SCASA: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

E-Tidings Newsletter

SCASA Events and News

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 4 APRIL 2016

AP STAT POSTER COMPETITION

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL EVENT

By Stacey Hancock, UCI

Thanks to the support of the Orange County Long Beach ASA Chapter, the Southern California ASA Chapter, and Chapman University, our annual AP Statistics High School Poster Competition on April 16 was a great success! Over twenty poster teams participated from local high schools on data analysis projects ranging from "How does shyness affect the adoptability of dogs?" to "Am I a Feminist?" Troy High School seniors Michelle Guo, Tiffany Fung, and Mia Chao won the Robert Newcomb Grand Prize for their poster titled "Is Senioritis Real?" The posters of the five other winning teams included "Bill of Rights Knowledge", "Baggage Check", "Sex vs Sleep", "Spring Forward", and "Music Focus" from Troy High School and Rancho Cucamonga High School. Garren Gaut, a Cognitive Science graduate student at the University of California, Irvine, gave an invited talk to the students on "Data Science, Graduate Research, and Jobs for Statisticians." Many thanks to both ASA Chapters, to Chapman University, and to all who participated as judges, organizers, teachers, and students. We look forward to seeing you at the poster competition next spring!

Picture caption: *Robert Newcomb Grand Prize winners Michelle Guo, Tiffany Fung, and Mia Chao with their teacher Paul Rodriguez.*

2016 Joint Statistical Meetings

July 30 - August 4, 2016

Chicago, Illinois, McCormick Place

By American Statistical Association

Registration & Housing to Open May 2

Planning to join us in Chicago this summer for JSM 2016? We have some advance information and a few important dates for you:

- General registration (http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2016/registration.cfm) for JSM and add-ons opens May 2.
- JSM housing reservations (http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2016/housing.cfm) will open May 2 at 11:00 a.m. EDT. Student/economy housing is open now.

Visit our local information page (http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2016/localinformation.cfm) to start planning your time in Chicago. The first weekend of JSM will coincide with Lollapalooza, also being hosted in Chicago. While that is good news for music lovers, we strongly suggest you make your JSM housing arrangements early and plan any additional hotel stays after JSM. NOTE: The JSM housing block covers only the official meeting dates.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT HOTEL RESERVATIONS

The official housing bureau for JSM does not solicit reservations by phone or email. If you are contacted by any housing bureau, we urge you to inform ASA staff at meetings@amstat.org. These companies are not affiliated with JSM or the ASA, and the ASA cannot protect you if there is a problem with your reservation when you arrive in Chicago.

More information about the JSM2016 can be found at

https://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2016/

WUSS 2016 Educational Forum and Conference

September 7 – 9, 2016, San Francisco

The Western Users of SAS Software is having its annual educational forum and conference Sept 7-9 in San Francisco. This is a fantastic opportunity to network and learn more about SAS. They have two academic scholarships available:

- **Student scholarship (www.wuss.org/student16.html)** does not require a presentation at the conference (unless it is their second year). The benefits include complimentary conference registration, discounted lodging and two half-day classes (Wed AM and/or Fri PM).

- **Faculty scholarship (www.wuss.org/faculty16.html)** DOES require a presentation at the conference (abstracts are due May 2). The benefits include complimentary conference registration, lodging, two half-day classes (Wed AM and/or Fri PM), and travel money.

There is also a **Junior Professional Award (www.wuss.org/jpa16.html)** for those using SAS at their job for three years or less. This award does not require a presentation at the conference (unless it is their second year). The benefits include complimentary conference registration and two half-day classes (Wed AM and/or Fri PM).

The academic scholarship applications are due June 6 and the Junior Professional Award deadline is July 11. However, please note the earlier abstract deadline of May 2.

For more information go to **http://www.wuss.org/**

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The 2016 ASA DataFest

Friday, April 29—Sunday, May 1, UCLA

The 2016 ASA DataFest at UCLA will begin on Friday, April 29 and end 48 exciting hours later on May 1.

More information about this event is posted at

http://datafest.stat.ucla.edu.

There are three ways you can support DataFestTM as either an individual or a business:

- Please consider visiting as a Visiting Consultant. Spend an hour or two getting to know the students and offering your sage advice. This is an excellent recruiting opportunity; you get to watch students working in teams, under pressure, striving to understand possibly the most complex data set they have encountered. In fact, each year, several students have received internships and interviews that have led to full-time employment. Success at DataFest requires that a team have a combination of computational, statistical, and human skills, as well as the ability to communicate clearly and extremely concisely.

- Please consider a financial contribution and, in particular, asking your employer to contribute. We are seeking to raise $20,000 to cover food and facility expenses. If you can contribute, please visit https://giving.ucla.edu/datafest

- Swag. Pens, thumb drives, notepads. The students love these and they help make the event fun. If we get something special, we can give it away in a "midnight raffle" to help keep the energy level high.

If you'd like to visit DataFestTM or want more information, please email Rob Gould, faculty coordinator, at *rgould@stat.ucla.edu*.

Dr. Normalcurvesaurus, Ph.D.

Presents

If you would like to submit an entry to the next issue, please contact me at *Olga.Korosteleva@csulb.edu*.

Yours Truly,

Olga Korosteleva

Your Editor-in-Chief