

E-Tidings Newsletter

SCASA Events and News



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NOVEMBER 21, 2025**NOVEMBER 21, 2025***Support the Future of
Statistics and Data Science*

CHAPTER CHALLENGE

Help your chapter be a 2025 Chapter Challenge winner by filling in your chapter's name in the space indicated on the donation page when donating on Giving Day. Each donation equals one chance for your chapter to win, and there will be one chapter winner drawn for each region. The more people from your chapter who donate, the greater your chapter's chance to win! Winners will be announced on November 24 and receive the following:

- Bragging rights for one year
- A visit (either virtual or in person) from the ASA executive director during a chapter event
- An ASA goody bag to use as a door prize at a chapter event Announcement in *Amstat News*

DONATE AND SHARE

[Donate](#) and then use #ASAGivingDay on LinkedIn and tag @AmstatNews on Facebook to encourage others to join you in donating. Participants will be entered into a prize drawing.

EARLY BIRD

[Donate](#) between 9–10 a.m. ET on ASA Giving Day and be entered into a prize drawing.

AFTERNOON ENERGIZER

[Donate](#) between 3–4 p.m. ET on ASA Giving Day and be entered into a prize drawing

To read more about the ASA Giving Day, check out these sites:

<https://ww2.amstat.org/givingday/index.cfm>

<https://ww2.amstat.org/givingday/contests.cfm>



SCASA KICK-OFF MEETING

Celebrating Our 100th Anniversary

Saturday, December 6, 10AM-2:30PM (PT)

[HTTPS://CSULB.ZOOM.US/J/89179580541](https://csulb.zoom.us/j/89179580541)

TENTATIVE AGENDA

10AM-12PM Presentations

- **(10:05-10:10AM)** *Opening Remarks by the Current SCASA President* – Chong Ho Alex Yu, Hawai'i Pacific University, 2025-2026 SCASA President
- **(10:10-10:25AM)** *Building Community and Advancing Statistics: Perspectives from ASA Ex-Officios* – Jessica Utts, 111th ASA President (2016); Robert Rodriguez, 107th ASA President (2012); Sastry Pantula, 105th ASA President (2010)
- **(10:25-10:30AM)** *Reflections and Humor from Ron Wasserstein* – Ronald Wasserstein, Executive Director, ASA
- **(10:30-10:40AM)** *Wisdom from the Chapter's Early Era* – Ernest Scheuer, CSUN, 1971-1972 SCASA President, & Joyce Niland, City of Hope, 1996-1997 SCASA President
 - **(10:40-10:50AM)** Q/A
- **(10:50-10:55 AM)** *DataFest: Founding and 15 Years of Triumph* – Robert Gould, UCLA, event founder, 2009-2010 SCASA president
- **(10:55-11:05AM)** *Applied Statistics Workshop: A Continuous Journey Since 1982* – Harold Dyck, CSUSB, 2001-2002 SCASA President, & Eric Kawaguchi, USC, SCASA President-Elect
 - **(11:05-11:10AM)** Break
- **(11:10-11:20AM)** *Newsletter: Evolution through History* – Olga Korosteleva, CSULB, 2017-2018 SCASA President, & Rodney Jee, USAA Bank, Phoenix, AZ, 2003-2004 SCASA President

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SCASA KICK-OFF MEETING

Celebrating Our 100th Anniversary

Continued from the previous page.

- **(11:20-11:30AM)** *Regional Data Visualization Poster Competition: Five Years of Unequivocal Success* – Rebecca Le, County of Riverside, 2021-2022 SCASA President
- **(11:30-11:40AM)** *Statistical Therapy TV Game Show* – Anna Yu Lee, Concierge Mental Health, SCASA Immediate Past President
- **(11:40-11:50AM)** *Bridging Traditional Statistics with Data Science and AI* – Chong Ho Alex Yu, Hawai'i Pacific University, 2025-2026 SCASA President
- **(11:50-12:00PM)** *Collaboration with Neighboring Chapters: ASA Traveling Courses and Biostatistics Symposium of Southern California* – Eric Kawaguchi, USC, SCASA President-Elect, & Olga Korosteleva, CSULB, 2017-2018 SCASA President

12:00-12:30PM Lunch (from your microwave)



12:30-2:30PM Business Meeting

- **(12:30-12:45PM)** SCASA Year 2025 Report (Chong Ho Alex Yu, SCASA President) & Discussion
- **(12:45-1:00PM)** Treasurer's report (Olga Korosteleva, SCASA Treasurer) & Discussion
- **(1:00-1:15PM)** ASA DataFest event at UCLA (Tsel Anuurad and Kevin Baer, UCLA, Undergraduate Committee Chairs) & Discussion
- **(1:15-1:30PM)** Calendar of SCASA Events in 2026 (Chong Ho Alex Yu) & Discussion
- **(1:30-1:45PM)** A few words from Vice Chair-Elect of ASA District 6 for 2026-2028 term (Olga Korosteleva) & Discussion
- **(1:45-2:30PM)** Q/A, discussion

Opportunity to Organize a Topic-Contributed Section on Statistics and Data Science Education at JSM 2026 in Boston, MA

Hello Statistics Educators,

The ASA Section on Statistics and Data Science Education is seeking topic-contributed session proposals for the 2026 Joint Statistical Meetings in Boston, MA. Proposals must be submitted through the [online portal](#) by **Wednesday, December 10, 2025 (11:59 p.m. ET / 8:59 p.m. PT)**. A [topic-contributed session](#) is organized around a common theme and includes speakers presenting on that shared topic. Talk to potential presenters early, each person may serve as a presenting author in only one session. Please review [the JSM 2026 Participation Guidelines](#) for limits on participation.

Types of Topic-Contributed Sessions

- Paper Sessions: Five speakers (at least 3 presenters and up to 2 discussants); 20 minutes per speaker.
- Panels: Three to six panelists offering perspectives on a common topic; no individual abstracts.
- Poster Sessions: 10–15 presenters with posters on a shared theme.

How to Propose a Session

- Develop your topic and a list of speakers who agree to participate.
- Submit your proposal online between November 13 and December 10, 2025.
- Await approval from the JSM Program Committee.
- Ensure all speakers submit abstracts by February 2, 2026 (notifications sent in early January).
- All speakers must register for JSM.

Information Required for Submission

- Session type (Paper or Panel)
- Sponsor (select up to three)
- Session title
- Session description (max 3,500 characters) including:
- Session focus, content, timeliness, and appeal
- Invited speakers/panelists and tentative titles
- Session format (e.g., chair, speakers, discussant)
- Organizer(s), chair, speakers, and/or discussants with affiliations and emails



Paper sessions must have five speakers; panel sessions must have three to six panelists.

With any questions, please email Tyler George at tgeorge@cornellcollege.edu.



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. 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.



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

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

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

Registration: now open at <https://biostatssymposium.org/>

Cost: Until 12/24 - \$380 general/\$80 student

Please consider joining the organizing committee next year. We'd love to have stronger representation from SCASA to make the event even more impactful.

For more information, please refer to the event website: <http://biostatssymposium.org/>



2026 SCASA REGIONAL DATA VISUALIZATION POSTER COMPETITION FOR GRADES 10-12

SCASA is pleased to announce the 6th **Annual Regional Data Visualization Poster Competition** for High School Students in Grades 10–12.

Student will submit a photo or image of their physical poster, or a PDF file of a single-slide digital poster, by **Friday, March 20, 2026**.

For full competition details, visit

<https://community.amstat.org/scasa/postercomp>

Everyone will receive a certificate of participation. Winners will be notified via email by **Monday, April 6, 2026**. The top five winning teams will receive cash prizes and their posters will be submitted to the national level of the competition. As it is our tradition, the first-place winning team will be invited to present during lunch at the Applied Statistics Workshop in April 2026.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU

The winners will be selected by **a panel of judges**. If you would like to serve as a judge or have any questions, please contact Rebecca Le at **becky_le@yahoo.com**.

R, SAS, AND AI LEADERSHIP WEBINAR FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING

December 4, 2025, 8 - 9:30 am PT

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



Day/time: December 4, 2025, 8-9:30AM (PT)

Location: online

Cost: \$199.00 (USD)

Registration: <https://r-guru.com/join-us>, Option G

This one-and-a-half hour R leadership webinar for strategic planning is a comprehensive overview and reasons for leveraging R, pharmaverse and AI in the pharma industry. Learn about R success studies and lessons learned from top pharma who have prepared R for regulatory submissions.

During the first hour, we will review the history, current and future plans for R and pharma industry initiatives. We will explore common R packages and your options for selecting R packages in the pharmaverse. We will also review some of the technical challenges in setting up R in a regulatory controlled statistical computing environment.

Don't get left behind! Get your non-technical and technical questions answered during the 30 minutes Q & A section.

Sunil Gupta, Sunil@SASSavvy.com,

[R-Guru.com](https://r-guru.com) & [SASSavvy.com](https://sassavvy.com) Founder,

International R Trainer and Consultant,

SAS, R and CDISC Author,

UCLA and UCSD Professor

**TO REGISTER GO TO: [HTTPS://R-GURU.COM/JOIN-US](https://r-guru.com/join-us),
AND SELECT OPTION G**

DR. NORMALCURVESAURUS, PH.D., IS TURNING 13!

