

# Statfax

## President's Report

Dear NIC-ASA Members,

I hope you all are enjoying our statistic breaking Chicago Spring. I am honored to be the president of our chapter for year 2012. We have been a very successful chapter because of your support, and I hope you will continue that support. In addition, I feel that our chapter needs to expand and outreach to include more membership. I would like to ask you to encourage your colleagues to join our chapter. The American Statistical Association is the second oldest professional association in the United States. We should be proud to be part of such a distinguished group of professionals.

As you know, our chapter is run by volunteers. Let me take a moment to thank all our chapter officers, past and present, for their dedication. Officers for this year are David Degras, Patrick Huang, Charles Chaofeng Liu, Clint Lovell, Melvin Munsaka, Carolyn Setze, Sandra Sinisi Lovell, Carl Slenk, Eric Song, and Jennifer Yen.

We have again been successful in securing an ASA travelling course. We are one of only five chapters to have been selected by the ASA to host the applied survival analysis workshop presented by Susanne May of the University of Washington. Susanne will be here on May 30<sup>th</sup> for her well known 1-day

workshop. She is an expert in survival analysis, longitudinal data analysis, and clinical trial methodology. I hope for a great turn out on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Several of our chapter officers participated in the science fair held on March 17 at Niles North High School as judges. David coordinated the chapter efforts to sponsor an award for the best statistical application. Activities such as these increase the awareness of statistics and make our chapter more visible in our community. We welcome your suggestions on other possible activities that we as statisticians can participate in and, as always, solicit your input on where we can improve.

As I mentioned above our chapter is run by volunteers. Participating in chapter activities is a great way to keep in touch with statisticians in the area. I encourage you to contact one of the chapter officers and find out how you can get involved.

Warm Regards,  
Mahinda Karunaratne

## Spring Workshop

Please join us for the Spring Workshop on Wednesday, May 30, 2012 at the Wyndham – Glenview located at 1400 N. Milwaukee Avenue in Glenview, IL.

Registration opens at 8:30 am and the course will begin promptly at 9:00 am and finish around 5 pm. The registration fee (\$160 Regular / \$40 Student) includes your NIC 2012 membership, course materials and refreshments including a continental breakfast, lunch and snacks during the mid-morning and mid-afternoon breaks.

If you have not received a registration form via the email list one can be obtained from the chapter web site ([www.amstat.org/chapters/NortheasternIllinois](http://www.amstat.org/chapters/NortheasternIllinois)).

**Title:** Applied Survival Analysis (ASA Travelling Short Course)

**Speaker:** Dr. Susanne May

**Abstract:** After this course you should be able to determine when survival analysis can or should be used for answering research questions and understand the concepts underlying this analysis approach. If you are familiar with applying other regression models you should be able to run survival analysis regression models and interpret the results. If you are not familiar running other regression models, you should be able to understand what steps and issues are important in survival analysis regression and be able to interpret results.

The course does not assume prior knowledge of survival analysis techniques, but familiarity with either linear or logistic regression is assumed. Mathematical details are kept to a minimum. Approaches will be illustrated with examples.

#### **Introduction to survival analysis**

- Survival analysis data
- Descriptive methods
- Comparison of survival functions

#### **Regression modeling of survival data**

- Fitting the Cox proportional hazards model
- Interpretation of the fitted model
- Model building strategies
- Assessing model adequacy

#### **Extensions of the proportional hazards model**

- Stratified proportional hazards model
- Time-varying covariates

#### **Other topics**

**Bio:** Dr. May is a co-author, with Drs. David W. Hosmer and Stanley Lemeshow, of the second edition of the book Applied Survival Analysis: Regression Modeling of Time to Event Data, published by Wiley.

Dr. May co-authored, with Drs. Abdelmonem Afifi and Virginia A. Clark, the book Practical Multivariate Analysis (formerly Computer-Aided Multivariate Analysis), published by Chapman & Hall/CRC Press.

She has over fifteen years of experience in providing statistical support for research projects.

#### **Upcoming Meetings and Presentations**

ENAR April 1-4, 2012 in Washington DC

SAS Global Forum April 22-25, 2012 in Orlando, Florida

PharmaSUGI May 13-16, 2012 in San Francisco, California

DIA Jun 24 – 28, 2012 in Philadelphia, PA

JSM July 28 - August 2, 2012. in San Diego, California

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Please see the chapter website for opportunities.

## **Getting Involved**

Volunteers are needed to help with registration at the Spring Workshop. Registration volunteers will be expected to arrive prior to the start of the registration period and will work at the registration desk as directed by the Chapter Treasurer, Patrick Huang. This is a great way to connect faces with names and get to know other Chapter members. If you would like to volunteer to assist in registration, please contact Patrick Huang via email at [phuang@takeda.com](mailto:phuang@takeda.com) or by phone at (224) 554-2128.

## **Job Opportunities**

Please see the chapter website for any opportunities.

## **Chapter Mailing List**

Due to changes in the way ASA supports chapter mailing lists, effective September 2010 the NIC-ASA now sends announcements, such as save-the-date memos, registration information, and Statfax newsletters, via the email address, [nic.amstat@gmail.com](mailto:nic.amstat@gmail.com). If you would like to join our mailing list, please subscribe by sending an email to [nic.amstat@gmail.com](mailto:nic.amstat@gmail.com). If you encounter any issues, please contact Jennifer Yen at [Jennifer.L.Yen@abbott.com](mailto:Jennifer.L.Yen@abbott.com).

## **Chapter Website**

Our Chapter's website has the latest news on the Chapter. Find it at: [www.amstat.org/chapters/NortheasternIllinois](http://www.amstat.org/chapters/NortheasternIllinois)

The website contains lots of information about our Chapter, including events, program information, and contact information for Chapter officers and committee members. You can also peruse current and past Chapter newsletters and slides/notes from previous presentations.

## **Officers and Committee Chairs**

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**Publication Info**

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The Chapter's purpose, as stated in its Constitution, is "to foster statistics and its applications and promote the interests of the statistical profession...". Accordingly, diverse views are presented. They do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the officers or the policies of the Chapter.