**ASA Section on Statistical Consulting**

**Executive Committee (EC) Minutes**

**March 15, 2019**

Attendees: LeAnna Stork, Kimberly Love, Dean Johnson, Joseph Rigdon, Ravi Makhija, Robyn Ball, Summer Han, Todd Coffey, Hrishikesh Chakraborty, Mekibib Altaye

Meeting started at 11 am central time.

1. LeAnna welcomed everyone and highlighted the agenda points
2. LeAnna put forward the agenda (sent earlier) for this meeting with five distinct items listed, some of which were a left over from the previous month agenda.
   1. She started by announcing that she appointed 3 individuals to the Fellows committee. The members need to be fellows themselves and is led by Mary Kwasny and the two members are David Banks and Mark Payton. The goal of this committee is to identify potential candidates from our Section to nominate for ASA Fellow. The deadline to nominate for 2019 is April 15 and we may not have enough time to process the paper work and nominate a candidate for this year, but this put us in a good position to start the process early on for next year.
   2. Mentoring award committee, which is chaired by Manisha with Hrishikesh and Bruce Craig as members. LeAnna will follow-up with Manisha about sending an email out to section members soliciting nominations for 2020 cycle. If this award needs to be recognized by ASA, the nomination deadline is April 15. This may not allow enough time to have a nomination for this year. However, Kim will try to put together a nomination for this year. For next year the announcement need to be out early around October.
   3. Publications committee have three officers: publication officer which is chaired by Joe, communication officer which is led by Vaneeta and Webmaster who is Ravi.
      1. Joe reported that he has a meeting with Amstat news (Megan Murphy and Mary) to get a better understanding from Mary about what he should be thinking about in the role of a publication officer. Megan also mentioned that the September issue of AmStat News will be focused on statistical consulting. Joe ask for volunteers to be interviewed and profiled. Following this Kim, Rishi, Todd and Robyn volunteered to do a consulting statistician piece from a private, academic, industry, and consulting as a side-gig perspective respectively. Joe also mentioned that the student webinar announcement is out. LeAnna suggested encouraging those section members that put out abstract to write an extended abstract that can be published in the JSM proceedings. It has been suggested to conduct a survey using the list of consultants and published the result of the survey. However, the response rate might be too low to get a meaningful analysis. Another idea was to create a market place to connect consultants with job opportunities.
      2. The section communication officer role is different after the charter is revised this year. Vaneeta’s idea (which is relayed by LeAnna) was to partner with local chapters, communicate with chapter members. Since Vaneeta wasn’t in the meeting no further detail on this is provided.
      3. Webmaster Ravi demonstrated what has been done to update the website, this includes setting of the award page, upcoming event page (if you have an event please send info the Ravi). He also demonstrated that if you access the page without logging in one wouldn’t be able to see the section activity and he ask if this should be visible for everybody (login or not). It has been suggested that, if possible, to show the title of the activity for everyone who access the website but require logging in to see the detail of a specific topic, this way we encourage people who want to see the detail to login (may be join the section). Ravi also showed us a dashboard for site traffic including daily traffic and where the visit was initiated (the maximum visit to the site was 138 in February). LeAnna ask if the welcoming paragraph in the website need to be edited. She asks members to take time to look at it and comment on it.
3. LeAnna ask if we want to take the opportunity to co-sponsor JSM Diversity Mentoring Program and/or Stat Fest that is held by ASA. Kim stated that in the past we choose not to participate because we didn’t want to use members money to sponsor an event where most of our members will not benefit. However, Kim also suggested that these programs may evolve over time and we may want to revisit this. The question then raised about what kind of event we may want to sponsor? If anybody is interested in sponsorship opportunity to send an email to LeAnna. Kim suggested to open the discussion to all members to get some ideas about sponsorship and philanthropy that might benefit a section of the members.
4. Dean outline the proposal to develop a peer-reviewed journal on statistical collaborations. The idea was received by most present as a good idea, but Rishi emphasized that we need to carefully define what kind of article we want that would be helpful for our members. Todd suggested articles such as teaching consultants to be better. There was a brief discussion weather we need a full-blown journal or a magazine, but Rishi argued that with Journal the writer will get credit for the work and the majority present agreed with targeting a journal. Kim suggested for Dean to talk to other sections that have their own journal and find out the logistics of publishing our section journal
5. LeAnna distributed the summary of the members feedback for a series of question that she put out earlier for the members. She provides a summary of the survey, but we run out of time for further discussion. This will be added to the next EC meeting as one of the agendas.

Mekibib Altaye

Secretary/Treasurer