

Astrostatistics Interest Group Annual Meeting

10 August 2021

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

For all of your astrostatistical needs.*



astrostat.org

Note: if you are an artist,
make us a new logo!



Agenda

- Activities at JSM 2021
- Looking Ahead to JSM 2022
- Current Officers and Upcoming Elections
- Census
- Charter
- Budget
- Initiatives, Both Real and Imagined
- Addenda, Comments, Discussion, and Hijacking of Agenda

Activities at JSM 2021

- Seven astrostatistically themed sessions, including...
- The student paper competition (Thursday, 10 AM):
 - **10:05 am:** Modeling unresolved binaries of open clusters in the color-magnitude diagram
Lu Li, Shanghai Astronomical Observatory, CAS
 - **10:25 am:** X-Ray-to-Radio Offset Inference from Low-Count X-Ray Jets
Karthik Reddy Solipuram, UMBC; Markos Georganopoulos, UMBC; Eileen T. Meyer, UMBC
 - **10:45 am:** Assessment of Supervised Machine Learning for Atmospheric Retrieval of Exoplanets
Matthew Conor Nixon, Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge; Nikku Madhusudhan, Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge
 - **11:05 am:** Reducing ground-based astrometric errors with Gaia and Gaussian processes
Willow Fox-Fortino, University of Delaware
 - **11:25 am:** GHOST: Using Only Host Galaxy Information to Accurately Associate and Distinguish Supernovae
Alexander Thomas Gagliano, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- The AIG virtual table is located off the JSM main page, under Conversations and then under Community Tables.
- See astrostat.org/jsm2021 ← This page also has details on the AIG Slack channel. Join today!

Looking Ahead to JSM 2022

- Program Chair: Yang Chen (UMich)
- Invited Session Deadline: 8 Sep
- TC Session Deadline: 9 Dec

- See

docs.google.com/document/d/1hrGy9DaeNIbgD6Op8tGpih4fukWlgeV2BW4wrW8UjA8/edit?usp=sharing

(yes...we will send out this link...or you can squint and type very carefully)

- The 2022 AIG Student Paper Competition

- Announcement: August-September 2021 (i.e., now)
- Submission deadline: mid-December 2021 (i.e., soon)
- Announcement of finalists: mid-January 2022 (i.e., kinda soon)
- Competition runners: me (submissions), the chair-elect (judging)
- **Proposed change:** instituting an eight-page limit ← vote here
- **Proposed change:** reduce first-place prize to \$400 ← defer to budget slide



Current Officers (and Upcoming Elections)

- Chair:

Peter Freeman (CMU; current) — Vinay Kashyap (CfA; past) — Derek Bingham (SFU; elect)

- Program Chair:

Sara Algeri (UMn; current) — Gwen Eadie (UToronto; past) — Yang Chen (UMich; elect)

- Secretary:

Bo Ning (Sorbonne; through 2021)

If you'd like to volunteer before
you are volunteered, let me know: pfreeman@cmu.edu

- Web Director:

Josh Speagle (UToronto; through 2022)

- Election Nominating Committee:

Vinay Kashyap (past chair) — Gwen Eadie (past program chair) — **TBD**

Open Positions: Chair Elect, Program Chair Elect, Secretary (2022-23)
(self-nominations always welcome!)



(Accept your nomination with more good cheer than Fritz Zwicky!)
(It's a low bar...)

Census

- Report by AIG Secretary Bo Ning



Charter

- astrostat.org/about_us.html#charter
- In 2020, four amendments to the charter were unanimously approved (three regarding language fixes and a fourth that simplified language about maintaining connections with related working groups).
- A motion to change the term of the program chair was unanimously rejected.
- The role of web director was formalized within the charter.
- Proposed amendment I (Article VII):

change

“The Chair will also nominate one person to serve on the Nominating Committee.”

to

“The Interest Group’s current Chair will nominate a third person to serve on the Nominating Committee.”

Charter

- Proposed amendment II (Article VII):

change

“In addition, any Interest Group member nominated by petition of 5 or more members of Interest Group shall also appear on the annual ballot,”

to

“In addition, any Interest Group member endorsed by at least two members of the Interest Group (excluding the nominee) shall also appear on the annual ballot.”

- Please direct any future suggestions for charter amendments to Peter Freeman (through 2021) or Derek Bingham (during 2022).
- (A reminder that to become a section instead of an interest group, we would need 200 dues-paying members for two continuous years. This is moot, currently.)

Budget

- As an Interest Group, we are limited to a \$1,000 budget.
- For the 2021 calendar year, we are using the budget as follows:
 - \$500 — winner of the Student Paper Competition ← now vote on reducing this amount to \$400
 - \$400 — \$80 per person registration fee reimbursement for SPC finalists
 - ~\$100 — incidental expenses (mailing of SPC certificates, etc.)
- If you have ideas on how we might spend our \$1,000 in a future year, please let us know, either here or by email to the AIG officers.



(Without your input, we'll just buy one of these, just because.)

Initiatives, Both Real and Imagined

(aka, what do we do now?)

- Moving the Astrostatistics and Astroinformatics Portal to astrostat.org
- Establish ties to larger physical science-based statistics community
 - e.g., STAMPS research group at Carnegie Mellon (stat.cmu.edu/stamps)
- How should we utilize/leverage ties to other groups: WGAA, IAA, Rubin ISSC?
- Should we establish a talk series? (Monthly? Quarterly? Never?)
- Should we expand our presence in education?
 - e.g., workshops on astronomy for statisticians at JSM?
 - e.g., grant-writing to establish centralized or distributed SURE?
- More social media presence (Twitter, TikTok, etc.)
- Anything else? (You don't have to own your idea, per se...)

Addenda, Comments, Discussion, and Hijacking of Agenda

- Your turn! What did we miss?
- IAA report by Aneta Siemiginowska