SUMMER INSTITUTE IN SOCIAL-SCIENCE GENOMICS - JUNE 9-21, 2019
APPLICATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2019

The Russell Sage Foundation (RSF), in collaboration with the JPB Foundation, will sponsor the 3rd Summer Institute in Social-Science Genomics (SISSG), to be held at the Pepper Tree Inn in Santa Barbara, California, from June 9 to 21, 2019. The co-organizers and principal faculty are Daniel Benjamin (USC), David Cesarini (NYU), and Patrick Turley (Harvard-MIT Broad Institute).

The two-week workshop will introduce up to 30 graduate students and beginning faculty in economics, sociology, psychology, statistics, genetics, and other disciplines to the methods of social-science genomics—the analysis of genomic data in social science research. The program will include interpretation and estimation of twin and family studies; the biology of genetics, gene expression, and epigenetics; design and analysis of genetic-association studies; analysis of gene-gene and gene-environment interactions; genetic estimation and use of polygenic scores; environmental pathways for genetic associations; ethical issues in social-science genomics; as well as applications of genomic data in the social sciences.

The instructional program will be highly quantitative. Participants will be expected to learn relevant software packages and solve problem sets throughout the workshop. Participants will be required to complete one problem set in advance, and to fully attend and participate in all sessions of the program. The schedule is designed to provide opportunities for students to discuss their ideas and research with the organizers, visiting faculty, and other participants. For last year’s schedule and example problem sets, see rsfgenomicsschool.com/materials.

The SISSG is focused more narrowly and deeply on genomics. Applicants who seek a broad training in human biological systems to conduct in-depth process research linking social context, biology, and human capital should instead consider RSF’s other Summer Institute on Biological Approaches in the Social Sciences (co-organized by Greg Miller, Thomas McDade, and Emma Adam at Northwestern University).

Eligibility
Participation is restricted to Ph.D. students, postdoctoral researchers, and untenured faculty within 10 years of the Ph.D. There are no restrictions based on citizenship, country of study, or country of employment.

How to Apply
Applications must be submitted via the RSF online application portal, Fluxx (rsf.fluxx.io).
1. Create an account or log in to your existing account. **Allow up to 48 hours for a new account to be approved; please register by January 31, 2019**
2. Start a new “Summer Institute” application and select “Social Science Genomics.”
3. Submit the following documents:
   (i) a curriculum vitae (please list the statistical software, programming languages, and operating systems you have used)
   (ii) a statement (maximum three pages, single spaced, 11 point font) describing both any current research, and your interest in social-science genomics, especially as it relates to RSF research priorities (e.g., behavioral economics, social inequality, future of work, immigration)
   (iii) one writing sample (maximum 35 pages)

For Ph.D. student and postdoctoral researcher applicants only, please also provide:
   (iv) an (unofficial) course/grade transcript for doctoral studies
   (v) two letters of recommendation from faculty advisors. These should be as informative as possible about your standing in the program (i.e., approximate rank in your doctoral class), general ability, research potential, and (if applicable) special interest in social-science genomics.
   (vi) a one-page (bullet point) list of mathematics and statistics courses you have taken while in graduate school/during your postdoctoral training, together with a brief statement (maximum one paragraph) outlining your quantitative background and skills.

Complete applications, including letters of recommendation, must be received by Monday, February 18, 2019. Organizers will notify applicants solely through e-mail by mid-March and will ask selected applicants to confirm their participation shortly thereafter.

Inquiries can be sent to RSF.Genomics.School@gmail.com.
Technical questions about the application portal (Fluxx) can be sent to grantsmgt@rsage.org.