

# Vacancies at BioSS

## Senior Principal Statistician

## Head of Scientific Applications



**Biomathematics & Statistics Scotland (BioSS)** seeks a Senior Principal Statistician with an established international reputation to lead its portfolio of collaborations with scientists in four broad areas: plant science; animal health and welfare; ecology & environmental science; and nutrition & human health. This post will be based at BioSS's parent body, the Scottish Crop Research Institute (SCRI), Dundee.

### The main duties of this post are as follows

1. Act as a figurehead for BioSS's work on the application of statistics, mathematical modelling and statistical bioinformatics in collaboration with scientists at the Scottish Government's Main Research Providers, building inter-organisational links to extend our existing suite of collaborators and funders, and contributing to the development of BioSS strategy as a member of the BioSS Management Group
2. Lead BioSS interactions with SCRI, including: management of BioSS staff at SCRI; liaison with SCRI Programme Leaders and Head of Mathematical Biology; provision of advice to SCRI scientists to ensure the statistically rigorous design, analysis and interpretation of experiments and observational studies; and the development of collaborations on a wide range of modern research topics spanning the genetics and pathology of barley, potatoes and soft fruit alongside crop-environment interactions.
3. Develop an area of personal research related to plant science within one of BioSS's three research themes, with a preference for the statistical bioinformatics theme.
4. Secure income from grants and contracts which are complementary to BioSS's existing suite of activities.

### Qualifications & Experience

#### The ideal candidate for this post will have:

- international standing in the disciplines of statistics and/or stochastic modelling, with a track record for methodological development motivated by interactions with research scientists;
- a sound grasp of traditional and modern statistical methodologies;
- a wealth of experience unlikely to have been obtained by anybody with less than 15 years working at the interface between quantitative methodologies and the applied sciences;
- enthusiasm and aptitude for contributing to scientific research in plant science;
- excellent written and verbal communication skills;
- experience of staff and project management.

The starting salary will be in the range £54,565 - £60,627 plus contributory public sector pension.

Further background information can be obtained from the following links:

- a resumé About BioSS: <http://www.bioss.ac.uk/aboutBioSS.html>
- the BioSS Website: [www.bioss.ac.uk](http://www.bioss.ac.uk)
- the Scottish Crop Research Institute Website: [www.scri.ac.uk](http://www.scri.ac.uk)
- descriptions of the Scottish Government's strategy for agricultural, biological and related research:  
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations/agriculture/abrgsc-00.asp>

## **Application Details**

Applications are invited for this post by CV and covering letter, to include:

- education and employment history;
- full publication list;
- names and addresses of three referees;
- a short description of why you consider yourself suitable for this post.

Please send applications by email to [applications@bioss.ac.uk](mailto:applications@bioss.ac.uk) citing Ref: BioSS/1/9.

**Closing Date** – to be advised

Potential applicants may contact Prof David Elston ([davide@bioss.ac.uk](mailto:davide@bioss.ac.uk)) BioSS Director, (tel +44 (0) 1224 395127), in confidence to discuss the post.