

A Letter from our President

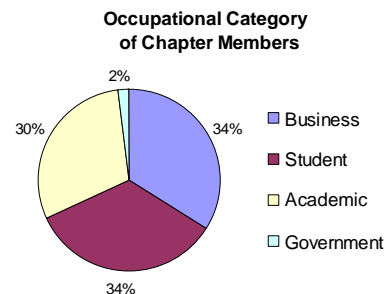
First of all, I want to thank you for your support of the Chicago Chapter of the American Statistical Association. The Chicago Chapter remains one of the most active local chapters through the ongoing participation of our members. We would like to reward this support with another year of events designed to meet your needs while nurturing and fostering the statistics discipline.

As a result of comments from our members, we are experimenting with new event formats and chapter communications. Under the direction of our outgoing President, John Watts, we held one of our traditional luncheons as an early evening event, a talk on Major League Baseball fielding statistics by John Dewan, founder of Stats, Inc. This event also highlights our efforts to bring a broad array of topics to our members.

Diversity

Our members make contributions in a variety of fields, and many belong to or have interests in other professional organizations. We strive to complement their offerings by bringing topics of interest in many areas with a slant towards statistics. Exemplifying our event topic diversity this past year was our logistic regression workshop featuring David Hosmer and the talk featuring Erin McKean from the Oxford American Dictionary. We were also pleased to present the Statistical Advocate of the Year award to Steven Levitt as part of the Making Statistics More Effective in Business and Academics Conference at the University of Chicago's Graduate School of Business.

As the 2006 National ASA president, Fritz Scheuren, mentioned in Amstat News, the diversity of the ASA membership is one of its greatest strengths. This is evident in our local chapter and comes in many forms, not the least of which is the occupational diversity of our local members. This varied distribution of occupations is also evident on our board.



2006-2007 Board

A special thanks goes to all those volunteering their time and energy to serve on the board. I would like to point out two new faces on this year's board, John Graham and Linda Burtch. John Graham will be filling the post of VP Secretary and Linda will be assuming the role of VP Publicity.

President

John VanderPloeg
Arc Worldwide, an affiliate of Leo Burnett

Past President

John Watts
Opinion Research Corporation

President-Elect	Richard Smiley, National Council of State Boards of Nursing
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VP Conferences	Gerald Funk Loyola University
VP Luncheons	Lou Fogg Rush University
VP Publicity	Linda Burtch Smith Hanley Associates
VP Membership	Mary Morrissey Kwasny Rush University
VP Secretary	John Graham John A. Graham Consulting
VP Treasurer	Jerry Enenstein JEResearch
VP Workshops	Tony Babinec, AB Analytics
ASA Council of Chapters Rep.	Tony Babinec, AB Analytics
Historian	Tony Babinec, AB Analytics
Directors at Large	George Bateman, University of Chicago
	Arnold Zellner University of Chicago
	Linda Clark LMC Consulting
	Ed Hirschland Landhart Corporation
	Phil Heckman Heckman Actuarial Consulting
	Borko Jovanovic Northwestern University

Vice Chair, Region 2, District 4 Kathy Morrissey
Council of Chapters Strategy2Market
Governing Board

Ex-officio Director Dan Hayes
 TransUnion

Events and Communications

Part of our efforts to provide services to our members is focused on networking and professional support. Due to historical success, we'll host another career fair in early 2007 (stay tuned for more specific details). Other key events:

- Monthly Luncheons (typically held on the fourth Tuesday of the month)
- Annual Workshop
- Annual Conference
- Statistician of the Year Award Ceremony
- Statistical Advocate of the Year Award Ceremony
- Software Study Groups

We are also redesigning our communications to better suit your preferences. In the fall, we will begin distributing an electronic newsletter. Please go to www.chicagoasa.org to sign up for the electronic version. Look for more specific details throughout the upcoming year as we seek to elicit your opinions on events, communications, and other service offerings.

As always, we welcome your opinions and feedback and I offer a personal invitation to send your comments and suggestions on upcoming event topics.

Sincerely,
John Vander Ploeg
president@chicagoasa.org