BCASA NEWSLETTER

Boston Chapter of the American Statistical Association

Proudly serving
Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont

Volume 37, No. 4, March 2019

Homepage: http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/home
E-Mail: BostonChapterASA@gmail.com

SCHEDULED EVENTS & MEETINGS		
March 4, 2019	Women in Data Science (WiDS) Conference	Cambridge and Worcester, MA
March 7, 2019	**Mosteller Statistician of the Year Lecture**	**Boston, MA**
March 29, 2019	Analytics Without Borders Conference	Smithfield, RI
April 5, 2019	MIT Statistics & Data Science Conference	Cambridge, MA
April 5, 2019	Women in Data Science (WiDS) Conference	Boston, MA
April 29 – May 10, 2019	**May Institute on Computation and Statistics for Mass Spectrometry and Proteomics**	**Boston, MA**
May 3, 2019	**Boston Pharmaceutical Symposium**	**Cambridge, MA**
May 6, 2019	**Evening Lecture by Professor Karen Kafadar, ASA President, and BCASA Elections**	**Cambridge, MA**
May 15-17, 2019	New England Statistics Symposium (NESS)	Storrs, CT
September 28, 2019	**New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports (NESSIS)**	**Cambridge, MA**
November 16, 2019	**Traveling Short Course of the ASA**	**Boston, MA**

*Events in bolded letters are sponsored by BCASA

Event schedule at the chapter website: http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/home

Detailed announcements appear later in this newsletter. All events are announced in advance on our website and through emails to our members. We are currently planning events for the coming year. If you have suggestions, please contact Program Chair Olga Vitek at o.vitek@northeastern.edu.

RECENT EVENTS
BCASA Winter Party

On Saturday, January 19, the BCASA's annual mid-winter party triumphed over dire weather predictions of snow and sleet. Rather than cancelling the event all together, the starting time was pushed forward from 6:30 pm to 5:30 pm and the ending time from 9 pm to 8 pm. This year's extravaganza was held at the Springhouse retirement community in Jamaica Plain, where the chapter's star member, Herman Chernoff and his wife, Judy have lived for the past six years. In addition to their re-emergence, Joe Blitzstein, the chapter's new president made his second scheduled appearance. A smash hit. Some thirty-plus BCASA members and friends appeared and greatly enjoyed the evening. They didn't forget to bring an excellent potpourri of delicious culinary treats. And there was plenty of wine, beer, juices and soft drinks. Sitting at round tables, members met old friends and made new ones. Everyone appeared to have a great time! If you missed the event or would like to revisit it, please see photos here.

UPCOMING SPRING EVENTS

Mosteller Statistician of the Year Awards Dinner on March 7

Honoree and Speaker: Professor Constantine Gatsonis, Department of Biostatistics and Center for Statistical Sciences, Brown University
Presentation Title: "Radiomic Markers for Diagnosis and Prediction: Promise and Hype"
Date and Time: Thursday, March 7, 2019; Social and Dinner 6:15 pm, Presentation 7:00 pm
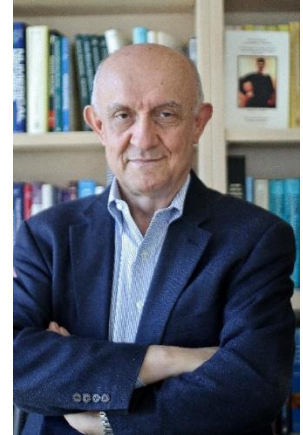**Location:** Kotzen Room, Beatley Library and Lefavour Hall, Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston, MA
Directions and Map: http://www.simmons.edu/about-simmons/directions-parking
Parking and Public Transportation: A ticket provided at the event will allow you to park for free at Simmons. Please hold on to the ticket that you take when you enter the parking lot. The Longwood and the MFA T-stops on the Green E line are about a 10-minute walk from the destination.
Registration: http://bcasa2019march.eventbrite.com by Monday March 4, 10 am
Cost: Dinner: $30 for chapter members; $40 for non-members; students $12. Presentation: free.

Abstract:
The quantitative analysis of imaging via machine learning methods for high-dimensional data ("radiomics") is defining the new frontier for diagnostic imaging research. Radiomic analyses are generating a vast array of imaging-based markers for diagnosis and prediction. Each marker carries claims of potential utility in clinical care and is presented as a potential candidate for inclusion in clinical trials. The volume of the new radiomics-based markers and their rapid evolution, even without formal learning, pose novel challenges for researchers and regulators. In this presentation we will survey statistical machine learning methods used in the development of radiomic markers and will discuss the statistical and regulatory challenges they create. We will draw examples from published and ongoing research, with emphasis on the statistical aspects of deep-learning modalities for detection of disease and prediction of response to therapy.

Speaker Biography:
Dr. Constantine Gatsonis, Henry Ledyard Goddard University Professor at Brown University, was educated at Princeton and Cornell and joined the Brown faculty in 1995. He is the founding Director of the Center for Statistical Sciences and the founding Chair of the Department of Biostatistics at Brown. Dr. Gatsonis is a leading authority on the evaluation of diagnostic and screening tests and image markers and has made major contributions to the development of methods for medical technology assessment and health services and outcomes research. He was the founding Network Statistician of the American College of Radiology Imaging Network (ACRIN) since its formation in 1999 and is now Group Statistician for ECOG-ACRIN, with responsibility for studies of imaging. He has published on methodology for ROC analysis for detection and prediction and on broader issues of

study design in diagnostic test and imaging biomarker evaluation and validation. He has long-term involvement in the development of Bayesian statistical methods for problems in biomedical research. He developed and applied hierarchical regression models to the analysis variations in utilization, outcomes, and quality of health care, meta-analysis of diagnostic test accuracy studies, and the variability in diagnostic performance among radiologists and institutions. Dr. Gatsonis chaired the Committee on Applied and Theoretical Statistics of the National Academies and was a member of the Committee on National Statistics and the Committee on Reproducibility and Replicability in Science. Since 2016 he is a statistical consultant for the New England Journal of Medicine. He was the Founding Editor-in-Chief of Health Services and Outcomes Research Methods, and currently serves as Associate Editor of *Annals of Applied Statistics*.

May Institute on Computation and Statistics for Mass Spectrometry and Proteomics

Date: April 29–May 10, 2019
Location: Northeastern University, Boston MA
Organizers: Meena Choi, Brendan MacLean and Olga Vitek
Website: https://computationalproteomics.ccis.northeastern.edu/

The May Institute focuses on computational and statistical aspects of quantitative mass spectrometry-based proteomics. The course combines keynote presentations, introductory lectures, practical training, and informal personal discussions.

Instructors of the course are leading experts in this field, who contributed numerous experimental and computational methods and software. The target audience are both beginners and experienced scientists, who would like to strengthen their computational and statistical expertise. We also welcome computer scientists, bioinformaticians, data scientists, statisticians, and engineers interested in learning about working with data from modern biotechnologies. The participants will have many opportunities to ask questions and will be able to present their research.

Program Overview
- April 29 – May 1, 2019: Targeted proteomics with Skyline
- April 29 – May 1, 2019: Proteomics and metabolomics with OpenMS
- May 1, 2019: Imaging mass spectrometry with Cardinal (half-day)
- May 1-3, 2019: Beginner's statistics in R
- May 1-3, 2019: Advanced R
- May 6-8, 2019: Statistics for quantitative mass spectrometry
- May 6-8, 2019: Visualization of biomolecular data
- May 8, 2019 : Scientific writing (half-day)
- May 8-10, 2019 : Capstone – case studies in data-independent acquisition (DIA)

More information is at https://computationalproteomics.ccis.northeastern.edu/

Third Annual Boston Pharmaceutical Symposium

Date: May 3, 2019, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
Location: Pfizer, Building 2, Kendall Sq., Cambridge, MA
Organizer: Boston Chapter of the American Statistical Association
Co-Sponsor: Cytel, Inc. (https://www.cytel.com/)
Website: https://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/upcoming-events/boston-pharmaceutical-symposium

We invite you all to attend the Third Annual Boston Pharmaceutical Symposium that will take place on Friday, May 3, 2019, 9 am-5 pm on the campus of Pfizer, Building 2, Kendall Sq., Cambridge MA. The event is organized by the Boston Chapter of the American Statistical Association in collaboration with researchers from several pharmaceutical companies in the Boston area. Financial support from Cytel (https://www.cytel.com/) is gratefully acknowledged. The symposium will feature presentations by prominent researchers and industry professionals, and will include a 1-hour poster session, refreshments, and networking opportunities. Please submit a poster presenting your research along with any questions that you might have to Olga Vitek at o.vitek@neu.edu.

Confirmed speakers:
Craig Mallinckrodt, Distinguished Biostatistician, Biogen
Neal Thomas, Head of Statistical Research and Innovation, Pfizer
Chunlei Ke, Senior Director, Biogen
Ying Yuan, Professor, Department of Biostatistics, MD Anderson Cancer Center
Matthias Kormaksson, Principal Statistical Consultant, Novartis

Scientific Committee:
Olga Vitek, Northeastern University (chair)
Weidong Zhang, Pfizer (host)
Wenting Cheng, Biogen
Tim Clough, Novartis
Hrishikesh Kulkarni, Cytel
Andrew Lewandowski, Novartis
Jameson Luks, Cytel
Huyuan Yang, Alnylam Pharmaceuticals

Participants who are interested in giving a poster presentation are encouraged to submit an abstract by Friday, April 12 to Dr. Olga Vitek at o.vitek@neu.edu. Abstracts on topics related to pharmaceutical statistics may include (but need not be limited to) adaptive designs, platform trials, umbrella designs, master protocols, use of machine learning in clinical trials, dose response, wearable devices, analysis of pediatrics studies, etc.

Registration information and additional details about the event will be posted at https://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/upcoming-events/boston-pharmaceutical-symposium.
Contact Olga Vitek o.vitek@neu.edu for general inquiries.

_____

Evening Lecture by ASA President Karen Kafadar on May 6:
"The Critical Role of Statistics in Evaluating Forensic Evidence"

Date: Monday, May 6, 2019
Time: 6:00 pm, social and light dinner; 7 pm, presentation
Location: Harvard University. Address and room number to be announced.
Public Transportation (Recommended): Harvard T station on the Red Line
Parking: Public parking is available in nearby garages. There is typically street parking available around the Science Center as well.
Cost: $10 for students; $15 for BCASA members; $25 for non-members
Presentation only: Free
Registration: http://bcasa2019kafadar.eventbrite.com. Registration requested by May 2.
Note: The election of three BCASA officers for 2020 will take place at 6:50 pm

Abstract:

Statisticians have been valuable contributors to many areas of science, including chemistry (chemometrics), biology (genomics), medicine (clinical trials), and agriculture (crop yield), leading to important advances in statistical research that have benefited multiple fields (e.g., spectral analysis, penalized regression, sequential analysis, and experimental design). Statistics in forensic science has not been nearly as extensive, given its importance (ensuring proper administration of justice) and value it has demonstrated thus far (e.g., forensic DNA, assessment of bullet lead evidence, U.S. anthrax investigations, and reliability of eyewitness identification).

Forensic methods in many areas remain unvalidated, as recent investigations have highlighted (notably, bite marks and hair analysis). I will provide examples where statistics played a vital role in evaluating forensic evidence and suggest further areas where statisticians can make a big impact, towards the ultimate goal of strengthening forensic evidence to achieve its mission: to raise the level of confidence in the reliability of evidence in the criminal justice system.

Speaker Biography:

Karen Kafadar is Chair and Commonwealth Professor of Statistics in the Department of Statistics at the University of Virginia. She was Editor of *Technometrics* (1999–2001), President of the International Association for Statistical Computing (2011–2013), and currently is Editor-in-Chief of the *Annals of Applied Statistics*. Karen earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a master's degree in statistics from Stanford University, both in 1975. She completed her PhD in statistics from Princeton University in 1979 under the supervision of John Tukey; her dissertation was "Robust Confidence Intervals for the One- and Two- Sample Problem". Before moving to the University of Virginia in 2014, Karen was Rudy Professor of Statistics at Indiana University. She has also worked for the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Hewlett Packard, the National Cancer Institute, and the University of Colorado Denver. Karen is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association (since 1994) and the American Association for the Advancement of Science (2012), and an elected member of the International Statistical Institute (2007). She is the current president of the American Statistical Association (ASA), which at present has close to 20,000 members.

New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports (NESSIS) on September 28

Date: Saturday, September 28, 2019
Location: Harvard University Science Center, 1 Oxford Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Conference co-chairs: Mark Glickman and Scott Evans

The 2019 New England Symposium on Statistics in Sports is a meeting of statisticians and quantitative analysts connected with sports teams, sports media, and universities to discuss common problems of interest in statistical modeling and analysis of sports data. The symposium format is a mixture of invited talks, a poster session, and a panel discussion. Abstract submission and conference registration will open early 2019. A link to sign up for the NESSIS mailing list is available at http://www.nessis.org/. Selected presentations from the 2017 NESSIS can be found at http://www.nessis.org/nessis17.html.

November 2019 Short Course on "Guidelines for Using State-of-the-Art Methods to Estimate Propensity Score and Inverse Probability of Treatment Weights When Drawing Causal Inferences"

Please save the date!

Date: Saturday, November 16, 2019
Location: Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA 02115
Instructor: Beth Ann Griffin, RAND Corporation

On Saturday, November 16, 2019, the Boston Chapter will be hosting a one-day short course of the ASA **"Guidelines for Using State-of-the-Art Methods to Estimate Propensity Score and Inverse Probability of Treatment Weights When Drawing Causal Inferences"**. The short course is brought to us by the ASA's Council of Chapters under their traveling short course program.

This full-day course will take place on the campus of Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Ave, Boston, MA 02115. The detailed information will be posted on our website and in our September newsletter. Please contact Olga Vitek o.vitek@neu.edu for more information.

Course Abstract

Estimation of causal effects is a primary activity of many studies. Examples include testing whether a substance abuse treatment program is effective, whether an intervention improves the quality of mental health care, or whether incentives improve retention of military service members. Controlled, random-assignment experiments are the gold standard for estimating such effects. However, experiments are often infeasible, forcing analysts to rely on observational data in which treatment assignments are out

of the control of the researchers. This short course will provide an introduction to causal modeling using the potential outcomes framework and the use of propensity scores and weighting (i.e., propensity score or inverse probability of treatment weights) to estimate causal effects from observational data. It will also present step-by-step guidelines on how to estimate and perform diagnostic checks of the estimated weights for testing the relative effectiveness of two or more interventions. Attendees will gain hands-on experience estimating propensity score weights using boosted models in R, SAS and Stata; evaluating the quality of those weights; and using them to estimate intervention effects. Additional topics (if time allows) can also include methods for conducting sensitivity analyses for unobserved confounding and estimation of the effects of time-varying treatments. Attendees should be familiar with linear and logistic regression; no knowledge of propensity scores is expected.

About the instructor

Beth Ann Griffin is a senior statistician at the RAND Corporation Inference and is a member of the Pardee RAND Graduate School faculty. Her statistical research focuses on causal effects estimation when using observational data. Her substantive research has primarily fallen into three areas: (1) substance abuse treatment for adolescents, (2) military health, and (3) gun policy research. She is currently the principal investigator of two projects sponsored by the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA), one which is focused on improving a promising health services research tool (the TWANG package) for estimating causal effects of treatment using propensity score weights (www.rand.org/statistics/twang) and the other which aims to develop well-operationalized, empirically-supported sequences of decision rules—known as "Adaptive Interventions" (AIs)—to provide guidance about substance-use services decisions for adolescent clients. Griffin also serves on the editorial board the *Annals of Applied Statistics, Statistics in Medicine and Observational Studies*. She received her Ph.D. in biostatistics from Harvard University.

OTHER LOCAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

Call for submission and participation: The 4th Analytics Without Borders Conference

Date: March 29, 2019
Location: Bryant University, Smithfield, RI
Website: http://www.bentley.edu/analytics-without-borders

You are invited to submit your presentation/abstract to the 4th Analytics without Borders conference. This conference is a forum for all ways of analytics life to present and discuss analytics work, be it from corporate institutions, academia, government organizations etc. All groups will be able to interact with each other and thus build bridges between the different analytics constituencies.

Topics are broad in analytics, including applied statistics, optimization, data science, etc. Anyone who does anything with data is warmly invited to present their work. Sessions will include a blend of corporate, academic and government researchers and practitioners.

Morning Keynote Speaker: John Lin, SVP and Lead Analytic Sciences Practice, Epsilon Data Management
Title: Innovation in Analytics via Machine Learning & AI

Abstract: Analytics has become increasingly more sophisticated, with machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) hailed as the future of analytics. These advanced techniques are a necessity in today's world where customers seek out interactions that are customized to how they live their everyday lives – how they consume media, how they make purchases, what content they have an affinity with. Marketers need to make each interaction personal and purposeful—be it via email, loyalty programs, or digital media. Computer models can analyze high volumes of data to enable accurate real-time decisions, to make every customer interaction count, and to transform ordinary customer experiences into meaningful, human experiences that matter. This presentation will share some recent case studies where we have empowered marketers to tap into the ML/AI evolution that is leading to successful business outcomes.

Announcement of 2nd keynote speaker will be forthcoming. Online presentation abstract submission due day is **March 15th, 2019.** Please visit our online submission page: https://www.bentley.edu/analytics-without-borders/call-presentations-and-posters

Conference Registration is open now. Please check our registration page.

MIT Statistics & Data Science Conference (SDSCon 2019) on April 5

Date: April 5, 2019, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Location: MIT Media Lab, Cambridge, MA
Organizers: MIT's Statistics and Data Science Center (SDSC)
Website: https://sdsc2019.mit.edu/

You are all invited to attend the 2019 Statistics & Data Science Conference (SDSCon 2019) on Friday, April 5, 2019, 8 am-5 pm, at the MIT Media Lab (E14-674). This is an annual conference hosted by MIT's Statistics and Data Science Center (SDSC). The conference will feature leading speakers from academia and industry presenting on a range of cutting-edge topics in data science, both theoretical and applied.

Formed in 2015 as part of the MIT Institute for Data, Systems, and Society (IDSS), the SDSC advances academic programs and research activities in statistics and data science across MIT. SDSCon will be a celebration and community-building event for those interested in statistics. Discussions will cover applications of statistics and data science across a wide range of fields and approaches. Further information about the conference is available at https://sdsc2019.mit.edu/.

Please note that this event is free, but registration is required, as seating is limited. We encourage you to register early to secure a spot.

Women in Data Science (WiDS) Conferences on March 4 and April 5

Women in Data Science (WiDS) is a one-day technical conference that partners with Stanford University to bring together academic leaders, industrial professionals and students to hear about the latest data science-related research across a range of disciplines. As announced in our January newsletter, a WiDS conference will be held at Microsoft New England in Cambridge on March 4th. Unfortunately, this event is now sold out and the registration is closed. However, space may still be available at WiDS Central Massachusetts that will be held at WPI in Worcester the same day, March 4th, 9:00 am to 5:30 pm. Please see https://www.widscentralmass.org/ for further information.

If you missed the March 4th date, you still have a chance to attend the WiDS Boston Conference that will be at Boston University on April 5, 2019. The program will include technical talks, panel discussions, recruiting opportunities and several networking breaks throughout the day. All genders are invited to attend the conference, which will feature exclusively female speakers.

For registration information and program details please see the conference website https://www.widsboston.com/. Tickets to the BU conference are limited so please register early.

For any inquiries, including sponsorship opportunities, please email shapiro.heather@gmail.com

2019 New England Statistics Symposium (NESS) May 15-17

Date: May 15-17, 2019
Location: Hilton Hartford, CT
Organizers: Department of Statistics, University of Connecticut
Theme: Statistical Data Science in Action
Website: https://symposium.nestat.org

The Department of Statistics of the University of Connecticut (UConn) is proud to host the 33rd New England Statistics Symposium (NESS) on May 15–17, 2019 at Hilton Hartford. The theme of the conference is "Statistical Data Science in Action."

The symposium will be a 3-day event, featuring short-courses, plenary talks, invited sessions, career development panel discussion, student paper competition, student poster competition, statathon, and Chernoff Lecture. Three new features this year are a banquet address, the statathon, and the Chernoff Lecture.

Keynote Addresses:
1. Sam Kou, PhD, Professor and Chair, Department of Statistics, Harvard University.
2. Amanda Stent / David Rosenberg, Researcher and Data Scientists, Bloomberg.

Banquet Presentation:
Anthony D'Amico, MD., PhD., Eleanor Theresa Walters Distinguished Chair, Chief of Genitourinary Radiation Oncology at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Brigham and Women's Hospital, Chair of the residency executive committee in the Harvard Radiation Oncology Program, and Advisory Dean and Chair of career advising and mentorship at Harvard Medical School.

Chernoff Lecture:
The Chernoff Excellence in Statistics Award honors an individual who, in the tradition of Herman Chernoff's work, has made exceptional contributions to the theory, methodology, or novel applications to statistics and/or data science. The awardee will be revealed at the last session on Friday, May 17, 2019, and then they will give the Chernoff Lecture.

Short Courses:
1. (Full-day) Intermediate Machine Learning: Key Concepts and Techniques, by Dr. David Rosenberg (Bloomberg)
2. (Full-day) Big data analytics and deep learning, by Dr. Ming Li (Amazon) and Dr. Hui Lin (Netlify)
3. (Half-day) Practical visualization for data scientists, by Dr. Xiaoyue Cheng (University of Nebraska at Omaha)
4. (Half-day) Introduction to Multilevel Modeling, by Dr. Min Zhu (SAS)

Student Paper and Poster Competitions:
Students are encouraged to submit papers for consideration of 3 student paper awards sponsored by the IBM Watson Research Center. Manuscripts need to be received no later than Monday, April 1, 2019.

Students are also encouraged to submit posters to the student poster competition. Abstracts need to be submitted by Monday, April 22, 2019.

Statathon:
Students are encouraged to compete in the Statathon, an event similar to a hackathon but with more focus on statistics. A real-world data science problem will be revealed in advance. A review panel will select a few finalists to present in one of the parallel sessions, and the winners will receive their awards at the closing ceremony. Team registration will be closed on Monday, May 6, 2019.

Local Organization:
The Symposium local hosts and organizers from the University of Connecticut are Haim Bar, Jun Yan (chair), and HaiYing Wang. More updates will be posted on our webpage as they become available. Questions should be addressed to Jun Yan at jun.yan@uconn.edu. For registration information and further details about this conference, please see https://symposium.nestat.org.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Dominique Haughton Elected to ISI Council

We are happy to report that Professor Dominique Haughton, a past president of the BCASA, was elected to the prestigious International Statistical Institute (ISI) Council. Dominique is Professor of Mathematical Sciences and Global Studies, and Graduate Coordinator for Business Analytics at Bentley University, and is an Affiliated Researcher at the Université Paris 1 (Pantheon-Sorbonne) and Université Toulouse 1, France. Dominique's global connections and multilingual abilities (speaking French, English, Russian, Vietnamese, and Chinese!) will serve her well in her new ISI leadership role.

Congratulations, Dominique!

Professor Susan Murphy of Harvard has won this year's Guy Medal in Silver.

We are pleased to report that Professor Susan Murphy of Harvard, who was our speaker at MIT on November 14, 2018, has won this year's Guy Medal in Silver. Here is the announcement released by the Royal Statistical Society:

"The Guy Medal in Silver is awarded to Susan Murphy for her methodological, computational, and applied work on dynamic treatment regimens. Susan's influential *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B* paper in 2003 on Optimal Dynamic Treatment Regimens proposed a methodology for estimating decision regimens that result in a maximal mean response, consistent with an elegantly-defined regret function and for use with experimental or observational data. Substantial follow-up work on multi-stage decision making has built on this paper, including Susan's own work ranging from sample-size determination to performance guarantees for individualized treatment rules and applications ranging from addictions to micro-randomized optimization of mobile health interventions for the Fitbit generation." Congratulations to Susan!

BOSTON CHAPTER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nominations for the Outstanding Undergraduate Statistics Teaching Award

Nominations are now accepted for the 2019 Outstanding Undergraduate Statistics Teaching Award. The criteria for the award are intentionally few and non-specific. The aim is to ultimately acknowledge as wide a variety of statistics education accomplishments as possible. For instance, the winner may have published widely on statistical pedagogy; may have created an exemplary undergraduate program in statistics; may have inspired several generations of undergraduates to pursue careers in statistics, and so on.

The awardee will:
- Be a faculty member at a two- or four-year college or university in MA, RI, NH, VT, or ME with significant responsibility teaching statistics to undergraduates. Those on approved leave during the academic year in which they are nominated qualify if they fulfilled the requirement the previous year.
- Hold membership in the ASA and the BCASA
- Have more than three years of experience in teaching statistics

Further:
- Winners of the BCASA's Mosteller Award will not be eligible for this teaching award. Nominees unsuccessful in one year will be automatically reconsidered in the two succeeding years.

For more information about the award please contact Shannon Stock at sstock@holycross.edu. Nominations forms may be found on the BCASA website at http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/awards/teachingaward.

The deadline for nominations for the 2019 award has been extended to April 30, 2019.

Announcement: Statistical Outreach and Literacy Award

This year, the BCASA has developed a new award, tentatively named, "the Statistical Outreach and Literacy Award", which will be presented in alternate years to the Outstanding Undergraduate Statistics Teaching Award. Thus, in 2020, we will be awarding the literacy award for the first time. We will be announcing details on nomination procedures for the Statistical Outreach and Literacy Award in the coming months.

Treasurer's Report for 2018

	Items	Amount	Balance
Beginning checking account balance 1/1/18			**$9.858.21**
Income	Membership dues and ASA rebates	$4,621.00	
	Short courses and Events	$11,595.55	
	Stimulus funding from ASA	$1,000.00	
	Deposit from CD	$5200.84	
Total income		**$22,417.39**	
Expenses	Short Courses and Events	$18,860.40	
	Planning Committee Meeting dinners	$687.34	
	Misc (gifts, fees)	$279.92	
Total Expenses		**$19,827.66**	
Net Gain/Loss		**$2,589.73**	
Ending checking account balance 12/31/18			**$12,447.94**
CD			**$10,013.24**
Year-end total			**$22,461.18**

Assets as of Feb 15, 2019:
Bank account: $11,285.65
CD: $10,023.24
Total: $21,308.89

Nominations for Chapter Officers for Terms Starting January 1, 2020

This coming spring, three BCASA officers are up for election for two-year terms starting on January 1, 2020. These officers are Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. A write-up of their responsibilities can be found on our website at https://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/aboutus/officers. We typically hold elections at the final event of the academic year. If you are interested in nominating yourself or anyone else for these positions, please contact current President Joe Blitzstein (blitz@fas.harvard.edu) or Past President Greta Ljung (greta.ljung@verizon.net). New volunteers are always welcome and much needed. Thank you in advance for volunteering!

Mu Sigma Rho Membership Nominations Sought

Mu Sigma Rho is the national honorary society for statistics. Its purpose is to promote and encourage scholarly activity in statistics and the recognition of outstanding achievement among the students in eligible academic institutions.

Both undergraduate and graduate students can be nominated. Information about BCASA's chapter of Mu Sigma Rho is available at http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/awards/musigmarho. Instructions on how to nominate students can be found at http://www.colby.edu/musigmarho/ or by contacting Liam O'Brien at lobrien@colby.edu.

Completed nomination forms are due to Mu Sigma Rho subcommittee by March 21st.

Please Join the BCASA Planning Committee

Chapter activities are planned and organized by a core group known as the Planning Committee. Please consider joining us. The committee is open to all interested chapter members, regardless of whether they are also members of the ASA. We meet approximately every six weeks to plan upcoming activities for the chapter. The meetings are held in the evening and dinner is provided. For more information contact Chapter Vice-President Miriam Chernoff (mchernoff@sdac.harvard.edu).

How Do I Join the Boston Chapter?

You can join the Boston Chapter when you join the American Statistical Association (ASA) or renew your ASA membership. ASA members who wish to join the Boston Chapter at other times should complete the printed application form available at http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/joinbcasa and send it directly to the ASA.

However, you can be a member of the Boston Chapter without being an ASA member. To join the Boston Chapter without joining the ASA, write a check for $10 ($4 for students) made payable to BCASA, and send it directly to our Treasurer at:

> Boston Chapter of ASA
> c/o Lisa Mukherjee
> PO BOX 200766
> Boston, MA 02120

Provide your name, address, and email address. Members receive an electronic subscription to the chapter newsletter, discounts at some events, and an opportunity to join our e-mail list for other announcements. A membership application form is available at http://community.amstat.org/bostonchapter/joinbcasa.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Note: Job opportunities sent to Elizabeth Kane, BCASA Newsletter Editor at kane1215@bu.edu will be included in a future BCASA newsletter.

BCASA REGION STATISTICS SEMINARS

Below is a list of the regional statistics (& mathematics) and biostatistics departments that often offer statistics seminars, along with URLs for each department and its seminars. It your institution would like to appear on this list, please contact John McKenzie (mckenzie@babson.edu).

Boston University College of Arts & Sciences
Department of Mathematics & Statistics
http://www.bu.edu/stat/
http://www.bu.edu/stat/seminar/

Boston University School of Public Health
Department of Biostatistics
https://sph.bu.edu/Biostatistics/department-of-biostatistics/menu-id-617603.html
https://sph.bu.edu/Biostatistics/seminars/menu-id-617654.html

Brown University
Division of Applied Mathematics
http://www.dam.brown.edu/
http://www.dam.brown.edu/dam_seminars.shtml

Brown University School of Public Health
Department of Biostatistics
http://www.stat.brown.edu/

Dartmouth College
Department of Biomedical Data Science
https://bmds.dartmouth.edu

Harvard University
Department of Statistics
http://statistics.fas.harvard.edu/
http://statistics.fas.harvard.edu/calendar

Harvard University T. H. Chan School of Public Health
Department of Biostatistics
http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/biostatistics/
http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/biostatistics/seminars-events/

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Institute of Data, Systems, and Science
http://idss.mit.edu/index.php/event/stochastics-and-statistics-seminar-series/

University of Maine
Department of Mathematics & Statistics
http://umaine.edu/mathematics/
http://umaine.edu/mathematics/colloquium-schedule/

University of Massachusetts Amherst School of Public Health and Health Sciences
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
https://www.math.umass.edu/
https://www.math.umass.edu/~gile/Seminar/

University of Massachusetts Amherst School of Public Health and Health Sciences
Department of Biostatistics
http://www.umass.edu/sphhs/biostatistics

University of New Hampshire
Department of Mathematics & Statistics
http://www.math.unh.edu/
http://www.math.unh.edu/seminars

University of Rhode Island
Department of Computer Science and Statistics
http://www.cs.uri.edu/

University of Vermont College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences
Department of Mathematics & Statistics
http://www.uvm.edu/~cems/mathstat/

Worchester Polytechnic Institute
Department of Mathematical Sciences
http://www.wpi.edu/academics/math/
http://www.wpi.edu/academics/math/news.html

The BCASA Newsletter is published four times during the academic year and is emailed to current BCASA members. Send comments or suggestions to any of the individuals listed below.

BCASA OFFICERS	
President, 2019-21	Joseph Blitzstein, Harvard University
Program Chair, 2019-21	Olga Vitek, Northeastern University
Past President, 2019-21	Greta Ljung, Consultant
Vice-President, 2016-19	Miriam Chernoff, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
Secretary, 2016-19	Eugenie Coakley, John Snow, Inc.
Treasurer, 2016-19	Lisa Mukherjee, Consultant
Council of Chapters Representative, 2019-2021	Mingfei Li, Bentley University
Webmaster, 2019-21	Jeremiah Perez, Boston Biomedical Associates
Newsletter Editor, 2019-21	Elizabeth Kane, Boston Biomedical Associates
BCASA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS	
Education Committee	Shannon Stock, College of Holy Cross
Mu Sigma Rho	Liam O'Brien, Colby College