

NC ASA Chapter Bulletin

Fall/Winter 2013

Greetings from NC-ASA President

NC Chapter's contribution to IYOS 2013

Sujit Ghosh
NC Chapter President



It is my pleasure to let you know that as a part of the International Year of Statistics (IYoS) events, the Department of Statistics at NC State University is hosting "A One-day Symposium of the NC Chapter of American Statistical Association (NC-ASA)" on October 12, 2013. The symposium will be held in the state-of-the-art SAS Hall located within the NCSU's main campus.

The symposium will feature plenary talks given by two of the eminent speakers within the triangle area; the morning plenary talk will be delivered by Professor Ross Leadbetter from UNC, Chapel Hill and the afternoon plenary talk will be given by Professor Marie Davidian from NC State University. Professor Leadbetter, a fellow of the ASA and IMS will present a very exciting talk which will take us on a journey through "The early development of Statistics in N.C." In the afternoon, Professor Davidian, the current president of the ASA will present an illuminating and thought provoking talk by describing "The Present and Future of Statistics: Challenges and Opportunities." Both plenary talks will be broadly accessible to anyone interested in knowing the past, present and future of statistics.

The symposium will also include technical talks given by graduate students and new researchers. Interested students and new researchers are highly encouraged to submit the title and abstract of their talks using the conference website by the deadline of September 22nd, 2013.

Accepted abstracts will be posted on the website after September 30th, 2013. In addition to technical talks, the symposium invites high school and undergraduate students to submit the title and abstracts for poster presentation. Cash awards and certificates for winning posters will be presented separately to the winning undergraduate student poster and high school students at an award ceremony to be held at the conclusion of the symposium. Further details on awards, abstract submission and registration are now available on the symposium website.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Greetings from NC-ASA President
- 1 NC-ASA Symposium Website
- 1 NC – ASA Annual Conferences
- 2 A Call for Outreach
- 2 Other Events
- 3 ASA Member Spotlight
- 3 IYOS 2013

NC – ASA Symposium Website

The registration of the symposium is now open.

Please visit the symposium website:

http://www.stat.ncsu.edu/events/2013_NC-ASA/ for further up to date information about this symposium.

We welcome submission of titles and abstracts from all students and researchers irrespective of their geographical location but registration is required to present a paper or poster.

A Call for Outreach

Connecting Academia, Government, & Industry



Jason Brinkley
NC ASA Chapter Representative

Having just returned from JSM 2014 in Canada, I find myself replaying many of the wonderful meetings and conversations I had with statisticians from all over the world. The ASA Council of Chapters meets at JSM every year to discuss strategies and initiatives going on within each of the local chapters. One area of regular discussion is the need to increase participation. North Carolina is fortunate to have many active statisticians. But our chapter, like many others, often finds itself with more academic and student participation than we have government and industry participation. There have been many reasons for this and there have been recent calls and initiatives to help bridge the gap and increase activity to recruit new members both locally and nationally from all sectors, with special attention to government and industry statisticians.

I thought I might share the local view on our membership. As of 2012, the NC-ASA has about 360 members. Records indicate that roughly 120 members work for academic institutions across the state. Another 70 or so members work for SAS, RTI, or GlaxoSmithKline in the triangle. Another 90 identify no affiliation but a quick email search indicates the majority to be students at NC Universities. The remaining 80 or so have affiliations in other non-academic settings. Many of these individuals are the only local or national ASA members within their organization.

While we continue to celebrate the IYOS 2013, please keep your friends and colleagues in the loop about current local and national activities. Feel free to forward this newsletter to others who may be interested in local events. If you have ideas for increasing membership, collaboration, or participation then I would love to hear from you. Feel free to email me at brinkleyj@ecu.edu.

Other Events

NISS and SAMSI

More information about these events can be found on the SAMSI website at <http://www.samsi.info>.

Opening Workshop for Low-Dimensional Structure, High Dimensional Systems

September 8-12, 2013 Research Triangle Park, NC

Modern Math Workshop

All 9 Mathematical Institutes including SAMSI
October 1-2, 2013 San Antonio, TX

Dynamics of Seismicity, Earthquake and Patterns in Fault Networks

October 9-11, 2013 Research Triangle Park, NC

CMSS: Social Network Data: Collection and Analysis

October 21-23, 2013 Research Triangle Park, NC

Education and Outreach

Undergraduate Workshop

October 24-25, 2013 Research Triangle Park, NC

Bayes250

Duke University will host Bayes250, an ISBA celebration at Duke on December 17. More information is available at

<http://bayesian.org/meetings/Bayes250>

Nate Silver to present at NC State

In celebration of the International Year of Statistics, the NC State Department of Statistics is proud to announce that Nate Silver will be delivering a special lecture at the university! Silver is a renowned statistician and writer who founded the New York Times political blog FiveThirtyEight.com and authored the best-selling book, *The Signal and the Noise*. He recently gained national fame for correctly predicting the outcome of the Electoral College in the 2012 presidential election. His NC State presentation, titled "Celebrating Statistics: The Signal and the Noise," will take place in the new Hunt Library on October 10, followed by a reception. This invitation-only event is generously sponsored by the department's friends and supporters in the JMP Division at the SAS Institute. To learn more about the event or to obtain tickets, email Nikki Cofield at NateSilverEvent@stat.ncsu.edu.

ASA Member Spotlight



The NC-ASA has selected Dr. Ross Leadbetter for our ASA member spotlight. Born and educated in New Zealand, Dr. Leadbetter came to the United States after serving the New Zealand Defense Science Corps and the New Zealand Navy as a Mathematician. His first position in the U.S. was with the Research Triangle Institute in the Statistics Research Division directed by the acclaimed applied statistician and promoter of the field, Gertrude M. Cox. She had been instrumental in founding Statistics Departments at both N.C. State University, and the University of North Carolina. Dr. Leadbetter held this position for 5 years, collaborating on research projects with the eminent Swedish statistical pioneer and University Chancellor, Harald Cramér. In particular they coauthored a book “Stationary and Related Stochastic Processes”. During this time Leadbetter obtained a PhD from UNC and taught courses there as an Adjunct Asst. Professor. In 1966 he accepted an Associate Professorship in the Statistics Dept. at UNC and has been a Full Professor since 1967.

Ross Leadbetter’s research involves Probability Theory, Stochastic Processes, and Extreme value Theory, with numerous published papers and a volume “Extremes of Stochastic Sequences and Processes”, with Swedish coauthors Holger Rootzén and Georg Lindgren. His interests involve both the theory of these fields and also applications to areas such as Naval Science, Engineering and the Environment. He has held numerous research grants and contracts with US Govt. Agencies including several branches of the Navy, Coastguard, Air Force, NSF, EPA and NASA. He has been honored by election as a fellow of the IMS and the American Statistical Association, and to membership of the International Statistical Institute. He has been awarded an honorary doctorate by Lund University, Sweden, in recognition of his own contributions and his fruitful long- term collaboration with Swedish colleagues, and was the 2011 recipient of the prestigious Carver medal for meritorious service to the IMS and Statistics profession.

IYOS 2013

By now most of you have heard that this year we are celebrating the international year of statistics. Please make sure you visit the International Year of Statistics website (www.statistics2013.org) and stay up to date on the many face to face and online events that are taking place to celebrate statistics all year long!



2013 NC ASA Chapter Executive Committee

President – Sujit Ghosh
Vice President 1– Jerry Reiter
Vice President 2 – TBD
Secretary – Stephan Ogenstad
Treasurer/Webmaster – Scott Richter
Chapter Representative – Jason Brinkley
Chapter Advisor – Hrishikesh Chakraborty
Past President – Sat Gupta