The Alabama-Mississippi Chapter hosted its annual conference March 31 at The University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health. Sixty current and prospective chapter members attended from UAB, Mississippi State University, the University of Mississippi, Mississippi Medical Center, Auburn University, and the University of West Florida. The conference featured a keynote presentation, student oral presentations, and poster presentations.

The keynote speaker was Leslie McClure, professor and chair of the department of epidemiology and biostatistics and the associate dean for faculty affairs at Drexel University. She has served as chair of the board of directors for the National Alliance for Doctoral Studies in the Mathematical Sciences and is a fellow of both the ASA and Society of Clinical Trials. The title of her talk was “You Learn Something New Every Day, the Life of a Collaborative Biostatistician.”

Students presented their research in various fields. Topics included neural networks; deep learning GAN models; Markov chain; Bayesian generalized linear models and mediation analysis; robust multiple imputations; and applications on risk prediction and diagnosis models for cancer, ADHD, and lung degradation.

Chia-Ying Chiu from UAB and Sakie Arachchiga from MSU both received first-place awards for their oral presentations. The second-place winner was Mous-Abou Hamadou from Ole Miss, and third place went to Yagmur Yavuz Ozdemir from AU.

Chathurika Abeykoon from Ole Miss won the first-place award for poster presentations, while Andre Sims from UAB and Ihsan Buker from UWF were the second- and third-place winners, respectively.

The chapter also held a brief business meeting. Topics included a recap of recent Alabama-Mississippi Chapter activities, a report on the ASA Council of Chapters meeting, and a chapter treasurer’s report.

Learn more about the presentations and view photos on the chapter website.
Leslie McClure delivers the keynote presentation, titled “You Learn Something New Every Day, the Life of a Collaborative Biostatistician.”
Student Poster Presenters and Chapter President
Student Oral Presenters, Keynote Speaker, and Chapter President