

GRADUATE SCHOOL IN STATISTICS AND ACTUARIAL SCIENCES

Doctoral training in the French community of Belgium

Following the Bologna decree, the Government of the French Community of Belgium together with the FNRS decided to better organize the offer of high-quality training for the young doctoral students. For that, 20 graduate colleges (one per domain of study) were created. Among these, one can find a Graduate College in economics and management, a Graduate College in medical sciences, a Graduate College in sciences, a Graduate College in agronomical sciences, a Graduate College in engineering,... These graduate colleges were assumed to stimulate the creation of Graduate schools (which are assumed to focus on more specialized domains) and then coordinate and promote their activities.

Graduate school in statistics and actuarial sciences

In this context, most universities of the French Community of Belgium decided to group together to create a Graduate School in Statistics and Actuarial Sciences. This Graduate School was officially inaugurated in February 2007. Though formally associated with the French Community of Belgium, the activities of the School are in English, hence are open to every doctoral student or researcher in Belgium.

The Graduate School in Statistics and Actuarial Sciences should provide the ideal forum for contact and collaboration between all researchers in areas related to statistics, biostatistics, econometrics, biometrics, psychometrics, ... , or related to actuarial sciences. The PhD students of this School will be given the opportunity to work in a stimulating environment, open to discussion and exchanges and to develop inter-disciplinary work based on a common methodology.

Objectives of the school

One of the objectives of the School is to offer a high quality training to and by research. Intensive short courses, taught by experts in their research areas, will be organized regularly by the School as well as research seminars and scientific meetings. Another objective of the school is to communicate to all its members any relevant information concerning training in statistics all over Belgium and abroad. The main tool for spreading the information is

its website whose preliminary version can be accessed via the link <http://www.stat.ucl.ac.be/edt/>. Any information of interest to the School (summer schools, short courses, etc.) can be sent to edtstatactu@stat.ucl.ac.be.

Forthcoming activities

Belgian Francqui chair lectures at FSAGX: The FSAGX organizes a series of lectures given by Geert Molenberghs on biostatistics - at the following dates: April 18, May 2, 23, and June 4 and 6. More details can be found on <http://www.stat.ucl.ac.be/edt/ChaireFrancqui.DOC> (the registration form can be downloaded from <http://www.stat.ucl.ac.be/edt/FormCFrancqui.DOC>).

Summer school with three short courses on "Advanced nonparametric statistics": May 21-24, 2007, Institut de statistique, Louvain-la-Neuve. The speakers are: Oliver Linton (LSE), Jean Opsomer (Iowa State) and Marten Wegkamp (Florida State). Each of these international experts will give a 6 hrs lecture during this summer school. In addition informal contacts between participants and speakers will be encouraged during coffee, lunch and social activities. For detailed information and registration, please see <http://www.stat.ucl.ac.be/edt/summerschool/index.html>.