



Graduate Interdisciplinary Program in Statistics

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News from The University of Arizona Graduate Interdisciplinary Program in STATISTICS

Fall 2009

- The GIDP is pleased to announce that a new faculty member will join us in Fall 2009:
Dr. **Yue (Selena) Niu** of Princeton University will come to UA's Department of Mathematics as an Assistant Professor. Prof. Niu, whose doctoral degree is in Operations Research, specializes in nonparametric and semiparametric modeling with applications in bioinformatics and statistical genetics.
We look forward to welcoming Dr. Niu to campus this Fall!
- The GIDP will matriculate its *second class of graduate students* this Fall! We are thrilled to welcome Ph.D. students **Qijun (Steve) Fang** from the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, **Jarrod Harding** from the University of Akron, and **Hyeonju Kim** from the University of New Mexico, and M.S. students **Philip Stevenson** from the teaching ranks at Rincon High School here in Tucson, and **Alissa Wickens** from Providence College, to our graduate training program. In addition, three new students will undertake studies towards the GIDP's Graduate Certificate in Statistics: **Paul Gladden**, **Ann Manziello**, and **Susan Ferkau Newmann**.
We welcome all our new graduate students to their adventure in interdisciplinary statistics!
- GIDP faculty member **Zhao Chen** has earned an academic promotion and is now Professor of Public Health and Director, Division of Epidemiology & Biostatistics. We extend our warmest congratulations to Dr. Chen!
- GIDP member **J. Bruce Walsh** has identified a new species of moth: *Lithophane leea*, discovered in the Chiracahua mountains east of Tucson and reported in the journal *Zoo Keys*. *Lithophane* moths are members of the noctuid family, which often are dull colored. In contrast, this new moth is bright pink and despite its colorful feature, has never been observed before! More information is available at Dr. Walsh's podcast on the discovery at <http://uanews.org/node/26027>. Besides having been a former Chair of our GIDP, Prof. Walsh is best known in the scientific community as an authority on plant and animal breeding, having written one of the leading textbooks on the subject. Well done Dr. Walsh!
- GIDP affiliate member **Noel Card** was recently elected to the Society for Multivariate Experimental Psychology. The Society is a highly-respected and active group in experimental psychology and related fields. Election is determined by a competitive nomination process, and limited to only 65 active members. Congratulations to Dr. Card!
- The past experiences of GIDP faculty member **Katherine Barnes** have been highlighted recently: Dr. Barnes served previously as a law Clerk for the Honorable Sonia Sotomayor in the United States Second Circuit Court of Appeals. (Justice Sotomayer was recently sworn in to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court.) Prof. Barnes, who holds a Ph.D. in Statistics along with her J.D., directs the UA's Rogers Program on Law and Society, and teaches courses on public employment law, racial profiling, and Bayesian statistics. More information is available at <http://uanews.org/node/26822>. What an experience for Dr. Barnes!
- GIDP member **Sandy Dall'erba** has edited a book-length treatment on problems in spatial analysis. *Progress in Spatial Analysis: Theory and Computation, and Thematic Applications* is to be published by Springer-Verlag as part of its series on Advances in Spatial Sciences. Congratulations to Dr. Dall'erba!

For more information, contact us at stat@email.arizona.edu, or see our website at <http://stat.arizona.edu>

