



NC ASA Chapter Bulletin

Fall 2018

Greetings from the NC ASA President - Elizabeth Mannshardt



NC ASA aims to bring both professional opportunities and fun to the North Carolina statistics community. This summer, in addition to several socials for casual after-work chats, the Industry Interests Group (IIG) sponsored a Statistician Interests Survey (results are in! pg5). In response to feedback from our members we hosted our first in-person webinar (pg3), a format designed to facilitate interactive discussion among members on emerging topics. Heading into the fall, we are actively developing ways to implement the ideas garnered from the survey. September holds a Meet & Greet Social, a Consulting Connections Lunch and outreach to NC high schools via the High School Teacher Training (pg4) – an important component of our community. In October NC ASA sponsors AISC and holds our Annual Business Meeting.

The NC ASA initiative that I have been the most excited to develop, along with the Scholastic Council Student Representatives (pg4), is NC ASA’s first Mentoring and Early Career Development Workshop (pg2) on November 30th. Designed for students and young professionals, it will feature leaders from our community as keynote speakers, professional panelists, and mentors, and include interactive sessions on goal-structuring and professional development. Workshop participants will have the opportunity to meet in a small group setting with President LaVange, whom NC ASA is honored to host as the Featured Speaker at our State of Statistics Dinner that evening (pg2).

NC ASA continues to strive to serve its community, and to encourage all to #LeadWithStatistics.

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NC ASA Calendar - [Upcoming Events](#)

NC ASA [Consulting Connections Lunch](#) – Thurs 9/13 at noon, Page Road Grill in RTP

NC ASA Social Meet & Greet w Cynthia Rudin – Mon 9/17 at 5:30p, Mattie B’s, RTP

[High School Teacher Training](#) – Sat Sept 29

AISC Oct 5-7 UNC Greensboro

[NC ASA Business Meeting](#) Sat Oct 6th 6:15p

[NC ASA Awards at Banquet](#) Sat Oct 6th 6:45p

Asheville NC ASA and [ENVR Workshop](#)
Joint Social Thurs Oct 11th, 6:30p

[Fall Mentoring and Early Development Workshop](#) – Fri Nov 30. 9am-5:30p, SAMSI
Early applications accepted through Oct 7th!

NC ASA Fall Dinner – Friday Nov 30, 5:30p
featuring ASA President Lisa LaVange.

Tickets available in Oct! NC ASA member discounts!

NC ASA Mentoring and Early Career Development Workshop

Friday, November 30th 2018 - 9am-5:30pm at SAMSI in RTP

Early Admittance applications now open through Oct 7th!

NC ASA is excited to host a Mentoring and Early Career Development Workshop aimed at students and young professionals. It will feature prominent statisticians from our community and include interactive sessions on goal-structuring and professional development. Participants will have the opportunity to meet with ASA President Lisa LaVange and network with the NC ASA community at NC ASA's Fall Dinner that evening. Workshop registration includes lunch and workshop materials, as well as a dinner ticket. Early Admittance students are eligible for reimbursement by NC ASA. A Presidential Travel Award will be offered to a limited number of student participants with qualifying travel expenses. NC ASA members receive reduced registration.

Keynote Speakers (*bios on website*)

- **Bob Starbuck** Vice Chair College of Sciences Foundation Board (NCSU), will speak on “**Some Thoughts on How to Be More Successful**” - ASA's 2013 Conference on Statistical Practice keynote.
- **Sonia (Davis) Thomas** will discuss “**Presentation Best Practices**” based on her **Leadership in Biostatistics** graduate course at UNC CH.
- **Richard Zink**, Senior Director of Data Management at TARGET PharmaSolutions, will discuss insights on **Promoting Statistics** from his popular **ASA podcast**

SAMSI Director David Banks will offer insight from his career path and leadership journey.

Professional Panel - featuring established statisticians from across our community.

- Confirmed Panelists include: Kristen Foley (US EPA), Artin Armagan (SAS)

Sessions – targeting different skills across a professional career, all of which can be relevant at all career stages

- **Resume and Interview Skills** – led by Kelci Miclaus, PhD - Senior Manager (SAS)
- **Branding and Networking for Career Next-Steps** - led by Elizabeth Mannshardt, NC ASA President
- **Peer Mentoring** – led by the NC ASA's Scholastic Council's Katherine Allen and Liz Lorenzi (*see p6*)

Professional Development and Networking Activities – designed to engage participants with actionable items

- **Goal Structuring and Development**
- **Small-Group Mentoring** – with our Professional Panelists and NC ASA Executive Board members

<http://community.amstat.org/northcarolina/initiatives/mentoring/workshop>



NC ASA's State of Statistics Fall Dinner *Stories of Significance* Featuring ASA President Lisa LaVange and Duke University's Mine Çetinkaya-Rundel



Friday November 30th 2018 - 5:30pm at The Frontier in RTP

This year's theme for NC ASA State of Statistics Dinner is “Stories of Significance”. NC ASA is honored to be hosting [ASA President Lisa LaVange](#) and Duke University's Mine Çetinkaya-Rundel, Associate Professor of the Practice and 2016 ASA Waller Education Award recipient. President LaVange will discuss her own Stories of Significance. What were her significant moments, and how did they impact her career trajectory? Professor Çetinkaya-Rundel will also offer her perspective from her experiences in Statistics Education and as a Professional Educator at RStudio.

Food and drink will begin at 5:30pm with the program beginning at 6:30pm. After the program there will be dessert and further socializing with friends and colleagues from the NC ASA community.

Registration coming soon! Members will receive notice for discounts and early registration privileges.

NC ASA Summer Events

NC ASA's Consulting Connections hosts In-Person Collaboration Webinar

In July Consulting Connections and the IIG hosted an "In-Person Webinar" at [SAMSI](#). [Statistical Collaboration](#) was offered live by ASA's Community of Applied Statisticians (CAS).



Attendees enjoyed hearing Heather Smith (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo) and Eric Vance (University of Colorado Boulder) discuss their perspectives on improving collaborative skills. The webinar covered the ASCCR framework (Attitude, Structure, Content, Communication, Relationship) and how to apply it to collaborative work as a statistician. The idea of respecting the domain expert resonated strongly with our group. After the webinar, Dr. Emily Griffith, Director of NCSU's Statistical Consulting Core and NC ASA Vice President, led a discussion about how to prepare for meetings including best strategies for advance preparation as well as discussing timelines, milestones, and deadlines for expected work efforts. This included the different considerations found in academic collaborations versus industry projects, both of which can consist of research-style collaborations as well as traditional statistical consulting. These ideas tie into the NC ASA sponsored session on Perspectives on Statistical Consulting at AISC this October. We thank SAMSI for their support in providing the in-person webinar viewing venue for our community.

<http://community.amstat.org/northcarolina/blogs/2018/>

Whether you are a formal consultant or not, many statisticians serve as consultants to colleagues and collaborators. **Consulting Connections next lunch will be Sept. 13th** at noon at Page Road Grill in RTP. RSVP: Emily Griffith emily_griffith@ncsu.edu

Summer Socials

NC ASA was excited to partner with SAMSI's opening workshops for our August socials! ASA President Lisa LaVange stopped by the PMED social at Raleigh Beer Garden, and the MUMS social at Devil's Krafthouse was a summer highlight!



June's Social at Serena's in RTP connected old and new friends and colleagues.



Everyone is welcome at NC ASA events!

NC ASA Social Partnerships

NC ASA looks to partner with conferences, workshops, and other events across the state to connect our geographically diverse community.

NC ASA's next Social Partnership will be with ASA's [Section on Statistics and the Environment's Workshop](#) in Asheville, NC on Thurs Oct 11th at 6:30pm at [The Collider](#). NC ASA members and those interested in NC ASA are welcome to join us – conference registration not required for joining NC ASA and ENVR at the Thursday evening social.

If interested in organizing an NC ASA event in your local region, NC ASA can help.

<http://community.amstat.org/northcarolina/initiatives/localiaison>

NC ASA Sponsors AISC: NC ASA Business Meeting and Chapter Awards

NC ASA will be sponsoring The International Conference on Advances in Interdisciplinary Statistics and Combinatorics ([AISC](#)), October 5-7 at UNC Greensboro. Please join NC ASA at the AISC Banquet and Awards Ceremony on Saturday Oct 6th to honor several [NC statisticians](#) including two Past-Presidents, Breda Munoz (RTI) and Sujit Ghosh (NCSU), to be recognized for their service to the Chapter. David Banks (Duke), David Dickey (NCSU), and Maura Stokes (SAS) will be honored as Senior Statisticians for their outstanding contributions to the field. Several of the Awardees are featured as [Plenary Speakers](#) along with 2017 ASA President Barry Nussbaum. NC ASA will also sponsor a session on Perspectives on Statistical Consulting and Scientific Collaboration in Statistics, organized by Emily Griffith, Director of NCSU's Statistical Consulting Core and NC ASA VP, and coordinated with NC ASA's IIG. Registration/Banquet tickets by Sept 10: <https://www.uncg.edu/mat/aisc/2018/>

Members are invited to attend [NC ASA's annual Business Meeting](#) at 6:15pm Sat Oct 6th (conference registration not required) for the annual Chapter report and voting on updates to NC ASA's Constitution and By-Laws. Information on proposed updates will be sent to members two weeks prior.

NC ASA Sponsors High School Statistics Teacher Training

Sat Sept 29, 9am-3pm at the NC School of Science and Math in Durham

As part of our outreach activities, the NC Chapter of the ASA is partnering with the NC School of Science and Math, SAS JMP and RTI International to offer a 1-day workshop for High School Statistics teachers in NC. The activity is designed to provide training in topics relevant to the AP curriculum, as well as hands on training using SAS JMP. Attendants will receive a certificate that can be used for any curriculum advancement (provided by the School of Science and Math), training in SAS JMP and a free JMP license. The fee is \$10, and will cover breakfast, lunch, cookies and coffee breaks. Contact: Breda Munoz (breda@rti.org), Floyd Bullard (bullard@ncssm.edu) and Dan Teague (teague@ncssm.edu).

Registration (deadline Sept 20): <https://www.123signup.com/event?id=hhtrf>

Schedule Overview:

8:30 - 9:00 Breakfast

9:00 - 11:15: Simulation and Probabilities (Floyd Bullard, NCSSM)

11:15-12:15: Lunch

12:15-3:00: Using JMP software for Statistical Analysis (Ruth Hummel, SAS/JMP)

Additional Notes:

- 1) Forms will be available to receive continuing education credit for workshop.
 - 2) Laptops required!! (Either Mac or Windows)
 - 3) All attendees will receive a 1-year license for JMP® Student Edition to use in their classroom
- *Note: Windows XP is not supported by JMP.*

Scholastic Council <http://community.amstat.org/northcarolina/initiatives/scholasticcouncil>

NC ASA has formed a Scholastic Council to facilitate communication and coordinate activities between the Chapter and North Carolina schools, colleges and universities. Each institution is invited to have a Faculty Contact and a Student Representative on the council. In 2017 and 2018 Student Representatives have been actively engaged with the Executive Board and representing student interests' in planning NC ASA events. This includes input ideas for NC ASA social events and professional opportunities of interest to students. Currently 11 universities are represented – additional interest is welcome! Contact NC ASA President Elizabeth: Mannshardt@stat.ncsu.edu

NC ASA – Statisticians Interests Survey

NC ASA’s Industry Interests Group provides a forum for communication among members and with the NC ASA Executive Board with one aim of the [IIG](#) to offer opportunities for professional development and targeted training. This includes topics for which one may not have had an opportunity to take a formal course, or “Cutting Edge” topics not necessarily available at all institutions or universities. If you are interested in joining the Core Strategic Team, to represent your company or organization, contact Sujit Ghosh: sujit.ghosh@ncsu.edu

NC ASA does not endorse any specific organization or company, its financial interests, or its products.

Survey Results Indicate Strong Interest in Educational Events

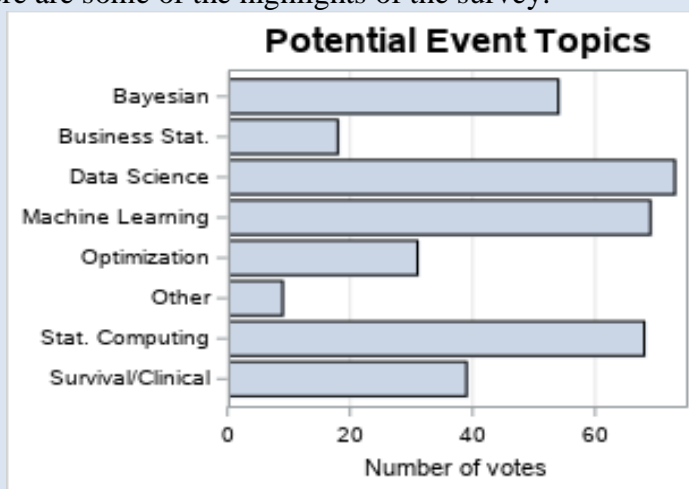
Brian Gaines - See Brian’s NC ASA Member Profile on pg6!

Thanks to everyone who participated in the NC ASA Statistician Interests Survey. The survey, sponsored by the Industry Interests Group (IIG), was intended to assess the interests of North Carolina Statisticians with regards to professional and educational offerings such as presentations, webinars, and short courses.

We received a total of 109 responses, with the majority (72%) of them coming from current NC ASA members, in addition to several expressing interest in joining NC ASA. Of the respondents, nearly 40% are currently working in industry while about 50% are in academia. Almost 85% of the respondents have a graduate degree, with more than half (54%) possessing a doctorate degree. [Full results on the IIG website.](#)

All caveats about bias aside, one of the main findings from the survey results is a strong interest in events sponsored or organized by the NCA ASA and IIG. Here are some of the highlights of the survey:

- An overwhelming 95% of respondents are interested in NC ASA and IIG events.
- Online webinar is the preferred format for events. In-person hosted webinars and on-site courses also received strong and roughly equal support.
- Friday is the preferred day with lunchtime and early afternoon as the preferred times.
- Interest in the possible topics was concentrated in modern statistical tools (See graphic).
- A “Train the Trainers” offering of the ASA’s Statistical Presentation Skills course also received strong interest.



Based on these results, the IIG is actively working to implement activities based on member needs. Webinar hosting is a current hurdle. If you are aware of a webinar or would be interested in giving one, or hosting an existing webinar, please contact the IIG’s Core Strategic Team Lead Sujit Ghosh: sujit.ghosh@ncsu.edu

NC ASA Website Updates and Functionalities

[Conference Corner](#) An easy chronological reference of upcoming NC conferences. [Email to post.](#)

[NC Jobs and Events Board](#): Members can post to this permanent, easy-reference list

[NC ASA Blogs](#) Recaps from NC ASA events, including pictures and participant feedback!

[NC ASA In The News](#): NC ASA has been making headlines! Features in AmStat News and more

Member Profile: Brian Gaines (SAS)

See Brian's Featured article on results from NC ASA's Statistician Interests Survey sponsored by the IIG!



I am a Research Statistician Developer at SAS where I design and develop graphical user interfaces ("tasks") in SAS® Studio to help make the analytical methods in SAS easier to use and learn.

I have worked at SAS for a little over a year now, and it has lived up to its hype as a great company to work for. Before joining SAS, I studied under Hua Zhou (now at UCLA) and Eric Chi while earning a statistics PhD from NC State. In my free time, I enjoy being physically active, such as running around Lake Johnson, lifting weights, or playing in a team sport. I also love watching sports, and like anyone raised well in Indiana, I am a huge fan of the Indiana Hoosiers (particularly basketball and soccer). Besides sports, my friends and family are my life, and I try to spend as much time with them as possible. It has been especially awesome to watch my close friends' kids grow up in recent years. I have enjoyed becoming active in NC ASA, where I currently serve as a member of the Industry Interests Group (IIG) Core Strategic Team and the IIG's liaison to the Scholastic Council.

2018 NC ASA Executive Committee

President – Elizabeth Mannhardt (US EPA)

Vice President – Emily Griffith (NCSU)

Vice President 2 – Amy Shi (SAS)

Secretary/Treasurer – Elaine Hoffman (PPD)

NC Chapter Representative to ASA – Ryne Vankrevelen (Elon)

2018 Liaisons to the Executive Board

Industry Interests Group Core Strategic Team Lead – Sujit Ghosh (NCSU)

IIG Survey Coordinator – Brian Gaines (SAS)

Ambassador to Small Colleges and Universities – Stephanie Zimmer (RTI)

Scholastic Council Chair – Katherine Allen (NCSU)

High School Outreach - Breda Munoz (RTI)

Past President – Weston McManus (SAS)



Student Member Profile: Liz Lorenzi (Duke University)

I am a fourth (going on fifth) year PhD student at Duke University's Department of Statistical Science. I am advised by Fan Li and Katherine Heller working on machine learning and causal inference methods for health care applications. I am currently the Duke's Forge Health Data Science inaugural doctoral fellow, with projects focused on individual treatment recommendations for diabetes patients and improved surgical care for geriatric patients at Duke Health System. Prior to coming to Duke, I completed my Masters in Statistical Practice from Carnegie Mellon University's Department of Statistics, where I also completed my BS in Economics and Statistics. I'll be working towards finishing my PhD this spring and applying to positions in academia, hoping to continue my research efforts at the intersection of health care and statistics.



Outside of graduate school, I am involved with the ASA NC Scholastic council and love volunteering for local animal rescue groups. For fun, you'll probably find me cooking, gardening, hiking, or practicing yoga.