

# **Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting**

## **Section on Teaching Statistics in the Health Sciences**

### **JSM 2008, Denver, CO**

Present: Scott Evans, Patrick Arbogast, Marlene Egger, Ed Gracely, Daniel Byrne, Carol Bigelow, Bob Oster, Jodi Lapidus, Lynn Ackerson

#### **JSM UPDATE**

1. Program – Jodi reported on the times for the invited, topic contributed, contributed, and poster sessions sponsored by the section.
2. Roundtables – Both coffee roundtables are sold out. Jodi recommended we have up to 3 coffee roundtables, one per day (M, T, W). When we had 5 in 2007 (with 2 each on T and W), one table filled up and the other didn't. We do not wish for them to compete for attendees. If we have more than 3 roundtable ideas submitted, we might opt for some lunch slots instead of coffee so they do not compete with each other.
3. Short Course – Scott co-taught a short course which was sponsored by our section and the Boston chapter. It had approximately 53 attendees. The section should make a profit on this.

#### **OFFICER REPORTS**

1. Program chair Jodi – The speaker management system was implemented this year which allows speakers to load PDFs/Power point presentations on computers ahead of time. It was well received. Some of the abstracts that would fit into our section, were sent to the Statistical Education Section instead. Their program chair would welcome a reduction in the number coming into that section. It is recommended that next year's program chair work with program chair from that section for next year to route relevant abstracts to our section. We also need to publicize our section exists so that they get submitted directly to us.
2. COS representative – Janine was not present at the meetings this year so Scott and Patrick attended the Sunday meeting in her place. Jodi will attend the Thursday meeting.
3. Secretary/Treasurer – Lynn reported that our membership is currently 649, which seems to be up from last year. Budget reports are listed at the bottom of these minutes. With income from the short course, we will probably make money this year. It seems that the checks to Ralph O'Brian and Harry Norton were written twice. This will be checked into.
4. Publications – Bob reported that we had an article in Amstat News this summer, but let's try for two articles next year. Also, encourage more people to publish in the proceedings. These include people who presented at JSM or ENAR. Ed suggested trying for some additional, shorter articles, perhaps even just announcing the newsletter and its contents when it is online. The idea was well-received.

5. Newsletter – Ed asked whether we should broaden the scope of the newsletter. Hi noted that at one time there were more content-type articles. It was recommended that he ask JSM presenters to contribute a 1 page summary of their talks. He could also ask the round table organizers for a 1 page summary of their discussions.

6. Chair-elect – Patrick discussed moving the section’s executive meeting to Sunday late afternoon or early evening. The group was receptive to this idea, and we will try for that time next year. He would also like to organize another dinner with the Statistical Education section – this time with a deliverable.

7. Program Chair-Elect - Carol reported on a possible invited session on meeting people where they are: translational research, distance learning, and new nurse researchers (new NIH institute for nursing research). Another idea proposed was to have a session where each presenter contributes something to a “tool box” of teaching methods/projects that could be compiled by the session organizer into a downloadable product for ASA. Carol also proposed a weeklong short course to be held at a new venue in New Hampshire/Vermont area. It could possibly be co-sponsored by the Boston Chapter. Carol will write a proposal.

#### **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

1. Charter Review – This committee is comprised of Bob, Patrick, and Cindy Long. ASA has recommended that we limit the number of elected offices we have. Is what ASA recommended a recommendation or a mandate? With more elected offices, we are able to identify more people willing to volunteer for our section. Bob will send us proposed revisions next month.

2. Listserv – Ed led a discussion on setting up new listserves for our section so people could share ideas and ask questions. It was recommended that this be an “opt in” list. Ed will look into the possibilities and update the Executive Committee.

#### **OTHER UPDATES**

1. Webinars – The two webinars we sponsored this year were successful, even though they lost money. Scott recommended that we choose a person or committee to be in charge of webinars, maybe organizing one per month.

2. Awards – The Young Investigator award will be presented to Eleanor Pullenayagam either at this evening’s mixer or at tomorrow’s session by Marlene. The Best Contributed Paper award will be determined after the contributed session tomorrow.

3. ENAR – How involved do we want to be in this? Do we have a significant constituency at this meeting?

4. USMLE – Someone from the US Medical Licensing & Examining group will be at the mixer tonight to discuss our participation in creating their annual tests.

# **Teaching Statistics in the Health Sciences Section of ASA** **Revenue and Expense Statement 1/1/08 – 7/28/08**

Beginning Balance	\$9,393.34
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## Revenue

Dues	\$1259.00
Registration Fees	\$675.00
Interest	<u>\$162.01</u>
	\$2096.01

## Expenditures

Intercall Conference Call	
3/1/08 - 3/31/08	\$41.33
Premiere Conference Call	
3/13/08 – 4/12/08	\$54.34
Conference calls	
4/1/08 – 4/30/08	<u>\$1042.47</u>
	\$1138 .14

Ending Balance	\$10, 351.21
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Net for year to date	\$957.87
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# **Teaching Statistics in the Health Sciences Section of ASA** **Revenue and Expense Statement 1/1/07 – 12/12/07**

Beginning Balance		\$10,392.74
Revenue		
Dues	\$2294.00	
Interest	<u>\$319.05</u>	
	\$2613.05	
Expenditures		
Postage	\$8.24	
Food Functions		
Grand America – JSM	\$2188.26	
Sponsored JSM roundtable	\$60.00	
Awards		
TSHS plaque – JSM 2006	\$115.61	
Award trophies	\$54.85	
2007 TSHS Distinguished service award	\$1000.00	
Contributed paper award	\$250.00	
Contributed paper plaque	<u>\$53.71</u>	
	\$3730.67	
Ending Balance		\$9,275.12
Net for year		(\$1,117.62)