

Organization and Staffing

Biostatistics:

Theodore Karrison, PhD, Director Biostatistics
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Research Computing Group:

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Sondra Birch, PhD, Research Professional
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Michael Johnson, BS, Research Programmer
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Location & Hours

The Department of Public Health Sciences administrative offices are located in AMB W-238 and are open Monday - Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Biostatistics Laboratory is located in the Medical Center at the north end of the 3rd floor of the Mothers Aid Research Pavilion (MARP). The R-corridor 3rd floor can be accessed from Goldblatt 2nd floor by the staircase at the west end of the corridor near the entrance to the Dept. Ob/Gyn suite.

To schedule an appointment for the Biostatistics Clinic, please go to <https://biotime.uchicago.edu/Clinic.aspx>

To initiate collaboration or request biostatistical support for a project, please go to <https://biotime.uchicago.edu/RequestSupport.aspx>, and fill out the form. This will generate an e-mail to the Biostatistics Laboratory Director, and you will be contacted by the statistician assigned to the project.

Administrative Contact:

Phone (773)702-2453

E-mail:

grants@health.bsd.uchicago.edu

Website:

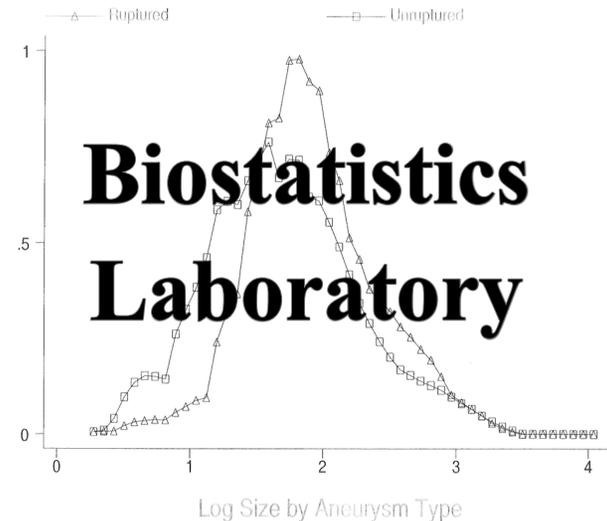
<http://health.bsd.uchicago.edu/Biostatistics-Laboratory>

The Department of Public Health Sciences

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Department of Public Health Sciences



Academic Year

2015-2016

Theodore G. Karrison, Ph.D., Director
Donald Hedeker, Ph.D., Faculty Director



Collaboration

The Biostatistics Laboratory (located within the Department of Public Health Sciences) consists of a group of PhD and MS statisticians, computer programmers, and research professionals whose primary focus is on applied and collaborative research. Our members have a broad range of experience and interests, and also conduct methodological work in addition to collaborating with researchers throughout the University. We participate in training and mentoring young investigators (e.g., advising on K Awards, attending journal clubs, etc.). Biostatistics Lab (BL) members serve on various committees and participate in the academic life of the University.

Members of the BL advise and collaborate with investigators on study design (including sample size and power calculations, protocol development and the preparation of grant and contract proposals), study execution (including randomization, data collection and monitoring, and oversight of data management and other study procedures), data analysis and interpretation, and manuscript preparation. BL members are also available for shorter consultations, such as making recommendations about statistical techniques or software, providing guidance and helping investigators avoid common pitfalls when performing their own analyses, and discussing ideas for future studies or analyses.

Investigators wishing to involve the BL in a project are encouraged to schedule an appointment during the initial phase of study/proposal planning, since statistical input and advice regarding data collection is often most critical at this stage to avoid mistakes that are difficult (if not impossible) to correct later on. Investigators who have not worked with a statistician before are often surprised at the amount of input and value we can provide early in the process of developing a proposal or planning a study.

To ensure a clear understanding of the needs, expectations, and available resources, the Principal Investigator or Project Director must attend an initial meeting to discuss pertinent information with the statistician. At this meeting, the full scope of the project will be discussed to determine the need for further collaboration. An estimated charge (either as an hourly rate or percentage of effort) will be prepared according to the needs throughout the various phases of the project and submitted for administrative and funding approval.

The academic home of the BL is the Department of Public Health Sciences, whose mission is "to increase and communicate knowledge that enhances health, reduces illness, and improves outcomes of health care." BL members contribute to that mission through collaborative as well as methodological research, with the latter typically addressing problems identified during collaborative work. Current methodological interests of BL members include clinical trials methodology, survival analysis and competing risks methods, statistical genetics and gene set enrichment analysis, analysis of interval censored count data, model selection techniques, and latent variable models including generalized linear latent and mixed models.

The **Biostatistics Clinic** has been established by the Department of Public Health Sciences to provide free, short-term statistical consultation. This might include discussion about study design, sample size calculations, or basic data analysis. Staffed by members of the BL, the Clinic is held once a week with one-hour time slots available.

The **Research Computing Group (RCG)** within the BL develops specialized databases, software applications and tools for projects with unique requirements. They also work with the Center for Research Informatics (CRI) and Cancer Center Informatics Group to facilitate effective use of existing clinical data resources (e.g., Clinical Research Data Warehouse, Velos, REDCap, etc.). Members of the RCG are available for short-term projects (paid hourly) or longer-term involvement in large studies (percent effort).

Consulting Fee Schedule

Percentage of effort on grant or contract (may not be less than 5% annually):

Actual percentage of salary and fringe costs as a personnel expense,
plus \$145.00 for every 1% effort as a Biostatistical Support Fee (to cover project-related non-personnel expenses)

Collaboration effort charged on an hourly basis:

First two hours of collaboration:

No charge.

Subsequent collaborative effort:

Billed as an hourly rate covering both personnel and non-personnel costs.....\$95.00/hr

External collaborative effort:

Billed at twice the hourly rate as long as project is not federally funded.

Grant preparation collaboration:

No charge when appropriate biostatistician's effort is included in the submitted project budget.

When calculating salaries for future years, use 3% increase per year.



Grant & Budget Preparation

Per Divisional policy, written pre-approval **must** be obtained from the PHS Chairman or Lab Director **before** including a lab member on a proposal or grant

When a biostatistician is named on a grant and a percentage of effort is listed in the personnel category, please budget as a line item a Biostatistical Support Fee, which is currently \$145.00 per 1% of effort annually. This fee supports the resources the biostatistician will require for performing research work such as the cost of photocopying/faxing, paper for printing, office & computer supplies, software licenses, and telephone charges.

For example, if a biostatistician was named in a grant at 10 % effort, the support fee would be calculated as follows:

$$\$145.00 \times 10 = \$1,450 \text{ annually}$$

