What's New with CAUSEweb and MERLOT?

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CAUSEweb (www.causeweb.org) and MERLOT (www.merlot.org) are online resources for statistics educators. MERLOT has peer-reviewed applets, videos, simulations, tutorials, and activities which work well for either online or traditional classes. CAUSEweb has many of these resources (plus others, including jokes, cartoons, songs, and quotes), but also serves as a contact point for professional development opportunities such as conferences, workshops, and webinars.

eCOTS next May

The United States Conference on Teaching Statistics (USCOTS) happens during odd-numbered years. Since 2012 is an even-numbered year, we are hoping to try something new to reconnect the statistics education community and energize everyone with new ideas. From May 14-18, 2012, the first bi-annual Electronic Conference on Teaching Statistics (eCOTS) will take place through CAUSEweb. Be on the look-out soon for the eCOTS call for proposals to be posted on CAUSEweb. The themes for eCOTS 2012 are:
- Teaching Statistics: Debating some of the Big Ideas
- Statistics for the Modern Student
- Reaching Out and Building Relationships Beyond the College Statistics Classroom

Workshops at the Joint Math Meetings

Before the Joint Math Meetings (http://jointmathematicsmeetings.org/meetings/national/jmm2012/2138_intro) in Boston, Massachusetts, there will be three Mathematical Association of America (MAA) Ancillary

Workshops for statistics educators. Advance registration is required and participants should bring a laptop.   No walk-in registrations will be accepted. This year, the workshops (all of which take place on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2012) include the following:

- "Identifying and Addressing Difficult Concepts for Students in the Introductory Statistics Course" (http://www.causeweb.org/workshop/jmm12_concepts/) by Marjorie Bond (Monmouth College)

- "Teaching Modeling-Based Calculus" (http://www.causeweb.org/workshop/jmm12_modeling/) by Daniel Kaplan (Macalester College), Daniel Flath (Macalester College), Randall Pruim (Calvin College), and Eric Marland (Appalachian State University)

- Facilitating Student Projects in Elementary Statistics (http://www.causeweb.org/workshop/jmm12_projects/) by Brad Bailey, Sherry L. Hix, and Dianna Spence (North Georgia College and State University)

Recent CAUSEweb Webinars

As always, if you are searching for new activity ideas, or are interested in learning about ways to teach certain concepts or topics, we encourage you to check out the latest webinars that are now posted on the CAUSEweb site:

- "Interactive Statistics Education using WISE tutorials and applets" with Dale Berger, Amanda Saw, Giovanni Sosa, Justin Mary, and Christopher Pentoney (Claremont Graduate University) **http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/teaching/2011-10/**
- "Reading and Writing in an Inquiry-Based Introductory Statistics Course" with Adam Childers & Jeff Spielman (Roanoke College) **http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/teaching/2011-09/**
- "Pinochle Poker: An Activity to Solidify Concepts in Counting and Probability" with Jackie Wroughton & Joe Nolan (Northern Kentucky University) **http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/activity/2011-09/**
- "Homework + e-Textbook = Integrated Online Learning" with Brenda Gunderson (University of Michigan) **http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/teaching/2011-08/**
- "Using a Paper Ruler Activity to Help Students Understand the Difference Between Random and Systematic Errors" with Jamis Perrett (Texas A&M University) **http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/activity/2011-08/**
- "Happyville: Putting A Smile Into Statistical Ideas" with Kevin Robinson (Millersville University of Pennsylvania) **http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/activity/2011-07/**
- "Reviewing and Writing for the Journal of Statistics Education (JSE)" with John Gabrosek (Grand Valley State University) **http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/teaching/2011-07/**

What's new in the Journal of Online Learning and Teaching (JOLT)

MERLOT regularly publishes the Journal of Online Learning and Teaching (JOLT). Those interested in viewing the current issue of JOLT (published in September, 2012) can find it at the following website: **http://jolt.merlot.org/currentissue.html.** The current issue includes articles that might be of interest to the online instructor, included are articles on using Second Life, improving face-to-face instruction based on lessons learned from online instruction, designing and orchestrating online discussions, and strategies for successful online co-teaching.

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