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**SIGMAA on Statistics and Data Science Education Business Meeting Minutes**

**MathFest, Friday, August 9, 2024**

**Room 309 - 310, 6-7:30pm**

**Indianapolis, Indiana**

**6:00-6:10**

1. Welcome (Be sure to sign in!)

* 19 people attended

1. Introduction of New and Continuing Officers (as of Jan. 1, 2024)

* Jeremy Case, Taylor University (Past-Chair), Troy Riggs, Union University (Chair-Elect),

Tiffany Kolba, Valparaiso University (Secretary-Treasurer), Melissa Innerst, Dickinson College (Program Chair), Haris Skiadas, Hanover College (Webmaster)

1. Thanks to your retiring officers (as of Jan. 1, 2023)

* Lisa Carnell, High Point University (Past-Chair), Nick Gorgievski (Secretary-Treasurer)
* Consider running for office!

1. The Robert V. Hogg Award for Excellence in Teaching Statistics-[Dan Scholwater Associate Professor](#_10i3t46fnczv) of Mathematics and Program Director of Mathematics and Computer Science at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, VA.
2. The Dexter C. Whittinghill III Award for Outstanding Contributed Paper in Statistics and Data Science Education at MathFest 2023, [Dr. Kaitlyn Fitzgerald](#_iwptrpsl26ks), is an Assistant Professor, a statistics educator and interdisciplinary researcher at Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, California. The 2023 MathFest contributed paper theme was “My Favorite Statistics / Data Science Activity.”

Dr. Fitzgerald was unable to attend, but her certificate will be mailed to her. The Chair-Elect is responsible for tallying the scores from the contributed paper session evaluations.

1. Secretary’s Report and Approval of Minutes from MathFest 2023 Business Meeting

* We currently have 256 members in our SIGMAA. There are 16 SIGMAAs and our SIGMAA is the fifth largest (median size is 226, mean size is 242).

1. Treasurer’s Report

* Our annual budget is $2,304.00. The budget is primarily spent on refreshments for the business meeting and the awards/prizes.

1. Chair’s Report

* We will be holding elections for Chair-Elect (1 year) and Program Chair (2 years, elected in even years) in the fall – please consider running for office or nominating a colleague. New terms begin January 1. New SIGMAA officer terms begin January 1 under the current system, which was devised when the business meetings were held at JMM. There is ongoing discussion if the start/end dates of terms should be modified due to holding the business meetings now at MathFest.
* Other positions – Chair (1 year), Past-Chair (1 year), Program Chair (2 years, elected even years)
* SIGMAA Events here at MathFest
  + **Contributed Paper Session:** *Community-Focused Experiences in the Statistics or Data Science Classroom,* August 9, 2024, 4:00-5:55 pm, Room 309-310
  + Business Meeting Speaker, *Performance Analytics in Professional Basketball,* Dr. Sarah Kessler, Indiana Fever
* JMM 2025 Panel: Navigating the Frontier: Statistics, Data Science, and AI in the First Two Years of College. Dr. Patti Frazer Lock (St. Lawrence University), Dr. Jamie Perrett (Brigham Young University), Dr. Helen Burn (Highline College), Dr. Kelly McConville (Harvard University), Dr. Victor Piercey (Ferris State College)

Friday, Jan 10, from 10:30-12:00 AM  
The Seattle Convention Center Arch at 705 Pike in room 4C-4.

* Remember to use MAA Connect for questions and discussion.

1. Upcoming Events

* Joint Statistical Meetings, August 3-8, 2024, Portland, OR
* Joint Mathematics Meetings, January 8-11, 2025, Seattle, WA
* USCOTS, July 17-19, 2025, Ames, Iowa (<https://www.causeweb.org/cause/uscots/uscots25>)
* Joint Statistical Meetings, August 2-7, 2025, Nashville, TN
* MathFest, August 6-9, 2025, Sacramento, CA
* CAUSE events

<https://causeweb.org/cause/events>

1. Call for Nominations – Jeremy Case, Past Chair

* The Robert V. Hogg Award for Excellence in Teaching Statistics

Requirements: Applicant must have been teaching introductory statistics at the college level for 3 to 15 years and hold active membership with the MAA. Nominations of faculty coming from a mathematics background are especially encouraged, although all eligible candidates are encouraged to apply. The deadline for submitting nomination packets is September 30th. See our website for details.

**6:30 – 7:15 pm**

1. Speaker: *Performance Analytics in Professional Basketball*

Dr. Sarah Kessler, Indiana Fever

**7:15-7:30 pm**

1. Discussion -

* Topics For Future SIGMAA Sessions – Suggestions?
  + Webinar?
  + Transfer Pathways in Data Science

The number of data science programs is growing. Are we preparing community college students adequately with data science skills? Are we preparing math/stat faculty to transition to teach data science as the need for more data science courses emerges?

* + GAISE? Updated GAISE guidelines are expected to come out in 2025. <https://community.amstat.org/collegegaiserevision/home>

1. Other Business

The MAA has a new journal on data science called Scatterplot. The journal publishes broad content for a broad audience. It is online only and currently open access, with hopes to keep the journal open access permanently.

1. Adjourn.

### 2023 Robert V. Hogg Award for Excellence in Teaching Introductory Statistics

**Dr. Daniel Showalter**Associate Professor of Mathematics and Program Director of Mathematics and Computer Science, Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, VA

Data analysis work for the Why Rural Matters series of national policy reports is used widely by policymakers, researchers, and educators.

Publications include a focus on making introductory statistics more relevant and less anxiety-provoking for all students. He is coauthor of the textbook Advanced Quantitative Reasoning: Mathematics for the World Around Us.

Recipient of the Mathematical Association of America's 2021 John M. Smith Award for Distinguished Teaching for the Virginia-Maryland-DC section

Daniel's decision to pursue a career in teaching statistics was born during a five-year journey around the world. During a 6-month stay with a family in the mountains of East India, he was disturbed by the way moneylenders took advantage of communities with limited quantitative literacy. This inspired him to receive his master's in mathematics and PhD in mathematics education from Ohio University with the goal of raising quantitative literacy.

About the Hogg Award:

The Hogg Award has been awarded annually since 2013 and provides recognition to an individual who has shown both excellence and growth in teaching introductory statistics at the college level. It is named in honor of Robert V. Hogg, winner of numerous teaching accolades including the Iowa Governor’s Science Medal for Teaching in 1990 and the MAA’s Distinguished Teaching award in 1993. Hogg was a passionate advocate for statistics education who served as the President of the American Statistical Association in 1988.

### Dexter Whittinghill III Award for Outstanding Contributed Paper in Statistics at Mathfest 2023



**Dr. Kaitlyn Fitzgerald**

Assistant Professor, a statistics educator and interdisciplinary researcher at Azusa Pacific University in Azusa, California.

2023 MathFest Contributed Paper theme: My Favorite Statistics / Data Science Activity.

Dr. Fitzgerald’s presentation: Data Visualization Activities to Illuminate Cognitive Pitfalls and Help Students Become Better Communicators of Data.

Demonstrated how cognitive science can help with data communication.

Students use data visualization strategies to highlight different visual aspects in representing the data.

Employing active learning strategies with a focus on storytelling and incorporating collective feedback.

Audience members gave Dr. Fitzgerald the highest marks in the categories of quality of visual presentation, quality of verbal presentation, and contribution to the field of statistics and data science education.

About the Dexter Whittinghill III Award:

The Dexter C. Whittinghill III award is named in honor of Dr. Dexter (Dex) Whittinghill, III, Emeritus/Associate Professor in the College of Science and Mathematics at Rowan University who received the inaugural award for outstanding contributed paper. The award has been given annually since 2005 for the best contributed paper on Statistics and Data Science Education at a national MAA conference.