



**Web-based mentoring for students in statistics
at Universities in developing countries:
A program of the ISI and Bernoulli Society**

<http://statmentoring.nr.no>

Would you like to mentor a PhD or master student in a developing country from distance over the internet? Join at <http://statmentoring.nr.no>.

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 and master 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.

Mentoring works like this. PhD students and master students from developing countries enrol the programme by filling out a form available on the web site <http://statmentoring.nr.no>. Volunteer mentors also join the programme by registering on the same web site. The tutor will typically be a professor or senior professional statistician at a university in North America, Europe or Australia. In Norway, we match each student with a mentor taking into account language, area of research, gender and more. Student and mentor will have contact by 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) and software
- Suggesting appropriate reading.
- Suggesting journals to which the student could submit her/his papers.
- Suggesting to attend conferences, summer schools, workshop, and point to funding possibilities.
- Help in preparing presentations.
- Discussing jobs and career opportunities, help in writing the CV. Important: The mentor does not provide funding for studies.
- Occasionally, help solving problems related to the thesis. Important: the mentor has no responsibilities with respect to the progression of the studies of the student. Mentoring does not mean supervision.

We are looking for new mentors. In particular we need many mentors in applied

statistics. Join the programme from our web page <http://statmentoring.nr.no> ! Email your colleagues about statmentoring.nr.no !

You can also help the programme by emailing information on statmentoring.nr.no to students you might know in Africa and Asia. If you cc us too, then this will help to create a contact network in these countries.

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

