President’s Report

Dear NIC-ASA Members,

I hope you have been enjoying a safe and happy summer. Thank you all for continuing to support our organization, the Northeastern Illinois Chapter of the American Statistical Association (NIC-ASA). Our Spring Workshop with Professor George Casella was a success, and I thank those who attended. We hope to host more ASA traveling courses in the coming years.

I would like to welcome Patrick Huang as our new Treasurer and thank Serena Chan for all her efforts as our past treasurer. Thank you to Patrick Huang, Eric Song, Carolyn Setze, Clint Lovell, Mahinda Karunaratne, Carl Slenk, Melvin Munsaka, Marty King, and Jennifer Yen for continuing to support the chapter in their respective roles. A big thank you goes out to Carolyn and Patrick for coordinating the arrangements for our Fall Workshop.

You may have noticed that this year the NIC-ASA will host two full-day meetings rather than the usual Fall and Spring half-day meetings with a full-day Summer Workshop. We are always looking for ways to improve our chapter, and I encourage your active participation and suggestions for ways in which we can promote chapter activities. I hope this change is a pleasant surprise to you. We are thrilled to have Dr. Peace present this year’s Fall Workshop. I look forward to seeing you in October and stay tuned for our events in 2012.

The chapter is always in need of volunteers; please do not hesitate to contact a chapter officer if you are able to help out in any way or would like to become an officer (see the nominations announcement below). Participating in the chapter’s activities is an excellent way to stay current with statistics and to network with fellow statisticians in the area.

Best Wishes,
Sandra

Fall Workshop

Please join us for the Fall Workshop on Thursday, October 20, 2011 at the Wyndham - Glenview located at 1400 N. Milwaukee Avenue in Glenview, IL.

Registration opens at 8:30 am and the course will begin promptly at 9:00 am. The registration fee includes course materials as well as refreshments including a continental breakfast, lunch and snacks during the mid-morning and mid-afternoon breaks.

If you have not received a registration form via the email list one can be obtained from the chapter web site (www.amstat.org/chapters/NortheasternIllinois).
Title: Clinical Trial Methodology
Speaker: Dr. Karl E. Peace

Abstract: A clinical trial is a research study conducted to assess the utility of an intervention in volunteers. Interventions may be diagnostic, preventative or treatment in nature and may include drugs, biologics, medical devices or methods of screening. Interventions may also include procedures whose aim is to improve quality of life or to better understand how the intervention works in volunteers. Clinical trial methodology (CTM) comprises all methods required for the protection of participants in a clinical trial and all methods necessary to provide a valid inference about the objective of the trial. In short, CTM consists of all methods necessary to develop and conduct a quality clinical trial protocol and to provide quality data collection, biostatistical analyses and a clinical study report while maintaining the highest standards of ethics and excellence. Several landmark clinical trials from the presenter’s own experience that led to regulatory approval of drugs (e.g. reducing CHD risk, optimal treatment of DU, prevention of GU, and a parallel bioequivalence trial) will be reviewed from a case study approach with attention to CTM utilized. The presentation is based on: Peace KE, Chen D (2010): Clinical Trial Methodology; Chapman & Hall/CRC, Taylor and Francis Group; ISBN 978-1-5848-8917-5. A discount flyer for this book will be available at the workshop.

Bio: Dr. Karl E. Peace is the Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Cancer Scholar (GCCDCS), Senior Research Scientist and Professor of Biostatistics in the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health (JPHCOPH) at Georgia Southern University. He is the architect of the MPH in Biostatistics and Founding Director of the Center for Biostatistics in the JPHCOPH. Dr. Peace holds the Ph.D. in Biostatistics from the Medical College of Virginia, the M.S. in Mathematics from Clemson University, the B.S. in Chemistry from Georgia Southern College, and a Health Science Certificate from Vanderbilt University.

Dr. Peace also had a lengthy career in research, technical support and management in the pharmaceutical industry. He held the positions of Senior Statistician at Burroughs-Wellcome, Manager of Clinical Statistics at A.H. Robins, Director of Research Statistics at SmithKline and French Labs, Senior Director of GI Clinical Studies, Data Management and Analysis, at G.D. Searle, and Vice President of World-Wide Technical Operations at Warner Lambert/Parke-Davis. He then founded Biopharmaceutical Research Consultants, Inc. (BRCI), where he held the positions of President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chief Scientific Officer. Dr. Peace has made pivotal contributions in the development and approval of drugs to treat Alzheimer’s disease, to prevent and treat gastrointestinal ulcers, to reduce the risk of myocardial infarction, to treat anxiety, depression and panic attacks, to treat hypertension and arthritis, and several antibiotics.

Dr. Peace is a member of several professional societies and is the recipient of numerous citations and awards: (1) Georgia Cancer Coalition Distinguished Cancer Scholar, (2) Fellow of the ASA, (3) the Distinguished Service Award of the DIA, (4) Star and Featured Alumnus, School of Basic Sciences, and Founder’s Society Medal from the Medical College of Virginia, (5) College of Science and Technology Alumnus of the year, Alumnus of the year in private enterprise, Presidential Fellowship Award, Researcher of the year awards, and the First
Recipient of the prestigious President’s Medal for outstanding service and extraordinary contributions, all from Georgia Southern University, (6) 2007 APHA Statistics Section Award, (7) 2008 Shining Star and HR #2118 recognition by GA House of Representatives, (8) US Congress Citation for contributions to drug research and development and to Public Health, (9) the Tito Mijares Lifetime Achievement Award, (10) the Deen Day Smith Humanitarian Award and (11) several meritorious service awards from the ASQC, BASS and the Georgia Cancer Coalition. He is or has been Chair of: the Biostatistics Subsection of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (BSPMA), the Training Committee of the BSPMA, the Biopharmaceutical Section of the ASA, the Statistics Section of the APHA, and is Founder of the Biopharmaceutical Applied Statistics Symposium (BASS), now in its 18th year.

Dr. Peace is the author or editor of 10 books and the author or co-author of 200 articles. His primary research interests are: Drug research and development, clinical trial methodology, time-to-event methodology, and public health applications of biostatistics. Dr. Peace is a renowned philanthropist having created 21 scholarship endowments across 5 educational and public health institutions. Further details of Dr. Peace's accomplishments and contributions may be found in his autobiography: Paid In Full, available at: www.plowboy-press.com.

Recognitions

Congratulations to Melvin Munsaka for being awarded an ASA Chapter Service Recognition Award.

Upcoming Meetings and Presentations

SAS Global Forum April 22-25, 2012 in Orlando, Florida

PharmaSUGI May 13-16, 2012 in San Francisco, California

JSM July 28 - August 2, 2012 in San Diego, California,

ENAR April 1-4, 2012 in Washington DC


Volunteer or Job Opportunities

Please see the chapter website for any opportunities. If you would like to post a position on our website, please contact the webmaster.

Officer Nominations

The chapter is accepting nominations for officers. If you would like to nominate yourself or a colleague for President-Elect or another position, please contact an officer.

Getting Involved

Volunteers are needed to help with registration at the Fall Workshop. Registration volunteers will be expected to arrive prior to the start of the registration period and will work at the registration desk as directed by the Chapter Treasurer, Patrick Huang. This is a great way to connect faces with names and get to know other Chapter members. If you would like to volunteer to assist in registration, please contact Patrick Huang via email at phuang@tgrd.com or by phone at (224) 554-2128.
Chapter Mailing List

Due to changes in the way ASA supports chapter mailing lists, effective September 2010 the NIC-ASA now sends announcements, such as save-the-date memos, registration information, and Statfax newsletters, via the email address, nic.amstat@gmail.com. If you would like to join our mailing list, please subscribe by sending an email to nic.amstat@gmail.com.

Chapter Website

Our Chapter’s website has the latest news on the Chapter. Find it at: www.amstat.org/chapters/NortheasternIllinois

The website contains lots of information about our Chapter, including events, program information, and contact information for Chapter officers and committee members. You can also peruse current and past Chapter newsletters and slides/notes from previous presentations.

Officers and Committee Chairs

President
Sandra Sinisi
(847) 317-5470
sesinisi@yahoo.com

President Elect/Program Chair
Mahinda Karunaratne
(847) 317-8676
nivpat@comcast.net

Secretary, Webmaster, and Mailing List Administrator
Clint Lovell
(224) 361-7786
clint lovell@gmail.com

Treasurer and Membership Database
Patrick Huang
(224) 554-2128
phuang@tgrd.com

Associate Treasurer
Eric Song
(224) 554-2997
esong@tgrd.com

Past President
Marty King
(847) 938-3775
martin. king@abbott.com

Chapter Representative
Melvin Munsaka
(224) 554-2846
mmunsaka@tgrd.com

Arrangements Coordinator
Carolyn Setze
(847) 937-5816
carolyn.setze@abbott.com

Newsletter Editor
Carl Slenk
(224) 361-7219
carl.slenk@abbott.com

Workshop Publicity
Jennifer Yen
(847) 938-2942
Jennifer.L.Yen@abbott.com

Community Activities
Carole Bernett
(630) 773-2697
cbernett@ix.netcom.com
Publication Info

Statfax is published by the Northeastern Illinois Chapter of the American Statistical Association.

Statfax welcomes letters and material for articles from its readers. Address correspondence to: The Editor, Statfax, c/o Carl Slenk, Abbott Molecular, 1300 E. Touhy Ave., Des Plaines IL 60018

To subscribe to Statfax, please send an e-mail to nic.amstat@gmail.com.

The Chapter’s purpose, as stated in its Constitution, is “to foster statistics and its applications and promote the interests of the statistical profession…”. Accordingly, diverse views are presented. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the officers or the policies of the Chapter.