



**AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION
HOUSTON AREA CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER**

May 1, 2012

Revised May7 (typo's corrected)



*****Tuesday, May 8, 2012*****

Panel Discussion: What I wish I knew before starting my statistics job

We are trying something different for our last meeting presentation. We will have a moderated discussion over tips, insight and advice for people entering different professions of statistics (academic, industry, government). Anyone present can contribute their own insights, and we have a panel of individuals who offer to start the discussion. We hope everyone has something to learn from and contribute to this forum, from graduate students and high school science fair winners, to people in their first job, and even those who have had a long successful career.

Our panelists are:

Becky Slack, MS, Sr. Statistical Analyst
Department of Biostatistics, M. D. Anderson Cancer Center

Kristofer Jennings, PhD, Assistant Professor
Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
UT Medical Branch, Galveston

Miriam M. Morales, MS, Manager, Quality & Performance improvement
Mischer neuroscience Institute, Memorial Hermann Hospital

Erin M. Hodgess, PhD, Associate Professor
Department of Computer and Mathematical Sciences
University of Houston, Downtown

Michael D. Swartz, PhD, Assistant Professor,
Division of Biostatistics, University of Texas School of Public Health

HACASA meetings are open to the public! Please pass on copies of this announcement to colleagues and friends and post on appropriate bulletin boards.

WHEN and WHERE: ***Tuesday May 8, 2012*** at Duncan Hall, Rice University
5:30pm - Social Time and with snacks & drinks: Room 1049
6:30pm – Panel Discussion (Room 1049)



Duncan Hall (also known as the Computational Engineering Building) is on the northeast side of the Rice University Campus. For parking information and directions please refer to the Rice parking websites, the following have been found helpful:

<http://cohesion.rice.edu/campusservices/parktrans/parking/visitors.cfm>

<http://www.rice.edu/maps/maps.html>



Thank you to [Rice University](#) and the [Department of Statistics at Rice University](#) for their generous support of HACASA by allowing us the use of their facilities for our gatherings, and sponsoring **FREE PARKING**. See [Hadley Wickham for a voucher at the meeting](#).

To help us cover cost of our weekly snacks, we are asking for small donations (\$5 or more). Also, please **RSVP** so we can bring enough snacks and drinks.

Science Fair 2012 Statistical award winners

Please join us in congratulating these studious individuals at the HACASA meeting this month

Kavita Selva in the Junior Division, Physics and Astronomy Category, for the entry "Heat Rejection, Light & Color Transmission Of Low-E Glasses"

Gijs Landwehr in the Ninth Division, Computer Science Category, for the entry "The Statistics of Winning"

Matthew Lovelace in the Senior Division, Mathematics Category, for the entry "Sample Size Does Matter"

Introducing the officers!

The officers for the 2011-2012 academic year are:

President: Jose-Miguel Yamal (Jose-Miguel.Yamal@uth.tmc.edu)

President Elect: Hao Liu (haol@bcm.edu)

Past President: Abbas Jinnah (abbas.jinnah@gmail.com)

Secretary: Michael Swartz (Michael.D.Swartz@uth.tmc.edu)

Treasurer: Myrna Khan (myrnakhan@gmail.com)

Science Fair Coordinator: Erin Hodgess (HodgessE@uhd.edu)

ASA Chapter Representative: Nancy Glenn (glennnl@tsu.edu)

Reminder!

Membership dues: Students: \$1, and non-students: \$8.

Welcome New Members!

Please take a moment at this month's meeting to welcome new members!



Let us know what you think!

Send comments to Michael Swartz at HoustonASA@gmail.com with the subject COMMENTS. Or Send comments / additions / corrections concerning the HACASA newsletter to Michael Swartz at Michael.D.Swartz@uth.tmc.edu

Announcements

New Website is launched!

Our new website is launched! Please visit it for more information and announcements:

<http://sites.google.com/site/houstonasa/>

Interface of Computing Sciences and Statistics May 16-18

Rice University Statistics Department is hosting the Interface of Computing Sciences and Statistics at Rice University May 16-May 18, 2012. Trevor Hastie is giving the keynote address. For more information see: <http://www.interfacesymposia.org/Interface2012/Interface2012.html>

Significance Website looking for volunteer writers of statistics

Calling all officers of chapters and sections – and all members of them as well

Why not use the Significance website (<http://www.significancemagazine.org/view/index.html>) to spread knowledge of your speciality in statistics to a wider audience? The site needs new pieces every day. Finance, business and industry, government statistics, and medical advances – to name but a few - are in the news all the time. ASA members work in many fields and understand the need for a higher profile for and better understanding by the public and by decision-makers of the statistics behind them and their importance and their needs.

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We can help you with the topics, if you can help us with the writing. If you feel that your area of statistics does not get enough attention, this is something you can do to remedy it. Please write me at significance@rss.org.uk.

Thank you!
Julian Champkin,
Editor, *Significance*