



What's New with CAUSEweb and MERLOT?

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Journal of Statistics Education Volume 20, Number 3 (2012),
www.amstat.org/publications/jse/v20n3/eversonb.pdf

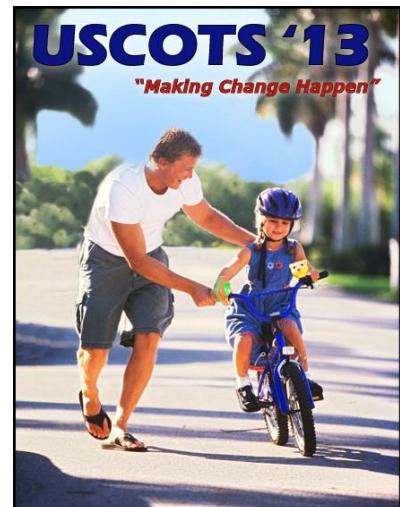
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In each issue of JSE, we like to highlight new activities and resources from CAUSEweb (www.causeweb.org) and MERLOT (www.merlot.org).



USCOTS 2013

The United States Conference on Teaching Statistics (USCOTS) 2013 will be here soon, and you can learn more about the conference at <http://www.causeweb.org/uscots/>. The theme this year is "Making Change Happen." The conference will be held from May 16-18, 2013, at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina. At present, confirmed plenary speakers include Nick Horton (from Smith College), Hollylynne Stohl Lee (from North Carolina State University), Danny Kaplan (from Macalester College), Xiao-Li Meng (from Harvard University), and Chris Wild (from the University of Auckland). Breakout session proposals were due by November 10, but there is still time to submit "Poster and Beyond" proposals (deadline February 1, 2013). Don't forget about the A-μ-Sing! Competition for jokes/cartoons, poetry, songs, and videos (entries are due by March 1, 2013). Also, we hope you will encourage your students, either as individuals or as a class, to participate in the Undergraduate Statistics Project Competition. Stay tuned to CAUSEweb for pre-conference workshop information as USCOTS 2013 approaches.



CAUSEweb Facebook Page

To help you stay up-to-date on the latest CAUSEweb information, there is now a CAUSEweb Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/428798650521041/. The Facebook pages for USCOTS 2011 and eCOTS 2012 were lively sites for discussion and idea sharing during those conferences, but we hope that the CAUSEweb site can be a year-round resource for statistics educators. Announcements of new resources, workshops, and conferences will be posted there. This group is open to all statistics educators, but you have to request membership. There is also a Facebook group for MERLOT with excellent articles and multimedia resources applicable to many fields: www.facebook.com/groups/208496215863575/.

International Year of Statistics



The Consortium for the Advancement of Undergraduate Statistics Education (CAUSE) is one of the sponsors for the International Year of Statistics, which has been described as “a worldwide celebration and recognition of the contributions of statistical science. Through the combined energies of organizations worldwide, Statistics2013 will promote the importance of Statistics to the broader scientific community, business and government data users, the media, policy makers, employers, students, and the general public.” For more information on the International Year of Statistics, please visit <http://statistics2013.org/>.

Webinars on CAUSEweb

Most months, CAUSEweb presents two free webinars on statistics education topics. The webinars are recorded and later posted to the CAUSEweb site (<http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/>). While the files for the presentation are available immediately, there is a greater delay with posting the audio portion using our new webinar system. We are always looking for good ideas for new webinars, and if you would like to suggest a topic, please contact Ellen Gundlach (gundlach@purdue.edu) for the Teaching and Learning series or Leigh Slauson (lslauson@capital.edu) for the Activity series.

Here are the most recent CAUSEweb webinars:

- Consultation, Communication, and Collaboration: A project course to engage statistics students in the three C's with Alison Gibbs, University of Toronto (<http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/activity/2012-09/>)
- Engaging Business Students in the Statistics Classroom with Jane Oppenlander, Union Graduate College (<http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/teaching/2012-07/>)
- Measuring confidence to teach statistics to middle & high school grades: The development & validation of the SETS instruments with Leigh M. Harrell-Williams, Virginia Tech/Georgia State University; M. Alejandra Sorto, Texas State University; Rebecca L. Pierce, Ball State University; Lawrence M. Lesser, The University of Texas

at El Paso; and Teri J. Murphy, Northern Kentucky University. (<http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/teaching/2012-08/>)

- Experiences with and Assessments of an Open-Access, Online Course for Introductory Statistics with Marsha Lovett, Carnegie Mellon University and Oded Meyer, Georgetown University. (<http://www.causeweb.org/webinar/teaching/2012-10/>)

Pre-Joint Math Meetings Pre-conference Workshops

CAUSE is facilitating the offering of three MAA ancillary workshops on Tuesday, January 8, 2013, which is the day preceding the Joint Mathematics Meetings (JMM) at the San Diego Marriott Marquis & Marina. There is no registration fee for these workshops, but advanced registration is required. On-line registration is available at <http://www.causeweb.org/workshop/>. Workshop registration has begun, so be sure to sign up now before space runs out! These offerings include:

- "Playing Games with a Purpose: A New Approach to Teaching and Learning Statistics" with Shonda Kuiper, Grinnell College; and Rod Sturdivant, West Point Military Academy.
- "Functions, Parameters, and Fitting for Teaching Calculus" with Daniel Kaplan, Macalester College; and Randall Pruim, Calvin College.
- "Identifying and Addressing Difficult Concepts for Students in the Introductory Statistics Course" with Marjorie Bond, Monmouth College.

Journal of Online Teaching and Learning on MERLOT

Interesting articles in the September 2012 issue of the *Journal of Online Teaching and Learning* (JOLT) include:

- "Faculty Perceived Barriers of Online Education," which describes a research project with a new survey instrument used to help institutions figure out how to encourage more faculty members to teach online courses (since demand for online learning by the students is increasing rapidly).
- "The Effect of Time Online on Grades in Online Sociology Courses," which presents a multinomial logistic model for grades in an online sociology course that determined time spent online and previous grades were more important than demographics.

The current issue and past issues of JOLT can be viewed at <http://jolt.merlot.org/index.html>.

Shonda Kuiper receives her MERLOT Classics Award

At the Emerging Technologies for Online Learning Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, Shonda Kuiper of Grinnell College picked up her 2012 MERLOT Statistics Classics Award for her **Stat2Labs**. We have highlighted this resource and Shonda's award in previous columns, and, again, we are very proud of Shonda and we wish her our congratulations! The resource and MERLOT Peer Review can be found here: <http://www.merlot.org/merlot/viewMaterial.htm?id=447977>



Shonda Kuiper and Gerry Hanley, the Executive Director of MERLOT

Sharing Resources and Reviewing Resources

We are always looking for great new resources to add to the CAUSEweb and MERLOT collections, and we are always in need of reviewers for resources. Please contact Michelle Everson (gaddy001@umn.edu) or Ellen Gundlach (gundlach@purdue.edu) if you would like to participate more in the work we do through CAUSEweb and MERLOT.

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