

CONTENTS:

- Annual Meeting: May 28-30.....1
- Workshop on Data Visualization.1
- Meeting Information.....1,2
- Draft Business Meeting Agenda..2
- Council on Chapters Report.....3
- DIRECTORY UPDATE.....3
- Upcoming Meetings.....3
- Proposed By-law Changes.....4-6

**ANNUAL MEETING:**

May 28th - 30th is the annual meeting of the Alaska Chapter of the American Statistical Association (Wednesday - Friday) at Motherlode Lodge, near Hatcher Pass. The chapter is excited to host an interactive workshop on Multivariate Data Visualization, co-taught by Prof.s Di Cook and Heike Hofmann, both of the Dept. of Statistics, Iowa State University.

IMPORTANT MEETING INFORMATION:

PLEASE REGISTER BY *May 19th* so we can coordinate workshop materials. Register by contacting Allen Bingham (allen_bingham@fishgame.state.ak.us, 267- 2327): sponsored attendees \$150, nonsponsored attendees \$50, students – FREE....CONTINUED PAGE 2.

MULTIVARIATE DATA VISUALIZATION WORKSHOP:

The Chapter is lucky to have enticed Prof.s *Di Cook* and *Heike Hofmann*, both of the Dept. of Statistics, Iowa State University, to lead an interactive, hands-on workshop on multivariate data visualization at the annual chapter meeting (timing and location helped with the persuading).

Both Cook and Hofmann are leaders in multivariate data visualization methods. Prof. Cook was a primary force in the development of Xgobi and the new pc- and mac- versions, ggobi. She has taught workshops on these methods and software all over the globe to applied data analysts in fields ranging from fisheries to geology. She is currently co-authoring a book, “Interactive and Dynamic Graphics for Data Analysis using GGobi”, some of which will be previewed in the course.

Prof. Hofmann’s research focuses on visualization methods for multivariate categorical data. She is in the midst of incorporating recent developments in that field into ggobi, and helping convert ggobi over to the Macintosh OS.



IMPORTANT MEETING INFORMATION:**BE SURE TO BRING...**

The short course is an interactive, hands-on workshop. Attendees need to bring a laptop WITH the freeware packages ggobi (www.ggobi.org) and R (cran.r-project.org) installed. Or at least coordinate to sit near someone who has brought these items!

SIGN UP TO GIVE A TALK

This is a great opportunity to share your work and ideas with others and, best of all, tap into everyone else's ideas to help solve the problems you are working on. Sign up to present a 20 minute talk (15 min. presentation, 5 min. questions) - contact Joel Reynolds **by May 19th** (joel_reynolds@fws.gov).

LODGING

Housing at the Motherlode Lodge is full.

Try Hatcher Pass Lodge

(www.hatcherpasslodge.com) or Hatcher Pass B & B (www.hatcherpassbb.com).

Camping is available at Hatcher Pass State Park (745-2827), near Hatcher Pass Lodge.

CARPOOLING

Nancy Gove is car-pool coordinator (Nancy_Gove@fishgame.state.ak.us, 267-2138). Let her know if you need a ride OR are driving and can take some passengers!

**DRAFT BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA:**

Please send suggested additions to Joel Reynolds (joel_reynolds@fws.gov) by May 19th.

- Standard Stuff (minutes, \$)
- Council on Chapters (see below)
- Report on Richard Scheaffer visit
- By-law amendments (see pg 3)
- Committee Reports (see pg. 3)
- Vice President Nominations
- Student Mentoring / Involvement
- Other New Business

**MEETING SOCIAL EVENTS**

Capt. FunHog, a.k.a. Bob Sutherland, is coordinating a BBQ Thursday May 29th. Contact Bob to coordinate contributions (robert_sutherland@fishgame.state.ak.us 267-2524).

CALL FOR HIKES

Got a favorite hike in the Hatcher Pass area? Make directions/map and send to joel_reynolds@fws.gov; I'll include them in the handouts.

2002 COUNCIL ON CHAPTERS REPORT

On Tuesday, 13 August, 2002, Jay Ver Hoef attended the council of chapters meeting in New York, as part of the Joint Statistical Meetings. Strategic initiatives were discussed. The council has recently organized initiatives such as a Symposium on Undergraduate Statistics, a K-12 Outreach Initiative, and Technology/Web Support for Chapters, Sections, and Committees. The chapter visitation program, which we used to bring Richard Scheaffer here, was also discussed.

The traveling course is up and running again. This year's courses were "Causal Inference Using Potential Outcomes" by Donald B. Rubin, Harvard University; and "Statistical Methods For Reliability Data" by Luis A. Escobar, Louisiana State University, or William Q. Meeker, Iowa State University. The deadline for application was November 1. We should keep this date in mind if we want to apply for these courses in the future.

Submitted by Jay ver Hoef

LOOKING FOR POWER AND WEALTH?

Vice President Nominations...Send to Joel_Reynolds@fws.gov by May 23. Self-nominations encouraged!

DIRECTORY UPDATE – REQUEST!

The chapter e-mail list is small and out of date. If you know someone who you think should be receiving chapter information, please send their contact information to Joel Reynolds (joel_reynolds@fws.gov). Help spread the word. Dude.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

June 22 – 25 Colorado – WNAR
Aug 3 – 7 San Francisco - JSM
Oct. 22 – 25 Anchorage - Lowell
Wakefield Symposium on data limited fisheries.
Nov 3 -6 Fairbanks - Ak. Chapter Am. Fisheries Society

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CHAPTER
CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS**

As a result of last year's business meeting, Franz Mueter researched the chapter by-laws and drew up the following proposed amendments. Please review them in preparation for discussing at the 2003 meeting.

1. Chapter officers (Constitution)

To include the web master as an officer who will take the position of (or replace) the "Member at large" on the Executive Committee the following changes to ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS and ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE are suggested. These changes are largely based on discussions and unofficial changes that were already put into place at the 2001 annual meeting in Kodiak.

**Current version of ARTICLE IV -
OFFICERS**

"Officers of the organization, who shall be Regular members, shall be President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Chapter Representative to the ASA Council of Chapters. The Secretary-Treasurer will be elected for two years by majority vote. The office of Vice President will be elected yearly by majority vote, and the Vice President will become President during the second year. The Chapter Representative will be appointed for a three year term."

**Proposed changes to ARTICLE IV -
OFFICERS**

Officers of the organization, who shall be Regular members, shall be President, Vice President, Secretary-

Treasurer, [Web Master](#), and Chapter Representative to the ASA Council of Chapters. The Secretary-Treasurer [and Web Master](#) will be elected for two years by majority vote. The office of Vice President will be elected yearly by majority vote, and the Vice President will become President during the second year. The Chapter Representative will be elected for a three year term.

**Current version of ARTICLE V -
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

"The Executive Committee shall consist of officers under Article IV, [one member to be elected during the annual business meeting](#), and the previous President. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held whenever called by the President or requested by a majority of committee members. The President shall chair the Executive Committee."

**Proposed changes to ARTICLE V -
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee shall consist of officers under Article IV and the previous President. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held whenever called by the President or requested by a majority of committee members. The President shall chair the Executive Committee.

2. Directory (Bylaws)

To ensure that the directory of statisticians will be updated regularly, it is proposed to change ARTICLE III – PUBLICATIONS as follows. Changes are based on discussions at the 2002 annual meeting in Fairbanks. One member suggested updating the directory

every two years (rather than annually, as originally proposed).

Current version of ARTICLE III (1):
"1. Directory. At least once every five years, a directory of all responding statisticians in Alaska shall be published."

Proposed changes to ARTICLE III (1):

1. Directory. A directory of all responding statisticians in Alaska shall be made available through the Chapter's website and shall be updated at least once every two years.

3. Newsletter

It was further proposed to change the format and frequency of the Newsletter as specified in ARTICLE III. Some discussion occurred at the 2002 meeting without consensus, but member comments that I received generally favored electronic distribution of newsletters and other announcements.

Current version of ARTICLE III (2):
"2. Newsletter. The newsletter editor shall be the President or their designee. The newsletter is to be published periodically and at a minimum two times a year: (1) reporting the most recent annual business meeting and (2) advertising the upcoming annual business meeting."

Proposed changes to ARTICLE III (2):

2. Newsletter. The newsletter editor shall be the President or their designee. Newsletters may be distributed electronically and shall be

posted and archived on the Chapter's website. At least two newsletters shall be published each year to (1) advertise the upcoming annual business meeting and (2) report on the most recent annual business meeting. Member contributions shall be solicited prior to publication.

4. Electronic voting (Bylaws)

It was suggested that we amend the bylaws to allow for electronic voting. The main rationale for this change would be to assure participation by members throughout the state because annual meetings are typically dominated by members in the city that hosts the meeting. Member comments were all in favor of electronic voting following the annual meeting, which ensures both sufficient time for nominations prior to and at the meeting, as well as broader participation in the elections.

Elections are currently discussed under ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS:

"1. Annual Business Meeting. Election of officers and other business will be carried out at a business meeting, held in conjunction with an appropriate scientific or professional meeting."

It is proposed to remove elections from this article and add a new article governing officer elections and voting procedures.

Proposed changes to ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS:

"1. Annual Business Meeting. Official business will be carried out at the annual business meeting, held in

conjunction with an appropriate scientific or professional meeting.”

We propose to insert a new ARTICLE V into the bylaws that specifies procedures for officer elections and electronic voting. The article is rather specific to ensure proper voting procedures and offer clear guidance to officers.

Proposed addition:

ARTICLE V – ELECTIONS AND VOTING PROCEDURES:

1. Officer Nominations. Nominations for officers will be accepted at any time prior to and at the annual business meeting. Nominations shall be solicited by e-mail at least one month prior to the annual business meeting. Nominations may be accepted or rejected by the nominee at any time before the vote. The President must obtain the acceptance of a nominee before announcing the nomination and must announce all nominations via e-mail before the electronic vote. Self-nominations will be accepted.

2. Elections. Officer election shall take place via electronic vote. The vote must be called following the annual meeting and no later than August 30. The ending date shall be 14 calendar days after calling the vote. The eligible voting body will consist of all current members of the Alaska Chapter. Eligible voters shall submit votes to the current President and Secretary via e-mail, or by telephone or traditional mail if unable to vote via e-mail. Both the Secretary and the President must verify a vote in order for it to be counted.

3. Electronic voting. Electronic votes may be held between physical meetings for the purpose of resolving issues that need to be addressed between meetings. Electronic votes are called at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The motion to be voted on shall be distributed by the officer calling the vote. The motion shall contain, at a minimum, the name of the parties proposing and seconding the motion, the full text of the motion, the starting and ending date of the vote, and the list of eligible voters. Votes may be submitted to the current Secretary and President by telephone or by traditional mail if unable to vote via e-mail. Both the Secretary and the Chair must verify such a vote in order for it to be counted.

If this addition is accepted, current ARTICLE V - AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS would become ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS.

