When *you* invest in statistics and data science, you change the world

As an ASA member, you know statistics and data science affect our society in positive ways every day. Data have become integral to our world, which is why we have to make sure there are enough qualified people to make sense of it all.

You can be part of history while supporting the future of statistics and data science by donating on the first ASA Giving Day, October 19, and becoming an ASA Giving Day Ambassador.

Visit the Giving Day website at [www.amstat.org/givingday](http://www.amstat.org/givingday) for more information. And make sure to go to the Media & Contests tab for resources such as email templates, sample social media posts, and fun contests to help you be a Giving Day Ambassador.

I hope you will join me in donating on ASA Giving Day, October 19. Together, we are such a strong community of statisticians.

Read on for examples of how your donations are already making an impact!

Thank you!

*Ron Wasserstein, ASA Executive Director*
**How ASA Student Chapters Make a Big Difference**

Helping students navigate college and giving them a leg up on soft skills

“We partner with professors and bring speakers to campus so that undergraduate and graduate students have the opportunity to hear from industry and research. We also plan events such as ASA DataFest and are planning to bring a mentorship opportunity so that younger students have a place and a person to go to when they have questions.”

**Maggie Christy** joined the ASA as a freshman and became involved in the Purdue Student Chapter. “I joined the ASA because I was interested in networking with professors and those in industry outside of the Purdue campus. As an incoming freshman, I wasn’t aware of the different fields, but the ASA has exposed me to many possibilities and, through that, I found the biopharmaceutical industry, which is where I’m most interested.”

During her student career, Maggie participated in ASA DataFest, which gave her a taste for the statistics discipline and an opportunity to practice public speaking and presenting. She was also able to attend StatFest in Chicago and Washington, DC.

Maggie became president of the Purdue Student Chapter with the goal of expanding networking opportunities for statistics students. “We partner with professors and bring speakers to campus so that undergraduate and graduate students have the opportunity to hear from industry and research,” says Maggie. “We also plan events such as ASA DataFest and are planning to bring a mentorship opportunity so that younger students have a place and a person to go to when they have questions.”

Maggie is in good company. Here are what a couple more student chapter members have to say about their experiences.

**Jacquelyn Neal**, Vanderbilt University Student Chapter’s co-founder, says, “I’ve been hearing about soft skills since I was an undergrad. I always knew that they existed, and you might have a few classes that touch on them, but you don’t really get a lot of practice. Student chapters are a great way to get that practice in before you go out into the world.”

“One of the greatest benefits of starting an ASA student chapter or being a student chapter officer is gaining leadership experience,” says **Leanna Moron**, founding president of the George Mason University Student Chapter. “When I first started the ASA student chapter, I was actually very shy, really scared of public speaking. As the semesters went on, as I led more meetings, I became more comfortable speaking in front of a group of students, and I think that’s great.”

In 2015, the ASA launched the Student Chapter program with only three student chapters. Today, there are more than 70! Your support helps give students the ability to see what opportunities exist through statistics and shows them early on what it means to be part of the ASA community.
‘Lady with the Lamp’ set to inspire girls across the country this fall

This October 27, the inaugural Florence Nightingale Day will be observed all over the country. This new collaboration with the Caucus for Women in Statistics is a celebration of statistics and data science for middle- and high-school girls. It is just one great example of what you help make possible with your support of ASA education programs.

The day will feature regional events showcasing opportunities in statistics and data science. Hands-on activities and lively presentations will allow students to experience the work statisticians and data scientists do every day.

Why Florence Nightingale? Because she was fearless! She used her statistical knowledge to reform health care—saving countless lives. As the first woman elected to the Royal Statistical Society, the “Lady with a Lamp” continues to inspire us to work hard and make a difference.

Florence Nightingale Day will be observed October 27 for the first time.

“I am excited to be a part of FN Day 2018. Children are naturally interested in data about the world and themselves. An event such as FN Day can open up to them the possibility of a life exploring data, a pursuit that we as statisticians are passionate about. It is my hope also that the day and its activities will attract young people who may not have thought of statistics and data science as viable career options for themselves previously.”

Nicole Lazar
Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Georgia, and President-Elect, Caucus for Women in Statistics