Title: Career options for Statistics PhD Students with personal stories from the Department of Defense

Author Jane Pinelis, PhD

Date, Time: October 20th, 1pm

Location: 411 West Hall

Abstract:
Dr. Pinelis will talk about her work since graduation, which has mainly been in the areas of defense and national security. She has spent 7 years working for clients within the Department of Defense and she’ll give examples of work she’s done, including the widely publicized study on the effects of integrating women into combat roles in the military. Jane will explain various aspects of working as a statistician in defense, from field work to communicating with military leadership, and will be happy to discuss opportunities in defense for the graduating class.

Bio:
Jane Pinelis received her Ph. D. in Statistics from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 2009. She worked with Ben Hansen in the area of causal inference in observational studies and quasi-experiments.

Dr. Pinelis worked for over 6 years as a Senior Research Analyst at CNA's Center for Naval Analyses. In that role, she managed numerous studies with a focus on Navy manpower and personnel policies. Her recent work focused on the effect of the recovering economy on sailor and officer retention. Dr. Pinelis served for 3 years as the Scientific Analyst to the Commander, Navy Recruiting Command, helping the command with issues having to do with recruiting and retaining quality sailors and allocating recruiting resources.

In the last few years, Dr. Pinelis's work has become more closely tied to operational testing and evaluation. She provided surge support on statistical issues and experimental design to the Commander of Operational Testing and Evaluation Force, U.S. Navy, and spent a year and a half as the CNA Field representative to the Marine Corps Operational Test and Evaluation Activity, working on-site with Marines as the lead statistician to support the Ground Combat Element Integrated Task Force. Subsequently, she became the CNA representative to the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab's Wargaming Division.

Seven months ago, Dr. Pinelis transitioned to the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab. She is a senior analyst in the National Security Analysis Department as well as the supervisor of the Data Analysis and Assessment team. She is currently working on quantitative and qualitative analysis in areas of nuclear deterrence, synthetic biology, precision medicine, and Navy embedded mental health.