



NC ASA Chapter Bulletin

Spring 2018

Greetings from NC ASA President

Elizabeth Mannshardt



I am honored to lead NC ASA during this exciting time of growth and change. 2017 was an active and eventful year for NC ASA, with Chapter activities ramping up and multiple initiatives launched across the community. We have revamped our communications platforms (check out our redesigned website and look for us on Facebook and Twitter!), developed and implemented several initiatives designed to reach multiple facets of our community, and hosted several events to bring our community together. Going forward into 2018 this excitement and momentum continues as NC ASA offers a variety of opportunities for networking and professional development as well as student and early career professional involvement and engagement.

North Carolina has a vibrant statistical community with distinguished members as well as young talent across many disciplines. NC ASA aims to engage and connect our diverse community. I look forward to meeting many more members and hearing about your ideas for NC ASA!

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NC ASA Calendar - Upcoming Events

ASA Leadership Course – Friday March 16
www.123signup.com/event?id=hsfgh

NC ASA Recycled Poster Session and Social
– Thurs March 29 @ 6:30pm.
www.123signup.com/event?id=hctdz

Consulting Connections - April 13, 2018
<https://tinyurl.com/yxsxxbbp>

Speed Mentoring event – April 18, 2018
<https://tinyurl.com/yavw3srk>

AISC Abstracts Now Open:
<http://www.uncg.edu/mat/aisc/2018/>

Be on the lookout for NC ASA pop-up socials!

Brewing an evening of Posters

NC ASA is excited to host a “**Recycled Poster Session and Social**” at Mystery Brewing Company on Thursday, March 29th. If you have a poster please come share your work! If not, just come out to chat with friends and colleagues, and to learn about the variety of topics NC statisticians tackle. In addition to the posters, there will be a chance for a free brewery tour! Food will be provided and drinks available for purchase. All ages are welcome. Tickets on sale through Mar 23 (reduced NC ASA member rate):

www.123signup.com/event?id=hctdz
We look forward to seeing you there!

NC ASA Socials

NC ASA will continue to host informal “pop-up” socials. These have been a lot of fun, with members from across diverse disciplines, institutions, and statistical backgrounds showing up for a casual bite/brew after work. They are also a great opportunity to tell your favorite stat joke! NC ASA membership not required.



NC ASA would like to help promote similar events outside of the Triangle area to serve all members. If you are interested in organizing an NC ASA social or other event in your local region, NC ASA is happy to help.
<https://tinyurl.com/ybz13lhs>

ASA Leadership Course

Understanding Statistical Leadership and Charting Your Leadership Journey

NC ASA is excited to host an **ASA Leadership Development Course**. This is a 1-day version of the course featured in [AmStat Magazine](#).

What is leadership; why is it important for our profession; and how do you develop as a leader?

Instructors - Gary Sullivan (GSS)
Local Leaders - David Banks (Duke University)
Abie Eakangaki (Head, GSS - Immunology, UCB)

The Leadership Development Course will run 8am-5pm on Fri Mar 16 2018 at SAS campus in Cary, NC. Space is limited –sign up soon!

Registration* and information:

www.123signup.com/event?id=hsfgh

*Registration closes Friday March 9th or when at capacity.

2018 NC ASA Chapter Executive Committee

President – Elizabeth Mannshardt (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)
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 and Young Professional Engagement

Fall 2018 Training for High School Statistics Teachers

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 (9 am – 3 pm, usually a Saturday) 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. We are expecting to offer the training between September and October 2018. Contact information: Breda Munoz, breda@rti.org This is a great way to involve your local high schools. Talk with your kids' high schools about involvement in the Teacher Training.

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

Mentoring and Early Career Development Workshop

NC ASA is excited to announce plans for a Mentoring and Early Career Development Workshop for late fall 2018. Students and early-to-mid career professionals are welcome, as mentoring can provide benefits at any career stage. The workshop is being developed with external mentoring professionals and materials. The workshop will include a component on Peer Mentoring, meant to provide a forum for open, honest discussion with other statisticians at similar career stages. Other workshop components may include mentoring panels, one-on-one mentoring forums, and a career fair to mingle with professionals and learn about different career options. The workshop is being coordinated in conjunction with the NC ASA 2018 Fall Dinner, so that workshop participants can continue their discussions and networking with the larger NC ASA community.

NC ASA Website Updates Are Here!

NC ASA is striving to become a resource that NC statisticians can turn to for information, including NC workshops and conferences, job announcements and professional events, and general events of interest to the NC ASA community. We have revamped several aspects of our communications platforms in this regard.

NC ASA Conference Corner will post info on upcoming NC workshops and conferences: <http://community.amstat.org/northcarolina/events/conferencecorner>

NC ASA Jobs and Events Board: NC ASA has coordinated with ASA to provide functionality for members to post NC job announcements and professional events at their institution directly to the NC ASA website. This is intended to provide a permanent, easy-reference list of statistical opportunities in NC. This is very new functionality – if you have a job to post, please contact President Elizabeth Mannshardt at Mannshardt@stat.ncsu.edu to help us test this exciting feature. We look forward to the “live launch” in the near future!



Panelists: Jim Blum (UNC-W), Ashley Kesler (PPD), Joe Ibrahim (UNC-CH), Kristen Foley (US EPA), Bob Rodriguez (SAS), and Kirsten Doehler (Elon). Moderator David Banks (Duke/SAMSI)

NC ASA Fall 2017 Panel Discussion and Dinner

The NC ASA would like to thank all of our panelists for their participation in our “State of Statistics” Dinner. It was a great turnout despite the snowy weather! It was a fun chance to meet up with old friends and mingle with new ones. And of course the insightful panel discussion! Topics included: *How to get the most out of your ASA and NC ASA membership; Career Direction; Always Learning; Fun with Data; and What is the future?* Advice from our panelists on the NC ASA blog! <http://community.amstat.org/northcarolina/blogs>



Save the Dates and Fall Events

Oct 6th-8th: NC ASA is excited to sponsor AISC at UNC Greensboro

Sept/Oct 2018: NC ASA will co-sponsor the High School Statistics Teacher Workshop

Late Fall 2018: NC ASA’s Mentoring and Early Career Development Workshop

Late Fall 2018: NC ASA Fall Dinner: “Stories of Significance”

Scholastic Council

In 2017 NC ASA 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. The Council will help execute NC ASA's goal of bringing academics, industry, and students together to further connect the statistics community across North Carolina. The Student Representatives on the Scholastic Council have worked to get the Council established, including appointing a board and coordinating outreach. They have also shown initiative with regards to representing student needs. We anticipate this successful involvement with NC ASA will continue.

NC ASA is excited to be able to provide students and young professionals with opportunities such as exposure to the professionals in the Industry Interests Group. One aim is for interaction between the IIG and Scholastic Council in order to disseminate information to students about job openings and internships as well as facilitate events such as career fairs. This includes a very exciting offering, the Mentoring and Career Development Workshop, coordinated in part by the Scholastic Council including the student liaison to the IIG. This contributes to the aim of NC ASA's Mentoring platform to be multi-tiered and encompass multiple career levels.

Faculty, please contact Elizabeth Mannshardt at mannshardt@stat.ncsu.edu if you are interested in participating in the Scholastic Council or a Mentoring event. Students interested in the Scholastic Council should first coordinate with faculty in their home department if possible, but are welcome to contact NC ASA directly as well. High school faculty and students are also encouraged to participate.

More information about the Council, including council structure, member duties, and institutional contacts: <http://community.amstat.org/northcarolina/initiatives/scholasticcouncil>

Industry Interests Group

NC ASA is organizing an Industry Interests Group to further serve all members. The Industry Interest group is intended to provide a forum for communication among members and with the NC ASA Executive Board, and provide a platform for organizing informal gatherings as well as professional events. One aim of the IIG is 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. Examples include ASA professional and topics webinars, and the successful Statistics Presentation Skills course developed by ASA.

The IIG includes also an industry professional liaison to the Scholastic Council in order to facilitate joint ventures with students, such as internships and career fairs, and the academic community.

Contact the IIG Core Strategic Team Lead: Sujit Ghosh at sujit.ghosh@ncsu.edu
<http://community.amstat.org/northcarolina/initiatives/industryinterests>

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

Member Profile: Sonia Thomas (formerly Davis)

I am a Senior Research Statistician at RTI. I grew up in Chapel Hill, earned a DrPH degree in Biostatistics from UNC in 1994, and have worked at Quintiles (now IQVIA) and at UNC before joining RTI this past November. My expertise is clinical trials, and I enjoy interim analyses and methods that address missing data due to patient drop-out. I live in Chapel Hill with my husband Jody and our “Brady Bunch”, although most of the kids are now away in school, leaving me more time to watch UNC basketball and go running (my true passion). I am excited about getting involved in NC-ASA as a new member of the Industry Interests Group Core Strategic Team representing the many statisticians at RTI.



Member Profile: Shawn Harris



I was a software developer for over 10 years, but I started getting more interested in statistics as I started writing some programs for statisticians at the NIEHS. I kept telling my wife that someday I was going to go back to school. I guess I got a little bit annoying, because one day she told me that I should either do it or shut up about it. So I enrolled in the Statistics Masters program at NC State while still working full time. Due to time constraints, I can take only one class at a time, which means that the nice folks I hung out with in my first summer session all got their degree almost two years ago. But it's nice to be able to leave work in the middle of the day to attend class, and all of my instructors (especially those in the NC ASA!) have been fantastic. My favorite leisure activity is trail running. A few years ago, some of my running friends convinced me that it would be fun to run Rim-to-Rim-to-Rim at the Grand Canyon, a distance of 42 miles. I survived, but I'm not sure if “fun” is the correct word to describe it. Someday I'd like to go back and experience the canyon at a more leisurely pace.

Student Member Profile: Shana McDowell

I am a 2nd-year graduate student at North Carolina Central University, majoring in Applied Mathematics with a concentration in Statistics. I am interested in Industry Careers. I received my Bachelor's in Pure Mathematics from Fayetteville State University in Dec 2011, and began teaching high school mathematics January 2012. I taught for 5 years and decided to go back to graduate school. On my off time I enjoy reading, shopping, spending time with family, going to the beach, and DIY projects. This year I am also serving as Secretary of the NC ASA Scholastic Council. I truly believe that stepping out of your comfort zone is beneficial to success, had I not made the transition to trying new things I really feel I wouldn't be where I am today.

