Kentucky Chapter
Amanda Ellis

The Kentucky Chapter hosts two events a year. In the fall of 2023, we hosted a hybrid professional development event aimed at learning Python, and this spring, we hosted an in-person event with virtual options aimed at students. The fall short course, titled “Python for R Users,” was presented by Bereket Kindo from Humana in person on the University of Louisville campus and virtually. The event was free to students because of a donation from the American Statistical Association Biopharmaceutical Section. The course introduced Python programming for users of R and highlighted the two languages’ syntactic similarities and differences. The event was well attended, with participants from the University of Louisville, the University of Kentucky, Humana, Norton Healthcare, and Syneos Health.

This spring, we hosted our spring meeting at the University of Kentucky with options for virtual attendance. The meeting featured a presentation from the ASA Chapter Visitation Program, a student research symposium, and a keynote presentation. The ASA Chapter Visitation Program presentation was delivered by ASA President-elect Ji-Hyun Lee (University of Florida) and was titled “The Future of Work: Statistics and Data Science as Leading Professions in Diverse Fields.” During the research symposium portion of the meeting, students were invited to present their work. Nine students presented on a variety of theoretical and applied topics, and monetary awards were given to the top presenters. Rick Lucas (University of Cincinnati) and Haichao Zhang (University of Cincinnati) each received a $100 prize. Kun Liu (University of Kentucky) and Anish Mukherjee (University of Louisville) received $50. The keynote presentation was given by Pankaj Choudhary from the University of Texas at Dallas. The presentation was titled “Tolerance Bands for Exponential Family Functional Data.”

This fall we will hold officers’ elections. Our current officers are as follows:

- President, Donna Levy, Syneos Health
- Vice-President, Amanda Ellis, University of Kentucky
- Treasurer, Qi Zheng, University of Louisville
- Secretary, Chi Wang, University of Kentucky
- Representative to the Council of Chapters, Jeremy Gaskins, University of Louisville

In the fall, we will host the ASA traveling course “From Big Data to Better Insights: A Primer on using Machine Learning Methods in a Data-Centric World,” presented by Trent D. Buskirk from
Old Dominion University. For more information, visit our website at https://community.amstat.org/kentucky/home.