

Charter of the Section on Statistical Computing

(Last updated, 1996)

Article I. Name

The name of this organization is the [Section on Statistical Computing](#) of the American Statistical Association (hereafter called the Association).

Article II. Scope

The principal areas of interest of the Section include:

1. Encouraging the application of computer hardware, software, and systems to statistical problems.
2. Encouraging the application of statistical techniques in the design, maintenance, and evaluation of computer hardware, software, and systems.
3. Encouraging the joint application of statistical techniques and computer technology in other fields.
4. Serving as a focal point for computer-oriented activities within the American Statistical Association (hereafter referred to as the Association) including cooperation and liaison with computer-oriented organizations and developers and vendors of statistical software.
5. Encouraging research in statistical computing and communication of the results of this research.

Article III. Functions

The Section will perform such functions as will support the areas of interest specified above. These will include

1. Sponsorship, or joint sponsorship with other organizations, of meetings, seminars, and courses which involve Statistical Computing.
2. Planning, in cooperation with the Program Committee of the Association, sessions on statistical computing at Annual or Regional meetings of the Association.
3. Planning sessions for the Symposium on the Interface.
4. Publishing, in cooperation with the Section on Statistical Graphics, a newsletter for members of the Section.
5. Establishing voluntary standards, such as the description of a portable data file format, for statistical software.
6. Sponsorship, or joint sponsorship with other organizations, of documentation of computer programs and algorithms of special interest to statisticians, of development of manuals and booklets and of publication of bibliographies and similar material.

Article IV. Membership

Membership in the Section shall include all full members of the Association who pay dues to the Section.

The membership year for each member of the Section shall coincide with that member's membership year in the Association.

Article V. Officers

The officers of the Section shall be the Section Chair, the Chair-Elect, the Secretary Treasurer, the Program Chair, the Program Chair-Elect, the Publications Liaison Officer, and the Newsletter Editor. The term of office for these officers shall be one year except that the term of the Secretary Treasurer shall be two years, and the term of the Publications Liaison Officer and the term of the Newsletter Editor shall be three years. The Section Chair-Elect and the Program Chair-Elect shall automatically succeed the Section Chair and the Program Chair, respectively, at the annual change of officers. All terms of office begin with the calendar year.

The Section shall be represented on the Association's Council of Sections (hereafter referred to as the Council) by one or more Representatives. The number of Representatives and their terms shall be as specified by the Charter of the Council of Sections.

The Executive Committee of the Section shall consist of its Section Chair, Chair-Elect, Secretary Treasurer, Program Chair, Program Chair-Elect, Publications Liaison Officer, Newsletter Editor, Representative(s) to the Council, the immediate Past Chair of the Section and the immediate Past Chair of the Section on Statistical Graphics.

The Newsletter Editor shall be appointed by the Section Chair, with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Article VI. Nomination and Election

The Section Chair-Elect shall serve as Chair of the Nominating Committee. Two additional members of the Section, appointed by the Section Chair-Elect, shall serve on this committee. On or before the Association's general deadline for nominations, the Section Nominating Committee shall submit to the Secretary of the Association and the Section Chair the names of at least two candidates for each position to be filled.

In addition, any Section member nominated by a petition signed by at least 25 current members of the Section shall also appear on the annual ballot provided the procedures specified in the Association's Constitution have been followed.

Voting shall be by mail ballot, as part of the Association's annual election of officers.

If the office of Section Chair becomes vacant, the Section Chair-Elect shall become the Section Chair, the term extending through the following year. The Section Chair shall designate persons to fill vacancies in other offices or to serve as alternates on the Executive Committee, except that a person to fill a vacancy for Program Chair-Elect shall be designated by the Section Chair-Elect.

Upon request by the President, the Section Chair shall nominate representatives to serve as the Association's liaison with external computing-oriented organizations.

Article VII. Meetings

The Annual Business Meeting of the Section shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Association and shall be announced in advance, preferably in the printed program of the Annual Meeting. Business may also be conducted by mail. If more than two-thirds of the members of the Section can be reached through electronic mail, business may also be conducted by electronic mail.

An Executive Committee Meeting shall be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Association and shall be announced to members of the Executive Committee in advance. Newly elected officers are invited to this meeting which should always be held in advance of the Section Business Meeting. At least one additional Executive Committee Meeting shall be held each year, usually in conjunction with the Symposium on the Interface.

Between business meetings, the management of the affairs of the Section shall be in the hands of the Executive Committee, subject to such standing rules as the business meeting shall from time to time provide.

Article VIII. Dues

The schedule of dues for the Section shall be set each year by the Executive Committee.

Article IX. Amendments

Amendments to this charter may be proposed by the Executive Committee or by a petition signed by at least 25 current members of the Section provided the procedures specified in the Association's Constitution have been followed. A proposed amendment shall be submitted to the Council of Sections for approval and then submitted to the Section's members for ratification. The ratification vote by the Section's members can be conducted in conjunction with the Association's annual election of officers.

Executive Committee Resolutions

(Dated 1997)

The Section Representatives will take full responsibility for the Section's Student Paper competition. The competition pays up to \$1000 towards travel expenses for four students to attend the Joint Statistical Meetings. The senior representative will coordinate the advertisement, submissions, reviews, and correspondence of the competition.