

# Charter

## Preamble

Recognizing that the American Statistical Association is composed of members from many communities, there is a need to organize subgroups to represent members with special concerns. There are already sections to represent members with particular interests in sub-disciplines of statistics and districts and chapters to represent geographic locations. A similar subgroup is needed to represent the community of academic statisticians. Although the issues of importance to academic statisticians are often ones that affect the entire statistics community, without an organized group to deal with them, they are often addressed on an ad hoc basis. The Caucus of Academic Representatives will provide a venue and structure to address issues that arise through the academic setting and are important to academic statisticians.

## Purpose

The purpose of this caucus is to promote the statistics discipline within the academic community and provide resources for academic statisticians to successfully advocate for the discipline. In particular, the caucus will do the following:

1. Provide assistance to academic departments offering degrees in statistics or biostatistics
2. Provide a venue for discussion of issues affecting departments and programs in statistics and biostatistics
3. Facilitate interaction between faculty at different institutions, especially between those at research departments and undergraduate institutions
4. Identify and collect data that are helpful for heads/chairs in dealing with their administrations and function as a repository for such data
5. Arrange a yearly meeting of the members of this group (Caucus of Academic Representatives)
6. Arrange a yearly workshop for department chairs and heads
7. Promote the statistics profession

## Members

The members of the caucus will be academic statisticians who are in a position to achieve the caucus's purpose. This will include the following:

1. The head or chair or designated/elected representative of any department of statistics or biostatistics at a U.S. institution of higher education offering an MS or PhD in statistics or biostatistics
2. The leader of any group of statistics faculty in any department at a U.S. institution of higher education offering a master's or doctorate with a concentration in statistics or biostatistics (not already included in Item 1)
3. The leader of any group of statistics faculty at a U.S. institution of higher education offering a bachelor's degree in statistics or biostatistics or with a concentration in statistics or biostatistics (not already included in items 1 or 2)
4. The officers

5. The leader of other groups of ASA members in the academic community with the capability of advancing the statistics profession and who are not already represented in items 1–4. (See Operating Manual.)

## **Governing Board**

The officers will serve as the governing board.

## **Executive Committee**

The chair-elect, chair, past chair, secretary, and treasurer constitute the executive committee of the governing board.

## **Officers**

The officers consist of the following:

1. The chair-elect, chair, and past chair
2. The secretary and treasurer
3. One representative from each of the following:
  - a. Statistics departments offering a PhD
  - b. Biostatistics departments offering a PhD
  - c. Nonstatistics/biostatistics departments offering a PhD in statistics or biostatistics
  - d. Departments offering a bachelor's or master's in statistics or biostatistics, but not a PhD
4. One representative from each of the following three geographic areas:
  - a. ASA districts 1, 2, and 3
  - b. ASA districts 4 and 5
  - c. ASA District 6

## **Committees**

The Committee on Workshops for Department Chairs will be a standing committee. It will consist of the representatives identified in Item 3 under Officers plus the chair-elect, who will serve as the committee chair.

## **Meetings**

The academic representatives will meet annually in conjunction with the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM).

The officers will meet at least three times per year. (A conference phone call counts as a meeting.)

The Workshop for Department Chairs will be held annually at a time and place that does not conflict with JSM.

## **Communications**

The caucus will promote communication among academic departments and programs offering degrees in statistics using tools such as newsletters, an email list, electronic conferences, etc.

## **Election of Officers**

The caucus will hold its election of officers in conjunction with the ASA election of officers each year. The election will include the following:

1. A chair-elect
2. A representative from one of the following:
  - a. Statistics departments offering a PhD
  - b. Biostatistics departments offering a PhD and nonstatistics departments offering a PhD in statistics
  - c. Departments offering a bachelor's or master's in statistics, but not a PhD
3. A representative from one of the following:
  - a. Districts 1, 2, and 3
  - b. Districts 4 and 5
  - c. District 6

## **Terms of Office**

All terms of office will begin and end at the Joint Statistical Meetings. The terms will begin at the conclusion of the annual meeting of the caucus in the year elected and will continue through the annual meeting of the caucus in the year the term expires.

The chair-elect will serve for three years, the first year as chair-elect, then as chair, and the final year as past-chair. (Persons serving as chair are ineligible to be officers of the caucus for a period of three years after serving as past-chair.)

The secretary and treasurer will be appointed by the caucus chair-elect with input from the governing board and will serve one-year terms. (They can be reappointed for up to three consecutive terms.)

All other officers will serve three-year terms, except that the initial term for the representative of statistics departments offering a PhD and the representative from districts 1, 2, and 3 shall be for four years and the initial term for the representative of departments offering a bachelor's or master's in statistics, but not a PhD, and the representative from District 6 shall be for two years. Officers elected as representatives defined in items 2 and 3 under Election of Officers may not be immediately re-elected to the governing board, except as the chair-elect.

## **Amendments**

*Proposal.* Amendments to this charter may be proposed by the governing board or by a petition signed by at least 10 members of the Caucus of Academic Representatives. An amendment originating by petition shall be referred to the governing board, which will vote on its recommendation regarding ratification. The governing board may also decide upon the final wording of the proposed revision as long as such wording is consistent with the original intent of the petition.

*Ratification.* All proposed amendments shall be submitted to the members of the Caucus of Academic Representatives for mail vote at the time of the next annual election of officers. If approved by a majority of the members of the Caucus of Academic Representatives voting, the

amendment is subject to the approval of the ASA Board of Directors. If approved by the ASA Board of Directors, the amendment shall take effect immediately.