



PUGET SOUND CHAPTER

AMERICAN STATISTICAL ASSOCIATION

Subject: Chapter Officers Teleconference
Date: February 15, 2005
Time: 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Officers Present: Dan FitzSimmons, Dane Wu, Stephen Kaluzny, Shobbo Basu
Note Taker: Shobbo Basu

This was the first meeting of the chapter officers in 2005. There were several topics of interest that were discussed. The following topics were discussed and were captured by Shobbo Basu.

1. Speakers, Venues and Dates for Spring 2005

- We have 2 speakers from the local area who volunteered to give a presentation at the ASA chapter meeting. They are Bruce Peterson (bapeters@terastat.com) of Terastat Inc. and Tim Hesterberg (timh@insightful.com) of Insightful Inc. Bruce's presentation will be on data visualization.
- We also have Bill Venables, author of *Modern Applied Statistics with S-Plus* coming to the Puget Sound area during March 5-10, 2005. Stephen Kaluzny is going to find out if we can get Bill Venables as our chapter speaker on March 10.
- Gaps between Chapter meetings will be between 45 and 60 days.
- Tentative dates for which we will have Chapter meetings in the Spring of 2005 are: March 10, April 21 and June 3. There will be no chapter meeting during the summer months (Late June to Early September). We will again start chapter meetings starting in late September.
- Finding good venues for the Chapter meetings are a challenge. Hale's Ales and SIAM on Lake Union are the two better options that we have. We are looking for other places that could accommodate 20-25 people and not be noisy.

2. Ideas to improve member participation in Chapter activities

- JoAnna Scott wrote the following in the e-mail "*There is one comment that I would like to make that maybe you could discuss tonight. I think that there is a strong need to get graduate (and undergrad) students involved in the ASA. Most of my classmates know nothing about the ASA and its benefits. I know that there are a few would definitely be interested in attending some of the talks that we give, but we are not sending invitations to the stat or biostat dept that I know of.*"
- We talked about the following ideas to involve and inform students and other people in the Puget Sound area with interest in statistics
 - Create flier for each presentation in advance and distribute to the local universities and to members in the mailing list. Universities that we talked

about include Bellevue Community College, Pacific Lutheran University, University of Washington, Seattle University, University of Puget Sound, UW – Tacoma, UW – Bothell, St. Martin University and Seattle Pacific University.

- Do a short e-mail survey of existing members to find out the reasons for attending/not attending and what will make them attend more talks.
- Dinner charges will be \$5 for students and \$15 for non students. The ASA chapter will pick up any extra expense.
- Using a consisting Puget Sound Chapter branding. The first page of this document gives a look at this branding with using the ASA logo and using the chapter name. This is similar to what we have on the web site
- Having a PS Chapter newsletter which will be in PDF format for ease of reading and printing with chapter news. In this newsletter we will have sections that cover several topics including *Upcoming Presentations, Member News, Financial, Local Activities Related to Statistics, Short Courses, etc.*

3. Roles and Responsibilities of Chapter Officers

- President: Lead the chapter activities
- Vice President: Along with the President of the Chapter will be responsible for getting speakers and venues. Other officers will help
- Secretary: Will produce the newsletter and the Chapter newsletter. Responsible for coordinating the election. In short, the secretary is the news gatherer and disseminator.
- Treasury: Takes care of the finance including collecting and paying for local activities
- Chapter Representative: Represents the chapter at the national level
- Student Representative: Chapter's main connection to the student community. Responsible for keeping the web site current.

4. Other Topics and TO DO list

- We have \$10,469 in the bank.
- Short Course by Terry Therneau
- I got an e-mail from Anne York about the possibility of bringing a one day short course on Bayesian Statistics by David Draper. What do we do about requests like that?
- Shobbo will contact the ASA office to get information to them about chapter activities
- Stephen will find out about possibility of Bill Venables giving a chapter talk
- Dan will talk to the different speakers who were willing to give presentations and figure out the dates.
- JoAnna needs to update the chapter officers' term from 2003-2004 to 2004-2005.
- We all need to give input on meeting places.