

## ASA Conference to Showcase, Propel Women’s Research and Address Challenges for Professional Advancement in Statistics, Data Science

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (October 6, 2017) – In an effort to expand opportunities for women who are under-represented in the technical fields of statistics, data science and –omics, the ASA’s [Women in Statistics and Data Science](#) (WSDS) Conference will gather nearly 400 early-, middle- and late-career researchers, practitioners, scientists and government officials to celebrate the significant contributions of women and address professional, personal, academic and business challenges October 19–21 in La Jolla, California.

“With the number of women earning [degrees in statistics-related](#) fields on the rise, it’s imperative that they can experience opportunities for professional growth and advancement rather than challenges or barriers. Whether through networking, professional development or education, women and men coming together at WSDS to further a dialogue of understanding, feature accomplishments and foster growth will allow diversity to flourish and fuel science and innovation for the benefit of society,” said Dalene Stangl, professor in the department of statistics at Carnegie Mellon University and member of the WSDS planning committee.

Through three days of technical and professional development concurrent and poster sessions, WSDS will empower female statisticians, biostatisticians and data scientists by exchanging ideas, sharing modern and cutting-edge research, discussing ways to establish rewarding multidisciplinary collaborations and showcasing the accomplishments of successful women in the field.

The banquet keynote will be given by Donna Brogan, professor emeritus in biostatistics and bioinformatics in the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. Plenary speakers include the following:

- **Jeri Mulrow**, Principal Deputy Director, Bureau of Justice Statistics
- **Susmita Datta**, Professor, Department of Biostatistics, University of Florida
- **Bonnie Ray**, Vice President, Data Science

“Today’s pressing issues require many diverse applications of statistics. Similarly, it requires a diverse group of professionals to tackle these issues and develop robust solutions,” said ASA President Barry D. Nussbaum. “I am delighted to see the continued growth of this conference, attracting a dynamic audience of both women and men from academia, business and government and am sure they will improve the professional community and the world around them.”

A sampling of this year's presentation topics and talks include the following:

- “Predicting Antibiotic Resistance Through the Lens of Metal Resistance”
- “Comparison of Breast Cancer Risk Assessment Models for a Multiethnic Patient Population”
- “Mining Mental Health Surveys from Tech Workers”
- “Are Women Statisticians More Motivated by Social Justice?”
- “STEM-ulating Interest Among Girls”
- “Lunar Effects on University of Wisconsin Eau Claire On-Campus Housing Incidents”
- “Youth, Globalization and Extremism in the Middle East”
- “Power Dynamics in the Classroom: The Influence of Gender and Consequences for Promotion”
- “Race Counts: Crunching Data for Racial Justice in California”
- “Improving Gender Diversity in a Male-Dominated Community”
- “Discussion of the Impostor Syndrome”

Now in its second year, WSDS has gained a following among sponsors, including Abt, AT&T, Bank of America, Berry Consultants, CWS, Domino Data Lab, Duke Clinical Research Institute, Duke University, Experis, Google, Harvey Mudd College, KGI, Eli Lilly, Microsoft, National Institute of Statistical Sciences, Rho, R Studio, RTI, SAS, STATA, Two Sigma, University of Kansas, U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, U.S. National Security Agency, Weill Cornell Medicine (Healthcare Policy and Research), Westat and Wiley.

Media can attend WSDS for free, but must pre-register by emailing [jill@amstat.org](mailto:jill@amstat.org).

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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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