

E-Tidings Newsletter

SCASA Events and News



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Winners of the National Data Visualization Poster Competition Have Been Announced !!!!

The Results Are In — and again SoCal Shines Bright!

We're thrilled to announce that the Southern California region has once again made a huge mark on the national stage! Out of our five incredible regional winners, **three** (3) went on to claim the 1st place and two honorable mentions. Let's give a resounding round of applause to our champions — **Hip-hip hooray! Hip-hip hooray! Hip-hip hooray!**

Check out their outstanding work at <https://community.amstat.org/scasa/postercomp> and see why SoCal continues to lead the way:

1st Place: Taylor Cho, Los Osos High School, and Lynn Kim, Rancho Cucamonga High School, "*The Home Advantage Myth; Major League Sports*" (our 2nd place winner)

Honorable Mention: Seyoung (Anna) Park, The Webb Schools, "*Predictive Model-ing of Autism Spectrum Disorder: Socioeconomic, Prenatal, and Environmental Influ-ences*" (our 1st place winner)

Honorable Mention: Lorry Nam and Alyssa Wang, Diamond Bar High School, "*Higher Education R&D Visualization*" (our 5th place winner)

We send our warmest congratulations to these brilliant students. Your hard work, creativity, and dedication have truly paid off. **Way to go!**

Congratulations to Newly Elected Vice President for Communications !!!



rparent.scasa@gmail.com

Our heartfelt congratulations to **Ronald Parent**, CEO and Founder of Precision Data Strategies and a student at Los Angeles City College, on being unanimously elected as the inaugural Vice President for Communications of SCASA.

In this role, Ronald will be responsible for:

- Managing the chapter's official accounts on platforms including Facebook, Instagram, X (Twitter), YouTube, LinkedIn, and others
- Creating, scheduling, and posting engaging content such as promotional graphics and videos for events, chapter news highlights, member achievements, event recaps, and member interviews
- Collaborating with event organizers to promote activities before and after they occur
- Monitoring engagement analytics and refining content strategies accordingly

We are excited to welcome Ronald to the SCASA leadership team!

Next R-Guru Live Sessions: Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8 AM PT, Aug. 26 - Oct. 14, 2025

Join the Growing R-Guru Community Today!

<https://r-guru.com/join-us/>

Sunil Gupta, Sunil@SASSavvy.com, R-Guru.com & SASSavvy.com Founder, International R Trainer and Consultant, SAS, R and CDISC Author, SME, UCLA and UCSD Professor



R-GURU LIVE MENTORING CLASS – \$399.00 (USD)

Subscription Period: 6 months (non-recurring)

Next Live Sessions: Tuesdays, 6:30 AM – 8:00 AM PT, from August 26 to October 14

Perfect for learners seeking structured R training and personalized mentoring!

Program Includes:

- Up to **24 hours** of Basics and Clinical Hands-on Exercises
- Up to **14 hours** of R Reading
- **10 hours** of R Topic Videos and Podcasts
- **12 hours** of Live Classes (or recordings) with Q&A

You'll also receive a **student journal** covering R programming fundamentals, including SDTMs, ADaMs, and TLFs.

No prior R or programming experience is required!

Sign up now to begin your **free one-on-one mentoring**, receive **email support**, and enjoy **six months of full access** to R-Guru.

STATISTICS AND AI IN MENTAL HEALTH: A 100TH YEAR CELEBRATION AND LOOK TO THE FUTURE



INSTRUCTOR: ANNA YU LEE, PHD
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT OF THE SOCAL
CH. OF THE AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSN.
FOUNDER, CONCIERGE MENTAL HEALTH &
ASSOCIATES (CMHA).



SCASA is super thrilled to announce that this year we have been awarded an ASA traveling course instructed by no one else but our own immediate past president Dr. Anna Yu Lee, a founder and owner of *Concierge Mental Health & Associates*.

Dates: Friday, 9/19/2025, online & Saturday, 9/20, 2025, in person, in the Found-rSpace Building at **87 N. Raymond Ave., Pasadena, CA 91103**. Parking is available in a nearby garage at an hourly rate.

Cost: \$25 Students/Retirees, \$50 general (either one or two days). We owe ASA \$25 per person regardless.

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1486401951249?aff=oddtcreator>

Title: Statistics and AI in Mental Health: A 100th Year Celebration and Look to the Future

Abstract: This seminar introduces the use of statistics and AI to support and complement evidence-informed mental health approaches. Rooted in both statistical reasoning and psychological insight, this course examines the therapeutic potential of tools such as probabilistic thinking, Algorithmic Decision-Tracking, and even generative uses of AI for emotional expression. The session highlights how both statistics and AI can address widespread issues like stress, cognitive distortions, anxiety, depression, fear, and burn-out. It includes exploratory and controversial techniques, critically focusing on ethics, transparency, and cultural respect. In tracing the intersections between statistics, AI, and psychology, the seminar poses a central question: how can statistical logic and AI methodologies help us transcend human limitations rooted in ignorance, emotional reactivity, and ego? This session invites participants to envision a future where data-informed care becomes not only more effective but also more compassionate and equitable.

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STATISTICS AND AI IN MENTAL HEALTH: A 100TH YEAR CELEBRATION AND LOOK TO THE FUTURE

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Instructor Bio: Dr. Anna Yu Lee holds multiple roles, including Immediate Past President of the Southern California Chapter of the American Statistical Association, Adjunct Professor in the School of Community & Global Health at Claremont Graduate University, and Founder and Senior Consultant at Concierge Mental Health & Associates (CMHA). Her education and clinical training span multicultural psychology, public health, and biostatistics, and her professional background includes counseling, residential care management, health promotion science, journalism, undergraduate and graduate instruction, and marketing.

In her private practice, Dr. Yu Lee serves as a consultant, not a psychotherapist. Her publications have appeared in journals of public health, social and behavioral health, and statistical education. She has presented to academic, clinical, and industry audiences across North America, Western Europe, East Asia, and the Middle East. Her teaching experience includes the Marriage & Family Therapy program at the USC Rossier School of Education; the M.S. in Biostatistics program at Azusa Pacific University; and the undergraduate Departments of Mathematics, Physics, and Statistics, as well as Psychology, including at Cal Poly Pomona.

Her international psychology training includes practicums and positions at:

- Saint Anne's Hospital – Paris, France
- Ruijin Hospital, Department of Functional Neurosurgery – Shanghai, China
- Health Education Outreach – Claremont, CA
- Youth Activity Center & Teen Activity Center – Claremont, CA
- Fuller Psychological and Family Services
- 1736 Family Crisis Center – Manhattan Beach, CA
- Pryde Youth Diversion – Aliso Viejo, CA
- Visiting Neighbors – Manhattan, NY

Memberships & Associations:

American Psychological Association, Japanese Association of Clinical Dohsalogy, San Gabriel Valley Psychological Association, Friends of NAMI Greater LA County, Alcohol and Drug History Society, Homeless Count Los Angeles, Western Psychological Association, Psi Chi International Honor Society.

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STATISTICS AND AI IN MENTAL HEALTH: A 100TH YEAR CELEBRATION AND LOOK TO THE FUTURE

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Course Schedule & Location

Friday, September 19th, 2025 (Virtual Only)

10:00am-2:00pm

Group Introductions

Ice-Breaker: Pre-course emotional assessment (optional) & discussion

'Post-Conventional Psychology' Overview

Talk Therapy Appropriateness Discussion

Statistics & AI in Mental Health: An Overview

How can statistical logic and AI help transcend human limitations rooted in ignorance, emotionality, and ego?

Lunch (12:00 – 1pm)

'Statistics Therapeutics'

Approaches & Applications

Review of Quantitative & Qualitative Data

Group Discussion

Saturday, September 20th, 2025 (In-Person, 87 N. Raymond Ave., Pasadena, 91103; \$1/ hourly parking structure located at 171 N. Raymond Ave. 91103).

10:00am-2:00pm

How statistics and AI can help make humans (1) Smarter (2) Less emotional (3) Kinder

Lunch & Centennial Celebration (12:00 – 1pm)

Limitations & Risks, both to consumers as well as providers of Post-Conventional Psychology, Statistics Therapeutics, and AI in mental health spaces

Invitation to complete post-talk emotional assessment

Group Discussion





2025 OCLBASA CAREERS DAY

October 18th, 2025, 9 AM to 1 PM
Chapman University, Orange, CA
Request for exhibitors & mock interviewers

By Xingyu Gao, Vice President of Professional Affairs - OCLBASA

OCLBASA will be hosting their next Careers Day on Saturday, October 18th, at Chapman University. Careers Day is an excellent opportunity for southern California professionals to volunteer just a few hours to help 150+ students and professionals-in-transition explore and advance their careers in the use of statistics. Bring your students and/or come for the opportunity to network with your Southern California colleagues!

9 AM - 12 PM Exhibitors and Mock Interviews (Concurrent)
12 PM - 1 PM Chapter Announcements and Keynote Speaker

Exhibitors: Exhibitors representing their employers, or their academic departments staff a table for 3 hours between 9:00 and noon. Exhibitors are provided tables and chairs. We will make you a sign if you don't have your own. Some exhibitors bring tablecloths, stand-up displays, brochures, tchotchkes, etc. while others just bring themselves. Exhibitors provide help/information to students and professionals in transition. They typically chat with 50-75 students one-on-one and in small groups at their exhibitor table to critique resumes, provide industry background and answer questions. Exhibitors with job openings are welcome to collect resumes. Professional recruiters are welcome but the fee for participation is \$250. No fee is required for other exhibitors.

Mock Interviewers: Individuals from pharma/healthcare, database management, modeling, business analytics, and data science each conduct up to six, 30-minute-long mock applicant interviews. These individuals should be experienced in the evaluations of applicants.

Students/Applicants will be asked to pick a specific, entry-level position (in business analytics, pharma/healthcare, or data scientist). Interview content is up to the interviewer but may include: Student skills, strengths & weaknesses, and career/academic objectives.

Please volunteer by contacting Xingyu Gao at xingyu_gao@edwards.com or 408-656-2419, and/or Lindsay Younis at lindsayb6204@gmail.com. Please provide your contact information, a sentence or two on the type of work you do and your company, and indicate if you'd like to be an exhibitor, mock interviewer, or both. Please send the name and contact information for those who will attend on behalf of your enterprise or academic department. We thank you in advance for your consideration! Your participation in this event will have a direct impact on the attendees as they take their first steps out of academia and into their statistical careers.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2026 Biostatistics Symposium of Southern California

The Southern California Chapter of the American Statistical Association (SCASA) is excited to announce the 2026 Biostatistics Symposium of Southern California (BSSC), returning for its second year as a dynamic forum for bringing together researchers and professionals from both academia and industry. This event is collaboratively organized by the three local ASA chapters—Orange County/Long Beach, San Diego, and Southern California.

Dates: Thursday and Friday, January 22nd & 23rd, 2026

Theme: Navigating New Frontiers: Biostatistics, AI, and Regulatory Evolution in Biomedical Research

Venue: Renaissance Newport Beach Hotel, 4500 MacArthur Boulevard, Newport Beach, CA 92660

The Symposium offers a great opportunity to socialize with fellow biostatisticians and hear from leading statistical and pharmaceutical/medical device experts from industry, academics and regulatory agencies on their experience and practice of bringing innovation to the development of drugs and devices. The theme of the 2026 BSSC is Navigating New Frontiers: Biostatistics, AI and Regulatory Evolution in Biomedical Research. The symposium will cover topics related to the latest landscape of drug/device development advances in methodology and applications of recent advances in the application of AI/ML methodologies in drug development.

For more information, please visit <https://biostatsymposium.org>.



Photos taken during BSSC 2025

SCASA Leadership Legacy Corner



From the list of Past Presidents of SCASA:

2009-2010 Robert L. Gould, Department of Statistics, University of California, Los Angeles

Rob Gould joined SCASA in the 1990's, while a graduate student at UC San Diego, but became more actively involved in 1995, after joining the faculty at UCLA. His first SCASA memory is driving up early in the morning from San Diego to attend an Applied Stats workshop at USC, given by Bradley Efron on the new(ish) topic of bootstrapping. Soon after becoming active with SCASA, which at the time encompassed all of Southern California, he became involved in the Applied Statistics Workshop organizing community, which was a particularly rewarding experience. UCLA founded its Department of Statistics in 1998, and due to his interest in statistics education, Rob was tasked with developing an undergraduate program there. Connections to SCASA were valuable for this, since so many members were deeply concerned about and supportive of education.

In 2007, encouraged by department chair and SCASA member Jan DeLeeuw, Rob launched an e-journal to address the growing role of technology in statistics education. *Technology Innovations in Statistics Education* (TISE) is now run by Prof. Jack Miller at UC Santa Barbara and is in its 15th volume.

In 2012, he founded DataFest, an immersive undergraduate data experience, in which teams of undergraduates work over a weekend to solve a real-world problem involving data. During the weekend, they are assisted by visiting mentors, and SCASA has been one of the most consistent sources of enthusiastic mentors and volunteers, and has also been a crucial source of funding.

DataFest was soon adopted by the ASA (and is now known as ASA DataFest) and is held at over 60 sites around the US, Canada, the UK, Germany, Australia, and Turkey. Rob was president of SCASA in 2009-2010, and remains active in SCASA. In recognition of his contributions to statistical educational, he was awarded a Fellow of the American Statistical Association in 2012 and won the Founders Award in 2025.

He is the recipient of the U.S. Conference on Teaching Statistics Lifetime Achievement Award (2019) and the American Statistical Association Waller Distinguished Teaching Career Award (2019), and is an elected Fellow of the International Statistical Institute (2022). He was awarded the American Statistical Association Outstanding Chapter Service Award, for the Southern California Chapter, in 2020.

SCASA Leadership Legacy Corner



From the list of Past Presidents of SCASA:
2007-2008 Daniel R. Jeske, Department of
Statistics, University of California, Riverside

After seventeen years at Bell Laboratories in New Jersey, I relocated to California in 2003 to embark on a second career in academia. I joined the Statistics Department at the University of California, Riverside, where I was appointed the first Director of the Statistical Consulting Collaboratory. Though the Collaboratory continues to thrive, I transitioned away from leading it in 2015 when I stepped down as Chair of the Department and ultimately moved into upper University Administration. For the past six years, I've served as Vice Provost at UCR.

It was my initial appointment as the Collaboratory Director that led me to engage with SCASA. Following Janet Myhre's term as President (1999–2000), she launched a series of SCASA fall workshops focused on statistical consulting and collaboration. In 2003, she invited, a newcomer to the area, to the event to share insights from my work at Bell Laboratories and present my vision for the Collaboratory at UCR.

Some of my earliest recollections of the chapter involve noticing the strong commitment to engaging students wherever possible. I immediately engaged this way by recruiting UCR students to speak at our Fall Kickoffs. I was excited and inspired when our chapter invited prominent speakers to deliver keynote addresses at our events. A standout moment was when ASA President Brad Efron visited the Fall Kickoff in 2004. We also organized Career Days, frequently held at City of Hope, where we proactively recruited companies and conducted mock interviews for students. In 2008, I arranged for ASA President Mary Ellen Bock to deliver the keynote speech at our Career Day.

Reflecting on our chapter's legacy, I'm struck by the remarkable contributions of multiple individuals I had the privilege to work with. Rodney Jee, who spearheaded our poster competitions and ISEF involvement. Alan Safer, who so competently led the organization of our applied workshops. Janet Myhre, who was the champion of integrating student participation into our events. Rob Gould, who launched the DataFest initiatives, and

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SCASA Leadership Legacy Corner

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Madeline Bauer and some of my Statistics Department colleagues who helped prepare students for their DataFest experience. Andy Dagis, who gave generously of his time in support of our Career Days. Harold Dyck and Mahtash Esfandiari who were ultimate team players when it came to the meticulous details around planning and executing our events, and Olga Korosteleva, whose tireless work then and now produces our outstanding newsletter. Together with the ongoing readiness of new members to step into leadership, including my former PhD student Rebecca Le who was SCASA President in 2021-2022, these efforts have made SCASA a standout example of engagement within the ASA.

I do remember feeling a bit disheartened by the split that led to the creation of the Orange County & Long Beach chapter, but over time, both chapters have emerged strong and vibrant. The successive generations of SCASA leadership have impressed me by meeting new challenges head-on and seizing fresh opportunities.

My experience in SCASA encouraged me to become more involved with ASA and I was elected to the ASA Council of Chapters Governing Board for a three-year term from 2011 to 2013. That experience allowed me to appreciate SCASA's strengths compared to other chapters. In 2014, I was elected to a three-year term on the ASA Board of Directors (2014–2016), where I proposed a program to distribute annual “stimulus funding” to chapters to support their activities, believing that ASA, with its strong financial footing, needed to better support local chapters. My proposal passed, and I’m pleased that each chapter continues to receive \$1,000 per year.

During my unsuccessful populist bid to be elected ASA President in 2020, my primary focus was expanding member engagement. I still see significant opportunities for growth in that area, but I deeply value the efforts of our local chapters, and I’m especially grateful to SCASA for playing a crucial role in my own professional growth.

EnCorps

IGNITE A PASSION FOR STEM



APPLY TODAY

Are you looking for a meaningful career where your skills and experience make a lasting impact? The EnCorps STEM Teaching Fellowship offers a unique pathway to turning your professional expertise into a rewarding teaching career, especially in Career Technical Education (CTE). With this program, you'll gain the tools and support needed to enter the classroom confidently, focusing on hands-on STEM subjects. You can begin teaching in your own classroom in as little as a year.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

With EnCorps, you can confidently explore becoming a STEM teacher as a viable career change. Ready to become a fellow? Heres how:

1. Submit your application.
2. Attend a Group Interview.
3. Sign offer letter and child abuse prevention policy.
4. Complete a background check.
5. Have a Welcome Call with your Program Manager!

What EnCorps Offers:

- **Personalized Support:** We guide you through the process of becoming a credentialed educator, including securing your CTE credential so you can start making an impact sooner.
- **Real-World Teaching Experience:** Our program places you directly in the classroom, allowing you to gain hands-on experience as you work toward your career in education.
- **Professional Development:** Benefit from ongoing training, mentorship, and access to a network of educators who, like you, are dedicated to transforming lives through education.

REQUIREMENTS

You must meet all of the following requirements to qualify in addition to being eligible to work in and currently living in the United States:

- 1 You have STEM industry or education experience that you are eager to share with students
- 2 Hold a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university with a GPA of 2.50 or higher*
- 3 Do not currently have a teaching credential / license / certification in math or science in the state in which you are applying
- 4 Live in an area we serve:
 - California: Greater San Francisco Bay Area; Greater Los Angeles Area / North Orange County; Greater San Diego Area; Greater Riverside Area; Greater Sacramento Area

*In California, if your degree is not in a STEM subject you will have to pass the CSET. In NY, you must earn 30 credits in the subject you wish to teach.

IMPACT

73% of EnCorps Teachers stay teaching for 5+ years.

*nat av 50%

Donate here!

EnCorps



IGNITE A PASSION FOR STEM

APPLY TODAY

At EnCorps, we dare to dream of STEM educational equity - Join us in our mission! As a STEMx Tutors you have the opportunity to share your knowledge with students in under-resourced schools to ignite a love of math that will give them equitable opportunities to pursue a career in science, technology, engineering or math (STEM).



PROGRAM DETAILS

In response to the COVID learning loss for students of color in under-resourced schools, EnCorps launched the STEMx Tutors Program. As a STEMx Tutor, you volunteer-tutor a middle school student in math for two hours per week for one semester, with the opportunity to renew.

Our Expectations:

- Tutoring Options:
 - **Virtual:** Two, one-hour virtual tutoring sessions per week. Day and time is determined by tutor and student. 1:1 student to tutor ratio.
 - **Hybrid:** Two, one-hour virtual tutoring session per week. Monday to Thursdays between 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. (PST) 2:1 student to tutor ratio.
- Duration: Minimum of one semester
- Preparation: Free, one hour and a half hour virtual orientation

The Process:

1. Submit your application
2. Attend a tutor screening session
3. Sign offer letter and child abuse prevention policy; complete background check
4. Attend a virtual orientation
5. Begin tutoring!

REQUIREMENTS

You must meet **one** of the following requirements to qualify, in addition to being eligible to work in the US and currently live in the US.

- 1 Have a bachelor's degree (does not have to be in a STEM field) and have at least 1 year of hands-on STEM industry work experience or have an advanced degree in a STEM field. Cumulative 2.5 GPA or higher.
- 2 Be a junior or senior in a college accredited STEM bachelor's program. Cumulative 2.5 GPA or higher.
- 3 Hold a professional certificate in a STEM field and have at least 1 year of hands-on STEM work experience.
- 4 Are a current or former credentialed math teacher.

IMPACT

84% of students in the program improve their math proficiency

DONATE



Dr. Normalcurvesaurus, Ph.D. presents

