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Report from the Chair
Bob delMas, University of Minnesota

As we near the end of another year, I want to thank the Section on Statistical Education for giving me the opportunity to serve as chair. This has been a very meaningful experience that has helped me learn more about the activities of our members as well as gain a deeper understanding of the workings of the ASA. As we near the end of 2009, there are many people who deserve recognition and thanks. I want to thank Past Chair Linda Young who I turned to many times for advice and information. Tom Short is also ending his term as Secretary/Treasurer this year, and I want to thank him for the timely provision of information whenever I requested it this past year.

A special thanks to Peter Westfall for putting together a stellar set of talks and presentations for JSM 2009 in Washington, D.C. I know that Tisha Hooks, the Program Chair for JSM 2010 in Vancouver, has been working diligently to line up speakers and panelists, and that we can look forward to another set of stellar statistics education sessions next summer.

Deb Rumsey once again managed the Section’s information booth at JSM 2009, and I want to thank her and all the people who volunteered to staff the booth. Deb’s term on the Executive Committee is ending this year, and she will be passing the responsibility for the booth on to the remaining members-at-large on the committee. Another change is that Jackie Dietz has passed the job of webmaster on to Carmen Acuna, who has already made her mark with a fresh update to
the Section website. I appreciated Jackie’s quick response to my requests for updates to the website and management of our email list, and we thank her for all she has done in those areas. And thank you to Joan Garfield for continuing to keep us informed through the Section Newsletter.

The Section’s Executive Committee has been responsive to my requests throughout the year, and I appreciate their input into all the decisions and discussions, as well as the various leadership roles they have taken on. This is a good place to recognize Jo Hardin, a member-at-large on the Executive Committee whose term ends this year. We appreciate her contributions and insights.

The new mission statement and strategic objectives for the Section provided guidance in much of the Executive Committee’s discussion and decision-making (thanks again to Linda Young for initiating and organizing the process). In particular, they helped us vet funding requests. A funding request committee consisting of Linda Young, Tom Short, Deb Nolan, and Nick Horton reviewed the requests in light of the Section’s Mission Statement and Strategic Objectives. Two requests were funded: $500 to StatFest, a conference for minority undergraduates with the objective of developing their interest in pursuing a career in Statistics that was held this fall at the University of Iowa; and $500 to the International Statistical Literacy Project (ISLP) of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) to fund the travel of one of four students from the United States who was selected to represent the United States in the final phase of the International Statistical Literacy Competition that took place in Durban, South Africa, this past August during the 57th Session of the International Statistical Institute.

Our Section members are very active in broader aspects of the ASA, and this was acknowledged through the numerous members who received ASA awards this year. This past year three members were honored with the ASA Founders Award (June Morita, Bob Stephenson, and Jessica Utts) and three members became new ASA Fellows (David M. Umbach, Nandini Kannan, and Christopher J. Wild). And we cannot forget Nick Horton, who is this year’s recipient of the Waller Education Award.

Section members have also taken on other leadership roles in other events that promote statistical education. Martha Aliaga organized another successful Meeting Within A Meeting (MWM) at JSM 2009. I know that Jerry Moreno and Katherine Halvorsen were involved through lining up presenters and giving presentations. Other Section members also served as presenters: Chris Franklin, Paul Fields, Roxy Peck, Allan Rossman, and Beth Chance were among those I saw at MWM, and I am sure there were others I did not see. Andre Lubecke organized a statistics education workshop for October 23–24 in Myrtle Beach, SC, that was targeted toward statistics instructors, and Ginger Rowell was one of the presenters. These are just a few of the events that I am aware of where our Section members are helping to develop teachers of statistics. I am honored to have served as chair for such a fine and active group, and I know that our Section will continue to do great work in the years to come through the activities of the membership.
Report from 2010 Program Chair
Tisha Hooks, Winona State

Greetings everyone!

We have a great line up of JSM 2010 invited sessions for you in Vancouver:

- Rethinking our Statistics Courses — What to Let Go of in Order to Grow?
- Effective Use of Instructional Technology
- Establishing a Career in Statistics Education
- Beyond the Introductory Course — Strategies for a Second Course in Statistics
- Statistics Degree Programs in a Data-centric World: What Needs to Change?

If you have other ideas for what may make a good poster, paper, or even an entire session in statistical education at the 2010 Joint Statistical Meetings, please plan to submit an abstract later this year! Online submission of abstracts occurs from December 1, 2009, to February 1, 2010, so it's time to start planning.

Here are the types of sessions you might consider:

Topic Contributed Session: A collection of talks and discussions that share a common topic. There must be 5 presentations (including discussants) of 20 minutes each; there can be 5 papers and 0 discussants, 4 papers and 1 discussant, or 3 papers and 2 discussants. One person organizes the session (coordinating their efforts through the Section Program Chair), but each participant submits an abstract.

Topic Contributed Panel: A minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 panelists provide commentary on a particular topic. One person organizes the session (coordinating their efforts through the Section Program Chair), and only one abstract is submitted.

Topic Contributed Poster Session: A cluster of approximately 3–6 posters on a given topic. One person organizes the session (coordinating their efforts through the Section Program Chair), but each participant submits an abstract.

Regular Contributed Sessions: Individual papers related to statistical education, which the Section Program Chair later organizes into cohesive sessions of 6–7 speakers with 15 minutes each. The JSM traditionally accepts all contributed papers and posters.

Contributed Posters: Individual posters related to a topic selected from a predetermined list provided by the Poster Chair, who then groups posters according to those topics.

If you have any questions or need help in any way, please contact the 2010 Stat Ed Program Chair, Tisha Hooks from Winona State University, at thooks@winona.edu. Through your ideas, insights, and energy, we hope to continue the tradition of valuable, thought-provoking sessions in statistical education at JSM!
IASE Report
Allan Rossman, Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo

The International Association for Statistical Education (IASE) has had a productive 2009 and looks forward to an exciting 2010. Durban, South Africa, was the site for a very engaging Satellite conference organized by Patrick Murphy on the theme of “Next Steps in Statistics Education,” and the ISI Conference also featured many interesting sessions sponsored by IASE. Another highlight of Durban was the culmination of the International Statistical Literacy Competition, organized by Juana Sanchez.

IASE also continues to publish two issues per year of the Statistics Education Research Journal (SERJ), a peer-reviewed journal freely available online. In 2010 Bob delMas will join Peter Petocz as Co-Editor of SERJ, as Tom Short completes his four-year term at the end of 2009.

The highlight of 2010 promises to be the Eighth International Conference on Teaching Statistics (ICOTS), to be held in beautiful Ljubljana, Slovenia on July 11–16. Andrej Blejec is leading the local organizing committee, which is preparing to show off the charm of Slovenia's capital city. John Harraway is chairing the international program committee, which has assembled a terrific program of thought-provoking presentations. Keynote speakers include Hans Rosling (of TED lecture fame), Gerd Gigerenzer, Cliff Konold, Jessica Utts, and Annuska Ferligoj, along with a plenary panel/debate coordinated by Chris Wild. Contributed paper abstracts can still be submitted until November 30. Full information is available at http://icots8.org/.

Please check out IASE's extensive website at http://www.stat.auckland.ac.nz/~iase/. Also, please consider joining IASE to support the teaching of statistics around the world. For more information, contact me (arossman@calpoly.edu) or the new IASE President, Helen MacGillivray (h.macgillivray@qut.edu.au).

AP Statistics Report
Christine Franklin, University of Georgia, Chief Reader, 2007–2009
Allan Rossman, Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo, Chief Reader, 2009–present

The 2009 AP Statistics Reading was conducted in Louisville, Kentucky, from June 5–11, with pre-reading meetings from June 1 through June 4. The reading team consisted of 537 dedicated college faculty and high school teachers serving as leaders and readers, with approximately 60 first-time readers. Approximately 120,000 exams were graded.

The reading was successful in many ways. As always, the professional development was invaluable. Readers continue to praise how the reading experience is one of the best educational
experiences, and the interaction between college and high school teachers is special and unique. A new addition for this year was the use of an audience response system, commonly known as “clickers,” for the training on all 6 operational questions. The clickers were a tremendous success. We were the pilot test site for College Board. Due to the success, College Board plans to use clickers with other AP subjects at the 2010 readings. Not only is much knowledge gained from scoring papers and the training for using the scoring rubrics, there are numerous professional offerings in the evenings. This year, we were honored to have Tom Moore from Grinnell College as the professional night speaker. We continued our tradition of Best Practices night, Stats Paper night, and new this year — a night of special topic presentations. We also allowed ourselves fun and relaxation with evening time spent playing board games, card games, music, video games, etc. Finally, success can be measured in that the 537 leaders and readers celebrated finishing the scoring of all exams on site.

Preparations have already begun for the 2010 reading, which will be held in Daytona Beach, Florida, on June 12–18. If you have not already applied to be an AP reader, please consider doing so. The reading provides a wonderful professional development opportunity for college as well as high school faculty. You can find application information online at http://professionals.collegeboard.com/prof-dev/opportunities/become-ap-reader.

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**United States Conference on Teaching Statistics (USCOTS 2009)**

**Another Big Success!**

Deb Rumsey, The Ohio State University

The third biennial USCOTS took place on June 25–27, 2009, at The Ohio State University, hosted by CAUSE (The Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education). The theme of the conference was “Letting Go to Grow.” The conference was attended by over 350 people. Teachers from a wide range of institutions, departments, and countries came to learn and to exchange ideas about teaching statistics at the undergraduate level. The challenge was to think about whether we are trying to fit too much into our current statistics courses, and if so, what can and should we let go of in order to make our courses more relevant, effective, and up to date. This theme brought about much lively discussion and friendly debate among the participants.
The list of distinguished plenary speakers included Dani Ben-Zvi, University of Haifa, Israel; George Cobb, Mount Holyoke College; Chris Wild, The University of Auckland, New Zealand; Peter Ewell, Center for Higher Education Management Systems; and Ron Wasserstein, American Statistical Association. USCOTS 2009 included 17 breakout sessions, each focused on what to let go of in order to grow.
Some of the many highlights of the conference were George Cobb’s talks, which focused on using the Bayesian approach to teach statistics. Two “Posters and Beyond” sessions were also held, featuring peer-reviewed contributions submitted by conference participants.

Roxy Peck was presented with the 2009 USCOTS Lifetime Achievement Award for Statistics Education, for her significant, enduring, and continued contributions to the area.

The CAUSEweb Resource of the Year award was presented to Allan Rossman and Beth Chance for their outstanding statistical applets collection.
USCOTS 2009 also included four cluster groups, whose members shared a common interest within statistics education: 1) Study of Fun Cluster; 2) Teaching Statistics in the Online World Cluster; 3) Student Attitudes Cluster; and 4) Research in Statistics Education Cluster.

Photos and other information from USCOTS 2009 are posted on the website www.causeweb.org/uscots.

**USCOTS 2009 Program Committee:** Deb Rumsey (Chair); Dennis Pearl (CAUSE Director); Joan Garfield (Research Program); Jackie Miller (Posters and Beyond Chair); Chris Malone and Jackie Dietz (Posters and Beyond Team); Jean Scott, CAUSE program coordinator; Kythrie Silva (Technology Coordinator).

USCOTS was funded in part by contributions from the College of Mathematical and Physical Sciences and the Department of Statistics at The Ohio State University, the American Statistical Association, and an NSF grant.

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**Professional Development Opportunities at JMM 2010**
Jean Scott, The Ohio State University

CAUSE will be hosting two pre-conference workshops the day before the opening of the MAA-AMS Joint Mathematics Meetings 2010 in San Francisco. Both MAA Ancillary Workshops will be held on Tuesday, January 12, 2010. There will be no registration fee to attend the workshops, but advance registration is required, as space is limited. The minicourse will take place during JMM as part of the program, and has a fee of $75 which is payable with your JMM registration. This is the third consecutive offering of pre-conference workshops at JMM by CAUSE.

- **Become a Catalyst for Change in Statistics Education**
  Tuesday, January 12, 2010
  *An MAA Ancillary Workshop*
  Preceding JMM 2010 in San Francisco, California
  Presented by Joan Garfield, Bob delMas, and Andy Zieffler, University of Minnesota; and Allan Rossman and Beth Chance, Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo.

- **Teaching Introductory Statistics (for instructors new to teaching Intro Stats)**
  Tuesday, January 12, 2010
  *An MAA Ancillary Workshop*
  Preceding JMM 2010 in San Francisco, California

- **Remodeling Data Analysis**
  Thursday, January 14, 2010, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and Saturday, January 16, 2010, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
  *An MAA Minicourse at JMM 2010 in San Francisco, California*
  Presented by Danny Kaplan and Victor Addona, Macalester College.
Stat Ed Session at Joint Mathematics Meeting
Michael Posner, Villanova

Excuse Me... Where is the Department of Statistics Education?
Thursday, January 14, 2:35 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.
Organizer: Michael Posner, Villanova University
Panelists: Dennis Pearl, Ohio State University; Mike Shaugnessy, Portland State University; Bob DelMas, University of Minnesota; and Andrew Zieffler, University of Minnesota.
Sponsors: SIGMAA Stat Ed and SIGMAA RUME

Statisticians and non-statisticians alike are called upon to teach statistics courses to a growing number of college and high school students each year. Very few, however, are trained in interpreting student thinking and understanding and comparing the effectiveness of various pedagogical methods. Even fewer are doing research on how best to teach statistics. The goal of the statistics education field is to promote evidence-based statistics education research to guide the practice of teaching statistics and foster the organizational structures to promote systematic strands of research. A recent report proposes the creation of graduate statistics education programs identifying programmatic structures, discussing faculty support recommendations, and suggesting courses for inclusion in these interdisciplinary programs. This panel brings together those on the cutting edge of statistics education research along with mathematics educators who offer advice on what the statistics education community can learn from the field of mathematics education research.

News from JSE
Bill Notz, The Ohio State University, Editor

I am pleased to announce that the next editor of JSE will be John Gabrosek. John is a faculty member in the Department of Statistics at Grand Valley State University. Although he officially becomes the editor January 1, 2010, John is now handling all new submissions. If you are planning to submit a paper to JSE, it should be sent to John. His email address is gabrosej@gvsu.edu. Jean Scott has done an outstanding job as editorial coordinator and will continue to serve John in that capacity.

Preview of coming attractions
Although a month away, we are busy putting together the November 2009 issue. We expect to announce that it is ready in late November. The issue hasn't been finalized, but will contain at least 8 papers along with the Teaching Bits section. The 8 papers that are scheduled for publication (one or two more may also be included) are the following:
Do Hands-On Activities Increase Student Understanding? A Case Study
Thomas J. Pfaff and Aaron Weinberg

Recording Lectures as a Service in a Service Course
Thomas Jaki

How Much Math Do Students Need to Succeed in Business and Economics Statistics? An Ordered Probit Analysis
Jeffrey J. Green, Courtenay C. Stone, Abera Zegeye, and Thomas A. Charles

Understanding Statistics and Statistics Education: A Chinese Perspective
Ning-Zhong Shi, Xuming He, and Jian Tao

Teaching Bayesian Statistics in a Health Research Methodology Program
Eleanor M. Pullenayegum and Lehana Thabane

Lexical Ambiguity in Statistics: What Do Students Know about the Words Association, Average, Confidence, Random and Spread?
Jennifer J. Kaplan, Diane G. Fisher, and Neal T. Rogness

Mean, Median and Mode From a Decision Perspective
  o Melinda Miller Holt and Stephen M. Scariano

Multimedia Presentations in Educational Measurement and Statistics: Design Considerations and Instructional Approaches
  o Jeffrey C. Sklar and Rebecca Zwick

You will have to wait until November for the complete contents, but I hope this whets your appetite!

Changes at TISE
Rob Gould, UCLA, Editor
Technology Innovations in Statistics Education (TISE) has a new look. For authors, the new look means improved results in Google searches. For readers, improvements include the ability to search within the journal or within a document; the ability to subscribe to an RSS feed that will notify you of new postings; the ability to “share” via Facebook, Twitter, and other social networking applications; the ability to easily find and search “similar” articles on the e-scholarship website; and several other convenient features. The new look is much more streamlined and easier to navigate.

TISE will publish the last issue of Volume 3 in December 2009. We are seeking contributions for Volume 4. TISE is interested in scholarly papers that address any of these themes:
  o Designing technology to improve statistics education
  o Using technology to develop conceptual understanding
  o Teaching the use of technology to gain insight into and access to data

Volume 3 currently includes a paper by Jane Watson and Julie Donne and one by Webster West. Please visit at http://tise.stat.ucla.edu.
Mark Your Calendar

July 11-16, 2010
8th International Conference on Teaching Statistics
Ljubljana, Slovenia
http://icots8.org/

August 1-5, 2010
Joint Statistical Meetings
Vancouver, British Columbia
http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2010/index.cfm

Editors

Comments and suggestions for the improvement of the newsletter are most welcome, and should be sent to a member of the editorial board.

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