The Nevada Chapter’s last submission to *Chapter Chatter* was in 2014; since then we’ve had many interesting activities and events in both northern and southern Nevada. In this update I will just focus on our endeavors during the COVID-19 pandemic, which (not surprisingly) required a complete switch to virtual programming.

**K-12 Poster Competition.** Our chapter has hosted a regional K-12 poster competition as part of the ASA’s Data Visualization Poster Competition since 2004, in recent years with support from the Southern Nevada Mathematics Council. In 2020 well over 200 submissions were received, but our school system locked down just days prior to the scheduled judging event in March. A delayed virtual judging event took place in June, and awards were distributed in the fall. All this required a colossal effort from our coordinator, Tia M. Price, in the year of her retirement from the Clark County School District. One of our 2020 state-level winners received an honorary mention at the national-level competition. Sadly, in 2021, based on feedback from stressed teachers and parents, we suspended our statewide competition for the first time since its founding, though individuals were invited to participate directly in the national level competition. We hope to resurrect our statewide competition in 2022.

**Annual Meeting.** We typically alternate our annual meeting between northern and southern Nevada, but in 2020 we switched to a completely virtual format for the first time in chapter history. That year’s theme was "State of Data Science", a statewide sequel to a highly successful in-person special event we hosted in 2019, "State of Data Science in Las Vegas". Both the 2019 and 2020 data science events were spearheaded by our then-Southern Vice President, Shar Chaudhry. Invited speakers included the Director of Football Analytics of the Las Vegas Raiders, David Christoff, as well as guests from Wells Fargo (Mengling Cao), Employers Insurance (Jackie Zuker), and DataRobot (Ari Kaplan). The symposium began with a series of rapid introductions to eight of our state’s statistics, data science, and analytics academic programs, covering departments of mathematics/statistics, business, biostatistics, and educational psychometrics. Over half of these programs have new degrees introduced within the last year or two, reflecting tremendous demand from both students and employers within our state. The symposium also included research presentations from three graduate students and a short course on "Live Data Pipelines" by Jonathan Sims of NOW Insurance. Our 2021 annual meeting on Oct. 16 will include a mini-State-of-Data-Science session, a roundtable discussion on software for teaching statistics and data science, and a session highlighting cross-pollination with sibling fields such as psychometrics and bioinformatics. We also look forward to celebrating the chapter’s 20th
anniversary in 2022.

*Careers in Data Science and Statistics.* In 2021 our chapter began a collaboration with the University of Nevada Reno's Dept. of Mathematics and Statistics, sponsoring a series of three virtual symposia on careers in data science and statistics. Each symposium featured a speaker describing their career path, current duties, and career advice for students. Our speakers included data scientists from Cigna (health insurance), ADM Associates (energy efficiency), and Wells Fargo (internal audit data analytics). The discussion/Q&A for each session ran half an hour past the scheduled end time, reflecting high engagement with the virtual participants. *Traveling course.* The ASA Council of Chapters has graciously awarded us a traveling course, "Introduction to Data Science, Machine Learning, and Deep Learning (in R and Python)" taught by Drs. Hui Lin (Google) and Ming Li (Amazon). Ming Li was also our 2017 annual meeting keynote speaker. We presented the course virtually on July 23-24, 2021, with around 40 participants.

*Other events.* In April 2020, we hosted a virtual symposium with speakers on two high-profile statistical topics for 2020: the census and the pandemic. Our chapter Treasurer, Alejandra Livingston, told us about our state Department of Corrections' efforts to count the incarcerated population in its prison system. Prof. Brian Labus (School of Public Health, University of Nevada, Las Vegas) spoke about modeling the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. Prof. Labus is a member of the Governor's scientific advisory panel on the pandemic, and a frequent "go-to" for the local news media during their coverage of the pandemic.

In January 2021, we continued our tour of "hot 2020 statistics topics" with a symposium on "Perspectives on Polling Methodology", featuring Prof. Ole Forsbeg (Knox College Math/Stats; author of *Understanding Elections through Statistics*, CRC Press, 2020) and Prof. Kenneth Miller (UNLV Poli Sci, and former pollster & market researcher prior to his academic career). We are hosting a fall virtual event on data privacy and confidentiality, scheduled for the morning of Sept. 11, 2021, and featuring speakers from Penn State, Harvard, Purdue, and USDA.