March 2025 • Issue #573

AMSTATNEWS

The Membership Magazine of the American Statistical Association • *https://magazine.amstat.org*

Celebrating Women's History Month

ALSO:

2025 Board of Directors Candidates Statements

2024 a Successful Fundraising Year

JSM

NASHVILLE
TENNESSEE
AUGUST 2–7, 2025

Statistics, Data Science, and AI Enriching Society

BE ON THE PROGRAM!

ATTEND

May 1, 2025 (11:00 a.m. ET)
Registration and Housing Open

June 3, 2025
Early Registration Deadline

June 4 – July 1, 2025
Regular Registration

June 25, 2025
Housing Deadline

July 2 – August 7, 2025
Late Registration

PARTICIPATE

January 23 – April 4, 2025
Meeting and Event Request Submission

February 1 – April 15, 2025
Late-Breaking Session Proposal Deadline

May 31, 2025
Draft Manuscript Deadline

August 2–7
2025 JOINT STATISTICAL MEETINGS
Nashville, Tennessee
ww2.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2025

AMSTATNEWS

MARCH 2025 • ISSUE #573

Amstat News welcomes news items and letters from readers on matters of interest to the association and the profession. Address correspondence to Managing Editor, *Amstat News,* American Statistical Association, 732 North Washington Street, Alexandria VA 22314-1943 USA, or email *amstat@amstat.org*. Items must be received by the first day of the preceding month to ensure appearance in the next issue (for example, June 1 for the July issue). Material can be sent as a Microsoft Word document, PDF, or within an email. Articles will be edited for space. Accompanying artwork will be accepted in graphics file formats only (.jpg, etc.), minimum 300 dpi.

Amstat News (ISSN 0163-9617) is printed eight times a year by the American Statistical Association, 732 North Washington Street, Alexandria VA 22314-1943 USA. **Periodicals postage paid** at Alexandria, Virginia, and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Amstat News,* 732 North Washington Street, Alexandria VA 22314-1943 USA. Send Canadian address changes to APC, PO Box 503, RPO West Beaver Creek, Rich Hill, ON L4B 4R6. *Amstat News* is the member publication of the ASA. For annual membership rates, see *www.amstat.org/join* or contact ASA Member Services at (888) 231-3473.

American Statistical Association
732 North Washington Street
Alexandria, VA 22314–1943 USA
(703) 684–1221
ASA GENERAL: *asainfo@amstat.org*
ADDRESS CHANGES: *addresschange@amstat.org*
AMSTAT EDITORIAL: *amstat@amstat.org*
ADVERTISING: *advertise@amstat.org*
WEBSITE: *http://magazine.amstat.org*

The American Statistical Association is the world's largest community of statisticians. The ASA supports excellence in the development, application, and dissemination of statistical science through meetings, publications, membership services, education, accreditation, and advocacy. Our members serve in industry, government, and academia in more than 90 countries, advancing research and promoting sound statistical practice to inform public policy and improve human welfare.

features

Maintaining the Mission of Data for Good in Trying Times

Page 34

columns

STAT*tr@k* is a column in *Amstat News* and a website geared toward people who are in a statistics program, recently graduated from a statistics program, or recently entered the job world. To read more articles like this one, visit the website at *http://stattrak.amstat.org*. If you have suggestions for future articles, or would like to submit an article, please email Megan Murphy, *Amstat News* managing editor, at *megan@amstat.org*.

This column is written for those interested in learning about the world of Data for Good, where statistical analysis is dedicated to good causes that benefit our lives, our communities, and our world. If you would like to know more or have ideas for articles, contact David Corliss at *davidjcorliss@peace-work.org.*

PREDICT 5

CONTEST

Predict 5 Contest

Predict 5 is a worldwide competition for students enrolled in high school, college, or graduate school that involves predicting events to take place in April 2025. The contest coincides with Mathematics and Statistics Awareness Month, so it is an opportunity for statistics and data lovers everywhere to share their zeal with friends and colleagues. The contest opens March 1 and the deadline for submitting entries is March 31. Grab the details at *ww2.amstat.org/mathstatmonth*.

Measuring Diversity: Understanding the Gini-Simpson Index

How do we quantify diversity? In a new article, David J. Corliss explores the Gini-Simpson Diversity Index, a key metric used by the US Census Bureau. This powerful tool helps researchers analyze workforce diversity, track social change, and measure segregation. By applying this method to real-world data—such as US Census statistics, workforce demographics, and even ice cream preferences—Corliss demonstrates how diversity can be measured and understood over time. Learn how to calculate the index yourself and explore its applications for DEI research and advocacy at *https://magazine.amstat.org*.

Volunteers Needed

The Caucus for Women in Statistics is looking for volunteers to serve the following roles: African representative on the nomination committee; volunteer for member retention and member growth; and volunteer coordinator. Send a letter of interest describing your skills, experience, and motivation, along with your résumé/CV, to *cws@cwstat.org*.

Quality and Productivity Research Conference

The 2025 Quality and Productivity Research Conference will be held in Seattle, Washington, from June 15–18 at the University of Washington.

The goal of this conference is to stimulate interdisciplinary research and innovative solutions to practical problems through interactions among statisticians, data scientists, quality professionals, engineers, students, and others from diverse fields. The theme of this year's conference is Industrial Innovation in the Era of AI. Register by April 15 and save. Visit the website for details: *www.qprc2025.org/registration*.

departments

member news

Rousseeuw Prize for Statistics Honors False Discovery Rate Pioneers

Page 39

Connect with us on LinkedIn
www.linkedin.com/company/american-statistical-association---asa

Join the ASA Community
http://community.amstat.org

Like us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/AmstatNews

Follow us on Bluesky
https://bsky.app/profile/amstatnewsbskysocial

Follow us on Instagram
www.instagram.com/AmstatNews

Subscribe to our YouTube channel
www.youtube.com/user/AmstatVideos

Visit *Amstat News* online

Crossing the First *Span*: Initial Feedback on Our *Nature Medicine* Collaboration

In my February column, I introduced my focus on 'building bridges.' This month, I want to introduce colleagues who have played a key role in launching an initiative that supports this focus. Through this collaboration, we recruited 33 statisticians specializing in oncology, metabolic diseases, and infectious diseases to serve as *Nature Medicine's* first official statistical advisory panel.

To better understand how this initiative is shaping research quality and influencing the future direction of statistical methodologies in *Nature Medicine,* I spoke with Saheli Sadanand, the journal's deputy editor.

Ji-Hyun: Reflecting on the memorandum of understanding (MOU) partnership, how will you measure success in the short term? Longer-term, what is your vision for the collaboration?


Saheli Sadanand

Saheli: *Nature Medicine* is very excited to be partnering with the American Statistical Association on this pilot program. In the short term, we are measuring success through the level of participation of the statistical advisers, as well as the rigor and timeliness of their reports. After six months, we are pleased that most advisers across all tracks have reviewed at least one paper, and our final editorial team decisions have greatly benefited from the feedback we have received. In the long term, we hope to learn more about good practices for trial design and reporting from the statistical advisers and feature their views in the magazine section of our journal. In addition, given the very positive feedback we have received from our editorial team, we are looking to expand the program to include another track soon.

Ji-Hyun: In the past, statistical reviewers would be engaged as needed (ad hoc). How has having a standing group of statistical advisers contributed to manuscript quality?

Saheli: The statistical advisory panel has allowed us to improve the consistency of our review process, and importantly, to better ensure that we can offer timely feedback to our authors. In the past, it was often challenging to secure a statistical reviewer, particularly for certain areas covered at the journal or during high-volume submission periods, and this led to delayed decisions.

Ji-Hyun: How have the advisory groups helped to address the most common statistical issues and pitfalls in medical manuscripts? Could you share an example?


Ji-Hyun Lee

Saheli: A common issue that we encounter is the absence of signposting of efficacy endpoints that are exploratory or post hoc in nature, as well as the overstating of efficacy endpoints that a trial was not powered for. The statistical reviewers have offered helpful comments related to the fidelity of the reporting of prespecified endpoints, which is critical for the objective and transparent reporting of our clinical studies. As a member of the ICMJE [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors], we follow strict guidance for the consideration and reporting of clinical studies, and we appreciate the guidance of our statistical advisers in ensuring that these manuscripts are presented as transparently and responsibly as possible.

Ji-Hyun: Do you envision a future in which statistical reviews are integrated into the workflow for all manuscripts (beyond *Nature Medicine,* for example)?

Saheli: We are keen to expand the current pilot program to other topics covered at our journal, and we feel that statistical expertise is generally important for evaluation of clinical studies. We will continue to look for ways to ensure the rigor of the work that we publish.

Ji-Hyun: What advice would you give statisticians who aspire to contribute meaningfully to high-impact medical journals like *Nature Medicine?*

Saheli: We are always keen to meet new referees across all areas that we cover. If you would like to join our reviewer pool, you can email one of our deputy editors (Saheli Sadanand at *s.sadanand@us.nature.com* or Liam Messin at *liam.messin@nature.com*) to learn more. Statistical reviews form

MORE ONLINE
The full transcript for Ji-Hyun's interviews can be found at *https://magazine.amstat.org/blog/2025/03/03/nmtranscript.*

a crucial component of the evaluation process for our clinical studies, and statisticians' granular feedback, as well as their input on the context for how a given study sits within the broader landscape in terms of trial design and execution, are valuable for us and for the medical research community.

Ji-Hyun: Are there areas where you believe statisticians should focus their efforts to align with the needs of modern medical research?

Saheli: We and other journals are increasingly seeing observational studies and trials involving AI, and guidance from statisticians on how to improve the design of these studies would be welcome. In addition, we continue to see traditional 3+3 phase 1 trials across many fields, and we are interested in learning more about new and innovative approaches for phase 1 trial design.


Natalie Dean


Michele Guindani

I also invited the leaders of the infectious and metabolic diseases cohort to share their experiences: Natalie Dean, who leads the infectious diseases cohort, and Michele Guindani. I highlight a few excerpts below.

Natalie: Building this partnership between ASA and *Nature Medicine* will hopefully provide more avenues to elevate statistical voices to a wider audience. The most interesting and impactful science is from interdisciplinary teams, and statisticians can contribute more than just their expertise in statistics.

Michele: Serving as a panel member has been very instructive, offering a distinct perspective compared to my role as an editor for statistical journals. In statistical journals, the focus typically centers on modeling and data analysis, while in *Nature Medicine*, attention extends to the entire study—experimental design, protocol development, clinical trial setup, and analysis. A key lesson from my panel experience is the critical role of clear communication in scientific writing.

Finally, I asked four oncology reviewers to share their perspectives. Due to limited space, I've highlighted key points from their responses. What follows are insights from Chen Hu, Cara Joyce, Mithat Gönen, and Nolan Wages.

Ji-Hyun: How do you foresee the role of statisticians evolving in handling statistical challenges with the rise of AI and large-scale data sets in medical research and the publication process?

Cara: We still need to request sufficient methodological detail to make studies replicable, offer


Chen Hu


Cara Joyce


Mithat Gönen


Nolan Wages

suggestions to improve results reporting, and ensure conclusions are appropriately tempered based on design and causal assumptions.

Mithat: Convince the individual research teams to include a statistician in all aspects of their data analysis.

Chen: I push for better calibration, transparency, and reproducibility, ensuring that AI research is not just statistically sound but also clinically meaningful.

Nolan: Statisticians will be essential in bridging the gap between methodological advancements and real-world applicability.

Ji-Hyun: Reflecting on your experience as a panel member for *Nature Medicine* over the past 6–7 months, what do you consider the most valuable insight gained from reviewing manuscripts?

Nolan: One of the most valuable insights I have gained is a stronger appreciation for the critical role of statistical and methodological rigor in shaping high-impact medical research.

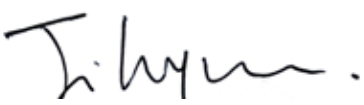
Mithat: I will enjoy the exposure to a variety of topics and methods used in the papers I am reviewing.

Cara: I enjoy peer review to gain exposure to new developments in medicine and also to keep up with innovations in clinical trial design, implementation, and analysis.

Chen: Reinforced the importance of balancing statistical rigor with real-world relevance.

Dear fellow statisticians and data scientists, I cannot end this column without acknowledging the increasingly complex landscape we face. Yet, despite these challenges, I deeply appreciate the resilience, creativity, and dedication of the ASA community. By advocating for the essential role of research in addressing global challenges, we can navigate this landscape together.

Thank you for being part of our ASA community.
With gratitude,



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Michelle Crosby-Nagy Joins ASA as Science Policy Fellow

Michelle Crosby-Nagy is the fifth science policy fellow of the American Statistical Association. She began her fellowship on January 6, working closely with Steve Pierson, the ASA's director of science policy, to enhance the organization's policy efforts. Her work focuses on advancing initiatives such as the follow-up to *The Nation's Data at Risk—Meeting America's Information Needs for the 21st Century* and advocating for the statistical and data science community.


Crosby-Nagy

Crosby-Nagy holds a bachelor's degree in international service from American University and a master's degree in international science and technology policy, specializing in applied economics, from The George Washington University. She is a former Christine Mirzayan Science and Technology Policy Graduate Fellow and previously served as a staff member for the National Academy of Sciences' Board on Higher Education and Workforce.

In her academic career, Crosby-Nagy lived for more than 10 years in central Europe and published extensively on the European research area, a body of work stemming from her PhD studies in economic sociology. With more than a decade of experience in evaluation and capacity building, she has worked with notable organizations, including the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. She is also the founder of Crosby Consultants & Associates, a firm specializing in developmental evaluations.

A passionate advocate for scholar activism, Crosby-Nagy stands in solidarity with the many academics and professionals who have faced persecution by authoritarian regimes worldwide. She is the mother of two teenage children, Sandor and Michael, and enjoys volunteering with her church community in Calvert County, Maryland. ■

Meet 2025 Election Candidates at Town Hall

John Abowd, Fred Hulting, Brian Millen, and Julia Sharp—2025 election candidates for ASA president-elect and vice president—will head a town hall via Zoom on March 19 at 4 p.m. ET to give ASA members the opportunity to learn about them and their vision for the ASA.

Moderated by ASA President Ji-Hyun Lee, candidates will introduce themselves and speak for a few minutes about their priorities and initiatives. Then, participants will enter breakouts rooms to connect with each candidate and ask questions.

Candidates include the following:

President-Elect Candidate 2026
Brian Millen, Vice President, Global Head of Statistics, Epidemiology, and Real-World Data Analytics at Biogen

President-Elect Candidate 2026
Fred Hulting, General Mills (Retired) and Hulting Partners

Vice President Candidate 2026–2028
Julia Sharp, Acting Statistical Engineering Division Chief and Mathematical Statistician, National Institute of Standards and Technology

Vice President Candidate 2026–2028
John Abowd, Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research; Research Fellow, IZA; President, Society for Privacy and Confidentiality Research; and Cornell University and the US Census Bureau (Retired 2023)

Registration for the ASA town hall is open. Register to meet the candidates at *https://tinyurl.com/4hdm5b7r.*

2025 ASA Board of Directors Candidate Statements

Board of Directors **President-Elect 2026**

Brian Millen

Vice President and Global Head of Statistics, Epidemiology, and Real-World Data Analytics, Biogen

I am honored to be nominated for ASA president. I have been a member since grad school, and, through decades of participation and service, I have benefitted and grown in significant ways. I bring high passion for the ASA and sincere respect for its volunteers and employees.

Given that how one leads is as important as what one does, I will first share how I will lead.

1. … with a **listening** posture, committed to hearing the great ideas from our members. I will be accessible and will advocate for support of member initiatives in support of the ASA's strategic aims
2. … with **optimism.** Each challenge the ASA faces presents an opportunity for heightened impact.
3. … with active **collaboration**, ensuring diverse perspectives are considered and synergies realized.

Three themes of focus for my term:

1. **Celebrating and Telling Our Story.** Statisticians play key roles in critical decisions and insights that impact society. We must do a better job of curating stories and sharing them. Let's reinforce efforts to recognize the impact of members, including those who have been historically underrepresented; let's bolster public outreach efforts so our impact is known and students at all levels are introduced to our discipline; and let's commit to ongoing archival of our progress and history.
2. **Equipping and Cultivating Leaders.** Members of our profession are influential leaders in government, private sector, and academia. Their success is enabled by core skills from our discipline, mentoring, and learned leadership skills. I will seek to enhance the capabilities of the Leadership Institute and grow mentoring programs.
3. **Healthy, Anchored, and Agile.** Being a "big tent" requires the ASA to continuously adapt to meet the needs of a changing membership while staying rooted in mission. This requires an agile financial model to sustain the ASA. I will draw on all of my leadership experience to strengthen our financial footing.

Visit *www.BrianMillenForASAPresident.com* to leave a comment or question. ■

The ASA announces the candidates for the 2025 election. Voting begins April 1 and runs through April 30. Make sure to check your email for a link to the online voting system.

Board of Directors **President-Elect 2026**

Fred Hulting

General Mills (Retired) and Hulting Partners

It is an exciting time to be a member of this profession. Transformative changes in our world are bringing new opportunities to make a positive impact on society by using data for discovery, problem solving, and decision-making.

I am honored to be nominated as ASA president at this moment. I have long been committed to the success of the ASA, serving as a committee, section, chapter, and Council of Sections leader. If elected, I will partner with the board, committees, and staff to serve the membership, ensure the health of the association, and implement the strategic plan, with an emphasis on:

Adapting to Change: We have all been affected by the increasing scale and pace of change, through disruptive technologies like AI, emerging risks to federal statistics, or growing pressures on education. In addition to its advocacy work, the ASA will need to continue helping members develop the necessary literacy, skills, and knowledge to adapt and thrive in this new environment.

Facilitating Career Growth: While leading a large international and interdisciplinary team at General Mills, I stressed the importance of helping professionals get off to a strong start in their careers and then navigate mid-career changes. We need to keep strengthening the ASA diversity, education, and mentoring initiatives that support career success for all members.

Connecting our Community: The ASA offers a tremendous opportunity to connect globally, across academia, government, and industry. I have benefited from this personally; the ASA helped me grow my network and develop as a leader. I will support initiatives—such as expanding chapter, section, and interest group programming—that help members engage with the varied networks of the association.

I would be honored to work with all of you as ASA president to strengthen our association and our profession. Visit *bit.ly/fredASApres2025info* to learn more and to share your ideas. ■

Board of Directors **Vice President 2026–2028**

Julia Sharp

Acting Statistical Engineering Division Chief and Mathematical Statistician, National Institute of Standards and Technology

The vice president on the ASA Board of Directors serves as a bridge between leadership and ASA's membership base. By chairing one of the councils on membership, education, or professional issues and visibility, the vice president directly shapes the experience of thousands of members and drives strategic outreach initiatives. My extensive ASA service positions me uniquely for this role, including leadership of the Conference on Statistical Practice Steering Committee, Meetings Task Force, and the Council of Chapters Governing Board, among others.

Opportunities: Statistics stands at a transformative moment, and our association must lead in advancing sound statistical practice across disciplines. The ASA has launched strategic initiatives through new journals (*Data Science in Science, Statistics and Data Science in Imaging,* and *ASA Discoveries*) while empowering sections and chapters to deliver focused conferences, foster innovation, and strengthen professional networks. My role on the Committee on Publications and involvement in section and chapter leadership have deepened my commitment to promoting the practice and profession of statistics.

Challenges: The complexities ahead demand collaborative solutions. Throughout my career in academia and government, I've tackled complex challenges by bringing together many perspectives and harnessing collective expertise to implement effective solutions. I will bring this proven collaborative leadership approach to advance ASA's mission and serve our membership. ■

John Abowd

Retired, Cornell University and the US Census Bureau (2023); Research Associate, National Bureau of Economic Research; Research Fellow, IZA; and President, Society for Privacy and Confidentiality Research (publisher of the Journal of Privacy and Confidentiality)

I did my PhD with Arnold Zellner, who stressed the importance of being a member of both the American Statistical Association and the American Economic Association. I've been an active member of both since 1976. I'm very honored to be nominated for the vice presidency of the ASA.

Let me cut to the chase. The statistical infrastructure of the United States is under unprecedented threat. I know this firsthand. I spent most of 2018–2019, when I was the chief scientist at the Census Bureau, defending the agency—including seven days of testimony in three distinct cases—when the secretary of commerce ordered the late inclusion of a citizenship question on the 2020 Census. The onslaught continued when the president ordered the exclusion of "illegal aliens" from the final enumeration, which together with the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, resulted in further litigation. The career executives, statisticians, demographers, economists, and staff worked tirelessly to implement transparent, scientifically defensible methods for completing the census in the face of the pandemic and the political interference with the methodology and timeline of the constitutionally mandated enumeration. It was the hardest thing I have done in my professional career. It's about to happen again.

The ASA has been a stellar professional society, recognizing the need to educate the American public about the importance of transparent, scientifically sound national statistics produced in an environment of trust in the integrity and independence of statistical agencies. That work must have a high priority right now, and I would devote as much energy as necessary to furthering that work. I'm retired. This is important.

For most of my career, I have been both an academic and an active collaborator with national statistical agencies. That began when I started working with INSEE, the French national statistical institute. I have also collaborated with IAB, the German counterpart to our BLS [Bureau of Labor Statistics]. ■

Board of Directors **International Representative 2026–2028**

Fernando Quintana

Profesor Titular, Departamento de Estadística, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

I am honored to be considered as a candidate for international representative to the ASA Board of Directors. I graduated in 1987 as a mathematical engineer from Universidad de Chile and I received a PhD in statistics in 1994 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Immediately after finishing my doctoral studies, I returned to the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, where I have worked ever since and where I became a full professor in 2009. I have spent sabbatical periods at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, the University of Texas at Austin, the Politecnico di Milano in Italy, and The Ohio State University.

My main research areas revolve around nonparametric Bayesian methods, random partition models, and their connections. Over the years, I have been involved in many interesting research collaborations with friends from many different countries and institutions. I should say that meeting and interacting with people has been the most rewarding and fun aspect of my academic career, and, to this day, is what I enjoy the most. I have been lucky enough to publish research articles in various journals and also coauthor a book on nonparametric Bayesian data analysis.

I have been an ASA member for many years and never took part in its governance, though I do have some experience with other scientific organizations such as ISBA [International Society for Bayesian Analysis]. The ASA is the largest statistical community in the world, and it is important to strengthen connections with similar organizations throughout the world. In particular, it seems only a small fraction of the membership comes from Latin America. If elected, I would support initiatives aimed at increasing the ASA's internationalization impact and reach. ■

Pedro L. Silva

Vice President, SCIENCE (Sociedade para o Desenvolvimento da Pesquisa Científica); Consultant, World Health Organization; Consultant, NIC.br

The ASA provides an amazing environment for the thriving community of statisticians, data scientists, and lovers of statistics to interact, network, publish, and develop. Therefore, I felt very honored to be considered a candidate for the international representative to the Board of Directors of the ASA. I am excited to take part in the elections and on the prospect of joining the ASA board in that capacity, if elected.

My education and professional experience gave me an interesting perspective on our profession. I have a foot in the academy and another in the very practical world of official and public statistics. Besides having served in various roles in professional organizations similar to the ASA, I developed a good understanding of the roles such organizations play in promoting the development and good practice of statistics (and data science, if the modern naming appeals to you) for the public good.

I had the challenge and privilege of chairing the national organizing committee in charge of organizing and hosting the 2015 World Statistics Congress in Rio de Janeiro. Having benefited tremendously from the networking opportunities provided by meetings such as the JSM [Joint Statistical Meetings] and the many other events promoted by the ASA, I will encourage initiatives to develop new and improve existing opportunities for networking, possibly enabling increased participation from those not living in Canada or the USA.

It is from this perspective that I humbly ask you to consider my candidacy. If elected, I will dedicate to serve the ASA Board of Directors and the ASA. I have keen interests in the education of the next generations of professionals on promoting statistical literacy and on outreach across the diverse fields of science and public policy formulation and monitoring. ■

Board of Directors **Council of Chapters Representative 2026–2028**

Weining Shen

Associate Professor, Department of Statistics, University of California, Irvine

I am honored to be nominated for the position of Council of Chapters representative. Throughout my career, I have been dedicated to fostering collaboration within the statistical community and strengthening the ASA's outreach and engagement efforts.

My dedication to the ASA is reflected in my leadership and service roles. As vice president for academic affairs of the Orange County and Long Beach ASA Chapter, I have worked to create meaningful networking and professional development opportunities for local chapter members. I also serve as an associate editor for five leading statistical journals; program chair-elect of the ASA Statistics in Sports Section; treasurer for the ISBA-BNP [International Society for Bayesian Analysis-Bayesian Nonparametrics] section; and organizer for many events, including student careers day, high school poster competition, and annual meeting of the ASA Statistics in Imaging section. These experiences have reinforced my ability to organize impactful events, manage resources effectively, and support the broader statistics community.

As a COC representative, I will focus on connecting members to ASA resources, strengthening chapters through recruiting and outreach, and expanding engagement with industry and government sectors to create new opportunities for growth. I also aim to foster ASA partnerships with other statistical societies and scientific organizations to promote interdisciplinary collaboration.

I am eager to bring my experience and passion to the ASA Board of Directors to enhance engagement, strengthen chapters, and expand the ASA's impact. I would be honored to serve in this role and help advance our field of statistics. ■

Ruixiao Lu

Vice President, Head of Biostatistics and Statistical Programming, Alumis

As a candidate for the Council of Chapters Governing Board representative, I bring extensive leadership experience from both regional and national roles within the ASA. My service includes four years as COCGB vice chair of District 6, Region 3 (2018–2022) and four years as ASA Board treasurer (January 2020 – December 2023). As an ASA Fellow and through my various roles, I've gained crucial insights into chapter development, inter-chapter collaboration, and community building. These experiences have shown me both our achievements and opportunities for growth, particularly in creating a more inclusive ASA community. I am honored to be a candidate for the board of directors and remain deeply committed to our profession and enthusiastic about contributing to its future development.

Community Leadership: My COCGB experience has demonstrated how diverse, supportive communities drive organizational success. I am committed to developing tailored solutions for local chapters while strengthening the vital connections between chapters, COCGB, and the ASA Board. I will advocate for chapter needs and facilitate stronger collaboration across all organizational levels.

Leadership in the AI Era: Our members' analytical training positions us as leaders across disciplines. We should enhance our support for members through expanded leadership development and professional growth opportunities. The ASA's career development initiative provides a foundation upon which we can develop strategies to strengthen our professional impact in an AI-driven world.

Leadership for the ASA's Future: As statistics and data science evolve, the ASA must strengthen its leadership position across disciplines. We can do this by focusing on strategic membership growth and retention while expanding our influence in emerging fields. Through enhanced volunteer and mentorship programs, we'll engage the next generation of statisticians and data scientists. I'm eager to work with the board to help guide the ASA through this transformative period. ■

Board of Directors **Council of Sections Representative 2026–2028**

Martin Slawski

Associate Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Virginia

I am honored to be nominated to serve as the Council of Sections representative to the ASA Board of Directors. As someone with a comparatively short history with the ASA, I am incredibly thankful for all the opportunities I and my doctoral students have received over the years in terms of professional development and dissemination of research through its various high-quality journals and conferences.

As an individual with a hybrid training in statistics and computer science with 15+ years of research activity at the interface of both fields, I will contribute substantial experience with regard to neighboring scientific and professional communities within the broad realm of data science. I hope to leverage this experience to drive innovation in the ASA, particularly the way it interacts with other disciplines, and to clearly articulate our unique strengths.

Over the years, I have had the privilege to build a diverse portfolio of research touching on the multifaceted applications domains and methodologies that define our wonderful community. Supported by many excellent collaborators, my academic journey has exposed me to a broad set of topics that, in combination, have points of contact with most of the ASA sections. I believe that this versatility will come in handy in a role that involves representing their breadth.

Statistics is the oldest field dedicated to the science and practice of analyzing data. Given the increasing democratization of data analytics over time, younger generations of data scientists may not associate, or even be aware of, the ASA as an organization representing their profession. Thus, a specific concern I would like to promote in my role is the engagement of junior members such as graduate students, postdocs, and young professionals. This group represents the future of the ASA and our discipline. ■

Jin Zhou

Associate Professor of Biostatistics, University of California, Los Angeles

I am honored to be considered for the Council of Sections representative position to the ASA Board of Directors. As an active member of five ASA sections—Biometrics, Statistical Computing, Statistics in Genomics and Genetics, Lifetime Data Analysis, and Statistical Learning and Data Science—and two chapters (Orange County/Long Beach and Southern California), I have seen how webinars, conferences, and other activities foster professional growth and collaboration. For over a decade, I have worked with clinicians, scientists, and decision-makers at federal agencies (including Veterans Affairs and the Department of Energy). These experiences have sharpened my skills and inspired me to connect emerging statisticians and data scientists with communities that share their interests and needs.

Throughout my career, I have embraced leadership roles that empower colleagues and strengthen our community. My work in organizing events, coordinating outreach initiatives, and managing communication channels has reinforced my reputation as a reliable, enthusiastic team player. I firmly believe that focused efforts in communication and engagement can transform innovative ideas into meaningful actions that benefit individual sections and the broader statistical community.

My commitment to the ASA extends beyond active membership. I have led initiatives that bring together experts from diverse fields to address emerging challenges and opportunities, ensuring our profession remains at the forefront of scientific advancement. These efforts, coupled with my experience in digital engagement and event organization, enable me to bridge gaps between the sections, the ASA office, and the board.

The council's mission "to vitalize section activities, arrange impactful programs, promote the statistics profession, and facilitate effective dialogue" resonates deeply with me. I am dedicated to supporting the development of new sections, reinvigorating dormant ones, and creating opportunities for joint activities that showcase our field's strength and diversity. I look forward to advancing our collective mission and fostering a more connected, innovative ASA.

Thank you for considering my candidacy for the Council of Sections representative to the ASA Board of Directors. ■

Panelists Discuss How Statisticians, Evaluators Turn Evidence into Impact

From left: Ruth Etzioni, Mike Baiocchi, Kristin Linn, Nandita Mitra, and Debra Rog
Photo by Elizabeth W. Eisenhauer

During the 2024 Joint Statistical Meetings, Elizabeth Eisenhauer—lead statistical associate at Westat—organized the following panel of statisticians and evaluators, who convened to share their insights on using evidence to inform programs and policies:

- Ruth B. Etzioni, Professor and Rosalie and Harold Rea Brown Chair, Biostatistics Program, Fred Hutch Cancer Center
- Michael Baiocchi, Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Population Health, Stanford University
- Kristin Linn, Assistant Professor of Biostatistics, University of Pennsylvania
- Nandita Mitra, Professor of Biostatistics and Co-Director of the Center for Causal Inference, University of Pennsylvania
- Debra Rog, Vice President for Social Policy and Economics Research, Westat

Members of the panel reflected on past successes, challenges, and the evolving partnership between statisticians and evaluators, highlighting future opportunities.

Program Evaluation in Action

Linn provided an example of how thoughtful program evaluation can lead to meaningful behavioral change. She described her evaluation of an intervention designed to promote secure firearm storage by improving conversations between clinicians and parents during child wellness visits and offering free gun locks.

The evaluation team compared two groups: the control group, in which clinicians received simple reminders to discuss secure firearm storage with parents, and the intervention group, in which clinicians also received facilitation on how to have these conversations.

The facilitation proved highly effective, significantly increasing the number of safe storage conversations and free gun lock offers.

Shaping Policy Through Evaluation

Etzioni shared her work with the National Cancer Society on breast cancer screening recommendations.

For decades, the minimum recommended age for breast cancer screenings in the US was 50. Their evaluation considered how the population and benefits of screening had shifted over time, leading policymakers to lower the recommended age to 40.

The policy update, Etzioni noted, reflected good practice in policy evaluation: adapting to evolving evidence and context.

The Secret to Collaboration

"A smattering of everything, knowledge of nothing," a fortune cookie phrase that resonated with Etzioni during her student years, reflected the panelists' philosophy on collaboration.

Applied statisticians, the panelists emphasized, should not confine themselves to rigid definitions of their work. They were united by a problem-solving ethos, where innovative solutions often emerged from unexpected disciplines.

Baiocchi, for example, described developing algorithms to assist in raids on

Disappointment and opportunity coexist in a negative result.

human trafficking operations in Brazil. However, after discovering a high number of victims returned to the same camps within a year, Baiocchi pivoted to working with social workers to evaluate interventions rooted in cognitive behavioral therapy.

When Collaborators Disagree

In response to a story about disagreement over the 'correct' way to analyze data, Etzioni acknowledged that there is rarely a single right answer; every method has its limitations. Sometimes, the most technically rigorous method is not the most practical or trusted by collaborators.

Baiocchi suggested being a good collaborator sometimes means helping your team members understand solutions enough to criticize them. He compared statisticians to therapists—drawing out collaborators' anxieties and uncovering unobserved variables that are better accounted for sooner than later.

The Role of Context

The panelists shared many examples of how context influences evaluations in unexpected ways. Rog, who has studied homelessness for 40 years, recounted a time she was asked, "Why are you collecting more data on homelessness in this study? Don't you already know enough about homelessness?" Rog explained that homelessness is different every time she studies it; the context changes from year to year and place to place.

Rog advocated for mixed methods, combining qualitative and quantitative analyses, as essential tools for navigating complexities. Mixed methods studies can be done poorly, but the best ones start out with a clear plan to intentionally integrate the data.

Finding Value in a Negative Result

"Disappointment and opportunity coexist in a negative result," Etzioni observed, as the panelists reflected on evaluations that didn't produce the desired outcomes.

Mitra described a study on Philadelphia's beverage tax, which did not significantly reduce obesity rates. However, it provided valuable insights into the system being studied, underscoring how evaluation can foster learning, even when primary goals aren't achieved.

Etzioni shared another example: a screening test that met its primary aim but didn't lead to timely follow-up MRIs or diagnoses due to insurance barriers. She noted implementation rarely happens as planned, underscoring the importance of candid communication between statisticians and on-the-ground experts.

Rog reflected on how the evaluation field has changed over the past 50 years, from a focus on accountability to a focus on learning. She thinks this shift presents broad challenges and rich opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration.

Next Steps

The panelists outlined ways to bridge the statistics and evaluation fields, including developing shared resources to support mixed-methods evaluations and encouraging training opportunities to build evaluation capacity within the statistical community.

A proposed American Statistical Association/American Evaluation Association working group seeks to connect members of the ASA and AEA to tackle real-world problems more effectively. For inquiries about the working group, contact ASA Associate Executive Director Donna LaLonde at *DonnaL@amstat.org*. ■

My ASA Story:
John Bailer, Emeritus Professor

My ASA story tracks the course of my career. When I was an undergraduate, a professor in one of my statistics classes at Miami University passed around information about the American Statistical Association and told us we should join. I did. Learning more about the profession and reading about schools and statistics degrees offered by universities and jobs in statistics followed (Thanks, *Amstat News!*).

Graduate studies in biostatistics at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a post-doc at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences preceded a return to Miami University as a faculty member. Almost as soon as I began my career as a professor, I became more actively involved with the ASA. I presented a talk to my local ASA chapter, which provided a great introduction to colleagues in the region. This talk also led to research collaborations that continue to the present. The Cincinnati Chapter also had a tradition of rotating leadership with representatives from academia, business/industry, and government. I went through the chapter officer ranks and developed a deeper connection with the local statistical community.

Following chapter activity, the ASA provided another community for me: sections. The Section on Statistics and the Environment was my first section home. I had a chance to serve as a section representative for the Joint Statistical Meetings and an ENAR program committee and as publications chair. The Section for Risk Analysis came calling later, and I was fortunate to connect with many old and new friends in the discipline.

As I moved into a chair position for a new department of statistics starting at Miami, I connected with the ASA Council of Academic Representatives. What an excellent group of department leaders who were generous with insights and encouragement for new department chairs. The ASA was represented when we celebrated the start of our statistics department with an inaugural conference; Ron Wasserstein, the then new executive director of the ASA joined us.

I was honored to start serving on the ASA Board of Directors a few years later. It was a wonderful chance to meet new people and help support the operation of a society I value. We discussed lots of interesting topics, including the International Prize in Statistics, which was being developed at that time. Also, the PStat/GStat accreditation process was ramping up and the Conference on Statistical Practice was launching.

It was during my time on the board that the *Stats + Stories* podcast came into being. After I team-taught News & Numbers in 2009 with Richard Campbell, a journalism colleague, we wanted to find a way to expand. Additionally, the ASA was preparing for its 175th anniversary. The intersection of these events led to *Stats + Stories,* which tells the statistics behind the stories and the stories behind the statistics. Our goal was to tell engaging stories about statisticians, journalists, scientists, and others to a broad, general audience. We hoped the podcast would appeal to everyone; our goal was a *Freakonomics* type of interplay but with a statistician and a journalist instead of a behavioral economist and a journalist.

A conversation with Barry Nussbaum, ASA president-elect at the time, at the ASA Conference on Statistical Practice changed the podcast's growth trajectory. I invited Nussbaum to be a guest on *Stats + Stories* and to talk about his experience as chief statistician of the US Environmental Protection Agency. We had an enjoyable conversation, which got him thinking about the ASA providing funding for a part-time producer/engineer that would allow *Stats + Stories* to have more frequent episode releases. Statistical communication was one of Nussbaum's presidential initiatives, and he thought supporting the podcast was a way to further the initiative.

ASA Associate Executive Director Donna LaLonde acted as a liaison between the ASA and podcast, and Ron

And now, the podcast that started when I was serving the ASA and expanded with the ASA's support has come home. *Stats + Stories* became an ASA podcast in January.

Wasserstein was a supporter and loyal listener. LaLonde and co-editor of *CHANCE* magazine Wendy Martinez, along with *Significance* magazine's Brian Tarran and Anna Britten, helped identify articles that would make for promising episodes and contacted the authors. The podcast even resulted in a 2022 book, *Statistics Behind the Headlines,* which was part of the ASA-CRC Series on Statistical Reasoning in Science and Society.

And now, the podcast that started when I was serving the ASA and expanded with the ASA's support has come home. *Stats + Stories* became an ASA podcast in January. My journalism colleague Rosemary Pennington and I continue to learn about new topics with interesting guests, but now with the help of ASA Executive Producer Kim Gilliam.

My ASA story is more than four decades old, and my professional journey has been arm-in-arm with the ASA. The path of my career and the presence of many friends were the result of my connection with the ASA. ■

Proposals Wanted for ICOTS 12

The 12th International Conference on Teaching Statistics will take place July 12–17, 2026, in the heart of Brisbane, Australia. This is the first time Brisbane will host this conference.

ICOTS, held every four years in different countries around the world, is for anyone interested in the teaching and learning of statistical and data sciences. As well as internationally renowned speakers, the ICOTS 12 program will have presentations on an overall theme and main topics covering school, tertiary, and workplace contexts within and across disciplines, technologies, training, and research at all educational levels.

Abstracts are being accepted for paper proposals to be featured under the following main topics:

1. Key issues in the what, who, when, how of statistical education
2. Statistics and data education at the school level
3. Statistics and data education at the post-secondary level
4. New technologies and paradigms in assessment
5. Improving teaching and teaching capacity in statistics
6. Statistics education across and into disciplines
7. Teaching probability and stochastic thinking within statistics
8. Training in statistics, data science, and emerging technologies for and in workplaces
9. New directions and developments in statistics education research
10. Growing society-wide statistical, data science, and data technological literacy

For submission guidelines, visit *https://virtual.oxfordabstracts.com/e/icots12.* ■

The logo for ICOTS 12 represents part of the Brisbane River (Maiwar) as it winds through Brisbane (Meanjin) and represents both the continuity of the statistics education community and navigating the complexities of statistics and data science education.

Welcome TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Robert Abugov
Tianjiao Adams
Sunday A. Adetunji
Akwasi Agyei
Amir Yousef Ahmadi
Mohib M. Ahmed
Raid Al-Aqtash
Sheima Alameeri
K. Scott Alberts
Maria Katerina C. Alfaro
Emily Alger
Raghad B. Alkhawaldeh
Emmanuel Kofi Ayiri Asare
Abdul Awal
Dora Ayan
Karen Julieth Ballen-Santos
Fatima Batool
Vincent J. Berardi
Jordan Bernard
Lauren Berry
Julie Bessac
Joshua Betz
Abhik Bhattacharya
Helen Birkeland
Radu S. Briciu
Coleman E. Bunn
Jacqueline Buros
David A. Burt
Peiyao Cai
Amanda Carrico
John P. Cashy
Shi Cen
Debarshi Chakraborty
Shourjo Chakraborty
Loretta Chan
Allison Charba
Jiaheng Chen
Wei Chen
Wenhao Chen
Zeyu Chen
Meehyung Cho
Tanzima Chowdhury
Sara Colando
Andre Felipe Correia Silva
Angelo Cozzubo
Michelle O. Crosby
Loften Deprez
Jillian Marcela Derodel
Debarttasharan A. Dey
Priyanka Dhamija
Ram Chandra Dhungana
Callum Doyle
Thomas Jack Dreyer
Vitaly Druker
Vera-Patience Dureke
John Ehrlinger
Rodina Eladawy
Monica Espinoza
Chun-Po Fan
MD Zahidur Rahman Farazi
Samuel C. Fisher
Lysbeth Floden
Ricardo Domingos Florentino
Imola Fodor
Erin G. Franke
Erin E. Gabriel
Katherine Gajewski
Madhurya Gautam
Santu Ghosh
Mojgan Golzy
Rachel T. Gonzalez
Haden Walker Goodwin
Matt Gossett
Kunj Guglani
Mian Guo
Derek Harding
Dylan P. Hebert
Elisa Henning
Vindyani Herath
Nhat Ho
Jezerca Hodaj
Jenny Holcombe
Dirk Tyler Hopkins
Yifan Hsu
Michael Huang
Yunhao Huang
Zhuochao Huang
Liam Huyen
Laura E. Ichikawa
Michael Ion
El-Ham Ismail
Samantha R. Iyengar
Sugitha Janarthanan
Jeong Hoon Jang
Ding Jiang
Kai Jiang
Jamey Johnston
Jeremiah Jones
Anna Godwin Kaduma Gumbie
Jacob Kebe
Shannon Keenan
Carson Keeter
Aubrey D. Kehoe
Hahyeong Kim
HyunJu Kim
Jae-Chun Kim
Sun Sook Kim
Harvey Klyne
Joseph Scott Kochendoerfer
Matthew Komos
Scott Konicki
Phillip Koshute
Subhodh Kotekal
Adam Kovarik
Ethan Laundry
Kyu Ha Lee
Bing Li
Jiasheng Li
Kendrick Li
Qiqi Li
Xincheng Li
Jinqiu Liang
Xiaoyu Liang
Rebecca Lien
Sai Liu
Michael D. Long
Diane Lu
Wenhui Sophia Lu
Amanda Luby
Fangyi Luo
Ingrid Luo
Ganesh B. Malla
Matthew Malloure
Juan Francisco Mandujano Reyes
Gina N. Mannino
Helen Markewich
Isabella Rebecca Martin
Dallin Mason
Evan C. Mason
Kimberly Massaro
Joseph Mathews
Laura Mathews
Sean McGrath
Felipe Medeiros
Riley Meredith
Mikaela Meyer
Kimberly Middleton
Brody M. Miller
Joseph R. Modzelewski
Thirupathi Reddy Mokalla
Emily Moore
Presley Moreno
GM Fahad Bin Mostafa
Erika Mudrak
Kevin B. Najarian
Anirban Nandy
Sue Ling Ng
Justice Nii-Ayitey
Collin T. Nolte
George Nyandoro
Nzubechukwu Ohalete
Michael Orkin
Verrah Akinyi Otiende
Hakon Otneim
Emalee Ousley
Hengde Ouyang
Joseph Ochieng Owaga
Sai Nikhil Paluru
Asha Pantula
Caterina Parafina
Ronald Parent
John Park
Sung Hee Park
Ethan Joseph Pawl
Fritz Pierre
Minya Pu
Santosh Kumar Rai
Bohdana Ratitch
Eric Reed
Warren Register
Rachael Ren
Estefano A. Reyes Madriz
Josefine Röhss
Callie Rountree-Jablin

Pourab Roy
Chris Sahr
Joseph M. Salzer
Benjamin Julius Schneider
Amber Levanon Seligson
Raymond Shao
Xuanjie Shao
Lihui Shi
Sunao Shimada
Steven M. Shugan
Yumiko Siegfried
Grace Siliki
Nancy Paul Silliman
Moira Skelley
Svitlana Slobodian
Joon Jin Song
David P. Soule
David W. Spohn
Michael Stanley
Philip A. Stevenson
Nischal Subedi
Steven A. Swamy
Nabintou Anissia Sylla
Vasilis Syrgkanis
Princess Tagoe
Ronne Wilmer Tamayo Medina
Alex Tarter
Prosper Aime Tchoumo
Trevor James Thomson
Supriya Tiwari
Alex Tomlin
Trong-Thuc Trang
Thomas Travison
Evan Trump
William Turner
Kimberly Umans
Kylie J. Van Dyke
Rebecca A. Votto
Patrick Walsh
Soun-Ja Walters
Chia-Chi Wang
Hang Wang
Kesheng Wang
Tao Wang
Yanzhi Wang
Yifan Wang
Yixian Wang
Zhenzhong Wang
David W. Webb
Ying Wei
Zixuan Wei
Lukian Wernyj
Nathan Westfall
Healey C. Whitsett
Charuka Wickramasinghe
Ayashmantha Indrajith Wijewardhana
Daniel Wurzler Barreto
Sophie Xu
Zhiyu Xu
Ella Yadav
Chong H. Yu
Scott L. Zeger
Dongmei Zhai
Kehe Zhang
Jinlong Zhao
Ni Zhao
Zijie Zhao
Junyi Zhou
Miriam Zhu
Ruoqing Zhu
Xiaoshu Zhu
Robert Ziemba ■

New Member Spotlight: YIFENG WANG

This month, we spotlight new member Yifeng Wang, who answered the following questions so we could get to know him better:

How did you become interested in statistics and/or data science?

I became interested in statistics and/or data science during my undergraduate studies, when I realized its great potential to address real-world challenges, especially when integrated with engineering. This realization inspired me to pursue advanced studies in industrial engineering.

What do you consider your dream job?

My dream job is to become a faculty member who researches statistics and/or data science for engineering systems such as advanced manufacturing.

What do you hope understanding statistics and/or data science helps you accomplish?

I hope to apply statistical and data science methodologies to quality control and improvement in manufacturing systems and address real-world engineering challenges.

Is there a particular group of statisticians you would like to reach out to you?

I am interested in connecting with the Quality and Productivity Section and Section on Physical and Engineering Sciences.

What is your favorite hobby?

I enjoy cooking, which makes me relaxed.

MARCH

TIME SERIES

This Month in Statistics History

Penny S. Reynolds, University of Florida College of Medicine

Famous Statisticians Born in March

1574 William Oughtred is credited with the invention of the slide rule in 1622. He was a pioneer in the movement for fewer words and more symbols in mathematics, such as x for multiplication.

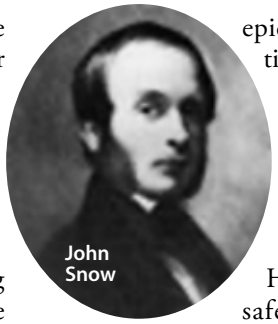
1674 Jethro Tull was the earliest proponent of an empirical approach to agricultural research. He helped bring about the 18th-century agricultural revolution, foreshadowing Rothamsted and design of field experiments. He was heavily criticized in his lifetime for his revolutionary rejection of the poetry of Virgil as a scientific authority in favor of actual experiments and quantifiable results.

1749 Pierre-Simon Laplace's interest in celestial mechanics led him to develop the principles of Bayesian probability and a precursor of least-squares (he minimized the maximum error, not the sum of squared errors). He was one of the first to suggest probability could be applied to medical data.

1768 Jean-Baptiste Joseph Fourier is best known for the Fourier series he first presented in a paper to the Paris Institute on December 21, 1807. Because Lagrange and Laplace complained the method lacked generality and rigor, Fourier did not publish his results until 1822, only to find he had been scooped by Gauss. It was rediscovered and repurposed in 1965 by Colley and Tukey as the fast Fourier transform, revolutionizing digital computing.

1813 Thomas Graham Balfour (president, Royal Statistical Society, 1888–1890) conducted some of the earliest controlled medical therapeutic trials to assess belladonna as preventative of scarlet fever.

1813 John Snow, a pioneering anesthesiologist (he was anesthetist to Queen Victoria during the deliveries of her last two children), was better known as one of the founders of modern epidemiology. His investigations into the causes of the Soho cholera outbreak led to the removal of the Broad Street pump handle and, eventually, major changes in sanitation and waste removal practices. He also pioneered food safety studies, suggesting that adulteration of bread with alum might be a cause of rickets. He then designed a case-control study to test his hypothesis.


John Snow

1857 Karl Pearson, the grand old man of applied statistics and one of the founders of statistical hypothesis testing, developed many statistical methods and coined the terms histogram, standard deviation, kurtosis, and heteroscedasticity. First holder of Galton's chair of eugenics at University College London; both names were removed from buildings in 2020.

1860 Walter Frank Raphael Weldon co-founded *Biometrika* in 1901 (along with Galton and Pearson). Enthusiastic early adopter of the new science of biometrics and application of statistical methods to biology, saying "the problem of animal evolution is essentially a statistical problem."

1891 Walter A. Shewhart (ASA Fellow, 1934; ASA president, 1945; IMS president, 1937 and 1944) was the father of statistical quality control. He is best known for his 1924 one-page memo describing the first use of statistical control charts. Founding editor of the Wiley Series in Mathematical Statistics, the first collected library of statistical reference texts since the 18th century.


Mary Spear

1897 Mary Eleanor Spear was a data visualization specialist at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. She pioneered the box plot and authored two books on effective graphic technique and presentation for the days when graphics were all done by hand.

1906 Eleanor Josephine Macdonald was a pioneering cancer epidemiologist who established the first cancer registry in the USA. Early proponent of concept of cancer as preventable disease and early adopter of computer technology to cancer research. She learned statistical methods from EB Wilson (ASA Fellow 1924, president 1929) at Harvard. Before becoming an epidemiologist, she was a professional concert cellist.

1908 Esther Seiden (Fellow, International Statistical Institute and Institute of Mathematical Statistics) was best known for her work in combinatorial theory, design of experiments (especially orthogonal arrays and problems of confounding in factorial designs), and finite geometry.

1913 Churchill Eisenhart (ASA Fellow, 1943; ASA president, 1971) was the chief of the statistical engineering laboratory at the US National Bureau of Standards. He made major contributions to statistical methodology for a wide variety of disciplines and was first to explicitly define assumptions underlying ANOVA.

1929 Donald W. Marquardt (ASA Fellow, 1975; ASA president, 1986) is best known for the Levenberg-Marquardt method of nonlinear estimation. He originally developed the algorithm using an IBM Card Programmed Calculator. Later, he provided FORTRAN code, enabling other researchers to try it out on a variety of problems. The paper describing the method is now a citation classic.

1931 Norman R. Draper (ASA Fellow, 1971; fellow RSS, IMS, ASQ) was a pioneer of regression methodology, design of experiments, and response surface methodology for quality engineering and process control.

1934 Daniel Kahneman and 1937 Amos Tversky were longtime collaborators who pioneered studies of decision-making, cognitive biases, risk assessment, and why people "struggle to think statistically." Their work revolutionized behavioral economics, which previously assumed decision-making was rational.

1937 William G. Hunter (ASA Fellow, 1979). A teacher of design of experiments. He is best known as co-author of the classic text *Statistics for Experimenters*. An innovator and catalyst for quality improvement, he founded the ASQC Statistics division. ASQC presents the Hunter Award for "accomplishments in the development and creative application of statistics in problem solving." ■

Events


THEORIA
MOTVS CORPORVM
COELESTIVM

1809 Carl Friedrich Gauss finishes *Theoria Motus Corporum Coelestium in Sectionibus Conicis Solem Ambientium*, in which he shows derivations of measurement error distributions, a method of least squares. However, Adrien-Marie Legendre claimed precedence for the first clear statement of the method in 1805. He was incensed when Gauss referred to it as our method and then claimed he had been using it since 1795, when he was 18. Legendre said, "This excessive impudence is unbelievable in a man who has sufficient personal merit not to have need of appropriating the discoveries of others."

1823 Gauss publishes *Theoria Combinationis Observationum Erroribus Minimis Obnoxiæ*, in which he implicitly develops the least-squares principle now called best linear unbiased estimators (BLUE). In 1938, FN David and Jerzy Neyman further develop BLUE, calling it the "Markoff theorem on least squares." Ronald Fisher, never missing an opportunity to attack, gave precedence to Gauss. Neyman acknowledged that Gauss may have "in principle" initiated its development but Markov made it practical.

1834 The Statistical Society of London is founded on March 15, 1834, by Charles Babbage, Thomas Malthus, Adolph Quetelet, and Richard Jones. It becomes the Royal Statistical Society in 1887.

1943 In March, Abraham Wald (ASA Fellow, 1945; president, IMS) is presented with the problem of developing the best sampling methodology for detecting anomalous production results for munitions. By April, he develops the sequential probability ratio test for quality control. The US military thought it was so important, it was classified until the end of WWII. A similar test was developed independently by George Barnard in 1946.

1947 Chester I. Bliss (ASA Fellow, 1942) attends the March meeting of the National Research Council Committee on Applied Mathematical Statistics and is outraged at the lack of biometry representation. That very day, he begins organizing the International Biometric Society, officially launched only six months later, on September 6. He later became the 8th president; Ronald Fisher was first.

See the full list of events on the *Amstat News* website: *https://magazine.amstat.org/blog/2025/03/03/marchhistory*.

MORE ONLINE
Download the references via PDF from *https://tinyurl.com/57dwnn78.*

2024 A SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISING YEAR

Amanda Malloy, ASA Director of Development

With more than $300,000 raised in support of ASA programs, 2024 was another successful fundraising year, which reflects the generosity and dedication of the ASA community in advancing the field of statistics and data science.

One of the year's most significant milestones was the establishment of the Dionne Price Public Lecture Series, created to honor the memory and legacy of 2023 ASA President Dionne Price. The support of her friends, colleagues, and others who admired her allowed the $75,000 endowment campaign goal to be reached, ensuring this initiative will last for generations to come.

Claire Bowen will give the inaugural lecture on April 22 at the Urban Institute in Washington, DC. The lecture, titled "Government Data of the People, by the People, for the People: Balancing Personal Privacy and the Public Good," can be attended both in person and virtually.

This year also saw the introduction of the ASA Legacy Page program, which provides a meaningful way to honor friends and colleagues who are ASA members. This initiative offers a special opportunity to celebrate the contributions of statisticians while supporting the future of the profession.

Another significant milestone was the launch of the ASA Partner Program, creating stronger relationships between the ASA and companies and institutions that share the ASA's commitment to advancing statistics and data science.

Additionally, ASA Giving Day 2024 was a success, raising $75,000 from 173 donors. This one-day event highlighted the collective power of the ASA community, demonstrating how even small contributions can add up to make a substantial impact. The funds will directly support programs and initiatives that further the ASA's mission to promote the practice and profession of statistics.

The impact of these donations is far-reaching, supporting K–16 education, cultivating the next generation of statisticians and data scientists, and advocating for sound policymaking. Additionally, contributions help highlight the impact of statistics through initiatives such as the new Telling Our Stories video series, which highlights the transformative power of statistical work across various fields.

The generosity of ASA members and friends ensures the ASA can continue its mission for years to come.

To learn more about the impact of donations and the many ways to give, visit *ww2.amstat.org/giving*. ■

$500 to $999

John Angle
Alicia Carriquiry
Yuchiao Chang
Leena Choi
Bruce Craig
David and Bonnie Dumas
Matthew Finkelman
Joseph Gastwirth
Gerald Hahn
Susan Hinkins
Don Jang
Dallas Johnson
Gary Jones
Theresa Kim and Nathan Parrish
Robin Lee
Roderick Little
David and Mary Marker
Emily Martin
Chris Moriarity
Ali Mushtaq
Xufeng Niu
Keith Ord
Mark Otto
Susan Paddock
Paul Schmidbauer
Carol Thompson
Naisyin Wang
Iris Wong

$100 to $499

David Allison
Wendy Alvey
Frank Appiah
Arlene Ash
Jonathan Auerbach
Patrick Baier
John Bailer
Torin Bakos
Shailendra Banerjee
Laurie Barker
John Bartko
Mary Batcher
Edward Bein
Charles Berry
Utpal Bhattacharya
Amit Bhattacharyya

Helen Walker SOCIETY

Thank you to Helen Walker Society members, who have demonstrated their commitment to the practice and profession of statistics through annual donations of $1,000 and more.

John Abowd
Stan Altan
Jana Asher
David Banks
Paul Beery
William Brenneman
Katherine Bretzlaff
Catherine Calder
Patrick Cantwell
Christy Chuang-Stein
Constance Citro
John Czajka
Marie Davidian
Richard De Veaux
Kim-Anh Do
Katherine Ensor
Christine Franklin
Cathy Furlong
Peter Gaccione
Martha Gardner
Nancy Geller
Eric and Victoria Gibson
Richard Goldstein
Susan Halabi
Charles Hall
Alexandra Hanlon
Susan Harris
Tim and Bev Hesterberg
Elizabeth Hill
Jeffrey Hooper
Nicholas Horton
Rebecca Hubbard
Fred and Karen Hulting
Ronald Iman
Barry Johnson
Lee Kaiser
Maria Matilde Kam
Daniel Kasprzyk
Elizabeth Kelly and Robert Ryne
Arthur Kennickell
Thian Kheoh
Nancy Kirkendall
Karol Krotki
Michael Kutner
Mary Kwasny
Nan Laird and Joel Alstein
Donna LaLonde
James Landwehr
Lisa LaVange
Ji-Hyun Lee
John Stites and Cynthia Long
Ruixiao Lu
Susan Mayo
Madhu Mazumdar
Katherine Monti
Carolyn Morgan
David and Caroline Morganstein
Motomi Mori
Sally Morton
Edward Mulrow
Jeri Mulrow
Anna Nevius
Rebecca Nichols
William Notz
Barry Nussbaum
Robert O'Neill
Leonard Oppenheimer
Van Parsons
Paula Roberson
Frank Rockhold
Jim and Gloria Rosenberger
Jaya Satagopan
Fritz and Elizabeth Scheuren
John Schuenemeyer
David Scott
Larry Shen
Dolores Smith
Steven Snapinn
Theresa Utlaut
Jessica Utts
Sean Walker
Ron and Sherry Wasserstein
Daniela Witten
Linda Young
Richard Zink

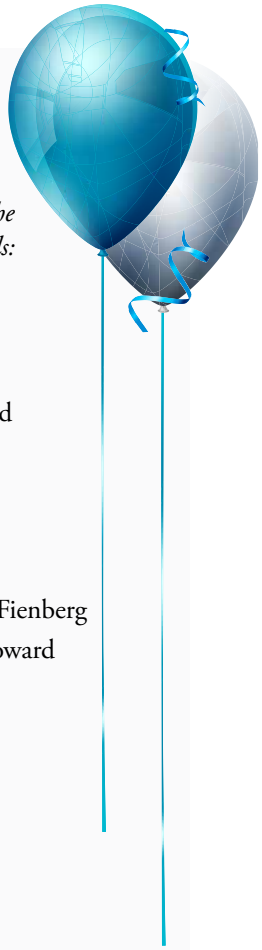
Carol Bigelow
Claire Bowen
Michael Boyd
John Boyer
Matt Brems
William Bridges
Nancy Brucken
ShaAvhree Buckman
Richard Burdick
Norman Bush
Jesse Canchola
Aki Caszatt
Jie Chen
Yu Cheng
Carol Chung
David Collins
Joan Combs Durso
Paul DeLand
Chunqin Deng
Janice Derr
Jay Devore
Marie Diener-West
Cheryl Dixon
Philip Dixon
Kevin Drummey
George Duncan
Will Eagan
Brenda Edwards
Susan Ellenberg
Renee Ellis
Stephen Elston
Justin Fisher
Elmika Fletcher
Rongwei Fu
Daniel Gaichas
Eric Geller
Robert Gentleman
Bonnie Ghosh Dastidar
Mark Glickman
Prem Goel
Melody Goodman
Timothy Green
Joel Greenhouse
Susan Groshen
Richard Gunst
Katherine Halvorsen
Johanna Hardin
Frank Harrell
Dan Harris
Amelia Haviland
Xuming He
Donald Hedeker
Richard Heiberger
William Heiland
Agnes Herzberg
Klaus Hinkelmann
Antje Hoering
Melinda Holt
Ginger Holt
Brian Horiuchi
Sally Hunsberger
Michael Ikeda
Hak-sing Ip
Michael Jadoo
Justin Jander
Rodney Jee
Booil Jo
Henry Kahn
Sarah Kalicin
Robert Kass
Jerome Keating
John Keighley
Beth Kilss
Mimi Kim
Andrzej Kosinski
Melissa Kovacs
Lee Kucera
Yong-Fang Kuo
Michael Lasarev
Philip Lavin
Tommy Lee
Clerisse Lemke
Mark Levenson
Patti Lock
Stephen Looney
Thomas Louis
Thomas Love
Yan Ma
Wendy Mack
Jennifer Madans
Amanda Malloy
Elizabeth Mannshardt
Dennis Mar
Michele Masuda
Alexis Maxian
Cristiana Mayer
Leslie McClure
Thomas McCoy
Michael Meredith
Mary-Jane Mietlowski
William Mietlowski
James Miller
Renee Miller
George Milliken
Renee Moore
Knashawn Morales
Christopher Morrell
Arline Nakanishi
Elliott Nebenzahl
Wayne Nelson
Michael Newton
Isaac Nuamah
David Olive
Jean Opsomer
Robert Oster
George Ostrouchov
Albert Palachek
Sharina Person
Jamie Peterson
Thomas Petska
Darwin Poritz
Philip Prorok
Douglas Ransom
Paul Rathouz
Rose Ray
William Reichmann
Robert Reynolds
Matthew Riebel
Barbara Robles
George Rodriguez
Harry Rosenberg
Jon Sahlroot
Abdul Sankoh
Serap Sankoh
Robert Santos
Sourav Santra
Michael Schell
Nathaniel Schenker
John Scheuren
Christopher Schmid
Kendra Schmid
David Schoenfeld
John Schoenfelder
John Schoolfield
Stanley Sclove
Kimberly Sellers
Michelle Shardell
Mack Shelley
Kimberly Siegmund
Richard Sigman
Elizabeth Slate
Aleksandra Slavkovic
Jeffrey Smith
Marjolein Smith
Richard Smith
Mat Soukup
Charles South
Susan Spruill
Robert Stephenson
Susan Stewart
Charles Strecker
David Sullivan
Yves Thibaudeau
Ronald Thisted
Sonia Thomas
David Thomson
Wilfredo Toledo
Tammy Tom
Jennifer Van Mullekom
Julia Varshavsky
Steve Verrill
Timothy Victor
Min-Qi Wang
Sanford Weisberg
James Whipple
Glenn White
Andrew White
David Williamson
Jason Wilson
Michiko Wolcott
Michael Yang
Xiaoying Yu
Bin Yu
Shaojun Zhang

> $100

Reza Abbasian
Daniel Abramson
Denise Abreu
Letetia Addison
Adebusola Adu
Gizem Agar
Diana Agbenyega
Robert Agnew
Brian Albrecht
Amir Alipour Yengejeh
Thiago Amaral de Almeida Marcondes
Philip Ambrosini
Bright Amenyo
Christian Andersen
Steven Anderson
Charles Anderson
Dallas Anderson
Masakazu Ando
Vahan Aslanyan
Azuka Atum
Kelly Avery
Oluwagbohunmi Awosoga
Mary Baggett
Geraldine Baggs
Henry Bahnson
Nirajan Bam
Anindita Banerjee
Kazeem Bankole
Jarrett Barber
Md Hasanujamman Bari
Ronald Barry
Paul Baum
Michael Beck
Misha Belkindas
Allison Bellon
Alvin Beltramo
Nivedita Bhatt
Herbert Bishop
Ed Brizendine
Jan Bruha
Rebecca Buchanan
Bart Burington

Patricia Busk
Allen Buxton
Brian Caffo
Eunice Campirán
David Cantor
Christopher Carbone
Spencer Carter
Robert Carver
Vittorio Castelli
Grace Chan
Hadrien Charvat
Subrata Chatterjee
Thomas Chesnutt
Li Cheung
Siddhartha Chib
Nicolas Christou
Sandra Clarkson
Naomi Clay
Marielisa Coba
James Cochran
Michael Cohen
Joseph Conklin
Charles Contant
Richard Conway
Margaret Copenhaver
Dana Creanga
Eric Cunningham
Beth Dana
Yahya Daoud
Tirthankar Dasgupta
Bern DeBacker
Shaofen Deng
Wayne Desarbo
James Dignam
Rositsa Dimova
Kexin Ding
Richard Dixon
Peter Dolan
Rickie Domangue
Stephen Donaldson
Michael Dresnack
Tao Duan
Joel Dubin
Susan Durham
Catherine Durso
Alan Berger
Keith Eberhardt
Patricia English
Victor Farutin
Huaguang Feng
Wenjuan Feng
Ernest Fokoue
Julie Fondurulia
Kevin Forbes
Marilyn Ford
Richard Forshee
Abigail Freeman
Bob Gaddis
Byron Gajewski
Yan Gao
Constantine Gatsonis
Matthias Gehrke
Ulrike Genschel
Ebenezer George
Robert Gerwien
Suman Ghosh
David Gjertson
Lawrence Gonzales
Daniela Alejandra Gonzalez
James Grady
Gerry Gray
Michael Greene
Aaron Griffin
Converse Griffith
Heather Groben
Miriam Grosof
Michael Grosskopf
Robert Groves
Rafael Guevara
Sylvia Halasz
James Hall
Timothy Hall
Stefan Hantel
William Harper
Gary Harvey
Siwen He
Daniel Heitjan
Allen Heller
Michael Herley
James Himelein
Edward Hirschland
David Hoaglin
Jessica Hoehner
Susanne Hoeppner
John Holcomb
Giles Hooker
Merrell Hora
Jeanine Houwing-Duistermaat
Tomoyuki Ichiba
Fred Huffer
Suzanne Hunt
Stuart Hurlbert
Shelley Hurwitz
Takayuki Iguchi
Thomas Ilvento
Philip Iversen
Toyoto Iwata
Bill Iwig
Andrew Jacobs
Savina Jaeger
Peter Jaehnig
Isaac Jenkins
Sangchoon Jeon
Jing Jin
Alex Johnson
Gary Johnson
Kristi Johnson
Monica Johnston
Naohisa Kaneda
Kristin Kang
Jennifer Kaplan
İhsan Karabulut
Talbot Katz
James Keefe
David Kenny
Gregory Kent
Deepak Khatry
Kwang-Youn Kim
Richard Kipp
James Knaub
John Knorr
Joseph Kobi
John Koester
Katherine Kreuser
Karel Kupka
Arend Kuyper
Luca La Rocca
Eric Laber
Kenneth Land
Jerald Lawless
Hollylynne Lee
Kerry Lee
Lawrence Lesser
Martin Lesser
Donna Levy
Thomas Lewinson
Gang Li
Jun Li
Ernst Linder
James Little
Yan Liu
Gang Liu
Anthony Lonardo
Charlotte Looby
Figaro Loresto
Kimberly Love
Robert Lumpkin
Gheorghe Luta
Timothy Lutz
Merritt Lyon
David Lyon
Vicki Lyons
Ben Lyons
Sean Maden
Marianne Magill
Carole Makela
Binod Manandhar
Olga Marchenko
Terence Martey
Rochelle Martinez
Wendy Martinez
Norman Matloff
Maureen Mayer
Charles Maynard
Kathleen McDonald-Johnson
Richard McIlwain
Raymond McIntyre
Dean McKenzie
Phoebe McLaughlin
Lisa McShane
Grace Medley
Joy Mele
Kathleen Mellars
Gustavo Mercier

Memorial Gifts



Gifts were made in fondest memory of the following individuals:

Lee Abramson
Marta Aliaga
Norman Beery
A. T. Bharucha-Reid
Carol Blumberg
Lucien Le Cam
Alberto Canchola
David Cox
Stephen and Joyce Fienberg
Rance and Judy Howard
David Hurst
Gerald Joireman
Huiyin Ling
Lingzi Lu
Lemuel Moye
Raymond Myers
Edward Nevius
Dionne Price
Robert Small
Swayam Prakash Srivastava
Pankajam and NS Venkatesan
Katherine Wallman
Meijing Wu
Douglas Zahn

Honorary Gifts

Gifts were made in honor of the following:

Raymond Carroll
Joseph Gastwirth
Bonnie Ghosh Dastidar
Rebecca Nichols
Barry Nussbaum
Dennis Pearl
Kanti Rawal
Donald Rubin
Fritz Scheuren
Cardinale Smith
Jeyamma Srinivasan
Ram Tripathi
Ron Wasserstein

Thank you to the ASA Partners who helped fund programs in 2024

ASA MISSION PARTNER ($30,000)

NOVARTIS

ASA CHAMPION PARTNERS ($15,000)

Bristol Myers Squibb

Cytel

Westat

MERCK

ASA SUPPORTING PARTNERS ($5,000)

ASA Biopharmaceutical Section
Procter and Gamble
Servier
University of California, Berkeley
University of Michigan Department of Statistics

Laura Meyerson
Weiwen Miao
Joel Michalek
Margaret Mikula
Colin Miles
David Miller
Jack Miller
Anne Milley
Volodymyr Minin
Margaret Minkwitz
David Moen
Mira Mohsen
Geert Molenberghs
Kathleen Morrissey
Chaya Moskowitz
Alexandra Mossman
Nobuhle Mpofu
Shirshendu Mukherjee
Charles Nam
Deborah Nasseri
Ronald Neath
Jerry Nedelman
Christopher Nenebi
Vanndy Nor
Phillip Norton
Julia Norton
Eileen OBrien
James Odei
Rho Olaisen
Steve Olson
James O'Malley
Philip Orticke
Lawrence Owusu
Felix Owusu
Murat Ozel
Osbert Pang
Jennifer Parker
Adam Partin
Sharon Passe
Debdeep Pati
Chris Patterson
Paul Patterson
Hugh Peac
Edsel Pena
Gene Pennello
Jamis Perrett
Edward Perrin
Mary Petrino
Ruth Pfeiffer
Eswar Phadia
Luigi Pieri
Jose Pinheiro
Robert Podolsky
Stanley Pounds
Bill Prucka
Diego Quezada-Munoz
Torin Quinlivan
Matthias Quinn
Sandra Ramirez
Suchitrita Rathmann
George Recck
Ray Redd
Joseph Retzer
Andrew Ritchey
Rosemary Roberts
Sarah Roberts
Andreana Robertson
Edwin Robison
Richard Rode
James Rogers
George Rooney
Malgorzata Roslanowska
William Rule
Estelle Russek-Cohen
Samuel Sadow
Sandra Safo
Santiago Sanchez
Abdulwajeed Salisu
Susan Sanchez
Ulderico Santarelli
Miles Sato
Roger Sauter
Alassane Savadogo
Jonathan Schildcrout
Christian Schindler
Xavier Scott
John Scott
Stephen Sedory
Stephen Senn
Anthony Seraphin
Venkatraman Seshan
Mostafa Shams
Sima Sharghi
James Sharpe
Haiwen Shi
Stephanie Shipp
Jianfen Shu
Jeanette Shutay
Eric Siegel
Pedro Silva
Douglas Simpson
Joan Skurnick
Richard Smiley
Claudia Smith
Stephanie Smullen
Rhona Souers
Thomas Spavins
Cathie Spino
John Ssenkusu
William Stager
Martina Stallmann
Nancy Stambler
John Stickler
Samantha Stiles
Lynne Stokes
Daniel Stram
Guoqin Su
Kezhen Tang
Gong Tang
Jean De Dieu Tapsoba
Thaddeus Tarpey
Daniel Rodriguez
Bonnie Thiel
Heather Thomas
Mary Thompson
Sally Thurston
Mary Tiernan
Ram Tiwari
Margot Tollefson
Li-Jung Tseng
Hsiao-Hui Tsou
Brian Tucker
Alison Turner
Samantha Tyner
Edith Udegbe
Esa Uusipaikka
W. Duncan Wadsworth
Roger Walker
Dennis Walsh
Jin Wang
Xinlei Wang
Francis Watson
David Watts
Robert Weant
Michael Weaver
Yenny Webb Vargas
Wahyu Wibowo
Jean Williams
Kristopher Williams
Diane Willimack
Rebecca Wong
Derek Wong
Roberta Wood
Haviland Wright
Jill Wright
Jing Wu
Colin Wu
Jeremy Wu
Jingjing Ye
Hung-Wen Yeh
Lisa Ying
Russell Yost
Frank Zahradnik
Bing Zhang
Bonnie Zhang
Hongmei Zhang
Yuxin Zhang
Yichuan Zhao
Jishu Zheng
Jun Zhu
Georgia Ziemba Morgan
Corwin Zigler
Kelly Zou
Seth Zuckerman ■

JEDI CORNER

New JEDI Chair Outlines Goals, Vision

Eric J. Daza, JEDI Outreach Group Chair

"Folks are more than just one story. … Your goal is to behave inclusively. … Behaving differently is where the real progress happens." — Amber Cabral, *Say More About That*

Welcome to the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Outreach Group of the American Statistical Association. We are a diverse and inclusive community, a rich collection of powerful stories. Our mission is to advance and support a society that values all people through our work as statisticians and data scientists.

JEDI Outreach Group members pursue the following three objectives:

Connect. Grow a diverse and inclusive community of statisticians and data scientists that supports and advocates for JEDI best practices.

Educate. Help statisticians and data scientists learn how to think and act inclusively, and how to overcome barriers so they can thrive in fulfilling careers.

Champion. Seek out, challenge, and encourage statisticians and data scientists everywhere to build diverse, respectful, and inclusive communities and environments.

The JEDI Outreach Group was established in 2021 and has already accomplished much! My vision for the group this year includes the following goals, which I encourage all to pursue:

I. Combat urgent crises.

"Any situation in which some individuals prevent others from engaging in the process of inquiry is one of violence. The means used are not important; to alienate human beings from their own decision-making is to change them into objects." — Paulo Freire, *Pedagogy of the Oppressed*

AI Failures. Artificial intelligence is changing our society in ways that are rapidly increasing in volume, velocity, and variety. As statistical domain experts, we must continue to speak up in key discussions around AI ethics. We must further expose AI's harms and publicly challenge AI experts and users to adopt JEDI best practices. We cannot just shove our seats up to the AI table—we must stand on the table and shout!

JUSTICE
EQUITY
DIVERSITY
INCLUSION
OUTREACH GROUP

Further Reading

Statisticians Play an Essential Role in AI
https://tinyurl.com/5xv55fw9

American Statistical Association Statement on Ethical AI Principles for Statistical Practitioners
https://tinyurl.com/w684t8nc

Weapons of Math Destruction
https://tinyurl.com/34ckk2e6

II. Strengthen how we work together.

"The cooperation between these two groups has been good. It looks to me that this is the real beginning of a closer relationship between our people." — Larry Itliong, on organizing the Delano Grape Strike

Measure What Matters Most. We must continue refining how we track the progress of our work. Good organizational performance indicators help us stay accountable. They also provide solid evidence of our societal impact—helping prove the value of the JEDI Outreach Group and other similar efforts to those who doubt.

Coordinate Systematically. We must continue improving how we align, coordinate, and document our work. Good procedures and documentation help us communicate clearly to unblock work tasks and finish on time.

Have Fun! If you connect with even just one other member for the first time, you will have strengthened our community. I encourage you to attend our committee meetings and get to know your fellow members. I will also work to give you other opportunities to socialize. Visit the outreach group website to learn more and get involved: *https://datascijedi.org.* ■

Eric J. Daza has been a health data scientist for more than 21 years. He created *Stats-of-1*, a health innovation newsletter/podcast featured in *Forbes* and *Fortune*. He is also a diversity, equity, and inclusion leader; Filipino American immigrant; and trained musician.

Celebrating Women's History Month

This Women's History Month, we're spotlighting remarkable women in statistics, biostatistics, and data science. As mentors, educators, and innovators, they've shaped the field in countless ways. Read their journeys and learn about their incredible achievements.

Peggy Carr's journey began in Cleveland, Ohio, where her family moved during The Great Migration. However, economic struggles brought them back to North Carolina during the height of the Civil Rights Movement. Carr and her siblings were some of the first African American students to integrate K–12 schools in eastern North Carolina, shaping her commitment to equity in education. She thrived academically and developed a passion for statistics and research methodology. Carr was the first person of color in executive management at the National Center for Education Statistics and among the first to join the Federal Senior Executive Service.

Qixuan Chen's journey into statistics was deeply inspired by her father, who pursued a self-taught degree in statistics while managing more than 100 employees, achieving the highest GPA in his class. Growing up on a beautiful island in southeast China, Chen was captivated by his explanation of the bell curve, sparking her passion for the field. She later earned advanced degrees in the United States and developed a research philosophy grounded in problem-driven methods, community engagement, and clear communication. As a dedicated educator and mentor, Chen finds joy in supporting students, believing—like her father—it's never too late to achieve greatness.

Elizabeth Colantuoni's love for math and teaching led her to statistics, which she discovered while exploring colleges that offered degrees in actuarial science. She became captivated by experimental design and regression analysis while studying at Virginia Tech. Over the past 25 years, she has built a career in biostatistics at the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. Colantuoni has contributed to research in critical care medicine and patient safety, specializing in longitudinal and multilevel data. She considers her greatest achievement to be the mentorship and education she has provided to students, fellows, and faculty, particularly during her time as the master's program director from 2015 to 2024.

Nairanjana Dasgupta's life has been shaped by serendipity and survival. Born under extraordinary circumstances when her mother—at over age 40—discovered she was pregnant after needing surgery, the odds of Dasgupta's survival were slim. Growing up on a small university campus near the Himalayas, Dasgupta developed an early love for numbers, logic, and word puzzles. Torn between mathematics and English at 18, she was introduced to statistics and her decision proved to be transformative. She is now a Regents professor at Washington State University and president of the Western North American Region of the International Biometric Society.

Aurore Delaigle grew up in the French-speaking part of Belgium, where her parents—both high school teachers in mathematics and sciences—influenced her early interest in mathematics. At college, she initially envisioned a career as a high school teacher but later pursued a career in academia. Having a passion for statistics, Delaigle appreciates the balance it offers and the satisfaction of solving practical problems through methodological development. She has significantly contributed to the statistics community, volunteering for several committees and serving as an associate editor for major journals such as the *Journal of the American Statistical Association* and *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics.* Her dedication to service remains a key aspect of her career.

Shannon Ellis attended King's College, where she earned a bachelor's in biology and Spanish while playing Division III sports. A pivotal moment came when her genetics professor, Jeramia Ory, invited her to join his research lab. She pursued a PhD in human genetics at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, where her work in data science began to take shape. After completing her PhD, she worked with Jeff Leek on genomics projects but found her true passion in data science education. This led her to help create Chromebook Data Science, an online curriculum for learners with no math background. Today, as an associate teaching professor at the University of California at San Diego, Ellis teaches and continues her research while cherishing her family life.

When **Bailey Fosdick** began college at the Colorado School of Mines, she was drawn to science but quickly realized she disliked lab work. Mathematics, however, stood out as the common thread tying her interests together. Seeking a pure math degree, she transferred to Colorado State University, where an introductory coding class sparked an unexpected love for computer science, leading her to double major in both fields. However, it was the COVID-19 pandemic and her work on university and public health modeling teams that reignited her true purpose—solving real-world problems with statistics. Seeking to make a deeper impact, she left academia and is now institute data scientist at GTI Energy. The transition required courage, but it brought immense growth and the fulfillment of seeing her work make a tangible difference.

Brenda Gaydos built a distinguished career in the pharmaceutical industry. Even though her parents thought college was a waste of money, especially for a girl, Gaydos pursued a degree. Never losing faith in herself, she earned her PhD in statistics and worked alongside some of the brightest minds in clinical research. Active in the ASA since graduate school, Gaydos values networking and service, particularly within the Section on Statistical Consulting, where she has championed diversity of thought.

Elena Grewal's journey began in New Haven, Connecticut, where the stark contrast between her public elementary school and elite private high school ignited her passion for addressing inequality. Studying ethics, politics, and economics at Yale, she sought solutions through public policy before discovering the power of data while pursuing a PhD at Stanford. Drawn to large-scale data analysis, she joined Airbnb as one of its first data scientists, later leading a team of more than 200. In 2019, she returned home to use data for social good, now balancing consulting, teaching, and running Elena's on Orange, her community-focused ice cream shop.

Growing up in St. Petersburg, Russia, **Elizaveta (Liza) Levina** excelled in math and pursued it in college, though without a clear career plan. It wasn't until she was assigned to teach an introductory statistics course during her master's studies that she realized her passion for applying mathematical thinking to real-world problems. This revelation led her to pursue a PhD in statistics at the University of California at Berkeley, where she was mentored by Peter Bickel. Inspired by mentors such as Vijay Nair, she now guides students, junior faculty, and researchers, emphasizing both professional growth and work-life balance. For Levina, success lies in seeing the next generation thrive.

Ruixiao Lu was born and raised in China, where her early fascination with numbers and data led her to a career focused on personalized health care. With nearly 20 years of experience, she has contributed to genomics, diagnostics, and clinical trials, aiming to improve patient outcomes. Lu's proudest achievements include her work at Genomic Health and on the I-SPY platform trials at Quantum Leap Healthcare, where she helped develop diagnostic tools and therapies that continue to benefit patients today. Beyond her professional work, Lu has been an active member of several organizations, including the ASA and DahShu. Driven by curiosity and collaboration, Lu is passionate about using data to solve complex health care problems and looks forward to continuing her work in biostatistics and data science.

Katherine L. Monti's life has been shaped by variability and a love for mathematics. Born in Chicago and raised in multiple locations, Monti developed an early interest in math. During college summers, she worked for The University of North Carolina Department of Biostatistics, where her work with programming and statistical analysis sparked her interest in biostatistics. Despite initially resisting the idea, Monti eventually earned a PhD in biostatistics from UNC. Her career spanned teaching, industry, diagnostics, and pharmaceuticals, and she became known for her humorous and educational in-house newsletters. Monti's persistence in challenging assumptions led to key successes in pharma. She also made significant contributions to the ASA, serving in several leadership roles. Now retired, Monti reflects on a fulfilling career that perfectly matched her passion for statistics and education.

Nalini Ravishanker grew up in Chennai, India, in a huge extended family that nurtured her love for mathematics. Inspired by talks by leading statisticians at the University of Madras, she decided to pursue a PhD in statistics. Moving to New York to join her husband, she earned her PhD from New York University, focusing on applying differential geometrical methods to time series. After a transformative year at IBM's T.J. Watson Research Center, Ravishanker joined the University of Connecticut, where she has since thrived as a professor. Passionate about teaching and mentoring, her research focuses on time series modeling and applications in fields such as transportation safety and marine sciences. She is proud of her students' achievements and contributes to global capacity-building in statistics and data science.

Alexandra Schmidt was born in Nova Friburgo, Brazil. Her interest in computers started at age 13, when she taught herself programming in Basic. Initially aiming for a career in computer science, she shifted to actuarial sciences at 16 after moving to Rio de Janeiro. Later, a professor's suggestion led her to discover her true passion for statistics. Schmidt completed her PhD in the UK and later worked with Alan Gelfand on a spatial model, furthering her expertise in spatial statistics. Returning to Brazil, Schmidt became an international researcher before moving to McGill University in 2016. Throughout her career, she has been deeply involved in statistical societies, fostering opportunities for younger statisticians. Schmidt feels fortunate to have chosen a career that has allowed her to travel, meet inspiring people, and create opportunities for future generations.

Sonia Thomas's journey into biostatistics began at The University of North Carolina, where a flier in a math class piqued her interest. After earning a BSPH, MS, and DrPH, she worked under the mentorship of Gary Koch and Lisa LaVange, whose guidance shaped her career and led to several published medical journal articles. With more than 30 years of experience in pharmaceutical CROs, academia, and now RTI, Thomas finds the collaboration in her job the most rewarding aspect. She works closely with medical research professionals, statisticians, and clinical teams, continually learning and sharing her expertise. "Being a clinical trial biostatistician has been a fascinating and rewarding career." Thomas said. "It's also been challenging."

Growing up in a Chicago suburb, **Marie Diener-West** pursued biology and mathematics at Loyola University of Chicago. It wasn't until her senior year that a physical chemistry professor suggested graduate school—a simple comment that changed her life. Hours spent in the library led her to discover biostatistics, taking her to Johns Hopkins, where she has built a distinguished career and contributed to major studies. Yet, her true passion lies in education. For more than three decades, she has taught statistical methods at Johns Hopkins, co-developing online courses. Since 2008, she has also led the Master of Public Health program, expanding her influence beyond biostatistics. Looking back, she remains grateful for the mentors, colleagues, and students who shaped her journey.

Mei-Cheng Wang's journey began in Taiwan, where she earned her bachelor's in mathematics from National Tsing Hua University. In 1981, she moved to the University of California at Berkeley to pursue a PhD in statistics. After completing her PhD, she joined the department of biostatistics at Johns Hopkins University, where she has been a faculty member ever since. Wang's research focuses on truncation, length-bias, and prevalent sampling, and she has made significant contributions to studies on aging, Alzheimer's, HIV-AIDS, and cancer. As a respected educator, she has taught foundational courses and mentored more than 20 PhD students. Her work continues to affect public health research, and she is a fellow of the American Statistical Association, Institute of Mathematical Statistics, and International Statistical Institute.

STAT*tr@k*

Q A with Charmaine Dean

Charmaine Dean

In honor of Women's History Month, we interviewed Charmaine Dean, a woman who has made significant strides in the world of data science. We asked her to share her advice for the next generation of aspiring data scientists. Read on to see what she had to say.

Charmaine Dean is vice president, research and international, and professor in the department of statistics and actuarial science at the University of Waterloo. Her research interests lie in the development of methodology for disease mapping, longitudinal studies, the design of clinical trials, and spatio-temporal analyses. Much of this work has been motivated by direct applications to important practical problems in biostatistics and ecology. Her current main research applications are in survival after coronary artery bypass surgery, mapping disease and mortality rates, forest ecology, fire management, smoke exposure estimation from satellite imagery, and modeling of temporary and intermittent stream flow for flood analysis and predictions.

What is a key piece of advice you would give to those starting their careers in data science, especially when it comes to overcoming challenges or breaking into the field?

Data science is inherently interdisciplinary and includes a wide scope of areas, such as machine learning and data visualization. It is collaborative, with individuals from different disciplines coming together with the key purpose of solving some complex issue. The nature of the complexity often necessitates an understanding of spurious experimental effects, consequences, and solutions outside our own discipline.

It is time consuming and intellectually difficult to view problems in a holistic way using horizontal thinking. Vertical, disciplinary thinking allows us to believe we are solving a problem using the tools we have been trained with. It is important to take the time to understand and show respect for the different perspectives at the table of collaborators who have come together to solve the problem, as well as to be authentic in collaboration and shared interest in the problem under consideration.

At the same time, it is critical to develop and become an expert at the table, and so development of one's statistical expertise needs to be a continuing focus. The tensions in this duality make the life of a data scientist challenging but also interesting. Remember, the balance does not necessarily need to be achieved each day or each week but should be seen longer term.

Good mentorship is so amazing; it supports, forgives, becomes the wind to help drive one uphill. It really carries one through empathy over mistakes and inspires a commitment to excellence.

Breaking into the field is relatively easy. Most complex problems are handled in large-scale grant portfolios and hence have attention at institutions through large projects at high levels. Attend seminars and be proactive in asking questions and bringing ideas forward, question the statistical tools used, offer to co-supervise students with colleagues working on the grand challenge, and ask mentors in your department to open doors to these collaborations.

Looking back at your career, what strategies were most important for your success?

I was always interested in doing work in areas of impact in communities. In health, the focus would be first and foremost better care for patients; in fire science, developing tools to help manage the ever-growing problems of effective suppression. And in doing so, I was passionate about not using tools just because they were handy but making sure the right tools were developed based on the problems at hand, underlying assumptions, and goal of the study.

I also made sure students were involved in the projects. Responsibility toward students ensured the work moved along in a timely manner, and student development of new methodology was also sharply in focus.

Building teams who are fun to work with and building in engagement strategies that offered dedicated time for focus, such as hosting workshops with ample time for brainstorming and discussion, also helped drive projects forward. It's also really important to bring in new perspectives, rather than working with the same team for many years on the same goal.

Communicating impact and working with government agencies and industry to bring new methods into wide use were very helpful.

How do you stay up-to-date with new technologies and methods?

It's difficult to stay up-to-date in my current role as vice president of a large institution, I'll note. But attending conferences and carving out time to attend workshops help considerably. I also do my best to read the latest articles and regularly check in with colleagues working in the field. Additionally, mentoring students has been a great way to find out about emerging trends and new approaches.

Can you share a moment when you faced a significant setback in your career? How did you overcome it, and what did you learn from the experience?

I had a major medical event earlier in my career. I focused on healing, family, and reading at the time, as well as stress-reduction strategies. My colleagues were extremely supportive through my medical leave and on my return. It was a time to really make health a priority, and, when I returned to work, there was also much to reflect upon from my experiences. I re-entered with drive but also a strong sense of gratitude, which buoyed me then and continues to this day.

What role has mentorship played in your career, and how would you recommend others seek out or become effective mentors?

Good mentorship is so amazing; it supports, forgives, becomes the wind to help drive one uphill. It really carries one through empathy over mistakes and inspires a commitment to excellence. Ask your chair or a member of a committee on which you serve about good mentors and don't hesitate to reach out and introduce yourself politely to hear of availability for mentorship. Be clear on what you'd appreciate receiving guidance on and what sort of support you're looking for in the relationship. Peer-to-peer mentorship is also helpful, so work to bring a group of your trusted peers together for informal conversations. ■

STATS4GOOD

Maintaining the Mission of Data for Good in Trying Times

With a PhD in statistical astrophysics, **David Corliss** works as a data scientist in industry. He serves on the ASA Board as a Council of Chapters representative and is the founder of PeaceWork, a data for good nongovernmental organization.

In the United States today, the Data for Good community is being tested as seldom before. There is so much turmoil and uncertainty for so many of our cherished colleagues, who are concerned about their jobs, research, institutions, and—in some cases—even their freedom. And yet, these challenges are not wholly unknown to our history. The use of data and analytics during the Civil Rights Movement has not quite passed from living memory. It was used to document discrimination, identify patterns of discrimination, and provide the hard evidence that outlasts very real troubles of the day to drive true and effective change. The legacy of past challenges has given us tools, methods, and resources for rising to the challenge our generation faces today.

Data for Good practitioners have long fought against anti-science and conscious misinformation. Guided by its mission to "promote the practice and profession of statistics" and vision of "a world that relies on data and statistical thinking to drive discovery and inform decisions," the American Statistical Association will continue its work to guide and protect the future of the statistical profession and its members. More than words on a webpage, the ASA has developed a wide array of resources to achieve this mission.

The ASA's policy and advocacy team, led by Director of Science Policy Steve Pierson, is busy every day supporting the use of statistical science for data-driven decision-making in government, advocating for financial support for science, and advising policymakers on best practices for using statistical science to get the best results. In today's environment, this includes being on the front line of the fight against misinformation. The ASA's leadership in advocating for the use of statistical science in government supports all of us and our work.

Other ASA groups also play a leading role in addressing today's challenges. The Committee on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights addresses concerns for scientists around the world, especially where scientists are subject to government coercion or misrepresentation. Another is the Justice, Equity, Diversity,

Getting Involved

In opportunities this month, we need to be thinking about our colleagues. Science is done by people, and people need our support today. The well-being of others must be preserved at this time. Reach out to those in the analytic community, especially those working in or affected by the turmoil in the federal analytics space. All of us can send letters, make phone calls, and take people aside at meetings to ask how they are doing. Help them know they are not alone and you are thinking about them. Even a brief message through social media can do wonders for a dear friend worried about what might happen next. Make your care and concern something that can be seen and felt in a kind and compassionate way. In the present crisis, we are all advocates—not only for our work but also for each other and the vision and mission of Data for Good as a powerful tool to change lives for the better through statistical science.

We need to stay the course and remember the enormous impact we are having on people's lives every day.

and Inclusion Outreach Group, whose members support science by supporting statisticians and data scientists. Its mission extends beyond the ASA to include all scientists through information, webinars, conference sessions, and more. While its many resources are valuable, JEDI's most important work—in my view—is providing a community and safe space where all people are valued simply because they are people and merit is recognized without regard to human bias.

ASA chapters play a central role in making all this a reality. As the tip of the spear for outreach, support, and action, local chapters are the most important way for members to connect with everything the ASA has to offer. Through networking with chapter members, you can talk with others facing the same challenges, learn from what they are doing, and gain advice and direction for weathering this storm. Chapter leaders will want to maintain strong connections with members to make sure they get the support they need. For statisticians and data scientists concerned today about their future and the future of the profession, my advice is to work closely with your local ASA chapter to gain support and leverage all the benefits the ASA has to offer.

Our response to the present crisis will define us outwardly as a professional society and inwardly as a community of scientists who support one another. We need to stay the course and remember the enormous impact we are having on people's lives every day. Our mission to serve the greater good through statistics and data science is undiminished; if we weren't having an impact, we would not be facing such headwinds. Take heart and be encouraged: This is our great moment, and we will rise to the challenge. ■

ICHPS 2025 Offered Opportunity for Professional Growth, Innovative Thinking

Beth Ann Griffin, Lane Burgette, Staci Hepler, Sarah Lotspeich, and Mousumi Banerjee

Whitney Robinson gives the opening keynote. From left: Susan Paddock, Whitney Robinson, Bonnie Ghosh-Dastidar, and Beth Ann Griffin

Sherri Rose, left, gives the closing keynote.

Photos by Staci Hepler and Sarah Lotspeich unless otherwise noted.

The International Conference on Health Policy Statistics was held January 6–8 in San Diego, California. ICHPS brings together practitioners, methodologists, health service researchers, health economists, and policy analysts to exchange and build upon ideas they will disseminate to the broader health policy community. In addition to US and Canadian participants, ICHPS co-chairs Lane Burgette and Beth Ann Griffin welcomed attendees from Israel, Europe, and China.

The meeting kicked off with a welcome from Madhumita (Bonnie) Ghosh-Dastidar, 2024 ASA president and senior statistician at RAND. This was followed by the opening keynote from Whitney Robinson from Duke University School of Medicine. Robinson discussed the big mistakes researchers can make in causal inference, with solutions including thinking about the nature of the problem incorrectly and letting the data drive the research. She argued that recognizing these patterns and emulating creative, interdisciplinary work offer opportunities to innovate and sharpen work.

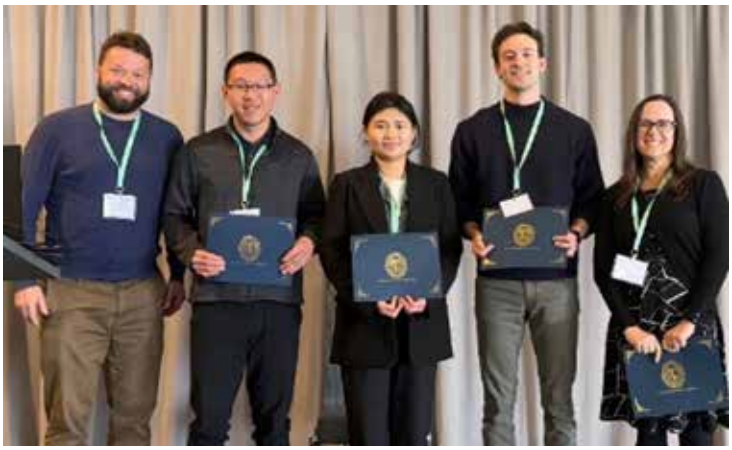
Serving as the discussant, Susan Paddock—executive vice president and chief scientist at NORC—encouraged attendees to continue engaging in efforts to ensure data is measured correctly and addressing well-specified problems using high-quality research paradigms.

Sherri Rose from Stanford University delivered the closing keynote. She discussed the latest issues surrounding the ethical use of AI, highlighting that algorithms are not neutral. She explained that optimization choices reflect a specific value system and the distribution of power to make these; she also described how data reflects societal bias.

Serving as discussant, Elizabeth Stuart—chair of biostatistics at Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health—reflected on how the role of methodologists is changing and how we need to find ways to ensure people understand the value statisticians bring to research.

Between the keynotes was a "meet the editor" session that brought together editors from medical and applied statistics journals to share their experiences, discuss the characteristics of successful submissions, and define what researchers should take care to do (and not do) as they seek to disseminate their work in high-impact applied and methods journals. The editors included Elizabeth Stuart from *JAMA Health Forum,* Layla Parast from *Medical Care,* Nandita Mitra from *Observational Studies,* and Beth Ann Griffin from *Annals of Applied Statistics.*

ICHPS also included a special town hall session titled "Health Policy and Health Equity for Local Populations." This session



The student travel awards go to Martha Barnard, Wenbo Fei, Gary Hettinger, Andy Shen, and Peijin Wang. From left: Lane Burgette, Andy Shen, Peijin Wang, Gary Hettinger, and Beth Ann Griffin

highlighted talks by two speakers from the University of California at San Diego who are performing research at the intersection of health policy and health equity for residents in and around the San Diego community. Elena Martinez, a professor in the department of family medicine and public health, highlighted findings and insights from a recent pragmatic randomized trial to increase colorectal cancer screening among low-income and minoritized populations in San Diego County. Aladdin Shadyab, associate professor of public health and medicine, discussed the design of a future study to assess a comprehensive health care intervention to reduce health care costs and improve health outcomes in older adults at risk of nursing home admission and homelessness.

There were several invited and contributed sessions covering diverse topics centered on this year's theme of "Statistical Innovations to Improve Health Equity." The 15 invited sessions focused on topics including methodological challenges such as complex study and survey designs, measurement error, data, and fusion. Many areas of real-world applications were also discussed, from the overdose epidemic to mental health to LGBTQIA+ health.

The conference featured 11 training workshops on a diverse range of topics, including heterogeneous treatment effect estimation, record linkage, Bayesian tree ensembles and nonparametrics, complex survey data, policy intervention design and evaluation, and power analysis with planned error control for multiple outcomes. Additionally, the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science offered a workshop on effective communication.

To close the meeting, Mousumi Banerjee, chair of the ASA Health Policy Statistics Section, presented the Mid-Career and Long-Term Excellence awards. The Mid-Career Award is presented to a recognized mid-career leader in health care policy and health services research who has made outstanding contributions through methodological or applied work and demonstrates promise of continued excellence at the frontier of statistical practice that advances the aims of the Health Policy Statistics Section. Two were honored with this award this year: Miguel Marino, professor and biostatistician in the department of family medicine at Oregon Health and Science University, and José Zubizarreta, professor in the department of health care policy at Harvard Medical School and the department of biostatistics at Harvard School of Public Health.

The Long-Term Excellence Award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions to health care policy and health services research through mentoring and/or service that advances the aims of the Health Policy Statistics Section. This year's award recipient was Lisa Lix, a professor of biostatistics in the department of community health sciences at the University of Manitoba, Canada. Lix is a tier 1 Canada research chair in methods for electronic health data quality and director of the data science platform in the George & Fay Yee Centre for Healthcare Innovation at the University of Manitoba. The award recognizes her multifaceted talents and contributions, dedication, leadership, and research acuity but, more importantly, her generosity in mentoring, collaboration, and service to further the mission of the Health Policy Statistics Section.

ICHPS also provides learning and networking opportunities for those new to health policy. In addition to honoring five students with travel awards, the conference provides a venue for students and developing scholars to network and engage with leading methodologists via poster sessions and a student networking event. The student speed networking event brought together dozens of students and mentors drawn from academia, government, and industry. Mentors shared their candid experiences and thoughts about career development. Students received a reduced conference registration rate, and all workshops were free for them.

The next ICHPS is expected to take place in 2027. ■

Tamara Broderick was recently honored with the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers for her groundbreaking work with the Office of Naval Research. This award, the highest US government recognition for early-career scientists and engineers, celebrates innovation, scientific impact, and contributions to society.

As an MIT faculty member in electrical engineering and computer science, Broderick also collaborates with MIT's Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems; Statistics and Data Science Center; and Institute for Data, Systems, and Society. Her research develops tools for quantifying uncertainty and robustness in complex data analysis, with applications spanning genetics, economics, and assistive technology.

Broderick's numerous accolades include an Institute of Mathematical Statistics fellowship, being a Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies Leadership Academy member and a National Science Foundation CAREER Award winner, and honors from such organizations as Google and Amazon.

Read the official announcement at *https://bit.ly/3EcAFj7*. ■

ASA member **Emery N. Brown,** Edward Hood Taplin Professor of Medical Engineering and Computational Neuroscience at the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory at MIT, was awarded the nation's highest recognition for scientists and engineers, the National Medal of Science.

According to the Picower Institute's website, Brown said, "This is an enormous pleasure to be recognized by the president with this high honor."

Brown's official citation, as read to an audience at the White House during a ceremony on January 3, is: "The National Medal of Science has been awarded to Emery Neal Brown for his revolutionary contributions to neuroscience and anesthesiology. Emery Brown's neuroscientific approach to understanding anesthesia's exact impact on the brain has been transformational for relieving patient suffering and has provided a new foundation for how we think about the very thing that makes us human, our consciousness."

In addition to the National Medal of Science, Brown has been honored with the Gruber Prize in Neuroscience, the Society for Neuroscience's Swartz Prize in Theoretical and Computational Neuroscience, and the Pierre Galletti Prize of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering. Brown is also an elected member of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

Read more about Brown at *https://bit.ly/4hxXCvK*. For information about the National Medal of Science, visit *https://bit.ly/4hzLWIz*. ■

ASA member **Scott H. Holan** has been selected to serve on the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine's study panel, "Foundation Models for Scientific Discovery and Innovation: Opportunities Across the Department of Energy."

This consensus study will evaluate the state of foundation models and their potential applications across scientific research domains aligned with the US Department of Energy's mission.

Holan is a professor of statistics and department chair at the University of Missouri and a senior research fellow in the Research and Methodology Directorate at the US Census Bureau. His research spans statistical and machine learning methodologies for dependent data (e.g., spatial, spatio-temporal, functional, and multivariate), Bayesian methods, environmental and ecological statistics, official statistics, and survey methodology. Holan is an elected fellow of the ASA and Institute of Mathematical Statistics and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. He holds a master's in mathematics from the University of Illinois Chicago and a PhD in statistics from Texas A&M University.

For details about the panel and its mission, visit the NASEM website at *https://bit.ly/4geytFi*. ■

ASA member **Rolf R. Schmitt,** deputy director of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, recently received the 2024 Robert E. Skinner Jr. Distinguished Transportation Research Management Award for his four-decade career advancing transportation statistics. Schmitt played a pivotal role in launching BTS, ensuring robust data on freight and passenger transportation is available for research, planning, and policymaking.

A key moment in his career came in 1989 when he was part of the US Department of Transportation National Transportation Policy Working Group, in which he emphasized the importance of reliable transportation data. Under his leadership, BTS introduced innovative tools, expanded data availability, and created the National Transportation Library, providing public access to critical resources. Schmitt also established the North American Transportation Statistical Interchange, enhancing collaboration between the US, Mexico, and Canada.

Throughout his career, Schmitt has worked closely with federal agencies, led numerous Transportation Research Board committees, and promoted the use of statistics

to improve transportation policies and outcomes. The award was presented on January 8, during the Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

For more info, see the National Academies website at *https://tinyurl.com/4w4tmtys*. ■

Submitted by Chaitra H. Nagaraja

The ASA's Scientific and Public Affairs Advisory Committee has sponsored the Statistical Significance poster competition at JSM each year since 2009. At the 2024 conference in Portland, Oregon, there were 39 participants. Each candidate submitted a one-page piece describing the impact of their research on society and presented their research—judged by SPAAC members—at a poster session during the conference. The winner of the 2024 competition was **Kazeem Kareem** from Michigan Technical University. He received a $300 prize for his project, "Statistics Powers Medical Diagnosis: Disease Detection Using Clustering and Image Segmentation." This project focuses on using statistical methods to detect tumors. Kareem is currently a PhD candidate in statistics with a background in mathematics from the University of Lagos and Michigan Technical University. He is interested in developing algorithms for simultaneously clustering high-dimensional data.

In addition to the winner, there were two honorable mentions: Nathan Meyer from South Dakota State University for "Statistics Impact Healthcare: Mixture Cure Models for End-Stage Kidney Disease" and Jiayi Shen from the University of Southern California for "Statistics Powers Healthcare Through Genetics Research."

This year's competition will be held at JSM in Nashville, Tennessee. For details, visit *https://community.amstat.org/spaac/awards/poster-award*. ■

Rousseeuw Prize for Statistics Honors False Discovery Rate Pioneers

From left: Daniel Yekutieli, Yaov Benjamini, Ruth Heller, and Peter Rousseeuw. Photo courtesy of KU Leuven – Johan Van Droogenbroeck

The second Rousseeuw Prize for Statistics ceremony took place on December 3, 2024, in Leuven, Belgium, recognizing groundbreaking contributions to statistical research.

This year's prize honored Yoav Benjamini, Daniel Yekutieli, and Ruth Heller of Tel Aviv University for their pioneering work on the false discovery rate—a concept that has transformed how scientists handle multiple hypothesis testing.

First introduced in a 1995 paper by Benjamini and Yosef Hochberg, FDR addresses a major challenge in scientific research: the risk of false discoveries when testing multiple hypotheses. Traditional methods, which strictly controlled the probability of making even one false discovery (family-wise error rate), often proved too conservative, limiting researchers' ability to identify true findings. In contrast, FDR strikes a balance, allowing researchers to manage errors while maximizing valid discoveries.

Benjamini and Hochberg's method adapts based on data, providing a more flexible and accurate approach to statistical analysis. The impact of this work has been seen in data-heavy fields such as genomics and brain research, where distinguishing true signals from noise is critical. Over the years, Benjamini, Yekutieli, and Heller have expanded the FDR framework, developing new methodologies that continue to shape modern statistics.

The ceremony opened with remarks from Peter Rousseeuw, who emphasized the importance of recognizing statistical achievements. "The existence of a major award has an encouraging effect on its field," he noted. "Nobel Prizes have elevated other disciplines, attracting students, bright researchers, and funding. Statistics deserves the same recognition." He expressed hope that the Rousseeuw Prize would raise awareness of the field's intellectual depth and its vital role in scientific progress.

David Hand of Imperial College London introduced the laureates before they received the $1 million prize, which is awarded biennially by the King Baudouin Foundation. The inaugural 2022 prize recognized advancements in causal inference, while this year's award highlights the lasting significance of FDR methods in statistical science.

For more about the ceremony, visit the event website at *www.rousseeuwprize.org/2024/ceremony.*

Ji-Hyun Lee, New American Statistical Association President, Says 'Everyday Statisticians' Can Change the World

Ji-Hyun Lee, a professor in the University of Florida Department of Biostatistics, became president of the American Statistical Association on January 1. Photo courtesy of UF Health/Mindy C. Miller

Ji-Hyun Lee is a statistician for the people. Her work, she says, is not glamorous, but it's as invaluable as it is invisible.

"I truly value every data point in my hand, because each one represents a patient's story, struggle, and journey," Lee said. "It's the key to understanding and improving lives."

Lee, a professor in the University of Florida College of Public Health and Health Professions' Department of Biostatistics and associate director for cancer quantitative sciences at the University of Florida Health Cancer Center, became the 120th president of the American Statistical Association on January 1.

She is the first Korean American statistician, the first female statistician from Florida, and the first cancer center applied biostatistician in the history of the ASA presidency.

The ASA, founded in 1839 in Boston, is the largest professional group for statisticians and data scientists in the world, with more than 15,000 members in about 90 countries.

Lee has three goals for her presidency: enhancing the visibility of the profession; increasing opportunities for ASA members; and diversifying and expanding membership. To do that, Lee hopes to build strong, sustainable bridges between the ASA and other professional organizations and institutions.

During her term as president-elect, the ASA signed a memorandum of understanding with *Nature Medicine,* a journal that historically had no statisticians on its editorial board. The journal and ASA created a statistical editorial advisory board of 30 biostatisticians specializing in oncology, metabolic, and infectious diseases. Lee is the statistical chief for the oncology sector of the board.

Six months in, Lee said the partnership is going well and will continue.

"I'm so, so happy and proud that we made it happen," she said.

As one might expect, Lee's list of achievements is long. With more than 20 years' experience in cancer research, she is the author of more than 190 peer-reviewed articles and has held leadership roles in multiple professional organizations. Lee served on the ASA's Council of Chapters Governing Board as a district vice chair and on the ASA's Board of Directors for three years. In 2017, she served as president of the Caucus for Women in Statistics, an international organization that supports and advances female statisticians' careers. She was also a member of the Korean International Statistical Society's Board of Directors from 2017 to 2022.

Lee grew up in a small, isolated town in South Korea. She did not have access to the internet at the time she was applying for master's programs. Instead, she relied on *Peterson's Guide to Graduate and Professional Programs*—a big book of colleges and universities.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill stood out to her for an unusual reason.

"I thought, oh, Chapel Hill, that sounds so beautiful," she said. So, Lee moved to North Carolina and earned a master's degree and then a doctorate in biostatistics.

Afterward, she spent 11 years at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute in Tampa, beginning as an assistant professor and eventually becoming a tenured full professor in

the department of biostatistics and bioinformatics. During that time, she also held professorships in the department of epidemiology and biostatistics at the University of South Florida College of Public Health at the University of South Florida College of Medicine.

For the next four years, Lee was the head of the biostatistics clinical trials group at the University of New Mexico Comprehensive Cancer Center. Although she fell in love with New Mexico's epic landscape and its famous green Hatch chiles, she said she began to miss the East Coast. After interviewing with UF Health Cancer Center director Jonathan Licht, Lee said she intuitively knew UF was the right place for her under his leadership. She joined the biostatistics faculty in 2018.

But even with such a lengthy résumé, Lee was shocked and nearly too intimidated to accept her nomination for the ASA presidency in 2022.

In addition to the increased workload that comes with such a position, she said her Korean heritage was another factor to consider. One colleague told her not to disclose her immigration story in her candidate statement. Another told her the ASA wasn't ready to elect an Asian woman. But she harnessed her bravery.

"If I say no," she asked, "when would be the next time a person from that country is nominated?"

In 2023, Lee shared her vision, initiatives, and strategies through her candidate statement during the ASA election process. She was elected president by the association's members for the 2025 term.

"This is the honor of my life," she said. "I'm very grateful that my fellow statisticians trust me in my role as a president."

During her term as president-elect in 2024, Lee—who supported current ASA president Madhumita Ghosh-Dastidar—attended board meetings throughout the year and brainstormed more concrete initiatives. As many times as she could, Lee traveled to speak to other universities' biostatistics and statistics departments. Her goal was to hear from ASA members about what support they need.

"I learned a lot," she said. "There are so many young and talented statisticians. I wanted to talk to them more. I need to embrace them."

The conversations, she said, were rewarding and worth the grueling schedule, but the constant travel came at a cost. She began to miss her community, her Pilates class, and playing the cello with a local orchestra, Annasemble chamber music group.

Lee is a self-taught musician and an avid collector of musical instruments. She started with a small, inexpensive keyboard as a broke student. Later, when she got her first professional job, she bought an alto sax and taught herself how to play.

Now, she marks each milestone in her career with a new instrument. The cello was the reward for her promotion to associate professor. With her promotion to full professor, it was a grand piano. She joked that running out of room in her house forced her to look for smaller instruments. The latest acquisitions were a ukulele and a kalimba.

Every time Lee learns a new instrument, she joins a band. Bands and scientific communities have commonality, she said: You must possess the skills for the task, listen to others, take ownership of the work, find joy, and focus on what you bring to the group, rather than trying to be the star.

Lee speaks at the University of Florida Health Cancer Center's 2022 conference for middle and high school teachers. Photo courtesy of UF Health/Louis Brems

Community is a throughline in Lee's life.

Statisticians, she admitted, are not always good at communicating with those outside their field. But to increase interest in statistics and bring awareness to their work, Lee said it's essential to bring in other communities. She envisions creating local meetings to engage people in all professions with how statistics could solve local problems and enrich lives.

High school teachers, for instance, may not realize how high the market demand is for statistics and biostatistics, or know how to encourage students to pursue those career paths. Law enforcement agencies could employ statisticians to analyze crime data and predict trends to help with prevention. Even the arts community could benefit by using statistics to measure the impact of local art programming on community well-being.

Republished with permission from the University of Florida.

"There's a misconception that data science and statistics aren't for everyone," Lee said. "But with data-intensive jobs growing across every sector, building a strong foundation in these fields is critical for America's workforce and global competitiveness."

A passion of hers is showing lay people how statistics shows up in everyday life.

Imagine you're standing in front of a cooler full of grapes in the produce section of the grocery store. How do you decide which bag to buy? You take a single grape out of a bag and taste it.

Based on the taste test, you choose to put the bag of grapes in your cart.

"You're making a decision based on a sample," Lee said. "That is statistics."

Likewise, she wants blossoming statisticians to look beyond the world of academia to explore how they can apply their skills to make the broadest impact.

She quoted the renowned statistician John Tukey: "The best thing about being a statistician is that you get to play in everyone's backyard."

Being the president of an organization with membership equivalent to the population of Naples, Florida, means there are a lot of backyards for Lee to play in—and endless opportunities to make friends.

"It means a lot, definitely," said Peihua Qiu, the founding chair and dean's professor in the department of biostatistics. "It will increase the visibility of UF, and especially our department, in the nation, even in the world."

Qiu, an elected ASA fellow and 30-year member of the organization, is hopeful that Lee will be a bridge between UF and the multitude of educational, research, and networking opportunities afforded by her position.

Founded in 2010, biostatistics is one of the youngest departments in PHHP, but its reputation is growing, partly due to Lee.

At the ASA's last annual meeting, attended by 5,500 statisticians from around the world, Qiu said Lee's name kept coming up in conversation with colleagues from other institutions.

"Dr. Lee has made our department a very popular place," he said, adding that Lee's presidency will also be a useful recruitment tool for the department.

That's her hope, as well.

Describing what she called her transformational, rather than transactional, vision for her presidency, Lee said she sees a moral responsibility to foster inclusion and collaboration, which she hopes will make statisticians of all backgrounds and specialties feel welcome in the ASA.

Lee also wants to challenge the notion that only extraordinary individuals can effect meaningful change by highlighting the profound impact of everyday individuals "like me and like you," she said, speaking to a group of students and faculty on a chilly Friday in December.

"It's about helping others," she said. ■

Obituary
Janet Cherry

Longtime ASA member Janet Cherry passed away August 17, 2024, from complications of a fall.

Cherry was born in Camden, Pennsylvania. After her mother died during Cherry's infancy, she was raised by her Aunt Sadie.

Cherry studied economics and was one of 16 women in the second class at Wharton that admitted women. She became a statistician and member of the American Statistical Association after earning her master's in Regional Science from the University of Pennsylvania while raising two young children and working full time.

Cherry had a varied career in public health, the nonprofit sector, and running her own business. She always volunteered with numerous organizations, including Society Hill Synagogue. After retirement, she was a contributor to the Dona Gracia chapter of Hadassah and Center City Concerned Citizens at the Philadelphian. Cherry also tutored middle schoolers in math in her free time and continued with virtual sessions from the time of the COVID-19 pandemic until her death.

She enjoyed swimming, traveling, and reading. Cherry is survived by her daughter, Deborah Cherry; granddaughters, Hannah and Sydney Dubb; and stepbrother, Sye Cohen. She is predeceased by her daughter, Alisha Cherry Dubb, and husband of 53 years, Arthur.

Obituary

Martin Abba Tanner

Wenxin Jiang and John Kolassa, assisted by Noam Tanner, Anat Tanner, Yodit Seifu, Shelby Haberman, and Jiping Wang

Martin Abba Tanner passed away peacefully in Evanston on January 2, after 20 years of fighting cancer. He is survived by his wife, Anat, and his son, Noam.

Tanner was born in 1957 in Highland Park, Illinois. He graduated from Ida Crown Jewish Academy in 1975 and earned a bachelors, master's, and PhD from The University of Chicago. He became a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, first as an assistant professor (1982–1987) and then as an associate professor (1987–1990). He moved to the University of Rochester as a full professor and chair of the department of biostatistics (1990–1994). He joined Northwestern University in 1994 as a professor in the department of statistics and data science (previously the department of statistics). He was also a visiting associate professor at the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel (Spring 1988), a visiting professor at the University of Pittsburgh (Summer 1992), and a visiting professor at the Australian National University (Summer 1995).

Tanner popularized Markov Chain Monte Carlo methods in Bayesian computation with his highly cited paper co-authored with Wing Hung Wong, "The Calculation of Posterior Distributions by Data Augmentation," in the *Journal of the American Statistical Association*. The algorithm they invented was named "data augmentation," which extended the popular expectation maximization algorithm from the realm of frequentist statistics to Bayesian statistics. In addition to his contributions to Bayesian statistics, Tanner contributed to fields such as biostatistics, statistical machine learning, ecological inference, and, more recently, forecasting of COVID-19.

In 1993, Tanner received the Mortimer Spiegelman Award, awarded annually to honor a statistician below the age of 40 who has made outstanding contributions to health statistics, especially public health statistics. He was a Fellow of the American Statistical Association and Royal Statistical Society. He served as editor of the Theory and Methods section of the *Journal of the American Statistical Association* from 1999–2002. He had been a series editor of the Chapman & Hall/CRC Texts in Statistical Science since 1999. Tanner was a member of the ISI Highly Cited Researcher Database and recipient of the Continuing Education Excellence Award from the American Statistical Association.

Tanner authored or co-authored more than 120 papers and books, including a graduate-level textbook on Bayesian statistics titled *Tools for Statistical Inference: Methods for the Exploration of Posterior Distributions and Likelihood Functions*. He was beloved by his students and a well-respected colleague.

"Martin was tireless in promoting the careers of junior colleagues and generously took on administrative tasks that many would have delegated in order to keep department colleagues unburdened and able to focus on advancing their own research agendas," said John Kolassa, former postdoc mentee, faculty colleague at Rochester, and visiting professor at Northwestern.

Kolassa continued, "He built biostatistics at Rochester into its own department and defended the interests of biostatistics faculty, students, and staff. He demonstrated the value of biostatistics to the University of Rochester Medical Center leadership and led the teaching and consulting activities that cemented biostatistics as a key discipline at Rochester. He worked tirelessly six days per week (but never on Saturday). Martin was a terrific mentor and friend."

"Martin was a decisive consideration that led me to come to Northwestern. He was a great mentor, collaborator, colleague, and friend," said Wenxin Jiang, a longtime former colleague of Tanner's at Northwestern University.

Tanner's impact extended well beyond the academy. "He was incredibly smart, generous, and kind. Even back then, I remember he was undergoing treatment for cancer," said Yodit Seifu, a former postdoc mentored by Tanner. "It was heartbreaking to see him face such a serious illness at the peak of his career, but his courage throughout was truly inspiring. He was an inspiration to all of us. On a personal note, he also introduced me to my husband, for which I am forever grateful," said Seifu.

"His professional contributions were well-known, and his exemplary conduct as a visibly observant Jewish faculty member honored all religious Jews," said Shelby Haberman, who was both Tanner's former teacher at The University of Chicago and a former colleague at Northwestern University.

While Tanner prized his research, cherished teaching his students, and treasured his religious practice, the role he held most dear was being a devoted husband and father. He will be missed by many people.

Enter the *Significance*, RSS Writing Competition

Do you have an interesting tale to tell with statistics? Would you like to win a trophy, publication in *Significance*, and a presentation slot at the 2025 Royal Statistical Society Conference in Edinburgh?

Aimed exclusively at students and early-career statisticians and data scientists, the *Significance* Statistical Excellence Award for Early Career Writing was created in 2011 as a showcase for emerging stats communicators capable of reaching a nonspecialist audience with attention-grabbing stories that challenge myths, shape decisions, and explain the world around us. It is jointly organized by *Significance* and the RSS Young Statisticians Section as part of the RSS Statistical Excellence Awards Programme.

Entries may be inspired by your research or job, a news event, or one of your personal passions.

Entries will be judged by a panel made up of YSS officers and committee members, the *Significance* editor, and editorial board members. Winners and runners-up will be announced at the RSS Statistical Excellence Awards in London in July and invited to present their articles at the 2025 RSS Conference September 1–4.

Entries are due by May 30.

Official rules may be found on the RSS website, *https://tinyurl.com/34skz3r4*.

Meet the 2024 Winner

Joseph Lam, PhD student at the University College London, won the 2024 award for "Terminating Bias: How Arnold Schwarzenegger Showed Us the Importance of Spelling Names Correctly."

What first gave you the idea for your winning entry?

My PhD project focuses on understanding data linkage biases by ethnicity, and methods to deal with them. Researchers and politicians increasingly use linked data to understand the population and policymaking. Bias in linkages is, however, not sufficiently discussed and acknowledged, and people might not know how linkage biases may perpetuate existing inequities.

Arnold is no stranger to data linkage methods! He made his debut in a 2011 data linkage methods paper by Dustin Lange and Felix Naumann titled "Frequency-Aware Similarity Measures: Why Arnold Schwarzenegger Is Always a Duplicate." I thought Arnie wouldn't mind helping us out once more in communicating this important message to policymakers, academics, and the public alike!

What was the most difficult aspect of it, and what was the most enjoyable?

I am passionate about the topic and linkage methods, which meant I tend to go into a lot of details in my writing. That may sometimes blur the key messages. I find the more relaxed, conversational style of writing quite liberating—matching Arnold movie quotes with my key points make me chuckle!

What was it like presenting at the 2024 RSS Conference?

It was a humbling experience. Sharing my work with a room full of experts was nerve-racking but also empowering—I really enjoyed listening to people's reactions to and reflections on my presentation, as well as their ideas and stories!

Top tip for 2025 entrants?

Think about the hook, the message, and the punchline. Have fun—it shows in the writing. ■

Causality in Statistics Education Award

The Causality in Statistics Education Award was established by Judea Pearl and created to acknowledge the growing importance of introducing core elements of causal inference into undergraduate and lower-division graduate classes in statistics.

The award provides a $5,000 cash prize each year, and nominations are due April 5.

View the selection criteria and nomination requirements at *https://tinyurl.com/4rtbes2b.* ■

Richard A. Freund International Scholarship

This scholarship honors the memory of Richard A. Freund, a past president of the American Society for Quality. It is for graduate study of the theory and application of quality control, quality assurance, quality improvement, and total quality management. It covers the engineering, statistical, managerial, and behavioral foundations of those fields.

- Annual application deadline is April 1.
- Study may take place in one's own country or in another country.
- Applicants do not need to be ASQ members.
- Applicants should have a GPA of 3.25 or higher (undergraduate and graduate).

Concentration of study must be in quality control, quality assurance, quality improvement, total quality management, or similar quality emphasis.

View details and download an application at *https://tinyurl.com/478n8tpx.* ■

World Science Scholars

Application for the 2025 cohort of World Science Scholars is now open. The World Science Scholars program looks for students who have the following qualities:

- Are in high school, or are a gifted student in middle school, and can complete the program prior to starting university
- Demonstrate exceptional mathematical ability
- Are highly motivated and interested in learning outside the formal school setting
- Can discuss complex mathematical and scientific ideas in English
- Have access to a computer with a good internet connection
- Will commit to an average of two hours per week during the academic year for one year, which includes completing coursework, participating in group projects, and attending live online events

Visit the application website at *https://worldsciencescholars.com/apply* to apply. ■

Visit the ASA website to view a comprehensive list of awards and scholarships.
https://bit.ly/46X9sLm

2025 Deadlines for Select ASA National Awards, Special Lectureships, and COPSS Awards

The ASA's extensive awards program recognizes statisticians who have made outstanding contributions to the association and statistical profession through research, teaching, consulting, and service.

Causality in Statistics Education Award
Deadline: April 5, 2025

Government Statistics Section Wray Jackson Smith Scholarship
Deadline: May 1, 2025

Norman Beery Memorial Scholarship
Deadline: July 1, 2025

Links Lecture Award
Deadline: July 1, 2025

Dorothy Marie Lamb and Annette Lila Ryne Memorial Scholarship
Deadline: July 15, 2025

Health Policy Statistics Section Achievement Awards
Deadline: September 15, 2025

Deming Lecturer Award
Deadline: October 15, 2025

Questions about these awards may be sent to *awards@amstat.org.* ■

Survey Research Methods

As the first quarter of 2025 nears an end, the members of the Survey Research Methods Section consider how to build on the section's recent accomplishments.

SRMS made strides toward student engagement last year: With the Government Statistics Section and Social Statistics Section, SRMS awarded five student paper awards. SRMS also hosted a career advice webinar featuring panelists from Google, Merck, Westat, and NORC. In addition to that webinar, SRMS sponsored a webinar titled "A Comparative Review of Data Integration Methods" in reaction to the proliferation of nonrandom data sources. Recordings are available at *https://tinyurl.com/3cht62tz*.

SRMS sponsored 23 sessions at JSM 2024, in addition to two roundtables and 12 poster/speed presentations, not including cosponsored sessions. The business meeting at JSM gave members an opportunity to connect and celebrate accomplishments, and SRMS awarded a record-high six student travel awards, two poster awards, and two awards for the speed session.

In addition, SRMS was able to do the following:

- Sponsor the 2024 ICES VII conference
- Have a continuing education course accepted for JSM 2025
- Celebrate six new ASA Fellows: **Claire McKay Bowen; Morgan Earp; Birol Emir; Yulei He; David S. Matteson;** and **Recai M. Yucel**
- Award the 2025 Waksberg Award to **Mike Hidiroglou,** who worked as a survey methodologist at Statistics Canada for almost 40 years

In the coming year, SRMS members look forward to continuing to tackle important themes, including the role of nonprobability data sources and collaborations across sections. SRMS has many publication outlets, including a biannual newsletter, the SRMS website, and social media. If you have an announcement or contribution to publicize, contact us. Send ideas for *Amstat News* to *emilyb@iastate.edu* and announcements for the July SRMS newsletter to *darcy.steeg.morris@census.gov* and *wendyvandekerckhove@westat.com*. ■

Joint Sections on Statistical Computing, Graphics

The 2025 John M. Chambers Statistical Software Award goes to **Adam Bartonicek** of the University of Auckland for R package Plotscaper.

The review panel for the award consisted of David Dahl, Arun Chind, Thomas Yee, Sherry Zhang, and Philip Waggoner (awards chair).

The 2025 student paper awards go to the following:

- **Brian Liu,** MIT, "FAST: An Optimization Framework for Fast Additive Segmentation in Transparent ML"
- **Shushan Wu,** University of Georgia, "Fisher Contrastive Learning: A Robust Solution to the Feature Suppression Effect"
- **Xinlei Chen,** University of Pittsburgh, "Federated Learning of Robust Individualized Decision Rules with Application to Heterogeneous Multi-Hospital Sepsis Population"
- **Nathan Rethwisch,** Iowa State University, "Interactive Visualization Framework for Forensic Bullet Comparisons"

The review panel for the student paper awards included Susan VanderPlas, Panpan Zhang, Yu Wang, Eduardo Charles, Huanjun Zhang, and Philip Waggoner (awards chair).

The student award recipients will present their work in a topic-contributed session at the 2025 Joint Statistical Meetings. They will also receive their certificates and cash prizes at the Section on Statistical Computing and Section on Statistical Graphics mixer. ■

Columbia University
Department of Statistics

Founder's Postdoctoral Fellowship in Statistics Starting Fall 2025

Position Description: The Department of Statistics invites applications for the 2025 Founder's Postdoctoral Fellowship in Statistics at Columbia University. This fellowship seeks to bring exceptional scientists of outstanding potential to Columbia University. This two-year fellowship is to begin between July and September 2025. Applications in all areas of statistics and probability will be considered: the primary selection criterion will be the candidates' exceptional promise to produce high quality and visible research. Candidates must have a PhD in statistics or related field by the date of appointment.

The Fellow will hold the rank of postdoctoral research scientist in the Department of Statistics. Fellows will be expected to pursue a vigorous research agenda and to participate actively in the intellectual life of the Department. A competitive annual salary will be supplemented with additional funding for research and conference travel.

The Department currently consists of 38 faculty members and 60 PhD students. The department has been expanding rapidly and, like the University itself, is an extraordinarily vibrant academic community. For further information about the department and our activities, centers, research areas, and curricular programs, please go to our web page at: *http://www.stat.columbia.edu*

Qualifications: PhD in statistics or related field by the date of appointment

Application Process: This institution is using Interfolio's Faculty Search to conduct this search. Applicants to this position receive a free Dossier account and can send all application materials, including confidential letters of recommendation, free of charge. Apply Now at *https://tinyurl.com/3mxmfech*

The application must include the following:

- A cover letter that explains your motivation for applying for this position, and indicates one or two potential mentors from the statistics faculty. Applicants should feel free to contact potential mentors at any time during the review process to discuss research interests, and are encouraged to mention such contact in their cover letter.
- A curriculum vitae (including a list of publications)
- A brief research statement that summarizes current research interests, past accomplishments, and future research goals. It should contain a short proposal for the research activities you plan to conduct while at Columbia.
- The names of 3 references—references will be asked to upload letters of recommendation in ASR.

Review of applications begins on February 10, 2025, and will continue until the position is filled.

Salary range: $90,000-$100,000.

Pay Transparency Disclosure: The salary of the finalist selected for this role will be set based on a variety of factors, including but not limited to departmental budgets, qualifications, experience, education, licenses, specialty, and training. The above hiring range represents the University's good faith and reasonable estimate of the range of possible compensation at the time of posting.

Inquiries may be made to Dood Kalicharan at *dk@stat.columbia.edu*.

Equal Employment Opportunity Statement: Columbia University is an Equal Opportunity Employer / Disability / Veteran

Ohio

■ Cleveland Clinic announces a search for the Chair of the global Department of Quantitative Health Sciences (QHS) within Cleveland Clinic Research. QHS is home to 25 faculty who lead a unique, multidisciplinary group of 120 biostatisticians, bioinformaticians, epidemiologists, qualitative researchers, outcomes researchers, social scientists, database developers, data scientists and programmers.

Bradley Marino, MD, MPP, MSCE, MBA, Chair, Quantitative Health Sciences Search Committee • *marinob@ccf.org@ccf.org;* Phone: (216) 445-5613. Apply directly at *https://tinyurl.com/yj9hj6bf.*

Texas

■ The Department of Statistics and Data Sciences at The University of Texas at Austin invites applications for Assistant/Associate/Full Professor of Instruction (non-tenure-track) faculty positions to begin in Fall 2025. Candidates should have a doctoral degree in statistics, biostatistics, data science, or a related discipline by August 2025. More information about the positions and instructions for submitting an application are available at *https://apply.interfolio.com/162627.* ■

Top 10 **Taylor Swift Song Titles** (Statistician's Version)

Amstat News continues its entertaining offering by ASA Executive Director Ron Wasserstein, who delivers a special Top 10—one that aired during a recent edition of *Practical Significance*. He says, "On the *Practical Significance* podcast, we like to imagine things from a statistical lens. This time, we imagine Taylor Swift having help from a statistician in writing some of her songs. If she did, her wildly successful tour might have been the 'Margin of Eras' tour. … Sorry about that."

Wasserstein

10

We Are Never Ever Getting Good Response Rates

09

Teardrops on My GLM

08

Death by a Thousand Cut Points

07

I Bet You Think About Means

06

Look What You Made Me Sample

05

Now That We Don't Converge

To listen to the *Practical Significance* podcast, visit *https://magazine.amstat.org/podcast-2*.

04

Bette Davis Isomorphisms

03

I Did Something Bad – So Why's It Feel So Normal?

02

The Last Great American Dataset

#01

This Is Why We Can't Have Nice Data

ASA AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION
Promoting the Practice and Profession of Statistics®

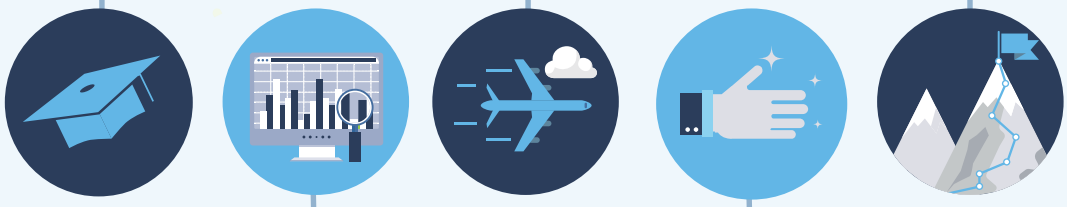
Students:

THE ASA HAS YOU **COVERED!**

Student **CHAPTERS**

Travel Fund **FOR CONFERENCES**

ASA JobWeb **FOR CAREERS**



DataFest **CELEBRATIONS**

Mentoring **PROGRAMS**

Learn more about ASA membership and join today!

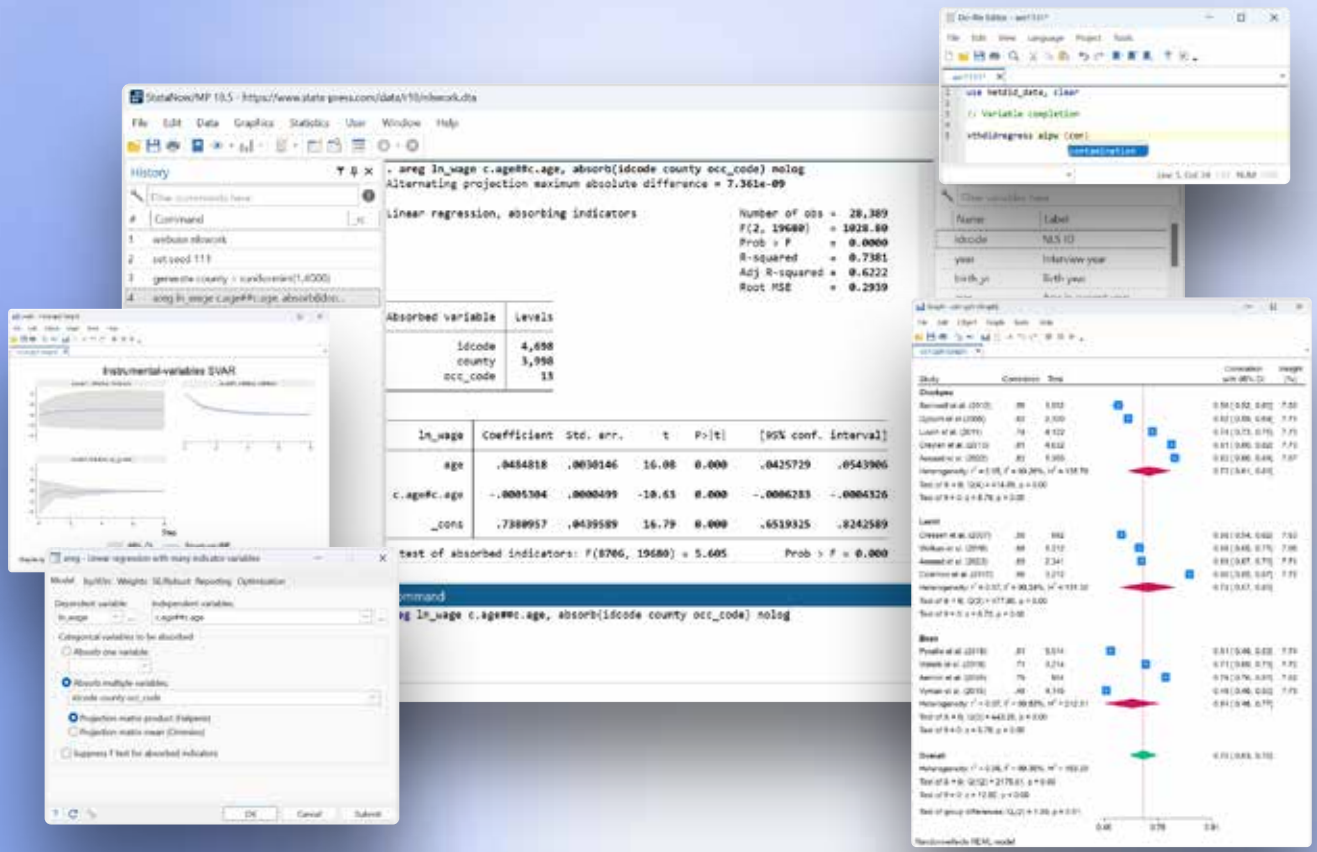
WWW.AMSTAT.ORG/JOIN

Visit *www.amstat.org/membership* or scan the QR code for more information.

STATA

From data to discovery, trust the Stata difference.

Get started with the software trusted by researchers for 40 years, and learn how Stata's proven tools can elevate your analyses.



stata.com/amstat-stata-difference