

## American Statistical Association Announces Winners of 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Gertrude M. Cox Scholarships

***Scholarship, named for female pioneer in statistics, is designed to encourage women to enter statistically oriented professions***

**VANCOUVER, BC (PRWEB) AUGUST 2, 2010** – At the Joint Statistical Meetings, the American Statistical Association (ASA) will announce the winners of the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Gertrude M. Cox Scholarships. The scholarship awards will be presented Tuesday evening at the Vancouver Convention Centre here.

The winners of the Cox scholarships are **Alyssa Frazee** of Johns Hopkins University and **Sherri Rose** of the University of California, Berkeley. Honorable mentions will be awarded to Lauren Kunz, Harvard School of Public Health; Lauren E. Pace, Virginia Commonwealth University; Layla Parast, Harvard University; and Christine Peterson, Rice University.

Since 1989, the Cox Scholarship has been awarded each year by the ASA Committee on Women in Statistics and the Caucus for Women in Statistics to encourage women to enter statistically oriented professions. Cox, who was born in 1900, was a pioneer in the newly formed, predominantly male discipline of statistics and one of the first women in the field. She became the first woman -- and the first person -- to receive a master's degree in statistics from Iowa State University.

In 1939 she was appointed an assistant professor of statistics at Iowa State, then became a professor of statistics at North Carolina State University at Raleigh in 1940. She helped to establish the Department of Experimental Statistics at North Carolina State University, the Institute of Statistics of the Consolidated University of North Carolina, and the Statistics Research Division of the Research Triangle Institute. In 1949, she became the first female elected into the International Statistical Institute; she was President of the American Statistical Association in 1956 and was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1975.

Women who are entering or who are in the early stages of graduate training (MS or PhD) are especially encouraged to apply for the Cox Scholarship. Applications for the 2011 awards must be submitted by February 15, 2011. In addition to the application, applicants must submit an academic reference letter; both of these can be downloaded at <http://www.amstat.org/education/coxscholarship.cfm>. The awards are in the amount of \$2,000 each.

### **About the Joint Statistical Meetings**

JSM, which has been held annually since 1974, is conducted jointly with the American Statistical Association (ASA), the International Biometric Society (ENAR and WNAR), the Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS), the Statistical Society of Canada (SSC), the International Chinese Statistical Association, and the International Indian Statistical Association. JSM activities include oral presentations, panel sessions, poster presentations, continuing education courses, exhibit hall (with state-of-the-art statistical products and opportunities), career placement service, society and section business meetings, committee meetings, social activities, and networking opportunities. JSM is open to members of all participating associations, as well as non-members and has special pricing for students, seniors, K-12 teachers; one-day registrations also are available. Complete JSM program information is available at <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2010/index.cfm>.

### **About the American Statistical Association**

Headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, the American Statistical Association is the world's largest community of statisticians and the second oldest continuously operating professional society in the United States. For 170 years, the ASA has supported excellence in the development, application, and dissemination of statistical science through meetings, publications, membership services, education, accreditation, and advocacy. Its members serve in industry, government, and academia in more than 90 countries, advancing research and promoting sound statistical practice to inform public policy and

improve human welfare. For additional information about the American Statistical Association, please visit the ASA web site at <http://www.amstat.org> or call 703.684.1221.

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