



Greetings from NC-ASA President

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NC Chapter President



Should FDA approve a new weight loss drug if $Pr(\text{weight loss of } 5\text{kg}) > 0.95$ instead of using the usual two-sided $p\text{-value} < 0.05$ paradigm? This was just one of the intriguing questions from the 2nd Trends and Innovations in Clinical Trial Statistics (TICTS) conference held in May of 2016 in Durham. Among the highlights were the key note address by Robert Califf, the inspirational Big Data talk by David Madigan, Steve Ruberg's talk with the above mentioned proposal to abolish p -values, and thoughts on how to educate the new generation of statisticians by Lisa LaVange and Marie Davidian. It was great to see old friends and meet new people. It was especially exciting to meet C.Q. Deng whose clinical trial blog I have been reading for the last couple of years. Also, I finally got to meet Dough Faries from Eli Lilly whose paper on response adaptive randomization was one of the first clinical trial papers I read (this was quite a while ago).

For 2016, the NC-ASA Chapter is sponsoring three local statistical meetings. TICTS 2016 was held in May, but there is still time to catch up and attend two more:

- DISS 2016 is an upcoming academia-industry event to be held Sep 14-16 at Duke University.
- AISC 2016 organized by Sat Gupta from UNC Greensboro will take place September 30 - October 2 on the UNC Greensboro campus.

Looking forward to seeing you in 2016 at one of NC chapter sponsored events!

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NC Chapter Honors Members

The NC Chapter of the ASA honors local statisticians for their outstanding contributions for the cause of statistics in NC, or for outstanding service to the Chapter. These honorees will be recognized at the Advances in Interdisciplinary Statistics and Combinatorics Conference this fall. See page 3 for more details.

This year's honorees are Bob Rodriguez (SAS and UNC Chapel Hill), Peter Bloomfield (NC State University), Jim Chromy (Senior Fellow Emeritus, RTI International), Merlise Clyde (Duke University), and Jason Brinkley (American Institutes for Research).

Women in Statistics and Data Science Conference

The 2016 Women in Statistics and Data Science Conference aims to bring together hundreds of statistical practitioners and data scientists. WSDS2016 will highlight the achievements and career interests of women in statistics and data science. Senior, mid-level, and junior stars representing industrial, academic, and government communities will unite to present their life's work and share their perspectives on the role of women in today's statistics and data science fields.

The Women in Statistics and Data Science Conference program offers courses, concurrent sessions, electronic poster sessions, an exhibit hall, and many opportunities to network.

The conference is scheduled for October 20-22, 2016 in Charlotte, NC

More details online at [here](#).

The 2016 Duke-Industry Statistics Symposium (DISS 2016)

September 14-16 at Duke University. More details can be found at <http://sites.duke.edu/diss2016>

The annual symposium is organized by the Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Duke University School of Medicine and co-sponsored by Amgen, Boehringer-Ingelheim, Parexel, Quintiles, SAS and the NC Chapter of the ASA. The symposium is established to discuss challenging issues and recent advances related to the clinical development of drugs and devices and to promote research and collaboration among statisticians from industry, academia, and regulatory agencies. The first day will be devoted to six short courses. The 2nd day will begin with the keynote speech by Dr. Lisa LaVange from FDA/CDER on "Precision Medicine Initiatives at FDA." The remaining time of the 2nd day and 3rd morning will be devoted to 17 parallel scientific sessions. A poster session and job fair will also be held.

SAMSI Calendar of Events

Optimization: Opening Workshop: August 29 - September 2, 2016. [See more details](#)

Workshop on Distributed and Parallel Data Analysis (DPDA): September 21, 2016 @ 8:30 a.m. - September 23, 2016 1:30 p.m. [See more details](#)

NSF Institutes Wide Webinar: September 26, 2016 @ 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

ASTRO: Hierarchical Bayesian Modeling of Exoplanet Populations. October 17, 2016 @ 9:00 am - October 28, 2016 1:00 p.m. [See more details](#)

E&O: Undergraduate Workshop. October 24, 2016 @ 9:00 a.m. - October 25, 2016 5:00 p.m. [See more details](#)

2016 NC ASA Chapter Executive Committee

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Jerry Reiter (Duke)

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AISC 2016 – International Conference on Advances in Interdisciplinary Statistics and Combinatorics

UNC Greensboro will host AISC 2016 during Sept 30 – October 2, 2016. The AISC conference series is organized every other year and is designed to promote interdisciplinary research based on quantitative methods. The conference provides an opportunity to young researchers (undergraduate and graduate students, and new PhD's) from all over the world to interact with other young researchers and senior researchers. The conference attendees usually include a large number of junior and distinguished senior statisticians from NC.

One of the focus areas for the conference this year will be Data Confidentiality with plenary talks on this topic by Jerry Reiter (Duke University), Tapan Nayak and Michael Larsen (George Washington University) and Vishesh Karwa (Harvard University). There will also be several other sessions devoted to this topic. Another focus area will be Design of Experiments with 5 sessions on the topic organized by John Stufken (Arizona State University) and Abhyuday Mandal (University of Georgia). These sessions will feature more than 20 talks by leading experts in the field.

As usual, the conference is supporting a good number of junior researchers, thanks to generous support from our sponsors which include UNC Greensboro, The North Carolina Chapter of ASA, Pearson, RTI International, Rho, Taylor and Francis Group, NISS, SAS and APEX Analytics.

Further details about the conference can be found at the website <http://www.uncg.edu/mat/aisc/2016/index.html>.

For more information about the conference, please visit the website above or contact the conference Chair Sat Gupta at sngupta@uncg.edu.

Getting Involved in NC-ASA

Want to get involved with the NC-ASA? Look for a meeting and member social announcement later this fall to coincide with the AISC conference listed above. We are working to have a face to face event that would allow people to call in or join via the web. Want to make sure you aren't missing out? Email Jason Brinkley at jbrinkley@air.org to be added to our special involvement email list.