

**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT for 2017-2018**  
**Department of Statistics**  
**Graduate Assistantship: SCC Special Projects**

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**TERMS:** A 1/2 time graduate assistantship (GA) for the 2017-2018 academic year in the Statistics Consulting Center. This assistantship includes a tuition waiver of 4.5 graduate credit hours and a stipend of \$2,000 per semester for both the Fall 2017 and Winter 2018 semesters. The work of the GA will involve a total of 10 hours per week, during normal business hours and scheduled flexibly to accommodate the GA's academic course schedules. Much of the work will be conducted at the dedicated work stations located in the Statistics Department on the first floor of MAK hall on the Allendale campus. Some consultation work may also involve periodic travel to the Pew campus or the Center for Health Sciences in downtown Grand Rapids. The work will require you to interact with the Director of the Statistical Consulting Center on an almost daily basis. As such, one must be a full-time graduate student to qualify for this assistantship.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND:** The SCC has offered consultation services to GV faculty and students for several years to support research and other projects. The SCC works with a majority of the departments at the university. Some of the departments that are represented most include psychology, biology, education, nursing, physicians' assistant school, physical therapy. The consultations done by the SCC are very different and unique. Many analyses involve methods such as questionnaire design, implementation (using web-based survey tools), evaluation, and reliability. Other common analyses include descriptive statistics, t-tests, ANOVA, the nonparametric equivalents to t-test and ANOVA, Chi-square tests for association, factor analysis, logistic regression, multivariate regression, power analysis, etc. The 1/2 GA position will help the SCC continue with its mission of enhancing university research efforts by offering quality statistical advice to faculty and student projects and providing interdisciplinary research or instructional/collaboration opportunities for students and faculty from all departments and to develop collaborations with West Michigan businesses through consulting projects.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** It is essential that the student have a strong background in statistics and an interest in questionnaire design and survey sampling. The student needs to have strong organization skills and should be a solid writer. The student needs to be able to work independently. Given the statistical knowledge that is required for this appointment, only graduate students in the PSM program in Biostatistics will be eligible for the GA position. Applicants may be current biostatistics students or students accepted for Fall 2017. The student must be able to work independently under the supervision of the SCC Director.

**ORIENTATION/SUPERVISION:** GA supervisors: Sango Otieno, Director of the Statistical Consulting Center and Paul Stephenson, Professor and Chair, Department of Statistics, Grand Valley State University. These GAs will be given a performance review within the first month of the appointment and then again after the Fall 2017 semester. These GAs will be required to work with a number of GVSU faculty and students. However, formal supervision will occur regularly because these GAs will work closely with Dr. Sango Otieno to discuss individual projects and infrastructure development.

**SELECTION PROCESS:** Applicants must submit a resume or CV listing the institution, content and grades for all statistics courses completed, a description of relevant skills and experience, and (if requested) participate in an in-person or electronic interview. Review of materials will involve Drs. Sango Otieno, Paul Stephenson, and Bob Downer. Materials should be electronically and simultaneously sent to: Sango Otieno at [otienos@gvsu.edu](mailto:otienos@gvsu.edu), Paul Stephenson at [stephenp@gvsu.edu](mailto:stephenp@gvsu.edu), and Bob Downer at [downerr@gvsu.edu](mailto:downerr@gvsu.edu). Candidates need to submit materials **by April 6<sup>th</sup>** to receive full consideration.