Minutes – History of Statistics IG Meeting – May 22, 2018

1. **Welcome**

The meeting was started at approximately 1:00 PM (EDT). Attendees included Wendy Martinez, Michael P. Cohen, Jim Knaub, Beverly Wood, Martha Rozsi, David Hitchcock, Amanda Golbeck, Alan Hutson, and John McKenzie.

1. **Minutes from March 19, 2018**

There was one correction to the minutes from the March 2018 meeting. This was in item 3d. It was the Caucus on Women in Statistics, and Amanda Golbeck was the person who discussed her experience. The minutes were accepted after this change. Wendy will send the revised minutes to John for his records. We can also post them to the HoS IG microsite.

1. **Council of Sections Governing Board (COSGB)**
   1. We discussed the email (included in the agenda) from the COSGB.
   2. COSGB meetings at the JSM: Amanda and Wendy have conflicts and cannot attend the meeting on Sunday. Mike Cohen agreed to attend that meeting. Wendy can attend the one on Thursday morning.
   3. Wendy noted there will be a Section Leadership Workshop on JSM Monday from 2 to 3 PM.
   4. We briefly discussed the ASA Section Annual Report (included with the agenda). We will have to provide inputs to this report at the end of the year. This gives us an opportunity to let the broader ASA community know what we are going as a group. Perhaps more importantly, we need to provide these inputs to receive the 1,000 for the following year.
2. **JSM 2018**
   1. Wendy requested JSM Monday from 4 to 5:30 PM as our meeting time. This will be open to all. The group meetings have not been posted to the online program yet. Wendy will send information once she receives it. She ordered some food. It seems to be rather inexpensive, perhaps because of the exchange rate. She estimated 30 people would attend, and she will have the opportunity to adjust the order.
   2. Amanda suggested an agenda item for the JSM meeting – Gather ideas, interests, and objectives for the HoS IG.
   3. Wendy obtained permission from the COSGB to spend our $1,000 on food and printing the postcards. A special thanks to Amanda and all who sent ideas and inputs for the cards. They look wonderful. Amanda said we should post these to our microsite.
   4. Booth at JSM – see the email from Carol Blumberg included with the agenda. Martha volunteered to be the point of contact with Carol. We agreed to be included with Carol’s joint recruitment for staffing the booths. Carol asked for URLs to be included in the joint hand-out. Wendy received some already, but feel free to send more by May 31. Some suggestions were a timeline of statistics and the ASA gallery of statisticians.
   5. Booth materials – We will have the four postcards to hand out. Wendy suggested puzzles like word finds and crossword puzzles. John said he has software (or knows of it) that will create the crossword puzzles. He created some for the ASA anniversary in Boston. He is going to look for them, so we can have them at our booth. Here is a list of items:
      1. Sign-up sheets to join the group
      2. Postcards
      3. Crossword puzzles
      4. Word finds or matching
      5. Food like donuts, cookies, or candy
      6. Other ideas and items??
   6. JSM sponsorship of sessions – Martha did a search using ‘history’ and found two. One was a memorial session, and the other had information on the Census Bureau history. She is going to look further and will send a list to Wendy, who will contact the ASA with our request to co-sponsor sessions. Amanda said it is good to co-sponsor sessions to get our name out there, and also that we should always co-sponsor memorial sessions.
3. **IG Dollars - $1,000**

We received permission from the COSGB to spend our $1,000 on printing the postcards and paying for food at the JSM. Wendy needs to contact Steve Porzio for next steps. Wendy ordered chips and fruit for the IG JSM meeting. She will try to adjust what was ordered to perhaps include drinks. Amanda asked about a cash bar.

1. **JSM 2019 – Invited session ideas**

Beverly mentioned a project/presentation she is working on related to the history of p-values. The group thought this would make a good invited session, given the recent ASA statement on p-values. Alan Hutson sent an email later stating “An extension of the history of the p-value idea would be the history of Bayesian vs Freq debate, of which the p-value is a subcomponent.”

Another idea was to have commemorative sessions – say 50 years of statistics or 100 years ago in statistics. We could come up with several session ideas because we can also submit topic-contributed proposals.

1. **IG Elections and Nominations**

Wendy looked at the Charter. The Past Chair is supposed to lead the Nominating Committee. We do not have a Past Chair yet, so Wendy will chair this committee. She appointed Michael Cohen and James Knaub to the committee. She will check on what offices need to be filled and what process we follow.

1. **Microsite updates and ideas**

Beverly and Wendy are still trying to figure out the microsite, and they will keep working on it. Wendy tried to upload a document, and it is not easy to do. It would help to have an introductory class at the JSM. Beverly will follow-up with Laura (ASA). Some sections and groups commented in the annual report that using the microsite community is difficult.

Some ideas for the microsite are: JSM annual postcards, recommended readings, links to papers/books, actual papers (if possible), link to ASA history information, pictures of group meetings at JSM.

1. **Phone call in July?**

Wendy read the charter, and it states we would have 6 phone calls per year. Sounds like a lot. It would be good to have a phone meeting the beginning of July, so we can make sure we are ready for the JSM. Wendy will send a Doodle poll for availability the week of July 9.

1. **ASA Fellow – Kate Claghorn**

John told us about an ASA Fellow he discovered – Kate Claghorn. She is the first female ASA Fellow in 2018 (or 2019?). Martha sent this Wikipedia link: <https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kate_Claghorn>. Amanda said this would make a great postcard for 2019. He also has some JASAs looking for a new home.

1. **Other items:**

There was a discussion about the future of the IG. Do we want to become a section? Wendy will get the requirements for a section and will send it.

Wendy mentioned the ASA section initiatives. These proposals are due to Steve Porzio around early February. Examples of previous initiatives from sections and committees are to support a workshop/conference and to support the development of short courses. These might be something we could do in the future – have a workshop or develop/host webinar(s).

Amanda is a member of the ISI. She said the ISI had a history group that was active, but hasn’t been so lately. They are working to make it active again. She was asked to speak on Elizabeth Scott at the next ISI meeting. The focus will be more on the history of the ISI.

Beverly sent an email after the meeting suggesting we add Kate Claghorn’s bio to this site at ASA: <https://ww2.amstat.org/about/statisticiansinhistory/index.cfm?fuseaction=bios>. An action item is to find out the ASA contact to add bios to the site.