

# Chapter Notes

Newsletter of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Statistical Association

Vol. 3, No. 1, November 2002

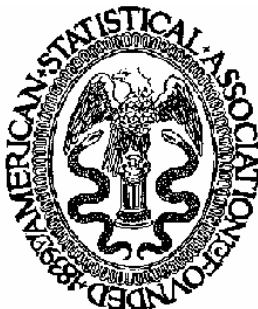
President	William Pan	203-932-7351	Vice President:	Tim Keyes	203-316-7842
Past President:	Marianne Messina	203-677-7261	Secretary	Sterling Hardy	203-677-7251
Treasurer	Mingxiu Hu	860-732-2118	Asst. Treasurer	Patricia English	860-732-0493
Programs chair	Tim Keyes	203-316-7842	Education chair	Sterling Hardy	203-677-7251
Chapters Rep.	Fred Djang	203-677-7247	Newsletter Editor	Stephen Luko	860-557-4664
Web-master: Sonali Das, 860-486-6989					

Visit the CT Chapter homepage at: <http://www.amstat.org/chapters/connecticut/index.html>

In This Issue	Page
Electronic Mailings are here	1
President's Message	1
Treasurer's Report	2
2002 Poster Competition Results	3-4
Colloquium for AP-Statistics Teachers	4-5
Program Committee notes	7

## **ELECTRONIC MAILINGS**

Welcome to electronic mailing. With this issue, we have implemented electronic mailings for most of our readers. If you do not have e-mail, please let us know so that you will still receive our mailings through the U.S. mail. We will eventually discontinue non-electronic mailings, but for the present, anyone not having access to an e-mail utility can receive the newsletter as a hard copy. We hope the electronic newsletter will be able to inform you on details of presentations, events and general information, in a much more timely fashion. It is critical that we have your correct e-mail address. If you did not receive your electronic newsletter, please contact any member as listed above. Also, if your email address changes, please contact us.



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*By: Bill Pan*

At this point, I am happy to report to you that the ASA Connecticut Chapter is economically strong and stable. Our membership is increasing. The general condition and status of your ASA chapter is excellent. Also, let me take this opportunity to thank publicly the Officers of 2001-2002 Connecticut ASA Chapter. They did a splendid job in the past year and build a solid foundation for us to stand on today. They all desired our heartfelt thanks!

In the past two months, on your behalf, the officers of the chapter (both this year and the previous year) have spent more than 1,000-minutes of quality time together and typed approximately 400,000 email-words, to review, brainstorm and plan the activities for the coming year. Details of a Mini-Conferences, and Sponsored Seminars, Workshops, the AP Statistics Colloquium, the Poster Competition, Career Day, Short courses, Outstanding Student Paper Award and an "Honor A Connecticut Statistician Banquet", are forthcoming.

Please be advised that because our Chapter is very active in sponsoring special events, in order to maintain a strong position economically, and to keep pace with the other ASA chapters, the Executive Committee of the ASA Connecticut Chapter has voted to raise the Chapter Dues from \$8 to \$10 for the year 2003-2004.

Finally, please allow me un-bashfully to make this special appeal to you: **THIS IS YOUR CHAPTER.** In order to make this ASA chapter (YOURS) the best it can be. We need your help. The Chapter needs your help. Give us your fresh ideas. Come join the team. Contribute some time and effort. Be a volunteer. Drop me a line ([wpan6659@yahoo.com](mailto:wpan6659@yahoo.com)) to discuss what you can do. Contact any chapter officer you know. We very much want to hear from you.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

*by: Mingxiu Hu*

From July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002, our total income was \$1256.37 and total expense was \$1157.69 with cash balance of \$2909.96 at the end of the period. The key resource of income was from Membership Dues while the main expenses were on Awards and Food. Currently we have 183 members. I would like to give my sincere thanks to our past treasurer, Dr. Patricia English, for her wonderful work and for her help during the transition, which is still ongoing.

#### **Statement of Cash Position (1-Jul-01 to 30-Jun-02)**

Beginning cash balance	<b>\$2755.03</b>
<u>Income</u> (revenue, receipts)	
1. Dues	\$1235.00
2. Interest	\$ 11.37
3. Other (returned check #187)s never	\$ 10.00

Total Income	<b>\$1256.37</b>
--------------	------------------

#### Expenses

1. Awards	\$ 623.00
2. Food functions/refreshments	\$ 400.96
3. Office supplies	\$ 58.93
4. Postage/delivery	\$ 74.80

Total Expenses	<b>\$1157.69</b>
----------------	------------------

Ending cash balance (as of June 30, 2002)

\$2909.96



### **2002 STATISTICAL POSTER COMPETITION RESULTS**

*by: Sterling Hardy*

For the past six years the chapter has been sponsoring a statistical poster competition for students in grades K-12. This year 231 posters were submitted by 27 teachers and parents as follows:

<b>Grades</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>Posters</b>
K-3	7	9
4-6	9	78
7-9	3	78
10-12	11	76

The judges selected 17 winners this year. You can view the winning posters on our web site, [www.ctasa.org](http://www.ctasa.org). At an awards ceremony held at Bristol-Myers Squibb in April, winners received cash prizes and certificates. Every winning team was present except one. A school from Bridgeport even brought a school bus full of kids and parents!

#### **Winners – 2002**

#### **Connecticut Statistical Poster Competition**

*by: Sterling Hardy*

#### **Grades K-3**

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 1st | <i>Is Your Belly Button Concave Or Convex?</i><br>Taylor Walsh, Lola Amdahl, Mathi Smith,<br>Eddie Kelly, Sarah Paisley, Tommy Morse<br>Washington Primary School,<br>Advisor: Velya Jancz-Urban |
| 2nd | <i>Who Runs Faster, Boys or Girls?</i><br>Emma Gleeman<br>Timothy Dwight School<br>Advisor: Carolyn Bourque  |
| 3rd | <i>What Happens The More You Roll?</i><br>Mrs. Perillo's Kindergarten Class<br>Learning and Enrichment Center<br>Advisors: Kim Perillo, Johanna Diaz   |
| HM  | <i>How Many Syllables Are There In Your Name?</i>  |

Miss Castro's Third Grade Class  
Elias Howe School  
Advisors: Raquel Castro

HM *Our Favorite Snacks*  
Mrs. Badr's Third Grade Class  
Elias Howe School  
Advisor: Myrna Badr

### Grades 4-6

1st *Overweight Kids, The Causes And The Results*  
Travis Williams  
Teacher: Patricia Smith  
East Lyme Middle School

2nd *Is The Best Tasting Chip The Healthiest?*  
Dottie Caudullo, Zachary Kessler, Mischa  
Lassow, Samantha Mainville, Dan Rosania,  
Joshua Sullivan  
Teacher: Vicki Deleo  
Bolton Center School

3rd *Determining "Weather" Or Not The Day  
Paper Has An Accurate Track*  
JC Rotchford, Taylor Emery  
Teacher: Patricia Smith  
East Lyme Middle School

HM *Intake of Vitamins A & C in the U.S.*  
Alfred Scelza, Oddur Sigurdsson  
Teacher: Patricia Smith  
East Lyme Middle School

### Grades 7-9

1st *Does Being Named After A Relative Correlate  
With The Number Of Letters In Your Name Or  
With Your Nationality*  
Antonia Giannakakos  
Teacher: Dolores Kelsey  
Broadview Middle School

2nd *Population Growth Equals Increases In Shark  
Attacks*  
Michael Anderson  
Teacher: Dolores Kelsey  
Broadview Middle School

3rd *Do Students Remember Pictures Associated  
With Their Gender Better Than Non-Gender  
Related Pictures?*

Puneeta Arora  
Teacher: Dolores Kelsey  
Broadview Middle School

HM *Some Of My Classmates Are Squares*  
Brittany Nejame, Flora Marcelino, Dorian  
Carey,  
Alexandra Alvarez  
Teacher: Dolores Kelsey  
Broadview Middle School

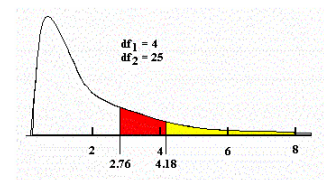
### Grades 10-12

1st *What Types Of Vehicles Are Increasing In  
Demand?*  
Krista Golia, John Lazack, John Monico,  
Matt Papa  
Teacher: Carl Jackson  
North Haven High School

2nd *The Perfect Teacher*  
Jamie Terwilliger, Jennie D'Elia  
Teacher: Mary Michailidis  
Stamford High School

3rd *Will The Number Of Executions In The U.S.  
Decrease In The Coming Years?*  
Christopher Ficocelli  
Teacher: Adam Goldberg  
North Haven High School

HM *What Colors?*  
Katie Chasse, Beth Tiech  
Teacher: Paul Reynolds  
Mark T. Sheehan High School



### ASA National Statistical Poster Winners

Grade 7-9, 3rd Place  
*Some of My Classmates Are Squares*

Brittany Nejame, Flora Marcelino, Dorian Carey,  
Alexandra Alvarez  
Broadview Middle School, Danbury, CT  
Advisor: Dolores Kelsey

#### Grade 10-12, **Honorable Mention**

*How has the use of alcohol, marijuana and illicit drugs changed from 1975-1992?*

Jackie Stluka, Mariah Keth,  
New Canaan High School, New Canaan, CT  
Advisor: Roger Hansell

I'd like to thank all those who came out on a Saturday morning to do the judging. Without your help the competition wouldn't be possible. This year's judges were: Richard Colombo, Patricia English, Gary Johnson, Yiqing Lin, Jim Love, Tim Keyes, Dietmar Nuebacher, Linda Reich, Pradipta Sarkar, Larry Schwartz, Neal Thomas, Seth Thompson, and Dong Xu. In addition, many people helped by working with teachers and picking up posters: Richard Colombo, Dan Cotton, Nora Fagan, Tim Keyes, Uwe Koehn, Marianne Messina, Jim Schwenke, Charles Scica, Paul Staneski, Naitee Ting, Joanna Yang. I apologize if I have missed anybody. Special thanks goes to Sabrina Marler, who coordinated our efforts to assist the teachers. I'd also like to thank our corporate sponsors, Bristol-Myers Squibb and Boehringer Ingelheim

### **Honor a Statistician**

The Connecticut Chapter is instituting a program to recognize and honor a statistician who has made a significant contribution to the profession and to the chapter. The honoree will be recognized at a banquet to be held next Spring. Fred Djang, Tim Keyes, and Sterling Hardy have been asked to serve as a Selection Committee for this year's honoree. The Selection committee is seeking nominations. If you would like to nominate someone, please send an email to Fred, Tim or Sterling (email addresses below). Please include a brief statement of why you think the nominee is deserving of the award.

[fred.djang@bms.com](mailto:fred.djang@bms.com)  
[tim.keyes@GECapital.com](mailto:tim.keyes@GECapital.com)  
[sterling.hardy@bms.com](mailto:sterling.hardy@bms.com)

### **2003 Poster Competition – Call for Volunteers** *by Sterling Hardy*

The poster competition is perhaps the greatest program we have to reach out to our local

communities, promote quantitative literacy, and make a positive difference in the lives of hundreds of school children. Posters from Connecticut are judged locally, then forwarded to a similar poster competition which is sponsored by the national organization. The competition will be held in March, 2003, with an awards ceremony in April. I would encourage those of you who have school-age children to contact their math teacher, tell them about the contest, and offer to help them enter!

We are looking for volunteers to work with teachers and to judge the posters. Working with teachers involves calling them up, answering their questions, and coaching them through the competition. Don't worry; we'll tell you everything you need to know so that you can help the teacher.

The poster judging in March is a wonderful opportunity to get involved, interact with some of your peers, and see what the poster competition is all about.

Please contact me ([sterling.hardy@bms.com](mailto:sterling.hardy@bms.com), (860) 677-7251) if you would be interested in either helping a teacher or judging the posters.

Thanks!!!

---

### **"A Colloquium for AP-Statistics Teachers"** *by: Fred Djang*

The AP Statistics exam has been offered since 1997. It is the fastest growing AP exam thus far. In 1997, 7,600+ students took the exam; in 2002, 51,000+ exams were given. Currently it ranks in the top 10 of the 31 AP-Exams offered by the College Board. It is estimated that only half of the students who take the course actually take the exam. Of the approximately 160 high schools in Connecticut, about 40 already offer AP-Statistics. AP-Statistics teachers across the nation are looking for materials, resources, and guidance in teaching this course and Connecticut is no exception. In January 2001, the Connecticut Chapter of the American Statistical Association and Bristol-Myers Squibb co-sponsored "A Colloquium for Connecticut AP Statistics Teachers."

I am very pleased to report to you that we again offered this one-day Colloquium in 2002. This time all AP-Statistics teachers in the New England states were invited. The speakers were bio-statisticians, statistical consultants and AP-Statistics teachers. They discussed

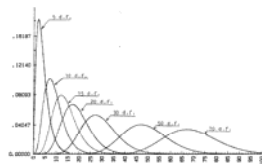
topics including the mystery of cholera transmission, randomized response technique, common sense issues concerning statistical software, aspirin and cardiovascular disease, statistical projects, etc.

It was indeed a great event with over fifty participants. They were welcomed by Bristol-Myers Squibb representatives David Fritzsche, Director of Human Resources, and Sherrick, Mathematics Coordinator for the Connecticut Department of Education. In addition to breakfast, snacks, and lunch, Bristol-Myers Squibb provided each participant with a tote bag to carry the materials they received throughout the day. This event was again supported by the College Board and Duxbury Press generously gave the text book "Seeing Through Statistics", by Jessica Utts to each attendee.

Both teachers and statisticians learned a lot. There is no doubt that this colloquium was a program that hit the spot for AP-Statistics teachers. All of the participants completed an evaluation form, and the comments were uniformly positive. Many commented that they were motivated by the enthusiasm of the presenters. They enjoyed the setting, the hospitality and the materials they received. The teachers were reassured that the course content and exam questions reflect practical application in industry. They also appreciated the opportunity to make contacts with each other and with statisticians from Bristol-Myers Squibb. Many suggested that we plan to do the program again. A number of participants sent follow up letters thanking the sponsors and lecturers for their efforts. Several even made inquiries about joining the American Statistical Association.

I am pleased to announce that Bristol-Myers Squibb and the Connecticut Chapter of the American Statistical Association are cosponsoring this event again next year. We are in the process of making the necessary arrangements. If you want to be involved in this worth while event, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (fred.djang@bms.com). Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Following is a short summary of this year's presentations.



#### Aparna Anderson: *Aspirin Use and Cardiovascular Disease*

Aparna Anderson has a B.S. in Applied Mathematics from the University of California at Davis, and a Ph.D.

in Bio-statistics from the University of Washington. Before joining Bristol-Myers Squibb in 1997, she worked for two years as an assistant professor in the Division of Bio-statistics at the University of Minnesota. For the past five years, she has worked primarily on the development of antibiotics in Phase II and Phase III clinical trials.

#### Debjit Biswas: *Honest Answers to Embarrassing Questions: The Randomized Response Technique*

Debjit Biswas has Bachelors and Masters degrees in Statistics from the Indian Statistical Institute, and a Ph.D. in Statistics (1999) from the University of Michigan. Prior to joining BMS, he was a Lecturer and a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Statistics at the University of Michigan.

#### Michelle Capozzoli: *Comparing Methods for Measuring Dissolved Oxygen Levels in Ocean Samples*

Michelle Capozzoli is a bio-statistician at Bristol-Myers Squibb in the Non-clinical Bio-statistics Department. She received her Ph.D. in mathematics from the University of New Hampshire

#### Tai-Tsang Chen: *P-values and Confidence Intervals*

Tai-Tsang Chen received his M.S. degree in Bio-statistics from Columbia University in 1999. Prior to joining Bristol-Myers Squibb, he worked at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center on injury and pediatric epidemiology. Currently he is also a second-year Ph.D. student in Bio-statistics at Columbia.

#### Anne P. Cross: *Counting with Maps – How the Mystery of Cholera Transmission was Solved*

Anne P. Cross is Director, Clinical Bio-statistics, Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Research Institute, Wallingford, CT. She received a Ph.D., Yale University; M.S., Medical University of South Carolina; M.A.T., The Citadel; and an A.B., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

#### Fred Djang: *The Teaching Of AP-Statistics With TI-83*

Fred Djang has taught mathematics for over thirty years at the secondary, undergraduate and graduate



levels. Since 1980, he has taught mathematics at Choate Rosemary Hall. He has been a long time leader at both the AP Statistics and the AP Calculus readings. He has given numerous AP Statistics and AP Calculus workshops across the nation. Fred has been a part time bio-statistician at Bristol-Myers Squibb pharmaceutical company since 1988. He has used SAS and JMP to analyze laboratory data, evaluated other statistical software package results, and written SAS programs to automatically perform complicated statistical procedures. He has given a number of presentations within the company.

### Sterling Hardy: *Statistical Poster Competition*

Sterling Hardy has an MS in Decision Science from Arizona State University. He has worked at Bristol-Myers Squibb as a bio-statistician for the past eleven years. He is currently serving as the Secretary of the Connecticut Chapter of the American Statistical Association.

### Uwe Koehn: *Statistics Projects for Individuals, Groups, or In-Class*

Uwe Koehn was born in New York City and graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Queens College, CUNY. After receiving his Ph.D. in mathematical statistics from the University of Illinois, he joined the Statistics department of the University of Connecticut. Beginning his career as a theoretician, he has moved over into applications. He was in charge of statistical consulting at the university for many years. Always interested in teaching, among other articles he has published about the teaching of calculus to undergraduates. He has served on the Board of Directors of the American Statistical Association and was chair of the ASA Council of Chapters. After teaching for thirty years, he retired from his position as Professor and Head of Statistics at UConn in order to devote his time to consulting and research. He has done consulting in the fields of marketing, industrial processes, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, discrimination litigation, and chemical engineering, among others.

### Marianne Messina: *How to look at data*

Marianne Messina received her M.S. in Bio-statistics from the University of Vermont in 1977. She has over 20 years experience in pharmaceutical research. She is a past president of the ASA Connecticut Chapter

and is very active in the Education Committee activities for that organization.

### Neal Thomas: *Conducting Multiple Experiments with a Single Design*

Neal Thomas received a Ph.D. in Statistics from the University of Chicago in 1988. He has worked with health and economics data at the RAND Corporation, educational testing data at ETS, clinical trials data at Bristol-Myers Squibb; and currently at Pfizer.

### Peggy Weaver: *Student Projects Using Internet Sites*

After raising her children, Peggy Weaver earned her BS from Eastern CT State University with a major in mathematics. She earned a Masters of Education from Lesley University, specializing in Technology in Education. Peggy has taught math at Windham High School and has been at Norwich Free Academy for the past 5 years. She has taught AP Statistics for 3 years. Peggy attended Fred Djang's workshops for 2 years and last summer she participated in a program at Yale University for AP Statistics teachers.

$$b(x, n, p) = \binom{n}{x} p^x q^{n-x}$$

### From the Program Committee

By: Tim Keyes

- A. Seminars (announcements are forthcoming):
  1. UCONN co-sponsored talk, Dr. Nell Sedransk - 11 November at UCONN, Storrs.
  2. Pfizer co-sponsored talk, Dr. Robb Muirhead and Dr. Eve Pickering - 26 November at Pfizer, Groton.
  3. Bristol-Myers-Squibb co-sponsored talk, Dr. Heping Zhang of Yale - (tentatively) January 2003, location TBD.
  4. UCONN / ASQ co-sponsored talk, Dr. Uwe Koehn - (tentatively) February 2003, location TBD.
- B. Career Day: Student orientation to the profession, likely to be held at University of New Haven in March.
- C. National ASA Chapter Visitation: a visit by the current or a previous ASA officer (e.g., President), spring '03, location TBD.

- D. ASA Travelling Course - Meeker / Escobar's - "STATISTICAL METHODS FOR RELIABILITY DATA", spring '03.
- E. K-12 Poster Competition - professional support for K-12 teachers, and a great way to enrich students' understanding of statistics and data, spring '03.
- F. Advanced Placement (AP) Colloquium – (see article in this issue), January, '03, location TBD.
- G. Honor a Statistician - recognition of a statistician who has made a significant contribution to the profession and to the chapter, spring '03, location TBD (see detailed article in this issue).
- H. Spring Mini-Conference - a 1/2 day "mini" conference with keynote speakers, panel discussions, break-out sessions, and a student paper competition, May '03, location TBD.

### **CT Chapter ASA, Election Results**

*By: Patrica English*

This year, we held elections for officers for the 2002-2003 year, the chapter representative for 2003-2005, and amending the constitution. The candidate slate for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer were elected: Bill Pan, Tim Keyes, Sterling Hardy and Mingxiu Hu, respectively. Patricia English was elected chapter representative. The amendments to the chapter constitution were passed and accepted by the national office; the constitution can be found on our webpage.

***The board members of the CT Chapter of ASA extend best wishes to all for a safe and happy holiday season and New Year.***

### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

*The purpose of our organization is to encourage the use and appreciation of Statistics and its applications, and to facilitate interaction among all persons having*

*an interest in or being concerned with the field of Statistics.*

American Statistical Association  
Connecticut Chapter, [www.ctasa.org](http://www.ctasa.org)  
c/o Stephen N. Luko  
Pratt & Whitney  
East Hartford, Connecticut

