

E-Tidings Newsletter



SCASA Events and News

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IN THIS
ISSUE



PAGES 2-3 ♦ 2023 ASA DATAFEST VERDICT: A SUCCESS

**PAGE 4 ♦ ISBIS CONFERENCE AND 64TH ISI WORLD
STATISTICS CONGRESS**

**PAGE 5 ♦ 2023 ORANGE COUNTY BIO-
STATISTICS SYMPOSIUM AND CALL FOR
STUDENT POSTERS**

**PAGE 6 ♦ MASTER OF DATA SCIENCE IN
HEALTH AT UCLA**

PAGE 7 ♦ DR. NORMALCURVESSAURUS, PH.D. PRESENTS





2023 ASA DataFest Verdict: A Success



By Robert Gould and Linda Zanontian, UCLA

This year, ASA DataFest participants were challenged by data provided by the American Bar Association. The ABA provided redacted data on every conversation within their online, pro-bono legal service. The ABA asked the students for guidance for recruiting both volunteer attorneys and clients and any other advice on how the service could be improved to better serve low-income residents. To aid in this quest, students were also given demographic data on clients and attorneys, and time stamps for the conversations.

This was the largest event yet, with 380 students participating in 80 pre-formed teams. This year we had 3 teams from Cal State Fullerton, 4 teams from Pomona College, 1 team from UC Santa Barbara, and 3 teams from UC Riverside. The event began at 5pm on Friday, April 28 and continued, round-the-clock until Sunday. The teams were assisted by an army of mentor volunteers from academic and industry. Many mentors were alumni or current graduate students, and the participants enjoyed learning about the mentors' personal career choices and workplace experiences.

On Sunday, a fantastic all-star panel of judges watched the teams make five-minute presentations with only two slides. One of the biggest challenges of DataFest, students tell us, is condensing two intense days of work into five minutes. But even in that short time-frame, the hard work and creativity of the students came through.

The judges had a difficult task of selecting just a handful of prize-winning presentations from the many great choices. After deliberations, the awards were given to:

Best Insight ♦ **“dataMinds”** Arman Ghazaryan, Lucas Ophoff, Ryan Wallace, Paige Lee

♦ **“Dancing Queens”** (Honorable Mention) Bingyi Xu, Ruyi Lu, Yingke Mao, Angel Chen, Tracy Mao

Best Visualization ♦ **“Dududu”** Kevin Hamakawa, Ved Phadke, Aaron Tae, Daniel Mendeleevitch, Sean Tjoa ♦ **“ggplot3”** (Honorable Mention) Madison Kohls, Rebecca Xu, Avishek Ghosh, Sarah Kosic, Jason Lim

Best Use of External Data ♦ **“ctrl+enter”** Avani Kanungo, MaiThu Tran, Sarah Zhari, Kathy Nguyen-Ly ♦ **“NSDC”** (Honorable Mention) Shreyank Kadadi, Damien Ha, Nishaanth Krishnan, Milla Nielsen

Judges Choice Award ♦ **“SCG”** Yujin Lee, Yuki Yu, Jocelyn Leison, Rikesh Patel, Garren Lee

♦ **“Parked in 4 DataFest”** Jiajun Fang, Xuanyao Qian, Dyson Huo, Botao Xia, Amy Tang

All winning teams were from UCLA this year.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Continues on the next page.

2023 ASA DataFest Verdict: A Success

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DataFest would not be possible without our very generous sponsors. We are grateful to each and everyone for helping grow the DataFest community.

At the Cauchy Level (\$5000-\$7499) Ankura, Vornoy Partners, Dr. Scott Schumacher, PhD.

At the Pareto Level (\$2,500 - \$4999) Analysis Group

At the Lognormal Level (\$1000 - \$2499) Doreen and Chia-Min Fu Charitable Fund

DataFest Friends (\$50-\$499) Southern California American Statistical Association (SCASA), Fu Family, Alex Krebs, Scott Kamino, James Wilson, Nicolas Christou, Judy Kong, Shangqing Cao, Victor Louie, Sangmin Han, Bo Pang, Kayla Frisoli, Ray-Bing Chen, Jalil Kazemitabar, Hongquan Xu, Michael Tsiang, Gary Evans, Amy Tsiang, Elsa Huang, Tainmin Shu, Matthew Chan, Weihua Huang

Competitions need prizes, and prizes requires judges. And so we thank our panel for their dedication and wisdom:

Mark Huber (Claremont McKenna College), Annie Flippo (urgent.ly), Mason Porter (UCLA Mathematics), Beth Chance (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Statistics), Dave Zes (UCLA Statistics), Elizabeth O'Neill (UCLA Statistics), Guani Wu (UCLA Statistics), Emily Robinson (CPSLO, Statistics), Guido Montufar (UCLA Math/Statistics), Ji Yun Son (Cal State University, Los Angeles, CourseKata), Wayne Smith (CSU Fullerton), Aida Ylanan (L.A. Times), Jack Miller (UC Santa Barbara, Statistics and Applied Probability), Jeremy Guinta (Ankura Consulting), Jim Stigler (UCLA Psychology, CourseKata), Amy Kaizuka (One Justice), Meredith Madnick (Loeb & Loeb), Brian Jersky (CSU Long Beach), Kathleen McGarry (UCLA Economics), Matt Kugizaki (Inland Counties Legal Services), Kagba Suaray (CSU Long Beach Applied Statistics), George Michailidis (UCLA Statistics).

And finally, we want to thank the record number of people who visited the event to assist the teams and offer their wisdom, guidance and data know-how, both in-person and virtually. Some were UCLA Statistics faculty, some were grad students, and many were alumni and former DataFest participants.

Andy Soltani, Basil Latif, Brandon Thoma, Carina Kalaydjian, Chris Dong, Christian Bourdeau, Collins Odhiambo, Danny Ying, Dwight Wynne, Emily Wong, Eric Kawaguchi, Ethan Allavarpu, Gary Vartanian, Go Ito, Guanao Yan, Henry Poole, Ian McGovern, Isabel Roig, Jacob Michael Swoveland, James Wilson, Jason Tun, Jiang Chengfeng, Jimmy Lepore, Joey Maurer, Juana Sanchez, Julianna Harwood, Kaiwen Jiang, Karlo Vlahek, Keith Atienza, Kim Alcorn, Kristine Vo, Lera Colt, Madeline Bauer, Mariano Aloiso, Maryam Akbar, Michael Tsiang, Moody Billah, Nathan Hwangbo, Nathaniel Comar, Nevin Yilmaz, Nicklaus Kim, Nicolas Christou, Madeleine Baier, Nishath Fatima, Priya Shivaani Chauhan, Ryan Kageyama, Stella Huang, Stephen Kwok, Suyeon Betty Hwang, Tanner Koscinski, Tanvi Shinkre, Tyson Pond, Vivian Lew, Xiaofeng Lin, Yiling Yun, Zhiqian Zhai... plus many others!

The 2024 ASA DataFest will be held April 26-28 at Ackerman Union. We hope to see you there!

ISBIS Conference – Brock University – 2023



ISBIS

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
FOR BUSINESS AND
INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS

The [International Society for Business and Industrial Statistics \(ISBIS\)](#) invites you to take part in its 2023 Conference taking place on **July 13-14, 2023 at Brock University**, St. Catharines, Canada (20 km West of Niagara Falls). ISBIS is part of a family of international associations that operate under the umbrella of the [International Statistical Institute \(ISI\)](#) and this conference is a satellite event of the [64th ISI World Statistics Congress](#) which will be held July 16th-20th, 2023 in Ottawa, Canada.



ISBIS is an international society dedicated to the promotion of applications, research, and best practices in business and industrial statistics worldwide; it facilitates technology transfer and fosters communications among members and practitioners around the world.

The 2023 ISBIS Satellite Conference aims to bring together researchers and practitioners from around the world who use statistics in business or industrial contexts. The conference promotes communication among researchers and practitioners to enable and ensure the development and widespread use of novel insights and methodology. The conference focus is on recent advancements in methodology as well as on best practices and innovative applications.



64th ISI World Statistics Congress – Ottawa, Canada

2023 Orange County Biostatistics Symposium

29-30 September, 2023

Event website: <https://www.oclbasa.org/>

The Orange County Chapter of the ASA is excited to host its **2023 OC Biostatistics Symposium** on 29-30 Sep 2023. This 2-day event will include a keynote session with panel discussions on Days 1 and 2; 3 parallel tracks of invited and contributed presentations in clinical and statistics, data science and analytics, and academic research areas; and poster sessions. Registration will open by end of May.

CALL FOR STUDENT POSTERS

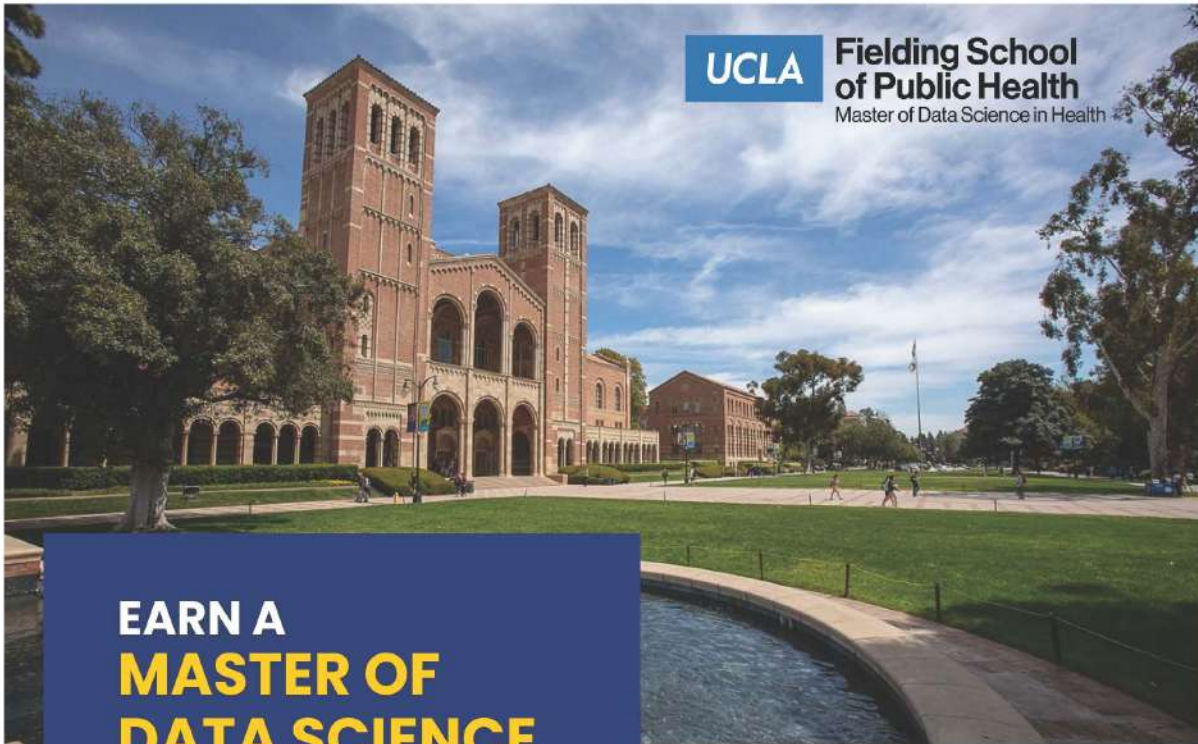
For the poster session, we invite undergraduate and graduate students and postdoctoral trainees to submit a poster abstract for this meeting. The poster session at the symposium provides an excellent opportunity to promote the exchange of ideas and information and facilitate networking opportunities within the statistics community. In addition, presenting a poster provides the students with an opportunity to showcase their work to industry as well as academic professionals.

Students can access more information on the poster session at the conference website under the tab "Poster Submissions" and submit their abstracts before August 11th via the form available on that site.

This year, the poster committee will present *awards in three categories – the best visualization, the best statistical analysis, and the best insight*. Registration fees for the symposium will be waived for undergraduate and graduate students who present their posters.

Please forward this information to your colleagues and students, and we hope that you will encourage your students to submit a poster abstract.

We look forward to seeing you at the symposium!



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