

# Astrostatistics Interest Group Annual Meeting

**Aug 3, 1pm-2:30pm EDT**

**Zoom:** <https://smithsonian.zoom.us/j/91586736537?pwd=amt0cHFTVU5BUlQvUDVaWkVydUtaQT09>

**Meeting ID:** 915 8673 6537

**Passcode:** 441976

## Agenda

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### 1. Overview

AIG was formed with a 3-point agenda: expose statisticians to astronomical data and analysis and foster cross-disciplinary collaborations; advertise and promote astrostatistics via conferences, workshops, schools, awards, and other events; and coordinate with with related groups to promote astrostatistics.

#### 1. Current office bearers roll call

*Program Chair:* Gwen Eadie (UToronto)

*Program Chair Elect:* Sara Algeri (UMinnesota)

*Past Chair:* Chad Schafer (CMU)

*Chair Elect:* Peter Freeman (CMU)

*Secretary:* Bo Ning (thru 2021) (Yale)

*Webmaster:* Luis Campos (Etsy)

*Chair:* Vinay Kashyap (CfA)

*COSGB Vice Chair responsible for AIG:* Elizabeth Slate (FSU)

#### 2. Census

[Report by Bo Ning]

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### 2. Charter

[https://astrostat.org/about\\_us.html#charter](https://astrostat.org/about_us.html#charter)

#### 1. Amendments to the Charter

##### 1. Language fixes

1. **Amend** Article IV from "... by mail and/or email." to "... through electronic media or teleconferences."
2. **Amend** Article V para 3 from "...at the annual change of officers,..." to "at the change of officers,..."
3. **Amend** Article VIII from "...proposed by the six officers..." to "...proposed by any of the six officers..."
4. **Amend** Article II.3 from "...internationally, such as with the International Astrostatistics Association (IAA), and including an affiliation with the Astrostatistics and Astroinformatics Portal (ASAIP)." to **either (a)** "..."

internationally." or (b) "...internationally, such as the International Astrostatistics Association (IAA), the Working Group on Astrostatistics and Astroinformatics of the American Astronomical Association (AAS-WGAA), the Astrostatistics and Astroinformatics Portal (ASAIP), etc."

## 2. Term of the Program Chair

**Discussion Item:** The term of the Program Chair is for one year. Members have previously expressed interest in making that a two-year term. We will discuss the pros and cons and vote on whether to modify it.<sup>1</sup>

## 3. Webmaster

**Discussion Item:** The role of Webmaster was created ad hoc two years ago. It involves oversight on all outward facing activities, including web presence, social media, information dissemination, technical infrastructure, etc. It ought to be formalized within the Charter.<sup>2</sup>

## 2. Elections

**Call for nominations** for the following positions:

*Chair Elect, Program Chair, Webmaster*

The nominating committee is comprised of Chad Schafer, David Stenning, and Aneta Siemiginowska.

## 3. Section vs Interest Group

**Discussion Item:** What is the path towards converting AIG into an AmStat Section? Should we even try to do this?

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# 3. Activities

## 1. Invited and Topic-Contributed Sessions

We have had a bumper crop of sessions during this JSM (<https://astrostat.org/jsm2020/>), organized by Gwen Eadie (#11, #265), Eric Feigelson (#539), Hyungsuk Tak (#253), Vinay Kashyap (#431), as well as the Student Paper Award session (#401).

## 2. Student Paper Award

For the past two years, we have sent out a call for student-led papers in astrostatistics and awarded a cash prize to the best of the submissions. The five finalists from this year's contest (Josh Speagle, Collin Politsch, Matthew Ho, Oliver Philcox, and Richard Feder) will speak about their work at the AIG's Topic-Contributed session on Wednesday, Aug 5, at 1pm (<https://astrostat.org/jsm2020/index.html#session-401>)

[Report by Peter Freeman] ([https://astrostat.org/jsm2020/AIG\\_Student\\_Paper.pdf](https://astrostat.org/jsm2020/AIG_Student_Paper.pdf))

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<sup>1</sup> If so decided, Article V para 1 will be modified from "... Terms of all the officers shall be one year except for the Secretary which shall be two years." to "... Terms of the officers shall be one year except for the Secretary and Program Chair which shall be two years."

<sup>2</sup> This will require a change to Article V para 1, and will insert *Webmaster* as an additional officer of the IG, and a change to Article VIII to increase the number of office bearers from six to seven.

A new call for paper submissions for the 2021 award will go out again in late August/early September.

3. AIG Virtual Table

<https://amstat-jsm.conferencecontent.net/exhibitors/88>

4. AIG Mixer

In lieu of an AIG social dinner, we will be hosting a virtual mixer on Wednesday August 5, 5-6:30pm ET. We will create breakout rooms in the zoom call and give everyone the ability to join/leave breakout rooms so people can mingle virtually. Family and pets welcome!

**For connection details**, see Slack channel #jsm2020 at <https://astrostatisti-dzq6013.slack.com/archives/C011GJMLLET>

5. Session proposals for JSM 2021 (Seattle)

**Discussion Item:** In order to coordinate proposal submissions, Sara Algeri has set up a google doc at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L2QQuUqAYxvSv2OISRIYtsvk0vdO8iDa3gLQHk6IS3k/edit>

6. Other events

**Discussion Item:** If there are things that the AIG or AmStat can help you with in your organization of Seminars, Tutorials, Workshops, Webinars, etc., let us know.

7. Budget

We have access to a maximum of \$1000 from COSGB. We don't have dues, don't have a bank account, so expenses must go through AmStat. Our largest expenses are related to the best student paper contest, and sundry expenses related to maintaining a web presence.

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## 4. Coordination

**Discussion Item:** What things can we do as a group to coordinate with sister organizations?

1. AAS/WGAA
2. Other AmStat Sections/IGs

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## 5. Web presence

1. <https://astrostat.org/>, mail exploder and contact email: [aigamstat@gmail.com](mailto:aigamstat@gmail.com)
2. Slack Workspace [astrostatisti-dzq6013.slack.com](https://astrostatisti-dzq6013.slack.com)
3. Twitter, etc.
4. We need a logo. We are using a placeholder right now. If you have design chops and want to get involved, please contact Gwen Eadie and Vinay Kashyap.

