Adam Chlebek

Homework 5

Keynote Speaker

Karen Kafadar, current President of the American Statistical Association, came to talk to the members of many different stats professors. Kafadar talked a lot about the ASA and told us about the history, and many other statistics. Once of the coolest things Karen talked about was that the ASA was founded back in 1839. Over that time, they have gained 18,000 members from over 90 countries. They have 29 sections, 10 interest groups, and have almost 70 committees. This was the coolest thing to hear back I never realized that the American stats Association is such a profound club. Some of the benefits that Karen talked about for joining was things such as Complimentary Electronic Access, complimentary print copies of many newsletters, ASA community interaction, discounts, and many more. As Karen was talking about some of the benefits of joining ASA, she talked about some of the statistical related things that they do. They will do Training in Kenya/Tanzania, Save The Children in Ethiopia, and studying effects of education and development. I think this was very interesting to listen to because I found a lot of the information very useful. I was also very excited to hear about some of the things she talked about that related to statistics in general. She shows a map of the distribution of Stats vs Machine learning. She stated that everything is wrapped in Data Science. In that, you have Machine learning, then Artificial Intelligence, and finally, deep learning. I found that very interesting to look at because this seems like a path that I would want to take. I really enjoyed listening to the more computer science related topics like databases, algorithms, and programming innovations. I thought Karen was a great speaker and was very knowledgeable in what she was talking about.

Breakout

In this breakout, I sat in the Steelcase talk which covered Embracing Analytics in a Century-Old Manufacturing Company in Room 2263 at 1:30-1:55. Bryan Fliestra and Connor Gould discussed the predictive analytics that Steelcase uses and how they are able to use it to their advantage. They talked about some of the tech that they use and what departments they are able to help with data. For some of the internal processes, they are able to look at buying behaviors and offices that might need furniture in the near future, and provide their sales team with this information. They also talked a lot of predictive analytics in forecasting data and predicting future sales prices. It was neat to see some of the ideas that they are able to implement into everyday production. This deals with internal consulting where they are able to define problems, asses potential impacts, innovate a solution, and present the solution.