

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
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NEWSLETTER

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Editor: Cheryl Bissett

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Elizabeth A. Thomson elected to National Academy of Sciences.

This is one of the highest honors that a scientist can receive and recognizes those who have made distinguished and continuing achievements in original research.

The National Academy of Sciences was created by an initiative of President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 to provide "advisers to the nation on science, engineering, and medicine." The academy members have enormous influence on the way government, industry and the public understand scientific issues.

New members are elected by the current members and are elected for life.

Let's celebrate Elizabeth!

Congratulations

Alumni (1983) Donald Percival has been appointed Professor in the Department of Statistics, University of Washington. Don is joint with the Applied Physics Laboratory.

Alumni (2005) Amanda Cox has a monthly column in the New York Times entitled, "Metrics". It presents quantitative analysis of data, with particular emphasis on the use of innovative graphics.

The column in the business section of the New York Times on February 23, 2008 featured, "Ebb and Flow at the Box Office" of the earnings of films during their theatre runs in 2007.

An online version considering the same processes back to 1986 is at:

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2008/02/23/movies/20080223_REVENUE_GRAPHIC.html

Alex Lenkoski's poster "The mode oriented stochastic search for nondecomposable graphical models" won a "Best Poster" award at the Workshop in High Dimensional Bayesian Inference at the University of Warwick on April 14th-16th, 2008.

Qunhua Li received a Laha travel award to present a paper at the 2008 Bernoulli World Congress/IMS Annual Meeting in Singapore this summer.



Elizabeth Thompson was awarded an MERIT (Method to Extend Research in Time) Award from NIH "with great enthusiasm". MERIT Awards provide long-term support to investigators with impressive records of scientific achievement in research areas of special importance or promise. Less than 5 percent of NIH-funded investigators are selected to receive MERIT Awards.

Welcome

Son V. Le, Sr. Computer Specialist

He recently relocated to Washington from Maryland. He graduated from University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Management and previously held a position as a Systems Administrator at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Library.

Alumni (1994) Steven Lewis is back to provide programming support for *morgan*, (a statistical genetics program) with Elizabeth Thompson. He worked as a postdoc at the University of Washington Demography Center and afterwards for the University of Washington School of Social Work.

GENERAL EXAMINATION

Roopesh Ranjan

Title: **Combining Probability Forecasts**

Date: **Tuesday, June 3, 2008**

Place: **C301 Padelford**

Time: **2:00 p.m.**

Advisor: **Tilmann Gneiting**

Graduation Party

The Party to Celebrate our Graduates will be Friday, June 13th from 1:00pm-2:00pm in the Stat Lounge. The party is for our undergraduates and graduate students who are leaving in Summer or Fall. The families of the graduates will also be there to help celebrate. Refreshments will be served and all are welcome to this happy event!

