

**The Florida Chapter of the American Statistical Association  
Annual Meeting  
March 6-7, 2026**

**Florida International University, Miami, FL  
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting, March 7, 2026**

**Meeting Started at 8:16 am**

**1. Membership Update (Henry Zhang, President)**

Membership stayed about the same this last year. There are 222 active members as of March 2026 (compared to 219 last year). Members get discounted rates for chapter meetings, traveling courses, and other chapter activities. Chapter dues remain at \$8 students. To sustain our continued growth, it is important that we maintain/improve outreach among existing members, students, and statisticians/data scientists who are not in academia.

South Florida chapter of ASA has been inactive for a number of years. When planning this year's FL chapter meeting we reach out to universities in Miami area and their students and faculty for inclusion. Later in 2025, the SFL ASA chapter became active. At the annual meeting there is an invited session contributed by the SFL chapter and a data competition organized by SFL chapter. It was a great collaboration with the SFL chapter.

**2. Budget Updates (Secretary/Treasurer)**

The current balance in the account is **\$11,530.99 (March 7th)**.

We will give out seven awards for \$1,000 (three award winners will each receive a check of \$200 and four honorable mentions will each receive a check of \$100). We are providing the \$1k ASA stimulus funds, along with registration fees (\$4025 according to Dr. Nan Hu, the conference organizer at FIU) to partially cover expenses related to meals for the attendees and speakers at the annual meeting.

Arrange set-up to change signing of Wells Fargo account. Need to find a mechanism to resolve this problem for longer term in the future.

**3. ASA Stimulus Fund (Xin Zhang)**

This year we will use to help offset expenses in the chapter meeting.

**4. ASA Traveling Course**

We decided to pass on the course offerings this year. We will try to host a virtual traveling course in 2026—2027 so that it is not too much a burden on hosting institute.

**5. Chapter Website (Joshua Loyal)**

No update. Ryan Bell is the ASA Staff contact for help fixing permissions.

## 6. Council of Chapters Meetings at JSM (Zhigang Li; Chapter of Council Rep.)

Collaboration ASA trying to collaborate with INSTAT. A common issue with ASA chapters is related to treasurers and bank accounts. The chapter website needs to be updated after each election, even if the same officers are elected again.

## 7. 2026 Chapter Meeting ()

The meeting at FIU was well-organized and has been very successful. The organizers started to organize in September and noted it would be better to start earlier. There were student presentation award winners and student data competition award winners. We will prepare an article about meeting to submit to Chapter Chatter.

## 8. New Officers in the Chapter for the 2025-2027 term

Elections are every odd numbered year, as everyone serves two-year terms. No election this year.

For the current two-year term, the chapter officers are:

President: Xin (Henry) Zhang (FSU)

Vice-President: Jose Laborde (Moffitt)

Past President: Rhonda Bacher (UF)

Council of Chapter Representative: Zhigang Li (UF)

Information Officer: Josh Loyal (FSU)

Outreach to Industry/Other Schools Officer: Bill Huang (UCF)

**Secretary/Treasurer (updated):** Muxuan Liang was the secretary/treasurer for 2025 but has moved from UF to MD Anderson Cancer Center in TX. As a result, Zhigang Li (UF) will take over the position of secretary/treasurer (confirmed on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026).

The board wants to sincerely thank Senthil B. Gimirugan and Muxuan Liang for *all* their service to the chapter.

## 9. Future Chapter Meetings

The host institutions for future chapter meetings were determined and they are listed below.

2027 (Jose): Moffit partner with USF. There is a February conference Statistical Practice in Cancer at Moffit.

2028: \_\_\_\_\_ (ask UFL or FAU or UWF)

## 10. Other Topics (Jose)

Mu Alpha Theta is the National Mathematics Honor Society for high schools and two-year colleges. FAMAT is the Florida affiliate of that organization and hosts a State Convention every year in April (over 850 students last year).

### **11. For the Good of the Order**

The chapter thanks FIU and the organizing committee for a successful chapter meeting.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:58 am**