Council of Chapters
Officer Appreciation Workshop

Alex Hanlon, COCGB Chair Elect 2017
Tuesday, August 1st
4 to 6 PM
Hilton Key Ballroom 1
Agenda

4:00 to 4:20  Hors d’oeuvres and networking
4:20 to 4:30  Introduction
4:30 to 6:00  Discussion among Chapter Officers (~15 minutes each)

Note: Please write down any questions on the notepads at your table and we will address them at the end or via a Q&A document should we run out of time.

Please sign in with your name and email so we may send you the Chapter Chatter article summarizing today’s discussion.
Stimulus Funding Initiative

• Steve Porzio, Associate Executive Director and Director of Operations, ASA
• Pilot program, started in 2016**
• How much have we spent thus far? How many initiatives?
• How to request funds?
• Will it continue?
• Are there any conditions for funding (what will or won’t be funded)?
• What is the time frame for which funds can be used?
• What types of initiatives have been funded?

**Thank you ASA and Dan Jeske for promoting this program!
Guiding Questions

1. Chapter, membership size and type (academic, pharma, etc.)
2. What was the activity? Was it a new initiative or an existing one that was done bigger and better?
3. Did the event occur because the ASA provided funding? Or was it going to happen regardless of the ASA funding?
4. How did the activity elevate enthusiasm?
5. How did the activity impact the chapter?
6. How did the activity impact membership?
7. In looking back, is there anything you would have done differently?
8. Do you have recommendations for other chapters on the use of stimulus funds?
9. Do you have ideas for future use of stimulus funds?
District 2: Kentucky Chapter
Jeremy Gaskins

1. Membership: ~70; primarily academic
2. Initiative: Spring meeting and student research symposia; expanded version of biannual chapter meeting
3. A cheaper and less engaged meeting would have occurred regardless. Stimulus funds paid for student prizes and food, which would not have been otherwise possible.
4. Elevate enthusiasm: The opportunity for students to present their research along with monetary prizes for best presentations was a big hit. This made the meeting interactive, encouraged student participation, and led to higher turnout from students and their advisors.
5. Impact chapter: In addition to the student presentations, we also had a panel discussion with professional statisticians, mainly from outside of academia.
6. Impact membership: Generated enthusiasm among students and fostered relationships with non-academic members.
7. Lessons learned: There were some technology issues stemming from a mix-up in what technology was provided in the meeting room versus what was expected.
8. Recommendations: Student prizes for research presentations was highly successful.
9. Future stimulus ideas: Bring in a “big name” speaker to give a short course.
District 3: Philadelphia Chapter
Scott McClintock

1. Membership: 327 members (3% students, 44% Pharma and 37% academia)

2. Initiative: Purchase AV equipment to support signature event.

3. The equipment was in desperate need of replacement so we would have had to do so regardless of the funding. That said, the cost of the replacement was in excess of $1000 so it is not clear how we would have paid for it without the stimulus funds.

4-6. Enthusiasm and membership: Realistically it probably helped maintain, rather than elevate, enthusiasm and membership.

7. Lessons learned: Maintain greater communication between our Chapter and the larger ASA body.

9. Future stimulus ideas: Offset costs associated with workshop and meeting. Stimulus funds ease the financial burden of events, giving us freedom to try out new events like our upcoming Big Data Symposium.
1. Membership: ~30 members, mostly academic
2. Initiative: A student poster conference with refreshments served. Students were granted a small honorarium.
3. The stimulus funding helped us create the event.
4. Elevate enthusiasm: Being mostly academics, our membership was excited to provide this opportunity to our students. It was a great opportunity to interact with our colleagues from different universities.
5. Impact chapter: It increased interest in the chapter and led to our sponsorship of a short course.
6. Impact membership: Not sure if membership increased, or if some members became more visible.
7. Lessons learned: Not really, as everything worked very well.
8. Recommendations: Use them!
1. Membership: ~45 members, mostly academic with faculty and students in Alabama and Mississippi.

2. Initiative: 1-day mini conference held on UAB campus consisting of 4 student presentations, a keynote address by Barry Nussbaum, lunch with a student poster session, and business meeting. This was a new initiative to help reinvigorate the chapter.

3. The ASA stimulus funds definitely facilitated the event. It may have occurred regardless, but the funds allowed us to minimize the registration fee and therefore increase enrollment.

4. Elevate enthusiasm: We attracted new members, especially students from universities in Alabama and Mississippi. Several long term members attended and were complimentary of the event and happy that we are restarting chapter activity.

5. Impact chapter: We plan to hold a similar event annually to maintain the momentum, where we’ll alternate venues between Alabama and Mississippi. We also expanded the number of leadership roles (added a Secretary to the Pres, VP, and Treasurer) to help coordinate future activities.

6. Impact membership: Membership increased marginally.

7. Lessons learned: We would have requested the funds earlier to better coordinate and advertise. We were lucky last year, as UAB did not charge for the venue space and Dr. Nussbaum’s travel costs were completely covered between the ASA and the UAB Department of Biostatistics. We might not always have such expenses waived in the future, so it’s really important to get a handle on the budget early. Also, we will pre-approve the expenses that we intend the stimulus funds to cover rather than paying for them up front and asking for reimbursement.

8. Recommendations: 1-day meetings or short courses are both very feasible ideas.

9. Future stimulus ideas: We’ll hold another mini conference and/or short course later this year.
District 5: Florida Chapter
Naomi Brownstein

1. Membership: ~160, mainly academic, ~30% students
2. Initiative: Poster competition that funded student travel awards to attend the Chapter's annual meeting.
3. The travel award program was a new initiative and was created to utilize the stimulus funding. The pre-meeting poster competition occurred because of the funding.
4. Elevate enthusiasm: It encouraged students to prepare posters well in advance of the meeting and strive for the travel award to fund their attendance.
5. Impact chapter: It increased the visibility of the annual meeting, and encouraged students to participate. The announcement for the poster competition was sent out multiple times to all Chapter members, not just the student members, to also solicit involvement of faculty members in encouraging their students to participate.
6. Impact membership: Yes, students receiving the award had to sign up to attend the meeting.
7. Lessons learned: If possible, we would have moved the deadline closer to our chapter meeting to encourage more students to participate. Other good ideas came up for the use of the stimulus funding, but most did not work because of the restricted time window to spend the funds. For the future funding cycles, we would be able to have a complete plan to fully utilize the funds.
8. Recommendations: Plan ahead for activities that can be supported by the stimulus funding.
9. Future ideas: To use the funds for data competition, featured speech, or other activities that can expand the scope and breadth of the Chapter's annual meeting and stimulate participation.
District 5: Southeast Texas Chapter
Michael Longnecker

1. Membership: 80 members, ~20% students, mostly academic
2. Initiative; Statistics poster session with ~20 student participants from differing departments, but mainly PhD Statistics students. This is the second time the event was held.
3. The stimulus funds allowed for student support for poster preparation and many more prizes than what occurred during the first time the session was held.
4. Elevate enthusiasm: There was strong support from the faculty and many students attended that were not displaying a poster but were interested in the research activities. The faculty and students had very lively discussions with the poster presenters. Everyone seemed to enjoy the event.
5. Impact chapter: The event demonstrated to students the importance of the ASA to our local chapter.
6. Impact membership: We will see if there is an increase in student membership in the coming years.
7. Lessons learned: We will need a larger room. The discussions were so lively that it was somewhat problematic in hearing the students’ discussions of their research.
8. Recommendations: It was rewarding to see the students’ excitement when one of their colleagues received one of the prizes.
9. Future ideas: Repeating the event next year.
District 6: Southern California Chapter
Harold Dyck

1. Membership: ~350 members, a mixture of academic and industry

2. Initiative: Catering for our annual "Applied Statistics Workshop" and on a microphone for our book club (Dan Jeske is in charge, he is launching it in July or so). From this expenditure, we gained increased involvement at the board level, increased membership, and, I predict, a high interest in the book club.

3. The workshop would have occurred regardless, but the stimulus funds facilitated the book club.

4. Elevate enthusiasm: For the workshop, we were able to reduce the fee and I’m sure it contributed to the attendance and success. We haven’t held our first book club event yet.

5. Impact chapter: It increased the visibility of the chapter and kept our bank account healthy.

6. Impact membership: We added some 20 members since the kick-off.

7. Lessons learned: This is a great idea. ASA should have started this initiative years ago.

8. Recommendations: Get involved and get going!

9. Future ideas: We are particularly interested in helping to encourage student involvement in our events, so we think lowering the cost to students at our events is particularly helpful.
Summary

• Stimulus funds could lessen the burden on bank accounts and provided more freedom to try different events.

• Stimulus funds could promote more social interactions, increasing engagement and networking, as well as strengthening relationships.

• Stimulus funds appear to be a nice avenue to foster student engagement.

• Questions?

• Thank you for your participation and keep up the good work!

• And THANK YOU, Dan Jeske, for proposing the valuable initiative!
District 4: Nebraska Chapter
Brianna Hitt

1. Membership: ~80 members serving Omaha and Lincoln metro (~30-40 faculty/staff, 25 students, 15 industry members).

2. Initiative: Activity funded Spring 2017 meeting and social event, with a catered meal, including appetizers and drinks, for ~30 members.

3. The event would not have occurred without ASA funding. We would have instead done something much smaller and with less food and drink provided.

4. Elevate enthusiasm: The activity seemed to make members enthusiastic about future meetings, helped members get to know each other and want to get together again.

5. Impact chapter: It helped the chapter members get to know each other better socially, without having to have an academic conversation. People seemed to be more willing to talk about things other than statistics and people seemed to be more open than in other settings.

6. Impact membership: We hope that our members communicated with others at work, in their academic departments, etc. about their positive chapter experience and encourage them to join.

7. Lessons learned: We forgot that alcoholic drinks could not be reimbursed. We could have planned for more food, or tried to get higher attendance, and done a better job of budgeting for drinks as a chapter.

8. Recommendations: Using stimulus funds on food for social events is good for encouraging members to get to know each other outside of a professional setting. Spending the funding on bringing in a speaker would also be a good idea.

9. Future stimulus ideas: similar social events or to support a speaker.