



**AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION  
HOUSTON AREA CHAPTER  
NEWSLETTER  
September 4, 2012**



**\*\*\*Wednesday, September 12, 2012\*\*\***

**R and the Message Passing Interface on the Little Fe Cluster**

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At SuperComputing 2011, the University of Houston - Downtown received a Little Fe Cluster for teaching and research purposes. The software is the Bootable Cluster CD, which contains the Open Message Passing Interface. We will discuss the history of the cluster and the software. We will then consider the uses of R with the cluster and present some empirical results with speed up.

**HACASA meetings are open to the public! Please pass on copies of this announcement to colleagues and friends and post on appropriate bulletin boards.**

**WHEN and WHERE:** **\*Tuesday September 12, 2012\*** at Duncan Hall, Rice University  
**5:30pm - Social Time and with snacks & drinks: Room 1049**  
**6:30pm - Panel Discussion (Room 1049)**



Duncan Hall (also known as the Computational Engineering Building) is on the northeast side of the Rice University Campus. For parking information and directions please refer to the Rice parking websites, the following have been found helpful:

<http://cohesion.rice.edu/campuservices/parktrans/parking/visitors.cfm>  
<http://www.rice.edu/maps/maps.html>

Thank you to **Rice University** and the **Department of Statistics at Rice University** for their generous support of HACASA by allowing us the use of their facilities for our gatherings, **and sponsoring FREE PARKING. See Hadley Wickham for a voucher at the meeting.**

**To help us cover cost of our weekly snacks, we are asking for small donations (\$5 or more). Also, please RSVP so we can bring enough snacks and drinks. Please RSVP to Margaret Kuczynski at [HoustonASA@gmail.com](mailto:HoustonASA@gmail.com).**

**Introducing the officers!**

The officers for the 2012-2013 academic year are:

President: Hao Liu ([haol@bcm.edu](mailto:haol@bcm.edu))

President Elect: Becky Slack ([RSSlack@mdanderson.org](mailto:RSSlack@mdanderson.org))

Past President: Jose-Miguel Yamal ([Jose-Miguel.Yamal@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:Jose-Miguel.Yamal@uth.tmc.edu))

Secretary: Michael Swartz ([Michael.D.Swartz@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:Michael.D.Swartz@uth.tmc.edu))

Treasurer: Margaret Kuczynski ([margaret.kuczynski@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.kuczynski@gmail.com))

Science Fair Coordinator: Erin Hodgess ([HodgessE@uhd.edu](mailto:HodgessE@uhd.edu))

ASA Chapter Representative: Becky Slack ([RSSlack@mdanderson.org](mailto:RSSlack@mdanderson.org))

## Reminder!

Membership dues: Students: \$1, and non-students: \$8.

## Welcome New Members!

Please take a moment at this month's meeting to welcome new members!



## Mark Your Calendars!

This year we are still meeting every month. In the Fall Semester (September through December) we will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> **Wednesday** of each month, depending on the month. In the Spring (January through May), we return to the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> **Tuesday** of the month, depending on the month. The official dates and locations are below (all rooms are located in Duncan Hall on Rice University Campus):

**Wednesday, September 12, 2012 (DH1049)**

**Wednesday, October 17, 2012 (DH1049) 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of October**

**Wednesday, November 14, 2012 (DH 3092)**

**Wednesday, December 12, 2012 (DH 3092) Holiday Potluck**

**Tuesday, January 15, 2013 (room TBA) 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of January**

**Tuesday, February 12, 2013 (room TBA)**

**Tuesday, March 12, 2013 (room TBA)**

**Tuesday, April 9, 2013 (room TBA)**

**Tuesday, May 14, 2013 (room TBA) (Science Fair Winners)**

## Let us know what you think!

Send comments to Michael Swartz at [HoustonASA@gmail.com](mailto:HoustonASA@gmail.com) with the subject COMMENTS. Or Send comments / additions / corrections concerning the HACASA newsletter to Michael Swartz at [Michael.D.Swartz@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:Michael.D.Swartz@uth.tmc.edu)

## Announcements

### **New Website is launched!**

Our new website is launched! Please visit it for more information and announcements:

<http://sites.google.com/site/houstonasa/>

for comments and suggestions regarding content, please contact our website coordinator/maintainer: Margaret Kuczynski ([margaret.kuczynski@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.kuczynski@gmail.com))