**Statistical Design Consulting**

**SEMESTER REPORT**

**Spring 2025**

**Client:** Christopher Ghita  **File Number:** 24-064

**Department:** Libraries **Major Prof:** Zoeanna Mayhook

**Consultant:** Sumeeth Guda **Follow Up Meeting Date:** 02/12/25

**Meeting Attendees:** Christopher Ghita, Sumeeth Guda, Zoeanna Mayhook, Dr. Chong Gu

**Statement of Problem:** To determine what specific academic benefits first year undergraduate students attribute to their involvement in case competitions with a finance component.

**Goal of This Project:** Journal Publication

**Background:**

The client is an undergraduate student working with Professor Mayhook in the department of libraries to complete an undergraduate honors project. Their project explores the specific benefits that undergraduate students attribute to their involvement with case competitions with a finance component. A case competition is an event where students come together to present solutions to real-world or fictional business problems using the skills they learned in management classes.

They created a survey to gather data and insights from the students to understand their initial and retrospective perspectives on the case competition benefits. The survey was created using a retrospective survey design and includes four types of questions: Likert Scale, select all that apply, written response, and multiple-choice question. The questions range from the students’ backgrounds and initial knowledge of case competitions and the lessons learned, to post perceptions of case competitions with regards to the benefits and growth.

They have previously worked with the SCS in the Summer 2024 and Fall 2024 semesters where they needed help principally with the design of their survey instrument. They’ve now collected data from 76 first-year management students, and in the Spring 2025 semester they need help with the analysis of their data particularly with finding correlations / trends within the dataset.

**Progress During Current Semester:**

Throughout this semester Sumeeth and Chris met and discussed the survey results and how to refine the research questions. Chris refined the research questions and made them more specific, however the questions were still to an extent more open ended. All of the survey data had been collected, but Chris needed help determining the most appropriate statistical techniques to solve the research questions. Overall, most of his questions and the quality of the data made it clear that any formal statistical tests wouldn’t be appropriate and that comparing descriptive statistics would make more sense than using a two-sample test.

Chris indicated that he will graduate this semester and will try to get this project published by midsummer. Hence after this semester he will complete this project and won’t need the help of the SCS.

**Current Status: Complete.**