

# ASA DataFest 2019 in Southern California

**UCLA • April 5-7** ♦ **Chapman University • May 3-5**

*By Madeline Bauer, USC (retired), Michael Fahy (Chapman University), and Rob Gould (UCLA)*

Professor Rob Gould started DataFest in 2011 at UCLA with just 30 students. ASA DataFest is now sponsored by the American Statistical Association. Last year, more than 2000 students took part at over 20 sites in the US, Canada, and Germany. This event has become so popular in Southern California that a second SoCal site was added at Chapman University for the 2017 ASA DataFest. In 2018, both the UCLA and the Chapman University sites had to turn students away!

## How you can support DataFest:

There are three ways you can support DataFest™ as either an individual or a business:

### ① Please consider visiting as a Visiting Consultant.

This is perhaps the most important support. Every year, students cite their interactions with the visitors as the most valuable component of DataFest.

**UCLA DataFest:** <http://datafest.stat.ucla.edu/> (Look under "Support DataFest")

**Chapman DataFest:** [www.chapman.edu/datafest](http://www.chapman.edu/datafest)

- \* Spend an hour or two getting to know the students and offering your sage advice.
- \* This is an excellent recruiting opportunity; you get to watch students working in teams, under pressure, striving to understand possibly the most complex data set they have encountered. In fact, each year, several students have received internships and interviews that have led to full-time employment.

### ② Please consider a financial contribution and, in particular, asking your employer to contribute.

**Chapman:** Contact Michael Fahy at [fahy@chapman.edu](mailto:fahy@chapman.edu)

**UCLA:** <http://giving.ucla.edu/Datafest>

### ③ Contribute Swag. Pens, thumb drives, notepads.

The students love these and they help make the event fun. If we get something special, we can give it away in a "midnight raffle" to help keep the energy level high.

**See you at ASA DataFest!**