that gave us more space, and a curriculum in which we taught the most courses and students ever. Under the leadership of CSSS Graduate Chair Darryl Holman, new CSSS-based tracks were set up in the PhD programs in the School of Social Work and the Evans School of Public Affairs, bringing to six the number of UW PhD programs with CSSS-based tracks. CSSS core faculty continued to be recognized: Mark Handcock became chair of Statistics, and Chris Adolph was awarded a Robert Woods Johnson Fellowship in Health Policy. Thomas himself is taking a well-deserved sabbatical this year and was elected a Fellow of the Istituto di Studi Avanzati in Bologna, Italy. Long-time CSSS Executive Committee member Elaine Thompson received the UW School of Nursing Distinguished Research Award. Congratulations to all - maybe I should go away more often!

CSSS has a triple mission: collaborative research, graduate training, and undergraduate teaching. You can read here about the many successes in the first two areas. The article "Where are they now?" shows the success of graduate alums who have been affiliated with CSSS, mostly by taking the CSSS PhD tracks. Fourteen PhD graduates have taken academic positions around the country, including Carnegie-Mellon, Cornell, Harvard, Penn State, Reed and South Carolina, as well as in Canada (UBC and Toronto), the UK (Essex and Glasgow), and Australia (Monash). This is one index of the growing national and international impact of CSSS.

We have been less active in fulfilling our undergraduate education mission. This past fall, the CSSS Executive Committee recommended launching a multi-pronged initiative to expand opportunities for undergraduates within CSSS.

The cornerstone of our efforts so far has been our case-based introductory statistics course for social science undergraduates, CS&SS/STAT/SOC 321, which was created by Mark Handcock. Built around lab sessions, this course offers a practical, hands-on approach to learning statistics that gives students multiple opportunities to conduct statistical analysis of social scientific problems. We will expand our offerings so that more students are able to take this class in the future.

Other developments on the undergraduate front include new support for faculty to involve undergraduates in research on the interface between statistics and the social sciences, and a Freshman Seminar on "Statistical Thinking in the Social Sciences." We are also working with the interdisciplinary Applied Computational and Mathematical Sciences undergraduate program to develop their Social and Behavioral Sciences option.

Finally, CSSS will have its 10th anniversary in June 2009 (time flies!), and we're planning a conference to mark this on June 4-5, 2009. The invited speakers will be Stephen Fienberg (Carnegie-Mellon), Andrew Gelman (Columbia), Susan Murphy (Michigan), Chris Murray (UW Global Health), and Bruce Western (Harvard). It'll be an exciting event - watch the CSSS website for more information.
Fertility, Mortality, and Nutrition in Bangladesh

In April-May 2007 Mary Shenk spent four weeks in Bangladesh as part of a pilot research project planned in collaboration with Darryl Holman and funded by CSSS. The trip had originally been planned for November-December 2006; however political unrest in connection with upcoming general elections forced the delay of the trip until spring.

The primary goal of the trip was to visit the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B) where the data they hope to use for their work is collected and housed. During her trip she gathered information on data availability, determined proposal and IRB approval procedures, identified a Bangladeshi research collaborator, researched budget details, and discussed the procedures for new data collection in the ICDDR,B study area of Matlab. She was joined for part of her stay by recent UW biocultural anthropology Ph.D., Dawn Neill. With the help of ICDDR,B employee Noushin Islam, Dawn and Mary also did some informal interviewing in Matlab villages on topics related to their proposed research including fertility and mortality decline, social and economic change, and women’s life histories, health, and dietary practices.

Based on information collected during the trip, Darryl, Dawn and Mary clarified their thinking and decided that instead of the single proposal originally planned that they should produce two proposals. Darryl and Dawn would collaborate on a project focusing on childhood undernutrition and adult health while Mary, Darryl, and another collaborator would pursue a project testing evolutionary models of the demographic transition.

“She was always surprised by the friendliness and hospitality of the Bangladeshis she met as well as how pleased many of them were to have their pictures taken.”

Dawn talks with local women in Matlab about processing rice for storage.
ICDDR, B headquarters is known throughout Dhaka as the ‘cholera hospital’ because of their large working hospital focused in large part on diarrhoeal disease treatment and research. Their mission, however, is far more broad-based, including social science, population, health, and policy-related research and training. ICDDR,B employees come from all over the world, and foreign researchers and students visit frequently to work on projects. This creates a dynamic environment for both population research and socializing.

Dawn and Mary escape the midday sun inside a village home.

Dawn and Mary stayed at the ICDDR,B Guesthouses in both Dhaka and Matlab, giving them the chance to meet and get to know other visiting scholars from Scotland, Japan, India, Thailand, Africa, and the United States. Most of their time was spent in the colorful, crowded capital city of Dhaka which contrasts sharply with the more peaceful, agrarian lifestyle of the village areas where they did their interviews and where their data came from. Yet both of their planned projects focus on changes occurring in Bangladeshi villages as a consequence of increasing exposure to both negative and positive aspects of development, meaning that modern villages may not be the simple, peaceful places they often seem.

“Mary came away thinking that Bangladesh is an ideal place for her and Dawn to do both research projects, and she looks forward to returning for a longer stay during the data collection portion of her project in the next year or so.”

Mary was also able to spend a bit of time as a tourist, visiting historical sites like the Lalbagh Fort and the bustling seaport of Sadarghat in Old Dhaka as well as taking a day-long river cruise on the Shitalakhya River where she visited an old Zamindar’s palace, a jute factory and a village where they weave Bangladesh’s famous Jamdanee sarees. She learned a few words of Bangla and managed to surprise a few of the locals with her limited knowledge of the more ancient history of Bangladesh gleaned in late nights spent reading about the history of South Asia while doing her dissertation research in south India. She was always surprised by the friendliness and hospitality of the Bangladeshis she met as well as how pleased many of them were to have their pictures taken. Mary came away thinking that Bangladesh is an ideal place for her and Dawn to do both research projects, and she looks forward to returning for a longer stay during the data collection portion of her project in the next year or so.

Bangladeshi mother and child. The x on the child’s head is to ward off evil and ensure good health.

Like many rural Bangladeshis, this extended family lives in a small traditional village community in close proximity to the river.
**Faculty News**

Chris Adolph, UW Political Science/CSSS received a two year Robert Wood Johnson fellowship that aims to produce creative thinking in health policy research and will be stationed at the University of Michigan during the 2007 – 2009 academic years.

Elena Erosheva, UW Statistics/School of Social Work/CSSS takes over the role of CSSS Consulting Director during the 2007-08 academic year.

Mark Handcock, UW Statistics/CSSS takes over the role as Chair of the Statistics department effective during the 2007-08 academic year.

Peter Hoff, UW Statistics/Biostatistics/CSSS is on sabbatical leave during the 2007-08 academic year.

Adrian Raftery, UW Statistics/Sociology. Named as a 2007 fellow to the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS) for seminal contributions to Bayesian model selection and computation, demography, clustering, and stochastic modeling, for influential and novel high-impact statistical applications, and for conscientious professional service.

Thomas Richardson, UW Statistics is on sabbatical leave during the 2007-08 academic year at Università di Bologna, Italy and Oxford University, United Kingdom.

**New CSSS Faculty Affiliate**

Emmanuela Gakidou, UW Global Health. Received Ph D in Health Policy from Harvard University. Currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Global Health.

**Visitors to CSSS**

Michael Schweinberger recently received his Ph D from the University of Gronigen, The Netherlands. He was also awarded a two year Rubicon research fellowship from the Netherlands Organisation of Scientific Research (NW0). He will be collaborating with Mark Handcock on some research during his 2 year visit with CSSS.

Ivan Jeliazkov is an Assistant Professor of Economics, in the Department of Economics at the University of California, Irvine. He presented at the CSSS Seminar on November 21, 2007. He also met and collaborated with some of the CSSS faculty affiliates during his visit.
These fellowships honor Hubert M. Blalock, who was a leading sociological methodologist and social statistician at the UW, a former President of the American Sociological Association, and one of the founding faculty members of the Statistics department here, as well as a longtime Professor of Sociology at the university. CSSS provides this award to entering graduate students who have a strong interest in furthering their studies in statistics and the social sciences.

Two students received the CSSS –Hubert M. Blalock Fellowships this year. This year’s graduate student award was for $3,000 per individual.

Danielle Fumia holds a Masters Degree in Public Affairs from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (2007) and is a graduate student in the Evans School of Public Affairs.

Mark Wheldon holds a Masters Degree in Statistics from the University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand (2006) and is a graduate student in the department of Statistics.

Photos by Mary Levin, UW Photography
I am a PhD student in the UW Statistics department, working with Adrian Raftery and Sam Clark on probabilistic population projections. We collaborate with the UN Population Division and UNAIDS within this project. I spent last year in New York, Europe, Nairobi and Cape Town. This is a summary of the research collaborations with the UN and living and working in Africa.

Fall quarter started at the United Nations Population Division in New York (www.unpopulation.org), at the Population Estimates and Projection Section. Every two years this section produces estimates and projections of population counts and demographic indicators for every country in the world. This is a very challenging task given the variety of data quality and quantity between countries, and the difficulties in projecting demographic indicators. In the current methodology there is no assessment of the uncertainty in the population projections. We are working on a model for country specific projections of the total fertility rate, and assessing the uncertainty in those projections.

UNAIDS is the UN division that produces the bi-annual estimates and projections of HIV prevalence and related indicators. It uses the Estimation and Projection Package to project HIV prevalence (www.unaids.org/en/HIV_data/Methodology). We worked on the methodology to assess uncertainty in these projections. Our approach to use Bayesian melding was being implemented in the 2007 version of the Estimation and Projection Package and is used for the uncertainty assessment in the most recent estimates.

During Winter and Spring quarter I was a research intern at the African Population and Health Research Center in Nairobi, Kenya (www.aphrc.org). This center was founded in 1995 with the mission to promote the well-being of Africans through policy-relevant research. Their research areas include urbanization, population dynamics, health and education. The center is also involved in policy engagement and strengthening research capacities in Africa. In order to clarify linkages between urbanization, poverty, and health, it has started the Nairobi Urban Health Demographic Surveillance Site. Information on demographic, health, and SES indicators have been collected since 2000 in two slums in Nairobi, with around 55,000 residents. In the center I started working with the data relating to social economic status, and use latent class analysis to identify poverty groups within the Nairobi slums.

My biggest challenge last year, especially in Nairobi, was to get my head around the huge contrasts. Nairobi is inequality “in your face”; many residents live in iron sheet housing without any facilities. At the same time, Nairobi also serves as a UN center for Eastern Africa and has a huge expat community. The world becomes a weird place when you are analyzing income and expenditure data of Nairobi’s slum residents in the afternoon and going to an expat-party in the evening. Being in a children’s home in Nairobi one weekend, and having a conference on Times Square in New York the next week gives a similar effect. It was good to realize that the question “How to help to make a difference” has an unlimited number of answers and definitely more than one answer allowed.
The Center for Actuarial research at the University of Cape Town was my last destination for Summer (South Africa’s winter!) quarter.

Why fly if you can also travel overland?

I traveled from Nairobi to Cape Town through nine different countries by African public transport. I was amazed by the difference between rural areas and cities, by how many people you can fit into a minibus, by the beauty and vastness of the countryside and had a great trip thanks to many friendly and welcoming Africans along the way.

In “rainbow” Cape Town I was a visiting researcher at the Centre for Actuarial Research at the University of Cape Town. At this centre the AIDS and Demographic model ASSA has been developed for the Actuarial Society of South Africa (www.assa.org.za/aids). This model has been used for population projections in South Africa and Botswana. I worked with Leigh Johnson on estimating the prevalence of various sexually transmitted diseases, taking into account measurement errors and problems with the sensitivity and specificity of tests.

It as been an amazing year, many thanks to many people!

Special thanks to Sam and Adrian for support, CSDE (Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology) for my fellowship and to everyone at UN PEPS, UTIA, APHRC and CARE for giving me so much more than just a chair and a desk!

Thanks!!

*Children of Maji Mazuri make you smile : *)

I volunteered in a children’s center that is run by Maji Mazuri (www.majimazuri.org), a great organization in Nairobi that also runs various schools, a youth group and a micro-loan program.

Thanks to all for the donations for solar power in the children’s center!
CSSS Seed Grants Awarded 2007-08

Adrian Dobra, UW Statistics, Biobehavioral Nursing and Health Systems, CSSS and Joachim Voss, UW Biobehavioral Nursing and Health Systems "Shotgun Stochastic Search for Gene Expression Symptom Cluster Studies"

Hector Rodriguez, UW Health Services, SPHCM, “Multilevel Models to Inform the Case Mix Adjustment of Patient Care Experience Performance Measures”

Katherine Stovel, UW Sociology, and Sibel Sirakaya Alemdar, UW Statistics, Economics, CSSS, "A Path Toward Fairness: The Consequences of Preferential Association on Behavior in the Ultimatum Game"

CSSS Working Papers

Peter Hoff, November, 2007 "Modeling homophily and stochastic equivalence in symmetric relational data"

Theo Eicher, Chris Papageorgiou, and Oliver Roehn, October, 2007 "Unraveling the Fortunes of the Fortunate: An Iterative Bayesian Model Averaging (IBMA) Approach"

Jeffrey Begun and Theo Eicher, October, 2007 "In Search of a Sulphur Dioxide Environmental Kuznets Curve: A Bayesian Model Averaging Approach"

Theo Eicher, Christian Henn, and Chris Papageorgiou, October, 2007 “Trade Creation and Diversion Revisited: Accounting for Model Uncertainty and Natural Trading Partner Effects"

Pavel Krivitsky, Mark S. Handcock, Adrian E. Raftery, and Peter Hoff August, 2007 ”Representing Degree Distributions, Clustering, and Homophily in Social Networks With Latent Cluster Random Effects Models"

Theo Eicher, Chris Papageorgiou, and Adrian E. Raftery, August, 2007 ”Determining Growth Determinants: Default Priors and Predictive Performance in Bayesian Model Averaging"

Mark S. Handcock and Krista Gile April, 2007 ”Modeling Social Networks with Sampled or Missing Data"

Marijtje A.J. van Duijn, Krista Gile, and Mark S. Handcock April, 2007 ”Comparison of Maximum Pseudo Likelihood and Maximum Likelihood Estimation of Exponential Family Random Graph Models"

Saraswata Chaudhuri, Thomas Richardson, James Robins, and Eric Zivot Revised version: June 2006 ”Split-Sample Score Tests in Linear Instrumental Variables Regression"

Richard Startz and Kwok Ping Tsang February, 2007 ”The Yield Curve Through Time and Across Maturities"

Limor Nadav-Greenberg, Susan L. Joslyn, and Meng U. Taing January, 2007 ”The Effect of Weather Forecast Uncertainty Visualization on Decision Making"

Leontine Alkema, Adrian E. Raftery, and Sam Clark January, 2007 ”Probabilistic Projections of HIV Prevalence Using Bayesian Melding"

Recent Talks by CSSS Faculty/Affiliates

Adrian Dobra ”The Mode Oriented Stochastic Search for Log-linear with Conjugate Priors" presented at the Case Studies in Bayesian Statistics, Workshop 9 at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA

Elena Erosheva "Hierarchical Bayesian Modeling of Marijuana Use Trajectories in Young Adults and Adolescents" presented at the Case Studies in Bayesian Statistics, Workshop 9 at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA
## Recent Research Grants Awarded

**PI: Elena Erosheva**  
Funding Agent: NIH  
Amount: $121,280  
Date: September 1, 2007 – August 31, 2009  
Title: “Operational Definition of Chronic Disability in the National Long-Term care Survey”  
Funding Agent: NIH

**PI: Adrian Raftery**  
Funding Agent: NIH  
Amount: $1,310,000  
Date: August 15, 2007 - May 31, 2011  
Title: “Assessing Uncertainty in Population Projection Models via Bayesian Melding”

**PI: Adrian Raftery (PI -Susan Joslyn)**  
Funding Agent: NSF (Sub-budget portion)  
Amount: $281,053  
Date: October 1, 2007 - September 30, 2010  
Title: “DRU –Weather Forecast Uncertainty”

**PI: Mark Handcock (PI –Michael Rendell)**  
Funding Agent: NIH (Subcontract from Rand Corp.)  
Amount: $64,144  
Date: August 1, 2007 - July 31, 2009  
Title: “Immigration, Emigration, and Age-by-Country Structure of Mexican Cohort Lifetime”

## CSSS Travel Grants Awarded

### Travel Grants Awarded 2007-08  Round 1

| Traveler: | Yen-Sheng Chiang  
(Sociology) | Traveler: | Michael Schweinberger  
(Statistics) |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------------|
| CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Katherine Stovel  
International Sunbelt Social Network Conference, St Pete Beach, FL | CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Mark Handcock  
International Sunbelt Social Network Conference, St Pete Beach, FL |
| Meeting: | | | |

| Traveler: | Masako Fujita  
(Anthropology) | Traveler: | Jason Thomas  
(Sociology) |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------------|
| CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Steven M. Goodreau  
American Association of Physical Anthropologists, Columbus, OH | CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Samuel J. Clark  
Visiting Africa Centre in Kwazulu-Natal Province, South Africa |
| Meeting: | | | |

| Traveler: | Krista Gile  
(Statistics) | Traveler: | Toby White  
(Statistics) |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------------|
| CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Mark Handcock  
International Sunbelt Social Network Conference, St Pete Beach, FL | CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Elena Erosheva  
ENAR/IBS (International Biometrics Society), Arlington, VA |
| Meeting: | | | |

## Student Paper Award

David A. Nolin, UW Graduate Student in Anthropology, and pre-doctoral fellow in CSDE (Center for Studies in Demography and Ecology) was awarded best student paper from the Evolutionary Anthropology Society section of the American Anthropological Association for his presentation of his paper entitled "A Social Network Analysis of Food Sharing Behavior in Lamalera, Indonesia" at the American Anthropological Association meeting in Washington, DC on November 28, 2007. Funding for his travel was provided by a CSSS Travel Grant award.
## Travel Grants Awarded 2006-07 Round 2

| Traveler: | Richard Callahan  
(Sociology) | Traveler: | Rosanna Shuk Yin Lee  
(Sociology) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Ross Matsueda  
Santa Fe Institute  
Complex Systems  
Summer School  
Beijing, China | CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Darryl Holman  
American Sociological Association Annual Meeting -2007  
New York, NY |
| Meeting: | | | |

| Traveler: | Saraswata Chaudhuri  
(Economics) | Traveler: | Siobhan Mattison  
(Anthropology) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Thomas Richardson  
Econometric Study  
Group Conference  
Bristol, United Kingdom | CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Christopher Adolph  
Human Behavior and Evolution Society  
Williamsburg, VA |
| Meeting: | | | |

| Traveler: | Xiang Gao  
(School of Social Work) | Traveler: | David Nolin  
(Anthropology) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Bu Huang  
12th Summer Institute on Longitudinal Methods  
Pennsylvania State College, State College, PA | CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Steve Goodreau  
American Anthropological Association  
Washington, DC |
| Meeting: | | | |

| Traveler: | Krista Gile  
(Statistics) | Traveler: | Brooke Scelza  
(Anthropology) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Mark Handcock  
Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM)  
Salt Lake City, UY | CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Steve Goodreau  
Human Behavior and Evolution Society  
Williamsburg, VA |
| Meeting: | | | |

| Traveler: | Kwok Ping Tsang  
(Economics) | Traveler: | Jacob T.N. Young  
(Sociology) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Richard Startz  
Spring Meeting of Young Economists  
Hamburg, Germany | CSSS Faculty or Affiliate: | Mark Handcock  
The Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology  
Atlanta, GA |
| Meeting: | | | |
The Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences (CSSS) offers year-round statistical consulting services to faculty and students in affiliated departments.

Available services include:

- Assistance with study planning and design
- Review of the analysis section of proposals and reports
- Advice on data visualization and presentation
- Assistance with the choice and application of statistical methods
- Development of specialized statistical methods

**Elena Erosheva**, Assistant Professor of Statistics and Social Work, and a core member of the Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences has taken over the role of CSSS Consulting Director during this past year.

**Hil Lyons**, graduate student in the department of Statistics has taken over the role of CSSS Consulting RA.

To set up an appointment with consulting staff, please e-mail:

csss-consult@stat.washington.edu

The CSSS Consulting RA will hold office hours in **Padelford C-108** (note the change of location from previous years).

The Consulting RA office hours for Winter 2008:

- Monday 1:30pm-3:00pm
- Wednesday 1:30pm-3:00pm
- Thursday 11:30am-1:00pm

For more information, please visit:
Where Are They Now?

Below is a list of former UW graduate students (affiliated with CSSS) and where they are now.

**Eric Aldrich**, MS University of Washington (2005). He is currently a Ph D student in the department of Economics at Duke University. His academic research/interests involve econometric methodology, time series, Bayesian statistics, wavelets and finance.

**Veronica Berrocal**, PhD University of Washington (2007), is a NRC (National Research Council) Post-Doctoral Fellow at the National Exposure Research Laboratory of the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Her research involves the development of spatio-temporal models for air quality (ozone and PM).

**Christian Breunig**, PhD University of Washington (2007), is currently a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Societies (MPIfG) in Cologne, Germany. He will be an Assistant Professor in Political Science at the University of Toronto in Toronto, Canada starting in the 2008-09 school year. His research interests are in comparative political economy, public policy in OECD countries, budgetary politics, and political methodology.

**Xun Cao**, PhD University of Washington (2007), is a Lecturer at the Department of Government, University of Essex, United Kingdom (on leave 2007-8). During 2007-8, he is a Post-doctoral Research Associate at the Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance of the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University. His research interests are in quantitative methodology which focuses on latent space model of network analysis and spatial models.

**Amanda Cox**, MS University of Washington (2005), is a graphics editor for the New York Times. Interests includes visualization and sneaking uncertainty into the paper.

**Nema Dean**, PhD University of Washington (2006), is a Lecturer in the department of Statistics at the University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom. Her research interests are in supervised and unsupervised learning, mixture models, variable selection, and microarray data analysis.

**Christine Fountain**, PhD University of Washington (2006), is an Assistant Professor at the University of South Carolina in the Sociology department. Her work concerns the interplay between institutions and the social structures created by the interactions of people within those institutions. Specifically, she studies the interplay between labor markets, network structures, careers, and hiring processes. She teaches courses in introductory sociology, sociological methods, and economic sociology.

**Raphael Gottardo**, PhD University of Washington (2005), is an Assistant Professor in the Statistics department at the University of British Columbia. His main research interests are about statistical issues involved with high throughput genomics/proteomics, Bayesian inference and stochastic computation for Bayesian inference.

**Adam Glynn**, PhD University of Washington (2005), is an Assistant Professor in the department of Government and a Faculty Associate of the Institute for Quantitative Social Science at Harvard University. His research and teaching interests include political methodology, inference for combined aggregate and individual level data, causal inference, and sampling design. His current research involves optimal sampling design conditional on aggregate data and the identification of complex causal effects from political science data.

**C. Elizabeth Hirsh**, PhD University of Washington (2006), is an Assistant Professor in the Sociology department at Cornell University. Her research interests are in stratification, inequality, organizations, social policy, and research methods. Her current research projects focus on race and gender inequality in employment.

**Chris Koski**, PhD University of Washington (2007), is an Assistant Professor in the Political Science department at James Madison University. His research interests center around public policy, specifically environmental. His teaching interests lie in American politics, public policy processes, environmental policy, regulatory policy, and bureaucracy.

**Derek Kreager**, PhD University of Washington (2006), is an Assistant Professor in the department of Sociology and Crime, Law, and Justice at Penn State University. His interests are in criminology, quantitative methods, networks, and life course.

**Heather Larsen-Price**, PhD University of Washington (2006), is an Assistant Professor in the Political Science department at the University of Memphis. Her research interests include American political institutions, public policy processes, as well as decision making and information processing.
Rebecca Nugent, PhD University of Washington (2006), is a Visiting Assistant Professor (NSF VIGRE Postdoctoral Fellow) in the department of Statistics at Carnegie Mellon University. Her interests are in nonparametric multivariate analysis methods; mode analysis; cluster trees; minimal spanning trees; generalized single linkage clustering; assessing significance of clusters; automatic pruning procedures; relationship between sleep and obesity in adults and adolescents; sleep stability, utility of pulmonary function testing, and hierarchical cluster structures in knowledge component structures: (how do we learn? in what order?).

Susan Shortreed, PhD University of Washington (2005), is a Post-Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at Monash University, Alfred Hospital in Victoria, Australia. Her research interests are in causal modelling, graphical models, machine learning, spectral clustering, statistical computing and algorithms, social networks, and contagious disease spread.

Anthony Pezzola, PhD University of Washington (2006), is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Political Science department at Reed College.

Jeremy Tantrum, PhD University of Washington (2003), is a Statistician in the Microsoft adCenter Labs at Microsoft Corporation. His interests are in clustering large data sets, both model based and non-parametric. This is also called unsupervised learning in the data mining scenario.

Anton Westveld, PhD University of Washington (2007) is an Assistant Professor of Statistics in the Department of Mathematical Sciences at the University of Nevada Las Vegas, and a member of the Center for Applied Mathematics and Statistics. His general interests include Bayesian data analysis, decision theory, methodology for dependent data, graphical models, and causal modeling. Currently he is focusing on statistical methodology for relational/interaction data which include social network data and game theoretic data.

Letter of Recognition Award Recipients

Graduate Students who have completed Ph D concentrations (Minor Tracks) and received Letter of Recognition Awards during the past year.

Political Science
Shauna Fisher
Joshua Sapotichne

School of Social Work
Xiang Gao

Statistics
Krista Gile

Sociology
Scott De Burgomaster
Eric Gleave
Deven Hamilton
Stephanie Jaros
Rosanna Shuk Yin Lee
Jacob T.N. Young

CSSS has Ph D concentrations (Minor Tracks) with the departments of Anthropology, the Evans School of Public Affairs, Political Science, the School of Social Work, Sociology, and Statistics.

Information about the Ph D concentrations can be found at http://www.csss.washington.edu/Courses/PhD/
Christopher Adolph. Assistant Professor in the Political Science Department and Core Faculty member of the Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences (CSSS) received a two year fellowship from The Scholars in Health Policy Research Program, (http://www.healthpolicyscholars.org) run by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. This is a program that aims to produce creative thinking in health policy research. The program targets freshly minted scholars -- those whose doctoral degrees are no more than five years old -- in one of three disciplines: political science, economics and sociology. He will be collaborating with other scholars with different backgrounds in a rich learning environment which gives them a chance to exchange ideas, broaden their professional research agendas, and return to their institutions ready to inject new intellectual life regarding health policy issues.

Adrian E. Raftery. Blumstein-Jordan Professor of Statistics and Sociology, and Director of the Center for Statistics and the Social Sciences (CSSS) was part of the 2007 Institute for Mathematical Statistics (IMS) class of fellows for his seminal contributions to Bayesian model selection and computation, demography, clustering, and stochastic modeling, for influential and novel high-impact statistical applications, and for conscientious professional service.

Thomas S. Richardson. Associate Professor of Statistics, and Acting Director of CSSS in 2006-7 was made a Fellow of the Istituto di Studi Avanzati, Università di Bologna, Italy in 2007. He was also awarded a Visiting Senior Research Fellowship by Jesus College, University of Oxford, United Kingdom in 2008.

Elaine Thompson. the Sandra and Peter Dyer Term Professor in Nursing in the UW School of Nursing's Department of Psychosocial and Community Health, has received the UW School of Nursing Distinguished Researcher Award. She is a CSSS Executive Committee member. She has dedicated her career to improving the health and well-being of adolescents, focusing her research on the prevention of adolescent depression, aggression, substance use, risky behaviors and suicide risk. She is also a cofounder of the federally funded Reconnecting Youth Prevention Research Program, she has examined the effects of psychosocial risk and protective factors on adolescent development.

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