

# Odds & Ends

*Winter 2012*

## *Department of Statistics Newsletter*

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Felix Haas Hall



Mathematical  
Sciences Building



## Letter from the Head

Purdue  
Statistics

It's hard to believe that it is 2013 already! This past year has been a busy one, and 2013 shows no signs of slowing down. In fact, 2013 is the International Year of Statistics so we will be busier than ever. I am very proud to tell you that the 8th International Symposium on Statistics (June 2012) was a huge success. Attendance was a record high, and everyone had a fantastic time (see Newsletter photos; yes, we had a magician perform at the banquet!). I am so proud of the Purdue Statistics' students, faculty and staff for their support and hard work. Please save the date, the 9th International Symposium on Statistics will be June 2017!



I wish to extend my congratulations to Professors Ghosh and Rubin. Jayanta Ghosh, Professor of Statistics, recently (January 2013) received an Honorary D.Sc. degree from the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI). Dr. Ghosh was presented with the degree by ISI President Dr. C. Ranganathan at the 47th Convocation of the Institute, held in Calcutta. Herman Rubin, Professor of Statistics and Mathematics, has been named by the American Mathematical Society to their inaugural class of Fellows. The success of our students begins with our wonderful faculty who continue to represent both Purdue Statistics and the profession of Statistics with such greatness.

I am also very pleased to share with you the wonderful news that Professor Mark Ward, and Purdue Statistics colleagues, have received a five year \$1.5M National Science Foundation Award to support undergraduate education. Each year twenty undergraduate Statistics majors (one hundred students over the five year life of the grant) will be selected to benefit from this experience. The grant is entitled, "Sophomore Transitions: Bridges into a Statistics Major and Big Data Research Experiences via Learning Communities", and is focused on two important transition points in the training and retention of undergraduate Statistics students. First, the bridge from first-year general curriculum into sophomore year Statistics major courses, and second, the bridge into a student's first research experience in data analysis, especially with Big Data.

Congratulations Mark, and Statistics colleagues Guang Cheng, Sharon Christ, Hyonho Chun, Bruce Craig, Bo Li, Frederi Viens, Xiao Wang, Jun Xie, Hao Zhang and Lingsong Zhang.





*Letter from the Head*

**Purdue  
Statistics**

Finally, I am very happy to report that we have a newly established "Statistics Help Room" in Haas Hall. After a lot of work and organization the Statistics Help Room opened January 2013. This is a permanent (and furnished) space where both undergraduate and graduate students can come to meet with teaching assistants and faculty to ask questions about statistical concepts or questions about homework, quizzes, and tests. Already the Statistics Help Room has had such a positive impact on our students, we are thrilled!

Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2013!  
Go Boilers!  
Rebecca W. Doerge



## Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science Program 2012 Outstanding Alumni

Congratulations to Bhramar Mukherjee and Bob Beiderman, the 2012 Outstanding Alumni in Statistics and Actuarial Science. This year the Department of Statistics awarded Bhramar Mukherjee (Ph.D. Statistics 2001) the Statistics Outstanding Alumni Award. The Actuarial Science program, administered jointly by the Department of Statistics and the Department of Mathematics, awarded Bob Beiderman (B.S. Applied Statistics 1983) with the Actuarial Science Outstanding Alumni Award. The Outstanding Alumni Award honors an alumnus for their contributions and leadership within their profession.



**2012 Statistics Outstanding Alumna  
Bhramar Mukerjee  
Associate Professor, Department of Biostatistics,  
University of Michigan**

On Friday, September 28, 2012, Bhramar Mukherjee presented a talk entitled *Graduate School Revisited: The Moments and the Journey*. The department had a reception for her before the talk.

Bhramar Mukherjee grew up in Kolkata, India and earned her Ph.D. from the Department of

Statistics, Purdue University in 2001 under the direction of Professor Bill Studden. She received her Masters of Science from Purdue University in 1999. Professor Mukherjee is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Biostatistics at the University of Michigan. Her research program is focused on statistical methods in epidemiology, case-control studies, gene-environment interaction, and Bayesian modeling and inference. She is an elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association, has received the Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award for the School of Public Health, and the John G. Searle Assistant Professor award for the Department of Biostatistics.

Bhramar's favorite memories at Purdue are her daughter, Ms. Mrittika Ghosh, being born; feisty intellectual debates with her advisor, Bill Studden; receiving the Irving W. Burr award for her doctoral work; and screaming for the women's basketball team during the NCAA championships.





## *Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science Program 2012 Outstanding Alumni*

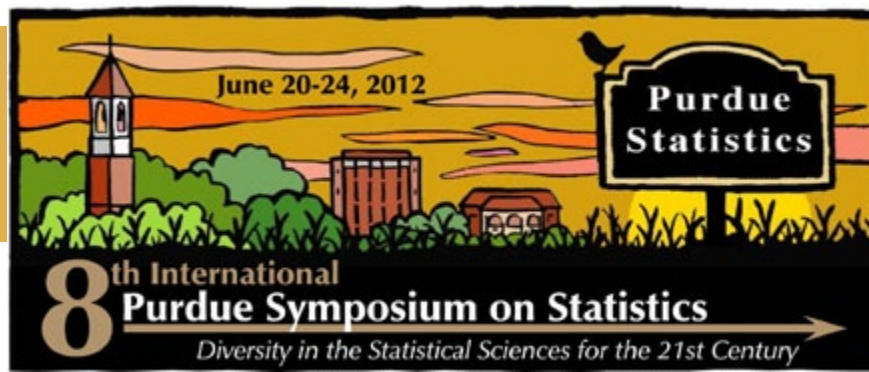
Bob Beiderman earned his Bachelor of Science degree (1983) in Applied Statistics at Purdue University. He is an Enrolled Actuary, an Associate of the Society of Actuaries, a Fellow of the Conference of Consulting Actuaries, and a member of the American Academy of Actuaries. Bob currently serves as a co-chairperson for the Enrolled Actuary Examination Committee for EA-2A.

Currently, Bob is Manager of the Retirement Programs at Southern Company in Atlanta, Georgia. He has over 25 years of consulting experience. Bob works with numerous plan sponsors to develop and implement frozen plan solutions to manage costs and mitigate risk. He has assisted several clients with total HR transformation projects which included assessing current value, developing and implementing plan design alternatives, and overseeing process management effectiveness. Additionally, he has worked with various organizations on retirement design, communication, post-retirement medical plans, and financial management issues. Throughout his career as a retirement consultant, Bob has served as national chairperson for new client transition/implementation, national chairperson for retirement training, and national chairperson for recruiting.



***2012 Actuarial Science Alumnus  
Robert K. Beiderman  
Manager, Retirement Programs  
Southern Company***





The International Purdue Symposium on Statistics is a venerable tradition, an event that has been held every five years at Purdue since the late 1960's (started by Professor Shanti Gupta), in an effort to further the development of the field of statistics. The theme of the 8th Purdue Symposium on Statistics was "Diversity in the Statistical Sciences for the 21st Century".

The Purdue Symposium was made up of two days of Workshops/Short Courses, June 20-21, 2012, two and a half days of Sessions, June 22-24, and a variety of social activities.

We recognize that the statistical sciences form an extraordinarily diverse discipline, with fields ranging from resolutely applied bioinformatics to the most theoretical probability and stochastic analysis, with new directions drawing on other disciplines such as computer science for machine learning, or earth science for environmental statistics.

We were thrilled to welcome Professors Jim Berger (Duke University), Larry Brown (University of Pennsylvania), Peter Hall (University of Melbourne, Australia), John Lafferty (University of Chicago), Michael Newton (University of Wisconsin, Madison), and Maria Eulália Vares (Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro). All gave plenary talks each afternoon and evening of the Symposium. Also, we were honored to have Professor Sastry Pantula (Director, Division of Mathematical Sciences; National Science Foundation) provide a public address during the Symposium banquet.



*Sastry G. Pantula*

As a final act we had a magician perform. Recruiting plenty of audience participation, he amazed the crowd. Dean Roberts and Rachel Yurek, among others, joined in the fun. It was an entertaining end to a successful and informative Symposium.

The 9th International Symposium on Statistics is scheduled for Tuesday, June 20th – Saturday, June 24th, 2017.



*Peter Hall*



*Michael Newton*



*Jim Berger*



*John Lafferty*



*Larry Brown*



*Maria Eulalia Vares*



June 20-24, 2012

Purdue  
Statistics

**8<sup>th</sup> International  
Purdue Symposium on Statistics**

*Diversity in the Statistical Sciences for the 21st Century*



# Welcome New Faculty and Staff



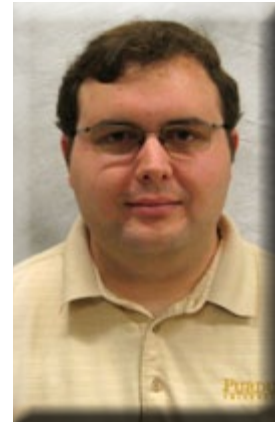
Anindya Bhadra

We are pleased to welcome Professor Anindya Bhadra, Assistant Professor of Statistics.

Anindya received his Ph.D. in 2010 from the University of Michigan and joins us after his postdoc at the Institute for Applied Mathematics & Computational Sciences, Texas A&M University. Anindya's research interests are centered around maximum likelihood inference in hidden Markov models; joint high-dimensional Bayesian variable and covariance selection; and applications of statistics in biology, specifically in infectious disease epidemiology, expression quantitative trait locus (eQTL) analysis, and nutrition.

**Alex Younts** joined the department as the Unix Systems Administrator. Alex is the newest member of our IT team.

Alex is a Purdue alumnus. He received a Bachelors of Science degree in Computer Science (minor in Philosophy), and has been employed by ITaP -- first (high school and undergrad) as a Junior HPC Systems Administrator (2005-2011) and then as a Systems Research Engineer.



Alex Younts



Marian Duncan

**Marian Duncan** joined the department as the new secretary IV, receptionist and textbook deputy.

Marian originally hails from Chicago, but has made the Lafayette area her home for 25 years. She has four sons ages 22 through 17. She enjoys watching Sunday and Monday night football.



# Accomplishments

**Herman Rubin**, Professor of Statistics and Mathematics, has been named by the American Mathematical Society to their inaugural class of Fellows. The Fellows of the AMS program recognizes AMS members who have made outstanding contributions to the creation, exposition, advancement, communication, and utilization of mathematics.



*Herman Rubin*

The AMS hopes that the program will, among other things, “honor not only the extraordinary, but the excellent,” and “lift the morale of the profession by providing an honor more accessible than those currently available.” The responsibilities of the Fellows will include taking part in the election of new Fellows, presenting a “public face” of excellence in mathematics, and advising the President and/or the AMS Council on public matters when requested.



*Michael Levine*

Congratulations to Michael Levine, Associate Professor of Statistics, on being selected as an Elected Member of the International Statistical Institute (ISI). The ISI is a non-profit, non-governmental organization and has consultative status by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 1949. Officially, the ISI was established in 1885, though the initial international gatherings of statisticians started earlier - back in 1853. They are one of the oldest scientific associations still active throughout the world today.

Professor Levine joins Professors Mary Ellen Bock, Guang Cheng, William S. Cleveland, Jayanta K. Ghosh, Bo Li, Chuanhai Liu, David S. Moore, William J. Studden, and Hao Zhang as members of the ISI.

Professor Chong Gu, together with Professor Ping Ma (Purdue Statistics Alumnus) of University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, won the 2011 Canadian Journal of Statistics Award of the Statistical Society of Canada (SSC). The announcement was made at the opening of the Society’s Annual Meeting held in Guelph, ON, June 3-6, 2012.

The Canadian Journal of Statistics Award is presented each year by the SSC to the author(s) of an article published in the Journal, in recognition of the outstanding quality of the paper’s methodological innovation and presentation.



*Chong Gu*

# Accomplishments

Congratulations to Jayanta Ghosh, Professor of Statistics, who recently received an Honorary D.Sc. degree from the Indian Statistical Institute. Professor Ghosh was presented with the degree (shown here with ISI President, Dr. C. Ranganathan) at the 47th Convocation of the Institute, held in Calcutta on January 9, 2013.

Dr. Ghosh was conferred the degree for his outstanding contributions to statistical science.



*Cristian Potter*

The CAARMS 18 (Conference for African-American Researchers in the Mathematical Sciences) program was recently held at Princeton University in Princeton, New Jersey from June 27-30, 2012. The CAARMS meetings provide a forum where minority researchers in the mathematical sciences can meet with their peers and find out about each other's work across different mathematical fields.

The student poster competition included five award categories: Theory, Algorithm, Presentation, Modeling, and Undergraduate Research. Cristian W. Potter (pictured), an incoming Ph.D. graduate student in the Department of Statistics, won the Angela E Grant Poster Award for Presentation. Dr. Sean Colbert-Kelly (a recent graduate from the Department of Mathematics, Purdue University) received the Angela E Grant Award for Modeling.

Congratulations to Cristian for his award!



# Accomplishments

Congratulations to Ph.D. student Robert Ness for being awarded a Boren Fellowship by the Institute of International Education (IIE). David L. Boren Scholarships and Fellowships are sponsored by the National Security Education Program (NSEP), a major federal initiative guided by a mission that seeks to lead in development of the national capacity to educate U.S. citizens, understand foreign cultures, strengthen U.S. economic competitiveness and enhance international cooperation and security. Boren Fellowships provide U.S. graduate students the opportunity to add an important international and language component to their graduate education through specialization in area study, language study, or increased language proficiency.

Since 1994, over 4,700 students have received Boren Awards. This year, 1014 undergraduate students applied for the Boren Scholarship and 161 were awarded, while 575 graduate students applied for the Boren Fellowship and 119 were awarded.

Ness, who studies under advisor Olga Vitek, is developing statistical methods in network biology, and dynamic measurement and inference in biological systems. His fellowship is the only Boren award received at Purdue this year. Congratulations again to Robert for this prestigious award.



*Robert Ness*



*Anirban Dasgupta*

The Department of Statistics is very proud to announce that Professor Anirban DasGupta has been appointed an Executive Editor for the Journal of Statistical Planning & Inference.

Published by Elsevier, the Journal of Statistical Planning & Inference is a modern statistics journal that encompasses all aspects of statistics. The journal's depth of range is from classical statistics and probability to interdisciplinary classifications with significant and far-reaching impact while maintaining core strength in statistical inference, design, classical probability, and large sample methods.

# Research Profile: Jennifer Neville

## ***Collective Inference for Network Data with Copula Latent Markov Networks*** ***Rongjing Xiang and Jennifer Neville***

The recent popularity of online social networks and social media has led to increased interest in learning predictive models for “linked data,” where the data comprise not only a set of entities (e.g. users), but also the observed relationships among them (e.g. friendships). Collective classification methods aim to exploit statistical dependencies that are naturally encoded by the observed links in the data. For example, in online social networks friends exhibit correlations in their preferences and behavior. Collective methods can learn these correlations and then use them to predict missing profile information (e.g., political views) based on information observed across the friendship network.

Previous models that were developed for collective classification have been shown to significantly improve predictive performance in many network settings. However, in some scenarios the models exhibit poor performance that is even worse than conventional methods, which assume the entities are independent and ignore their relational links. This is due to the heterogeneous structure of the network and the availability of labeled attribute information on the nodes, which produces a complex interaction between the model components and the network, resulting in unequal marginals.

To address this issue, we developed a novel latent relational model based on copulas which makes predictions collectively while ensuring identical marginals. Copula methods separate the specification of the models for the marginal distributions from the dependence structure that links these to form a joint distribution. This flexibility facilitates new approaches to modeling complex dependencies among entities in large heterogeneous networks. While copulas have recently been used in machine learning for descriptive modeling, they have not been used for prediction in large-scale network data and the associated conditional inference problem has not been considered before.

We developed an approximate inference algorithm to apply our Copula Latent Markov Networks for prediction and applied them to a range of real-world relational classification tasks drawn from online purchasing, social network, social media, and biological domains. Our proposed method consistently outperforms alternative collective classification methods, in some cases by a large margin. This demonstrates the validity of our intuitive assumption that network instances are interdependent but nevertheless should be “identically distributed.” Copula-based methods that can constrain models to meet this assumption, are more robust than other collective classification methods, and thus result in significantly more accurate predictions.





# Congratulations Graduates!

## May 2012 Graduates

### **Ph.D. Graduate:**

\*Vitara Pungpapong

### **MS Graduates:**

\*Denise Bradford  
\*Zho Chen  
\*Brittany DiPietro  
\*April Harry  
\*Steve Lancette  
\*Chi Wai (Baron) Law  
\*Hanli Li  
\*Zhisheng Li  
\*Christopher Morgan  
\*Thomas Nielsen  
\*Rui Pan  
\*Xiaosu Tong  
\*Xiaoguang Wang  
\*Enming Zhang  
\*Faye Zheng  
\*Jing Zhu



### **Certificate Graduates:**

\*Tianyun Ji  
\*Lizhen Peng  
\*Mengyang Qin  
\*Zhe Wang



# Congratulations Graduates!

## December 2012 Graduates

### **PhD. Graduates:**

- \*Luis Barboza
- \*Douglas Baumann
- \*Xiongzhi (Chee) Chen



### **MS Graduates:**

- \*Kyungmin Ahn
- \*Shuai Chen
- \*Kelly-Ann Dixon Hamil
- \*Xian He
- \*Haoan Liu
- \*Yang Zhao



### **Certificate Graduates:**

- \*Meng ding
- \*Qu Jin
- \*Lei Kang
- \*Ruyi Shen
- \*Yan Sun





## Welcome New Arrivals!

Danni Yu and Luo Si welcomed a little boy into the world on September 12, 2012. Little Austin D. Si weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. and was 20.5 inches tall.

Baby Luke David Ward was welcomed by proud parents Mark Daniel and Laura Ward. He weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz and was 21 and 1/4 inches tall.

Alan and Peng Qi welcomed little Max Yunfan Qi into their family on October 27, 2012.

Congratulations to all and welcome into the world all of the little ones!



A BABY WILL MAKE LOVE STRONGER, DAYS SHORTER, NIGHTS LONGER, BANKROLL SMALLER, HOME HAPPIER, CLOTHES SHABBIER, THE PAST FORGOTTEN, AND THE FUTURE WORTH LIVING FOR. ~ UNKNOWN

# 2012 Department Fall Picnic

On Saturday, September 22, 2012, the annual Department of Statistics Fall Picnic was held at Ross Hills Park. The event is held to honor and welcome the department's incoming students. The food was delicious, with D & R catering pulled pork and the many carry-in dishes brought in. Over 120 faculty, staff, students, friends and family attended the outing. The Third Annual Department of Statistics Cornhole Tournament was played. Competition was fierce and fun! Mark Pillion and Hao Zhang are the new champions, toppling two time champions Doug Crabill and Larry Smith!



# Joint Statistical Meeting-2012



Guang Cheng

At the recent 2012 Joint Statistical Meeting (JSM) held in San Diego, Assistant Professor Guang Cheng was honored with the Gottfried E. Noether Young Scholar Award in recognition of outstanding early career contributions to nonparametric statistics.

The Noether Young Scholar Award is bestowed upon a distinguished researcher — younger than 35 years of age — who has made significant research accomplishments in Nonparametric Statistics, interpreted broadly to include theory, methodology, and outstanding applications.

JSM (the Joint Statistical Meetings) is the largest gathering of statisticians held in North America. It is held jointly with these societies:

- \*American Statistical Association
  - \*Institute of Mathematical Statistics
  - \*International Biometric Society (ENAR and WNAR)
  - International Chinese Statistical Association
  - International Indian Statistical Association
  - International Society for Bayesian Analysis
  - Korean International Statistical Society
  - \*Statistical Society of Canada
- (\*indicates the founding societies of JSM)

Attended by more than 6,000 people, meeting activities include oral presentations, panel sessions, poster presentations, continuing education courses, an exhibit hall (with state-of-the-art statistical products and opportunities), career placement services, society and section business meetings, committee meetings, social activities and networking opportunities.

The American Statistical Association is the world's largest community of statisticians. The ASA supports excellence in the development, application, and dissemination of statistical science through meetings, publications, membership services, education, accreditation, and advocacy. Members serve in industry, government, and academia in more than 90 countries, advancing research and promoting sound statistical practice to inform public policy and improve human welfare.



# Joint Statistical Meeting-2012



# Fun Facts

## Statistic Verification

Source: USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Census Bureau, MSN

Research Date: 11.20.2010

The feasting holiday of Thanksgiving has passed. These are just a few statistics related to Thanksgiving and the massive U.S. effort to produce food year-round for this festive holiday. Surprisingly the average gathering of 10 people for dinner only costs about \$49.00

## Thanksgiving Related Food Statistics Data

Average number of Turkeys raised in the U.S. each year: 248 million

Annual consumption of turkey by the average American: 16 pounds

Annual tons of green beans produced: 656,340 tons

Pounds of sweet potatoes produced annually: 2.4 billion pounds

Value of all pumpkins produced annually : \$117 million

Pounds of cherries produced annually: 266 million pounds

Barrels of cranberry produced annually: 7.5 million barrels

Total value of turkeys produced in the U.S. annually: \$4.37 billion



The Department of Statistics celebrated Thanksgiving with a carry-in luncheon on November 19, 2012. It was a big success with more than 60 people in attendance!

In addition to the traditional turkey and dressing, we were treated to international dishes as well. There was plenty to eat, especially the desserts (the best part!), and a good time was had by all.



## After Holiday Party “Crazy Hat”

On Friday, February 8, 2013, the Department of Statistics held its annual After Holiday Party. It was a huge success with over 130 people, faculty, staff, students, friends and family, in attendance! The food was delicious with a huge variety of dishes to choose from; from pizza and deer sausage to international dishes...there was something for everyone!

This year’s theme was Crazy Hat and the display of imagination and creativity was amazing. The winners of the Crazy Hat contest was Steve and Teena Erwin. Congratulations! We raffled off a Corn Hole Board and Ce Ce Furtner was the big winner! We had several door prizes.

The entertainment was excellent! We were treated to great music from “DJ Jim”, dancing, and games! A good time was had by all.





# After Holiday Party "Crazy Hat"



# In Remembrance of...

## Emeritus Professor Steve Samuels: 1938-2012

Emeritus Professor Steve Samuels passed away July 26, 2012 after a long battle with lung cancer. Steve was born in New York (Brooklyn) and grew up on Long Island. He did his undergraduate work at MIT, received his Ph. D from Stanford, joined the Purdue faculty in 1963 (Mathematics), and was one of the original members of the Department of Statistics (originating in 1968). He is well known for his work in optimal stopping and “the secretary problem”, and headed many important committees both at Purdue and in the broader statistical community. Although Steve retired in 2003 after 40 years as a faculty member in both Statistics and Mathematics he remained active in the department. As a retiree, he devoted time as a volunteer with LUM’s program helping foreign students and low income people with their taxes.



*Steve was a loved member of the Wednesday night poker game*

## Virgil Anderson 1922-2012

Virgil Anderson passed away March 12, 2012 following a short illness.

Virgil enrolled at Iowa State College in Ames in 1940. In 1942 he joined the U.S. army as a second lieutenant. Following Japan’s surrender and nearly a year after serving as part of the Army of Occupation he returned to Iowa State to complete his bachelor’s degree and Ph.D. He moved to Lafayette in 1951 as an Assistant Professor in the Mathematics/Statistics Department at Purdue. In addition to his regular teaching and research work at Purdue, he also was the Director of the Statistical and Computer Laboratory for many years prior to his retirement in 1987.

Following retirement from Purdue, he and his wife Avis moved to the Austin, Texas area, where he was a visiting professor at the University of Texas for several years before permanently retiring. They lived there until 2004; returning to West Lafayette and taking residence at University Place.



Virgil Anderson

He was a long-time member of the Purdue Men’s bowling league, and was an avid golfer for much of his life. He and Avis traveled extensively within the United States, and visited many countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia and South America.

# *In Remembrance of...*

## **George Casella 1951-2012**

George Casella passed away on June 17, 2012 after a nine-year battle with multiple myeloma. George was born in Bronx, NY where he attended the Bronx High School of Science. He received his BA in Math from Fordham and his MS (1974) and PhD (1977) in Statistics from Purdue University. George had a very distinguished career as a teacher, mentor and researcher at Rutgers, Cornell and the University of Florida working in the areas of both theoretical and applied statistics. Throughout his career, George mentored 48 MS and PhD students, published over 200 articles in peer-reviewed journals and co-authored nine textbooks. He served as editor of *Statistical Science*, the *Journal of the American Statistical Society*, and the *Journal of the Royal Society of Britain*. For his contributions to statistics, George was elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association, the Institute for Mathematical Statistics, the International Institute of Statistics, the Spanish Royal Academy of Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement for Science. In 1998, Purdue's College of Science honored George with the Distinguished Statistics Alumni award. George also ran 13 marathons and served as a volunteer firefighter during his time at Cornell. While he passionately loved his work, his family always came first. He is survived by his wife, Anne, his children, Ben and Sarah, his brother Carl and a legion of friends in the statistics world.



*George Casella*

George's family has asked that in lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in his name to a fund at Purdue University, (checks should be made out to "Purdue Foundation") and sent to Rebecca Doerge, 250 North University Street; Department of Statistics, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, or visit <https://donate.purdue.edu/DesignateGift.aspx> (Designation: College of Science; Select a Fund: Department of Statistics; Other Instructions Box: "The George Casella Fund").

As part of the 8th Purdue Symposium on Statistics, there was a memorial/remembrance for George Casella on Friday, June 22, 2012. A YouTube video of the Purdue Memorial is available by searching "George Casella Memorial"



# Thank you!



Happy 2013 Statistics Alumni and Friends,

I hope that you had a wonderful holiday with family and friends. We have had another exciting year in Purdue Statistics with the Symposium here at Purdue in June and JSM in August in San Diego—it was a busy summer!

Also, we have had a very generous gift to the McLean scholarship, which was a planned gift.

A planned gift to the Statistics Department is a great way to secure the future and ensure success for all areas of need within Statistics. I would be happy to talk to you and answer any questions you may have about a planned gift. There are so many ways to give so please let me help as you consider a gift to Purdue. Thanks to all of you for all the support you give to Purdue Statistics. Without your loyalty and generosity, we could not sustain the level of excellence for which we strive.

Finally, if you have an update about your life or career, please tell us. Please go online to the Statistics homepage (<http://www.stat.purdue.edu>) and click on the left “alums” and then a link to “send us your news/update your information” so that we can keep in touch with you.

If you get back to campus, please let me know as I would love to meet you!

All the best,

Julie Paolillo

Director of Development

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*Odds & Ends* is published for alumni and friends of the Purdue University Department of Statistics. We welcome comments and suggestions for future newsletters.

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