

## ASA Recognizes Four Leading Government and Academic Statistics Professionals with Coveted Founders Award

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (August 8, 2017) – At the annual ASA President’s Address and Founders & Fellows Recognition during the 2017 Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) in Baltimore, American Statistical Association (ASA) president, Barry D. Nussbaum, presented the prestigious Founders Award to Wendy Martinez, director, Mathematical Statistics Center, Bureau of Labor Statistics; Jane Pendergast, professor, Duke University School of Medicine; Nick Horton, professor of statistics, Amherst College; and John Eltinge, assistant director for research and methodology, U.S. Census Bureau.

“The ASA is extremely pleased to present our highest honor to Wendy, Jane, Nick, and John. They have dedicated their careers to the field of statistics and demonstrated impressively high standards that have helped strengthen the experiences of colleagues throughout the association’s membership and beyond,” said Nussbaum. “From teaching future generations of critical thinkers the theories and applications that can lead to new scientific discoveries, to calculating and analyzing government data in robust, meaningful and accurate ways, to advancing research that will lead to more effective health care, they each have left a tremendous footprint in the scientific discipline that is statistics.”

The Founders Award is bestowed upon ASA members with longstanding and distinguished service to the association and its membership. To be eligible for the award, candidates must have served the organization and its membership over an extended period and in a variety of volunteer leadership roles, including involvement with chapters, sections, and committees; officer positions; and editorial activities.

### **Wendy Martinez**

For outstanding leadership and support of statistical and multidisciplinary research that achieved technological development in the areas of defense and national security; for a sustained commitment to the ASA and the profession through service in multiple sections, local chapters, and committees, especially in the areas of computational statistics, government statistics, social statistics, and defense and national security; for editorial work, including as a coordinating editor of *Statistics Surveys*; and for support of statistical education opportunities for minorities and women.

### **Jane Pendergast**

For service to the ASA over nearly three decades; for skilled and thoughtful leadership of the ASA during two terms on the board of directors, representing in turns the Council of Chapters

and the Council of Sections; for service as chair of the Statistical Consulting Section and as the first chair of the Karl Peace Award Committee; and for supporting the ASA and other societies as chair of the Committee of Presidents of Statistical Societies and as secretary/treasurer of Section U of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

**Nick Horton**

For long-term active involvement in ASA chapters, sections, and committees; for serving on a wide variety of committees, including the 2015 JSM Program Committee, the Education Council, the Waller Education Award Committee, and the Traveling Course Committee; for serving as Chair of the Statistical Education Section, Chair of the Education Workgroup on Undergraduate Curriculum Guidelines, and Chair of the ASA/NCTM Joint Committee; for effective leadership on the Council of Chapters Governing Board and ASA Board of Directors; and for exceptional service and leadership in a wide variety of other professional activities.

**John Eltinge**

For extensive support of and involvement in the continual improvement of federal statistical programs, as evidenced by leadership at the Bureau of Labor Statistics and active participation on the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology and an abundance of interagency committees; for exemplary contributions as associate editor for multiple journals and to program committees for numerous statistical conferences, including service as program chair of the Joint Statistical meetings; for commitment to enhancing the relevance of the ASA to the federal statistical agencies; and for insightful mentoring at the local and national levels.

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***About the American Statistical Association***

The ASA is the world's largest community of statisticians and the oldest continuously operating professional science society in the United States. Its members serve in industry, government and academia in more than 90 countries, advancing research and promoting sound statistical practice to inform public policy and improve human welfare. For additional information, please visit the ASA website at [www.amstat.org](http://www.amstat.org).

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