

**Statistics Education SIGMAA Business Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2019, at the 2019 Joint Mathematics Meetings (JMM), Baltimore, MD**

Alana Unfried (Chair-Elect) and Dianna Spence (Secretary/Treasurer) called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Alana and Dianna introduced themselves; Dianna encouraged all attendees to sign in.

Alana introduced and acknowledged officers.

Incoming and continuing officers for 2018:

Past Chair – Soma Roy
Chair – Alana Unfried
Chair-Elect – Judith Canner
Secretary/Treasurer – Dianna Spence
Program Chair – Lisa Carnell
Webmaster – Kim Roth

Retiring officers:

Past Chair – Stacey Hancock
Program Chair – Gregg Harbaugh

Alana encouraged those present to consider running for an open office in 2019 or to get involved through a smaller role, such as reviewing proposals or assisting with a conference session.

Old Business

Dianna noted that the minutes of the 2018 Business Meeting should have been posted on the SIGMAA website, but the posting was delayed due to technical issues. The minutes will be posted for members to view and approve as soon as those issues are resolved.

Dianna gave the Treasurer's report for 2018.

New Business

Alana reviewed the SIGMAA events taking place at the 2019 JMM, which included two minicourses and one contributed paper session.

Alana reviewed the offices up for election in 2019, which are chair-elect (1-year term) and secretary-treasurer (2-year term). She also noted other positions in the executive committee: chair (1-year), past chair (1-year), and program chair (2-year, elected even years). In addition, webmaster is an appointed 2-year term, and Kim Roth agreed to continue serving in this role.

Dianna announced and presented the SIGMAA awards.

2018 Dex Whittinghill Award for Best Paper – awarded to Dr. Alana Unfried for her paper,
Using Interactive R Tutorials and Reproducible Research Practices to Introduce Statistical Learning Ideas to Undergraduate Statistics Students

2019 Robert V. Hogg Award for Excellence in Teaching Statistics –
awarded to Dr. Kimberly Roth

Alana opened the floor for discussion of topics for future SIGMAA sessions. Members suggested and/or discussed the following topics:

- Data Science (including defining/articulating what constitutes data science)
- Data in non-statistics mathematics courses: “Data Across the Curriculum”
- Co-req (support) courses for statistics; student capacity in those courses
- Intersection of mathematics and statistics; Math stat
- Current thinking/approaches for first and second year statistics courses

In addition to the session topics noted above, the following ideas were suggested and/or discussed related to SIGMAA session planning for JMM 2020:

- Possibly advantageous to distinguish between sessions with a Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (SoTL) focus and those with a focus on pedagogy/sharing instructional strategies
- An invited paper session is acknowledged to be of higher caliber than a contributed paper session; this format would be desirable for one session and might be a good fit for ‘Current approaches to first and second year courses’ session noted above
- Opportunities to co-sponsor a session, such as a SoTL session, with another SIGMAA; potential partnering SIGMAAs suggested include Business/Industry/Gov’t (BIG), Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education (RUME), Mathematics in Sports, Quantitative Literacy
- Planners should send out a communication to the listserv in the September timeframe noting the available contributed paper sessions and encouraging potential presenters to submit
- Strong interest in another mini-course
- Not much enthusiasm for a poster session

Alana shared information from the MAA officers meeting regarding the separation of MAA from JMM, including that the motivation was primarily financial and that many details are still unknown while the MAA wait for clarifications from the AMS. She opened the floor for discussion of issues relating to the future of the SIGMAA’s activities once the split has taken place. The following issues were discussed:

- The direction of the JMM toward being a more one-sided conference (focus on mathematics content without focus on the teaching of mathematics) is an unfortunate disservice to members/participants
- A primary issue is where the SIGMAA’s annual business meeting could be held; it is not clear whether the SIGMAA could continue to hold their meeting at JMM when MAA is no longer a JMM sponsor (this is one of the items on which MAA is waiting for clarification).
- The Stat Ed SIGMAA is especially adversely affected because the MAA’s only other national conference, MathFest, typically overlaps with the Joint Statistics Meetings (JSM)
- Related to above point, we have encouraged (and should continue to encourage) MAA to schedule MathFest at a time that does not overlap with JSM
- Also related to above point, MathFest and JSM are back-to-back in the same city (Philadelphia) in 2020, with MathFest ending and JSM beginning on August 1. In such situations, it would be worthwhile to pursue arranging discounted combined fees to those who register for both.

- The option of hosting our own meeting (independent of another conference) may not draw many attendees, as there are already a number of conferences devoted to Stat Ed (USCOTS, ICOTS, eCOTS). However, the possibility exists of holding SIGMAA Stat Ed business meetings at another conference with a similar audience.
- One possibility is to look into holding the SIGMAA business meeting at JSM. However, the distinction between the ASA Stat Ed section and the Stat Ed SIGMAA is that many members of the Stat Ed SIGMAA were initially trained in mathematics and then transitioned to teaching statistics; the SIGMAA serves those individuals (as native mathematics teachers) in a way that ASA likely does not.
- Another possibility is to hold the business meeting at USCOTS every other year, possibly alternating those with meetings at MathFest.
- All ideas regarding alternate venues for the SIGMAA business meeting would need to be investigated further for feasibility, including communication with the organizing body of the conference in question (e.g., JSM, USCOTS)

Alana noted upcoming events in the Statistics Education community, including USCOTS (May 2019), JSM (August 2019), MathFest (July-August 2019), and the 2020 JMM. Others also noted the ASA Symposium on Data Science and Statistics (SDSS, May 2019) and the ISI World Statistics Congress (August 2019).

Six names were drawn and announced for door prizes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dianna Spence