



Greetings from NC-ASA President



Jerry Reiter
NC Chapter President

Since our last newsletter, the NC ASA chapter has been busy. We have finalized plans for a three day conference at UNC-Greensboro (see the story elsewhere in the newsletter), including plenary talks by many prominent NC statisticians. I encourage you to take a look at the program on the conference website. It is quite impressive! (Thanks to Sat Gupta at UNC-G for organizing the conference.) The chapter sponsored a short course at SAS headquarters in May on effective presentation skills.

The chapter officers completed proposed revisions to the NC ASA constitution and bylaws--which have not been updated since 1993--to improve continuity in the chapter's executive committee, while simplifying its structure. We will send out the proposed revisions to members in mid-September. Members who attend the annual meeting at the UNC-G conference will have a chance to vote on the revisions. The chapter officers also developed a survey of members to identify activities that would most benefit our members. This is under review at the ASA; expect a request to complete a short web-based survey form this fall. Finally, the chapter has been revamping the chapter website. We hope to have a new site up by the end of the year. All in all, it has been a busy few months!

On behalf of the executive committee of the NC ASA Chapter, I wish you a happy and productive fall.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** Greetings from NC-ASA President
- 1** Local Chapter Meeting (Open to the Public)
- 2** 3rd Impact Symposium
- 2** 2014 AISC Symposium
- 3** SAMSI
- 3** UNC-W to Host SRCOS Conference
- 3** 2014 Executive Committee

Local Chapter Meeting

There will be a NC-ASA Chapter Meeting on Friday, October 10, 2014 from 3:40-4:20 p.m. The meeting will coincide with the start of the AISC conference being co-sponsored by the local chapter. The executive committee will be discussing changes in the by-laws for the local chapter as well as assess candidates for the NC Chapter's Executive Committee starting in 2015.

The meeting will be at UNC-Greensboro in the EUC Auditorium. All chapter members are encouraged to attend. Questions can be directed to Jason Brinkley at brinkleyj@ecu.edu.

3RD IMPACT SYMPOSIUM: ADVANCES IN CLINICAL TRIAL STATISTICS: MULTIPLICITY ADJUSTMENT AND SEQUENTIAL, MULTIPLE ASSIGNMENT RANDOMIZED TRIALS

IMPACT, the Innovative Methods Program for Advancing Clinical Trials, the entity supported in part by a joint UNC-Chapel Hill-Duke-NC State P01 Program Project grant, is sponsoring a symposium entitled *Advances in Clinical Trial Statistics: Multiplicity Adjustment and Sequential, Multiple Assignment, Randomized Trials* on November 20-21, 2014, at the Embassy Suites Raleigh-Durham/Research Triangle in Cary, NC. More information and the program are at <http://impact.unc.edu/impact7/Symposium2014>.

The two-day symposium will consist of an interdisciplinary series of presentations centered around two main themes: Multiplicity adjustment in clinical trials and the emerging use of Sequential, Multiple Assignment, Randomized Trials (SMARTs) for personalized medicine discovery. Biostatisticians and clinical scientists will describe recent advances in these two areas, ranging from practical aspects to methodological developments.

A tutorial will lead off the portion of the program devoted to each theme, followed by two scientific sessions and two keynote lectures by leading researchers in each area. On the first day, a poster session featuring presentations from both areas will be held.

Keynote speakers include Yoav Benjamini, Ajit Tamhane, Susan Murphy, and Peter Thall.

This symposium will be of interest to clinical trial practitioners in industry and academia as well as others who have interest in recent and future directions in clinical trials and personalized medicine. The symposium honors the late Yosef Hochberg, a graduate of the Department of Biostatistics at UNC-CH who made fundamental contributions in the area of multiple testing procedures.

The symposium organizers gratefully acknowledge the support of Quintiles and Prosoft Clinical.

2014 AISC Conference

North Carolina Chapter of ASA and UNC Greensboro will host the International Conference on Advances in Interdisciplinary Statistics and Combinatorics (AISC – 2014) during October 10-12, 2014 at the UNC Greensboro campus. It is the third international conference organized by NC-ASA. The main objective of the conference is to promote interdisciplinary research involving statistical techniques by bringing together nationally and internationally recognized researchers from a wide range of disciplines. The common thread will be statistical methods used in their respective research programs. Women and minority candidates are especially encouraged to come to the conference.

The conference runs Oct 12-14 and opens with two workshops for students. The topics are Mathematical Biology/Game Theory & Big Data/Machine Learning. Principal speakers for the workshops are Mark Broom (City University London), Ross Cressman (Duke), David Dunson (Duke), Sudipto Guha (U. Penn), Vlastimil Krivan (South Bohemia, Czech), Lexin Li (N C State), Mike Mesterton-Gibbons (Florida State), Sayan Mukherjee (Duke), Jerry Reiter (Duke), and Ming Yuan (Wisconsin-Madison). Plenary speakers for the conference are C. S. Cheng (Berkeley), Merlise Clyde (Duke), Marie Davidian (N C State), Amy Herring (UNC), Alan Karr (RTI International), Ben Kedem (Maryland), Anastasios Tsiatis (N C State), Richard Smith (UNC-SAMSI), Mike West (Duke), and Dan Zelterman (Yale).

More information can be found online at <http://www.uncg.edu/mat/aisc/2014/index.html>.

Got an Event or Something to Promote?

The NC-ASA is working hard to become a responsible source for spreading news regarding events, meetings, and activities going on in North Carolina that may interest North Carolina statisticians. We welcome information from all groups who want to promote such events and will do our best to help spread the word. Remember that members of any chapter and section can post events to the ASA community forums (<http://community.amstat.org/home>).

If you have something you want to promote contact Jason Brinkley at brinkleyj@ecu.edu. Also, if you see something that may be of interest to your peers and colleagues then please help spread the word.

UNC-W to Host SRCOS Conference

Congratulations to UNC-W as they will host the 2015 Southern Regional Council on Statistics Summer Research Conference in Carolina Beach, NC from June 7-10, 2015!

SRC 2015 brings together leading researchers, faculty and students in a dynamic, interactive and learning environment. The conference is designed to provide insight to recent advances and methodologies in various research fields; this year's focus is in Environmental Informatics and High Dimensional Data. Dr. Nicole Lazar and Dr. Chris Wikle have created an exciting program with extraordinary talks and sessions. Featured conference highlights include plenary speakers Drs. Noel Cressie and Dennis Cook.

Those interested can see <http://www.uncw.edu/src2015/> for more information and regular updates.

SAMSI

More information about these events can be found on the SAMSI website at <http://www.samsi.info>.

Program on Beyond Bioinformatics: Statistical and Mathematical Challenges: Opening Workshop

September 8-12, 2014 RTP, NC

Undergraduate Workshop

October 30-31, 2014 RTP, NC

Looking for More Connections? Have you tried Users Groups?

Looking to make some connections with people doing similar work? While the NC chapter of the ASA is working to provide more services and networking opportunities for its members, members should know that North Carolina is home to many active user groups in a variety of statistics and related fields. There are user groups for both R and SAS as well as analytics user groups and many other forums for certain applications and subfields. Connecting with such groups can be very beneficial if you don't currently find those connections and support within your organization.

2014 NC ASA Chapter Executive Committee

President – Jerry Reiter

Vice President – Breda Munoz

Secretary – Stephan Ogenstad

Treasurer/Webmaster – Scott Richter

Chapter Representative – Jason Brinkley

Chapter Advisor(s) – Hrishikesh Chakraborty

Sat Gupta

Past President – Sujit Ghosh