Committee Minutes for the
Committee on Applied Statisticians

Committee: Committee on Applied Statisticians (CCNARS02)

Submission Date: 02/19/2004

Submitted by: Dr. Mani Y. Lakshminarayanan

Meeting Name: Monthly Teleconference

Meeting Date: 01/22/2004

Attendees: Jim Hess, Tim Keyes, Ravi Khattree, Mani Lakshminarayanan, Jennifer Ng, Jim Rutherford, Tom Ball, Wendy Notz, Heather Smith

Minutes:
ú Jennifer Ng was appointed as the Vice Chair
ú Minute takers for this meeting were: Mani and Jennifer
ú General Process Issues
o Members generally preferred one-hour meetings. If needed, additional meetings will be recommended. Agenda items should be considered and prioritized accordingly so that the meetings are completed within the allotted time of one hour.
o Action: Call Pat McClellan/ASA to reduce the meetings times from 2 hours to an hour (Mani)
o Minute takers will be determined at the beginning of each meeting.
o Minutes will be completed and distributed to the members within a week time after the meeting.
ú Committee Charter Proposed Language
o Promote and facilitate forums (meetings, website etc) to disseminate information regarding standard practices and emerging technologies to applied statisticians
o Promote the development of quality applied statistical activities
o Promote the status of applied statisticians within their field of application
ú Note on Charter
o Agreed that the charter should be broad in scope (as noted in bullet above) but goals to be pursued in a specific year should be specific and targeted to a field of application(s).
ú Ideas suggested as goals that might be pursued:
o Focus on groups of members who are currently underserved by ASA
o Conduct internal surveys within organizations. The purpose of the survey is to investigate barriers to participation in ASA activities and to identify unmet needs of applied statisticians. Action: Jennifer/Mani to develop a pilot survey to distribute within their organizations (the format will be similar to what Ramin at J&J sent out prior to this meeting, i.e. an Excel spreadsheet with closed- and open-ended questions. - Thanks to Ramin.)
o Many applied statisticians think that ASA services are only provided at national meetings such as JSM. Explore mini-conferences through local chapters.
o Increase participation by focusing on activities relevant to applied statisticians at collaborative workshops (eg, ASA representation at SUGI conferences including sponsoring sessions or workshops like the FDA/Pharmaceutical workshop held every September, on a smaller scale)
o Explore whether we can provide a la carte membership with limited options to non-core members, eg, access to specific articles in JASA/TAS for the price of annual membership.
o Outreach Program - Explore accessing membership information from other organizations (eg, SAS mailing list) and increase membership/dissemination information to members who are not currently members of ASA (Post meeting note: Tom Ball suggested whether ASA could strike up a partnership with organizations such as SAS that would help with accessing their membership database. As a first step, we should explore whether we can get our foot at the upcoming SUGI conference in May 2004? Action: Mani to contact Bill Smith/Darryl Downing)
o In the future, once progress is made on initial goals, the committee may consider creating additional

groups/subcommittees to target specific areas of applied statisticians (eg, SAS programmers, statisticians in the Government, etc.)
ú Other comments
o A survey done by ASA showed that 90% of its current members identify themselves as applied statisticians and therefore there are many different avenues that the committee could pursue in order to fulfill its charter.
o Increasing the number of applied statisticians who join ASA is not a specific goal of this committee. This is the domain of the Membership Committee (Action: Mani to contact the Chair of this committee for details)
o ASA has March 1 as the deadline for receiving funding proposals for any strategic initiative. This committee should explore sending a proposal to get funds for getting mailing lists for the Outreach Program. (Action: Mani to contact Bill Smith regarding this and create a proposal, if suggested, for review by committee before the next meeting)

Attachment (s):

CCNARS02_2004_01_22_Minutes.pdf