

Jim Goodnight, SAS CEO, to Keynote Joint Statistical Meetings

Themes of speech include: need for improved STEM skills and greater statistical literacy, how statisticians use analytics to solve complex business problems

ALEXANDRIA, VA (PRWEB) JULY 29, 2010 – Jim Goodnight, chief executive officer of SAS, the world's leading business analytics software vendor, will give the keynote address at the Joint Statistical Meetings at the Vancouver (British Columbia) Convention Centre on Monday, August 2, at 4 pm. His talk, which is the annual President's Invited Address, is titled "The Age of Analytics: The Emerging Role of Statistics in the 21st Century Business World."

Goodnight's speech will address the following themes:

- The high demand and emerging opportunities for statisticians in today's data-centric business world
- The way that statisticians are increasingly solving complex business problems involving large amounts of data and high-performance computational methods
- The need for improved STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) skills and greater statistical literacy

Since he co-founded SAS in 1976, Goodnight has served as the company's CEO. In 2004, Harvard Business School named him as one of the "20th Century's Great American Business Leaders," citing his impact on "the way people have lived, worked and interacted in the 20th Century." Goodnight has a Ph.D. in statistics from North Carolina State University and speaks internationally on leadership, education and innovation.

A worldwide leader in business analytics, SAS has more than 11,000 employees in 54 countries. In 2009, its 34th consecutive year of growth and profitability, the company's revenue was \$2.31 billion. SAS ranked #1 on the 2010 FORTUNE Best Places to Work list and has been on the list since it began 13 years ago.

The Joint Statistical Meetings are the world's largest gathering of statisticians, and they have been held continuously since 1974. The 2010 sessions feature statistical experts from the U.S. Census Bureau, Statistics Canada, various U.S. and Canadian government agencies, and numerous U.S. and Canadian universities, as well as universities around the world.

Complete program and registration information for JSM 2010 are available at the JSM web site at <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2010/>. Press is welcome to attend any of the sessions, and press registration is located at <http://www.amstat.org/meetings/jsm/2010/index.cfm?fuseaction=pressregistration>.

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.

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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