

**American Statistical Association
Section on Teaching of Statistics in the Health Sciences
Minutes of the April 16 2018
Executive Committee Conference Call**

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

Unable to attend: Kendra Schmid (Program Chair), Ann Brearley (Publications Officer), Katy Wright (Book Review Editor), Maria Ciarleglio (invited to participate)

Jeff called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM (Eastern).

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of the March 19 meeting. The motion was made and seconded. The motion was approved.

TSHS GOOGLE/GMAIL ACCOUNT

The contact person on the account was changed from Constantine to Jeff. Unanticipated issues associated with this change were successfully resolved.

WEBINAR SUMMARY

Bob will share the webinar attendee list [where John Fox presented “Using R Commander in Basic Statistics Courses”] with executive committee members. He will see who on the list is/is not a current member of TSHS and will pass this information along to all executive committee members.

A larger number of attendees are expected in the fall for a (potential) TSHS webinar. Laila is in the process of contacting Rebecca Andridge to see if she will present a webinar on online teaching.

A link to the John Fox webinar is posted on the TSHS member-only portion of the ASA Community page.

TREASURY UPDATE

Bob provided an update on our treasury.

- A \$250 honorarium has been awarded to John Fox.
- Best contributed presentation awards of \$100 have been sent to Leah Welty and Kari Morgan.
- Contributions from Stata (\$5,000) and R Studio (\$500) have not yet been added to the treasury. The status of these will be obtained from Rick Peterson.
- TSHS received \$105 in registration fees from the John Fox webinar.

- The current balance in our treasury is \$9,347.68.

JSM 2018 MEETINGS AND TSHS SPONSORED SESSIONS

Jeff provided an update on preparations for JSM 2018.

- Rooms have been requested for our executive committee meeting and our section business meeting mixer.
- Final confirmation of the rooms will be sent by ASA. This should arrive by June 1.
- The executive committee meeting will take place on Monday morning and the section business meeting and mixer will take place on Monday evening.
- Jose-Miguel and Jeff will review the catering options for the mixer before committing TSHS to a specific option.

ASA ELECTIONS AND VOTING

Jeff will send an email reminder to section members about voting in the ASA elections for section officers and also for approving the revised section charter.

NEWSLETTER/BLOG UPDATES

Laila provided an update on our blog.

- Items of discussion included the numbers and types of site visits and post views, how many people are registered for the blog, and what the most popular posts are.
- Items and updates appear on the blog when they are scheduled. There is a post calendar listing when these items will appear.
- All who are registered for updates from the blog will receive an update when an item is posted or updated there.
- Our discussion feed is actively monitored.
- No job listings are to appear on the blog.
- Ads from our sponsors can appear there.
- Cross-postings are okay.
- Other ideas for the blog going forward include posts on mentoring and guest posts selected from the discussion feed.

A discussion then ensued about whether we will archive all material that is posted on the blog or only our newsletter articles.

OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that all nominations for the Outstanding Teaching Award and for the Young Investigator Award should be sent to the TSHS Gmail account.

Jose-Miguel began a discussion about publicizing the section to new (junior) faculty. He suggested that we pass along information to department chairs about our resource portal, blog, and webpage. Ann may have the list of department chairs. It was noted that there was a recent article in Amstat News that was written for new biostatistics faculty. It was then mentioned that there were (or could be) materials on the portal that accompany the datasets, managing a

course, and managing teaching assistants. A question then was asked about whether materials helpful for new faculty should be posted on our blog, with discussion on this to be continued.

NEXT MEETING

Jeff reminded call attendees that the next conference call will take place on May 14, 2018 at 1:00 PM (Eastern).

ADJOURNMENT

Jeff adjourned the meeting at 1:50 PM (Eastern).