Web-based mentoring for Ph.D students in statistics at Universities in developing countries

Welcome to the international web-based tutoring programme for Ph.D students in statistics at universities in developing countries, organised under the auspices of the International Statistical Institute and the Bernoulli Society and based in Norway.

Statistical communities, academic and governmental, are growing in many developing countries, and statisticians play key roles in production, decision and government, from health to agriculture, from business to energy, from transport to education. But resources and infrastructure are still incomplete. This mentoring programme is based on volunteering senior statisticians, from all over the world, who act as mentors over the internet for Ph.D students in the developing countries, in particular in Africa and Asia. We shall use the internet to create a network of support and mentoring, at individual level, for Ph.D students in statistics.

We are seeking mentors for this project. We hope you can consider joining us now.

Ph.D students in statistics, probability and their applications, can join the mentoring programme for free, by visiting the web site http://statmentoring.nr.no and filling out a registration form. Mentors volunteer by registering through the same web site, filling out this form: http://statmentoring.nr.no/statmentoring/index.php/Mentor_form. A central team will match mentor with student, taking into account language, area of research, gender and more. Student and tutor will have direct contact via email. This programme is not able to provide funding for travel and therefore mentoring is at distance. Mentoring means:

• Providing access to scientific material (papers, chapters of books, preprints etc), that the tutor can email or send by post.
• Help accessing scientific software.
• Suggesting appropriate reading, on the web or in print.
• Suggesting journals to which the student could submit her/his papers.
• Suggesting attending conferences, summer schools, and workshops.
• Help in preparing presentations.
• Discussing jobs and career opportunities after the PhD, help in writing the CV.
• Occasionally, help solving problems related to the thesis, in collaboration with the supervisor. Important: the mentor has no responsibilities with respect to the progression of the studies of the student. Mentoring does not mean supervision.

This mentoring programme is run by member of the ISI and BS based in Oslo, Norway, including Professor Magne Aldrin and Professor Arnoldo Frigessi. You can email them at statmentoring@nr.no.

To register as mentor visit the web site http://statmentoring.nr.no ! Welcome!

Oslo, 5.4.2011