Happy summer, everyone!
I hope you all are enjoying the break, going outside in the beautiful weather, and spending time with loved ones.

This month's newsletter features an update on DSBA curriculum, a change in funding policies for student TAs, and several resources from the Big South Data Hub.

**DSBA GRADUATE PROGRAM CURRICULUM NEWS**

**DSBA Curriculum Revisions**
Starting Fall 2022, there will be a change in the selection and numbers of required and elective courses for both the Master’s and Certificate programs. One fewer core course and one more elective course will be required compared to the old requirement. The changes address the concerns about having many overlaps of covered topics among the core courses. The change will also allow students to take
Summer Curriculum Projects: DSBA
The DSBA program encourages faculty to develop a new elective course or significantly redesign an existing course by taking advantage of summer curriculum projects. Funding is available to support SDS faculty or a graduate assistant. Faculty will be asked to submit a brief proposal and budget. Please contact Josh Hertel for more information.

Graduate Student Compensation Policy
In case you missed this update shared earlier this month, the Graduate School has published a new website with the hope of clarifying the compensation policies for Graduate Assistantships- TAs and RAs.

SDS Fall Classroom Support: Status Change for TAs
With the implementation of the new funding policies for student classroom support, the majority of SDS-funded TA’s will transition to Instructional Assistants (IA) (paid hourly for instruction-related tasks, e.g., grading, recording attendance, preparing instructional materials). Master’s level students will be paid $17.00/hr, capped at 20 hrs/week during fall and spring semesters.

What this means for faculty: As Instructional Assistants (IA), students will have to fill out biweekly timesheets. Faculty assigned an IA will be responsible for monitoring and approving the biweekly timesheets. Next week we will begin notifying faculty teaching SDS classes in the fall about IA allocations. Contact Josh Hertel with any questions.

SDS Bootcamps- Relaunched for Summer & Fall 2022
All three of the current SDS boot camps (Introduction to Python, Introduction to R, and an Overview of Statistics) were reviewed this spring and relaunched for summer/fall 2022. There is also a Beta SAS Bootcamp specifically created for HIA students, Introduction to SAS for Health Analytics.
NCTECH Releases April Jobs Report

The North Carolina Technology Association (NCTECH) has released its monthly report of available IT positions in the state, broken down in several ways (top 10 listings by MSA, job type, skillset, and employers). This Tech Talent Trends Alert is a snapshot of the previous month (as well as a rolling thirteen-month chart of total IT job openings such that trends can be observed).

VIEW APRIL REPORT

Big South Data Hub News

Below are selected resources from the Big South Data Hub Newsletter. It is a great resource—sign up today!

Big South Data Hub SEEDS Grant Program | Applications close June 3

The South Big Data Innovation Hub SEEDS (Southern Engagement and Enrichment in Data Science) program is designed to promote collaboration and support the cross-pollination of tools, data, and ideas across various disciplines and sectors. Eligible applicants include individuals or group teams led by faculty, students, or individuals from academic institutions or other non-profits within the Southern United States (defined as Delaware – Texas) including the District of Columbia. Apply for SEEDS awards of $10,000, $50,000, or $100,000.

APPLY HERE

SMART-DART: Health Equity Cohort Researcher Training

Applications close June 3

The South Big Data Hub will join CODATA-RDA, AIM-AHEAD Southeast Hub at Morehouse School of Medicine, and Microsoft Research to host a 10-week Researcher Data Science Training through a mix of virtual and in-person instruction.
The SMART-DART: Health Equity Cohort will focus on growing the competence of Health Equity researchers in accessing, analyzing, visualizing, and publishing data.

REGISTER HERE

Research Fellows for On the Books: Jim Crow and Algorithms of Resistance | Proposals due July 15

On the Books: Jim Crow and Algorithms of Resistance (OTB) is a text mining project at UNC-Chapel Hill with the goal of discovering Jim Crow and racially-based legislation signed into law in North Carolina between Reconstruction and the Civil Rights Movement. The OTB project team invites proposals from graduate students and faculty to use products from OTB in a research project of their own design.

LEARN MORE & SUBMIT PROPOSAL

Data Matters Short-Course Series | Virtual | August 8 - 12

Data Matters™ is a week-long series of one and two-day courses aimed at students and professionals in business, research, and government. The short-course series gives students the chance to learn about a wide range of topics in data science, analytics, visualization, curation, and more from expert instructors.

LEARN MORE

Specifying SDS as an Affiliate Center

When routing a proposal, please make sure to specify SDS as an affiliated center in the Niner Research system in addition to your home department, so the school can keep track of the proposals submitted and awarded by our faculty. Instructions can be found on the Research tab of our website.
CDC announces a new Center for Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics

The Center will bring together next-generation public health data, expert disease modelers, public health emergency responders, and high-quality communications, to meet the needs of decision-makers.

MORE INFORMATION HERE

NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Education and Mathematics Program

The National Science Foundation currently has a funding opportunity for low-income STEM students. Interested in submitting a proposal? Email Dongsong Zhang.

Fall 2022 Special Topics Courses

This fall the SDS is offering several special topics courses for students enrolled in the DSBA and HIA programs.

SPECIAL TOPICS COURSE LIST

SDS Student Bootcamps

The SDS has developed a variety of Boot Camps to support new and continuing students. Currently, we offer four online/asynchronous training and review modules: Introduction to Python, Statistics for Data Science, Introduction to R, and, as of this spring, Introduction to SAS For Data Science. We are discussing developing a new SQL Bootcamp for fall 2023. The bootcamps are free and available to any student enrolled in a SDS course. Registration for the spring semester SDS Boot Camps is currently open.
The School of Data Science has joined Coursera for the Campus Basic Plan. DSBA and HIA graduate students and the Data Science undergraduates have access to more than 4,000 courses in the Coursera catalog. Students must request access by completing the Google Form below. Participants will receive an email confirmation from SDS and from Coursera with an invitation to set up an account.