The Office of Economic and Manpower Analysis (OEMA) at West Point, is looking to hire several data analysts this spring in direct support of our mission of conducting policy analysis for senior leaders in the Department of Defense. This position would be a great fit for one of your master's or a talented undergraduate student.

Data analysts within OEMA work alongside our faculty conducting empirical research on topics in labor and public economic fields using administrative data from government, non-profit and private sources. These include, for example, data from the Army, DOD, VA, FRTIB, SSA, Census Bureau, credit bureaus, and the National Student Clearinghouse. Successful analysts are typically those who have demonstrated the ability to work with large datasets, have an appreciation for and experience with genuine empirical research, and have an interest in pursuing economics or policy research at the graduate level in the future.

If you know of a student who you think would be a good fit for our office and its work, I would be happy to discuss this position with them in greater detail. I have also attached additional information about this position to this email. Feel free to print, post, and share this flier with your students.

Mike

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The Office of Economic and Manpower Analysis (OEMA)

The Office of Economic and Manpower Analysis (OEMA) is an analytic organization dedicated to building the Army of tomorrow through research and policy analysis. The office tackles topics including human resources policy, education and training, compensation and benefits, and other labor and public economics fields. Comprised primarily of economists, but also political scientists, data analysts, historians, and budget specialists, OEMA houses the single largest repository of personnel data in the Department of Defense. These data allow the office to provide a range of research services to both the Army and other clients, to include the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Social Security Administration, Congress, and the White House.

Researcher assistants (data analysts) directly support OEMA’s mission of conducting policy analysis through the collection, standardization, and analysis of electronic data files. The job may require point-in-time database extracts from data sources within the Army, the Department of Defense, and other governmental agencies. Analysts often support and engage in collaborative research efforts with economics faculty in West Point’s Department of Social Sciences (typically applied microeconomists) and with OEMA’s Long Term Research Partners, including economists at institutions such as Dartmouth, MIT, Notre Dame, Harvard, and the University of Virginia. Such collaboration increasingly results in exposure to the production of top-tier journal publications that inform both academics and policy makers. Because of this exposure, OEMA’s data analysts often find themselves well prepared to pursue advanced degrees in policy, economics, or business after a few years.

Successful data analysts typically have applied statistics experience, are have basic knowledge of programming in Stata, SAS, or SPSS, and are proficient in both Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. While on the job, they will code in Stata and are expected to progress quickly in their proficiency. Research analysts will have the opportunity to work with a number of large administrative data sets from the government (e.g., the Army, DOD, VA) and private sources (e.g., the National Student Clearinghouse, national credit bureaus). A Bachelor’s Degree with significant coursework in Economics or Statistics is preferred. Additionally, because of the nature of the work, all analysts are required to be U.S. citizens and submit and pass an Army-directed background investigation before accessing the data.

The United States Military Academy at West Point, New York

West Point is America’s oldest military academy and is universally regarded as the most prestigious in the world. The Academy is located on a rocky outcrop along the banks of the beautiful Hudson River less than an hour from New York City.

West Point is a National Historic Landmark and the longest continuously garrisoned military post in the United States. During the American Revolution it consisted of a series of fortifications designed to keep British forces from gaining control of the Hudson River. George Washington thought control of the river was so critical to victory that he referred to “Fortress West Point” as the “key to the continent.”

Following the war, a small Army garrison was maintained at West Point. In 1802, Congress established the U. S. Military Academy there to create a more professional Army officer corps, a mission the institution has fulfilled for over 212 years. Notable graduates include Robert E. Lee, Jefferson Davis, Ulysses S. Grant, Douglas MacArthur, George S. Patton, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Omar Bradley, Edwin “Buzz” Aldrin, Barry McCaffrey, and Mike Krzyzewski.

Those interested can contact Clay O’Loughlan (email: coloughlan@webdcs.com)