

Membership Council Committee Snapshots

Work Accomplished and Future Work – Reporting Period April 2025–April 2026

Statistical Partnerships Among Academe, Industry, and Government Committee (SPAIG)

Work Accomplished

SPAIG advanced multi-sector statistical collaboration through its award program, professional-development programming, and outreach. The committee administered both the 2025 and 2026 ASA SPAIG Award cycles, recognizing the Vanderbilt University Department of Biostatistics and Tennessee Department of Children’s Services for the 2025 award and the Antibacterial Resistance Leadership Group DOOR partnership for 2026. SPAIG maintained a strong presence at JSM 2025, organizing an invited session on multi-sector collaboration in statistics and AI, a lunchtime speaker session on careers in pharmaceutical statistics, and a committee booth and poster. The committee also expanded its webinar programming on award winners, academic-industry collaboration, career pathways, and internship preparation, while strengthening operations through monthly meetings, website updates, an AmStat News article, and growth of the Friends of SPAIG community.

Future Work

SPAIG plans to expand its presence at JSM 2026 with a Speakers with Lunch session featuring Renee Ellis of the U.S. Census Bureau and an invited paper session on multi-sector, data-driven collaborations, along with a repeat committee booth and poster. The committee will continue using webinars for year-round member engagement on topics such as career pathways, internships, and data science and AI collaborations. Longer term, SPAIG aims to strengthen the SPAIG Award program by broadening nominations and to build a more sustained community of practice through the Friends of SPAIG list, social media engagement, and collaboration with other Membership Council committees.

Committee on Applied Statisticians (CAS)

Work Accomplished

CAS launched the “Non-Statistics Skills for Our Younger Selves” webinar series on the InStats platform, drawing 110 to over 200 participants per session and featuring speakers from JMP, Eli Lilly, RTI, the University of Michigan, the University of Washington, and independent practice on topics including leadership, communicating statistical information, and storytelling in decision support. The committee also supported the Committee on Career Development as mentors for its JSM networking workshop, helped organize a well-received JSM student workshop on government career paths, and advanced AI-related initiatives, including ethical AI guidance for practitioners and K-12 AI literacy outreach.

Future Work

CAS has scheduled a JSM 2026 topic-contributed panel, “Turning Uncertainty into Opportunity in a Precarious Job Market,” to address current workforce shifts, and is proposing an AI literacy journal article and action plan to help the field adapt to AI-driven change. The committee also plans to launch an AmStat News column in CAS’s Master’s Notebook, “Deciding Factors,” applying decision analysis to career and life choices, and to seek expanded partnerships with IEEE, AMS, and AAAS.

Committee on Career Development

Work Accomplished

The committee focused on streamlining its goals to make them more achievable and better aligned with ASA's broader priorities, settling on a plan to develop one webinar per year highlighting a different ASA resource, beginning with a session on local chapters and how they support professional and career development. The committee also continued hosting its networking event and developing an introductory video for first-time JSM attendees.

Future Work

The committee's webinar plans remain in the planning stages. It will continue hosting the networking event and maintaining the introductory video for first-time JSM attendees, updating it as needed.

Committee on Membership Retention and Recruitment

Work Accomplished

The committee elevated ASA's social media presence, including a monthly series highlighting Taylor and Francis ASA journal papers.

Future Work

The committee plans to collaborate with other ASA committees to develop strategies for engaging junior members, students, and members working in industry.

Committee on International Relations in Statistics (CIRS)

Work Accomplished

CIRS selected Leidy Zabala of the Dominican Republic as its new Educational Ambassador and determined the winner of the inaugural Data Quest international data competition, evaluating submissions from teams in three countries across three judging categories. The committee wrote an article for AmStat News and launched a dedicated Data Quest website, and is now preparing to expand the 2026 edition of the competition to a larger number of countries.

Future Work

CIRS is developing a list of webinar topics of broad international interest and identifying an initial slate of speakers, while also working out the logistics for a larger, expanded Data Quest competition. The committee is revising the scoring rubric for the Educational Ambassador role, and its chair plans to engage ISI President Fabrizio Ruggieri on potential collaborative events and webinars between CIRS and ISI.

Committee on Statistics and Disability (CSD)

Work Accomplished

CSD published an AmStat News JEDI corner article marking the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, and profiled disabled researchers—including Dr. Jonathan Godfrey, Dr. Bonnielin Swenor, Dr. Michael Wallace, and Dr. Chuck Coleman—in an October 2025 AmStat News feature. The committee also initiated research, in collaboration with the Census Bureau, to estimate the impact of government downsizing on employment rates for people with disabilities.

Future Work

CSD plans to improve communication with its Friends of list, identify communities for collaboration through Communities in Action, and liaise with ASA on accommodations for future JSMs. The committee will again profile disabled researchers in the October 2026 AmStat News issue, publish its research on government downsizing and disability employment, and produce a related article on the importance of disability communities collecting data. A committee member is also conducting a neurodiversity survey of ASA members to estimate disability prevalence within the association.

JSM Continuing Education Committee (JSM CCE)

Work Accomplished

The committee reviewed submissions and set the course slate for JSM 2026 in Boston, recommending 33 courses (9 full-day and 24 half-day) to fill 21 programming day-slots, balancing topic coverage, course level, and full- versus half-day format against the available slots.

Future Work

At ASA staff's suggestion, committee members plan to draft an AmStat News article on writing a successful CCE proposal, to be pursued over the summer so it can be published before next year's proposal deadline.

ASA LGBTQ+ Advocacy Committee

Work Accomplished

The committee hosted a public webinar on current and historical trends in SOGISC data collection and their consequences, with the recording made available on the committee's community page, and selected the recipient of the ASA Pride Scholarship in March 2026.

Future Work

The committee is planning a June 2026 webinar and will continue featuring presentations on the history of measuring LGBTQI+ populations within the federal statistical system.

Committee on Minorities in Statistics (COMS)

Work Accomplished

The committee focused on planning its two flagship events: the virtual StatFest program and the Diversity Workshop & Mentoring Program held at JSM.

Future Work

COMS is making incremental improvements to its infrastructure, including more organized marketing and participant contact information, and is planning a virtual talk series in collaboration with a related ENAR committee.