QUOTES

- “To acquire knowledge, one must study; but to acquire wisdom, one must observe.” Marilyn vos Savant

- “Study the past, if you would divine the future.” Confucius

- “If a man's wit be wandering, let him study the mathematics.” Francis Bacon

- “A school without football is in danger of deteriorating into a medieval study hall.” Vince Lombardi

KUDOS

- Congratulations to Bob Waggoner and Julie Clennon, 2nd place with 214,599 steps in the RSPH Workplace Race Challenge! Way to go!
UPCOMING DEPARTMENT MEETINGS

• None next week

INTERESTING READS (good things to “Read, read read!”)

• Statistics, clinical trials, and the law. (Lawsuit dismissed because arguments are theoretical).

STUDENT PAPER COMPETITIONS

• NOTE TO STUDENTS!!!
  o There are many upcoming ASA Student Paper Competition deadlines coming up. Special note from Nancy Murray (Thanks, Nancy!):
    ▪ “Others may have already figured this out, but if you are planning on applying to a student paper competition for JSM 2018 and need to be a member of the section to apply for the award, you cannot do this online. However, you can call (703) 684-1221 and tell them your ASA membership ID number (in a previous email from Melissa) and which section you want to join. It took me less than two minutes, and the change was reflected on my online account immediately!”
STUDENT PAPER COMPETITIONS

- Deadline extended for two student competitions (Statistics and Computing)
- #1. John M. Chambers Statistical Software Award 2018
  - The Statistical Computing Section of the American Statistical Association announces the competition for the John M. Chambers Statistical Software Award. In 1998 the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) presented the ACM Software System Award to John Chambers for the design and development of S. Dr. Chambers generously donated his award to the Statistical Computing Section to endow an annual prize for statistical software written by, or in collaboration with, an undergraduate or graduate student. The prize carries with it a cash award, which has been increased from $1,000 to $2,000 starting from 2018. See statcomputing.org/awards/jmc/history.html for the history of the award.
  - Both individuals and teams are eligible to participate in the competition. To be eligible, at least one individual within the team must have begun the development while a student and must either currently be a student, or have completed all requirements for her/his last degree after January 1, 2017. The award will be given to the student, or split between student team members if the team consists of multiple students, up to a maximum of three students. If the software was created by a team, the contribution of the student(s) must be substantial.
  - To apply for the award, teams must provide the following materials:
    ▪ Current CVs of all team members.
    ▪ A letter from a faculty mentor at the academic institution of one of the students. The letter should confirm that the student had substantial participation in the development of the software, certify her/his student status when the software began to be developed, confirm that he/she is still a student (or provide a date of degree completion), and briefly discuss the importance of the software to statistical practice.
    ▪ A brief, one to two page description of the software, summarizing what it does, how it does it, and why it is an important contribution. If any student team member has continued developing the software after finishing her/his studies, the description should indicate what was developed when the individual was a student and what has been added since.
    ▪ An installable software package with its source code for use by the award committee. It should be accompanied by enough information to allow the judges to effectively use and evaluate the software (including its design considerations). This information can be provided in a variety of ways, including but not limited to: a user manual, a manuscript, a URL, and online help to the system.
  - All materials must be in English. We prefer that electronic text be submitted as PDF files. The entries will be judged on a variety of dimensions, including the importance and relevance for statistical practice of the tasks performed by the software, ease of use, clarity of description, elegance and availability for use by the statistical community. Preference will be given to those entries that are grounded in software design rather than calculation. The decision of the award committee is final.
  - All application materials MUST BE RECEIVED by 5:00pm EST, Friday, December 15, 2017. The submission window will be open at http://asa.stat.uconn.edu on December 1, 2017. Questions are to be emailed to Professor Jun Yan.
STUDENT PAPER COMPETITIONS

#2. Student Paper Competition 2018

- The Statistical Computing and Statistical Graphics Sections of the ASA are co-sponsoring a student paper competition on the topics of Statistical Computing and Statistical Graphics. Students are encouraged to submit a paper in one of these areas, which might be original methodological research, some novel computing or graphical application in statistics, or any other suitable contribution (for example, a software-related project). The selected winners will present their papers in a topic-contributed session at the 2017 Joint Statistical Meetings. The prize carries with it a cash award of $1,000.

- Anyone who is a student (graduate or undergraduate) on or after September 1, 2017 is eligible to participate. An entry must include an abstract, a six page manuscript (including figures, tables and references; a two-column format is acceptable), blinded versions of the abstract and manuscript (with no author names or other information that easily identifies the authors), a CV, and a letter from a faculty member familiar with the student's work. The applicant must be the first author of the paper. The faculty letter must include a verification of the applicant's student status and, in the case of joint authorship, should indicate what fraction of the contribution is attributable to the applicant. We prefer that electronic submissions of papers consist of PDF files. All materials must be in English.

- Students may submit papers to no more than two sections and may accept only one section's award. Students must inform both sections applied to when he or she wins and accepts an award, thereby removing the student from the award competition for the second section.

- All application materials MUST BE RECEIVED by 5:00 PM EST, Friday, December 15, 2017. The submission window will be open at http://asa.stat.uconn.edu on December 1, 2017. They will be reviewed by the Student Paper Competition Award committee of the Statistical Computing and Graphics Sections. The selection criteria used by the committee will include innovation and significance of the contribution as well as the professional quality of the manuscript. Award announcements will be made by January 15th, 2018.

- Additional important information on the competition may be found at stat-computing.org/awards/student/faq.html and, for all ASA sponsored student paper competitions amstat.org/ASA/Your-Career/...
JOB OPENINGS

- **Assistant Professor, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics**, The School of Public Health of the University at Albany, State University of New York is recruiting for a full-time, tenure track faculty position in Biostatistics at the rank of Assistant Professor. This is a 100% academic year funded position with possible summer compensation. Candidates must have a solid methodological background in biostatistics, excellent oral and written communication skills, a strong interest in teaching and mentoring of both Masters and PhD degree-seeking graduate students, and ability to collaborate with research investigators in public health, social science, and/or medical fields of study.
  - The School of Public Health is accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health, and offers M.P.H., M.S., Dr.P.H. and Ph.D. degrees. There is a unique partnership between the University at Albany and the New York State Department of Health; this close affiliation facilitates access to the state’s population-based registries and surveillance systems for cancer, birth defects, infectious disease, hospital discharges, and vital statistics.
  - The School is also affiliated with both Albany Medical Center, one of the oldest private academic medical centers in the nation, and Bassett Healthcare, an integrated health care system that provides services to residents of an eight county rural region in upstate New York. There are ample opportunities for collaborative research projects.
  - Candidates are required to have a Doctorate degree in statistics, biostatistics or similar field; post-doctoral experience is preferred. The candidate’s degree must be from a college or university accredited by the U.S. Department of Education or an internationally recognized accredited organization. It is required that the candidate has demonstrated teaching ability and a strong potential for independent and competitively funded research.
  - The University at Albany is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action/Immigration Reform and Control Act/American with Disabilities Act Employer. Applicants must address in their applications their ability to work with a culturally diverse population.
  - Additional information about the department may be found at [www.albany.edu/sph](http://www.albany.edu/sph). Review of applications will begin on January 2, 2018 and will continue until the position is filled. Please apply online via [https://albany.interviewexchange.com/jobofferdetails.jsp?JOBID=91570](https://albany.interviewexchange.com/jobofferdetails.jsp?JOBID=91570)
  - Contact Information: Ms. Nicole Malachowski, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, SUNY-Albany, 1 University Place, GEC 131, Rensselaer, NY 12144, nmalachowski@albany.edu
CARTOONS SOURCES:

- https://cdn.andertoons.com/img/toons/cartoon4137.png
- https://cdn.andertoons.com/img/toons/cartoon6601.png
- https://static1.squarespace.com/static/558f18a1e4b004f41b210f5/55974962e4b0050728d17/b7b57b515e99f745661cd6d514a/147148396472/Boom-In-your-face%2C-Bakersfield.gif?format=500w