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ASA Accepting Applications for Statistics Workshop for K-12 Mathematics and Science Teachers

***Second Annual "Meeting Within a Meeting" will be held in conjunction with the
Joint Statistical Meetings in Denver August 4-5***

ALEXANDRIA VA (PRWeb) March 1, 2007 – The American Statistical Association (ASA), the nation's preeminent professional statistical society, announced that it will begin accepting applications today for its second annual workshop on statistics for K-12 mathematics and science teachers. Titled Meeting Within a Meeting (MWM), the program was developed by the ASA to help teachers, many of whom have little or no formal statistics training, meet current math requirements for statistics education. The conference will be held Monday, August 4, and Tuesday, August 5, in conjunction with the 2008 Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) in Denver, Colorado.

"The first MWM in 2007 was a huge success," said Martha Aliaga, ASA Director of Programs. "Middle school and high school math and science teachers from Utah and around the U.S. attended interactive sessions with prominent statistics educators and statisticians. The workshop participants are currently participating in MWM follow-up activities including webinars and other activities with local ASA chapter members. Due to the success of MWM 2007, we are pleased to expand this workshop to include K-12 teachers this year."

The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) standards, most state math standards, and the recent College Board standards include requirements for teaching data analysis, statistics, and probability. ASA's program is designed to enhance K-12 educators' understanding of statistics and to provide them with information and tools to help them strengthen the teaching of statistics within the math curriculum.

The primary goal of the 2008 MWM program is to provide an opportunity for K-12 math and science teachers to discuss and apply the data analysis and statistical concepts embodied in the *Guidelines for Assessment and Instruction in Statistics Education (GAISE) Report: A Pre-K-12 Curriculum Framework* (www.amstat.org/education/gaise). Teachers will explore problems that require them to collect, organize, analyze, and draw conclusions from data and apply basic concepts of probability.

To encourage participation, ASA will provide the registration fee, handouts, and some meals to accepted applicants. Workshop attendees also may receive a set reimbursement for lodging expenses for a two-night stay (one-night for Denver area teachers). Teachers also will have the option of attending sessions at JSM, such as the Statistical Education Sessions and Poster Session, and will be admitted to the Exhibit Hall.

Teachers are encouraged to attend both Monday and Tuesday sessions. Sessions for grades K-4 and 9-12 teachers will be held on Monday, and sessions for grades 5-8 teachers will take place on Tuesday. When not participating in their own sessions, teachers may attend the other MWM sessions or the JSM sessions. There will be a dinner and career panel discussion Monday evening for all participating teachers.

Teachers wishing to attend the conference can apply online by going to <http://www.amstat.org/education/mwm> and clicking on the "MWM Application" tab. Review and acceptance of applications to attend MWM will continue until the course is filled.

About the American Statistical Association

The American Statistical Association (ASA), a scientific and educational society founded in Boston in 1839, is the second oldest professional society in the United States. For more than 160 years, ASA has been providing its 18,000 members serving in academia, government, and industry and the public with up-to-date, useful information about statistics. The ASA has a proud tradition of service to statisticians, quantitative scientists, and users of statistics across a wealth of academic areas and applications. For additional information about the American Statistical Association, please visit the association's web site at <http://www.amstat.org> or call 703.684.1221.

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