Postdoctoral Associate in Statistical Data Science with Applications to Wildland Fire Science and Management

Department of Statistical and Actuarial Sciences
University of Western Ontario ("Western University")

Applicants are invited for a Postdoctoral Associate in Statistical Data Science to be held in the Wildland Fire Science Laboratory in the Department of Statistical and Actuarial Sciences at the University of Western Ontario ("Western University") in London, Ontario, Canada. The successful applicant will develop and apply statistical/biostatistical tools for the modelling of complex spatio-temporal data for environmental and other processes with an emphasis on collaborative research on wildland fire science and management.

This work will be conducted under the supervision of Dr. Douglas Woolford. This is a one-year (12 month) position with the possibility of renewal. The position is available immediately. The exact start date is negotiable. The salary will be competitive and includes benefits that are available to postdoctoral associates at Western. Additional funding is available to support research, including the purchase of computing equipment and for research-related travel such as collaborative meetings with stakeholders/collaborators and to research conferences or workshops.

Qualified applicants should have recently completed or be nearing the completion of a doctoral degree in statistics, biostatistics, data science or a very-closely related field. They must have a demonstrated capability to perform research in data-driven statistical data science methods and their novel application. Other required qualifications include strong communication and presentation skills, and experience working with complex data structures using modern data modelling software such as R or Python. Experience with GIS will be considered an asset. Candidates with a background in one or more of the following areas will be preferred: survival analysis, joint modelling, point processes, spatial statistics, spatio-temporal statistics, smoothing methods, or predictive modelling.

The work will be interdisciplinary and conducted in collaboration with researchers from other disciplines and researchers at a variety of government agencies. Consequently, experience and/or an interest in wildfire science and management and in applications generally is also important.

Applications will be accepted by email. To apply, please submit the following items as a single pdf file entitled Lastname_Firstname.pdf to Dr. Douglas Woolford (dwoolfor@uwo.ca):

1. A cover letter that outlines their qualifications and experience, interest in this position, and available start date;
2. An up-to-date curriculum vitae (CV) that includes contact information for three referees;
3. A list of relevant graduate courses taken, and grades obtained; and
4. Up to three examples of representative research publications.

The review of applications will be on a rolling basis and will continue until the position is filled, after which, this posting will be removed. We thank all applicants for their interest, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

About the Wildland Fire Science Laboratory

The mission of Wildland Fire Science Laboratory is to be a leader in the development and application of novel, state-of-the-art statistical data science methods for the analysis of large and complex data structures whose primary focus is on collaborative, interdisciplinary research on wildland fire science to inform wildfire management. This is achieved by:

- Using statistical data science and operations research to develop and apply data-driven methods that make significant advancements to the study of wildland fire regimes and wildland fire management systems at a variety of spatio and temporal scales;
- Integrating advancements in wildland fire science into impactful, evidence-based tools that inform wildland fire management decision making, operations and policy; and,
- Helping train part of the next generation of basic and applied data scientists in Canada.

About the Department of Statistical and Actuarial Sciences

The Department of Statistical and Actuarial Sciences (https://www.uwo.ca/stats/) offers an exceptional environment for interdisciplinary research, teaching, and training supported by 25 faculty members. It hosts undergraduate programs in Actuarial Science, Data Science, Financial Modelling and Statistics, graduate programs with M.Sc. and Ph.D. specializations, a professional Master in Data Analytics (together with the Department of Computer Science) and is also a key contributor to the new initiative that is unifying instruction in Data Science across the campus community. It is also involved in a collaborative professional Masters in Financial Economics program jointly offered with Economics, Law, and Business. Faculty within the department study a diverse range of both theoretical and applied problems and include members with joint appointments in Computer Science, Economics, Earth Sciences, Mathematics, and affiliations with the Brain and Mind Institute.

About Western

With annual research funding in excess of $240 million, and an international reputation for success, Western ranks as one of Canada's top research-intensive universities. From fundamental to applied discovery and other scholarly activities, its scholars advance knowledge that provides tangible benefits for the economic, social, health and cultural development of citizens in London, in Canada and around the world. For more information about Postdoctoral Services at Western, see https://grad.uwo.ca/postdoctoral_services/.

Western Values Diversity

The University invites applications from all qualified individuals. Western is committed to employment equity and diversity in the workplace and welcomes applications from women, members of racialized groups, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression. Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities throughout the recruitment process.