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## **ASA to Present Statistics Conference for Middle and Junior High School Teachers at Joint Statistical Meeting in Salt Lake City**

***“Meeting within a Meeting” is designed to help educators meet current requirements for teaching statistics, data analysis and probability***

**ALEXANDRIA, VA, FEBRUARY 20, 2007** - The American Statistical Association (ASA), the nation's preeminent professional statistical society, announced today a one-day conference on statistics for middle and junior high school math and science teachers. Titled *Meeting Within a Meeting*, the program was developed by ASA to help teachers, many of whom have little or no statistics training, meet current math requirements that require statistics education. The conference will be held June 30, 2007, as part of ASA's Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) at the Salt Palace Convention Center in Salt Lake City.

“The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) standards, most state math standards, and the recent College Board standards include data analysis, statistics, and probability,” said Martha Aliaga, ASA Director of Programs. “ASA is aware that many teachers have not had formal statistics education, and we hope the program will help educators enhance their understanding and teaching of statistics within the math curriculum.”

Teachers wishing to attend the conference can apply online by going to [www.amstat.org/education/mwm](http://www.amstat.org/education/mwm) and clicking on the “MWM Application” tab. Review and acceptance of applications to attend MWM will begin on **March 1, 2007** and will continue until the course is filled.

Content for the day-long conference will include standards, assessments, textbooks, concepts, and the *Guidelines for Assessment and Instruction in Statistics Education (GAISE) Report, A Pre-K–12 Curriculum Framework* ([www.amstat.org/education/gaise](http://www.amstat.org/education/gaise)). The ASA Board of Directors endorses the GAISE document's recommendations for Pre K-12 statistical education as an aid to enhancing statistics education at the K-12 levels. The recommendations are consistent with NCTM and College Board standards. ASA is applying for Professional Development half-credit for 7-13 contact hours for Utah teachers.

During the conference, teachers will have the opportunity to develop lesson plans for statistics concepts or activities and receive group feedback. ASA members will be at the workshop to network with teachers and organize learning communities.

To encourage participation by as many teachers as possible, ASA is picking up the tab for the conference registration, lodging for the one-day event, as well as meals on the day of the meeting.

### **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 [17,000] 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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