American Statistical Association  
Section on Teaching of Statistics in the Health Sciences  
Minutes of the March 20 2017 Conference Call

Attendees: Jose-Miguel Yamal (Chair-Elect), Wenyaw Chan (Program Chair), Amy Nowacki (Past Program Chair), Bob Oster (Secretary/Treasurer), Ed Gracely (Webmaster), Laila Poisson (Newsletter Editor), Carol Bigelow (Council of Sections Representative)

Unable to attend: Felicity Enders (Past Chair), Jeff Syzchowski (Chair-Elect), Kendra Schmid (Program Chair-Elect), Ann Brearley (Publications Officer)

Jose-Miguel called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM (Eastern).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bob sent revised versions of previous meeting and conference call minutes (March 2016, August 2016, November 2016, December 2016, January 2017, and February 2017) a few days prior to this month’s call.

Motion: To approve these sets of minutes as written. Amy made the motion and Jose-Miguel seconded. The motion was approved.

UPDATE ON JSM 2017 SESSIONS

Wen provided an update on the TSHS JSM 2017 sessions. He noted that there is 1 invited session, 3 topic contributed sessions, 1 contributed paper session, and either 3 or 4 posters. The topic contributed session is now “full”; i.e. it now has 6 presenters. Wen was able to “borrow” 2 presenters from the Statistical Education section in order to make this session “full”.

MENTORING COMMITTEE UPDATE

No update was provided since those who could provide this update were not present.

PORTAL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Carol provided an update on the TSHS Portal. She noted that she will soon post one of Amy’s submissions. She also noted that she has received a second submission from Amy, and that the TSHS Portal Editorial Board would review this submission prior to it being posted. Amy mentioned that a manuscript entitled The TSHS Teaching Resources Portal: A Source of Real Data for Teaching Statistics in the Health Sciences is being prepared for submission to the journal Teaching Innovation in Statistics Education (TISE). This manuscript contained some “advertising” for the TSHS Portal. Ann is the lead author of this paper. Ann and Amy are planning to submit the manuscript within the next few weeks.

FUNDRAISING EFFORT UPDATE

Jose-Miguel mentioned that he has reached out to R Studio to see if they can sponsor our section mixer during this year’s JSM. He asked call attendees to come to a consensus to see what we (TSHS) can offer R Studio in exchange for them sponsoring our mixer. Laila noted that we had a full page ad for Stata in our fall newsletter, and that this was more of a product
highlight that an educational element. Also in the same issue of the newsletter, a special thank you was given to Stata on the page where we listed all sponsors who donated door prizes. It was further noted that in our summer newsletter, Felicity thanked Stata for their support in her Chair’s column. Call attendees agreed that R Studio would be offered the same package deal (the full page ad, the special thank you, and the mention of the sponsorship in the Chair’s column) that was offered to Stata. Call attendees also agreed that Jose-Miguel should approach R Studio directly, on behalf of TSHS. It was suggested that a deadline for the ad that would appear in the fall newsletter be given to R Studio. Laila will follow up with R Studio later (regarding the ad for the newsletter) if needed.

SURVEY OF TSHS MEMBERS

Ann sent the results of the survey (which was a pilot testing done by the executive committee members) a few days prior to the call. She also sent a comprehensive list of changes that she made to the survey in response to comments received from executive committee members. Jose-Miguel mentioned that we should implement the survey in the spring issue of the newsletter. The deadline for the return of the surveys will be May 15. It was suggested that Ann finalize the survey and then post an item in the discussion posts in the TSHS section of the ASA Community, asking individuals to complete the survey and providing the link. The link would be active once the TSHS member logs in to the ASA Community.

TSHS AWARDS UPDATE

Call attendees affirmed that the deadline for receipt of nominations for the three major TSHS awards this year, the Distinguished Achievement Award, the Outstanding Teaching Award, and the Young Investigator Award, will be May 15 (this deadline was agreed to during the February 20 conference call).

TSHS BOOK REVIEWS

Laila noted that there are no updates to the material that she discussed during the February 20 conference call. She was not certain that a book review would be ready for the spring issue of the newsletter.

NEXT MEETING

The next conference call will take place on April 17, 2017 at 1:00 PM (Eastern).

ADJOURNMENT

Jose-Miguel adjourned the meeting at 12:50 PM (Eastern).