

**WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERISTY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF BIOSTATISTICS
STRATEGIC PLAN 2020**

MISSION

The mission of the Department of Biostatistics at West Virginia University is to advance the health of the public in West Virginia and elsewhere by promoting the use of rigorous quantitative methods. We achieve this by:

- Building a comprehensive graduate program to train the next generation of biostatisticians
- Evaluating and developing new statistical methods that have utility for health science research
- Enhancing the scientific questions that can be asked and answered through collaborative biomedical and public health research
- Educating individuals from other disciplines in sound biostatistical principles

VISION

The vision of the Department of Biostatistics is to be recognized for demonstrating how rigorous quantitative methods can be developed and used to advance public health knowledge and practice.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Goal 1: Develop and maintain educational programs that produce highly qualified biostatisticians

- Objective 1.1: Continue to develop the Master's degree program in Biostatistics that focuses on practical skills in biostatistics, including how to be an effective consultant and collaborator
- Objective 1.2: Build a PhD program in Biostatistics that focuses on modern, practical tools in Biostatistics
- Objective 1.3: Recruit and retain high quality students for all graduate programs in Biostatistics

Goal 2: Promote independent biostatistical research that evaluates and develops practical, cutting edge methods for biomedical and public health research

Objective 2.1: Develop a marketing plan that educates researchers on the benefits of practical biostatistical research that highlights the research activities and accomplishments of current faculty and their colleagues

Objective 2.2: Increase the number of opportunities where Biostatistics faculty can serve as co-Principal Investigators on grant proposals and contracts, allowing for advanced statistical research aims that can better answer substantive scientific questions as well as enhance the likelihood of funding

Objective 2.3: Foster collaborations with other Biostatistics faculty at WVU and elsewhere

Goal 3: Contribute to the advancement of knowledge in the health sciences by being active participants in collaborative research

Objective 3.1: Increase interdisciplinary research collaborations and partnerships

Objective 3.2: Build a biostatistical consulting service led by students and advised by faculty to address the needs of researchers at all levels in the health sciences

Objective 3.3: Provide leadership in the quantitative aspects of public health research across the state

Goal 4: Provide comprehensive and sound training in biostatistics to the general workforce in West Virginia and beyond

Objective 4.1: Recruit and retain individuals for the Applied Biostatistics Certificate program

Objective 4.2: Offer short-courses and other training experiences where appropriate

Objective 4.3: Assist in the statistical advisement of graduate students in other disciplines