

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

June 2022

QUESTIONS

What is the favorite part of your current role?

“ I like the impact of the work that I'm currently doing. We get to work with not-for-profit organizations and I get to have a positive impact while using my statistics skills and abilities.”

What made you choose the Statistics Program?

“ There were a combination of things including the fact that my undergraduate degree was in theoretical math. I really liked the mathematical way of thinking and problem solving. I was a teacher for the Teach for America program for 3 years and I loved the positive impact from teaching mathematics. The Stats program was my way to use my mathematical skills and also achieve my desire to make an impact on the world. Statistics, to me, is the most applicable form of mathematics. Everything I am doing is coming from data and has real world context to it versus really theoretical topics.”

TIMOTHY NECAMP



Timothy NeCamp acquired his PhD in the LSA Statistics Program in 2019. He is Co-Founder and Head Scientist at Data Bloom.

Email: tnecamp@thedatabloom.com

Data Bloom website

<https://thedatabloom.com/>

LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/timothy-necamp-30b5bb183/>

What was your favorite part of your experience in the program?

“ I really liked the research topic that I pursued. I worked as a part of a bigger lab for a mobile health study. I was the main statistician working in the group and I liked the application area as well . The work was out of the medical school and I liked that I was using data to help improve the mental health of the population I was studying. I was also teaching on the side as a GSI and working with undergraduate students and I really enjoyed this as well.”

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

QUESTIONS

What is the best piece of advice you'd give current students?

“Ultimately, I would say enjoy your time while you're in your program. With my PhD I sometimes felt I wanted to get this degree and get it over with. But looking back, a PhD is a unique time where you can explore what you're interested in and you're surrounded by so many resources such as the University's tools and professors. You also have the time and freedom that can allow you to explore and dive into something. And it's quite possible that after your program, you won't have that type of freedom and availability again. I had a lot of perks during this time and I wish I would have taken better advantage of them.

What is your Favorite Quote/Words of Wisdom that you take with you & why?

“All models are wrong and some are useful.”

“The famous statistician George Box said this. I think people in statistics need to remind themselves that we inevitably make assumptions when we do anything. And this quote applies beyond that. There are always going to be limitations and biases within our analysis. This is true even though we like to think we are unbiased, logical beings. Data holds some truth but we should have humility and realize we have biases and limitations.

Would you like to add anything?

“ I want to put an emphasis on the importance of doing work that aligns with what you value and believe in. I think getting a degree in Statistics gives you a lot of flexibility. This flexibility includes careers and jobs. Don't feel like you have to settle or go for something that doesn't align with your values. Do work that you believe in. You can even start your own venture if you want. Just make sure whatever you do is meaningful and aligns in what you believe.”

Financial Vulnerability

Quality of Life median:
Non-vuln = 19.5
Vuln = 28

Loneliness median:
Non-vuln = 3
Vuln = 5

