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## **ASA PRESENTS PRESTIGIOUS FOUNDERS AWARD TO JAMES ALBERT, DAVID BANKS AND SALLY MORTON**

*Trio Honored for Outstanding Contributions to the ASA, Its Membership*

**SEATTLE, WA, AUGUST 12, 2015** – American Statistical Association (ASA) members James H. Albert, David L. Banks and Sally C. Morton were presented the association’s prestigious Founders Award last night.

The honor is bestowed annually to ASA members who have rendered distinguished and long-term service to the association and its membership. The awards were presented during a presidential awards ceremony at the [2015 Joint Statistical Meetings \(JSM 2015\)](#) in Seattle. The ASA is the nation's preeminent professional statistical society.

Albert is professor of mathematics and statistics at Bowling Green University, Banks is professor of the practice of statistics at Duke University and Morton is professor and chair of the biostatistics department in the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health.

“The Founders Award is the American Statistical Association’s highest recognition for distinguished service and leadership within the association and the statistical science profession,” said ASA President David R. Morganstein. “Jim, David and Sally are proven and effective leaders who have made significant and enduring contributions to the association and profession. Therefore, it is my personal privilege to recognize these great leaders by presenting each the 2015 ASA Founders Award.”

To be eligible for the honor, ASA members must have served the association and its membership over an extended period and in a variety of volunteer leadership roles. These roles include chapter, section, committee, officer or editorial activities in which effective service or leadership was provided within the ASA or on behalf of the association to other professional organizations.

The citations for each 2015 Founders Award honoree follow:

- **James H. Albert**, for outstanding leadership and efforts in statistical education and relationship-building between academia and industry; for service as editor of *The American Statistician* and the *Journal of Quantitative Analysis of Sports* and as a member of the *Significance* editorial board; for major contributions as associate editor of several ASA journals; for chairing and participating in numerous ASA committees and councils devoted to statistics education, Bayesian statistics and

sports statistics; and for heightening interest in statistics through the use of sports examples and applications presented in papers, technical reports, lectures, blogs and books.

- **David L. Banks**, for outstanding leadership in the discipline, in its interfaces, and in the ASA; for consistent and varied professional contributions in areas of particular public interest, such as human rights, counterterrorism, immigration and public health; for editorial work and a commitment to modernizing our publications, including as a founding editor of *Statistics and Public Policy*, as editor of the *Journal of the American Statistical Association* and as publications representative on the ASA Board; for service in multiple sections, local chapters and committees; and for significant contributions on National Academies committees, to federal agencies and to the National Institute of Statistical Sciences and Statistical and Applied Mathematical Sciences Institute.
- **Sally C. Morton**, for sustained thoughtful leadership of the ASA as its 2009 president, as a representative to other organizations and as a member of the Development Committee; for commitment to maintaining the relevance of the ASA to applied statisticians, as evidenced by the development of the Conference on Statistical Practice and the ASA's accreditation program; for serving on and chairing numerous ASA committees; for editorial service on several journals, including as a founding editor of *Statistics and Public Policy*; and for advancing statistical methodology through service on National Academies committees and the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute.

JSM 2015 is being held August 8–13 at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle. More than 6,000 statisticians—representing academia, business and industry, as well as national, state and local governments—from numerous countries are attending North America's largest statistical science gathering.

### ***About JSM 2015***

JSM, which has been held annually since 1974, is being conducted jointly this year by the [American Statistical Association](#), [International Biometric Society \(ENAR and WNAR\)](#), [Institute of Mathematical Statistics](#), [Statistical Society of Canada](#), [International Chinese Statistical Association](#), [International Indian Statistical Association](#), [Korean International Statistical Society](#), [International Society for Bayesian Analysis](#), [Royal Statistical Society](#), and [International Statistical Institute](#). JSM activities include oral presentations, panel sessions, poster presentations, professional development courses, an exhibit hall, a career service, society and section business meetings, committee meetings, social activities and networking opportunities. [Click here for more information about JSM 2015.](#)

### ***About the American Statistical Association***

The ASA is the world's largest community of statisticians and the second-oldest continuously operating professional 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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