StatFest 2020

A Conference for Undergraduate Students
September 18\textsuperscript{th} and 19\textsuperscript{th}, 2020
Welcome!

Dear Participant:

It is our pleasure to welcome you to StatFest 2020. StatFest 2020 is the 20th StatFest conference and we are so excited that you have chosen to take part in it! StatFest began through the vision and hard work of Dr. Nagambal Shah and has continued to grow and impact the careers of statisticians and data scientists since 2001.

When we began planning StatFest 2020, COVID-19 had not yet reached the United States. We had no idea how it would change our world, let alone our nation. When the question arose regarding what to do about StatFest 2020, our overwhelming belief was that StatFest is still necessary in this day and age and that we would strive to recreate the StatFest experience in a virtual setting. You are taking part in a momentous occasion – the translation of StatFest’s objectives of sharing information, building relationships, and facilitating connects to the virtual space.

No matter how StatFest’s format changes, one thing remains the same – StatFest is all about you! We encourage you to take advantage of this unique opportunity. You will receive what you put into it. Be engaged. Submit and ask questions. Exchange contact information with other participants. Use StatFest as a starting point for the networking and connection-building it has become famous for. Above all, please make sure you leave StatFest with a new piece of information, a new colleague, and a new connection that will help and support you as you begin or continue your journey in statistics and data science.

Thank you again for choosing to become part of the StatFest community. Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything we can do for you.

Sincerely,

StatFest 2020 Planning Committee
Overview

StatFest is a one-day conference aimed at encouraging students from underrepresented groups to consider careers and graduate studies in the statistical sciences. The conference is an ongoing initiative of the American Statistical Association’s (ASA) Committee on Minorities in Statistics.

The first StatFest was held in 2001 at Spelman College in Atlanta, GA. This “Mini StatFest,” as it was then called, exposed students from Spelman and the Atlanta University Center to dynamic role models in statistics and to information on careers in statistics. Since then, StatFest has grown into a one-day conference that each year travels to a different institution throughout the country, both academic and non-academic hosts. This year, we are proud to celebrate the 20th anniversary of StatFest.

STATFEST FOUNDER

**Nagambal Shah, Ph.D.,** is professor Emerita of the Spelman College Mathematics Department where she has served for more than forty years. She received her Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics and Masters in Statistics from India and M.S. and Ph.D. from University of Windsor in Ontario Canada. Several of her students have gone to graduate school and received doctoral degrees in Statistics/Biostatistics from institutions like MIT, UNC Chapel Hill, University of Maryland, U.C. Berkeley, University of Birmingham Alabama, Rice University, NC State University and SUNY.

In 2001 she coordinated and hosted the first StatFest at Spelman College, with no planning or execution team. StatFest has since become one of the major activities planned and executed by the ASA’s Committee on Minorities in Statistics. StatFest is a one-day conference aimed at encouraging undergraduate students from traditionally underrepresented backgrounds to pursue careers and graduate studies in statistical sciences. In 2005, Dr. Shah spearheaded the efforts to host and obtain funding for the first Infinite Possibilities Conference. She is an advocate for diversity in graduate education, especially for minorities and women and received the 2001 Martin Luther King Jr. Community service Award for Excellence in Education and Diversity from Emory University.

In 2003 she was selected as a SENCER (Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities) faculty by AAC&U for her course CHANCE which was selected as one of four featured SENCER Models. She is the 2005 recipient of Spelman College Presidential Award for College Service, the 2006 Vulcan Materials Co. Teaching Excellence Award and 2014 True Blue Award. Dr. Shah received the National Association of Mathematicians’s 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award. She is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association.
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Lamar University</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>Amherst College</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Eli Lilly &amp; Company</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>University of Texas, El Paso</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>Howard University</td>
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<td>Florida A&amp;M University</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>University of Chicago</td>
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<td>University of Hawaii, West O'ahu</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>North Carolina State University</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>Rice University</td>
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<td>Meharry Medical College</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>San Francisco State University</td>
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<td>Hampton University</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Spelman College</td>
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<td>2009</td>
<td>University of Iowa (part of Iowa Field of Dreams Conference)</td>
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Conduct Policy

As an activity sponsored by the American Statistical Association (ASA), StatFest is committed to providing an atmosphere that encourages the free expression and exchange of ideas. Consistent with this commitment, it is the policy of the ASA that all participants in ASA activities, including StatFest, will find a welcoming and respectful environment free from unlawful discrimination, harassment, and retaliation.

All aspects of StatFest are subject to the ASA’s conduct policy, including but not limited to event attendees, statisticians, students, guests, staff, contractors, exhibitors, and participants in scientific sessions, tours, and other social events.

All individuals must behave responsibly in ASA activities in which they participate. Threatening physical or verbal actions and disorderly or disruptive conduct will not be tolerated. Harassment, including verbal comments relating to gender, sexual orientation, disability, race, ethnicity, religion, age, national origin, gender identity or expression, veteran status or other protected status, or sexual images in public spaces, deliberate intimidation, stalking, unauthorized or inappropriate photography or recording, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention, will not be tolerated. All individuals participating in ASA activities must comply with these standards of behavior.

Violations should be reported to the organizer of the activity. In the ASA’s sole discretion, unacceptable behavior may result in removal or denial of access to meeting facilities or activities and other penalties, without refund of any applicable registration fees or costs. In addition, violations may be reported to the individual’s employer. Repeat offenders may be banned from future ASA activities.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 - 11:30 AM</td>
<td>Welcome, Opening Remarks, and Recognition of Sponsors</td>
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<td>Dionne Price, <em>Vice President, American Statistical Association</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 AM - 12:30 PM</td>
<td>Opportunities in Statistics and Data Science: Lightning Talks (Academia, Government, &amp; Non-Profit)</td>
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<td>Moderator: Mark Ward, <em>Purdue University</em></td>
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<td>Emma Benn, <em>Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai</em></td>
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<td>Wendy Martinez, <em>Bureau of Labor Statistics</em></td>
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<td>Maria Tackett, <em>Duke University</em></td>
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<td>Rob Santos, <em>Urban Institute</em></td>
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<td>12:30 - 12:40 PM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:40 - 1:40 PM</td>
<td>Opportunities in Statistics and Data Science: Lightning Talks (Industry)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Moderator: Jemar Bather, <em>Harvard University</em></td>
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<td>Aditi Khullar, <em>Two Sigma</em></td>
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<td>Jami Mulgrave, <em>Facebook</em></td>
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<td>Caprichia Jeffers, <em>Chase JP Morgan</em></td>
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<td>1:40 - 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
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<td>2:00 - 3:30 PM</td>
<td>Virtual Exposition Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 - 11:15 AM</td>
<td>Welcome and Opening Remarks</td>
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<td>11:15 AM - 12:00 PM</td>
<td>Keynote Address&lt;br&gt;Loní Tabb, <em>Drexel University</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 - 12:45 PM</td>
<td>Preparing for Admission to Graduate School&lt;br&gt;Justine Herrera, <em>Columbia University</em></td>
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<td>12:45 - 1:00 PM</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>1:00 - 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Parallel Session: Graduate Student Experience&lt;br&gt;(Students)&lt;br&gt;Moderator: Raphiel Murden, <em>Emory University</em>&lt;br&gt;Alexander Asemota, <em>University of California at Berkeley</em>&lt;br&gt;Steven Lawrence, <em>Columbia University</em>&lt;br&gt;David Angeles, <em>Ohio State University</em>&lt;br&gt;Rachel Parker, <em>Emory University</em></td>
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<td>1:00 - 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Parallel Session: Dismantling Inherent Biases&lt;br&gt;(Professionals)&lt;br&gt;Moderator: Adrian Coles, <em>Eli Lilly &amp; Co.</em>&lt;br&gt;Femi Adelakun, <em>City78</em>&lt;br&gt;Felicity Enders, <em>Mayo Clinic</em>&lt;br&gt;Damon Williams, <em>Northwestern University</em>&lt;br&gt;Kilolo Kijakazi, <em>Urban Institute</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 - 2:30 PM</td>
<td>Closing Remarks and Conference Wrap-Up</td>
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<td>2:30 - 3:30 PM</td>
<td>Virtual Roundtable Session&lt;br&gt;1. Statisticians and the COVID-19 Response</td>
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1. Networking in a Virtual Landscape
   Claire Bowen, Urban Institute

2. Funding Opportunities for Graduate School
   Justine Herrera, Columbia University

3. Summer Opportunities in Statistics and Data Science
   Sherri Rose, Stanford University

4. Organization and Productivity
   Brittney Bailey, Amherst College

5. Choosing Between Graduate School and the Job Market
   Dominique McDaniel, Purdue University

6. Preparing for Interviews
   Rebeccca Wilson, Johnson & Johnson

7. Keeping the Momentum Post-StatFest
   Alexander Asemota, University of California at Berkeley
   Angelica Estrada, StatFest Planning Committee

8. Learn More About the American Statistical Association
   Donna LaLonde, American Statistical Association

9. How to Choose a Graduate Program
   Jemar Bather, Harvard University
1. **Statisticians and Data Science Impacting the COVID-19 Response**  
*Codruta Chiuzan, Columbia University*

Conducting research during the COVID-19 outbreak has been challenging due to many unknowns and the necessity of rapid developments. Several studies have been conducted with different goals, e.g., to estimate and predict the infection/mortality rates, to test the efficacy of potential treatments, or to identify risk factors for severe stages of the disease. However, research findings have not always been consistent and sometimes even subject of controversy. In this roundtable, we will share statistical insights in the time of COVID-19: Did we get the (end)point?

2. **Networking in a Virtual Landscape**  
*Claire Bowen, Urban Institute*

Conferences and other social events are great venues to network with people. However, for many students and early career professionals, networking can be extremely intimidating, especially in a virtual environment. In this session, we’ll discuss tips on how to network virtually.

3. **Funding Opportunities for Graduate School**  
*Justine Herrera, Columbia University*

Paying for graduate school is an expensive task. During this roundtable, we’ll discuss the various funding opportunities for a graduate program.

4. **Summer Opportunities in Statistics and Data Science**  
*Sherri Rose, Stanford University*

This roundtable will discuss the various types of summer educational and research opportunities in statistics and data sciences. Attendees will learn about several formal summer programs as well as where to find more information on additional opportunities and get a chance to ask questions! The facilitator participated in the Summer Institute for Biostatistics program at Boston University during college and has been a faculty mentor for two summer programs for undergraduate students from underrepresented backgrounds.

5. **Organization and Productivity**  
*Brittney Bailey, Amherst College*

Whether it’s physical, digital, or mental, keeping our "workspace" tidy helps us tackle big projects more efficiently and with a little less stress! For statistical projects, well-organized projects are important for reproducibility. This roundtable will discuss tools, apps, and methods for keeping our workspace or workflow organized for day-to-day productivity.
6. **Choosing Between Graduate School and the Job Market**  
Dominique McDaniel, *Purdue University*  

A candid discussion about making a decision between going to graduate school or entering the job market. Evaluating questions like is graduate school necessary and what does the job market look like for an undergraduate/graduate?

7. **Interview Prep**  
Rebecca Wilson, *Johnson & Johnson Pharmaceuticals*  

This session focuses on tips for career search, resume writing and interviewing in academia, industry, and government.

8. **Keeping the Momentum Post-StatFest**  
Angelica Estrada, *StatFest Planning Committee*  
Alexander Asemota, *University of California at Berkeley*  

In this roundtable, the hosts and attendees will discuss how attending StatFest in the past and the experiences that followed, has helped shape and sustain their interest in statistics and data science. This roundtable intends to provide insight on how to best leverage what attendees learned and the connections made during StatFest, and how to apply this in the development and the achievement of their goals. Past StatFest attendees are encouraged to share their individual trajectories and first-time StatFest attendees are welcome to engage and ask questions during this time.

9. **Learn More About the American Statistical Association**  
Donna LaLonde, *American Statistical Association*  

Community is important and the American Statistical Association (ASA) is your professional community. As an active member of the ASA you will be able to build your professional network, develop leadership skills, participate in professional development activities, and give back to your community. This roundtable will provide an introduction to the ASA and the opportunities for you.

10. **How to Choose a Graduate Program**  
Jemar Bather, *Harvard University*  

This roundtable aims to demystify the graduate application process and discuss which factors to consider when choosing a graduate program. We will also discuss different types of programs (i.e., statistics, biostatistics, data science).
StatFest 2020 Exhibitors

Bain & Co.
Contact: Janine Morgan (Janine.Morgan@bain.com)
Website: https://www.bain.com/careers/roles/analytics/

Brown University, Department of Biostatistics
Contact: Jon Steingrimsson (jon_steingrimsson@brown.edu)

Carnegie Mellon University, Department of Statistics
Contacts:
General: Rebecca Nugent (r nugent@andrew.cmu.edu)
Master’s in Statistical Practice: Jamie McGovern (jspm@cmu.edu), Teraya White (terayaw@andrew.cmu.edu)
PhD Program: Valerie Ventura (vventura@andrew.cmu.edu), Ann Lee (annlee@andrew.cmu.edu)

Columbia University, Department of Biostatistics
Contact: Justine Herrera (jh2477@cumc.columbia.edu)
Website: https://www.publichealth.columbia.edu/best-diversity-program/about

Emory University, Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics
Contacts:
MPH/MSPH: Melissa Sherrer (msherre@emory.edu)
PhD: Angela Guinyard (angela.guinyard@emory.edu)

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, Department of Biostatistics
Contact: Kay See Tan (tank@mskcc.org)

New York University, Department of Biostatistics
Contact: Evan Wardell (evan.wardell@nyu.edu)

North Carolina State University, Institute for Advanced Analytics
Contacts:
Head of Admissions: Valerie Schwartz (valerie_schwartz@ncsu.edu)
Assistant Head of Admissions: Da’Esha McPhaul (daesha_mcphaul@ncsu.edu)
Website: go.ncsu.edu/msa-apply

RStudio
Contact: Mine Çetinkaya-Rundel (mine@rstudio.com)

Smith College, Department of Statistical & Data Sciences
Contacts: Albert Kim (akimo4@smith.edu), Miles Ott (mott@smith.edu)

Two Sigma
Contact: Aditi Khullar (aditi.khullar@twosigma.com)

University of Alabama at Birmingham, Department of Biostatistics
Contact: Stacey Cofield (scofield@uab.edu)
University of California at Berkeley, Department of Statistics
Contact: grad_adm@stat.berkeley.edu
Website: https://statistics.berkeley.edu

University of Michigan, Department of Biostatistics
Contact: Kelley Kidwell (kidwell@umich.edu)
Website: https://sph.umich.edu/biostat/

University of Pennsylvania, Department of Statistics
Contact: Dylan Small (dsmall@wharton.upenn.edu)

University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
Contacts: Adriana Perez (adriana.perez@uth.tmc.edu), Emmanuel Moon (emmanuel.j.moon@uth.tmc.edu)

University of Washington, Department of Biostatistics
Contact: Noah Simon (nrsimon@uw.edu)
Website: https://www.biostat.washington.edu/

Urban Institute
Contact: Dawn Dangel (ddangel@urban.org)

Vanderbilt University, Department of Biostatistics
Contact: https://www.vanderbilt.edu/biostatistics-graduate/homepage/contact-us/
Speakers, Participants, and Key Personnel

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Loni Philip Tabb, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Biostatistics in the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at Drexel University’s Dornsife School of Public Health in Philadelphia, PA. She received her PhD in Biostatistics from Harvard University in 2010 where she developed novel statistical methods to address zero inflation in longitudinal count data – with applications to environmental health and health disparities research. More specifically, she developed a marginalized zero-altered Poisson model to map and measure premature mortality and the effect of census tract poverty in the greater Boston area. Upon completion of this doctoral training, she returned as a tenure-track faculty member to her undergraduate and graduate alma mater – she obtained her B.S. (2003) and M.S. (2005) in Mathematics from Drexel. Since her arrival at Drexel University, she has collaborated as a Co-Investigator on several National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, Annie E. Casey Foundation, and Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center funded projects. These projects range from extending her doctoral work with zero inflation in genome sequencing data to her work on examining the spatial distribution of alcohol outlets in Philadelphia. In 2013, she was awarded as the Principal Investigator (PI) of a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Connections grant for Junior Investigators, entitled “Examining the impact on alcohol-related violence of increased liquor outlets under privatization of sales”. Most recently, Dr. Tabb has used spatial statistics and spatial epidemiology methods in the area of cardiovascular disease, with a focus on assessing the spatial patterning of cardiovascular health here in the US between blacks and whites. She was awarded a K01 Career Development Award (2017) from the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, entitled “Assessing the spatial heterogeneity in cardiovascular risk factors within and between blacks and whites”. As the PI of this grant, Dr. Tabb has mapped and measured the varying disparities locally in major cities as well as nationally, with hopes of providing this evidence to inform policy makers, health officials, and the communities affected in improving cardiovascular health in this country.

Dr. Tabb has also taught several courses at Drexel, which include Biostatistics, Survival Data Analysis, Advanced Statistical Computing, and Bayesian Data Analysis. In addition to her in-classroom instruction, Dr. Tabb also mentors significantly, both formally and informally. Her goal with mentoring is to “pay-it-forward” and to help connect mentees and mentors alike.

Dr. Tabb is an active member of several biostatistics and public health professional societies – including current co-chair of the Fostering Diversity in Biostatistics Workshop for the Eastern North American Region of the International Biometric Society Annual Spring Meetings.
WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Dionne Price, Ph.D., is the Director of the Division of Biometrics IV, Office of Biostatistics in the Office of Translational Sciences, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, FDA. Dr. Price has provided statistical leadership across a broad variety of therapeutic areas including ophthalmology, anti-infectives, anti-virals, and rare diseases. She currently leads cross-cutting efforts across FDA to advance and facilitate the use of complex innovative trial designs. Dr. Price received her MS in Biostatistics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a PhD in Biostatistics from Emory University. Dr. Price is an active member of the American Statistical Association (ASA) and the Eastern North American Region of the International Biometrics Society. She is a Fellow of the ASA and a Vice-President of the ASA.

OPPORTUNITIES PANEL (ACADEMIA, GOVERNMENT, & NON-PROFIT)

Mark Daniel Ward, PhD., is Professor of Statistics and (by courtesy) Mathematics and Public Health at Purdue University. He serves as Associate Director of the Center for Science of Information, and the Interim Co-Director of Purdue’s Integrative Data Science Initiative. He holds a Ph.D. in Mathematics from Purdue University. His research focuses on probabilistic, combinatorial, and analytical techniques for the analysis of algorithms and data structures. Mark is a Fellow of the Purdue University Teaching Academy. He is the inaugural Director of The Data Mine, a unique 600+ student living learning community focused on teaching and learning tangible data science skills and knowledge across all domain areas at Purdue. His full CV and contact information are available at his Purdue website: https://www.stat.purdue.edu/~mdw/.

Emma Benn, PhD., is an Associate Professor in the Center for Biostatistics and Department of Population Health Science and Policy and Founding Director of the Center for Scientific Diversity at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (ISMMS). She is also the Director of Data Science Training and Enrichment in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and serves as a member of the Quality Leadership Council, Faculty Diversity Council and Anti-racism Task Force at ISMMS. She has also served as co-Director of the Master of Science in Biostatistics Program and Director of Academic Programs for the Center for Biostatistics at ISMMS. Dr. Benn has collaborated on a variety of health disparities-related research projects over the course of her career and also teaches a graduate-level course, Race and Causal Inference, aimed at increasing the methodologic rigor by which we investigate health disparities with a goal of finding effective causal targets for intervention. Dr. Benn is committed to increasing diversity, inclusion, and equitable advancement in (bio)statistics and STEM fields, more broadly, as well as reducing racial/ethnic disparities in faculty promotion in academic medicine. She currently serves on the American Statistical Association (ASA) Antiracism Task Force and formerly served on the ASA Sexual Harassment and Assault Task Force. Dr. Benn is the co-founder of the NHLBI-funded Biostatistics Epidemiology Summer Training (BEST) Diversity Program and a former co-Chair of the ENAR Fostering Diversity in Biostatistics Workshop. She also serves as a mentor for the JSM Diversity Workshop and Mentoring Program and the Math Alliance. Dr. Benn’s contributions to
diversity and inclusion in statistics and STEM have been celebrated by various organizations including Mathematically Gifted and Black and the American Statistical Association.

**Wendy Martinez, PhD.,** has been serving as the Director of the Mathematical Statistics Research Center at the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) for eight years. Prior to this, she served in several research positions throughout the Department of Defense. She is the lead author of three books on MATLAB and statistics. She was elected as a Fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA) in 2006 and is an elected member of the International Statistical Institute. She was honored by the American Statistical Association when she received the ASA Founders Award in 2017. Wendy is also proud and grateful to serve as the 2020 ASA President.

**Maria Tackett, PhD.,** is an Assistant Professor of the Practice in the Department of Statistical Science at Duke University. Her research focuses on understanding factors that impact student motivation, sense of belonging, and self-efficacy in introductory math and statistics courses. She also works on exploring new ways to use technology and active learning to improve student learning in large undergraduate statistics courses. Prior to joining the faculty at Duke in 2018, Maria earned a Ph.D. in Statistics from the University of Virginia and was a statistician at Capital One.

**Robert (Rob) Santos, M.A.,** is vice president & chief methodologist at the Urban Institute, Washington, DC. Born and raised in San Antonio, Texas, he received a BA in mathematics from Trinity University in San Antonio after attending San Antonio Community College. He attended graduate school at the University of Michigan and received an MA in Statistics while learning the art/science of survey sampling at the UM Institute for Social Research, Survey Research Center. With over 40 years of experience, his expertise spans quantitative and qualitative research design, sampling, survey operations, and statistical analysis; specialty areas include Hispanics, blacks, undocumented immigrants, and other disadvantaged populations. Rob has worked across a wide range of policy areas including education, health, immigration and refugees, environmental issues, housing discrimination, and politics. He held executive-level leadership positions at the Univ. Michigan Survey Research Center and at NORC and was a partner of NuStats, LLC in Austin, Texas. Rob served on numerous panels and committees of the National Academies as well as on the NCHS Board of Scientific Counselors. He also served on the editorial board of Public Opinion Quarterly and held various elected board positions in the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR), Washington Statistical Society, and the American Statistical Association (ASA). He is currently ASA President-Elect and will serves as President of ASA in 2021. He has served as AAPOR president (2013-14) and ASA Vice President (2015-17). Santos is an ASA Fellow and a 2006 ASA’s Founder’s Award recipient.
OPPORTUNITIES PANEL (INDUSTRY)

Jemar Bather, M.S., is a Harvard Biostatistics Ph.D. Candidate with 4 years of experience in statistical analysis, technical writing, and teaching. He currently leads a collaboration studying the neurodevelopment of children born to mothers living with HIV. Beyond his research, Jemar supports the career development of students. After founding the NYU Chapter for the National Statistics Honor Society, he found a passion for encouraging students to pursue graduate studies.

Robert Goodloe, M.S., received his Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University, and his Master of Science in Epidemiology and Biostatistics from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. Robert is currently employed at Eli Lilly and Company in Indianapolis as a Consultant Statistician. With a comprehensive goal of enhancing productivity, he aids collaborators across multiple departments, helping them to better understand the proper programmatic implementation of statistical methods and programming. In addition, he serves at the founder and lead tutor of Hire Learning Educational Consulting Services in Indianapolis, IN.

Aditi Khullar, M.S., is a Quantitative Software Engineer at Two Sigma, a systematic hedge fund. She works closely with natural language processing researchers and is responsible for automating as well as productionalizing machine learning research. Her work draws on her software engineering and data modeling skills, that she acquired during her Masters and prior work-experience. Outside of work, she is an avid yoga practitioner and you can catch her teaching free yoga lessons on weekend at NYC public parks.

Jami Jackson Mulgrave, PhD., is a research scientist in the People Analytics and Workplace Strategy group at Facebook. She was a National Library of Medicine postdoctoral research fellow at Columbia University in the Bioinformatics department. She earned a PhD in Statistics at North Carolina State University in 2018. She was a recipient of a National Science Foundation graduate research fellowship and received a $10,000 scholarship as a runner-up for a Pepsi-Co "Hidden Figures" search.
Caprichia Jeffers, PhD., earned her Ph.D. in Biostatistics at Emory University. She is a Financial Modeler/Data Scientist currently working at JP Morgan Chase. Currently, Dr. Jeffers primarily supports Consumer and Community Banking using predictive analytics.

PREPARING FOR ADMISSION TO GRADUATE SCHOOL

Justine Herrera, M.S., is the Director of Academic Programs for the Department of Biostatistics at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. She has a Master’s degree in Higher & Postsecondary Education from Teacher’s College and has over 15 years of experience working in higher education. In her current role, she oversees the academic progress of nearly 300 graduate students and ensures a high quality of advising for each student. Justine also manages the Biostatistics Epidemiology Summer Training (BEST) Diversity program, which introduces undergraduate students from underrepresented populations to biostatistics and cardiovascular and pulmonary disease research. Several StatFest participants have gone on to become a BEST scholar. Through the BEST Diversity program she has advised nearly 120 participants through the graduate admissions process. Justine has been an avid supporter of StatFest since 2017 and looks forward to co-hosting the event in 2021.

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL EXPERIENCE PANEL

Raphiel J. Murden is a candidate for the PhD in biostatistics at Emory University. His research focuses on data integration methods and their applications in neuroimaging statistics. In addition to conducting methodological and collaborative research as a biostatistician, Raphiel has served in several student organizations during his matriculation at Emory: including as co-founder and vice president of the Emory LTBGQ Graduate Coalition, student-faculty liaison on the Biostatistics student council, and a member of the Doctoral Student Advisory Board for Rollins School of Public Health. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics with a music minor from Morehouse College and a Master of Arts in Statistics from Washington University. Raphiel’s passion for learning and teaching quantitative sciences, especially with groups that are traditionally underrepresented in those fields has been a driving force behind much of his career. As he nears the completion of his doctorate degree, he aims to continue his research and teaching as a biostatistician.
Alexander Asemota is a first year PhD student in statistics at UC Berkeley. He completed his Bachelor’s of Science in Mathematics at Howard University. During his undergraduate career, Alexander worked in a variety of research domains including earthquake engineering, neuroscience, and machine learning. He has conducted research at Carnegie Mellon University, Columbia University, and Harvard Medical School. Upon entering UC Berkeley, Alexander was awarded the Chancellor’s Fellowship and is also funded under an NSF training grant.

Steven Lawrence is a graduate of CUNY Medgar Evers College with a bachelors in Biology and minor in Mathematics. He is currently a second year Masters student in the Biostatistics program at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health. Being introduced to disparities analytics while volunteering at Mount Sinai, Steven has developed a passion for working with time series data, visualizations and consulting. He represents students in a committee of academics at Columbia formed to analyzed the departmental climate on racial discrimination. As part of the Center for Scientific Diversity Steven functions as a graduate research assistant. His goal is to continue to make strides as a biostatistician and to contribute to diversity by helping to educate the next generation of underrepresented minorities in STEM

David Angeles is a 3rd year Biostatistics PhD student at The Ohio State University. He did his bachelor’s degree in mathematics at California State University, Northridge and complete a two-year teaching credential program alongside my degree. His current research involves developing parametric and non-parametric Bayesian methods for modeling non-nested random effects in time-to-event data. He was provided with a Graduate Research Associateship (GRA) his second year is graduate school. He worked on analyzing data from a preliminary eye-tracking study to determine the optimal placement of a health warning label for hookah pipes.

Rachel Parker is a native of Pine Bluff, Arkansas. She obtained her B.S. in Applied Mathematics from the University of Central Arkansas in 2015. In 2017, she received her Master in Public Health with a concentration in Biostatistics from Boston University where she served as a Peet Tutor, Research Assistant and Teaching Assistant. After completing her MPH, she worked as a Data Analyst for the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs for the Cardiology Consortium Research Team. In this role, she performed SQL programming, data extraction and statistical analysis aimed at improving the health of veterans. Currently, Rachel is second year doctoral student in the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics at Emory University.
DISMANTLING INHERENT BIASES

Adrian Coles, Ph.D., is a senior research scientist at Eli Lilly and Company. He collaborates with clinical investigators in the Neuroscience therapeutic area to help design and oversee the execution of clinical studies. Prior to joining Lilly, Dr. Coles was clinical researcher at the Duke Clinical Research Institute an instructor in Duke University’s Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics where he taught survival analysis to graduate students. He holds an MS and PhD in Statistics from North Carolina State University, where he was the first African-American male to earn a doctorate from the time-honored program. Dr. Coles participates in multiple initiatives that serve underrepresented minorities in his profession, in his community, and in his workplace.

Femi Adelakun, M.S., is an experienced Location Analytics expert and Urban Specialist, a Co-founder of City78 urban analytics and an academic advisor at Georgetown University's Masters in Urban and Regional Planning Program.

Felicity Enders, Ph.D., is a Professor of Biostatistics at Mayo Clinic, where she practices statistical consulting with Nephrology and Gastroenterology. Dr. Enders is the Head of the Section of Clinical Statistics at Mayo Clinic. In this role she oversees over 130 individuals, works to develop and promote faculty, and proactively engages in systemic advancements to improve engagement and productivity. Dr. Enders has over 140 publications with an H-index over 35. In addition to her statistical consulting, Dr. Enders has a strong interest in education. She has taught statistics to over 1,000 graduate students, and she is the Associate Director for Curriculum in Mayo’s Center for Clinical and Translational Science. As a Past Chair for the Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Research Design special interest group in the Association for Clinical and Translational Science, Dr. Enders is a national leader in statistical education for medical research with work focusing on competency and assessment of mastery. Since achieving the rank of Professor, Dr. Enders has become an associate chair for diversity, equity and inclusion, in which role she is combining known best practices with innovative ideas to improve the world of STEM for all of us.
Damon Lewis Williams, Jr M.S., joined The Graduate School in Summer 2017 as the Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion. In this role, he is responsible for diversity, equity, and inclusion strategic planning and implementation for faculty, post-doctoral trainees, and students under the supervision of The Graduate School and serves as a key member of the senior leadership team. In Spring of 2018, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion recruited its most diverse class in the history of master’s and PhD students at Northwestern University and has increased each year thereafter. In his second year, he created the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Council which is responsible for providing leadership to the Graduate School with feedback and guidance of diversity and inclusion plans and initiatives. Williams joined Northwestern from Emory University, where he served as the inaugural Director of Diversity, Community, and Recruitment in the James T. Laney Graduate School and created the Emory Diversifying Graduate Education Office. He has a strong history of developing partnerships and pipelines which serve to recruit and retain underrepresented minority students in the workforce or graduate education. Mr. Williams holds a B.S. in Psychology from Xavier University of Louisiana; a Masters in Marketing from Tulane University and an MBA from Fontbonne University. He holds additional certificates from Cornell University, Emory University, was a 2018 staff leadership fellow in the Kellogg School of Management’s Executive Education Program.

Kilolo Kijakazi is an Institute fellow at the Urban Institute. She works with staff across Urban to develop collaborative partnerships with those most affected by economic and social issues, to expand and strengthen Urban's agenda of rigorous research, to effectively communicate findings to diverse audiences, and to recruit and retain a diverse research staff at all levels. Kijakazi also conducts research on economic security, retirement security, structural racism, and the racial wealth gap. Previously, Kijakazi was a program officer at the Ford Foundation, focusing on building economic security and incorporating the expertise of people of color into all aspects of the work. She was a senior policy analyst for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a program analyst for the US Department of Agriculture’s Food and Nutrition Service, and a policy analyst for the National Urban League. Kijakazi’s publications include African-American Economic Development and Small Business Ownership. She is a board member of the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation; the National Academy of Social Insurance, and its Study Panel on Economic Security; The Policy Academies; and Liberation in a Generation. She is a member of the Washington, DC Equitable Recovery Advisory Group, advises the Closing the Women’s Wealth Gap Initiative, is a co-chair of the National Advisory Council on Eliminating the Black-White Wealth Gap, and was a member of the Bipartisan Commission on Retirement Security and Personal Savings. Kijakazi holds a BS from SUNY Binghamton, an MSW from Howard University, and a PhD in public policy from the George Washington University.
Cody Chiuzan, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biostatistics at Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University. She is also affiliated with the Herbert Irving Comprehensive Cancer Center where she serves as the principal statistician on several trials including the first investigator-initiated Covid-19 trial for cancer patients. Her research area focuses on development of early phase clinical trial designs (mainly immunotherapies) and leveraging real-world evidence to improve trial outcomes. For the last two years, Cody has served as the Chair of the Diversity Committee (Department of Biostatics) and she has been actively engaged in the Columbia’s Self, Social and Global-Awareness (SSGA) Taskforce.

Claire McKay Bowen, Ph.D., is the lead data scientist of privacy and data security at the Urban Institute. Her research focuses on the quality of differentially private data synthesis methods and science communication. Bowen holds a BS in mathematics and physics from Idaho State University and an MS and PhD in statistics from the University of Notre Dame. After completing her PhD, she worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory, where she investigated cosmic ray effects on supercomputers. She is also the recipient of the National Sciences Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship, the Microsoft Graduate Women’s Fellowship, and the Gertrude M. Cox Scholarship and was selected for the inaugural NSF Graduate Research Internship Program and the NSF-funded Rising Stars in Computational and Data Sciences Program.

Sherri Rose, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor at Stanford University in the Center for Health Policy and Center for Primary Care and Outcomes Research. She is also Co-Director of the Health Policy Data Science Lab. Her research is centered on developing and integrating innovative statistical machine learning approaches to improve human health. Dr. Rose is the Co-Editor of Biostatistics and Chair of the American Statistical Association’s Biometrics Section. Her honors include an NIH Director's New Innovator Award, the ISPOR Bernie J. O’Brien New Investigator Award, and Mid-Career Awards from the American Statistical Association’s Health Policy Statistics Section and Penn-Rutgers Center for Causal Inference. Dr. Rose was also named a Fellow of the American Statistical Association in 2020. In 2011, Dr. Rose coauthored the first book on machine learning for causal inference, with a sequel text released in 2018. Dr. Rose comes from a low-income background and is committed to increasing justice, equity, diversity and inclusion in the mathematical and health sciences.
Brittney Bailey, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of Statistics at Amherst College. She graduated with a BA in Mathematics from Messiah College, then completed her PhD in Biostatistics at THE Ohio State University in 2018. Dr. Bailey studies models for multilevel data and approaches to handling missing data in complex clinical trials. As a first-generation scholar, former low-income student, and black woman in STEM, Dr. Bailey hopes to support students with similar experiences and works to create environments where all students can thrive. Outside of work, Dr. Bailey enjoys cycling, trying to keep plants alive, and marathon-length Saturday Zoom sessions with family. She is currently making her way through black sitcoms from her childhood, The Book of Delights, way too many podcasts, and a big bar of dark chocolate.

Dominique McDaniel, M.S., is a PhD student in Statistics and Purdue Doctoral Fellow at Purdue University. Dominique completed her undergraduate studies in Mathematics at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania. She also holds a Masters of Science degree in Applied Statistics and Mathematical Statistics from West Chester and Purdue University, respectively. Prior to starting her doctoral studies, Dominique worked in the pharmaceutical industry at Eli Lilly & Company in Indianapolis, IN. Dominique's research interests include Bayesian & Spatial Statistics, Clinical-Trial Development, and Causal Inference.

Angelica Estrada graduated from UC San Diego with a degree in Biophysics and worked in mental health research and education. Working in these fields sparked her desire to learn more statistics and transition into a career where she can use statistics in education or mental health research. Realizing her limited math background and needing to improve her low undergraduate GPA, she returned to UCSD to take upper division math courses, and then earned her Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Math & Statistics at Smith College. This fall she will be applying to graduate programs in Statistics and Biostatistics. In her free time she enjoys indoor rock climbing, Polynesian dancing, and bookkeeping for her friend’s air plant decor business, Mist & Sea.

Rebecca Wilson, Ph.D., is a Senior Statistician in Immunology currently working on late-phase ulcerative colitis clinical trials. She joined Janssen in February 2020. She previously worked as a Lead Data Scientist at Fifth Third Bank. Rebecca obtained her DrPH in Biostatistics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (2018) and her A.B. in pre-medical studies and Spanish from Bowdoin College (2007). Prior to beginning her graduate studies, she completed a post baccalaureate program in Mathematics and Statistics at Smith College. Dr. Wilson’s research interests include Longitudinal, Categorical, and Missing Data Analysis.
Donna LaLonde, Ph.D., is the Director of Strategic Initiatives and Outreach at the American Statistical Association (ASA) where she works with talented colleagues to advance the vision and mission of the ASA. Prior to joining the ASA, Donna was a faculty member at Washburn University and also served in various administrative positions including interim chair of the Education Department and Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. In her time at the ASA, Dr. LaLonde has supported activities associated with presidential initiatives, professional development, education, and student chapters.
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Alexander Asemota  
University of California at Berkeley

Brittney Bailey  
Amherst College

Jemar Bather  
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Emily Butler  
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Georgia Department of Public Health

Therri Usher (Chair)  
Food and Drug Administration

Rebecca Wilson  
Janssen Pharmaceuticals

Thanks to Daniel Zilber (Texas A&M) for providing production support.
StatFest 2020 Chair

[Image of Therri Usher, Ph.D.]

**Therri Usher, Ph.D.**, is a Mathematical Statistician in the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Dr. Usher provides statistical support to the regulation of antiviral drugs and drugs to treat inborn errors. She also provides statistical support for patient-focused drug development in the area of antimicrobial products. She also sits on the Regional Advisory Board of the Eastern North American Region of the International Biometric Society and is the Vice-Chair of StatFest 2019. Dr. Usher received her BS in Mathematical Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas and her PhD in Biostatistics from Johns Hopkins University, where she conducted research on the impact of health disparities on the aging process.

StatFest 2020 Vice-Chair

[Image of Michael M. Thomas]

**Michael M. Thomas** is a Biostatistician working for the Georgia Department of Public Health. He assists epidemiologists with syndromic surveillance and monitoring opioid overdoses in the state. Michael graduated from Kennesaw State University’s Honors Program with a BS in Mathematics, minoring in Applied Statistics and Computer Science. Michael also received an MS in Biostatistics from the Drexel University’s Dornsife School of Public Health. During his time at Drexel, he also worked as a statistical programmer for Autism Services, Education, Resources, and Training; a team helping inform autism policy in Pennsylvania. He has also worked as a tutor and volunteered as a mentor for high school and undergraduate students. Michael's current primary academic interests are statistical software and spatial statistics.

[Image of Emily Butler, Ph.D.]

**Emily Butler, Ph.D.**, is a principal statistician at GSK who supports cell gene therapy oncology assets. Her experience is primarily with early phase compounds and is a member of a cross industry estimands working group. Aside from her statistical work, she is very involved in inclusion and diversity initiatives at GSK, including leading the efforts in the statistics, programming, and data science department. She is heavily involved in recruitment, training sessions for non-statisticians, and the department’s engagement team. As a statistician, her true passion is around engaging with her clinical colleagues to ensure the statistical validity of all trial designs, interpretations and publications. Emily graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2016 with a PhD in biostatistics and Carnegie Mellon University in 2011 with a bachelors in statistics.
Jesse Chittams, M.S., joined the University of Pennsylvania in 1994 after graduating with a degree in Mathematical Statistics from the University of Maryland. With over 25 years of experience, Mr. Chittams has acquired considerable expertise in data management and statistical analysis through his managerial roles at several data coordinating centers. Currently, Mr. Chittams is the Managing Director of the Biostatistics Consulting Unit (BECCA Lab) within the University of Pennsylvania. Furthermore, Mr. Chittams also has significant experience in mentoring high school students, undergraduate, and graduate students one-on-one through the Diversity Initiative in Research for Underrepresented Minorities (DRUM) program that he initiated in 2001. Throughout his career, he has helped to train over 100 interns in statistics. The interns are recruited from universities through the Philadelphia area and beyond. His profession is statistics, but his heart is mentoring/teaching young people and helping them develop professionally.

Kyle Duke is a fifth year PhD student studying statistics at North Carolina State University. His work, under Dr. Eric Laber, focuses on data-driven decision making. Kyle’s work aims to provide a rigorous statistical foundation to complex decision-making algorithms. This work combines inferential statistics and reinforcement learning to better inform decisions. Further research interests include post-selection inference, multi-objective decision-making, and design of experiments. In undergraduate school, he studied mathematics with a research area in geometric combinatorics. Kyle previously interned at Merck & Co., is a Southern Regional Education Board scholar, an NIH T32 training grant recipient, and a mentor in the McNair Peer Mentors Program.

Tanya Garcia, Ph.D., has built a strong interdisciplinary research agenda. It involves national and international collaborations with neuroscientists and biologists, high-impact learning opportunities for students, and service work that promotes a future of diverse (bio)statisticians. Her research focuses on extracting maximal information from large, highly correlated data structures and has led to scientific discoveries in neurodegenerative diseases and the gut microbiome. Her teaching integrates these research activities with interactive, learner-centered projects that promote critical thinking. Her leadership in service activities involves promoting the success of underrepresented groups in (bio)statistics and providing her professional expertise regionally and internationally. Dr. Garcia’s research has attracted over $900,000 in competitive funding as Principal Investigator including grants from the NIH National Institute for Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) and Huntington’s Disease Society of America. Her research innovates new statistical methods that solve important neuroscience and biomedical problems and advances the underlying theory of those methods. Her work has contributed to four exciting areas: prediction models, model selection for high-dimensional data, regression models with measurement error, mean-covariance modeling for longitudinal data.
Brian A. Millen, Ph.D., is Senior Director of Real World and Access Analytics within Lilly's Global Statistical Sciences (GSS) organization. In this role, he provides strategic and administrative leadership to the teams of statistical scientists whose research contributions and analytic modeling enable patient access to treatments. Dr. Millen's career with Lilly spans over 19 years in various technical and leadership roles within GSS and Advanced Analytics, where he is known for establishing cultures of high performance, inclusion, and innovation within his teams. Prior to joining the senior leadership ranks, in addition to statistical consulting and driving improvements via statistical methods research, Dr. Millen led statistics teams pursuing regulatory submission of new drugs or in early clinical development. Dr. Millen is a passionate advocate for professional development and diversity and inclusion (D&I). He brings these passions to Lilly and to his broader service to the profession. Within Lilly, he established GSS’s New Employee Academy, led professional development workshops for employees, and spearheaded Lilly’s involvement in multiple diversity-focused initiatives. Additionally, Dr. Millen is a past Chair of the American Statistical Association’s (ASA) Committee on Minorities in Statistics and is the founder (2009) of the JSM Diversity Workshop and Mentoring Program. His service to the profession spans more than 15 years and includes multiple leadership roles within ASA and the International Biometric Society (ENAR). He currently serves on the Executive Committee of the ASA Biopharmaceutical Section, the nominations committee for the ASA Council of Sections, and the ASA Mentoring Awards committee. Dr. Millen holds a PhD in Statistics from The Ohio State University and a BA in Mathematics from the University of Georgia. He is a fellow of the American Statistical Association.

Marianne Miller, M.S., is a Statistician at Eli Lilly and Company in Indianapolis for Biomarker research in the Oncology Business Unit. Before transitioning to Biomarkers, she supported early phase immuno-oncology clinical trials where she developed an expertise in Safety Analyses. Preceding Lilly, she spent 3 years as a statistical analyst for the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Nursing, Biostatistics Consulting Unit in Philadelphia, PA. Although a native Texan, Mary received her Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Bryn Mawr College, and her Master of Science in Biostatistics from The Dana and David Dornsife School of Public Health in Philadelphia at Drexel University and now considers Philadelphia to be her second home. She is also an active member of ASA with a passionate goal of increasing diversity and the representation of women within the field of statistics and applied mathematics. Mary actively participates in diversity and inclusion initiatives at Eli Lilly as well as diversity workshops and mentoring opportunities sponsored by ASA. Her research interests include advanced visual analytics and statistical consulting.

Dionne Swift, Ph.D., joined Procter and Gamble as a Statistician shortly after receiving her Ph.D. in mathematical statistics from The Ohio State University in 2000. Dionne has worked in conjunctions with engineers and scientists in the Corporate Research, Fabric & Home Care and Family Care business units. Currently, Dr. Swift is a Principal Statistician providing essential statistical support and consultation on issues of study design, analysis strategy, and interpretation of analysis results for BioSciences and Life Sciences organizations. Dr. Swift has extensive background and experience with statistical design, test method development and validations (i.e., GR&R’s), statistical modeling and simulation in variety of areas – products development research, consumer research, image analysis.
and genomics. Her current research interests include experimental design, multivariate analyses, prediction and classification methods, and statistical methods in “omics” area - genomics, proteomics, and metagenomics.

Felicia R. Simpson, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics at Winston-Salem State University. Dr. Simpson received her BA in Mathematics from Albany State University and her Ph.D. in Biostatistics from Florida State University. Prior to joining Winston-Salem State University, Dr. Simpson worked as a Mathematical Statistician at the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at FDA, Division of Biometrics IV. Her research interests include design and analysis of clinical trials, aging, survival analysis, latent class analysis, and the study of rare infectious diseases. Dr. Simpson is an active member of the ASA and International Biometric Society. She is passionate about increasing the exposure of statistics and biostatistics among students in underrepresented populations. Dr. Simpson is a member of the committee on minorities in statistics from the American Statistical Association and currently serves as co-chair for the ENAR Fostering Diversity in Biostatistics Workshop.

Adriana Pérez, Ph.D., is Professor at the Department of Biostatistics and Data Science, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, School of Public Health, Austin campus. She received her Bachelor’s degree in Statistics from the National University of Colombia, and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Tulane University. Dr. Pérez has engaged in a wide range of research projects: theoretical model evaluation accounting for imputation uncertainty, fitting complex data, analysis of cluster randomized community trials, clinical trials and analysis of food intake involving measurement error and tobacco regulatory science. Dr. Pérez has expertise in conducting and disseminating research findings of population- and clinical-based studies of adolescents and adults, as well as developing new statistical methodologies. She has completed several grants satisfactorily and currently the National Cancer Institute has granted her an R01 entitled “Age of initiation of tobacco products among USA youth and young adults”. Dr. Pérez has over 100 publications. Besides her interest in Biostatistics she is interested in promoting diversity in our field and fostering recruitment, retention and promotion of minorities in our field. Dr. Pérez is an active member of the International Biometric Society and the American Statistical Association (ASA). She has held numerous elected positions in several professional organizations including co-chairing ENAR’s diversity workshop from 2009-2011, member of the ASA Committee on Minorities Statistics, organizer member of the StatFest since 2016, etc.
Reneé H. Moore, Ph.D., is a Research Associate Professor in the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Rollins School of Public Health, and Director of the Biostatistics Collaboration Core at Emory University. She earned a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and completed the secondary mathematics education program at Bennett College and earned her PhD in Biostatistics from Emory University. In her first faculty position at the University of Pennsylvania, Perelman School of Medicine, primary appointment in the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology and secondary appointment in the Department of Psychiatry, Dr. Moore was actively involved in designing and implementing clinical trials via Data Coordinating Centers and was the faculty statistician in the Center for Weight and Eating Disorders. Next Dr. Moore taught up to seven classes per year and continued her obesity research at North Carolina State University, Department of Statistics. In 2015, Dr. Moore returned to Emory University. She spends her time mentoring, teaching, and collaborating with clinical investigators from Penn, UNC, Emory, and beyond. Dr. Moore is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA). She is the current Treasurer of ENAR (the Eastern North American Region of the International Biometric Society). Dr. Moore is a past chair of the ASA Committee on Minorities in Statistics (StatFest), past co-chair of the ENAR Fostering Diversity in Biostatistics Workshop and remains very active in these and other initiatives within ENAR and ASA.
Thank You

To Dr. Shah,

Thank you for recognizing the unique needs of underrepresented undergraduates. Thank you for your innovation in envisioning StatFest. Thank you for the sacrifices you made to bring StatFest to life. Thank you for your leadership that has built the StatFest model. Thank you for your mentorship and counsel of all those that have worked on StatFest. Thank you for always having a moment to provide insight and wisdom. Thank you for remaining passionate in advocating for the next generation of statisticians and data scientists. Thank you for being an inspiration. Thank you for being our role model.

The best way we can show our thankfulness to you is to continuously serve to prepare the next generation, just as you sought to do twenty years ago.

With love and gratitude,
The StatFest 2020 Planning Committee