**AMATYC/ASA Joint Committee Conference Call**
**Tuesday, August 18, 2015**
**5:00 – 6: 00 PM EDT**

Present: Mary Kehoe Moynihan (Chair), Mary DeHart, Bob delMas, Donna LaLonde, Kate Kozak, Roxy Peck

Recorder: Mary DeHart

**GAISE Revisions**

On July 7th, a webinar, "Updating the Guidelines for Assessment and Instruction in Statistics Education (GAISE)", was presented by Michelle Evers and Megan Mocko, members of the committee working to revise GAISE. Members of the AMATYC Statistics Committee were encouraged to attend the webinar and provide feedback by filling out a questionnaire provided by the presenters.

The webinar included discussion in which it was suggested that future teachers should not be taught statistics by mathematics professors and that statistics should not be taught as a mathematics course. This raised concern among many of the community college faculty who were watching the webinar.

Michelle Everson subsequently assured Roxy Peck that the GAISE Committee had no intention of addressing either of these topics in the GAISE revisions. Roxy suggested that we should provide the GAISE Committee with a letter explaining the community college perspective on these issues. Julie Hanson, Kathryn Kozak, Mary Kehoe Moynihan and Mary DeHart discussed the issues via e-mail with much appreciated guidance from Roxy Peck. A letter was written and sent to the Michelle Everson. (A copy of the letter is being distributed to the Joint Committee along with the August 18th meeting minutes.) Michelle acknowledged receipt of the letter and expressed her appreciation.

During the August 18th conference call, Roxy provided additional reassurance that the GAISE revisions will not include recommendations regarding either the faculty teaching statistics or the department(s) in which statistics should be housed.

**Data Science in Two-Year Colleges**

Roxy noted that the ASA Board voted on a statement on data science at the JSM earlier this month. Discussion at the JSM included the observation that research on the marketability of a two-year data science degree is needed. Should a two-year degree be only a pathway to a four-year degree, or will it prepare students for employment?

The ASA has been planning a two-day workshop with the goal of generating a report addressing the feasibility of a data science curriculum for community colleges. Steve

Pierson and Nick Horton are involved in this project. It may be that a planning meeting will be held instead of a workshop; participants may be assigned homework before the planning meeting. Donna stated that the computer science community will be represented; two members of the ACM Education Committee are working with the group.

**Webinar Updates**

Rob Gould's webinar, *Modern Intro Stats*, was presented on Monday, August 17th. Mary KM invited Roger Peng to present a data science webinar, but he could not do so because of other obligations.

Roxy suggested that we invite Tanya Scott of Wake Tech to present a webinar on that institution's new Business Analytics Program. It would be interesting to learn why Wake Tech decided to initiate the program and how it will potentially benefit their students. Bob provided links to information about the Wake Tech program.

Mary D will contact Tanya Scott and invite her to present a webinar. Kate is willing to facilitate that process if needed.

Kelly Fitzpatrick provided an abstract for a proposed webinar on the use of real world data in statistics class:

*"Students today are very brand savvy; they have their favorite cell phone company, coffee shop, social media outlet or clothing store. Many of these companies are publicly traded on an exchange and students will enjoy analyzing the data set (prices or returns) of their favorite companies. This webinar will cover how to download financial data from Yahoo Finance and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. We will also cover a gambit of analysis tools that can be used to analyze financial data; from box and whisker plots, correlation and regression analysis to hypothesis testing. We will look at the effects of the Deep Horizon / BP Oil Spill of 2010, differences in Facebook and Apple stock and the domestic and international unemployment rates. Students will enjoy analyzing real world data that is interesting to them."*

Kelly's proposal was received with much enthusiasm. It was agreed that we should invite Kelly to present this October. Mary D will contact Kelly with this invitation.

**statPREP**

In July, Kate Kozak joined the statPREP group in Washington DC order to help draft the grant proposal. The group determined the content of the proposal; the document is now in its final editing stages. It will be submitted to the AMATYC Board for approval at the September 15th Board Meeting. The grant proposal is due to the NSF in January of 2016.

**Next Conference Call**

The next conference call will be scheduled for late September. Mary KM will send out an early Doodle Poll to schedule the meeting.