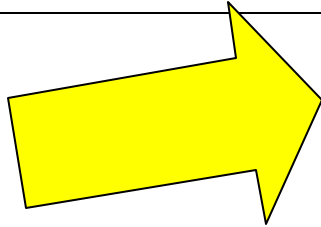


ASAP Newsletter

The Philadelphia Chapter of the
American Statistical Association



June, 2006



<http://www.amstatphilly.org/>

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

It's that time of year- time to **elect ASAP Chapter officers** for the 2006-2007 term. Please see pages 2 to 4 for candidate biosketches and instructions on how to cast your ballot. Serving the Philadelphia Chapter as President, Vice President and Secretary for the past years has been a great opportunity. I really enjoyed working with the dedicated professionals that made up the group of officers over these past years, and learned to appreciate the tasks required to hold regular meetings. Please consider running for an office in the future

Thank you to all the ASAP members who volunteered as judges for the **Delaware Valley Science Fair**. Once again our chapter was able to sponsor three awards. These awards as well as all awards from the fair can be viewed on-line at <http://www.drexel.edu/dvsf/winners.htm> I also wanted to thank all the chapter members who attended our annual **Spring Meeting** and **Short Course**.

I also want to announce that **Paul Johansen** has been selected by the Philadelphia Chapter for an **ASA Chapter Service Award**: "In recognition of the many years of extensive service to the Philadelphia Chapter; for the many offices he has held; and for being the backbone in maintaining the Chapter's activities year after year." Besides being Vice President this year, he has served as Newsletter Editor for numerous years and has been instrumental in coordinating the chapter's science fair awards as well as bringing back the Mid-Winter Gathering and identifying numerous speakers for chapter meetings. Thank you Paul!

As always, we greatly appreciate feedback from our chapter members. If you have recommendations for speakers or topics for future meetings, suggestions for short courses, comments or suggestions on venues, or ideas for other chapter activities, please feel free to contact any chapter officer. If you are not a member of our local ASAP chapter, please consider joining us! Have a great summer!

~ Lisa Hickey

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday, July 14	SAS courses in Data Mining and Forecasting (free!)
Sun-Thurs, August 6-10	Joint Statistical Meetings in Seattle (www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2006)

ELECTIONS

The Executive Committee of the American Statistical Association, Philadelphia Chapter (ASAP) consists of four elected positions: President; Vice-President; Secretary; and Treasurer. The term for these positions runs from July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007. The primary responsibilities of the elected officers include organizing the fall and spring chapter meetings, as well as the summer short course. Elected officers may also appoint other executive positions, such as Chapter Representative, Webmaster, Outreach Officer, and/or Newsletter Editor. Additional activities may be initiated as creativity, interest, and time permit.

Biosketches of all candidates follow on the next few pages. Accompanying this newsletter you will find a ballot with detailed instructions. Ballots can also be found online at www.AmstatPhilly.org. Ballots must be filled out and returned as instructed on the ballot by **Friday, July 22**. Two people will serve on this year's Elections Committee: **Lisa Hickey** (immediate past ASAP President) and **Debbie Panebianco** (ASAP Webmaster). Thank you in advance for your participation in this important chapter activity!

Candidate for PRESIDENT:

Paul Johansen, MA is Senior Consulting Statistician at Analysis and Inference, and has worked at Tibotec in Yardley, at Merck and at Genzyme. He recently served as ASAP Vice President, for the past four years he has served as Newsletter Editor, and has published chapter activities in AmStat News. He has maintained an ongoing relationship with the Delaware Valley Science Fairs, and helped re-establish the chapter's Mid-Winter Gatherings. He earned an MA in Biostatistics from the Boston University School of Public Health in 1997 and a BA in Biobgy from Yale in 1988.

Candidates for VICE PRESIDENT:

Bill Pikounis, PhD works for Centocor, a biotech company that is part of the Johnson & Johnson family and is located in the Valley Forge area. He joined Centocor in January 2005 when a dedicated Nondinical Statistics group was created to serve needs across pharmaceutical discovery, research, development, and formulations. Previously Bill was at Merck for 13 years in preclinical statistics, after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Florida (1991). Bill is a former president of the Princeton-Trenton chapter of ASA. His professional interests lie in data graphs, resampling methods, resistance & robustness, longitudinal data analysis, statistical computing, and software solutions.

Jie Chen, MD, PhD, is a senior biometrician in the Investigational Research (IR) Department of the Merck Research Laboratories (MRL). He received an M.D. in 1984 from Shanghai First College of Medicine, an MPH in 1994 in biostatistics & epidemiology from the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center, Oklahoma City, and a PhD in 2003 in statistics from Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, US.

Jie has been with Merck for more than 10 years. His research interests span in many areas including biopharmaceuticals, pharmacovigilance, public health, bioinformatics, multiple comparisons and multiple

testing, Bayesian statistics, etc. Jie was one of the recipients of the 2003 Best Student Paper Award by the Biopharmaceutical Section of the American Statistical Association. He co-organized the 4th International Conference on Multiple Comparison Procedures (MCP 2005) and is currently in the Organizing Committee of the 5th International Conference on MCP (MCP 2007). Jie has given several invited presentations including statistical seminar talks at universities and ASA local chapters, and has published several articles in statistical journals. He is a co-guest editor of a 2006 special issue of the *Biometrical Journal* and has served as a referee for numerous statistical journals.

Jason Liao, PhD is currently an associate director at Merck Research Laboratories. He has been a very active and supportive ASAP member since the first day moving into Philadelphia area. He obtained his PhD in statistics from The University of Michigan in 1997. He has nine years biopharmaceutical experience covering a broad range functional area with experience in designing experiments, conducting statistical analyses, addressing questions/issues from regulatory agencies, and providing statistical educations and consultations to non-statisticians. He previously worked at Wyeth for a few years. He is very active in promoting the right statistics and/or more powerful statistics to improve and/or solve statistical issues in drug development. He has published over 20 peer-reviewed statistical articles and served as a reviewer for many journals. Being an ASAP officer, he will promote the Philadelphia chapter with a unique advantage of so many pharmaceutical companies and universities in this area.

Candidate for TREASURER:

Alexandra L. Hanlon, PhD received a B.S. from Rochester Institute of Technology (1985) in mathematics and statistics, an M.S. from the University of California-Irvine (1991) in mathematical statistics, and a Ph.D. from Temple University (1998) in statistics. Early in her career, she gained experience in engineering in the aerospace industry as well as in teaching undergraduate calculus and statistics at UC Irvine and Arcadia University. After earning her M.S., she worked full-time as a biostatistician at the American College of Radiology (1991-1994), where her primary focus was on patterns of care in radiation oncology. During this period she also began her doctorate work at Temple University, with her primary research goal in the analysis of post-radiation therapy PSA level profiles. She completed her Ph.D. while working as a biostatistician at the Fox Chase Cancer Center (1994-present); her thesis topic was hierarchical mixed effects modeling of PSA levels in men treated with radiation therapy for prostate cancer. At present, Dr. Hanlon actively serves on scientific editorial boards and frequently makes presentations at conferences of professional associations to share on-going research and recent findings. She trains medical researchers in relevant statistical methodologies to enhance their research efforts; she is an active grant-writer and plays a prominent role in institutional grants; she facilitates promulgation of research findings by co-authoring scores of publications that disseminate research findings, assuming responsibility for the statistical evidence and analyses in these publications. During recent years, Dr. Hanlon has been involved in pharmaceutical drug development within the Johnson and Johnson family of companies; she is currently an Assistant Professor within Temple University's College of Health Professions.

Candidates for SECRETARY:

Fang Xie has been an ASA member since 1988, presented papers at ENAR and JSM. She received an M.S. in Statistics from University of Texas at Dallas and received her Ph.D. in Biostatistics from Columbia University. She is a Director of Biostatistics in the Biometrics department at Cephalon Inc. She has been a pharmaceutical statistician in the areas of vaccines, therapeutic proteins, oncology, and CNS.

Susan Li is a senior statistician at Centocor R&D. Prior to that, she worked at Merck for 6 years in the clinical pharmacology area. She has served as ASAP judge in Delaware Valley Science Fair in 2004 and

2005. She received a M.S. in mathematics from University of Delaware in 1996, and earned her Ph.D. at Temple in 2003.

DELAWARE VALLEY SCIENCE FAIRS (DVSF) WINNERS

For the fourth year in a row ASAP awarded three prizes to promising students at the Delaware Valley Science Fairs (www.dvsf.org), one each in the 6th-8th, 9th-10th, and 11th-12th grades. The winning students each received \$250 cash, a copy of JMP IN software – generously donated by SAS – and a certificate. In addition, their schools received JMP IN software and a certificate. Thanks to the judges who donated their day to review hundreds of posters and interview students about their projects. The winners this year were Samantha Williams (Gateway Regional Middle School); Diana Li (Pennbrook Middle School); and Athena Jiang (High Technology High School).



FREE SAS SHORT COURSES

On Friday, July 14th SAS will offer two free one-hour short courses in Data Mining and Forecasting. Each topic will be discussed for an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon. Lunch will be provided to all participants. The instructor will be T. Winand, Senior Systems Engineer for the Health and Life Sciences Organization at SAS.

9:30-10:30 am: Forecasting
10:45-11:45 am: Data Mining
11:45- 1:00 pm: Lunch (Provided by SAS)
1:00-2:00 pm: Forecasting
2:15-3:15: Data Mining

The meeting will take place at the SAS Philadelphia Office and Training Center

1400 Morris Drive
Suite 201
Wayne, PA 19087
Phone: (610) 640-0940
FAX: (610) 640-1488 SAS Institute, Inc.

RSVP by Friday, July 7: to Stephanie McCann at 919-531-3360 or Stephanie.McCann@sas.com letting her which sessions you plan to attend. Attendance will be a maximum of 50 attendees, so please register early.

Data Mining:

Data mining is the process of data selection, exploration and building models using vast data stores to uncover previously unknown patterns. What does this mean to you, and what is its value your organization? With organizational data growing exponentially, data mining is now a necessary tool to shorten time to discovery and to provide new insights. SAS Enterprise Miner, the industry leading data mining solution, streamlines the data mining process to create highly accurate predictive and descriptive models based on analysis of vast amounts of data from across an enterprise. Examples from different areas of the Health and Life Sciences organizations will be used to demonstrate the capabilities and value of SAS Enterprise Miner.

Forecasting:

To succeed and grow, Health & Life Sciences Organizations need an accurate picture of the future and the ability to reliably measure the impact of economic and marketplace factors. Strategic business planning requires the ability to model and simulate any business process and the factors that impact those processes, no matter how complex. With SAS forecasting, you can accurately analyze and forecast processes that take place over time. You can identify previously unseen trends and anticipate fluctuations so you can more effectively plan for the future. The capabilities and value of SAS Forecast

Server, KMWorld Trend Setting Product of the year (2005), will be demonstrated using important Health and Life Science examples.

Biosketch:

William "T" Winand is a Senior Systems Engineer with over ten years tenure at SAS supporting SAS analytical products and solutions. T has helped leading companies in the retail, direct marketing, finance, semiconductor, manufacturing, and insurance industries realize value through SAS analytic products and solutions. For the past three years, as part of SAS' Health & Life Sciences Organization, T has focused on the application of SAS statistics, data mining, forecasting, optimization, and quality improvement solutions to the needs of pharmaceutical, medical device, and health insurance organizations.

Directions Philadelphia International Airport:

- Take I-95 South towards Delaware to I-476 (about 5 miles).
- Take I-476 North to I-76 (about 14 miles).
- Take I-76 West towards Valley Forge (about 4 miles).
- Take US202 South about 4 miles to Chesterbrook Blvd. Exit. At the stop sign, make a right. At the traffic light, make a left onto Duportail Road. Proceed 0.2 miles to the next traffic light (Morris Drive). Make a right and travel 0.2 miles to the end of Morris Drive. 1400 Morris Drive is on the cul-de-sac. SAS is located in the rear of the building on the second floor, Suite 201.

From New Jersey and points east:

- Take Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-276) West to Exit 326 (Valley Forge).
- As you proceed through the toll booths, take US202 South about 4 miles to Chesterbrook Blvd. Exit.
- At the stop sign, make a right. At the traffic light, make a left onto Duportail Road. Proceed 0.2 miles to the next traffic light (Morris Drive). Make a right and travel 0.2 miles to the end of Morris Drive. 1400 Morris Drive is on the cul-de-sac. SAS is located in the rear of the building on the second floor, Suite 201.

From Harrisburg, PA and points west:

- Take Pennsylvania Turnpike (I-76) East to Exit 326 (Valley Forge).
- As you proceed through the toll booths, take US202 South about 4 miles to Chesterbrook Blvd. Exit.
- At the stop sign, make a right. At the traffic light, make a left onto Duportail Road. Proceed 0.2 miles to the next traffic light (Morris Drive). Make a right and travel 0.2 miles to the end of Morris Drive. 1400 Morris Drive is on the cul-de-sac. SAS is located in the rear of the building on the second floor, Suite 201.

From Delaware and points south:

- Take I-95 North into Pennsylvania to I-476 North.
- Take I-476 North to I-76 (about 14 miles).
- Take I-76 West towards Valley Forge (about 4 miles).
- Take US202 South about 4 miles to Chesterbrook Blvd. Exit.
- At the stop sign, make a right. At the traffic light, make a left onto Duportail Road. Proceed 0.2 miles to the next traffic light (Morris Drive). Make a right and travel 0.2 miles to the end of Morris Drive. 1400 Morris Drive is on the cul-de-sac. SAS is located in the rear of the building on the second floor, Suite 201.

From US202 North:

- Exit at Chesterbrook Blvd.
- Make a right at stop sign onto Chesterbrook Blvd.
- Make a left at the first traffic light onto Duportail Road.

- Make a right at the first light onto Morris Drive. 1400 Morris Drive is on the cul-d-sac. SAS is located in the rear on the second floor, Suite 201.

TREASURER'S REPORT

BALANCE FORWARDED (2/17/06):	\$3 941,19
INCOME:	
ASA Chapter Dues	
January, 06	\$283,00
February, 06	\$241,00
April, 06	\$106,00
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$630,00
Other Revenue Sources	
Spring Meeting Registration Fees	\$645,00
Spring Newsletter Ads	\$125,00
Short Course Registration Fees	\$3 430,00
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$4 200,00
TOTAL INCOME:	\$4 830,00
EXPENSES:	
Spring Meeting	
Ft. Washington Holiday Inn	\$731,50
Speaker Expenses	\$282,04
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$1 013,54
Short Course	
Penn State Great Valley Conference Ctr.	\$525,00
Crocodile Catering	\$2 481,09
Supplies	\$41,84
Speaker Expense	\$193,32
<i>Subtotal</i>	\$3 241,25
Other Expenses	
3 DVSF Prizes @ \$250 each	\$750,00
DVSF Supplies	\$134,34
ASA Certificate Plaque	\$14,75
Excessive Item Fee	\$1,95
<i>Subtotal:</i>	\$901,04
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$5 155,83
BALANCE FORWARDED (6/6/06):	\$3 615,36

A FEW GOOD STATISTICIANS

ASAP welcomes and encourages volunteerism! There are plenty of opportunities to help with chapter activities, from assisting meeting registration to judging science fair projects. This year we are embarking on an ambitious project to reach out to area primary and secondary schools to help them with statistics education. If you have some spare time and would like to serve your profession and ASAP, please

contact any of the chapter officers listed on the last page of the newsletter. **Thank you!**

ASAP CHAPTER OFFICERS: July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006

<p><u>President*:</u> Lisa Hickey Wyeth Research 500 Arcola Road Collegeville, PA 19426 (484) 865-1310 <i>voice</i> (484) 865-0059 <i>fax</i> lisa_hickey@merck.com</p>	<p><u>Vice President* / Newsletter Editor:</u> Paul Mange Johansen Analysis & Inference, Inc. 1489 Baltimore Pike, Suite 305 Springfield, PA 19064 (484) 213-1223 <i>cell</i> (610) 543-8952 <i>fax</i> pmjohansen@aol.com</p>
<p><u>Secretary*:</u> Bob Gagnon GlaxoSmithKline. UP1455, P.O. Box 5089 Collegeville, PA 19426-0989 (610) 917-6208 x 6208 <i>voice</i> (610) 917-7494 <i>fax</i> robert.c.gagnon@gsk.com</p>	<p><u>Treasurer*:</u> Paul Lupinacci Department of Mathematical Sciences Villanova University 800 Lancaster Ave. Villanova, PA 19085 (610) 519-7435 <i>voice</i> (610) 519-6928 <i>fax</i> paul.lupinacci@villanova.edu</p>
<p><u>Web Master:</u> Debbie Panebianco Merck & Co., Inc P.O. Box 4 West Point, PA 19486-0004 (267) 305-6776 <i>voice</i> (267) 305-6412 <i>fax</i> deborah_panebianco@merck.com</p>	<p><u>Educational Outreach:</u> Cindy Gargano Merck & Co., Inc P.O. Box 4 West Point, PA 19486-0004 (267) 305-7758 <i>voice</i> (267) 305-6412 <i>fax</i> cynthia_gargano@merck.com</p>
<p><u>Chapter Representative:</u> Devan Mehrotra Merck and Company, Inc. 785 Jolly Road, UNA-102 Blue Bell, PA 19422 (484) 344-2621 <i>voice</i> (484) 344-7105 <i>fax</i> devan_mehrotra@merck.com</p>	<p><u>Past President:</u> Diane Miller GlaxoSmithKline 2301 Renaissance Blvd. P.O. Box 61540 (RN0420) King of Prussia, PA 19406 (610) 787-3840 <i>voice</i> (610) 787-7004 <i>fax</i> diane_m_miller@gsk.com</p>
<p><u>Vice Chair, District 3, Council of Chapters:</u> B. Christine Clark ICON Clinical Research 212 Church Road North Wales, PA 19454 (215) 616-3412 <i>voice</i> (215) 616-3012 <i>fax</i> clarkc@iconus.com</p>	<p>*elected position as voted by chapter membership</p>